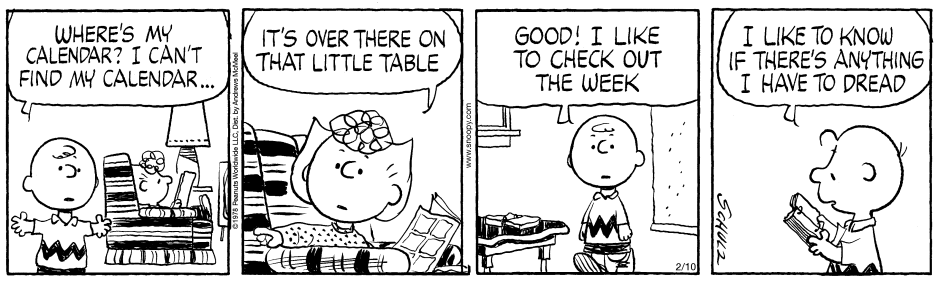
PEANUTS® BY CHARLES SCHULZ



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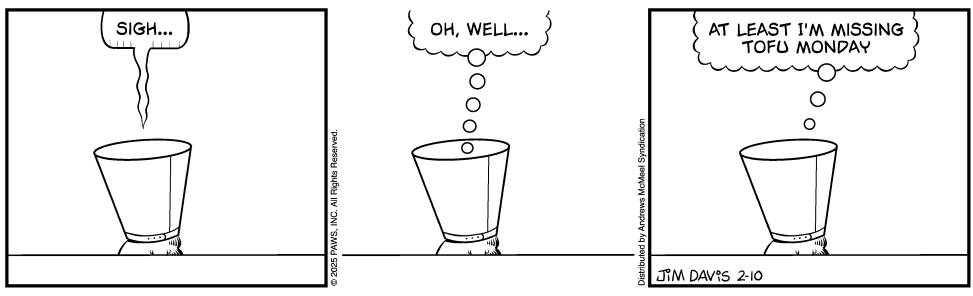

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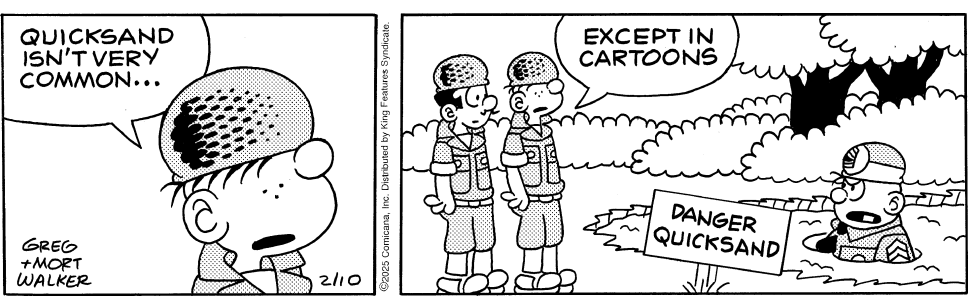
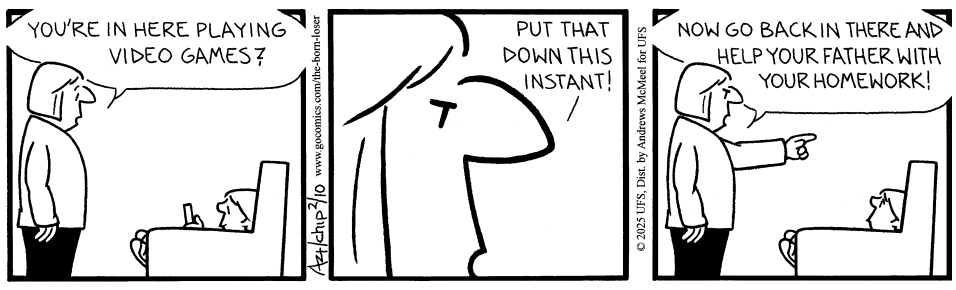
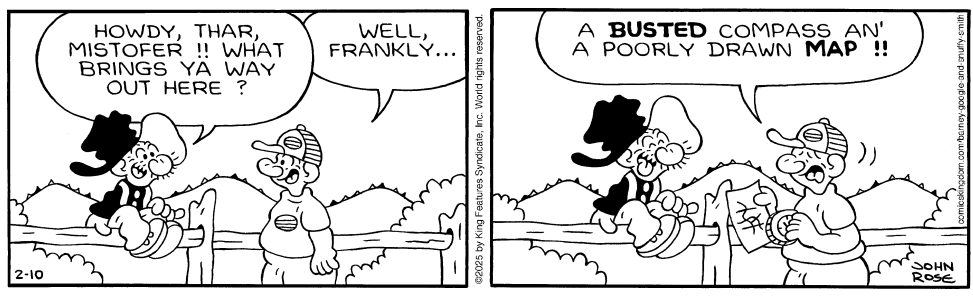


BABY BLUES® BY RICK KIRKMAN & JERRY SCOTT

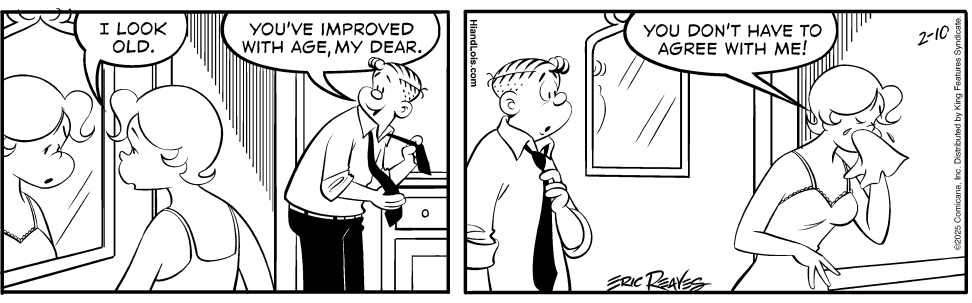
THE BORN LOSER® BY ART & CHIP SANSOM



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



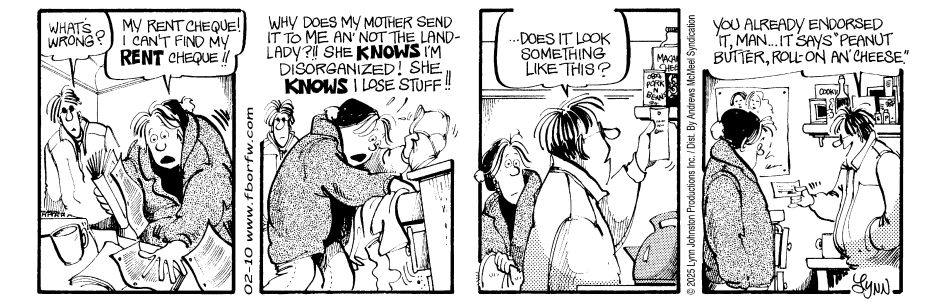
HI AND LOIS® BY BRIAN & GREG WALKER & CHANCE BROWNE



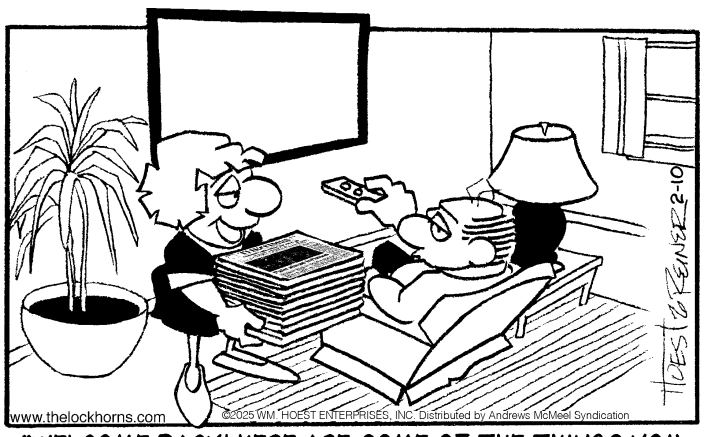
CRABGRASS® BY TAUHID BONDIA

BLONDIE® BY DEAN YOUNG & JOHN MARSHALL

FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE® BY LYNN JOHNSTON

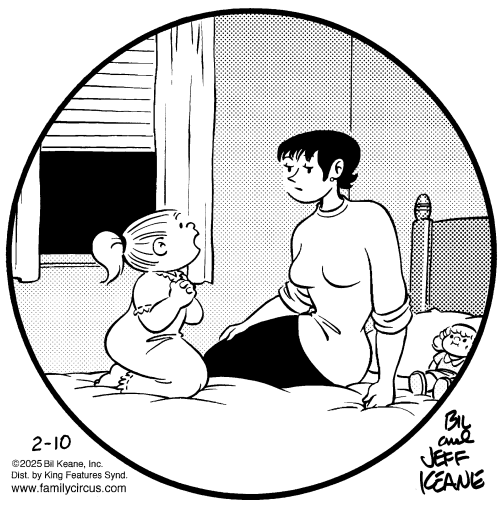


THE LOCKHORNS® Dave Whamond



"WELCOME BACK! HERE ARE SOME OF THE THINGS YOU MISSED WHILE YOU WERE WATCHING FOOTBALL."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS®



"I know who those who trespass against us are — Billy and Jeffy and PJ ..."

REALITY CHECK®

BRIDGE® BY STEVE BECKER

North dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ A K 4
♥ 9 8
♦ 9 6 5 3 2
♣ A K 9

WEST
♠ Q 10 7 3
♥ 6 2
♦ Q J 10
♣ Q J 8 7

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

SOUTH
♠ 8 6 5 2
♥ A K Q 10 4
♦ —
♣ 6 4 3 2

The bidding:

North	East	South	West
1 ♦	Pass	1 ♥	Pass
1 NT	Pass	3 ♥	Pass
3 NT	Pass	4 ♥	

Opening lead — queen of diamonds.

This remarkable hand appears in "Spotlight on Card Play," a book by Robert Darvas and Paul Lukacs that illustrates the type of thinking that lies behind good card play. Declarer was the Hungarian star Geza Ottlik. The contract was four hearts, and West led a diamond.

It's not easy to make 10 tricks, even with all 52 cards in view. Declarer apparently needs a 3-3 trump break as well as a 3-3 division in one of the black suits in order to establish a 10th trick.

It might therefore seem that, as the cards lie, South can make only five trump tricks and two sets of A-K's. But Ottlik scored 10 tricks by adopting an ingenious line of play that made him a strong favorite for the contract. He decided to play for six trump tricks instead of the obvious five and accomplished his goal in the following manner:

After ruffing the diamond lead, he crossed to dummy with a spade and ruffed a second diamond. He then returned to dummy with a spade and ruffed a third diamond. Next came a club to the king and another diamond ruff, followed by a club to the ace and a fifth diamond ruff with his last trump.

By this time, Ottlik had scored nine tricks — five ruffs in his hand and both of dummy's black A-K's. Dummy still had the 9-8 of hearts and was bound to score a 10th trick with one of them.

The maneuver described here is known as a dummy reversal, which is hard enough to recognize even under ordinary circumstances. But it is infinitely more difficult to spot when dummy has only two trumps and declarer has five.

No other line of play is as promising as this one, nor, in the actual hand, does any other approach succeed.

Tomorrow: Assumptions are essential.

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Ans. here: ( ) ( ) ( ) ( ) ( ) ( ) ( ) ( ) ( ) ( ) ( ) ( )

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: BOSSY KIOSK UNWIND PLIGHT
Answer: When it came to knowing exactly when to spray, the skunk had — GOOD "IN-STINKS"