

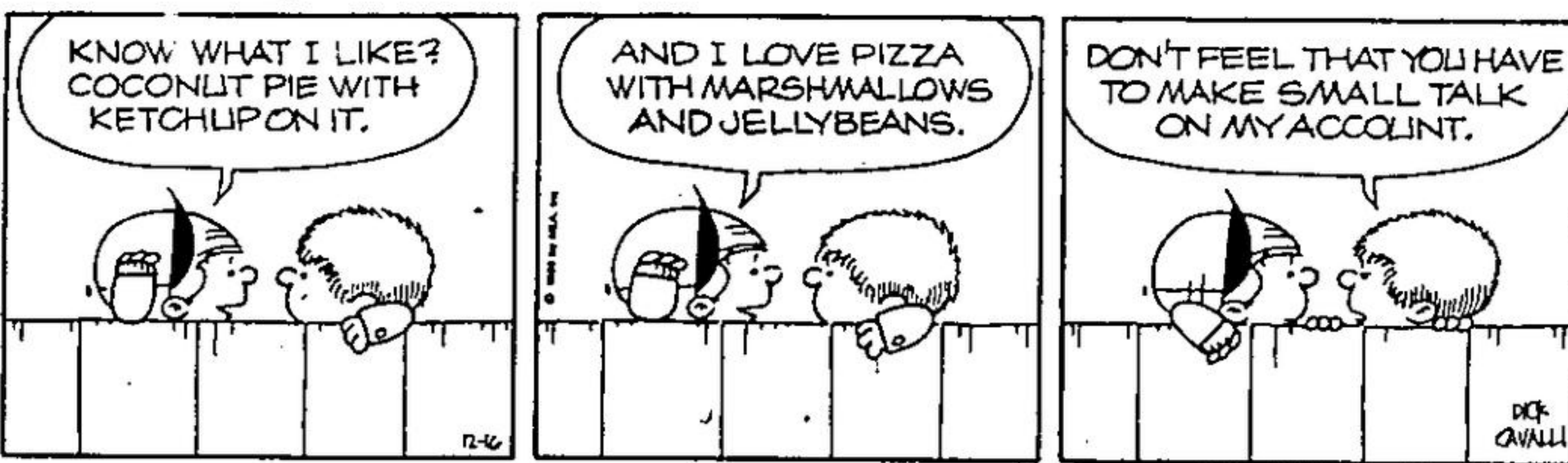
PHIPPS™ by Joseph Farris



FRANK & ERNEST® by Bob Thaves



WINTHROP® by Dick Cavalli



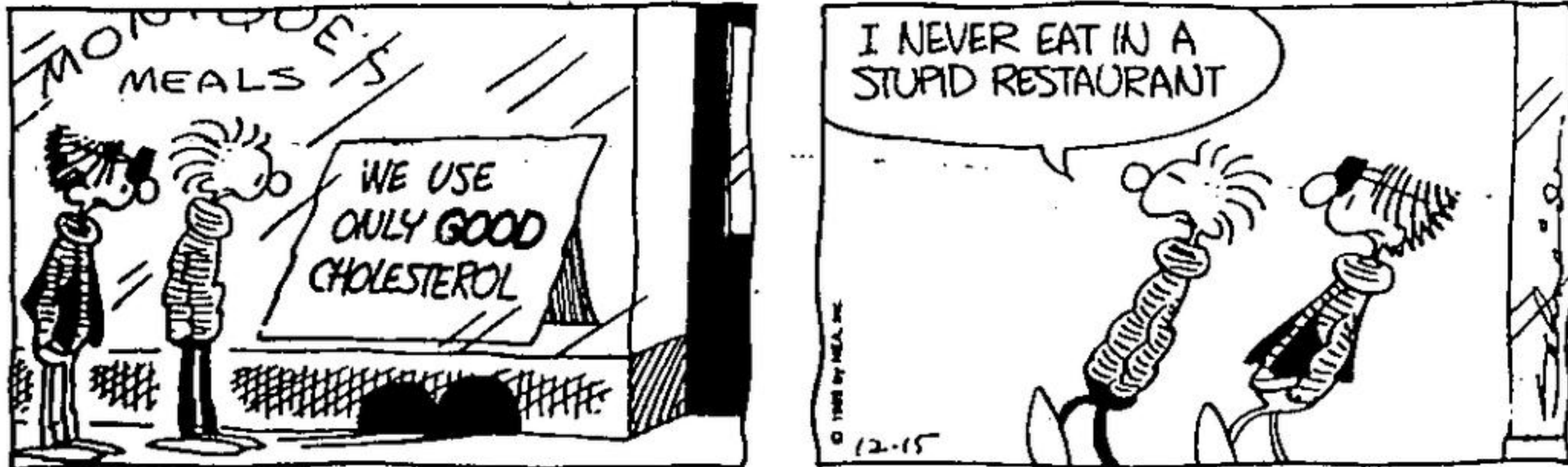
BORN LOSER® by Art and Chip Sansom



ARLO & JANIS® by Jimmy Johnson



EEK & MEEK® by Howie Schneider



GRIZZWELLS® by Bill Schorr



Comic Outlook

BRIDGE



JAMES JACOBY

ASTRO-GRAPH



BERNICE BEDE OSOL

NORTH 12-16-89
 ♦ Q 6 2
 ♥ A 7 4
 ♦ Q
 ♠ A Q 10 8 5 4

WEST
 ♠ J 8 5
 ♥ Q J 10 9 8
 ♦ K 10 8
 ♣ 9 3

EAST
 ♠ K 9 7
 ♥ 6 3 2
 ♦ J 7 3
 ♣ J 7 6 2

SOUTH
 ♠ A 10 4 3
 ♥ K 5
 ♦ A 9 6 5 4 2
 ♣ K

Vulnerable: North-South
 Dealer: South

South	West	North	East
1♦	Pass	2♠	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All pass

Opening lead: ♥ Q

Your Birthday

Your chart indicates the year ahead will be filled with a raft of activities, tailored to satisfy your restless inclinations. Lots of new and exciting people could enter your life.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Someone who likes you may do something rather extraordinary for you today that will enable you to achieve an important objective. Be sure to acknowledge your benefactor. Sagittarius, treat yourself to a birthday gift.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Today is a good day to try to work out a future plan that requires considerable cooperation from another. Your chances for gaining this essential ally look excellent.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Some changes may take place today triggered by an event over which you'll have little or no control. This shift in circumstances will prove advantageous.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Your judgment is a bit keener than usual today and you are fortunate to have this asset, because it looks like you will be called upon to make a critical decision.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Services you perform for those you love today will bring them happiness and your personal fulfillment. Do your duty wherever you feel you can help.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Friends hold you in high regard today and it's likely several will seek out your company. It's a good feeling to know you are popular with your peers.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) If early indicators are not too favorable today, don't let it disturb you. Given enough time, things will eventually work out in your favor.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Your ideas will be readily accepted by others today, so if you have some points you would like to get across to a specific individual, seek this person out and express them.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Conditions that pertain to your material well being look quite encouraging for you today. Be alert for opportunities that could be meaningful to you in material ways.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Help for advancing your personal interests could come to you today from a least-expected quarter. Don't discount suggestions you get from others today, even people you do not hold in especially high esteem.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) You may get involved in an arrangement today where you'll feel you are doing another a favor, only to later discover that the real benefactor in this development is yourself.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Your optimism and enthusiasm will be easily aroused today, and this will be helpful. However, what will really make your day could be an expected, beneficial development.

When it's safer not to be greedy

By James Jacoby

Fancy bids in all but the best-ordered partnerships carry risk. After South's opening bid, North of course knew that game would be reached, most likely in no-trump. His two-heart rebid was an attempt to give a better position to South's heart queen if he held it. But what if South held four hearts and now decided to raise to game? The only answer I know to such a problem is to have a partnership agreement that in this specific circumstance South can raise only to three hearts. The problem was moot, since South duly bid no-trump.

South won the heart king, cashed the club king and led a low spade to dummy's queen. East won and returned a heart. Declarer took dummy's ace and played A-Q of clubs, discarding diamonds. But the jack of clubs did not fall. So next came a spade back to the 10. West won the jack and quickly took three more heart tricks to set the contract. For South, was there a better way to play?

Making three no-trump does not require six club tricks; five are enough. Declarer can improve his chances of taking five club tricks by overtaking his club king with dummy's ace and playing the queen. If no significant card (jack or nine) appears, he can play a third club, hoping for a 3-3 club split. The advantage here is that declarer succeeds when the club nine is doubleton, since the 10 can force out the jack and the eight-spot lets the suit run. You sacrifice a possible overtrick to increase the chances of making the contract.

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: P equals B.

'BT RUC DOZ'W
 PVGBVJV BZ XUK,
 YCQOZBHQ BH WYV
 ZVEW PVHW
 WYBZX - GUA
 GUZXTUAK.

SOLUTION: "If you can't believe in God, humanism is the next best thing." - Lord Longford.