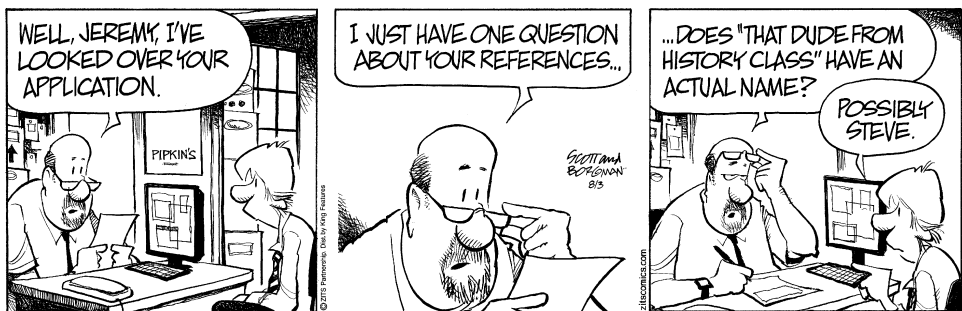


ZITS®

BY JERRY SCOTT & JIM BORGMAN



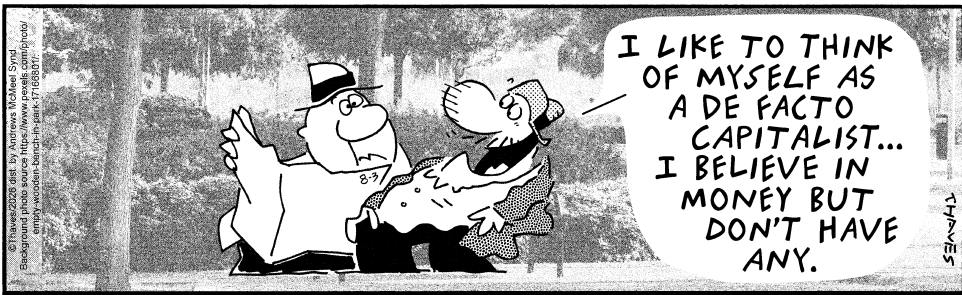
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE®

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BY BOB THAVES



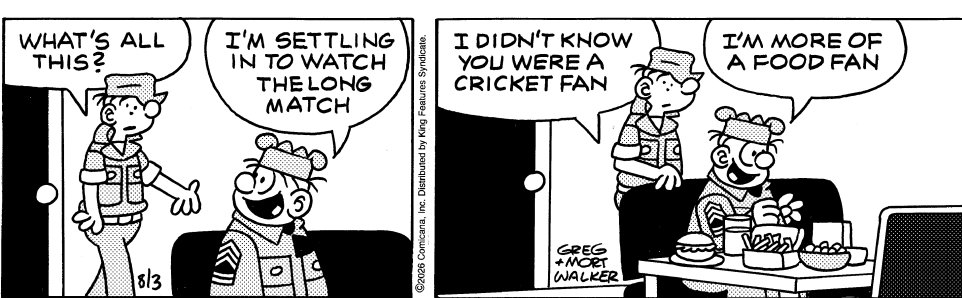
PICKLES®

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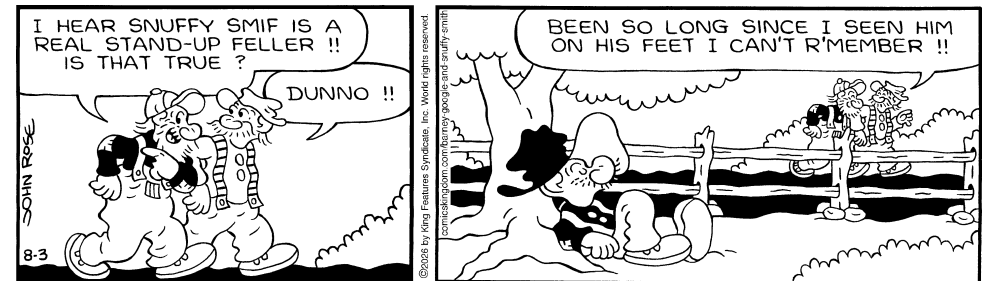
THE BORN LOSER®

BY ART & CHIP SANSOM



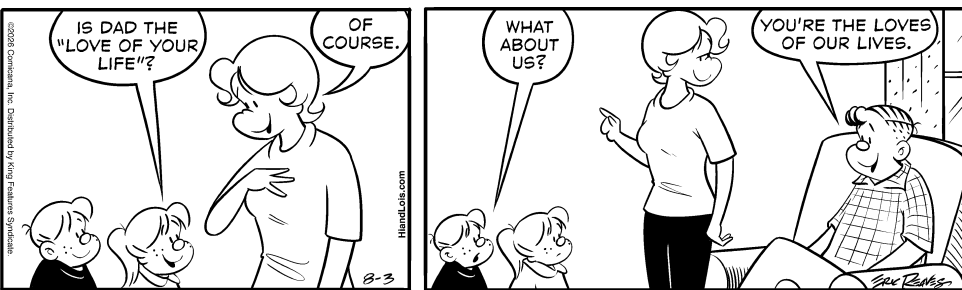
BARNEY GOOGLE & SNUFFY SMITH®

BY F. LASSWELL & JOHN ROSE



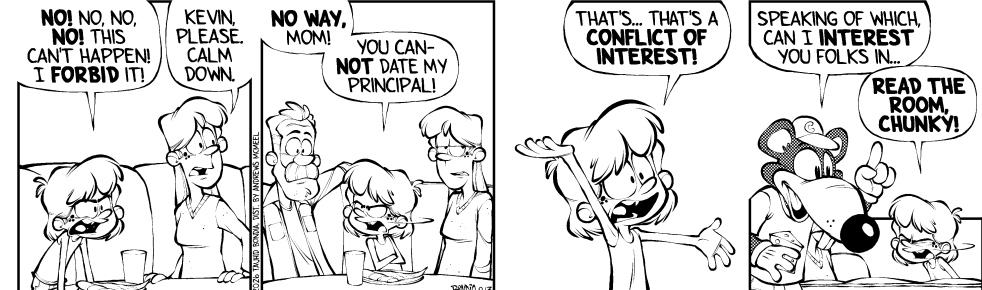
HI AND LOIS®

BY BRIAN & GREG WALKER & CHANCE BROWNE



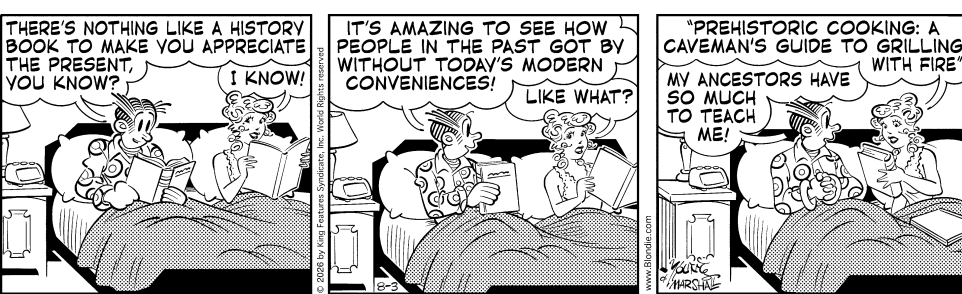
CRABGRASS®

BY TAUHID BONDIA



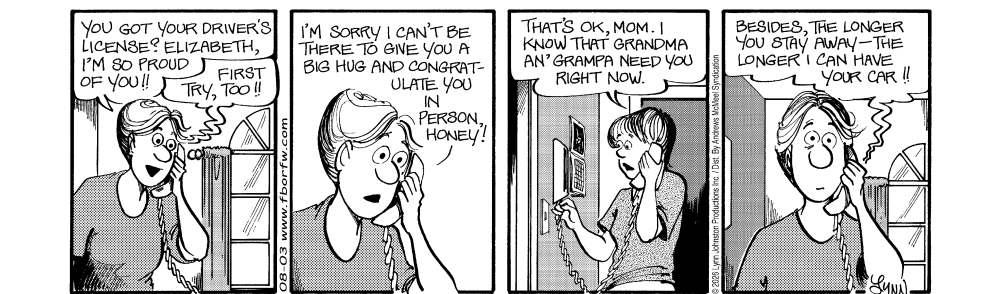
BLONDIE®

BY DEAN YOUNG & JOHN MARSHALL



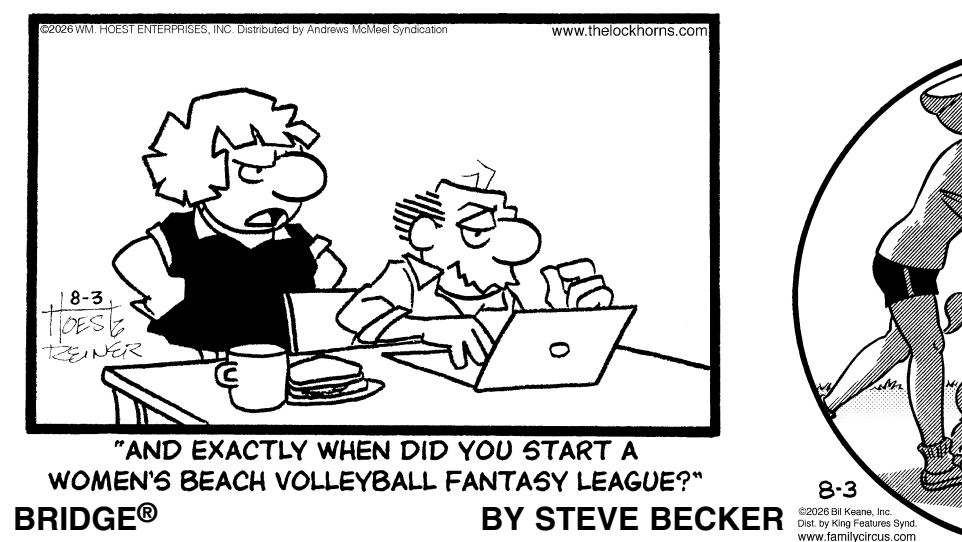
FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE®

BY LYNN JOHNSTON



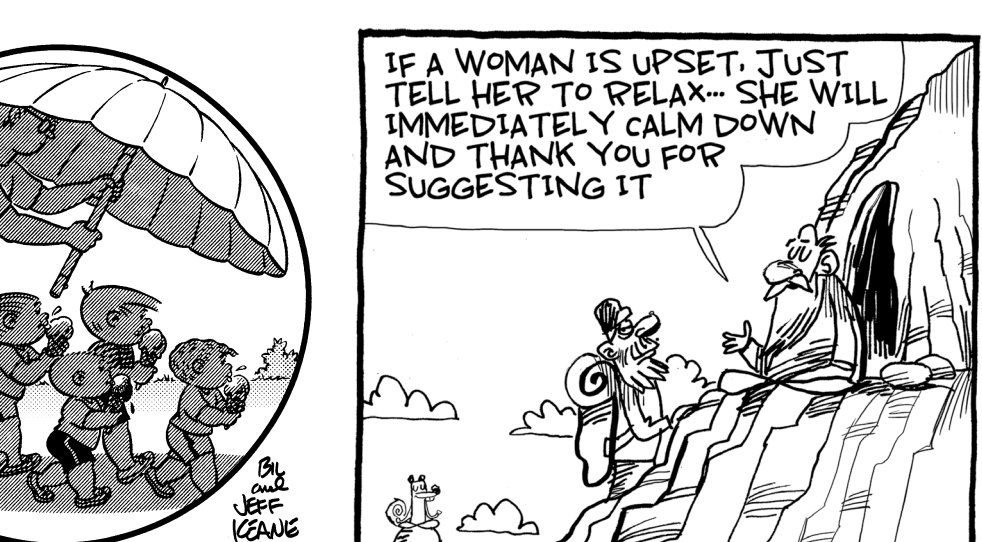
THE LOCKHORNS®

BY STEVE BECKER



THE FAMILY CIRCUS®

BY STEVE BECKER



West dealer. Neither side vulnerable.

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

WEST	EAST
Ron Rubin	Mike Becker
1 ♠	2 ♣
3 ♠	3 ♣
4 ♣	4 ♠
4 NT	5 ♣
6 ♣	6 ♠

Most players — good, bad or indifferent — bid naturally rather than artificially. When they bid hearts, they usually have hearts; when they bid clubs, they usually have clubs; and so on.

But in the top echelons of bridge there are an ever-increasing number of pairs who employ very exotic methods and often bid suits that have nothing to do with their actual holdings in these suits.

One pair in this category who did exceedingly well in national championships during a 15-year period are Ron Rubin and Mike Becker (this writer's brother). They held the East-West cards in the 1978 Vanderbilt team championship and got to six spades as shown.

By way of explanation, and not for instructional purposes, here is what their bids meant:

One Spade: Normal opening bid, but denies more than 16 high-card points.

Two Clubs: Artificial game-forcing bid asking West to describe his distribution.

Three Clubs: I have a void in hearts, diamonds or clubs, and a rather freakish hand.

Three Diamonds: Tell me more.

Four Clubs: The void is in clubs, and my distribution is 7-3-3-0! (The number of steps taken over three diamonds describes West's distribution.)

Four Diamonds: What are your high-card values?

Four Notrump: I have 14 to 16 high-card points and five controls (an ace is two controls, a king one).

Five clubs: Where are your controls located?

Six diamonds: I have controls in all three suits and extra honors in hearts and diamonds. (Had Rubin been weak in any suit, he would have bid five of that suit. Thus, if he had held ♠ AKxxxxx ♥ AJx ♦ Qxx ♣ —, he would have responded five diamonds.)

After Mike Becker, who had made four artificial forcing bids in succession, closed the auction with six spades, he was asked by South what kind of hand West had indicated by his five bids. Becker wrote down that he expected his partner to have: ♠ Kxxxxxx ♥ AKx ♦ KQx ♣ —!

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IF A WOMAN IS UPSET, JUST TELL HER TO RELAX... SHE WILL IMMEDIATELY CALM DOWN AND THANK YOU FOR SUGGESTING IT

NOT-SO-WISE GURU

WHAMAD

JUMBLE

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

GTANR

TNSRO

SISKDE

RSEUQA

Print your answer here:

THE LEMONADE SELLER WANTED HER BUSINESS TO ---

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

Answers tomorrow

Saturday's Jumbles: BOSSY MUSIC SUMMON ZOMBIE

Answer: The underwater science team won a grant thanks to their great — "SUB-MISSION"