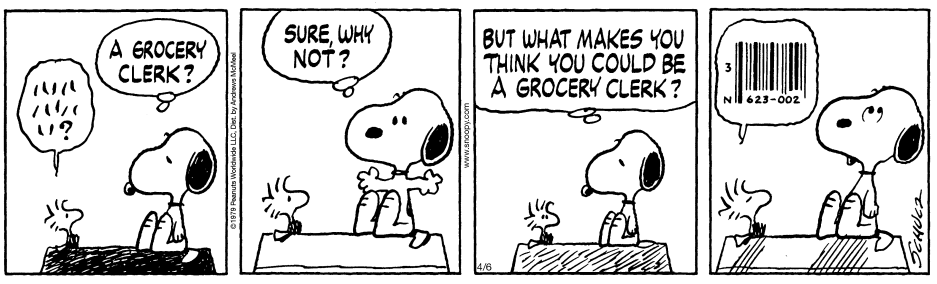
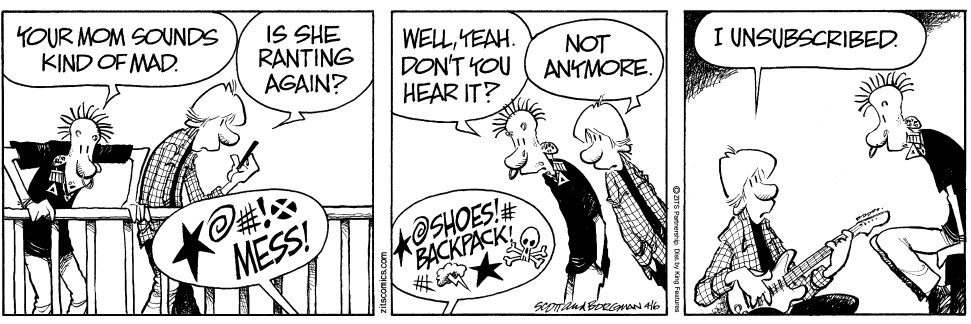
PEANUTS® BY CHARLES SCHULZ

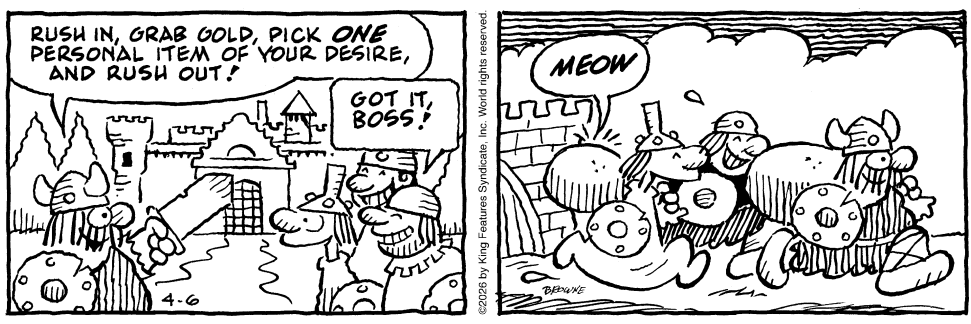


GARFIELD® BY JIM DAVIS

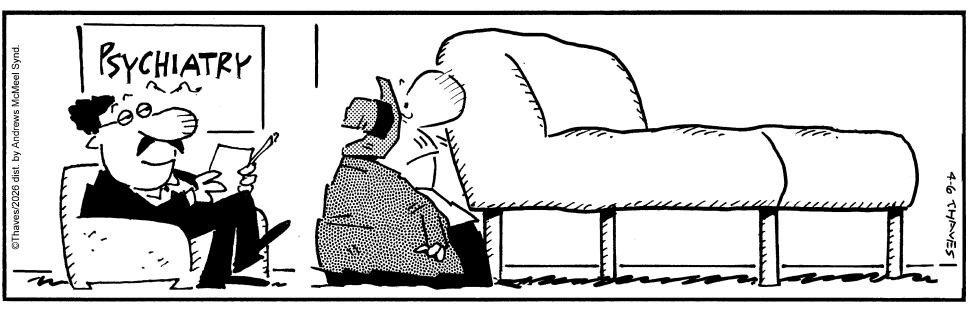
ZITS® BY JERRY SCOTT & JIM BORGMAN



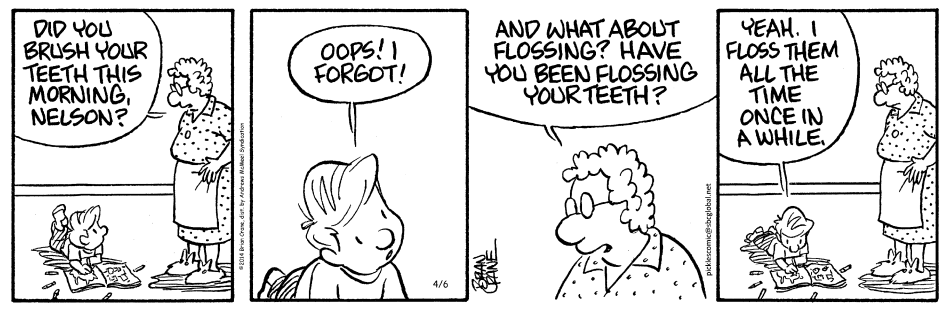
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE® BY CHRIS BROWNE



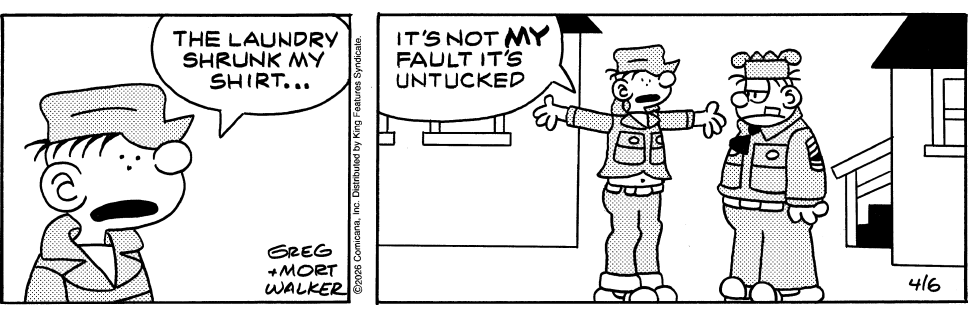
FRANK AND ERNEST® BY BOB THAVES



PICKLES® BY BRIAN CRANE



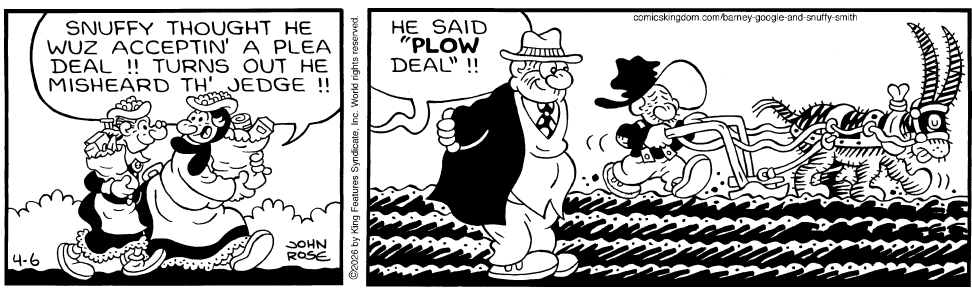
BEETLE BAILEY® BY Greg Walker, Brian Walker and Neal Walker



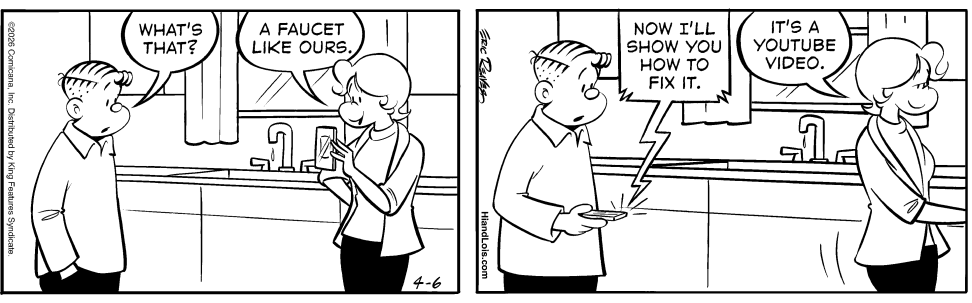
BABY BLUES® BY RICK KIRKMAN & JERRY SCOTT

THE BORN LOSER® BY ART & CHIP SANSOM

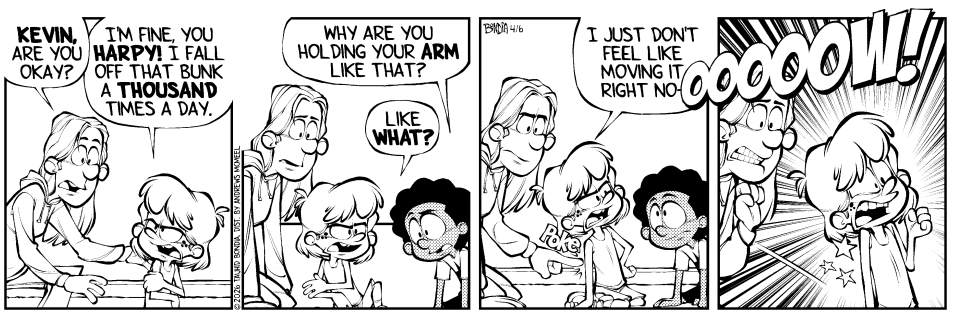
BARNEY GOOGLE & SNUFFY SMITH® BY F. LASSWELL & JOHN ROSE



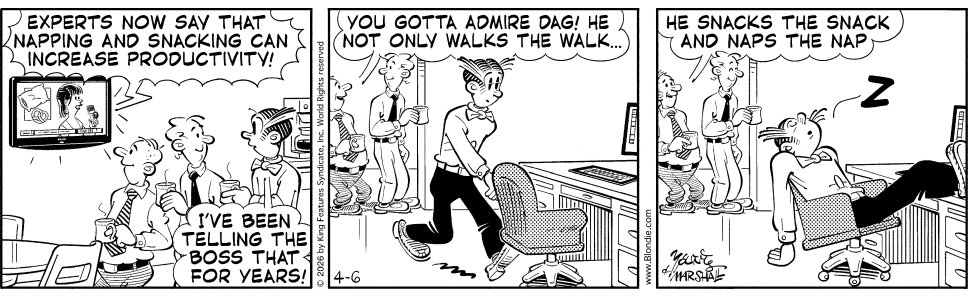
HI AND LOIS® BY BRIAN & GREG WALKER & CHANCE BROWNE



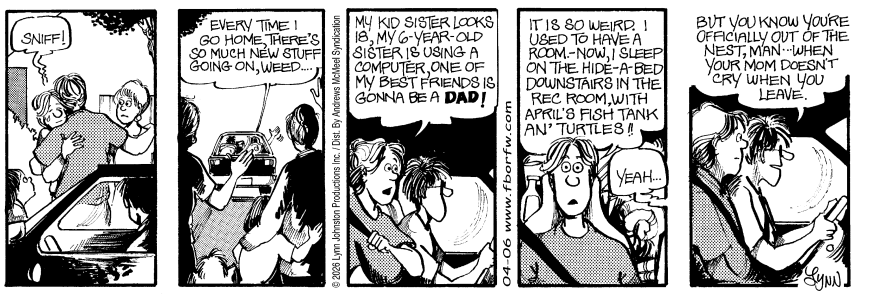
CRABGRASS® BY TAUHID BONDIA



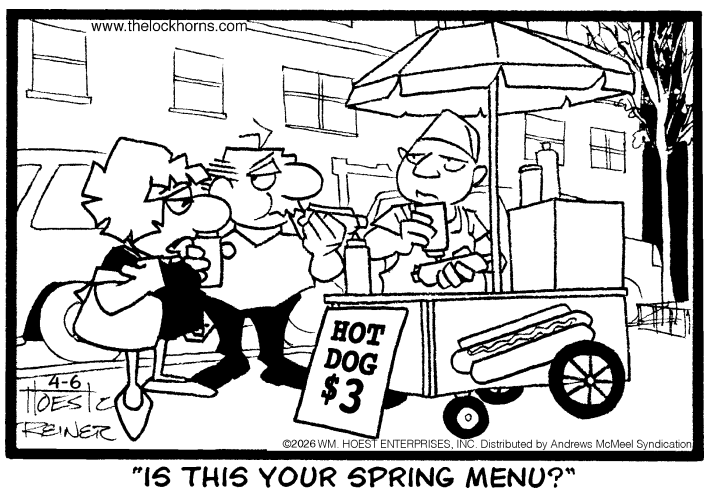
BLONDIE® BY DEAN YOUNG & JOHN MARSHALL

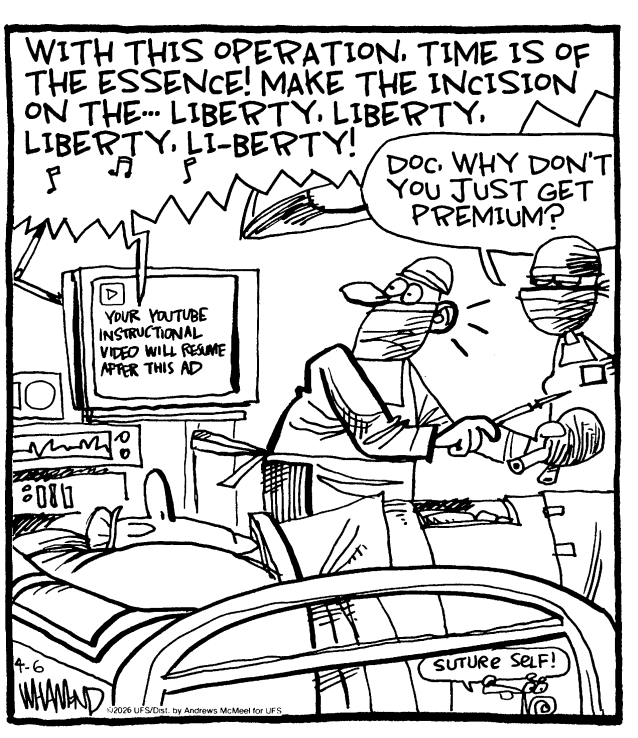


FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE® BY LYNN JOHNSTON



THE LOCKHORNS® THE FAMILY CIRCUS® REALITY CHECK® Dave Whamond





BRIDGE® BY STEVE BECKER

West dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ Q 9 4
♥ A J 9 8 5
♦ Q 8 7 6 5
♣ —

WEST
♠ 10 5
♥ Q 4 3 2
♦ 10 4 3
♣ J 10 7 5

EAST
♠ J 7 3
♥ K 10 6
♦ K J 2
♣ K Q 4 3

SOUTH
♠ A K 8 6 2
♥ 7
♦ A 9
♣ A 9 8 6 2

The bidding:

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	1 ♣	Dble
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	3 ♠
Pass	4 ♠	Pass	6 ♠

Opening lead — jack of clubs.

If you're a good bridge player and are lucky besides, the combination might make you well-nigh invincible.

For an example of what these two ingredients, properly mixed, can produce, we present this deal from the 1956 Masters Pair championship, won by Alvin Roth and Tobias Stone. Stone wound up in six spades after the somewhat optimistic sequence of bids shown.

The contract seems impossible to make, since declarer has a diamond loser and a long string of clubs to take care of. True, declarer's last club can be established by ruffing three clubs in dummy, but since one ruff would be with dummy's queen, this would establish a trump trick for the defense.

Despite these hazards, Stone made the slam by timing his plays perfectly and finding a way to avoid the diamond loser. He trumped the club lead in dummy and cashed the ace of hearts. He then ruffed a heart, ruffed a club and cashed the spade queen before ruffing another heart.

After playing the A-K of trump, his remaining cards were the A-9 of diamonds and A-9-8 of clubs, while East had the K-J-2 of diamonds and K-Q of clubs. Stone then led the A-8 of clubs, forcing East to win and return a diamond to dummy's queen, and the slam was home.

Observe that if East had been farsighted enough to drop his K-Q on the early club plays, he would have averted the endplay and defeated the contract. That, plus the favorable distribution of the opposing cards, was where the luck element came in, but it still took a substantial degree of skill to take advantage of the situation.

Tomorrow: Simple solution to a quandary.

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

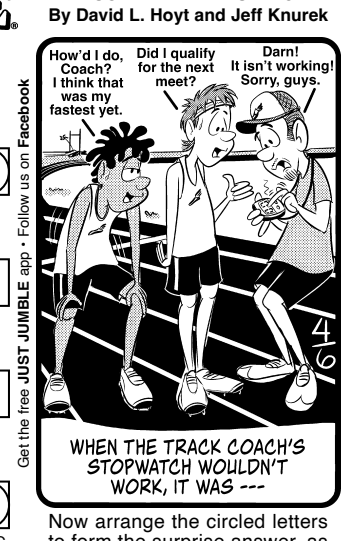
Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

NDOHU

ZMEAA

BRTIBA

IHBTRG



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

Answer here: ____ ____

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: VENOM STAFF CLOSED POSTAL
Answer: He wore size 20 in high school, so finding a pair that fit him was — NO SMALL "FEET"

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