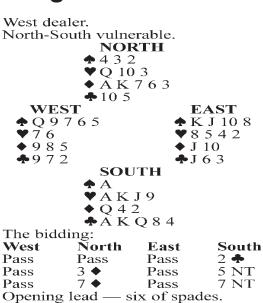


Conceptis Sudoku by Dave Green									
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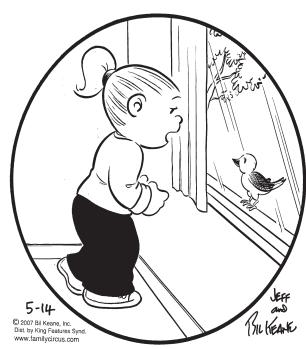
This is a logic-based number placement puzzle. The goal is to enter a number, 1-9, in each *cell in which each row,* column and 3x3 region *must contain only one* instance of each numeral. The solution to today's Sudoku puzzle is right.

9	5	8	4	2	7	З	6	1	
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Difficulty Level ★ 5/14									

## **Bridge**



## Family Circus • Bil Keane



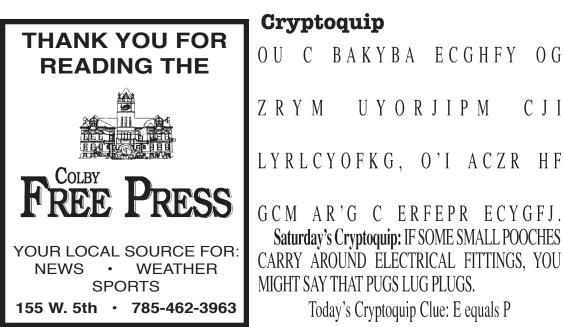


Tod the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott





## Once upon a time, many years ago, B. Jay Becker, former editor of this column, was

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playing in a team-of-four event and held the South hand. He opened two clubs, and his partner, Dorothy Hayden Truscott, responded three diamonds.

Famous Hand

Becker invoked the grand slam force convention by leaping to five notrump, asking his partner to bid seven of her suit if she held two of the three top diamond honors. Mrs. Truscott complied, and Becker then bid seven notrump in the interests of safety.

Making seven notrump for a score of 2,220 points was, of course, the best result possible for Becker-Truscott. Naturally, they were curious to learn whether their counterparts at the other table had also reached the grand slam. Their hopes more than materialized when they later compared results with their teammates, Sam Fry Jr. and Peter Leventritt. At their table, with Fry West, the bidding had gone:

0 4	West	North	East		
South	1 NT (!)	Pass	Pass		
Dble					

Pass Pass Pass Fry had chosen this moment to open the bidding with a psychic notrump. His timing couldn't have been more perfect.

When his partner passed one notrump, showing zero to seven points, and South doubled, Fry knew his opponents had a sure game, probably a small slam and possibly a grand slam. He thought it likely that North would pass the double and that he (Fry) would take very few tricks.

He was certainly right in this respect — so much so that, as soon as the opening diamond lead was made, Fry conceded all the tricks! Down seven -1,300 points in those days - nevertheless brought his team a net gain of 920 points.

Generally, psychics are not a paying proposition and produce unfavorable results, but when they work as well as this one did, one can only shake one's head in wonder.

"Sorry, little bird. This isn't a drivethrough window for birdseed."

## Crossword

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