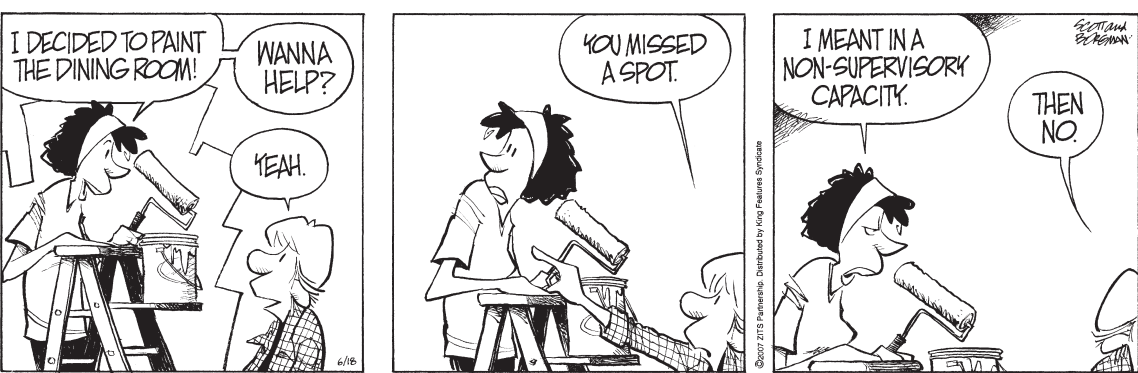


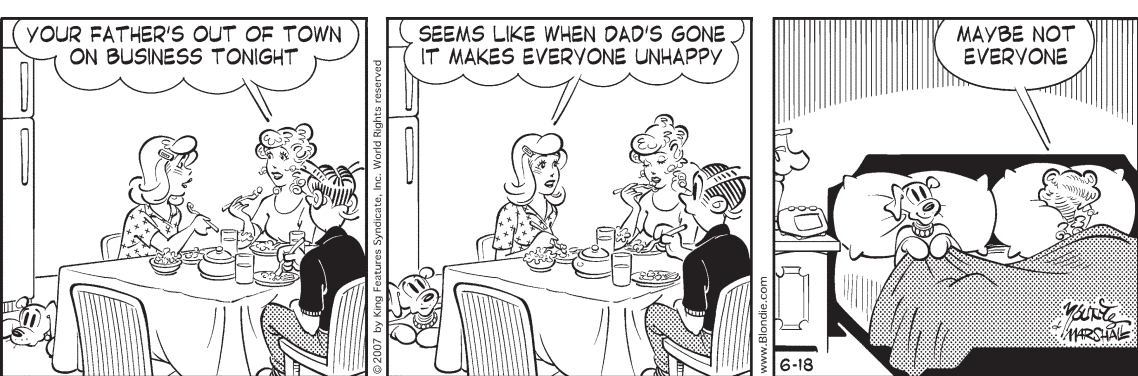
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



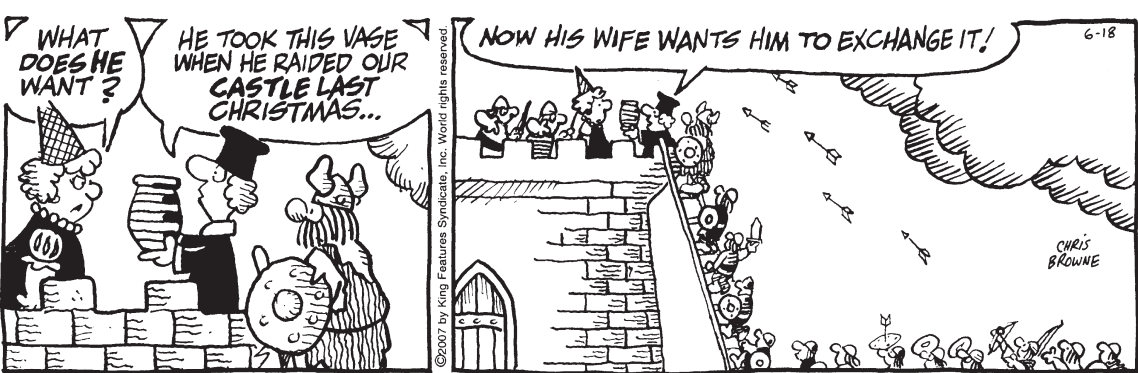
Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Blondie • Chic Young



Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



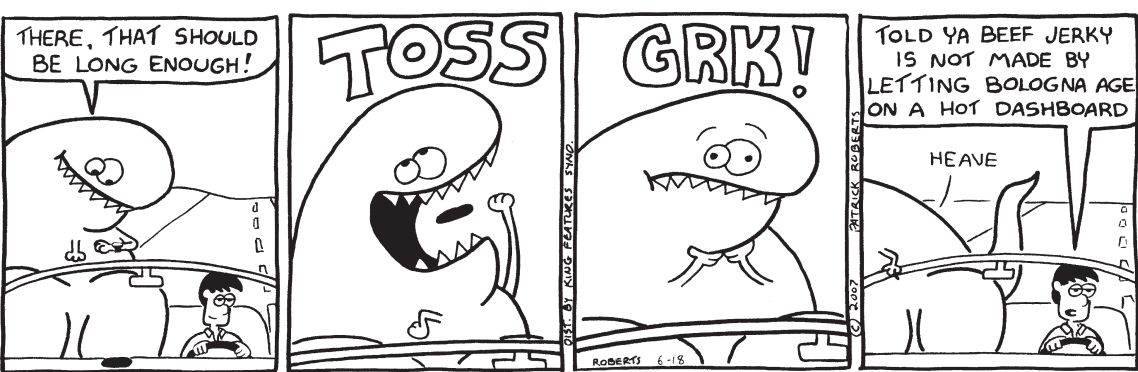
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



Tod the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



Cryptoquip

SNKV ZEAK JYKGEQKVP FFYC

V IKAFXK NHVLYD, DCH XEL

NP GHJJCGK NEG MFZCYEPK

MCCQ SFG F IHYY-EPC.

Saturday's Cryptoquip: WHEN PEOPLE HAVE TO TRIM DOWN A FEW ENVELOPES, COULD THEY USE A PAIR OF MAIL CLIPPERS?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: F equals A

Conceptis Sudoku by Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★

6/18

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.

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

Difficulty Level ★

6/18

Bridge

South dealer.

Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ 4
♥ K J 7 4
♦ K J 9 8 4
♣ A 8 2

WEST
♠ A 9 7 3 2
♥ 9 8 6 2
♦ 7 2
♣ 7 4

EAST
♠ K J 8
♥ A 10 3
♦ 6 5 3
♣ K 9 6 5

SOUTH
♠ Q 10 6 5
♥ Q 5
♦ A Q 10
♣ Q J 10 3

The bidding:
South 1 ♠
West Pass
North 1 NT
East Pass
South 3 NT
West Pass
North 3 ♦
East Pass

Opening lead — three of spades.

Famous Hand

A defender has an obligation to do everything he possibly can to prevent his partner from making a mistake. Many defensive errors can be traced to the failure of one defender to clarify a situation for his partner, presenting him instead with an opportunity to go wrong.

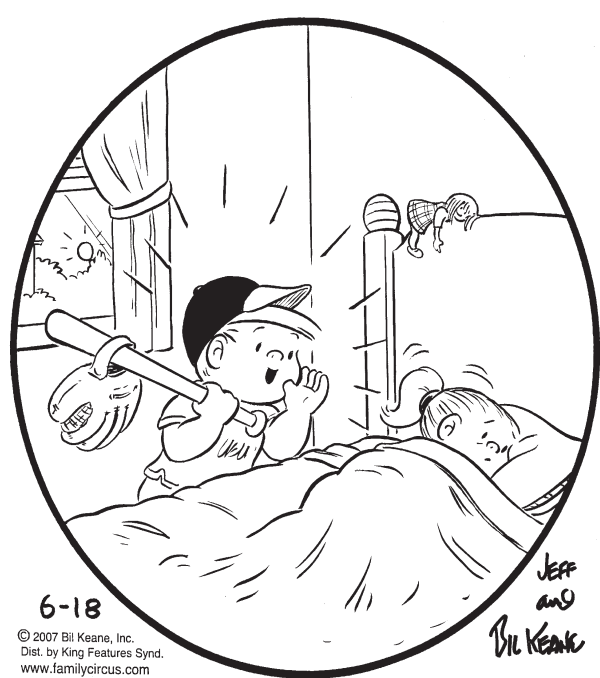
Consider this deal from the match between Uruguay and the United States at the 1984 World Team Olympiad. Playing against Bob Hamman and Bobby Wolff, East-West for the U.S., the Uruguayan declarer got to three notrump as shown.

Wolff led the three of spades, and it would have been entirely normal for Hamman to win with the king and return the jack. In fact, it might even be called standard operating procedure. In that case, after South covered the jack with the queen, Wolff most likely would have won with the ace and returned a spade, hoping his partner had started with K-J-10-x. These plays would effectively have scuttled the defense, since declarer's only losers would then have been two spades, a heart and a club. But Hamman realized from Wolff's fourth-best lead of the three that his partner had at most five spades, which meant declarer had to have four spades — something Wolff couldn't possibly know (South had failed to bid one spade over one heart).

Hamman also knew that declarer could not possibly make three notrump without first losing a trick to either the ace of hearts or king of clubs. Accordingly, at trick one, Hamman played the jack of spades instead of the king! He deliberately played the "wrong" card because, from his vantage point, it was the right card to play.

And, as usual, Hamman, one of the world's best players, was right. Declarer won the jack with the queen and immediately tried a club finesse. Hamman won with the king, played the king and another spade, and the defense quickly gathered six tricks to put the contract down two.

Family Circus • Bil Keane



"Wake up, Dolly, or you'll be late for summer vacation!"

Crossword

ACROSS
1 Take the prize
4 Conversations
9 Gear tooth
12 Hubbub
13 Embankment
14 Mine matter
15 Obese
17 Hastened
18 Choice (Abbr.)
19 Fastener shot from a gun
21 On top of the world?
24 Ticklish Muppet
25 Bill and —
26 Kvetch
28 Bizarre
31 Throw hard
33 Pitch
35 Red-tag event
36 Washington Nationals, once
38 Jewel

40 Aviv preceder
41 Curved molding
43 Antics
45 Seoul man?
47 Call-day link
48 Lawyers' org.
49 Blood cell
54 Up to
55 Yellow-brown color
56 Plead
57 41-Across' shape
58 "Line Is It Anyway?"

59 Droop
DOWN
1 Service-woman
2 "— not choose to run"
3 Neither partner
4 Tip off
5 Witch cell
6 St.
7 Nervous
8 Make a compromise
9 Related to big business
10 Verbal
11 Kelly or Hackman
16 Calif. winter hrs.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12			13					14		
15			16					17		
		18			19		20			
21	22	23			24					
25			26		27	28			29	30
31			32	33		34	35			
36			37	38		39		40		
	41			42	43		44			
45	46				47					
48			49	50				51	52	53
54			55					56		
57			58					59		