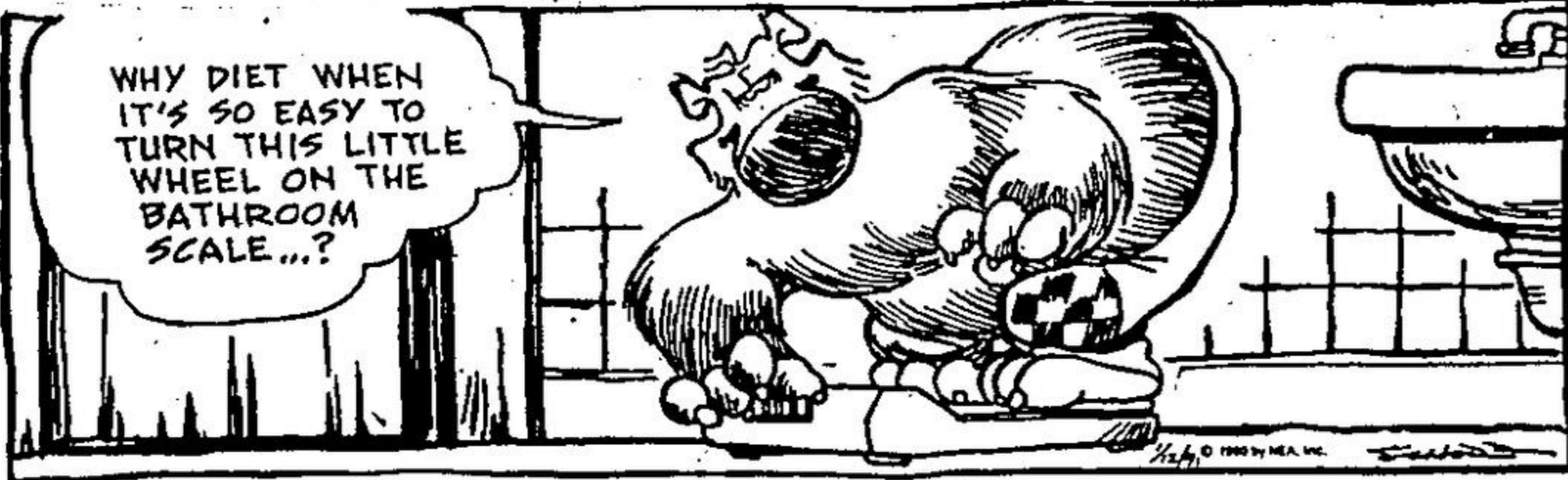


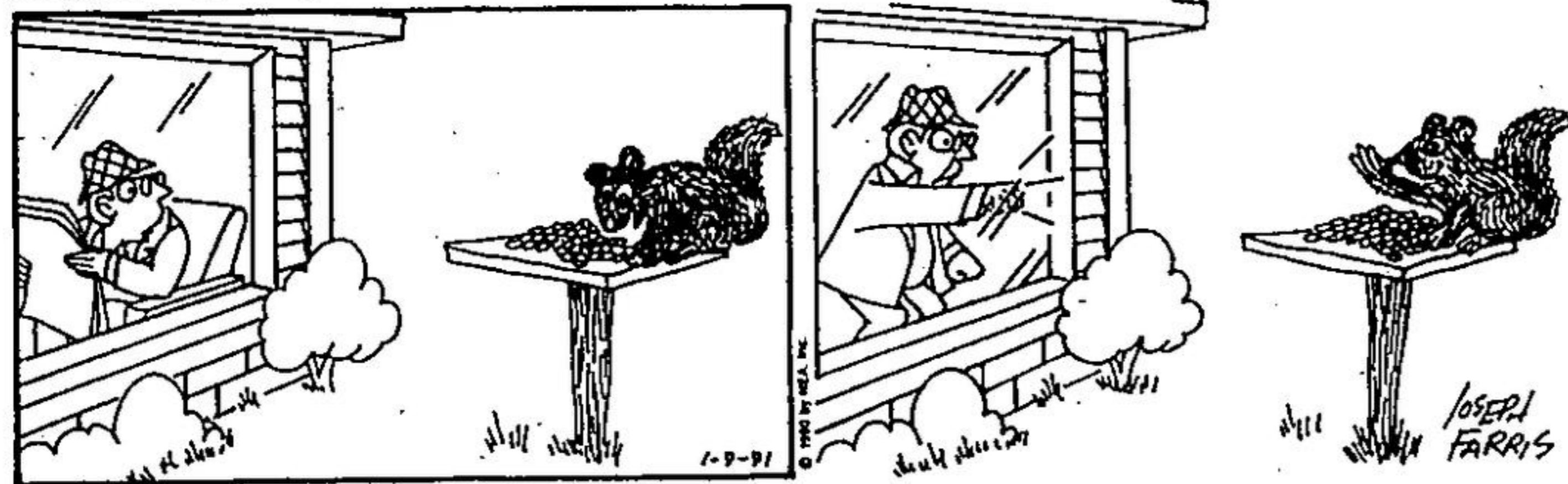
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BRIDGE



JAMES JACOBY



BERNICE BEDE OSOL

1-9-91

NORTH
 ♠ A Q 10 7
 ♥ A Q 5 4
 ♦ 8
 ♣ A K J 9

WEST
 ♠ 8 5
 ♥ 10 6 2
 ♦ K Q J 9 7 6 5 4
 ♣ - - - -

EAST
 ♠ 4
 ♥ 9 8 7 3
 ♦ A 3
 ♣ Q 7 6 5 4 2

SOUTH
 ♠ K J 9 6 3 2
 ♥ K J
 ♦ 10 2
 ♣ 10 8 3

Vulnerable: North-South
 Dealer: East

South	West	North	East
Pass	4♦	Dbl.	5♦
5♦	Pass	6♦	All pass

Opening lead: ♦ 4

Your Birthday

Jan. 9, 1991

Something rather extraordinary, and highly advantageous, might occur in the year ahead through a side venture in which you're involved. You'll have to stay on your toes in order to capitalize on developments.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) A joint venture in which you're involved looks good at first, but it might not be as spectacular as you think. Unrealistic expectations could lead to disappointment. Capricorn, treat yourself to a birthday gift.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) It may seem more convenient to let another handle an important matter for you today, but this could prove unwise. The individual you choose might be ineffective where you would know exactly what to do.

Early message

By James Jacoby

One of the more important reasons for signaling at bridge is to show suit preference. This often occurs when the opening leader is going to hold the trick, and a look at dummy tells him that a switch is absolutely mandatory. In that type of situation, a high card from partner asks for the lead of a higher-ranking suit; a low card suggests the lead of the lower-ranking suit. That's fairly obvious. What is not so obvious is that the opening leader also can have an opportunity to show suit preference, as in today's deal.

In third position and with favorable vulnerability, West opened four diamonds. North doubled for takeout and East got in the opponents' way with five diamonds. South risked bidding five spades, and North bid the slam. Everyone passed, leaving West on lead.

Abandoning the standard lead from K-Q-J, he led the diamond four. East won the ace of diamonds and really had an easy play. Even though South played the diamond 10, concealing the deuce, it was apparent that West would not have opened four diamonds with only a five-card suit. He had to be leading an unusually low diamond for a reason, and that reason could only be to encourage East to return a club if he won the first trick. So East returned a club, and West ruffed to set the slam.

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. © 1991, NEWSPAPER ENTERPRISE ASSN.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) This is not a good day to pretend to be knowledgeable about something which, in truth, you are not, especially if others are counting on your know-how to keep an endeavor on track.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Try not to get involved in the intricate affairs of others today, because your managerial aptitudes might not be up to par. You could make matters worse.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) In an effort to maintain harmony on the home front today, you may put too much emphasis on policies of appeasement, which will not serve your — or your mate's — best interests. Be realistic.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Guard against inclinations to rationalize away problems which should be taken seriously today. Optimism is one thing; wishful thinking is another.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Conditions having an influence on your financial security might be mixed today. In one case, you may gain, while in another, you may be sorry.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) In order to achieve desirable results today, you'll have to hit the ground running. If you procrastinate, your possibilities for fulfilling your expectations are reduced.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Be grateful and not greedy with people who put themselves out for your concerns today. If their efforts are not acknowledged properly, they might not be available next time you need them.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) A friend who is a skilled manipulator might try to make big demands of you today, in order to compensate for a small favor this same individual recently granted you. Keep a yardstick handy.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) This could be a very rewarding day for you, provided you capitalize on your available opportunities. If you merely take things for granted, you could miss the boat.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Your initial assessments of situations are likely to be on target today, but you might let negative, second thoughts creep in and cause doubts that could neutralize your appraisals.

KIT 'N' CARLYLE® by Larry Wright

