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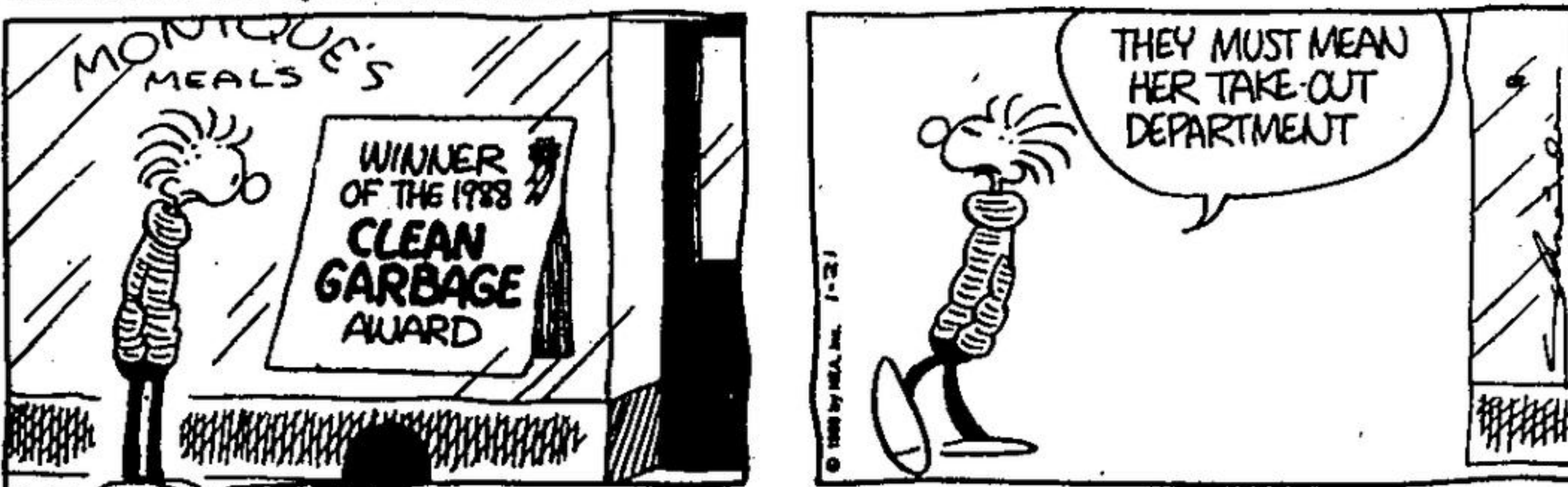
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**COMIC PAGE**

**ASTRO-GRAPH** **BRIDGE**

**BERNICE BEDE OSOL** **JAMES JACOBY**

**Your Birthday**  
Jan. 19, 1989

You could be extremely fortunate in the year ahead by putting new twists on flagging enterprises. This could turn ventures you were thinking of writing off into something profitable.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** Try to do all within your power today to assure that harmony prevails in situations directly affecting you and your mate. Be cooperative, not demanding. Trying to patch up a broken romance? The Astro-Graph Matchmaker can help you to understand what to do to make the relationship work. Mail \$2 to Matchmaker, P.O. Box 91428, Cleveland, OH 44101-3428.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19)** You may be tempted today to shift certain responsibilities to ineffective subordinates because they'll interfere with other plans you're considering. This could make a bigger mess.

**PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20)** If you're planning something social today, be sure that the people on your guest list are compatible with one another. A disgruntled participant could spoil everyone's fun.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19)** Even people who are extremely fond of you won't be too tolerant today if they feel you're asking more of them than you should. Keep your requests reasonable.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)** Avoid the company of an acquaintance today who has a talent for putting a damper on your hot ideas. Seek out friends who are boosters and who can help build on your thoughts.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)** An individual who knows it's difficult for you to refuse might try to impose upon you again today in some material manner. This may give you an opening to remind this person of past obligations.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22)** Self-doubts could make it difficult for you today to make speedy decisions. Sometimes it's just as self-defeating to be overly cautious as it is to be too rash.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)** Nothing will be gained at this time by further postponing an unappealing responsibility that needs attending to now. Do what is expected of you.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)** A person who shares a mutual resentment with you might be at an activity you'll attend today. Do your best to be civil at least until it is over.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)** There's a chance you might become too easily discouraged today if your first attempts at what you hope to achieve fall short. Instead of quitting, regroup and try again.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)** Do not take it as a personal affront today if everyone is not in accord with your ideas or suggestions. You may be the one who is marching to the beat of a different drummer.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)** There are indications that you might be a bit more extravagant than usual today, especially when shopping in stores that have expensive merchandise. Be careful.

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**NORTH 1-18-89**  
♦ 3  
♦ 7 4  
♦ A 10 8 7 6 4  
♦ 8 7 5 4

**WEST**  
♦ Q J 10 8 6 5 4  
♦ J 9 6 2  
♦ J  
♦ J

**EAST**  
♦ A 9 7 2  
♦ Q 3  
♦ 8 3 2  
♦ K 6 3 2

**SOUTH**  
♦ K  
♦ A K 10 8 5  
♦ K Q 5  
♦ A Q 10 9

Vulnerable: North-South  
Dealer: East

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

Opening lead: ♦ J

**Opportunity for deception**

By James Jacoby

Strange that East did not make a nuisance bid by boosting West's weak jump overcall, but perhaps he knew his partner's penchant for interfering with a long suit and little else. South reopened with a double, and then, after North had bid three diamonds, he bid three spades. In this instance the cue-bid says: "I don't know what to play in, partner. Please help me decide." Since North had not supported hearts earlier, he felt safe in now suggesting game in hearts as a final contract.

After the friendly jack of clubs lead, declarer won the queen and played A-K of hearts. When the queen appeared from East, South continued with a third round, hoping that the suit would split. But West won the nine and now played queen of spades. East won the ace, dropping declarer's king, and kept on with the suit. Declarer ruffed and played the king of diamonds. When the jack appeared from West he overtook with dummy's ace and played a club to the 10. West was careful not to trump. Next came a low diamond, but West was up to this play. He ruffed in and continued spades. Eventually declarer had to lose a club for down one.

Declarer might have gotten away with a swindle earlier. If, after A-K of trumps, he plays the queen of diamonds from his hand, rising with the ace when West plays the jack, West might be fooled. Now a club to the 10 would tempt West to ruff. If not, a low diamond toward dummy's 10 might confuse the issue. If defender West lets declarer play clubs from dummy one more time, four hearts will come rolling in.

James Jacoby's books "Jacoby on Bridge" and "Jacoby on Card Games" (written with his father, the late Oswald Jacoby) are now available at bookstores. Both are published by Pharos Books.

**CELEBRITY CIPHER**

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another. Today's clue: T equals M.

P E V R V W E V Q R V  
A U V M V A X D M V A X N M . P Z F R X  
W N N I D K W P I D W P X X W D M D K  
M P K P J H U N N K . — C V F W  
J D E T V J .

**SOLUTION:** "I was always a character actor. I just looked like Little Rascals' Fido." — Paul Newman.