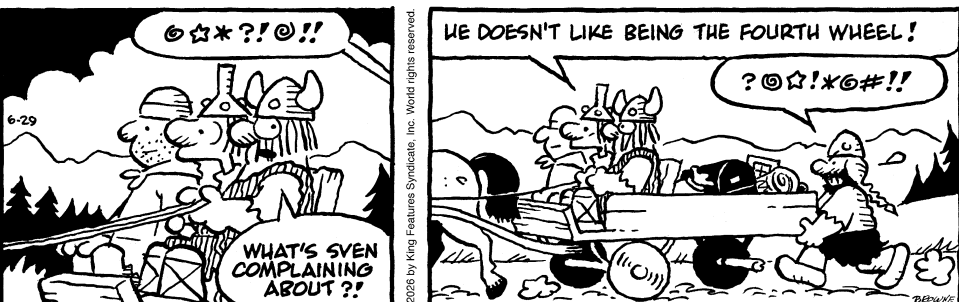


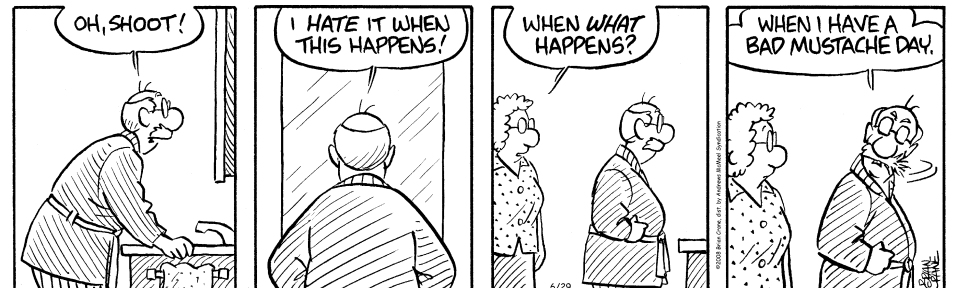
ZITS® BY JERRY SCOTT & JIM BORGMAN

HAGAR THE HORRIBLE® BY CHRIS BROWNE



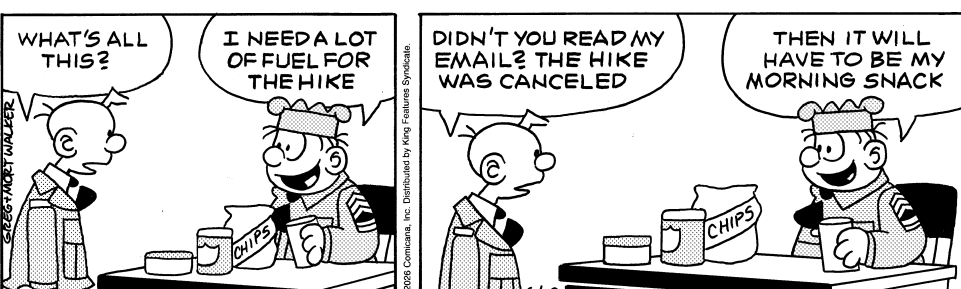
FRANK AND ERNEST® BY BOB THAVES

PICKLES® BY BRIAN CRANE



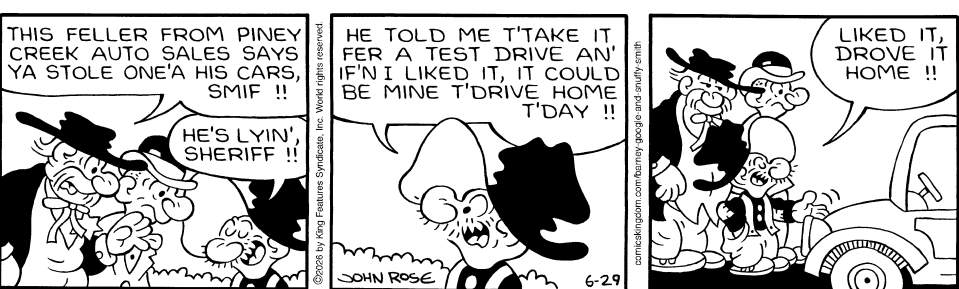
BEETLE BAILEY® BY Greg Walker, Brian Walker and Neal Walker

BABY BLUES® BY RICK KIRKMAN & JERRY SCOTT



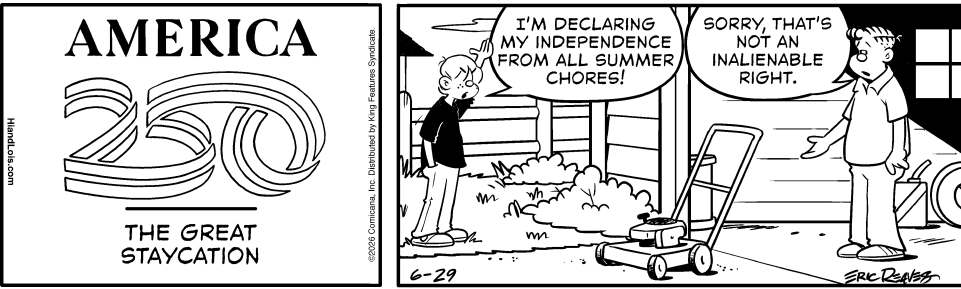
THE BORN LOSER® BY ART & CHIP SANSON

BARNEY GOOGLE & SNUFFY SMITH® BY F. LASSWELL & JOHN ROSE



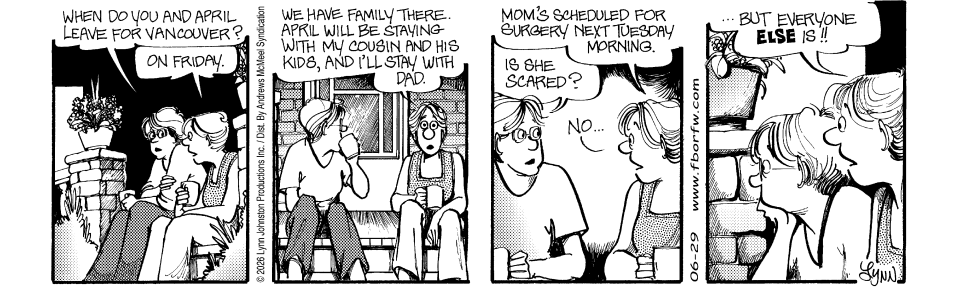
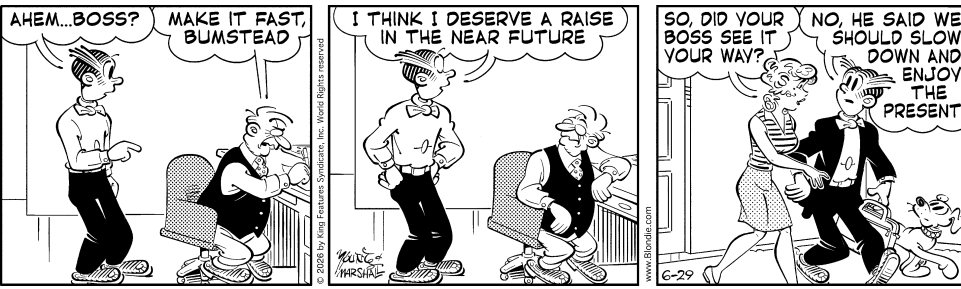
HI AND LOIS® BY BRIAN & GREG WALKER & CHANCE BROWNE

CRABGRASS® BY TAUHID BONDIA



BLONDIE® BY DEAN YOUNG & JOHN MARSHALL

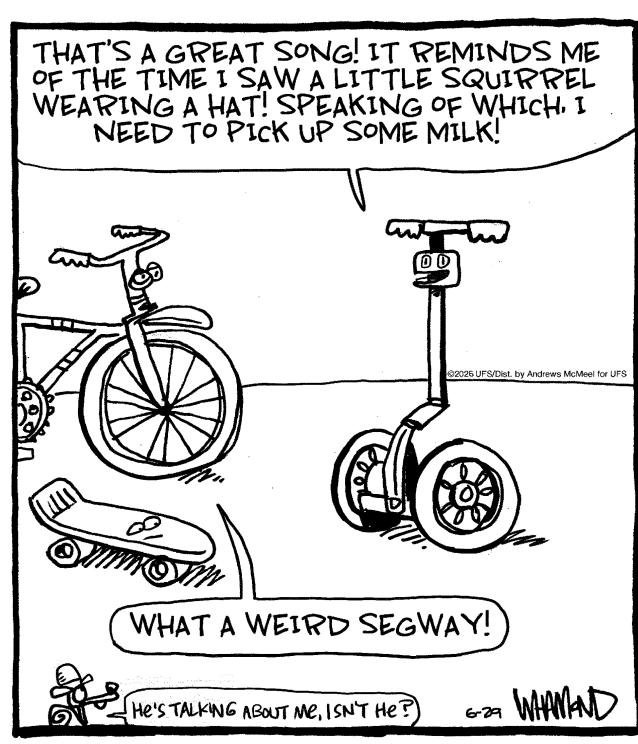
FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE® BY LYNN JOHNSTON



THE LOCKHORNS®

THE FAMILY CIRCUS®

REALITY CHECK® Dave Whamond



BRIDGE® BY STEVE BECKER

South dealer.
North-South vulnerable.

NORTH
 ♠ Q J
 ♥ A J 7 2
 ♦ J 9 4
 ♣ A K 10 9

WEST
 ♠ 9 5 4 2
 ♥ 10 9 5
 ♦ K Q 2
 ♣ 6 5 2

EAST
 ♠ 7
 ♥ K Q 8 6
 ♦ A 10 6 5 3
 ♣ Q 8 4

SOUTH
 ♠ A K 10 8 6 3
 ♥ 4 3
 ♦ 8 7
 ♣ J 7 3

The bidding:
 South West North East
 2♠ Pass 4♠

Opening lead — king of diamonds.

Italy, West led the K-Q of diamonds and shifted to the ten of hearts. This put an altogether different complexion on the matter. It now seemed that Belladonna would lose a heart and a club and go down one.

But Belladonna made the contract anyway. He covered the ten of hearts with the jack, losing to the king, and ruffed East's diamond return. He then played the Q-K-A of trump, producing this position:

North
 ♥ A 7 2
 ♣ A K 10

West
 ♠ 9
 ♥ 9 5
 ♦ 6 5 2

East
 ♥ Q 8 6
 ♣ Q 8 4

South
 ♠ 10 8
 ♥ 4
 ♦ J 7 3

Some deals from the annual world championship receive only passing notice because the outcome at both tables is exactly the same. But this one from the Italy-U.S. match in 1973 deserved more publicity than it got.

Nothing much happened at the first table, where the U.S. pair bid and made four spades. West led the K-Q-2 of diamonds. South ruffed, drew trump, lost a club finesse to East's queen and eventually discarded his heart loser on dummy's fourth club to score 620 points.

At the second table, where Giorgio Belladonna was declarer for

Belladonna now led the ten of spades and discarded the ten of clubs from dummy, eschewing the club finesse in favor of a squeeze.

East had no answer to this play. If he discarded a heart, South would establish an extra trick in dummy by playing the ace of hearts and ruffing the deuce; if East discarded a club instead, South would cash the A-K of clubs to establish his jack as the 10th trick. So the deal was a washout with Italy also scoring 620 points — the hard way!

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JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
 By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Nurek

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

ACCOH
 ALYSD
 ELTRTE
 TRPSIC

Get the free JUST JUMBLE app - Follow us on Facebook

You look like someone I should keep pace with.
 I'd love that. I mean, that'd be fine.

You've got this!

THE MARATHON RUNNER KNEW IT WAS LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT WHEN HER --

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

Answers here: [Circled letters: O, H, S, R, I, N, G, T, H, E, A, N, S, W, E, R]

(Answers tomorrow)
 Saturday's Jumbles: THEME HYENA SHRINK ROBBER
 Answer: In the hive, workers would often gather around the queen to — "BEE" NEAR HER