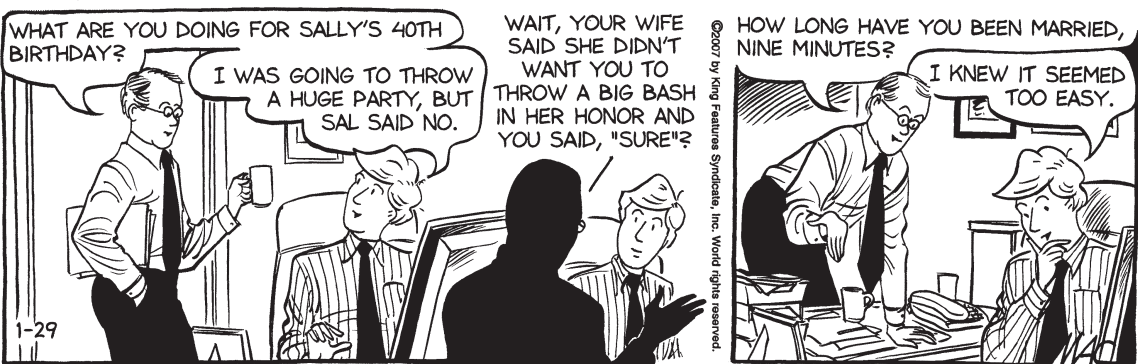


Sally Forth • Greg Howard



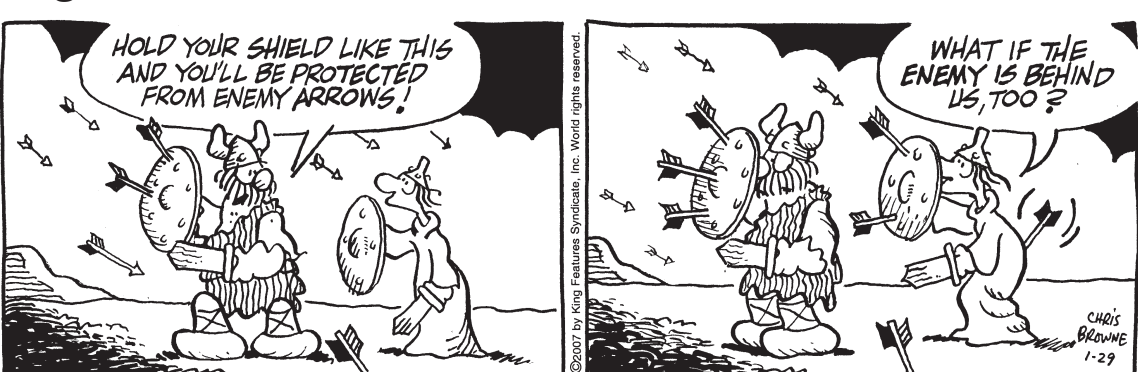
Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



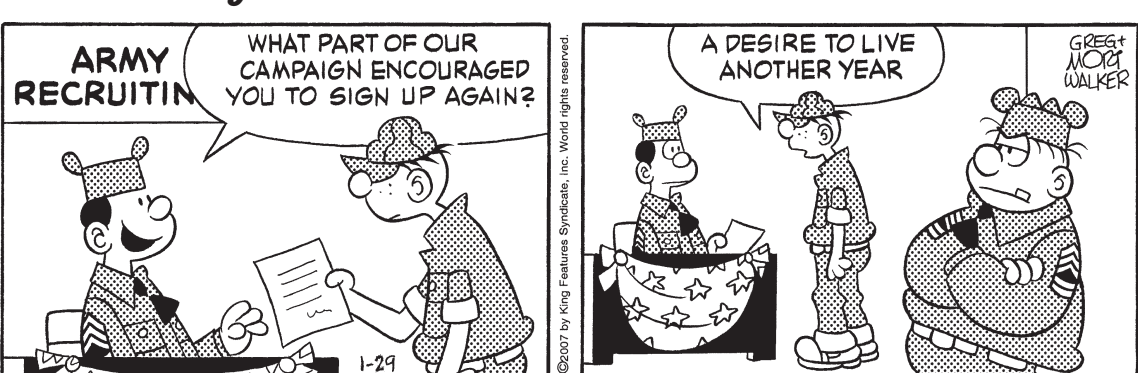
Blondie • Chic Young



Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



Tod the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



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Cryptoquip

CI DIG XGJJIXZ HLZ TBPFBMX

IY SB. RLPBKZX PMC SB.

T B P C T G B D R I M X F X H

R L F Z Y K D I Y B P D S P H Z B ?

Saturday's Cryptoquip: WHEN A MAGAZINE BIGWIG IS TRYING TO HIT A BASEBALL, COULD YOU ANALYZE HIS EDITORIAL STANCE?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: G equals U

Conceptis Sudoku by Dave Green

			8		2	3		
		1				8		
	2	9		6		1	7	4
1				3				2
		7	9		8	5		
9				5				7
4	8	5		7		2	6	
		2				9		
		6	4		5			

Difficulty Level ★ 1/29

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	4	8	1	2	3	5	9
5	3	1	7	9	4	8	2	6
8	2	9	5	6	3	1	7	4
1	5	8	6	3	7	4	9	2
2	6	7	9	4	8	5	3	1
9	4	3	2	5	1	6	8	7
4	8	5	1	7	9	2	6	3
7	1	2	3	8	6	9	4	5
3	9	6	4	2	5	7	1	8

Difficulty Level ★ 1/29

Bridge East dealer. North-South vulnerable.

NORTH

♠ A 8

♥ A 9 2

♦ K 8 5 3

♣ A J 8 3

WEST

♠ J 10 7 4

♥ 10 7

♦ 10 9 7 4 2

♣ Q 4

EAST

♠ Q 6 5 3 2

♥ Q J 4 3

♦ A Q J

♣ K

SOUTH

♠ K 9

♥ K 8 6 5

♦ 6

♣ 10 9 7 6 5 2

The bidding:

East	South	West	North
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♠	Dble
Pass	2 NT	3 ♠	3 NT
Pass	4 ♣	Pass	5 ♣

Opening lead — jack of spades.

Famous Hand

This deal occurred in Stockholm, Sweden, during the 1983 world championship match between Italy and the United States. The U.S. won the match by a very slim margin, despite exceptionally fine play on this deal by the Italian declarer, Arturo Franco. Three notrump would have been much easier to make, but Franco reached five clubs instead on the sequence shown. Making five clubs appears to be an impossible task, since declarer seems destined to lose a heart, a club and a diamond. But Franco managed the feat nevertheless. He won the opening spade lead with the king and immediately returned a diamond, playing low from dummy on the assumption that East almost certainly had the ace. East won with the jack and returned a spade to dummy's ace. Franco now ruffed a low diamond, led a trump to the ace and ruffed another low diamond, felling East's ace. He then cashed the K-A of hearts and king of diamonds, discarding a heart from his hand. All these maneuvers were not without purpose. Franco next put West on lead by playing a trump, and poor West found himself at the end of his rope. He was forced to return either a spade or a diamond, handing declarer a ruff-and-discard, so Franco never lost a heart trick, and the contract was made. The hand demonstrates once again how a diligent declarer can sometimes salvage what seems to be a hopeless contract. Three losers appear certain at the start, but declarer first utilizes the knowledge acquired from the bidding, and then visualizes a distribution of the adverse cards that will allow him to escape one of the losers. In the present case, after taking the proper preliminary steps, declarer plays a low trump at trick 10 and hopes that the defender who wins it does not have a heart to return. As it happens, this hope materializes.

Family Circus • Bil Keane



"No fair! I'm a lot messier than you!"

Crossword

CROSS

1 — Baba

4 Some statutory

9 Homer Simpson's "Drat!"

12 Lair

13 Phantom's bailiwick

14 " — Got a Secret"

15 Were of two minds

17 Vast expanse

18 Mai — (cocktail)

19 British king who abdicated

21 Apple drinks

24 Thick chunk

25 Kyoto cummerbund

26 Afternoon social

28 Burst forth

31 Fail to hit

33 Pinch

35 Birthright barterer

36 Honshu port

38 Happy companion?

40 Screw up

41 Type-writer type

43 Turn blue?

45 Musical about Charlemagne's son

47 Numerical prefix

48 Praise in verse

49 Repudiation

54 Meadow

55 Mirror's offering

56 Wall climber

57 Rowing need

58 Frolic

59 Born

DOWN

1 Put together with

2 Floral neckwear

3 Office holders

4 "Maltese Falcon" star

5 Out of bed

6 Catch a glimpse of

7 Kilmer classic

8 Bareback lack

9 Free from error

10 Finished

11 Be the leader

16 Consumed

20 Piece of merchandise

21 "Catch a Falling Star" crooner

22 Wading bird

23 Vanish

27 Help

29 Rid of

30 Swerve

32 Leave out

34 Stamps

37 Tart

39 George Washington —

42 The inner self

44 God (Italian)

45 Horse play?

46 Notion

50 Potential syrup

51 Victory

52 "Hail, Caesar!"

53 Caustic solution

Solution time: 24 mins.

S	K	I		G	A	S	P		D	A	Z	E
W	E	B		A	B	E	L		E	M	I	R
A	P	E		T	R	E	E		N	E	T	S
P	I	X		I	E	A	N	D	I	X	I	E
				N	A	M		G	E	M		
S	N	A	F	U		F	E	W		A	L	A
L	E	G	O		G	O	D		S	P	A	S
Y	E	A		P	A	X		L		L	U	R
				A	I	R		G	O	B		
D	I	X	I	E	L	A	N	D		J	A	Z
I	T	E	M		A	G	O	G		S	E	A
A	C	N	E		N	A	M	E		I	A	N
S	H	A	D			D	R	E	D		F	L

Saturday's answer 1-29