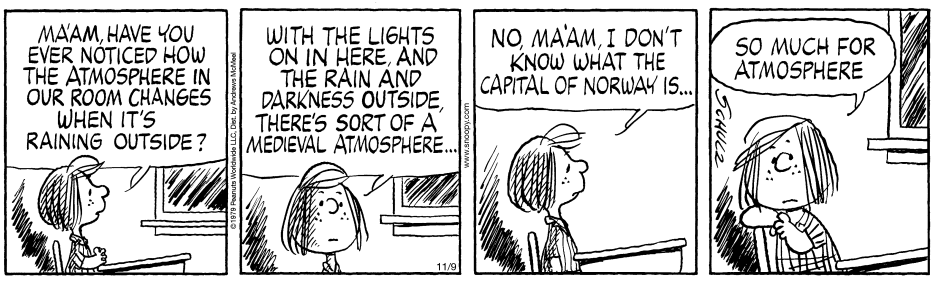
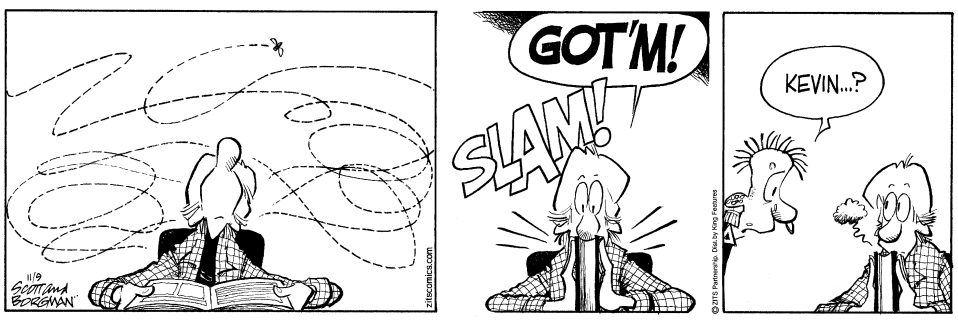
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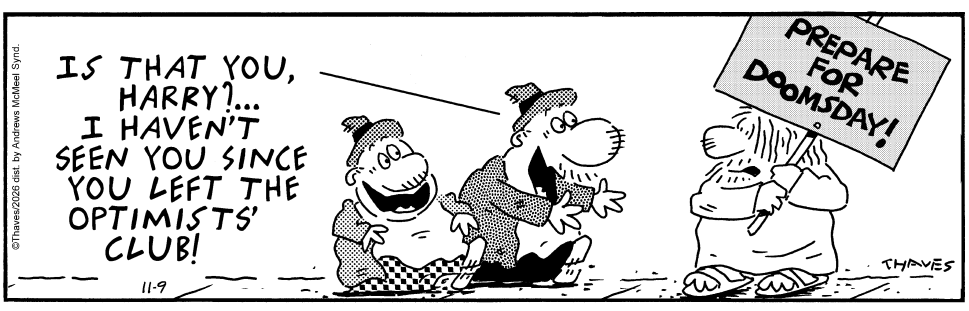
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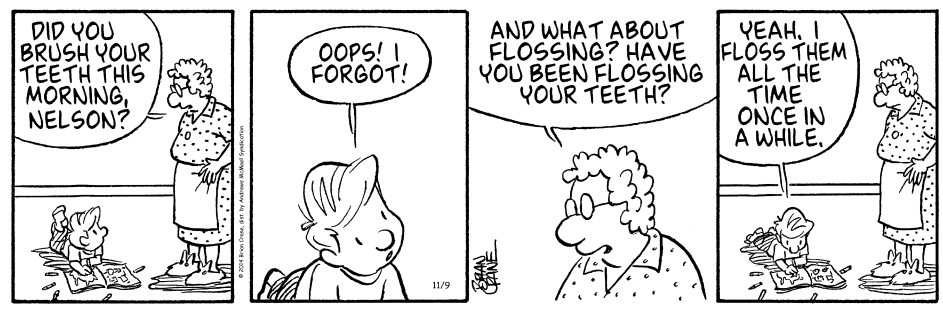
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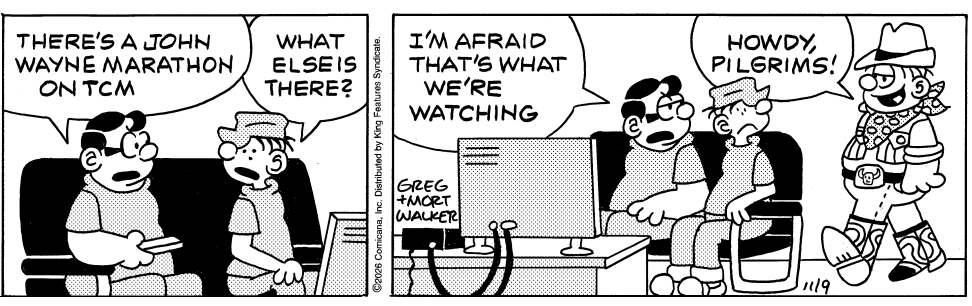
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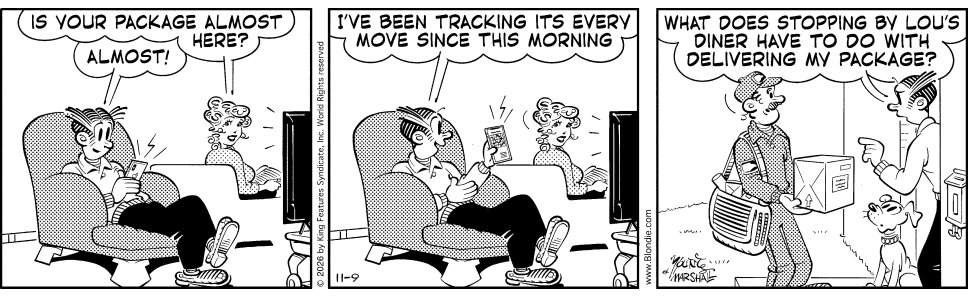
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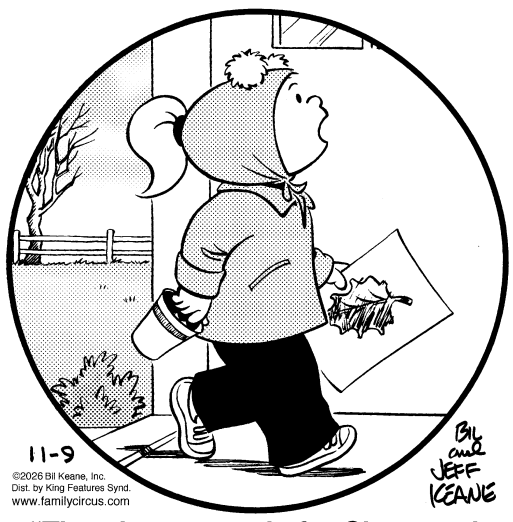


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BRIDGE® BY STEVE BECKER

North dealer.
East-West vulnerable.

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

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

SOUTH
♠ Q 5
♥ K 8 7 5 3 2
♦ 10
♣ A K J 6

The bidding:

North	East	South	West
1 ♦	Pass	1 ♥	Pass
2 ♥	Pass	4 ♥	

Opening lead — two of spades.

In 1993, a team of young players from the Netherlands — their average age was just over 32 — won the world team championship, helping to dispel fears in bridge's inner circles that interest in the game among the young was waning.

Today's deal occurred in the final where the Dutch found themselves pitted against a Norwegian team that itself boasted an average age of only 34! When Bauke Muller and Wubbo de Boer of the Netherlands held the North-South cards, they bid uneventfully to four hearts as shown. With South as declarer, and with West holding the diamond ace and spade king, 12 tricks could not be stopped. In practice West led a low spade, which de Boer ran to the queen, and he lost only a diamond trick.

The auction took a decidedly different turn at the other table, where Norway's Tor Helness and Geir Helgemo were North-South:

North	East	South	West
1 NT	Pass	2 ♦	Pass
2 ♥	Pass	3 ♣	Pass
3 ♠	Pass	4 NT	Pass
5 ♠	Pass	6 ♥	

After an opening notrump bid by Helness and a transfer to hearts by South, Helness ended up in six hearts. As fate would have it, this placed the lead in the East hand, and the Netherlands' Enri Leufkens unerringly found the killing jack-of-spades lead.

Helness tried the queen, covered by the king and ace. In desperation, he led the club ten and finessed, hoping for a miracle. When West produced the queen, the slam was down two, and the youthful Dutch gained 11 IMPs to take a step closer to their first world team championship.

Tomorrow: A bridge player's soliloquy.

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

Print the answer here: _____

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: HOARD TRUTH MEMOIR SEWAGE
Answer: To move to a bigger facility, the bread company would need to — RAISE MORE DOUGH

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