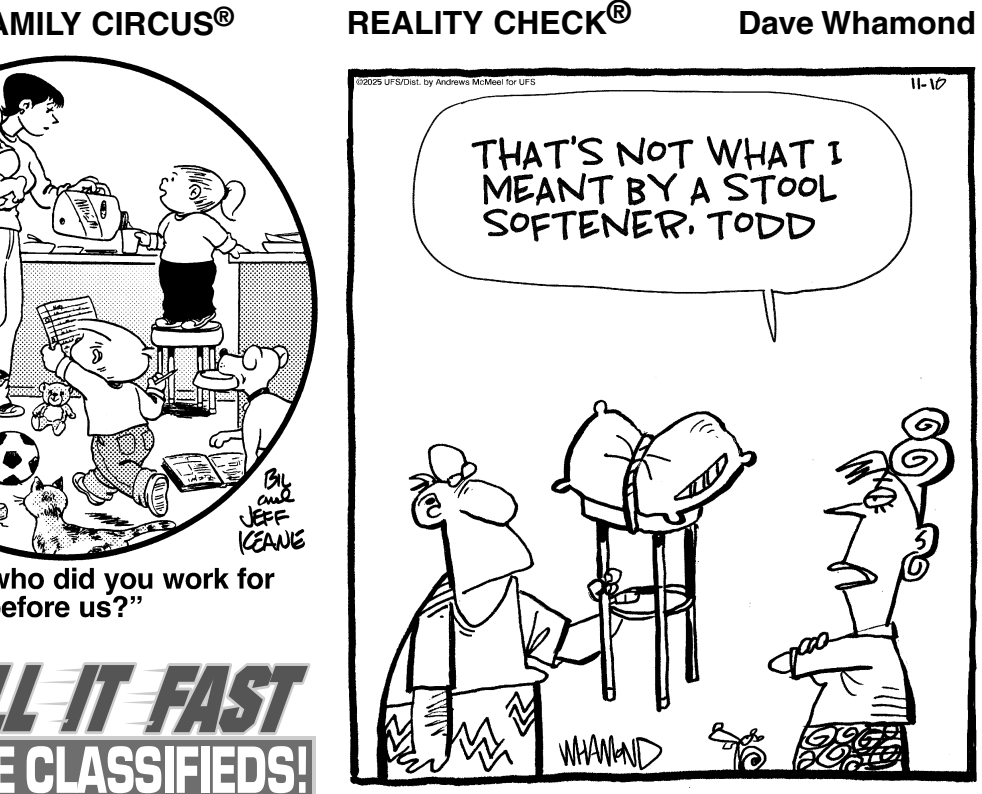
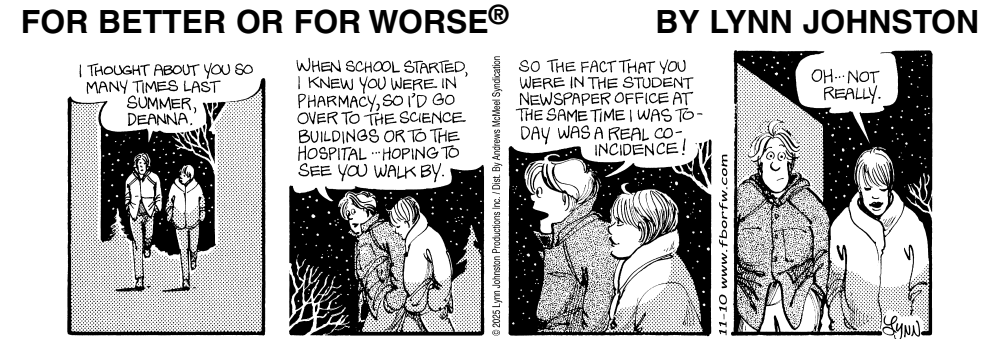
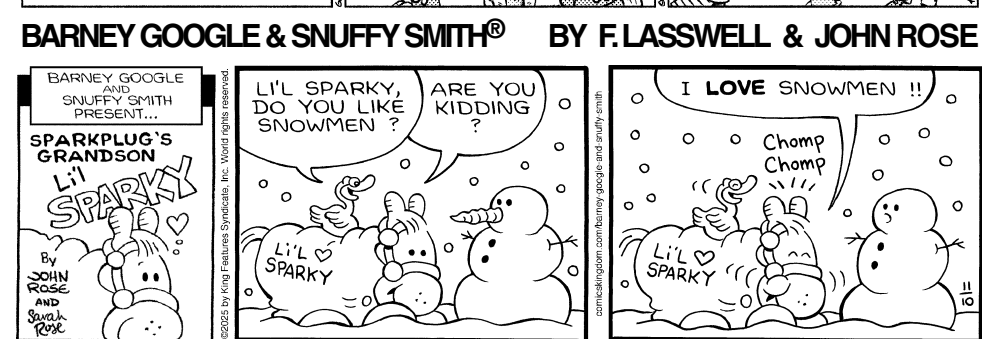
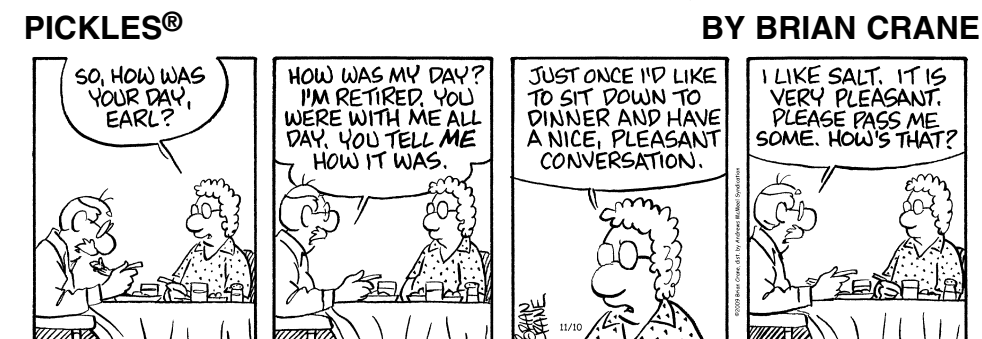
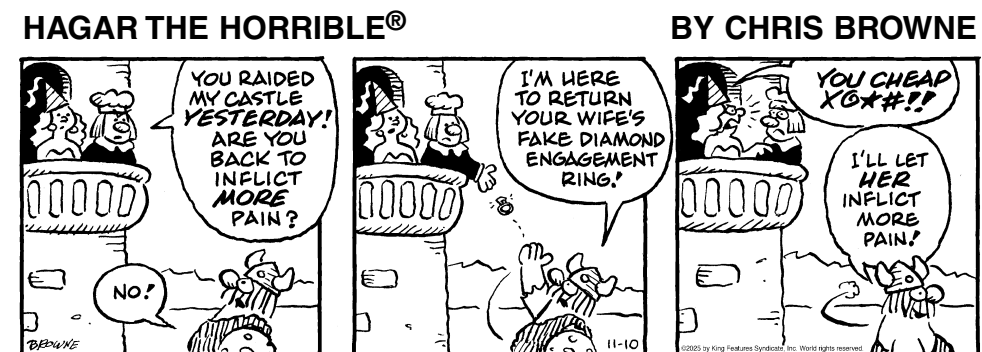
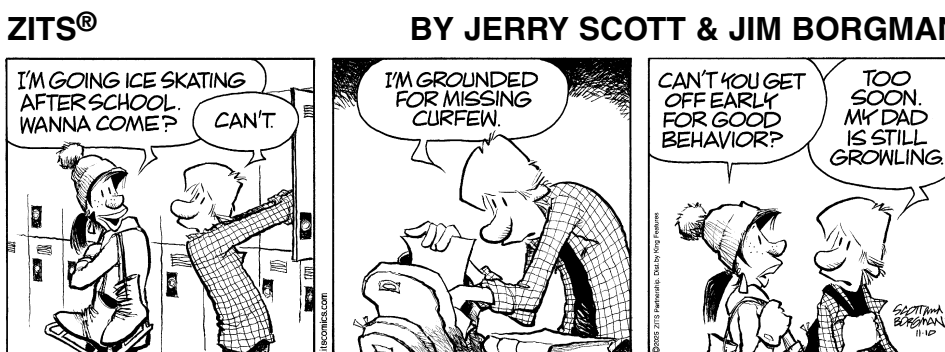




BRIDGE®

BY STEVE BECKER

South dealer.
East-West vulnerable.

NORTH

♠ J 10 7 6
♥ 7
♦ Q 8 2
♣ A K 9 4 3

WEST

♠ Q
♥ 6 4 3
♦ AKJ976543
♣ —

EAST

♠ 2
♥ A Q J 10 9 8 5 2
♦ 10
♣ 8 6 2

SOUTH

♠ A K 9 8 5 4 3
♥ K
♦ —
♣ Q J 10 7 5

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♠ 5 ♦ Dble Pass
5 ♠ Pass 6 ♠

Opening lead — three of hearts.

A deal containing two voids, a nine-card suit, an eight-card suit and a seven-card suit is rare indeed. But such deals do occur, and this one popped up in the 1982 Vanderbilt Teams when two of the top entries in the field met head-on.

At the first table, the bidding went as shown. Norman Kay opened one spade, and Kyle Larsen leaped to five diamonds. Edgar Kaplan doubled, and after Ron

Von der Porten passed, Kay over-ruled the double by bidding five spades. Certain that Kay would not have rejected the double unless he was void of diamonds, Kaplan raised Kay to six.

Looking at only the North-South cards, Kay's judgment in overriding the double and Kaplan's decision to bid a slam were surely right. But, unfortunately, they ran into bad luck and exceptionally fine defense.

Larsen led the heart three to East's ace, catching South's singleton king. It did not take Von der Porten long to find the winning defense. Realizing that his partner probably had nine diamonds for his vulnerable five-diamond bid, as well as the 6-4-3 of hearts, Von der Porten decided that his best chance was to find West with a club void. Accordingly, he returned a club.

Larsen ruffed, and the excellent slam contract bit the dust.

There was nothing to the play at the second table, where Sidney Lazard and his son Sid Lazard Jr. were North-South. Their final contract was six clubs, which could not be beaten by any defense and, in fact, made seven when the defense did not lead a heart. As a result, their team gained 990 points on the deal.

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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.

KLCFO

CEREH

FWLFEA

LPCIYO

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Hey, Mom, you're going to love today's Jumble puzzle.

It looks like someone thinks it's his birthday instead of yours.

I think the first slice goes to the youngest.

DECIDING WHAT TO SERVE AT HER BIRTHDAY PARTY WAS A ---

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

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: MOUSE OPERA ENOUGH GOSSIP Answer: When it came to being a lead singer, Diana Ross was — SUPREME