

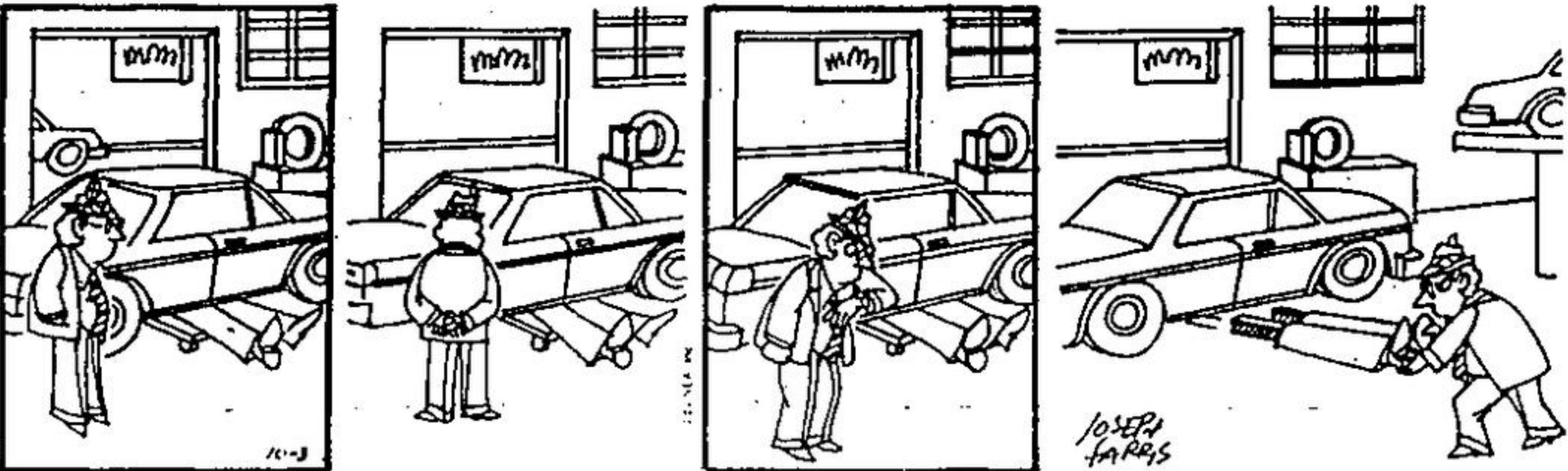
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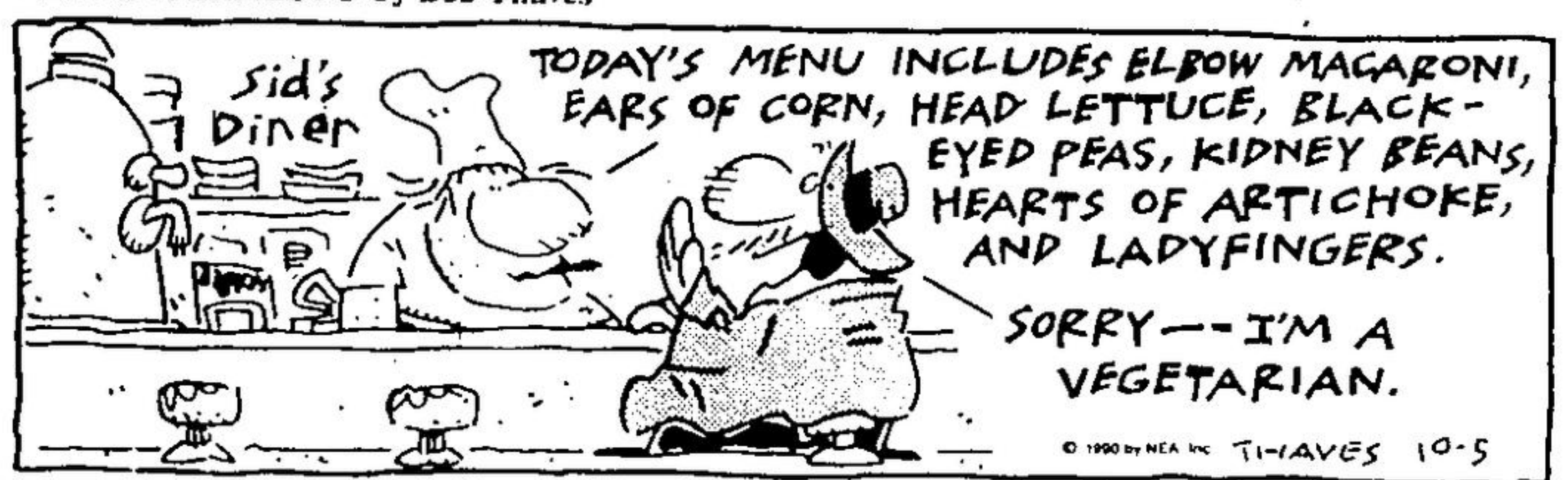
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BRIDGE



JAMES JACOBY

ASTRO-GRAPH



BERNICE BEDE OSOL



Oct. 3, 1990

10-3-90

NORTH
 ♠ Q J 9 3
 ♥ 7 6 3
 ♦ Q 9 3
 ♣ 10 5 3

WEST
 ♠ K 10 8 4
 ♥ 8 5 4 2
 ♦ 8 7 6 2
 ♣ 8

EAST
 ♠ 7 6 5 2
 ♥ 10
 ♦ J 10 5
 ♣ A Q J 9 2

SOUTH
 ♠ A
 ♥ A K Q J 9
 ♦ A K 4
 ♣ K 7 6 4

Vulnerable: North-South
 Dealer: South

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

Opening lead: ♣ 8

A careless discard

By James Jacoby

South bid his hand well, up to a point. For example, it was correct for him to show his clubs. If North held four or five clubs headed by the Q-J, there would be an excellent play for a club slam. When North showed mild heart support, South might have tried three no-trump. The nine-trick no-trump game is easier. But with a little help from West, South brought in four hearts anyway.

East won the ace of clubs and returned the queen. West ruffed out declarer's king of clubs and returned a diamond. Declarer won and tried A-K of hearts. (If West had started with no more than three hearts, the last club could be ruffed in dummy.) When East showed out on the second round of trumps, that approach was no good, so declarer continued with his remaining trumps. West, with two discards to make, threw a spade and a diamond, while a spade and a club were discarded from dummy. Declarer now cashed the ace of spades, played his high diamonds ending in dummy, and led the spade queen. Declarer threw a club. West had to win the king and give up the last trick to dummy's spade jack.

West's error was in throwing away a low diamond. If West keeps all his diamonds, he will have a winning exit card when he is eventually thrown in with the spade king, and four hearts will be set. The need to keep extra length in spades is an illusion.

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. © 1990, NEWSPAPER ENTERPRISE ASSN.

KIT 'N' CARLYLE® by Larry Wright



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