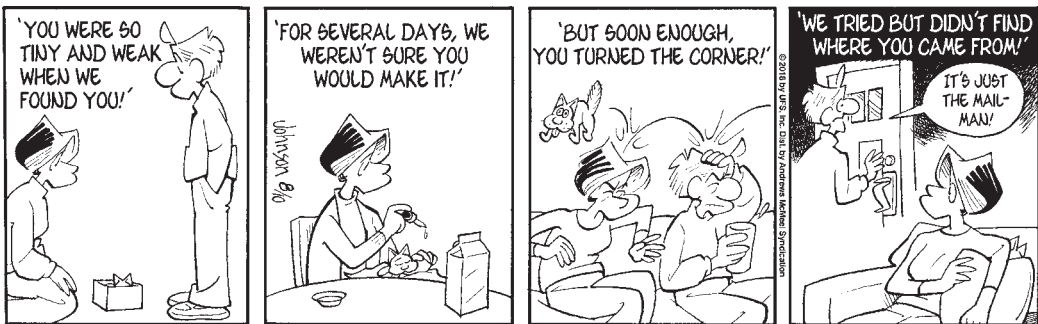
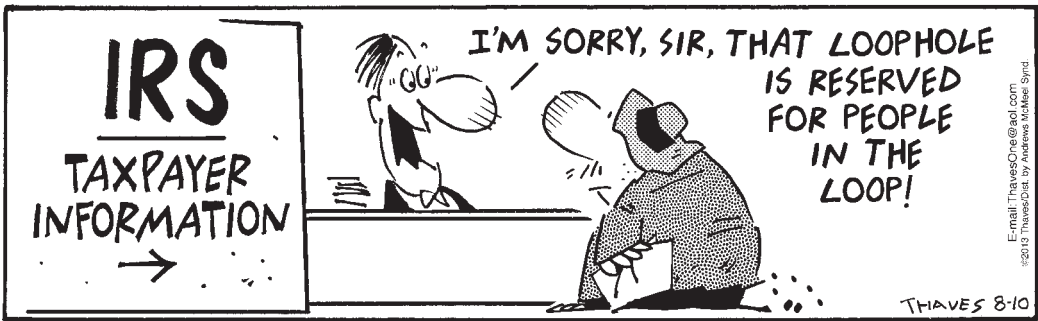


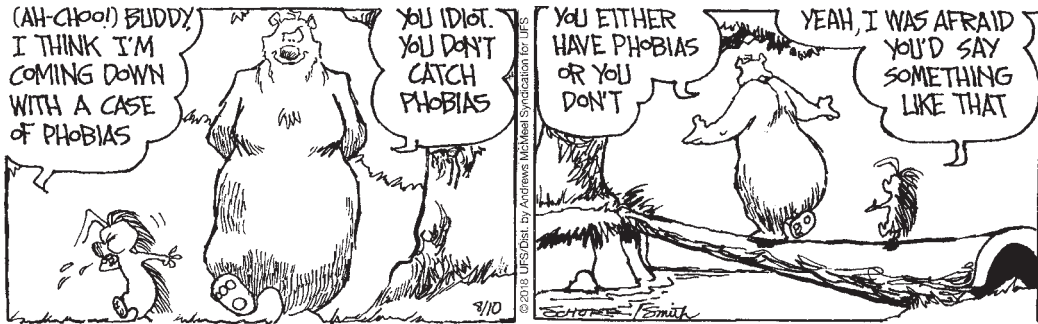
ARLO AND JANIS® by Jimmy Johnson



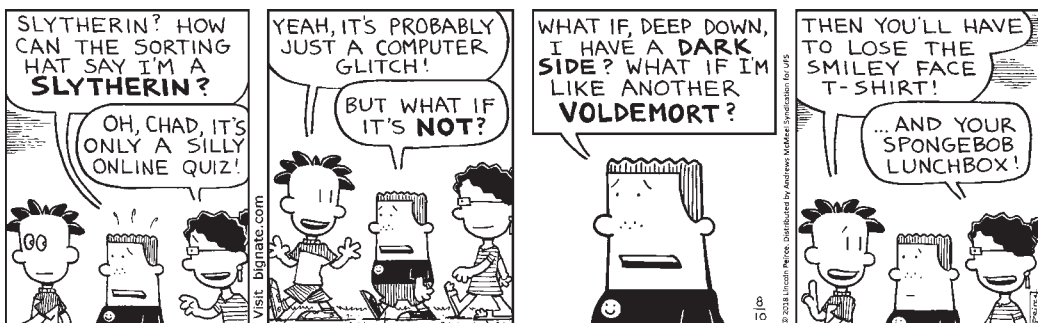
FRANK & ERNEST® by Bob Thaves



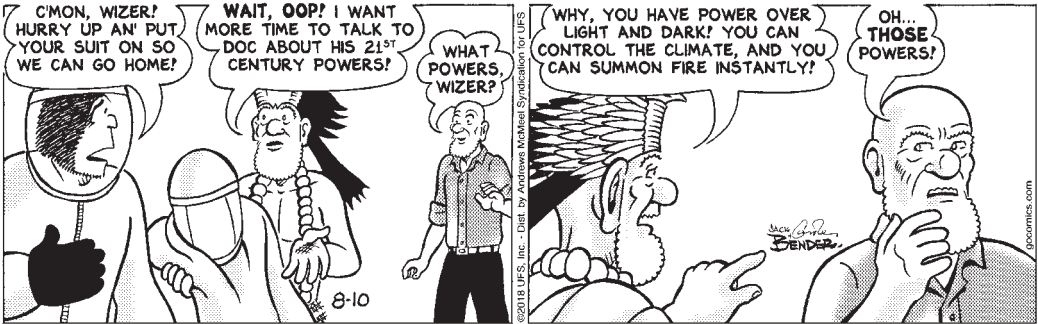
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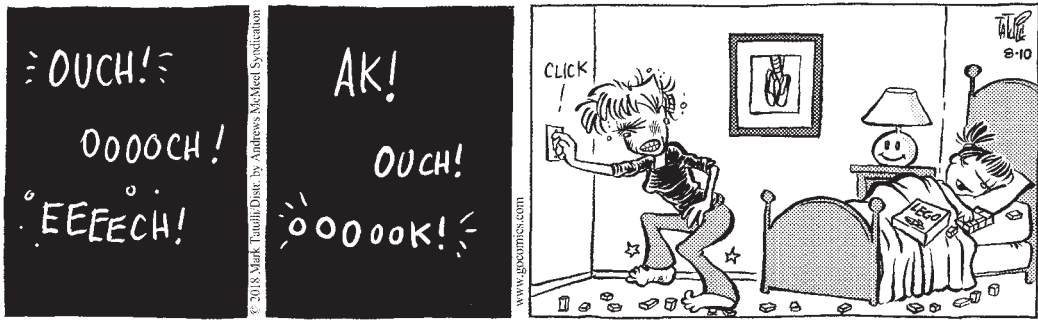
BIG NATE® by Lincoln Peirce



ALLEY OOP by Jack and Carole Bender



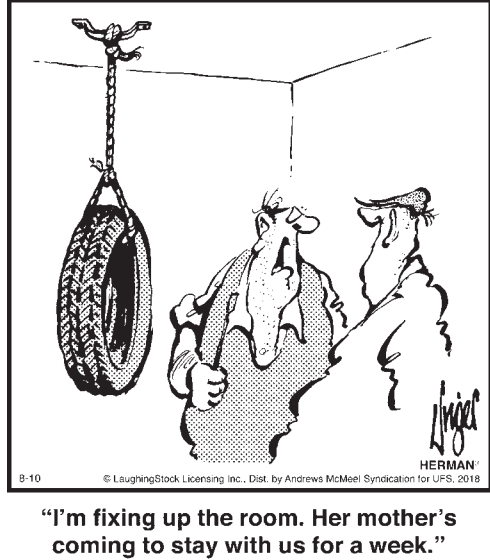
HEART OF THE CITY by Mark Tatulli



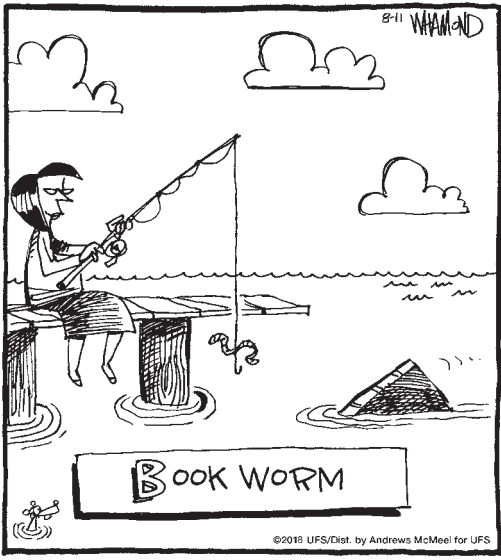
THE BORN LOSER™ by Art & Chip Sansom



HERMAN® by Jim Unger



REALITY CHECK® by Dave Whamond



AT THE MOVIES

'BlackKkKlansman' is daring, essential

(AP) — In 1979, a man named Ron Stallworth who was the first African-American police officer and detective in the Colorado Springs Police Department also became a card-carrying member of the Ku Klux Klan and the leader of the local chapter. He would send a white co-worker to play him for in-person meetings as part of the wild undercover operation, but Stallworth was the one on the phone, insisting his hatred for non-white races with everyone from the local chapter members to the KKK's "grand wizard" David Duke himself.

It's Stallworth's story that provides the framework for Spike Lee's blistering new film, "BlackKkKlansman," but hardly the full picture. Deceptively epic in scope, in "BlackKkKlansman"

be in-person Ron, which turns out to be a headache of its own when one of The Organization's members, Felix (Jasper Paakkonen), starts to suspect that he might actually be Jewish.

These scenes are riveting to watch, infused with a perfectly executed tension as Flip carefully navigates his way through meetings and interactions with the group, including the docile chapter leader Walter (Ryan Eggold), the maniacally sinister Felix and the perpetually drunk and dumb Ivanhoe (Paul Walter Hauser). They are, on the whole, dopes used for comedic effect, but there is something else going on below the surface. You're always keenly aware that these shadowy,



back bar racists could with the right leader become the mainstream.

The acting is expert throughout with stand-out performances

and destroy and the various shades and ideologies of racism and revolution that will leave you craving another viewing.

John David Washington (Denzel Washington's son) plays Ron Stallworth, a composed and deliberate man who isn't afraid to ask for what he wants, whether it's a job or a quick promotion out of the dreaded records room and into undercover work.

Many around him are quick to throw labels and make assumptions about what he can and can't do. His co-worker calls him a toad, because of his race. His black student union girlfriend, Patrice, asks if he's a pig (i.e. a cop). At work, he seems extreme — a rookie suggesting a dangerous undercover operation to infiltrate the KKK. In life, he seems compliant. As Patrice (a brilliant Laura Harrier) tells him, meaningful change is impossible when working within the structures of a racist system.

But Ron has a plan to infiltrate The Organization, and a few around him like the police chief (Robert John Burke), and two detectives, Flip Zimmerman (Adam Driver) and Jimmy Creek (Michael Buscemi) are at least willing to go along with it for a while. Flip draws the card to

by Washington and Driver, especially, who gets a powerful arc. The supporting cast is also notably strong, including Harrier and Topher Grace as David Duke, who is attempting to take The Organization into the mainstream with a gentlemanly demeanor, polished suits and a politician's smile.

Mind you, "BlackKkKlansman" is not a subtle film and is often repetitive where it least needs it. Stallworth's "white voice" and racist musings over the phone are perfectly used a few times, until the effect eventually begins to dull.

But it is an exhilarating, distressing, funny and profound film, with one of the more memorable film scores in years, from composer Terence Blanchard. Every frame is packed with meaning and metaphor from the opening, the famous crane shot from Victor Fleming's "Gone With the Wind," onward to the sins of the present day. It's a Spike Lee joint that is not to be missed.

"BlackKkKlansman," a Focus Features release, is rated R by the Motion Picture Association of America for "language throughout, including racial epithets, and for disturbing/violent material and some sexual references." Running time: 135 minutes.

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS

1 Raggedy doll

5 "Uh" cousins

8 Seattle hrs.

11 Dijon dad

12 Give out sparingly

14 — — snail's pace

15 Like many climbing roses

17 Carpet pile

18 Young screecher

19 Halfway

21 Latin I verb

23 Furniture wood

24 Police busts

27 Turns right

29 Channels

30 Unthrifty

34 Rubdowns

37 Magda's sister

38 Comedian's fall

39 Musketeer author

41 Ta-ta, in Turin

43 Puts into words

45 Circus showman

47 Ebbets Field great

50 Kimono closer

51 Vital

54 Denials

55 Repair a toe

56 Incite

57 Arbitrary degree

58 Mauna —

59 Leaning Tower site

DOWN

1 Fitting

2 Despot

3 who fiddled

4 Limned

4 Raised one's voice

5 Throws off heat

6 Lawyer's thing

7 Flower part

8 Black and white animal

9 Celery piece

10 Masking —

Answer to Previous Puzzle

F	I	Z	Z		Z	O	R	R	O
R	A	D	I	O	S		S	E	N
O	C	E	L	O	T		N	E	T
T	E	A	L		O	U	I		A
				S	T	U	M	P	E
L	A	D		U	T	A		J	I
I	C	E	A	X	E		D	E	F
Z	I	N	G	E	R		O	C	T
D	Y	E	D		S	G	T		L
				S	O	U	R	E	S
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T	R	U	D	G	E		R	A	T
C	U	R	I	O	S		S	C	A
H	E	N	N	A				E	L

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
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57					58			59	

25 Glee

26 Dawn

28 goddess

30 Links org.

31 Valuable stone

32 Film

33 Vegas lead-in

35 Stretch across

36 Approximately

39 Colors to match

40 Depletes (2 wds.)

41 Henry —

42 Lodge

42 Dublin natives

44 Sports venue

45 Rhine port

46 Brown-bag contents

48 Hindu attire

49 Joule

52 — -Magnon

53 Roll-call vote