**Wrong Timing**

**During my twice-a-week aerobics class, the instructor pointed out that it would do no good to participate if we all went out afterward for pizzas and milkshakes. One happy participant whispered, “It's a good thing we stopped for pizza before class.” *(Juanita Dennis, in Reader's Digest)***

**Why is it that the only time doctors, dentists, and lawyers are on time for appointments is when you are not? *(Bits & Pieces)***

**It's surprising how many bargains there are on things you just bought, don't need or can't afford. *(Doug Larson, United Feature Syndicate)***

**Recently, at a St. Louis Cardinals baseball game marred by an eighth-inning, 50-player, bench-clearing brawl, 2,000 students were honored for taking part in a yearlong educational campaign designed to teach them other ways to solve their problems than through violence. *(Bill Flick, 1997)***

**Frank says to Ernest: “We can't win, Ernie. We were kids at a time when everything was blamed on the kids. And now we're parents at a time when everything is blamed on the parents!” *(Bob Thaves, in Frank & Ernest comic strip)***

**Hollywood studios no longer release potential international blockbusters in June, because the world is so distracted by the World Cup soccer tournament. This year, the games are expected to attract a cumulative global TV audience of 32.5 billion. *(Entertainment Weekly, as it appeared in The Week magazine, June 23, 2006)***

**When I was in high school, musical car horns were popular. My mother's deluxe model played the first line of 48 different songs. But when it was extremely cold, the horn sometimes developed a short and played on its own. I urged Mom to take it out of our car, but she refused to get rid of it. That is, until the cold winter afternoon that Mom and Dad attended a graveside funeral service for an elderly aunt. As they were pulling out of the cemetery, the horn blared the first stanza of "We're in the Money." I never heard the horn again. *(Rosida Porter, in Reader's Digest)***

**A man was selling his home and had hired me to repair a hole in the wall he had made years earlier for extra storage. Without much trouble I patched the area with wallboard, painting it so that there was no sign a hole had ever been there. That night I got a call from the client thanking me for the excellent work. Then he asked if I could come back and perform the same repair the next day. He had forgotten to tell me that his cat always hid in the storage area. *(Robert Sidney, in Reader's Digest)***

**Typical of man's genius is the way he develops a bomb designed to drive us into the cellar about the time he starts building homes without any cellars. *(Homer King)***

**Just when I start to get the hang of it . . . I find out my computer is obsolete! *(Art & Chip Samsom, in The Born Loser comic strip)***

**Never take a cross-country car trip with a kid who has just learned to whistle. *(Jean Deuel, in Home & Away)***

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*Father to bearded, overall-clad son: "I just can't help wishing you had decided you wanted to be a wood carver in Vermont before we sent you through medical school." *(Jim Berry, Newspaper Enterprise Association)***

**Half the worry in the world is caused by people trying to make decisions before they have sufficient knowledge on which to base a decision. *(Dean Hawkes)***

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*My friend Carl is an excellent bowler. During one game, he needed one strike in order to bowl a perfect 300 game. Unfortunately, he missed when the ten pin didn't fall down. In honor of his 299 game, the bowling alley gave Carl the pin that wouldn't budge. Carl is very proud of this prize, but not so his wife. Every time she touches it with the dust cloth, it falls over. *(Donald R. Haworth, in Reader's Digest)***

**To celebrate my father's birthday, my relatives gathered at a favorite Mexican restaurant. As we were led to our table, my mother mentioned the birthday to the waiter. Several minutes later, while we were studying the menu, five waitresses and waiters wearing brightly colored native clothing and carrying wands and tambourines emerged from the kitchen and began performing an elaborate dance around the table. When the beautiful presentation was over, one of thewaitresses stepped forward and asked, “So who's the birthday boy?” “He's not here,” my uncle replied, “He went to the bathroom.” *(Thea Cooke, in Reader's Digest)***

**On a bus: "Ever have the feeling that in life, when you're finally holding all the cards, everyone else is playing chess?" *(Gil Stern, in The Wall Street Journal)***

**Firefighters in Raleigh, North Carolina, lobbying for better benefits by hosting a "firehouse chili" lunch for area lawmakers, were forced to momentarily leave the event when the catering truck caught fire. *(Bill Flick, 1997)***

**One of life's miseries, according to Nana, is being the last member in the family to get the flu after all the sympathy has run out. *(Jack Eppolito, in Catholic Digest)***

**"I knew if I waited long enough, the day would come when I'd be the one holding all the cards. And now, when it finally happens, it turns out I'm playing 'Old Maid'!" *(Art & Chip Sansom, in The Born Loser comic strip)***

**I've come to the conclusion that there is a basic rule which applies to all household appliances -- nothing breaks down until the service department is closed. *(Trust Hall Insurance Services newsletter)***

**The human brain is a wonderful organ. It starts to work as soon as you are born and doesn't stop until you get up to deliver a speech. *(George Jessel, in Catholic Digest)***

**In the midst of great joy, do not promise anyone anything. In the midst of great anger, do not answer anyone's letter. *(Chinese proverb)***

**Ziggy: "How come you only realize you're locking your keys in the car the exact moment your door slams shut!" *(Tom Wilson, in Ziggy comic strip)***

**A construction crew was putting the finishing touches on a major project in Klamath Falls, Oregon. All that remained was the erection of two no-parking sign about 50 yards apart. One worker drove to the designated area, installed the first sign and walked 50 yards to put up the other. When he returned to his truck, there was a parking ticket affixed to the windshield. *(Paul Sisney, in Reader's Digest)***

**When a truck flipped on its side on a Canadian highway, firefighters spread peat moss to soak up the spilled diesel fuel. A brief torrential rain washed most of the gardening material away, so they sent out for more. Only while waiting for the delivery did the firefighters learn that the cargo in the overturned trailer was peat moss. *(New Brunswick, Canada, Telegraph-Journal)***

**When vacationing in Alberta, Canada, my husband went horseback riding. Before the ride, I took my husband's picture on his horse. Afterward, he looked displeased, "Honey," he said. "You could have at least waited until they untied the horse from the post." *(Carole Desha, in Reader's Digest)***

**Ziggy: "I finally found my place in the sun ... and I forgot my sunblock!" *(Tom Wilson, in Ziggy comic strip)***

**It has happened to most of us at one time or another, and it is one of life's most frustrating moments. It's that moment when you're having lunch with congenial friends, and you have just reached the punch line of your favorite joke, when the waiter appears out of nowhere, as if on cue from the devil, and asks in a loud voice, “Who gets the steak sandwich?” *(Bits & Pieces)***

**On his daily 30-mile commute to college, my brother ran out of gas and pulled his car to the side of the rural highway. Almost immediately, another car slowed down and parked right in front of him. "Thank goodness," he thought. "A ride -- and so quickly!" He grabbed his school books, locked his doors, ran up to the car and jumped in on the passenger side. "Boy, am I glad to see you," my brother said to the other driver. "Why?" said the man. "I just ran out of gas." *(Betty Cowan, in Reader's Digest)***

**The conductor of our community's symphony orchestra was elated when a metropolitan newspaper planned to run a feature story on them just before a concert. When the article appeared, he was thrilled -- until he saw the accompanying photo. The picture, taken at a rehearsal, showed the conductor in action as seen from the trumpet section. In the foreground, propped against the music stand was a tiny portable TV tuned to "Monday Night Football." *(Alice M. Dawson, in Reader's Digest)***

**If you wait for a repairman, you'll wait all day. If you go out for five minutes, he'll arrive and leave while you're gone. *(Arthur Bloch, in Reader's Digest)***

**In Northport, Alabama, a 21-year-old's robbery of a convenience mart was foiled when two of the eyewitnesses were his parents who happened to be shopping in the store when he walked in to rob it. *(Bill Flick, 1997)***

**Student: "For my science project, I submit a groundbreaking discovery: Two snowflakes exactly alike!" After realizing that the snowflakes had already melted, he said: "I bet I should have gone first." *(Jef Mallett, in Frazz comic strip)***

**It had been some time since the woman had been in a salon, but she sat down hopefully after showing the stylist a magazine photo of a gorgeous, lustrous-haired model. The stylist went to work, humming happily, and the woman was content until she recognized the tune: the theme from Mission: Impossible. *(Rocky Mountain News)***

**Former Houston Oilers coach Bum Phillips, on why his team had a poor first half: "It was a time mix-up. We started at nine o'clock and the kickoff was at eight." (*Jeff Parietti, in The Greatest Sports Events, Alibis and Explanations)***

**A young man called his mother and announced excitedly that he had just met the woman of his dreams. Now what should he do? His mother had an idea: “Why don't you send her flowers, and on the card invite her to your apartment for a home-cooked meal?” He thought this was a great strategy, and a week later, the woman came to dinner. His mother called the next day to see how things had gone. “I was totally humiliated,” he moaned. “She insisted on washing the dishes.” “What's wrong with that?” asked his mother. “We hadn't started eating yet.” *(Quoted in Sweet's Soul Cafe)***

**When the idea is not right, God says “no”. When the time is not right, God says “slow”. When you are not right, God says “grow”. When everything is right, God says “go”. *(Rev. Robert Schuller)***

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