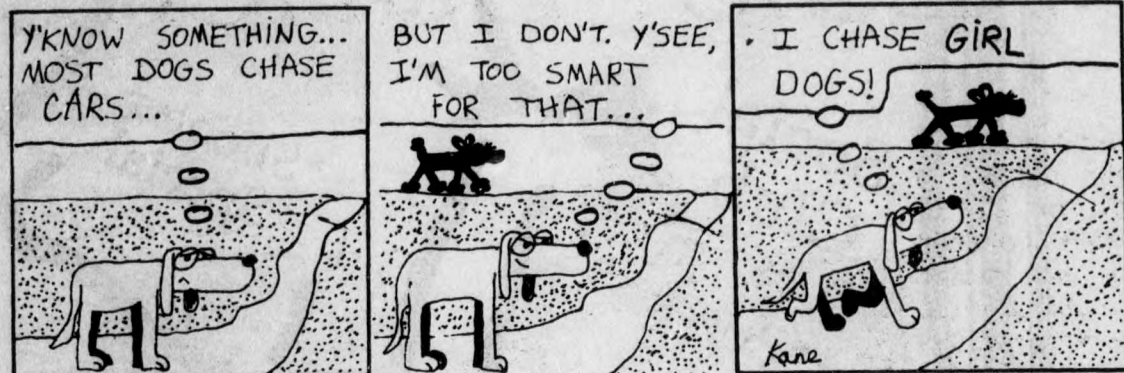
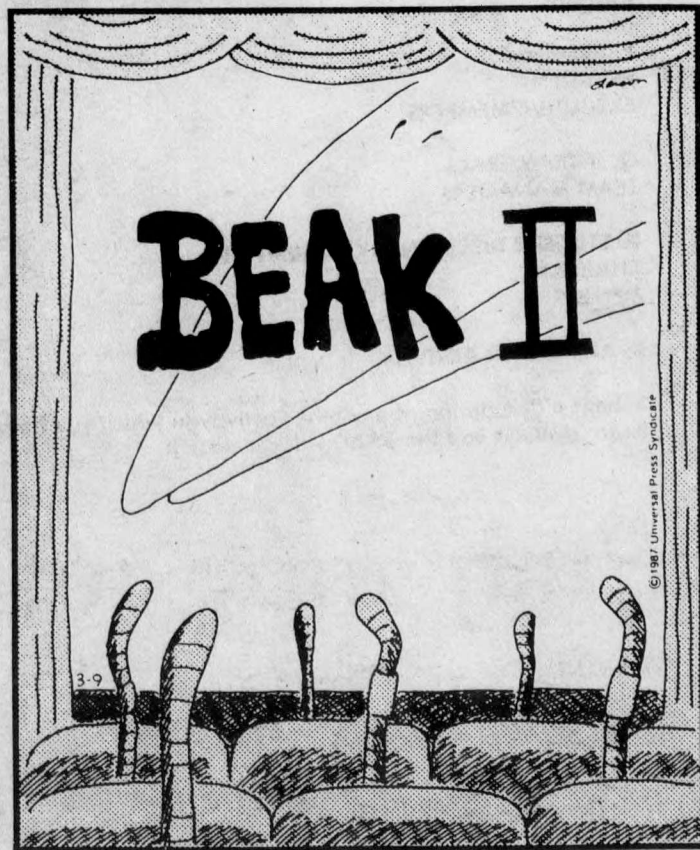


Distractions

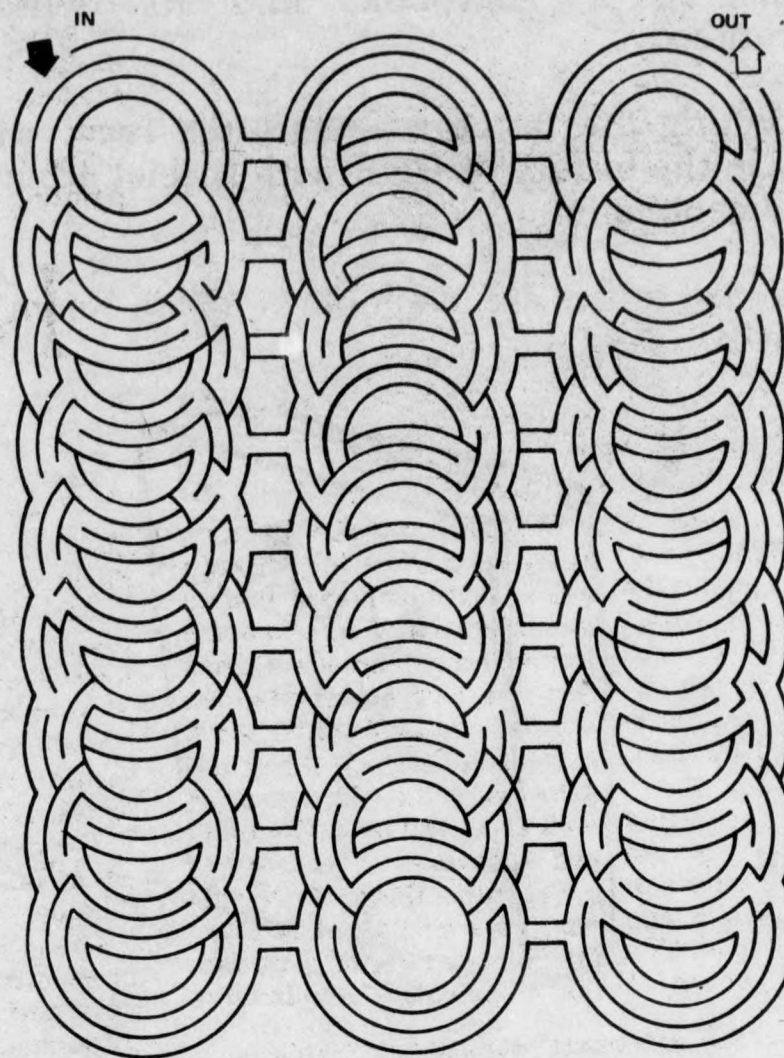


THE FAR SIDE By GARY LARSON



Just when you thought it was safe to go back into the topsoil.

The loops in this maze should prove a real challenge—we couldn't find the way out in less than six minutes. Can you?



JACK M'CLOSKEY'S CANADIAN WILDLIFE



IN A COUPLA WEEKS IT'S GONNA BE SPRING, AN' IT'S TIME TO DIG OUT THEM OLD SPRING SAYIN'S LIKE: "IN SPRING, A YOUNG MAN'S FANCY TURNS TO BASEBALL!", AN' SPRING IS SPRUNG, THE GRASS IS RIZ, I WONDER WHERE THE FLOWERS IS!" AN' JEST LIKE THE SWALLOWS OR SPARROWS OR WHATEVER RETURN TO CAPPUCINO, WE'LL ALL BE LOOKIN' FOR THE FIRST ROBIN OF SPRING! SIGHTIN' THE FIRST ROBIN IS S'POSED TO BE GOOD LUCK, BUT IT AIN'T TOO GOOD LUCK FOR THE ROBIN, 'CAUSE WHEN HE GETS HERE, HE USUALLY SEZ "DAMN, IT'S STILL COLD UP HERE!"

AN' IT AIN'T TOO GOOD LUCK IF THE FIRST GUY TO SEE 'IM IS A TEN-YEAR-OLD WITH A B-B GUN.' THEY SAY THAT THE EARLY BIRD CATCHES THE WORM, AN' I S'POSE THAT CAN BE APPLIED TO SPRING AS WELL AS A DAY. BUT DON'T THEY HAVE WORMS IN FLORIDA? AN' BESIDES, THAT AIN'T EXACTLY TRUE, 'CAUSE LOOK WHAT BEIN' EARLY DID FOR THE WORM! AN' WHO EVER SAID IF THE EARLY BIRD ENJOYED THE WORM AS MUCH AS THE LATE BIRD ENJOYED THE TWO EXTRA HOURS SLEEP OR THE TWO EXTRA WEEKS IN DAYTONA.



H-HOLY B-B-BRASS MONKEYS, BATMAN! I'M F-F-FREEZING MY B-BAT POLE OFF!

PAUL WHITEY