Sally Forth • Greg Howard



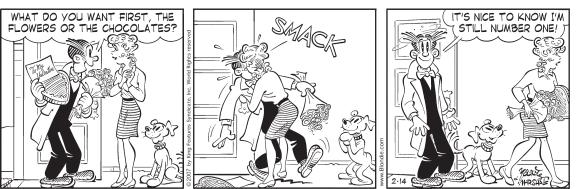
Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



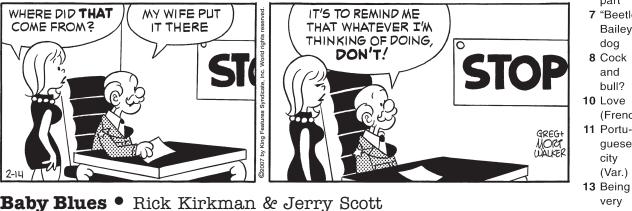
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Blondie • Chic Young



Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



IT LOOKS LIKE YOU HAVEN'T THAT'S OKAY ... HE BUT THAT'S SPURT ... BTHHHHHHHHHH! GROWN ANY SINCE THE LAST TIME HAMMIE CAN HAVE A NOTSPIT GROWTH SPURT. WE MEASURED YOU, ZOE GREW HALF AN 1 INCH! 11% HAVEN'T? \mathcal{O}

Bridge

Crossword

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51 Opponent

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DOWN

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Walking

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4 Off the

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7 Knight's

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Solution time: 21 mins.

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22 Polish

23 More, to

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24 "The

25 Sleep

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briefly 26 Chaps

27 Frivolous

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28 Praise in

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29 Affirma-

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31 Jerrv's

34 Dance

35 Limber

36 "Darn!"

Dad's

Claude

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44 Cicatrix

45 Spheres

46 Egg con-

48 Sermon

27 28

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44 45

19 History

20 Susan

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Partridge

Family'

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tion

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25 Promptly

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23 "That

24 Light

26 Flag's

28 Entrap

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29 Handouts

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22 Lower

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43 Gag

42 Okla-

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side

39 Painter

40 Pack

41 "I -

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ACROSS

One

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Three

Bears

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Posses

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Siamese

12 "Oh, woe"

canton

13 Swiss

14 Has a

bug

15 Brusque

16 "Beloved

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"Sage of

Concord'

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victory

Bells of

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ACROSS

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7 "Beetle

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16 Before

17 Action

G-G-GIMME

8 Cock

Bailey'

1 Prepared

4 Rotating

capital

30 Pub order

32 Commo-

33 Homer or

Marge

bundles

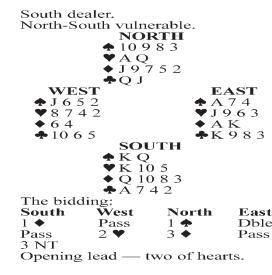
tion

36 Bound

Cowboy

nickname

Toni



When the defense starts off on the wrong foot which happens quite often — it is not necessarily fatal. Some hands can be salvaged by changing course in midstream.

Assume you're East and that your opponents bid aggressively to get to three notrump as shown. Partner leads a heart, and dummy's queen wins. Declarer plays a diamond, which you take with the king, and now, being a thoughtful player, you take careful stock before making the next move.

You can't see declarer's hand, but you already know a great deal about it. First, it is certain that South started with precisely three hearts, since your partner bid hearts and also led the deuce, indicating a four-card suit. Second, South must have the king of hearts for his bidding to make any sense.

You also see 25 points in dummy's hand and your own, so it is reasonable to assume that South, who could have passed North's three-diamond bid, has either all the missing points or that he lacks at most a jack.

All these deductions can be put to good use, for they make it clear that continuing to attack hearts will produce only four tricks for the defense, and that a shift to spades will lead to the same result. Therefore, if declarer has any exploitable weak spot, it must be in clubs.

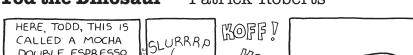
Accordingly, at trick three, you shift to a low club. Dummy's jack wins, and declarer leads another diamond. You take the ace and, with fingers crossed, return the king of clubs.

Let's say declarer wins with the ace, and your partner, bless him, drops the ten on it. He's also been doing some heavy calculating, despite his miserable hand, and he cooperates smartly with your effort.

The result of all these mental pyrotechnics is that South goes down one, losing a spade, two diamonds and two clubs. You can then say to yourself that bridge is indeed a very logical game.

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Mike Peters Mother Goose and Grimm •

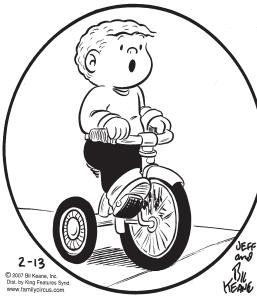


Cryptoquip

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CSYIM DGI KNRIM NU P	WIFLTUZ LVX CVR'G GBTDD						
GIF, W RNCXY LCIAA	YIFPHBI QVLLDI BURML						
D G P D H N C ' M I I F - A K I X X I Y . Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN MS. CROCKER WANTED TO BUY SMALL COOKING SUPPLIES, I GUESS SHE'D SPENT SOME BETTY CASH. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: D equals T	Q I L M I B T D L I G I P D T W V Z ? Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF YOU ARE NO LONGER UNDER THE POWER OF A HEX, I WOULD GUESS THAT YOU'RE EX-SPELLED. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: X equals Y						

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Family Circus • Bill Keane



"How come Disney made a movie about cars, but hasn't made one about trikes?"

Let's say you're in four spades and West leads the ace of hearts, then shifts to the deuce of clubs, which you win with dummy's ace. How should you continue?

Because you have bid hearts, it is virtually certain that West's opening lead of the ace is a singleton. If you were to try a spade finesse at this point and it lost, there would be a substantial danger of West's putting his partner on lead with a club to obtain a heart ruff.

Since you can afford a trump loser, a somewhat better idea is to forgo the trump finesse and simply play the ace and another spade instead. However, this merely improves your chances without actually assuring them. In the actual case, you would still go down one. West would win the second trump and lead a club to his partner's king, and East's heart return would deliver the killing blow.

In view of the bidding, by far the best approach is to lead the king of diamonds at trick three and on it discard the eight of clubs! This entry-destroying play allows West to score a diamond trick he is not entitled to make, but, more importantly, it severs the line of communication between West and East.

West takes the king of diamonds with the ace but is helpless. Whatever he returns, you win and play the ace and another trump. West winds up scoring three tricks - a spade, a heart and a diamond - but never gets his heart ruff, and you wind up scoring a game.



"Hugs are great gifts, Grandma. The only wrapping is arms!"