



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott







Blondie • Chic Young







Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne





Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker







Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters









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Cryptoquip

UVWNK YUBZ IUF TSSJ NJ

YUTOBNOP OGJJGJD

PWKSUZ, INXGJD IGP BOVZ

QNOBFJ'W XSWSK NOW. Saturday's Cryptoquip: A VERY POOR FELLOW WASN'T LET IN THE CLUB BECAUSE HE DIDN'T HAVE THE PAUPER IDENTIFICATION.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: J equals N

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Conceptis Sudoku by Dave Gree											
6		3	8								
	8		2	4	6		7				
4							9				
2	3	5	4		9	7	6				
	4	8	6		3	9	5	1			
	9							7			
	6		5	8	7		2				
					4	5		3			
Diffic	ulty	Level	*					12/11			

This is a logic-based number placement puzzle. The goal is to enter a number, 1-9, in each cell in which each row, column and 3x3 region must contain only one instance of each numeral. The solution to today's Sudoku puzzle is right.

6	7	3	8	9	5	1	4	2				
1	8	9	2	4	6	3	7	5				
4	5	2	3	7	1	8	9	6				
2	3	5	4	1	9	7	6	8				
9	1	6	7	5	8	2	3	4				
7	4	8	6	2	3	9	5	1				
5	9	4	1	3	2	6	8	7				
3	6	1	5	8	7	4	2	9				
8	2	7	9	6	4	5	1	3				
Diffic	ulty	Difficulty Level ★										

VK

Bridge

♥Q4

South dealer. Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH ♥J 10 8 5 3 ♦ K 10 6 4 ♣A 9 8 4 **EAST** WEST **♠**QJ986 ♠ K 10 7 5 3 2

♦ Q 7 2 **♦** J 8 3 **♣**J32 ♣Q76 SOUTH 🗭 A 4 ♥A9762

◆ A 9 5 **♣**K 10 5 The bidding: South West 1 🖤

Opening lead — queen of spades.

Famous Hand

This remarkable hand, played many years ago by Claggett Bowie of Baltimore, features an extraordinary endplay.

Bowie had bid six hearts fully aware that his partner was void of spades and that his ace was therefore of doubtful value. However, he also thought that his six-heart bid might induce the opponents to bid six spades.

The slam seems impossible to make, even if you see all four hands.

Declarer has a certain trump loser and also has a loser in both diamonds and clubs. But Bowie made the contract and, furthermore, could not be defeated!

He ruffed the spade queen in dummy and led a heart to the ace. Then, to set the stage for the throw-in play he visualized, he played the ace of spades and trumped it in dummy!

Bowie next led a trump, and after winning with the queen, West was in the soup.

If he returned a spade, declarer would ruff in dummy, discard the club five and then establish an extra club trick in dummy by ruffing the third round. If West instead returned a club or a diamond, South would score four tricks in that suit and simultaneously avoid a loser in the other suit.

If, say, West led a low club and East played the queen, West's jack could then be trapped. Or if West led the club jack instead, East's queen could be trapped by going up with dummy's ace.

The same was true if West shifted to a diamond. All roads thus led to 12 tricks.

Observe that if Bowie had discarded a club or a diamond from dummy instead of ruffing the ace of spades at trick three, the slam would have failed.

After being thrown on lead with the trump. West would have returned whichever suit Bowie had discarded from dummy.

The setting trick would then have come from the other suit.

> Tomorrow: A tactical defensive maneuver (c)2006 King Features Syndicate Inc

Family Circus • Bil Keane 12-11

"That's just a guy dressed up like a pizza. He's not REAL like the characters at Disneyland."

2 Not even

one

3 Addict

4 Past

5 Stare

6 Wing it

stupidly

27 Longings

fiber

leap

30 Restrain

skating

28 Rope

29 Ice

Crossword

43 Pouch

44 Oh, what

ride ...'

46 Express

50 Frizzy

fun — to

gratitude

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ACROSS

1 African

4 - Khan

7 Cougar

11 Coarse

file

antelope

East

IIIC		vvilly it	30 Hestiain		
13 Wander	hairstyle 7	Cheap-	31 Clumsy		
about	53 — out a	skate	boat		
14 Historic	living 8	Spoon-	35 Kram-		
times	55 Black, in	bender	den's		
15 Neighbor-	poetry	Geller	trans-		
hood	56 Actor 9	Periodical,	portation		
16 Pussy-	Bridges	for	38 Mel of		
cat's	57 Fleur-	short	baseball		
partner	de- — 10	Blond	lore		
17 Nearly	58 Start	shade	40 Stoolie		
18 Gift of the	over 12	2 Cheap	42 Highway		
Magi	59 Aston- 19	Shack	sign		
20 Potter's	ishes 21	—	45 Late-		
oven	60 Bug killer	Angeles	braking		
22 Total		Fellow	develop-		
24 Desirable	25	Color	ment		
male (Sl.)	DOWN	quality	47 The third		
28 Environ-	1 Metric 26	Olfactory	man		
ment	measure	stimulus	48 Protuber-		
32 Stafford-	Solution time:	04 mins	ance		
shire			49 Entangle		
ceramic	TOILS A	C T U P R A N I C	ment		
ware	CUDDLE P	UDDLE	50 "The —		
33 Physical	USETREA	D I L L	Daba		
34 Gist	F L A B S K I	ANAT	Honey-		
36 Part of the	FELLAER OBIS	A S E R S	moon [*]		
loop	GASCONY	LEACH	51 A mere		
37 "Likewise"	E M U S G O A	STOA	handful		
39 Stove top	MONERUP	T OUR	52 "Norma		
features	MUDDLE H	U D D L E B I D E M			
44 Mara Haara	AINENASI		E4 Mayo Hoos		

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