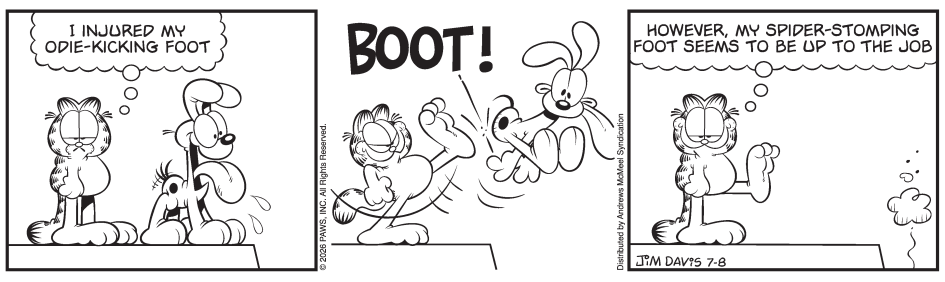
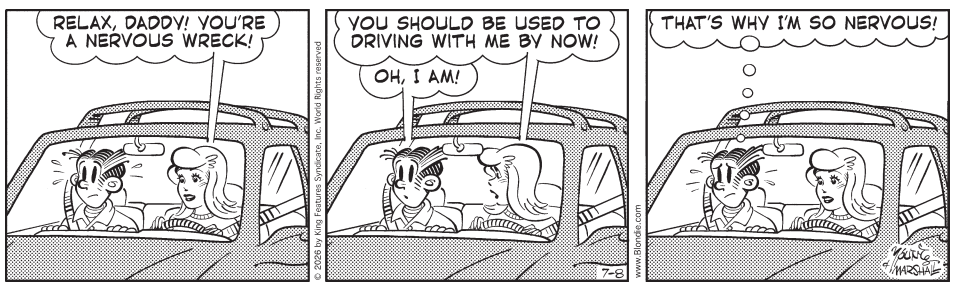
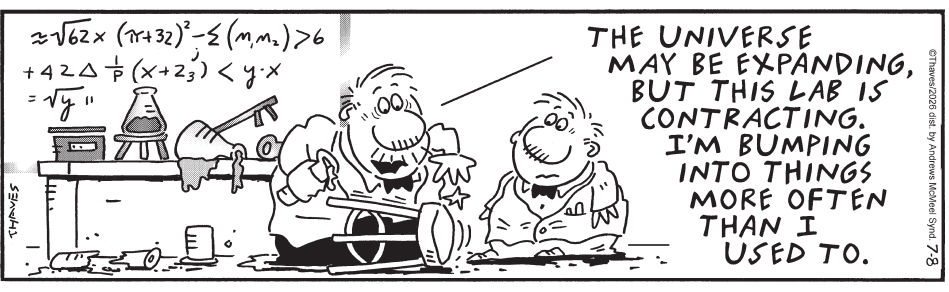
Garfield



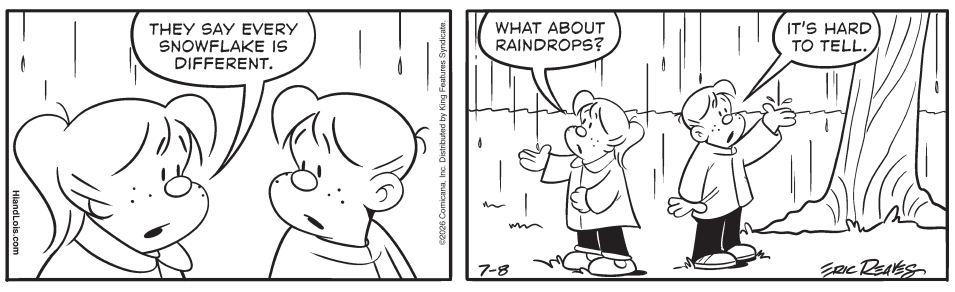
Blondie



Frank & Ernest

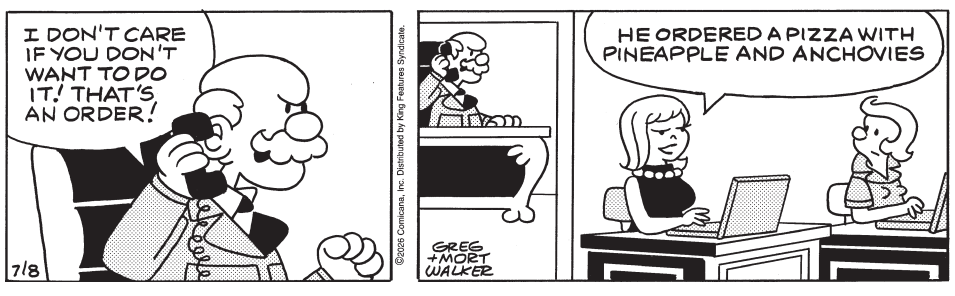


Hi & Lois



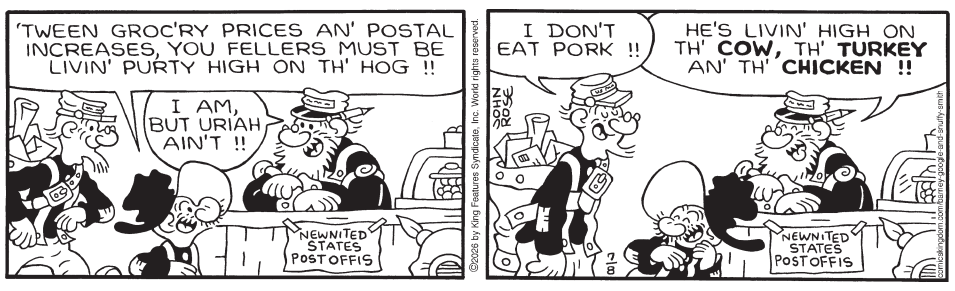
Born Loser

Beetle Bailey

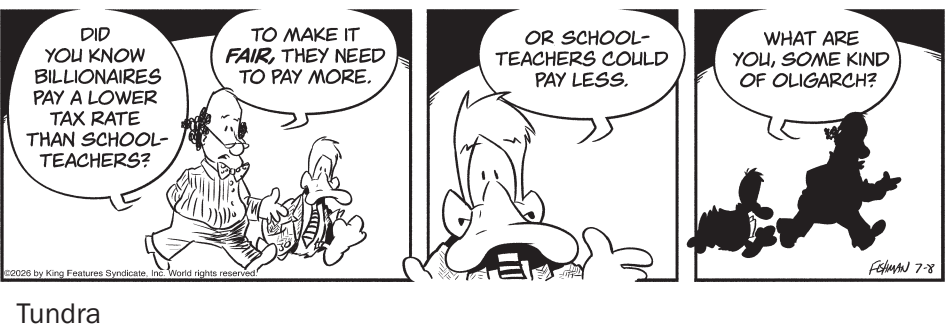


Baby Blues

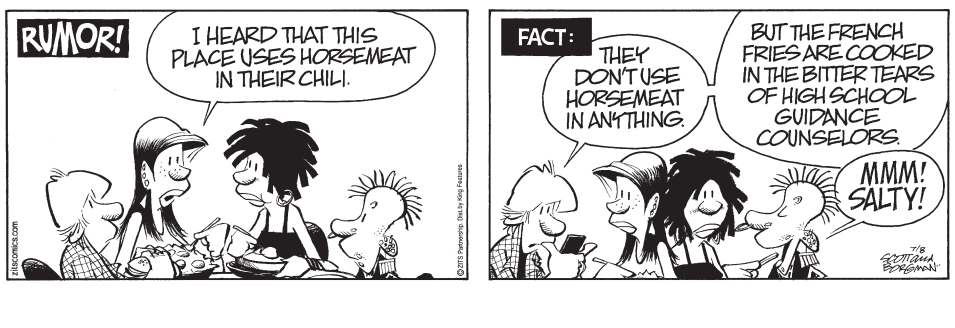
Snuffy Smith



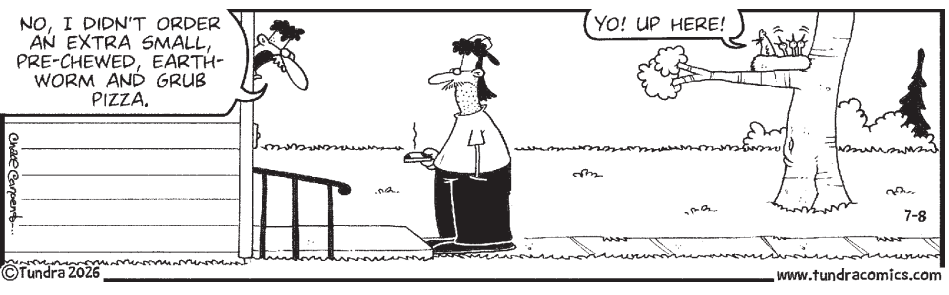
Mallard Fillmore

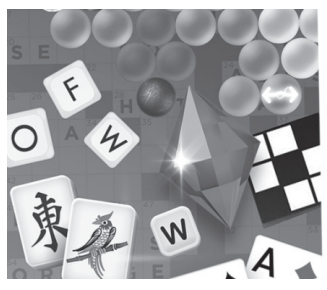


Zits



Tundra





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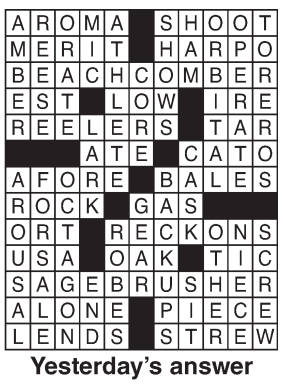
Crossword – By Thomas Joseph

ACROSS
1 Deli fixture
6 Ticket stub datum
10 "Cats" poet
11 Trumpet sound
12 Gall
13 Rubber source
14 Ump's call
15 South American nation
16 Pitcher's stat
17 Gibbon, for one
18 Brown shade
19 South American nation
22 Ivy League school
23 "Frozen" snowman
26 South American nation
29 Cash dispenser
32 Feminine force
33 — Antonio
34 South American nation
36 Drawn out
37 Composer Copland
38 Sorceress of myth
39 Static problem
40 Yellow color
41 Welles role
42 Diamond corners

DOWN
1 Detects
2 Explain
3 Travel expense
4 Valentine word
5 Summer on the Seine
6 Wow 'em at the comedy club
7 Bother
8 Concert setting
9 Waco native
11 Hit for the Marcels
15 Transcript no.
17 Pesky
20 Co. abbr.
21 Avenue tree
24 Soaks up
25 Wedding planner
27 Rap's — Nas X
28 Makes furious
29 By surprise
30 Refrain bit
31 Sausalito's county
35 Map region
36 South American capital
38 Fare carrier



Yesterday's answer

Bridge – By Steven Becker

It's all in the details

South dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ K J 8 7 4 3
♥ 10 2
♦ A Q 5
♣ A K

WEST
♠ A 9 6 5
♥ —
♦ 10 7 6 3
♣ J 10 9 7 4

EAST
♠ 10
♥ J 7 5 4
♦ K 9 8 2
♣ 8 6 3 2

SOUTH
♠ Q 2
♥ A K Q 9 8 6 3
♦ J 4
♣ Q 5

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1 ♥	Pass	2 ♠	Pass
3 ♥	Pass	3 NT	Pass
5 ♥	Pass	6 ♥	

Opening lead — jack of clubs.

When the opponents favor you with a friendly lead, you're not expected to reciprocate by returning the favor. Take this case where West led the jack of clubs against six hearts. As it happened, a diamond lead, or the lead of the ace and another spade, would have fixed South's wagon beyond repair. However, the club lead gave him an excellent shot at the slam.

Declarer won the club with the king and led the deuce of hearts to the ace, on which West showed out. South then crossed to the ace of clubs and finessed the ten of hearts after East followed low. This left South in a difficult position from which he could not extricate himself as the cards lay.

Stuck in dummy, he made the best play of a spade to the queen, but it availed him naught. West took the ace and returned a spade, and East ruffed to put an end to South's misery. (A diamond return by West would have led to the same result.)

South was unlucky to run into a 4-0 trump break, but he should have made the slam anyway. At trick two, he should have led the ten of hearts — not the deuce — to the ace. Leading the ten to the ace could do no harm and might do some good — as it would have in the actual case.

This simple precautionary play would have allowed South to win the second round of hearts in his hand with the nine, draw East's two remaining trumps and concede a spade to the ace to make the slam.

It might seem a bit harsh to criticize South for his failure to lead the heart ten at trick two, but the fact is that bridge is a game where paying attention to small details goes a long way toward determining who comes out on top.

Tomorrow: Deliberately misdirected defense.

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Word Sleuth

WORD SLEUTH • GREAT CYCLING CITIES

W H D S A X U R C P M J G D A
X V S E Q N G K O I F D L A X
V T Q V O M J H P Y H F A C A
Y W U I R N T P E D K B E N L
J H F L I H D L N N B O R Z X
V T R L C Q T U H A T G T O M
K P R E W T N A A L I O N H F
D E R B A Z Y P G T W T O V T
B T R E A M S T E R D A M Q O
U N S I R A P S N O M L A M L
K I H F D C A I E P I A T Z X

Tuesday's unlisted clue: GOLDEN

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.
Wednesday's unlisted clue hint: COLOMBIAN CAPITAL

Amsterdam	Ghent	Portland	Taipei
Antwerp	Malmo	Seattle	Tokyo
Berlin	Montreal	Seville	Utrecht
Copenhagen	Paris	St. Paul	

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7/8

DAILY CRYPTOQUOTES – HERE'S HOW TO WORK IT:

A X Y D L B A A X R
is L O N G F E L L O W

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

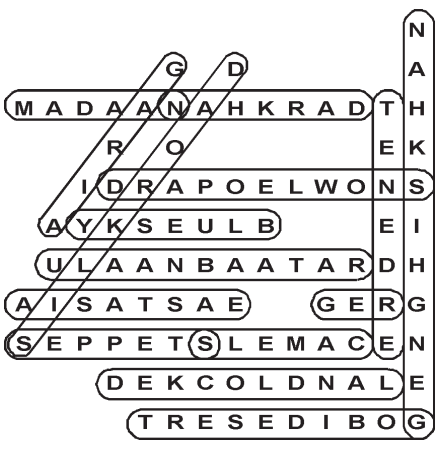
7-8 CRYPTOQUOTE

V R H U . P H ' L W S L H H U J N J — B E S ' N J J P H U J N N P Q U H E N B E S ' N J A N E Y Q . H U R H ' L A U R H P K P Z J R I E S H P H . — Z R H U J N P Y J W E U Y L E Y

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: IF IT'S CHANGE YOU NEED, RELISH THE JOURNEY. — EDWARD JAMES OLMOS

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER

MONGOLIA



Horoscope

– By Georgia Nichols

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★ Keep your digs tidy and your fridge stocked, because relatives and people from your past might be camped on your doorstep. This could be due to family reunions, visitors or guests. This is a good time to tackle home repairs that have needed your attention. Tonight: Check your belongings.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ Allow extra time when you're traveling this week because Mercury retrograde will create breakdowns with cars and trucks, plus missed buses and all kinds of delays to your transportation plans. Likewise, communications with others will be like two ships passing in the night. Be extra clear when talking to everyone. Tonight: You win!

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★ Checks might be late in the mail and other delays to financial matters are likely, along with mistakes with your credit cards, your bank accounts or anything to do with your cash flow and finances. Double-check all your financial dealings. (You snooze, you lose.) Tonight: Enjoy privacy.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Mercury is retrograde in your sign until July 23, giving you the advantage of being able to finish old business that's already on your plate; however, you have the disadvantage of suffering from goofy mistakes, delays, mixed-up communications and misplaced items. Oh well. Tonight: Friendships.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ Mercury retrograde might bring opportunities to explore spiritual issues from the past. It might reveal secrets about yourself and others. Admittedly, it might make you feel that you're not in control of your world. (Is anyone?) Tonight: You're admired.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Old friends and acquaintances from the past are back in your world now. Some contacts that you will hear from might be through clubs, groups or organizations. The reconnection might be online, in person or in your dreams. (It's good to have history with people.) Tonight: Explore and learn.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ Very likely, you're thinking about or running into parents, ex-bosses and authority figures from your past -- in person, online or in your dreams. You might even have an imaginary conversation with someone. Those are fun, because now you can think of the right thing to say. Tonight: Check your finances.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ Travel delays will be likely for some of you. Double-check itineraries and small details if you are going somewhere. It's best if you travel to a place you've been to before because then you are "returning." This is a great time to study history and issues from the past. Tonight: Listen and cooperate.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ Double-check all transactions and financial negotiations with others, because Mercury retrograde will encourage errors and hiccups. Do not assume everything's correct. On the upside, Mercury retrograde will help you finish matters related to inheritances and shared property. Tonight: Get better organized.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Mercury retrograde will attract news about ex-partners and old friends. In fact, in some cases, you will encounter these people in person or online. You might hear about what they're up to, or they might come to you in your dreams and thoughts. Tonight: Play!

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★ This particular Mercury retrograde will be challenging for you because it will affect your job, your work and even your health. Expect silly errors, misplaced paperwork, delays and equipment breakdowns. However, the good news is Mercury retrograde can help you finish old projects. Tonight: Relax at home.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Old flames are back in your world, either in your thoughts, your dreams, online or in person. Be smart and look your best when you go out. You'll feel better if you run into someone important from your past. (We all like to look good.) Tonight: Interesting conversations.

Jumble

JUMBLE®

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

IEEBG

EORLD

HHUCRC

TWSEYA

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THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

" ◯◯◯◯ " ◯◯◯◯◯ ◯◯◯◯

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: BRAWL HEDGE THORNY TOMATO
Answer: Instead of acting superior, the visiting extraterrestrials were humble and — DOWN-TO-EARTH