

Sally Forth • Greg Howard



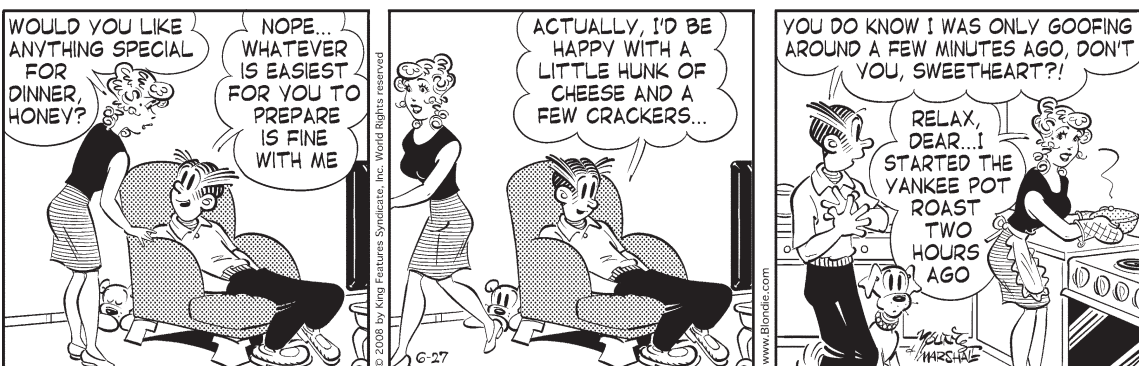
Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



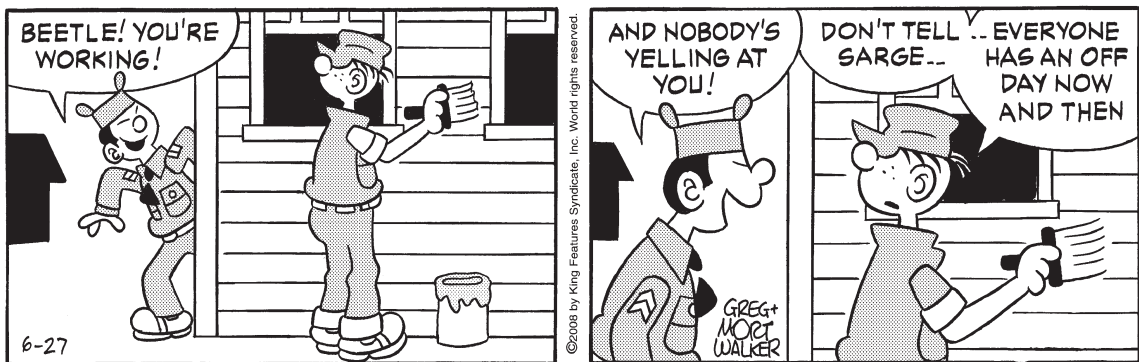
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



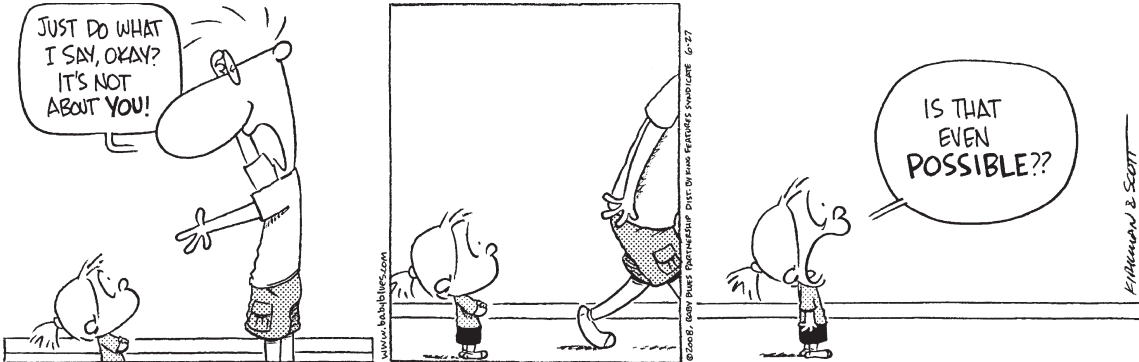
Blondie • Chic Young



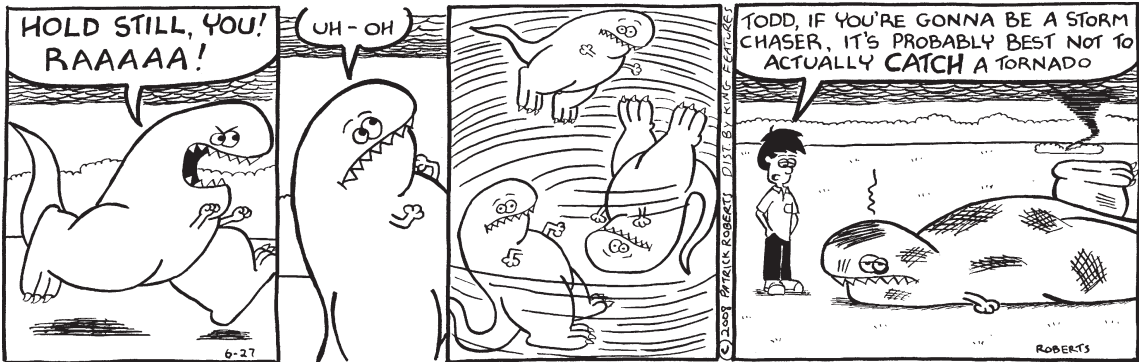
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



Tod the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



Cryptoquip

HB C AVM LVE FVSSVHTTJQN
CLVNJT C FJNMCHS MVRRHSE,
FVQKL PVQ TCP AJ NJCKKP
NJKHTAJT AHT BVVL?
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: SINCE SOMEONE RUDELY SLASHED MY PATIO RECLINER, I SUPPOSE THAT'S A CUT TO THE CHAISE.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: P equals Y

TSBKSNGE X UVYYNGE IANYU,
N AYXBQ X TRVNFYJXG
BSG NGIR X FASBFA XGQ
MYVV "KIRT AMJG!"
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF A HOT DOG CONNOISSEUR ADORES A CERTAIN TOPPING, COULD YOU SAY HE REALLY RELISHES HIS FOOD?
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: X equals A

Crossword

- ACROSS
1 Meadow
4 Penicillin provider
8 Japheth's dad
12 Bobby of hockey
13 Duel tool
14 Grooving on
15 Mixed drink
17 Start a garden
18 Source
19 Prior night
21 Speck
22 Take in, maybe
26 Esteem
29 Examine critically
30 Sapporo sash
31 Quite some time
32 Kennedy or Koppel
33 Navy jail
34 Savings plan acronym
35 "Simpsons" network
- 36 Borscht needs
37 Sell in small quantities
39 LummoX
40 — and outs
41 Nike symbol
45 Missing
48 Drive too close
50 Grand story
51 Curved molding
52 Rocky peak
53 Draw with a laser
54 Play area
55 Hot tub
- DOWN
1 Places
2 Piccadilly statue
3 Curved lines
4 Shower participant?
5 Dizzying designs
6 Mainlander's memento
7 Taken out of context?
8 Japanese-Americans
9 Indivisible
10 Corroded
11 Scuttle
16 Praise
20 Cistern
- 23 Traditional tales
24 Final notice
25 Cheats, a la "Quiz Show"
26 "Aquarius" musical
27 Shrek, for one
28 Tidy
29 Irritate
32 "War and Peace"
33 Confuse
35 Shark part
36 Wept loudly
38 Eighth letter
39 Wicker willow
42 Feedbag fill
43 Call a halt to
44 Mrs. Zeus
45 Shelter
46 Make up your mind
47 "— semper tyrannis"
49 Khan title

Solution time: 25 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 6-27

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		

- ACROSS
1 Dutch earthenware
6 Examined, with "out"
12 Type of mysticism (Var.)
13 Jipijapa hat
14 Brace
15 He flew too near the sun
16 "— Karenina"
17 Leave an impression
19 Volcano output
20 Nil
22 Eternity
24 Playwright Levin
27 Chinese gang
29 Thwart
32 Repeatedly
35 Eject
36 Snitch
37 Pop
38 Ump
40 Night light?
- 42 Calendar abbr.
44 Bakery worker, at times
46 Loosen
50 Site
52 Frightened
54 Ducked
55 Tenant
56 Indicate
57 Perspiration
- 5 Decline gradually
6 — And Span
7 Hiding place
8 — budget
9 Not merely
52-Across
10 Ostriches' kin
11 Morse T
12 Book-keeper (Abbr.)
- DOWN
1 "Phooey!"
2 Black, in verse
3 Bolivian capital
4 Winter-time ailment
18 Survivor-take-all arrangement
21 Greek vowel
23 Frequently
- 24 "Monty Python" opener
25 Wardrobe malfunction
26 Cheese choice
28 Pentagon figures
30 "— Little Teapot"
31 Started
33 Ram's fan?
34 Old studio letters
39 Deboned strip
41 "Grey's Anatomy" extra
42 Ran like the wind
43 Peregrinate
45 Relinquish
47 Houston acronym
48 Regimen
49 Tribute in verse
51 Big bother
53 A handful

Solution time: 27 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 6-28

	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					

Bridge

1. You are declarer with the West hand at Six Clubs. North leads the queen of spades. How would you play the hand?
- West
♠ A 5
♥ A Q
♦ A 3 2
♣ A J 9 8 7 6
- East
♠ 3
♥ 9 6 4 3
♦ K J 7 5
♣ K Q 10 2
2. You are declarer with the West hand at Three Notrump. North leads the six of clubs, on which South plays the jack. How would you play the hand?
- West
♠ A 6 2
♥ K Q 9
♦ Q 9 7 6
♣ A Q 5
- East
♠ K 9 4
♥ J 10 6
♦ A J 10 8 2
♣ 8 3
- ***

Test Your Play

1. Win the spade with the ace, draw trumps, cash the K-A of diamonds and lead a diamond toward the jack. If North follows suit (or if the queen has already fallen), the slam is in the bag.
- If North does not follow suit (and the queen has not fallen), you still have the heart finesse to fall back on.
- Diamonds are broached before hearts in the hope that a heart finesse will prove unnecessary. Thus, if the diamonds are divided 3-3, you will make the slam regardless of which opponent has the queen. You also succeed whenever North has four or more diamonds with or without the queen.
- It would be wrong to finesse the jack of diamonds on the first or second round of the suit, as this would cost you the slam if South started with the Q-x of diamonds and North the king of hearts.
2. Assuming that North has four or more clubs, which seems likely, the contract cannot be defeated.
- Win the club lead with the queen and play a heart -- preferably the nine. If it holds, lead the queen of diamonds and finesse. Win or lose, you have at least nine tricks.

- If the heart nine loses to the ace and a club is returned, duck once and win the continuation with the ace. Now try the diamond finesse. If North has the king, you've got 11 tricks, and even if South has the king you're home. He will not have a club to return if the suit was originally divided 5-3 or 6-2, and you wind up with an overtrick. If he does have a club to return, that means the suit was divided 4-4, and you finish with exactly nine tricks.
- It would be wrong to attempt the diamond finesse at trick two, which would sink the contract if the finesse lost and North had the ace of hearts and five or six clubs.

South dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ A 10 4
♥ A 2
♦ Q 8 5 3
♣ Q J 10 6

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

EAST
♠ 6 3
♥ 8 6 5 4
♦ K 10 9 2
♣ 7 5

SOUTH
♠ K Q 7 5
♥ 10
♦ A J 7 6 4
♣ A K 3

The bidding:
South 1♦
West 3♠
North 4NT
East 5NT
Opening lead — queen of hearts.

Precautionary Measure

- In the long run, optimism pays far greater dividends at bridge than does pessimism. Nevertheless, optimism must be tempered by some degree of pessimism. Otherwise, the optimist is sure to experience occasional disappointments when a more cautious view might have served him better.
- Consider this deal where South is in six diamonds and West leads a heart. Declarer can see immediately that there are no losers outside the trump suit, where only the K-10-9-2 are missing.
- But if he adopts a cavalier attitude toward the play, he will go down one as the cards lie. Thus, if he takes the ace of hearts and leads a diamond to the ace or jack at trick two, he will find himself saddled with two trump losers.
- Before broaching the trump suit, South should adopt a pessimistic stance and ask himself what, if anything, might pose a threat to his contract. He should reason that if the diamonds break 2-2 or 3-1, it doesn't matter how he tackles the suit, since he can't lose more than one trump trick. But if the diamonds are divided 4-0, the slam is in distinct jeopardy.
- The next step is to recognize that, for all practical purposes, the slam can't be made if West holds all the missing trumps. But if East happens to have the K-10-9-2, that holding can be neutralized by leading the queen of diamonds from dummy at trick two.
- Once this is done, nothing can stop declarer from making 12 tricks. East's most effective play is to cover the queen with the king. South wins with the ace and, after seeing West show out, returns a trump to the eight. East takes the trick with the nine, but his 10-2 later fall prey to South's J-7-6, and the slam is home.

Family Circus • Bill Keane

