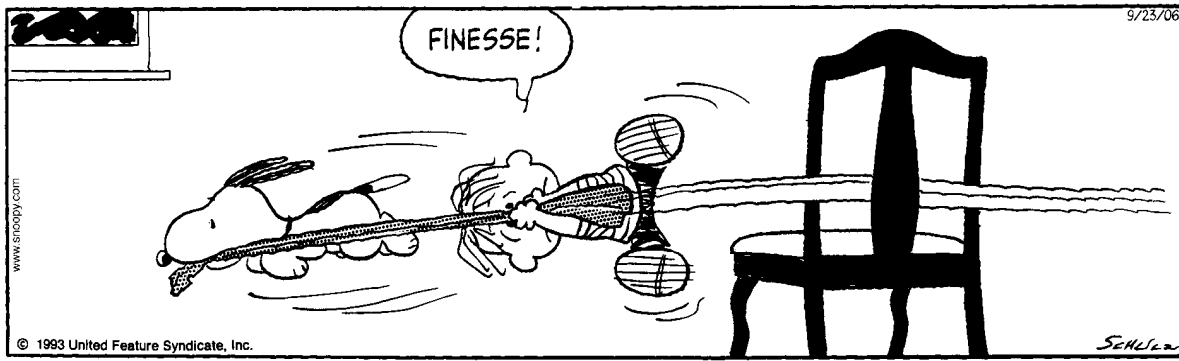


Comics

Peanuts

by Charles M. Schulz



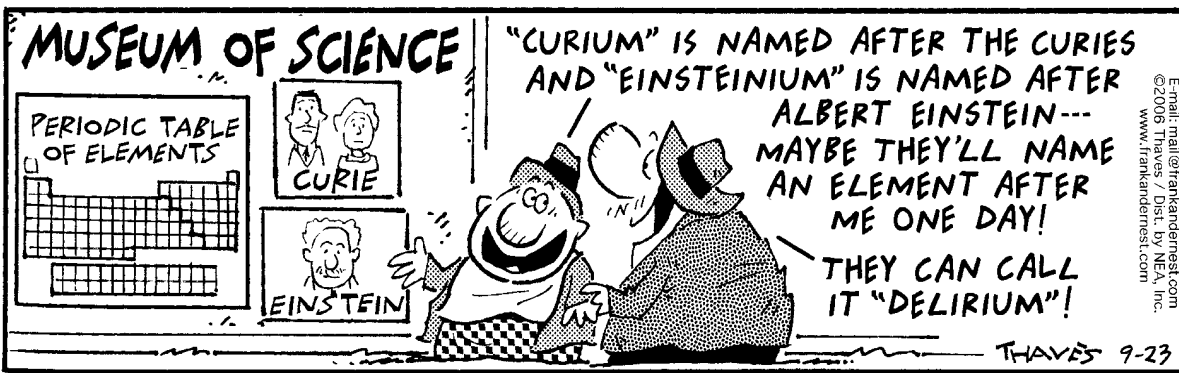
Garfield

by Jim Davis



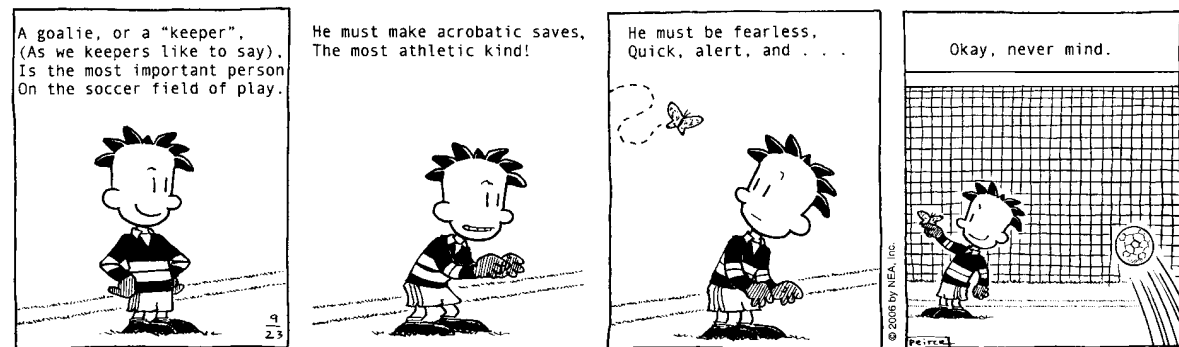
Frank and Ernest

by Bob Thaves



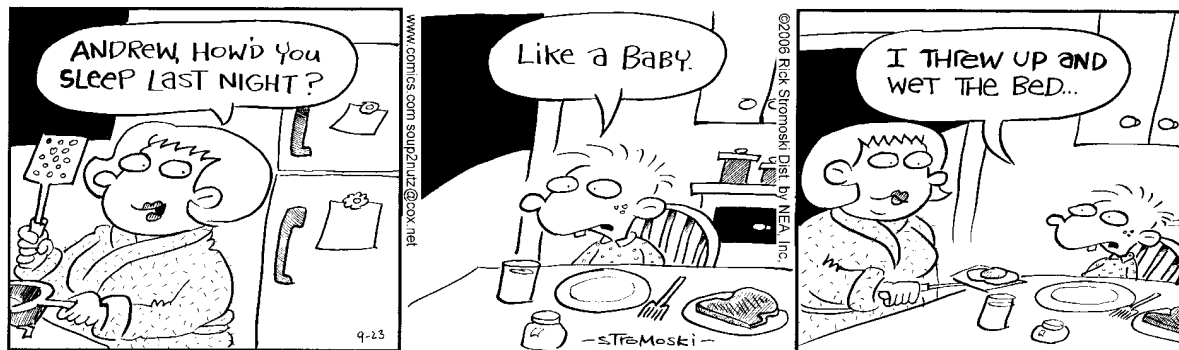
Big Nate

by Lincoln Peirce



Soup To Nuts

by Howie Schneider



The Born Loser

by Art and Chip Sansom



Alley Oop

by Dave Graue

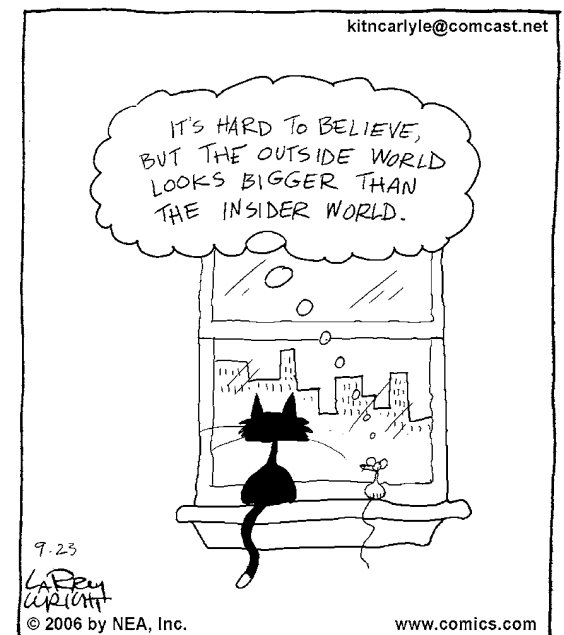


The Family Circus

by Bil Keane

Kit 'N' Carlyle

by Larry Wright



Health

BY PETER GOTT, M.D.

Stress could complicate heart condition

DEAR DR. GOTT: I am a 69-year-old woman who has had hypertrophic cardiomyopathy for over seven years. I periodically take a stress test and echocardiogram. I took both recently and compared them to earlier ones. My cardiologist says they show no worsening.

I can't understand this when I now have chest pains and wild thumping of the heart. I can't wash my car, and even peeling potatoes stresses my heart. I have been an extremely stressed (with manageable depression) person all my life. I take metoprolol and verapamil, and my cardiologist thinks these are the best medications. These do control my blood pressure but do not stop my heart symptoms. For my chest pains, he as much as said this goes with the ailment. Couldn't he have prescribed some-

thing for this?

DEAR READER: Cardiomyopathy (heart-muscle weakness) is sometimes associated with coronary disease, untreated hypertension and extra systoles (heart pumping). Your cardiologist has covered the bases with his noninvasive testing. Frankly, I do not know the cause of your symptoms. I accept your explanation of stress as a complication. If this is the case, perhaps anxiety or depression medication will help. Ask your cardiac specialist about this.

Also, you don't mention the cause of your cardiomyopathy and whether that specific cause is being addressed. Again, this may be a suitable topic for you to discuss.

Finally, note that I termed your cardiac work-up to be noninvasive, as it should be. Nonetheless, maybe it's time to get a better idea of the inner workings of your heart. Do you, for example, have significant coronary blockages that should be bypassed or stented? This would show up during an X-ray coronary study. Again, this is a topic for you and your cardiologist to explore. Let me know what you decide.



By Peter Gott, M.D.

Bridge

BY PHILLIP ALDER

North 09-23-06
 ♠ Q J 8 4
 ♥ J 6 4 2
 ♦ 7 3
 ♣ Q 8 6

West
 ♠ 10 9 6 3
 ♥ 9 8 3
 ♦ J 9 2
 ♣ J 9 4

East
 ♠ K 5
 ♥ 7
 ♦ A K Q 8 6 4
 ♣ K 10 7 2

South
 ♠ A 7 2
 ♥ A K Q 10 5
 ♦ 10 5
 ♣ A 5 3

Dealer: East
 Vulnerable: East-West

	South	West	North	East
Dbl.		Pass	1 ♠	2 ♠
2 ♥		Pass	3 ♥	Pass
4 ♣		Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♦ 2

nership together. He has claimed writer's rights to all of those deals, so you will have to see one from nearly 30 years ago. It features a wonderful piece of declarer play by him.

To double, then to bid a new suit after partner makes a minimum reply, promises at least a good 17 high-card points. So, South's four-heart bid was aggressive.

East took two diamond tricks, then shifted to his trump.

Kantar could see that he might lose one spade and two clubs, because surely East had the club king for his bidding. Was there any hope? Yes—that East had begun with exactly king-doubleton of spades and had the club king.

Declarer drew trumps, cashed his spade ace, then led a low spade and played low from the dummy. Bingo! East had to win with his king and either play a club away from his king or concede a ruff-and-suff. Either way, Kantar's two low clubs evaporated, one on this trick and one on dummy's long spade.

Note that if East had three spades to the king, it could not help Kantar to play dummy's spade jack on the second round. East would take his king and return a spade. South could discard only one low club and would lose one spade, two diamonds and one club.

When I was in Chicago last July for the Summer Nationals, I had the pleasure of playing in two events with two-time world champion Eddie Kantar. He is an entertaining writer and teacher who has been a close friend for more than 20 years, but it was our first part-

Your Birthday

BY BERNICE BEDE OSOL

Believe in yourself because your talents have great possibilities, and the year ahead will offer ample opportunity to make the most of your creative gifts. The market is there for what you conceive and bring into fruition.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Although you might give generously to people who are less fortunate than you are, you might not be too bright about those you lavish your charity upon. They may not be worthy.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — There is a giant difference between genuine optimism and mere wishful thinking. An inability to distinguish between the two is asking for problems, especially when you take on a bad risk.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Disappointment is likely, especially when you expect more from others than you would if the circumstances were reversed. Try to be realistic and objective regarding what you request.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Remember everything is relative, so don't be envious of someone you believe has everything that you can't acquire. Instead, be grateful you're better off than many others.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — It might end up quite embarrassing if you prematurely boast about something you have yet to accomplish. Things have a way of turning into disappointment when talked about out of turn.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — A great opportunity

could slip past you today, all because you won't attach any importance to it. Be smart, not smug.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — A slick person who arouses your generosity might not be worthy of what she/he wants from you. Don't take people at face value; think before you make a commitment.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Be careful about what you pass off as fact, because you'll be challenged to demonstrate whether or not your information will work or merely come from a dream world of fantasy.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — You won't win any brownie points if you promise to do something for another, then, when the time comes, look for ways to put off what you assured this person you would do.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — It's best not to introduce betting into social competitive involvements with friends today. The false optimism you have about winning could cause you to take foolish risks when a bet is on the line.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Conditions might test your grasp of reality and your ability to translate ideals into reality. If you can't produce, you might attempt to cover up your embarrassment with ill behavior.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Take care that any idea you get today for a do-it-yourself project isn't beyond your capabilities. Assess your talents and skills realistically before spending good money on tools or materials.

Sudoku

5				8	9		4
		4		1			
			6				8
1	7			4	2		9
			3		7		
	8		7		6	1	
	5	6	4		9		
				3			
2							3