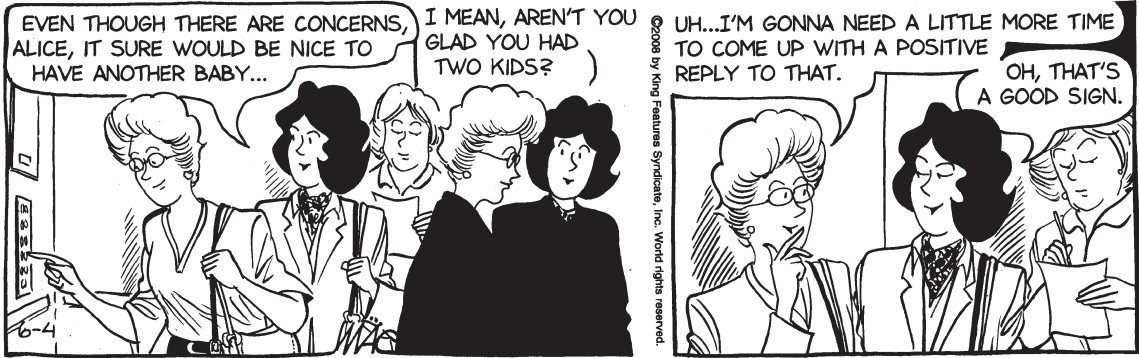
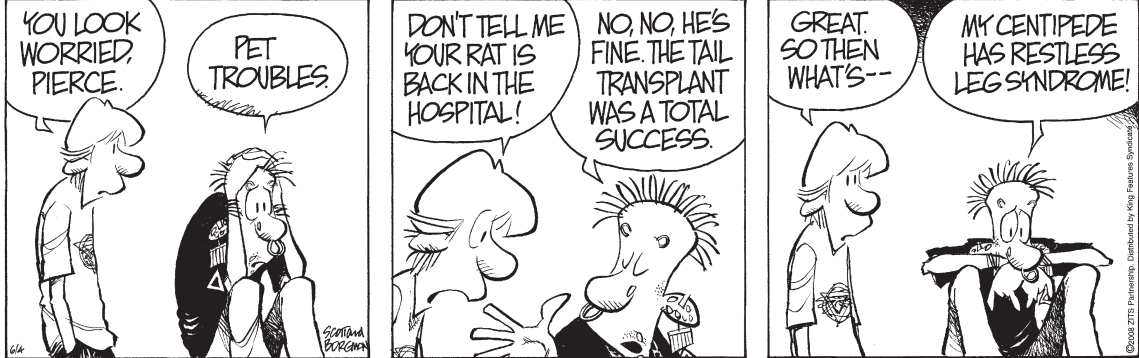


Sally Forth • Greg Howard



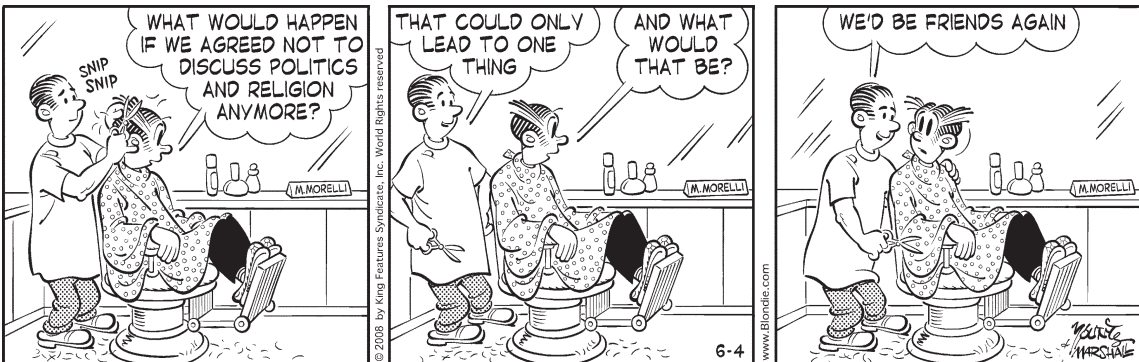
Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



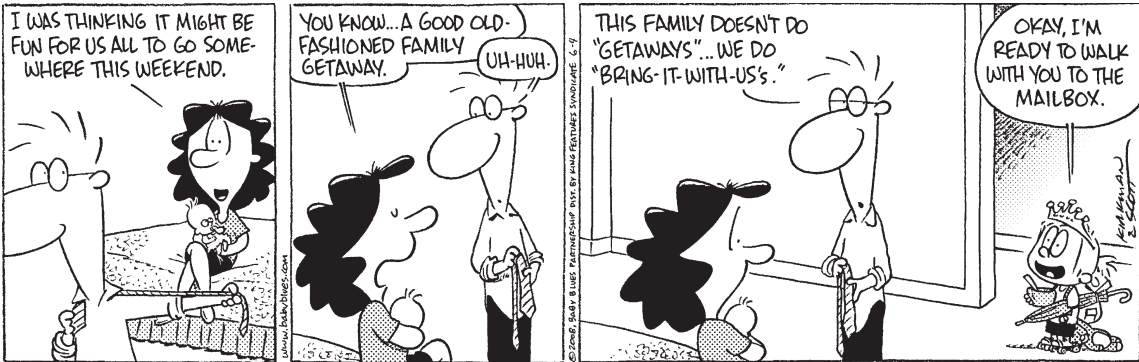
Blondie • Chic Young



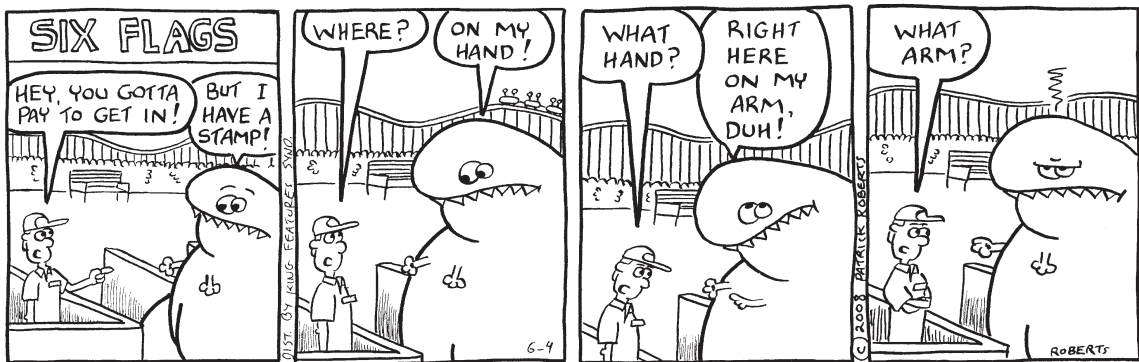
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



Tod the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



Cryptoquip

TI MHWJNTIZSIZ JMMQ WEZW  
QWAA EMVI TIE YTPDWE  
GPYN ETGTZW. SO VTD ONW  
WTHW MQ EWDOJPHYOSMI.  
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: DO YOU NEED A PIECE OF FURNITURE FOR SERVING POTATOES, BEETS AND CELERY? USE A VEGE-TABLE.  
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: M equals O

ETWDOJT R KFB'Y TIGTWRDCCX  
CRPT YF WFBJOUT GFHP,  
DY UX KTCR R OJODCCX  
FHKTH CDUE FB HXT.  
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: AN OVERHANGING ROOF EDGE FELL DOWN AND CAUSED MUCH DAMAGE. IT WAS THE EAVE OF DESTRUCTION.  
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Y equals T

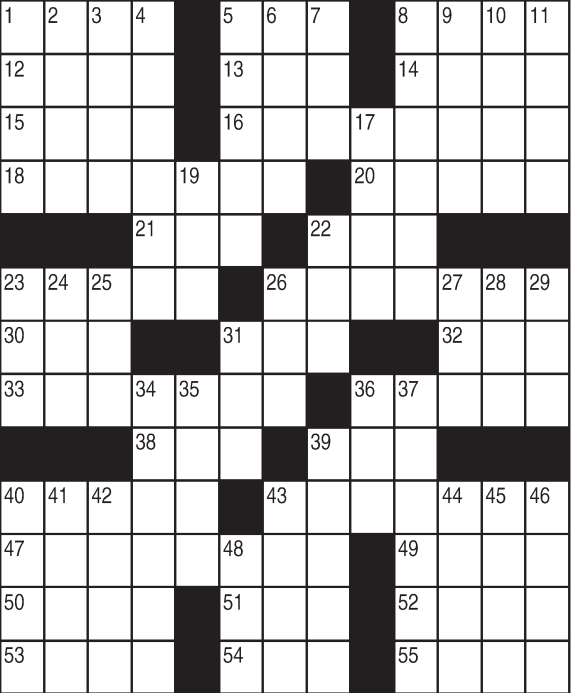
Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Wield a cleaver
  - 5 Sturgeon young
  - 8 "Thirty days — ..."
  - 12 Shake in the grass?
  - 13 Grecian vessel
  - 14 "Sopranos" actress Falco
  - 15 Census data
  - 16 It may hit the fan
  - 18 Nick-name of football's Ed Jones
  - 20 Ready for battle
  - 21 First lady
  - 22 Work with
  - 23 21-
  - 26 Gypsum board
  - 30 That girl
  - 31 Conger, e.g.
  - 32 Old Olds-mobile
  - 33 Trap
  - 36 Half of 100
- DOWN**
- 1 Converse
  - 2 "Les Miser-ables" author
  - 3 Bread topper
  - 4 Light shade
  - 5 Russian money
  - 6 By word of mouth
  - 7 Type measures
  - 8 Semitic language
  - 9 Leading man?
  - 10 Mah-jongg piece
  - 11 Con-tained
  - 17 Simple
- 38** "Monopo-ly"
- 39** Here-today-gone-tomorrow trend
- 40** Jellied entree
- 43** Boo
- 47** Gl's
- 49** Met melody
- 50** Soak up some rays
- 51** Existed
- 52** Cincinnati team
- 53** Scraps
- 54** CBS logo
- 55** Morse symbol

Solution time: 21 mins.

HOAR	FOB	ATOM
ALIA	ORA	THAI
RING	LONGHORN	
POTTED	COARSE	
AVES	ONO	
LINGERED	DUBS	
EMU	RODEO	GEE
EPIC	LENGTHEN	
SAG	RILE	
FLAUNT	ZEALOT	
LANGUAGE	RODE	
ETCH	NON UPON	
WHET	KTS	PERT

Yesterday's answer 6-3

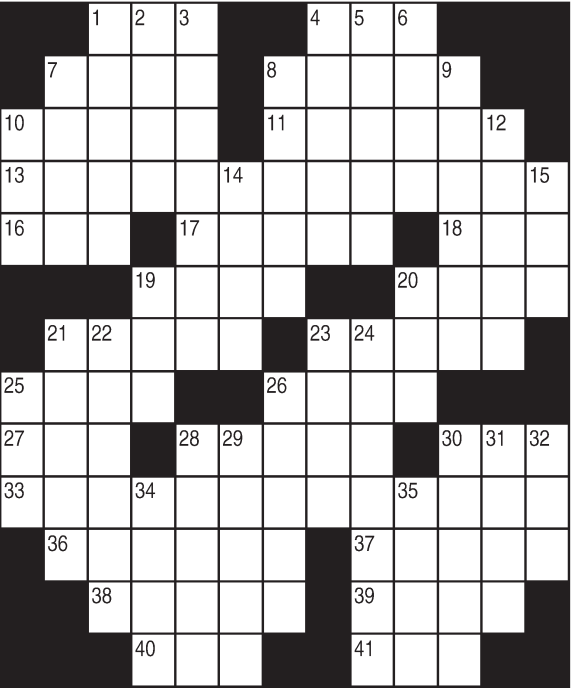


- ACROSS**
- 1 Type of head-gear
  - 4 Scot's 1-Across
  - 7 Tea time
  - 8 Cause a clog
  - 10 Face-down
  - 11 Furthest orbital point
  - 13 1938 Kurt Weill melody
  - 16 "Monty Python" opener
  - 17 Bull-winkle, e.g.
  - 18 Handheld secy.
  - 19 Blotch
  - 20 Hurried away
  - 21 England-ers
  - 23 Exposed
  - 25 Get ready
  - 26 Hardly muscular
- DOWN**
- 1 Hen-houses
  - 2 Family member
  - 3 Replace, as a TV episode
  - 4 Record-ings
  - 5 Love, Italian style
  - 6 Rath-seller supply
  - 7 Worry
  - 8 Frilly blouse
  - 9 Vintage
  - 10 Omega preceder
  - 12 Over and done with
  - 14 Cattle calls?
  - 15 Wander about
  - 19 Taste the sherry
  - 20 Sauté
  - 21 Concise
  - 22 Save
  - 23 Perry Mason
  - 24 Whoever
  - 25 Third degree?
  - 26 Iron
  - 28 Simper
  - 29 Symbols used in ancient manu-scripts
  - 30 Tennes-see
  - 31 Nervous
  - 32 Ultra-modernist
  - 34 Historic periods
  - 35 Discour-teous

Solution time: 21 mins.

CHOP	ROE	HATH
HULA	URN	EDIE
AGES	BASEBALL	
TOOTALL	ARMED	
EVE	USE	
APPLE	DRYWALL	
SHE	EEL	REO
PITFALL	FIFTY	
RRS	FAD	
ASPIC	CATCALL	
MESSHALL	ARIA	
BASK	WAS REDS	
ORTS	EYE	DASH

Yesterday's answer 6-4



Bridge

South dealer.  
North-South vulnerable.

**NORTH**

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

**WEST**

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

**SOUTH**

- ♠ K 8 5
- ♥ Q 6 2
- ♦ A K Q 5
- ♣ 10 9 3

**EAST**

- ♠ J 10 9 2
- ♥ K 3
- ♦ J 9 7 6
- ♣ K 5 4

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	1 ♥	2 ♣	Pass
2 NT	Pass	3 NT	Dble

Opening lead — ten of hearts.

Sylvia Does It Again

This was one of the more memorable hands Sylvia had in her early jousts with the experts at the club. Nobody could quite figure out how Sylvia's thought processes worked on this deal. Then again, it was always difficult to find rhyme or reason in her bids and plays, although she always seemed to be trying hard to play as well as she could.

On this occasion, East doubled three notrump after his partner had overcalled with one heart. He based the double not so much on West's bid as he did on the expectation that Sylvia (South) would mangle the play. She had been known to do this before, and East, a great psychologist, thought she might do so again.

But he did not reckon correctly on this day. West led the ten of hearts, dummy played low, and East properly ducked. East reasoned that if Sylvia had the queen and she took the first trick with it, then, when he later obtained the lead with a club, West's heart suit could be run.

East was certainly right, because if he had played the king and returned a heart, it would have been impossible to stop the contract. Sylvia would have made four notrump after losing the club finesse.

But Sylvia had had many irate partners hammer into her on previous occasions the importance in notrump of not taking the first trick in a suit where she had only one stopper. So Sylvia ducked the ten of hearts instead of taking the queen! Had she taken the queen, she would eventually have gone down two.

But the odd effect of her extraordinary play was that she could no longer be stopped from making nine tricks regardless of how the defenders continued!

South dealer.  
Neither side vulnerable.

**NORTH**

- ♠ K 2
- ♥ K
- ♦ J 8 5
- ♣ K 10 9 8 5 4 2

**WEST**

- ♠ 10 7
- ♥ 10 9 8 3 2
- ♦ Q 9 6
- ♣ Q 6 3

**EAST**

- ♠ J 6 5 4
- ♥ A Q 7 6 5
- ♦ 2
- ♣ A J 7

**SOUTH**

- ♠ A Q 9 8 3
- ♥ J 4
- ♦ A K 10 7 4 3
- ♣ —

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♣	Pass
2 ♠	Pass	3 ♣	Pass
3 ♠	Pass	4 ♣	Pass
5 ♠			

Opening lead — ten of hearts.

Picture Bidding

There are times when a 6-5 distribution can be described in just three bids. Whenever the six-card suit is lower in rank than the five-card suit, there is a standard procedure for identifying the 6-5 shape.

In the bidding shown, South's three-spade bid is the key to his 6-5 distribution. When South first mentions his spades at the two-level, North has every right to assume South has only a four-card suit.

But when South next rebids three spades, this assumption becomes invalid, as it would not make sense for South to rebid a four-card suit that has not been supported. Therefore, the three-spade bid implies a five-card suit.

Once this determination has been made, North asks himself why South bid one diamond initially rather than one spade. South cannot have five of each suit, in which case spades -- the higher-ranking suit -- would have been named first. Since South did bid a diamond, North should conclude that South's diamonds are longer than his spades. Proper play produces 11 tricks even though both the diamonds and spades break unfavorably. East wins the heart lead and returns a trump. Declarer takes the ace and ruffs a heart in dummy. This leaves dummy with the lone jack of trumps.

South is threatened with a possible diamond loser as well as a spade loser. If he cashes the king and does not catch the queen, his hopes will then rest on losing no spade tricks.

Instead of subjecting himself to the whims of fate, South uses the jack of trumps in dummy for another purpose. The king and ace of spades are cashed, and a low spade is ruffed with the diamond jack as West discards a heart (it doesn't help West to ruff with the queen). Only a trump trick can now be lost, since declarer's remaining spades are good. In effect, South telescopes his two potential losers into one.

Family Circus • Bill Keane

