

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



THANK YOU FOR READING THE



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Cryptoquip

UFEKYYA G P Y M R B P F U F B G Y U Z X G Z B F V V C XVMEEZXP. LRVC U Y V Y F X Y A Z G X WLVVYR XWLUY-FAZBFVVC.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF YOU'RE SEEKING TO LOCATE YOUR LONG-LOST FATHER, FIRST TRY CHECKING THE CLASSIFIED DADS.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: G equals T

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Conceptis Sudoku by Dave Green									
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5	2	3				8	4	7	yndicate
3			6		8			5	©2007 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc
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1			4		7			9	, Dist. by
4	5	8				7	1	2	Puzzles
				8					Conceptis
			2		1				©2007 C
Difficulty Level ★★ 6/26									

This is a logic-based number placement puz-

zle. 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

2	3	1	8	6	5	7	9	4	
8	4	9	3	2	7	1	6	5	
5	7	6	4	1	9	2	8	3	
6	9	4	7	5	1	3	2	8	
1	5	7	2	3	8	9	4	6	
3	2	8	6	9	4	5	1	7	
7	6	2	9	4	3	8	5	1	
9	8	5	1	7	6	4	3	2	
4	1	3	5	8	2	6	7	9	
Difficulty Level ★★★ 6/28									
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Bridge

South dealer.

is right.

East-West vulnerable. **NORTH ↑** A Q 7 3 **♥** K 2 ♦ K 10 9 5 **--** 10 6 3 WEST **♠** 6 2 **№** 9 4 **♥**197 **V** 10 8 6 5 4 3 **♦** 8 6 4 2 **♦** A 春 Q J 9 5 **SOUTH** ♠ KJ 10 8 5 ◆ Q J 7 3 The bidding: South East Pass Pass Opening lead — queen of clubs.

A Play Fit for a Monarch

There are hands where one defender is in a much better position than his partner to see the best chance of defeating the contract. In these cases, the player with the better perspective should take over, if possible, and direct the defense for his side.

For example, take this deal where West led the queen of clubs against four spades. East signaled with the seven and won the next club with the king. But when East then tried to cash his ace. South ruffed, drew trumps and conceded the ace of diamonds to make the contract.

East was entirely at fault for allowing declarer to make four spades. He merely went through the motions of defending, basing his hopes entirely on the possibility that South had three clubs instead of two.

A much better plan would have been to make use of the knowledge that West's queen-of-clubs lead indicated he also had the jack. With that in mind, East should have overtaken the queen with the king, cashed the ace of diamonds and then returned a low This sequence of plays by East would have clearly marked the ace of diamonds as a singleton, and would have made it easy for West to return a diamond at trick four to defeat the contract.

It is true that many players holding the East hand would mechanically play the seven of clubs at trick one, giving no thought whatever to the primary objective of every good defender: to defeat the contract. Over the long haul, such players would almost surely find themselves on the short end of the score.

Family Circus • Bil Keane



"I'm practicing to be a radio announcer someday."

foot

down?

signatory

tongue

54 Course

Crossword

ACROSS 38 Drenches Jodie 40 Two (Pref.) Foster 41 Put your movie 5 Angry 9 Sch. 43 Lease group **12** Cruising 47 Autumná **13** Be in charge of 48 Rider 14 Sleeve content **15** Travelers' **52** Old

17 Seek damages 18 Down Under denizen 19 County of England 21 Fashionable

22 Permit 24 Put one over on 27 Crafty 28 Goes up and down 31 Cable

network 32 Football filler 33 Cheerleader's cry

34 A-number-one 36 Dundee denial 37 Decisive time

much 4 TV dog 5 Old woman's home?

game

show

2 Birthright

barterer

23 Orpheus

instru-

sound-

track

25 Service

26 Seder

27 Foun-

dered 29 Sheepish

remark

30 Lacking

37 Banquet

target

40 Quilters'

41 Child's

play

42 Forum

city

46 Geneal

chart

paste

brand

50 Respect-

49 Tooth-

45 Bird

44 Tai Mahal

garb 43 Despot

together

35 Huck's

pal

39 Tell

24 Fix the

abbr. fields 51 Candle we go' 7 Snitch count 8 Ford Italian fizzle 9 Longbread 53 Hibernian popular

standard 10 Authentic 55 Eastern **11 NYSE** potentate counter 56 Assesspart 16 Wrestling ment victory

20 Weep DOWN California Garner region series

Solution time: 25 mins



