

arts & entertainment

The Doonesbury Chronicles

By Robert Thurber

From the good people at Yale who brought us Ivy League respectability, Dick Cavett and a rowing team of unparalleled proportions, has come a young humorist by the name of Garry Trudeau.

That name may mean nothing standing alone, but when mentioned in the same breath with such notables as Ms. Caucus, Zonker Harris, Marvelous Mark, B.D. and Mike the Mix, his identity becomes clear. Trudeau is the brilliant cartoonist whose creation, the now infamous comic strip Doonesbury, runs daily in more than 350 North American newspapers.

About seven years ago, while still an undergraduate art student at Yale, Trudeau generated the idea of drawing a cartoon depicting life as he saw it on the New Haven campus, replete with variety of stereotypes ranging from a football quarterback named B.D. (curiously enough, the quarterback at Yale at the time happened to be a certain Brian Dowling) to an eager freshman whom Trudeau called Mike Doonesbury.

Tightly-knit beginnings

When the comic strip first ran in the Yale Daily News in 1968, its characters were a small tightly-knit group limited to Mike, B.D., Mark Slackmeyer (then a campus activist) and other assorted college types based on Trudeau's personal



experiences.

Since then, as all loyal Doonesbury followers know, a cast of thousands has been added, including Phred the Viet Cong terrorist, befriended by B.D. while on active duty in Viet Nam; Ms. Caucus, a middle-aged housewife who ran away from her

husband; Zonker Harris, a continually stoned freak. . . .

Let's back up a bit. Why all this sudden interest in a subject that is already a household word? About a week ago a book came across my desk from the Holt, Rinehart & Winston Publishing Co. in New

York, entitled *The Doonesbury Chronicles*, new to the market in both hard and paperback forms. The first major Doonesbury retrospective presenting more than 500 of Trudeau's strips (Sunday color included), it encompasses the Doonesbury spectrum at a reasonable price. That is cause for celebration.

In *The Doonesbury Chronicles* we can observe, at a single sitting, the genius of Trudeau's creation in chronological form from its campus origins at the end of the turbulent '60s through the first half of the recession-prone '70s.

Insults all, offends none

Trudeau has discovered a way to insult everyone without offending anyone. His characters reach beyond normal stereotypes of the "jock," the "liberated" woman, or the "power hungry" politician. They are real people; they are fallible and they know it.

Trudeau leaves no corner of the earth or the mind free from his exploring imagination.

His perfectly penned characters act as a thermometer and a monitor of our daily life. President Ford said "There are only three major vehicles to keep us informed. . . the electronic media, the print media and Doonesbury, not necessarily in that order."

So significant a comment on American life has Doonesbury become, that many newspapers, including the Washington Post and the Lincoln Journal, no longer run it on the comic pages but place it on the editorial page, between such columnists as Art Buchwald and Sidney Harris.

This year, for the first time in the history of journalism awards, the Pulitzer prize for editorial cartooning went to a comic strip: Garry Trudeau's Doonesbury. Quite a way from those days at Yale, wouldn't you say?

By Sharon Johnson

Cabbage has been around for a long time. Aristotle, along with others, followed Egyptian practice of eating cabbage before banquets, believing it would keep from befuddling wise minds.

The word cabbage comes from the Latin word caput, meaning head. In Sanskrit and other ancient Eastern languages no word for cabbage exists, so plant historians believe that Eastern cultures did not have cabbage.

Today, other vegetables have developed from strains of cabbage, including broccoli, brussel sprouts and cauliflower.

Cabbage is reasonably priced and generally available year round. Best buys are well-trimmed, solid heads that are heavy for their size and show no discolored veins. Raw cabbage, a fairly rich source of vitamin C, contains other minerals and vitamins and is low in calories.

Cabbage is frequently served raw in salads such as coleslaw. One way to prepare

coleslaw and some variations on the theme follow.

COLE SLAW

- ½ cup mayonnaise
- ½ tsp. sugar
- ½ tsp. salt
- 2 T. vinegar
- 1 T. grated onion
- pepper to taste
- 4 cups finely shredded cabbage (about ½ medium head)

—Combine mayonnaise, sugar, salt, vinegar, onion and pepper. Mix thoroughly with cabbage.

—For variation, substitute ½ cup chopped green pepper or shredded carrots for ½ cup cabbage. Another variation is to combine red cabbage and green cabbage in equal parts.

Yield: 6 to 8 servings.

Cabbage has an excellent flavor as a cooked vegetable. It can be added to roasts, soups or other one-pot dinners. To prepare cabbage for cooking, discard outside leaves and wash. Cut the cabbage into wedges and remove the core or shred and discard the core. Heat to boiling 1 inch salted water or ½ inch for shredded cabbage (use ½ teaspoon salt to 1 cup water).

Add cabbage, cover and heat to boiling. Cook wedges 10 to 12 minutes or until crisp-tender; cook shredded cabbage 5 minutes. Drain and serve with margarine, salt and pepper, or season with caraway or celery seeds. Here is an interesting way to prepare cabbage as a cooked vegetable.

SWEET AND SOUR CABBAGE AND GREEN PEPPER

- 3 T oil
- 1 medium head of green cabbage
- 2 medium green peppers, seeded, sliced
- 1 medium onion, sliced
- ½ tsp. salt
- pepper to taste
- ½ cup chicken broth or water
- 1 T. sugar
- 1 T. vinegar

—Heat oil in a fairly large pot. Add cabbage, peppers, and onion. Sauté about five minutes, stirring with a large fork. Volume of vegetables should be reduced and vegetables should be just barely tender.

—Season with salt and pepper, add broth, sugar and vinegar. Cover and cook additional five minutes. If a slightly thickened sauce is desired, sift ½ tsp. flour over the cooked vegetables, stir well and cook another two minutes. Yield: four to six servings.

sauces & pickles

Unbefuddled cabbage

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