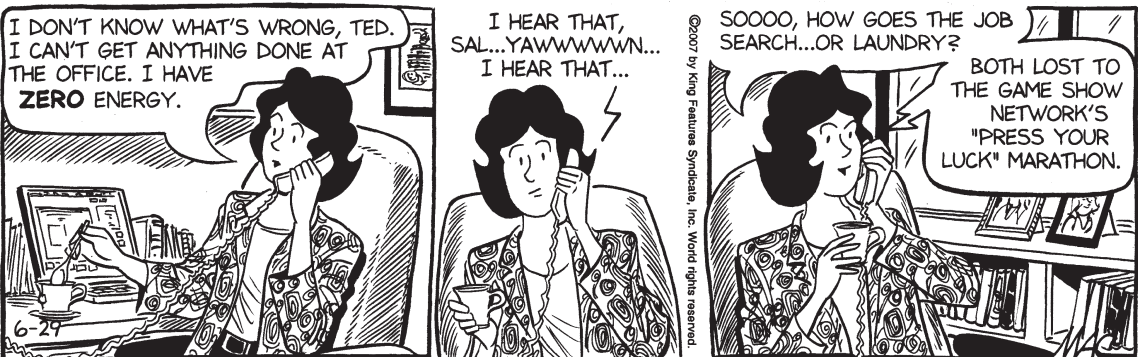


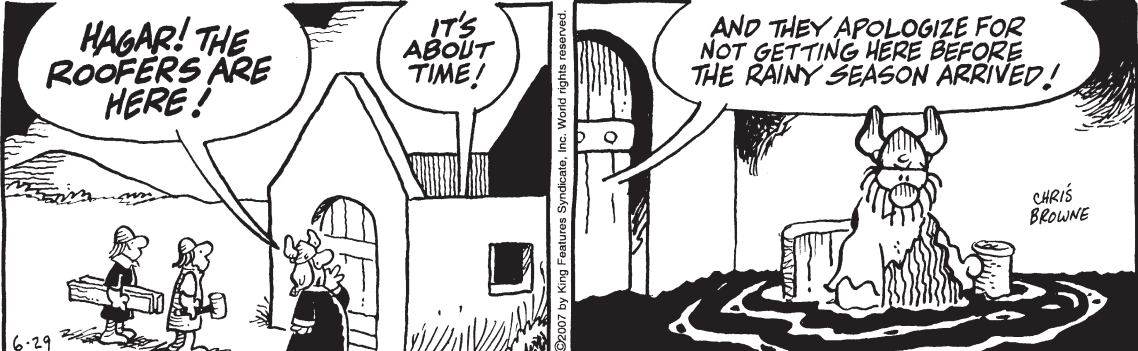
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



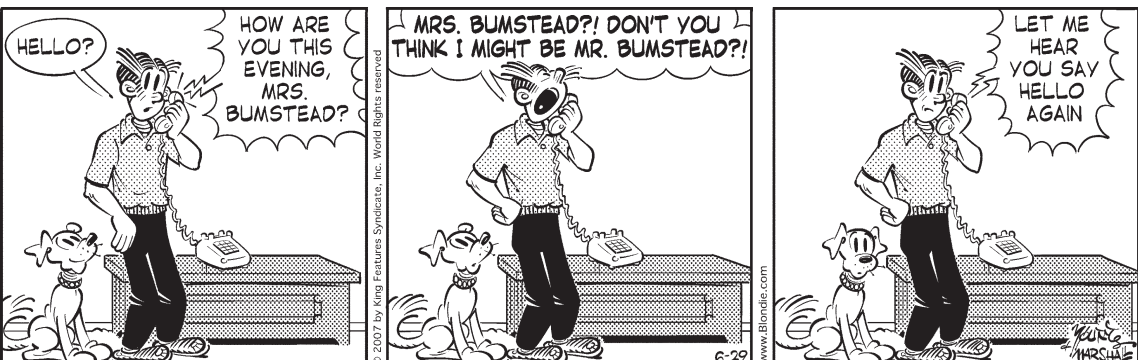
Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



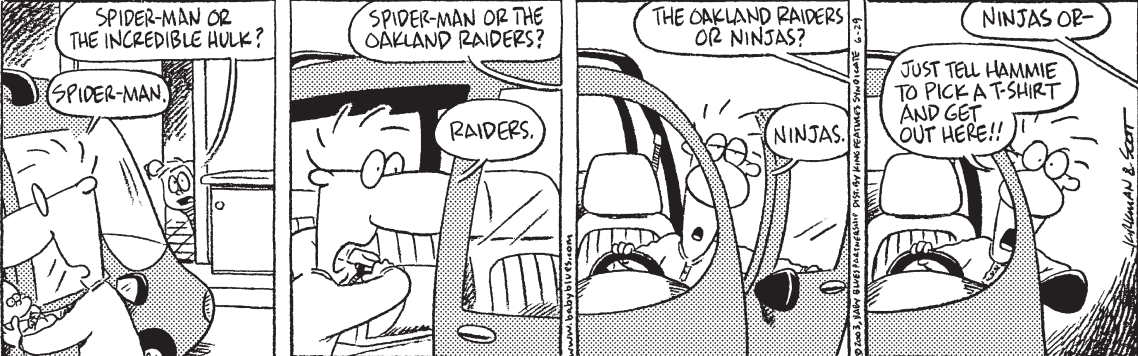
Blondie • Chic Young



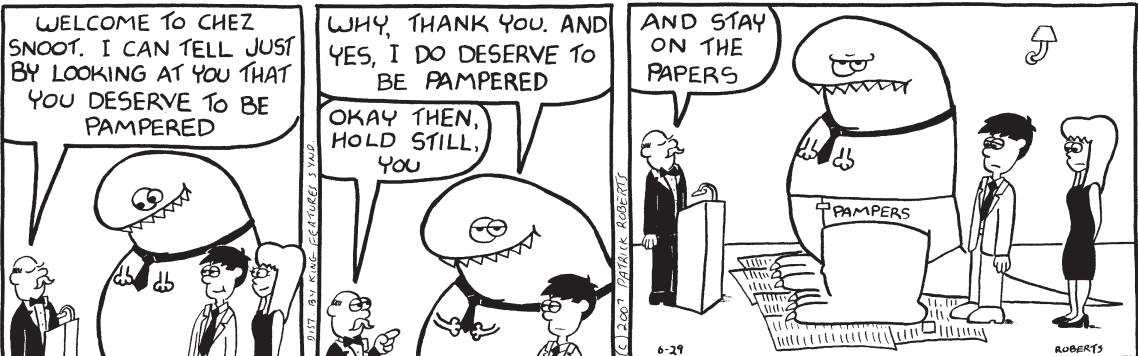
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



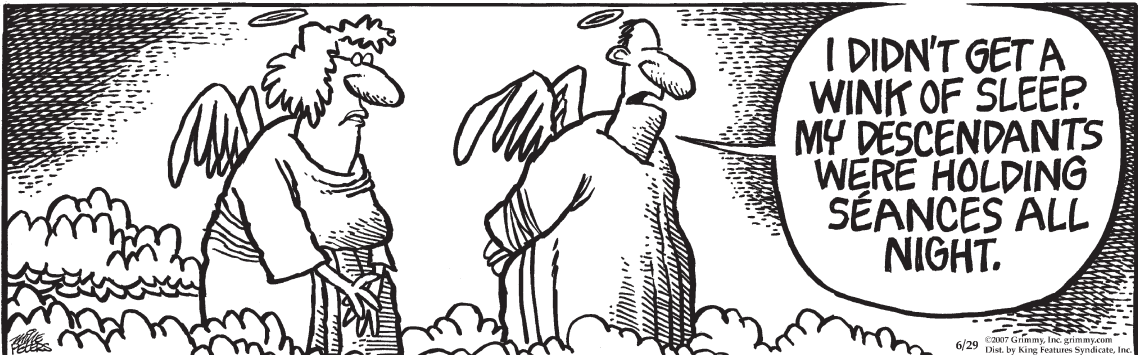
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



Tod the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



Cryptoquip

FT H LEZ-HVOYK TZYYNQ BOK EVCF NBK IPAC P EBOL
WFJXZYT XWHUFCS, QNOYV BZZ BZ P ZHTVHFW VBBA,
WZ BNUZE KWZ JHEM QFKW H H OCYABF NBK LHWVI TPN
CFBM-H-KZZC LHKBW?
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: THE RAGWEED WAS UNCHARACTERISTICALLY SLUGGISH. IT ONLY RELEASED ITS POLLEN SPORE-ADICALLY.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Z equals E
HI'T GCCF MC-GPHICM.
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF A PRE-ADULT FELLOW CUT HIMSELF SHAVING, WOULD HE COVER THE MARK WITH A NICK-A-TEEN PATCH?
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Z equals F

Crossword

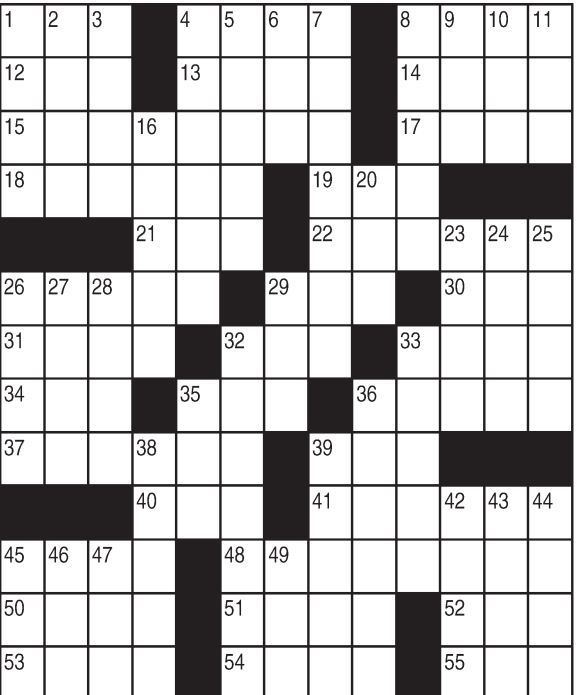
ACROSS 39 Garfield, for one 2 Ancient Dead Sea land 24 "Arrive-derci" 25 In need of mending 26 Exceptional 27 Black, in verse 28 Salamander 29 Evergreen type 32 Sears' longtime partner 33 Veranda 35 Monokini's lack 36 Unproductive 38 Nome dome home 39 Venomous viper 42 Gumbo ingredient 43 Sediment 44 Tackles' teammates 45 Scale member 46 Before 47 "Amazing Race" episode 49 Japanese theater

DOWN 1 Places 52 Roulette bet 53 Toy block name 54 "Star Trek II: The Wrath of —" 55 Pompous sort 23 Drive the getaway car

Solution time: 25 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 6-29



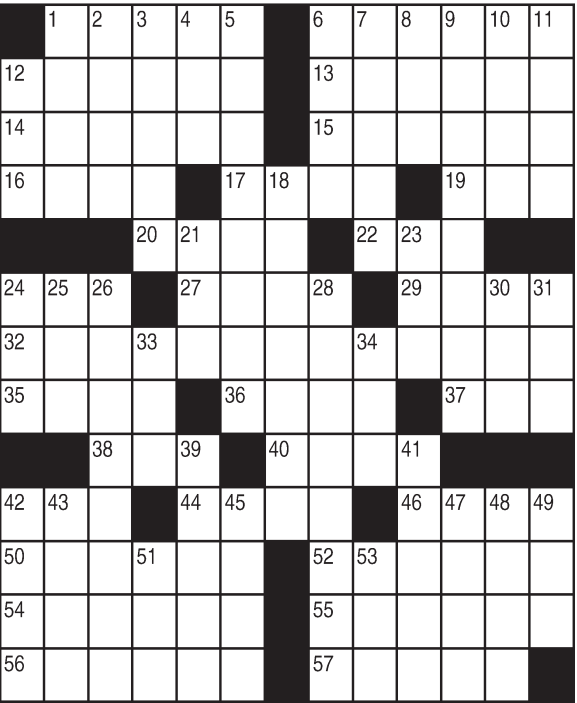
ACROSS 40 Tittle 42 Docs' org. 46 Morse T 50 Pirate's weapon 52 Poser 54 Slobbers 55 Respectful 56 Legislative group 57 Adversary 18 Nomadic Arab 21 Summer quencher 23 Rep. or Dem.

DOWN 1 Urban fleet 2 Favorable votes 3 Castles' protectors 12 "Great Expectations" lad 13 Nine-day prayer 14 Construction pieces 15 Quake 16 "Hey, you!" 17 Recipe meas. 19 Conclusion 20 Judicious 22 Exercise site 24 Memorized 27 Pedestal part 29 Never again 32 2007 Will Ferrell movie 35 Ethereal 36 Brownish purple 37 Deli loaf 38 Legal matter

Solution time: 27 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 6-30



Bridge

Partner bids One Heart, and the next player passes, both sides vulnerable. What would you bid with each of the following five hands?

1. ♠ KQ872 ♥ Q652 ♦ 83 ♣ 74
2. ♠ 82 ♥ KQ7 ♦ J97 ♣ KQ932
3. ♠ 53 ♥ KJ84 ♦ AQ96 ♣ K98
4. ♠ AQJ3 ♥ 8 ♦ K62 ♣ AJ874
5. ♠ 6 ♥ K97542 ♦ 7 ♣ QJ863
* * *

Bidding Quiz

1. Two hearts. It is better to respond with two hearts, indicating six to 10 points and adequate trump support, than one spade. One objection to a one-spade response is that if partner rebids two hearts, you will be faced with a bidding problem of your own creation. To bid three hearts would constitute an overbid not warranted by your cards; to pass would result in ending the bidding without ever revealing your heart support. Such problems can be avoided by raising immediately and leaving the rest to partner.2. Two clubs. This hand is too good for a raise to two hearts, and not good enough for a raise to three hearts, which would show 13 to 15 points. A temporizing bid of two clubs is therefore made, the intention being to support hearts after partner rebids. (Even if you play limit raises, wherein an immediate raise to three hearts would show 11 or 12 points, two clubs would be the better bid with this hand.) 3. Three hearts. This is a typical hand for a double raise of partner's suit (forcing to game). It is better to raise directly than to respond with two diamonds, which would tend to overemphasize your diamond strength when you next jump-raise hearts. (For those who play limit raises, be sure you have discussed with your partner how you would make a forcing raise with this hand.)4. Two clubs. It is clear that your side has at least a game on this hand, but you cannot tell at this point just what game you belong in. The best you can do is to try to describe your hand as accurately as possible in an effort to get to the best contract. You therefore bid clubs first with the intention of bidding spades next to show that you have more clubs than spades. If partner shows a liking for either of your suits, you can consider trying for slam. If no fit in either suit is discovered along the way, and if partner keeps on bidding hearts, you can then undertake a game in notrump. 5. Four hearts. This is not a strength-showing bid insofar as high cards are concerned, but instead shows a distributional hand that contains long trump support (five or more cards) and no more than nine high-card points. Its chief purpose is to try to keep the opponents out of the bidding, although partner may very well make four hearts.

North dealer.
North-South vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ 6
♥ K Q 10 2
♦ A K 5 4
♣ A K 6 3

WEST
♠ Q 8 7 5 3 2
♥ 7 4 3
♦ 10 9
♣ 9 5

EAST
♠ A J 10
♥ 6
♦ Q J 8 7 3 2
♣ Q 10 4

SOUTH
♠ K 9 4
♥ A J 9 8 5
♦ 6
♣ J 8 7 2

The bidding:
North 1♦
East 1♦
South 2♥
West Pass

Opening lead — ten of diamonds.

You Too Can Be a Magician

The opposing bidding frequently helps declarer make his contract. Consider this deal where South played his cards in a very unusual fashion because of East's one-diamond overall, and wound up making the slam as a result. Declarer won the diamond opening with the king and, instead of drawing trumps right away — which would have been fatal — led dummy's lone spade. East rose with the ace and returned the queen of diamonds, South discarding a club as he won with dummy's ace. After leading a low trump to his eight and ruffing a spade high in dummy, declarer drew two more rounds of trumps and cashed the king of spades, producing this five-card position:

North
[D] 5 4
[C] A K 6
West
Immaterial
East
[D] J 8
[C] Q 10 4
South
[H] J 9
[C] J 8 7

South now played the jack of trumps, discarding a club from dummy, and poor East was caught in a vise. He could not afford to discard a diamond because declarer would then lead a club to the king and ruff a diamond to establish his 12th trick.

So East discarded a club instead. This did not work out well, either. South — who had based his play throughout on the hope of executing a diamond-club squeeze against East — cashed dummy's A-K of clubs, felling East's queen and bringing to a conclusion an exceptionally well-played hand.

Family Circus • Bill Keane

