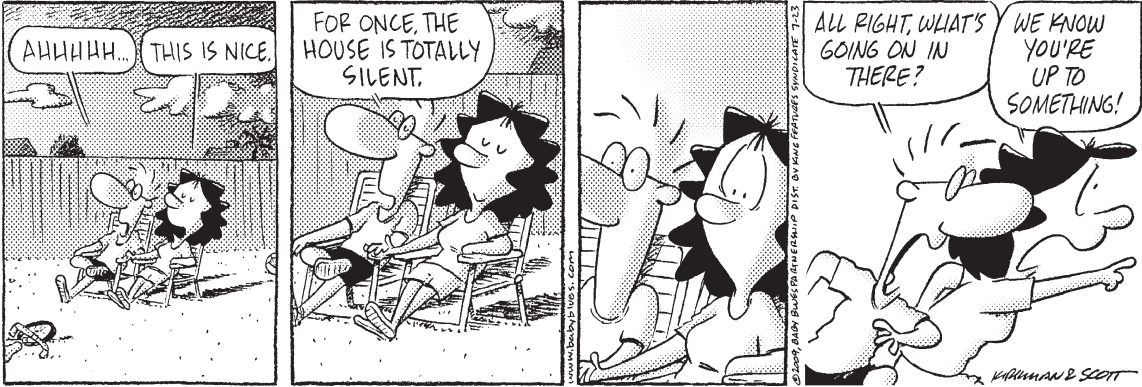
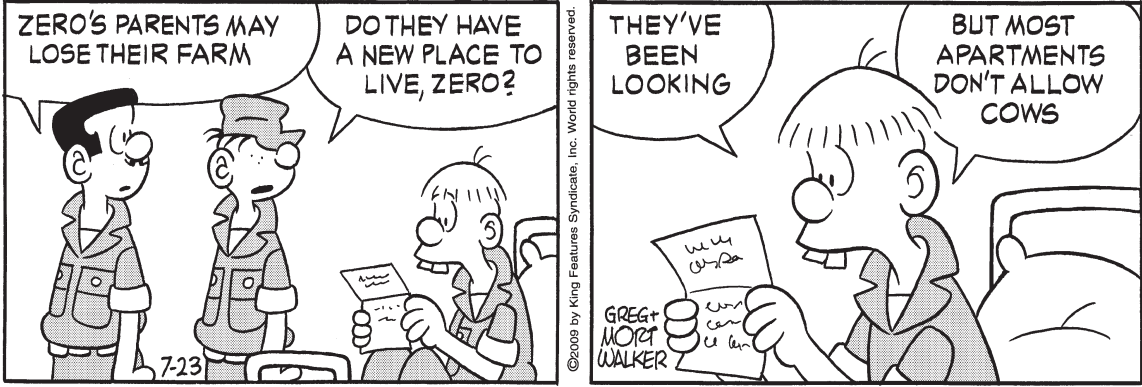


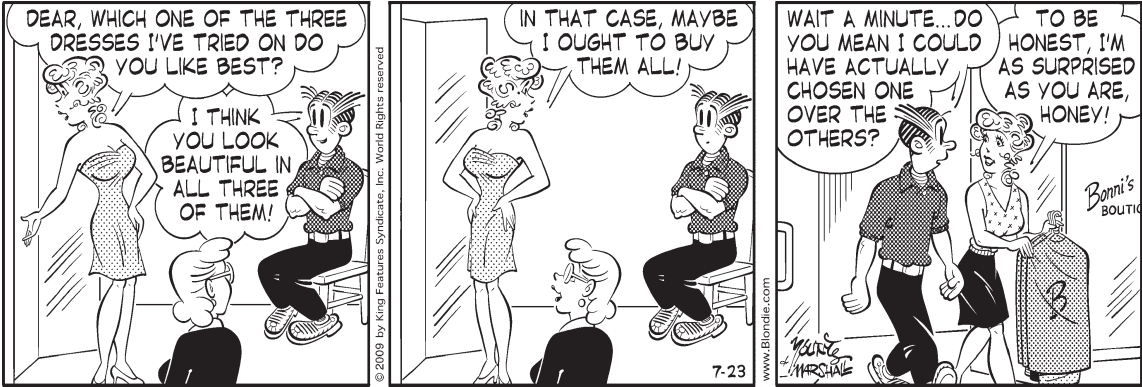
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



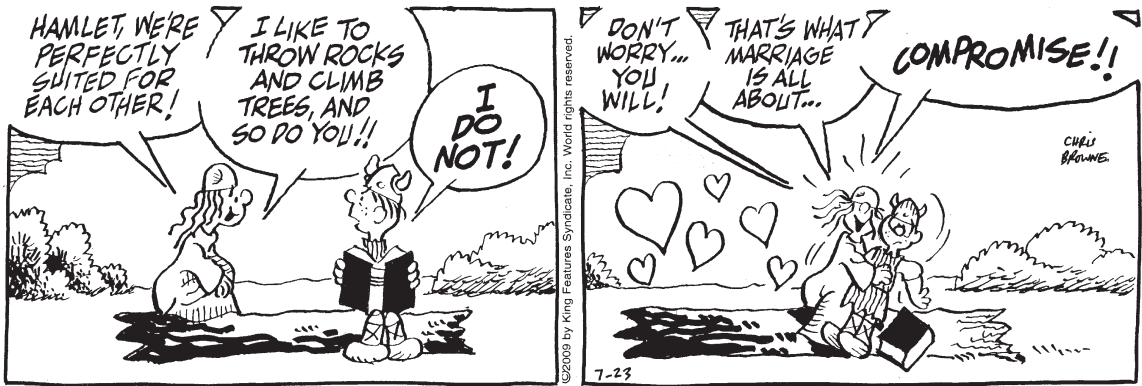
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young



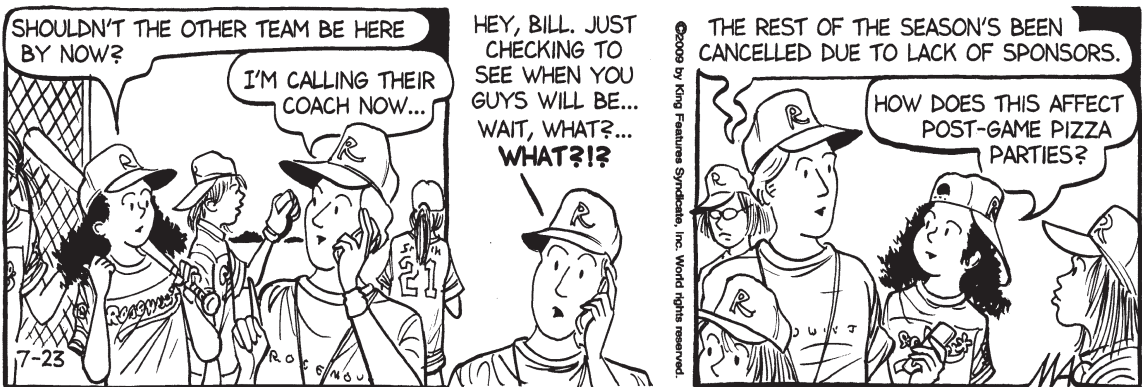
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



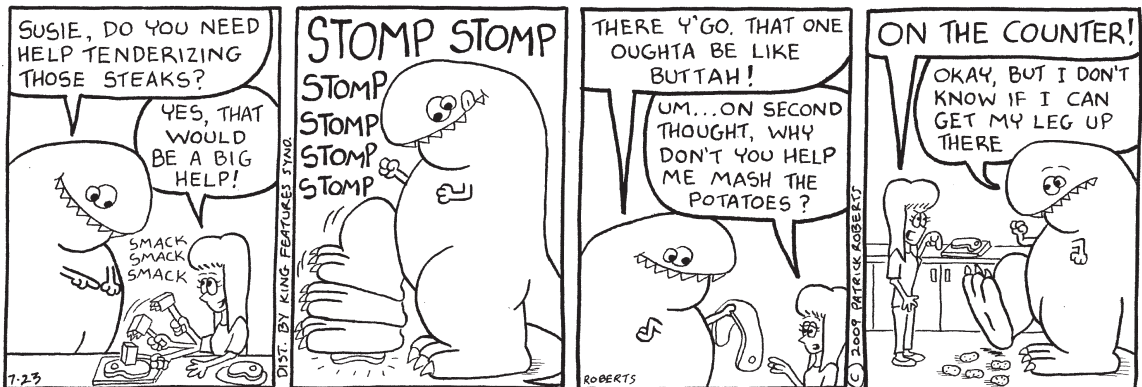
Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



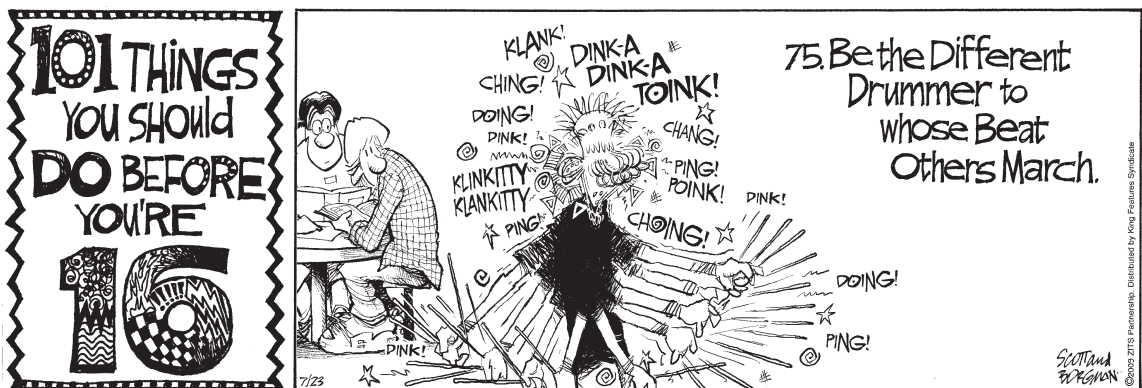
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Dr. Joyce Brothers

• Ask Dr. Brothers

It pays to teach kids perseverance

Dear Dr. Brothers: I've always felt like a quitter in my life, and don't want my son to have the same issues with failing to follow through. I've worked on my own perseverance and have gotten a lot better, but I want my son to always feel as though he's done his best in life. He's only in elementary school, but I wanted to start early to help him. What can I, as a parent, do to nurture perseverance in my son? – A.K.

Dear A.K.: It is great that you're self-aware enough to recognize this fault in yourself and to try to do what you can to prevent your son from going through the same thing. And, indeed, starting early certainly will help, since perseverance can be built throughout life. At this stage, it is helpful to allow your son to find things he enjoys, and not force him to do every activity under the sun. That being said, you should expose him to a variety of activities to allow him to find the one or two that really spark a passion in him.

Constructive criticism, and teaching your son how to give and receive it, also can help maintain your son's sense of motivation. Children also learn from their parents' behavior, so your own ability to persevere in the face of obstacles will help your son learn that this is to be valued, and attempt to copy it. This also should give you more motivation to progress in this area. You can inspire your son by giving him challenges and encouraging him. Succeeding in the face of an obstacle will provide gratification, and your son will continue the behavior that led to it.

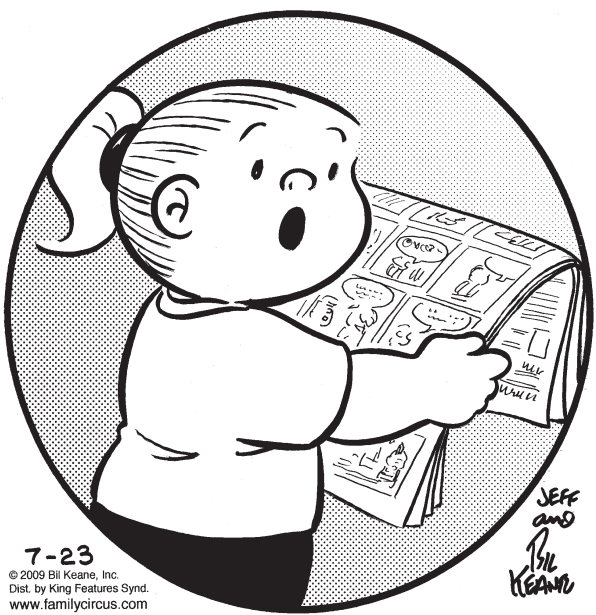
Dear Dr. Brothers: My girlfriends from college and I have an annual reunion, and recently it's gotten awkward because they are all married and I am not. I'm not overly sensitive, I don't think, but it makes me uncomfortable when they all have their husbands there and I'm alone. I also miss spending time with my friends, because it's not the same when the husbands are there. How can I bring this up without sounding like I don't like my friends' husbands? – C.G.

Dear C.G.: It can be hard to negotiate the commitments of friendship and significant others, especially if you find yourself single among married friends. The best you can do is be honest with your friends about how you feel. You can explain that you enjoy getting to spend time with the couples, but that "friend time" is different, in your mind, and that you value their friendships enough to want to preserve that special bond.

It's likely your friends don't know you are uncomfortable, especially if you are friendly with their husbands as well. Now married, your friends may forget what it's like to be the only single one in a group. Just remember to stress the fact that you want to spend quality time with them for this one time each year, and try to stay positive. This way, when you are in the position of being the friend with a significant other, your friends will continue to support you and your choices, since you were able to work through this problem openly and honestly.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



7-23
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Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★ 7/23

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 the last Sudoku puzzle is at right.

Cryptoquip

V R M D X Q K D C T J Y M Y

M S Y B M J D F D R Y K Y M Q K Y P P

B P Y T Q E D S Y X D Z S C, V ' C M Y T

F J Y F ' M Y B V F A J Q E B V A F Z E Q.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IN WHICH ASIAN COUNTRY IS IT DECREED THAT FOLKS MUST ALWAYS DON FORMAL NECKWEAR? TIE-LAND.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: F equals T

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**

1 Grounded flock

5 Castle protection

9 Jazzy style

12 Spiraling motion

13 Part of a foot?

14 Carnival city

15 Small embellishment

17 New England cape

18 Deli purchase

19 Role for Desi

21 "Forget it!"

22 Motif

24 Everything else

27 Street address?

28 Charitable donation

31 Matter-horn, for one

32 Cartesian conclusion
- 33 — de cologne

34 Dieter's target

36 Expert

37 Dance lesson

38 Hex

40 Greeting

41 "— Foolish Things"

43 Soda shoppe order

47 Massage

48 Gridiron tactic

51 — Khan

52 Latvia's capital

53 Canal zone

54 Apiece

55 Micro-wave
- 56 Ohio team

DOWN

1 Early birds?

2 "— Breckinridge"

3 Orsk's river

4 Trig measure

5 Revealing

6 Lennon's lady

7 Performance

8 "Ta-dal!"

9 It has its charms

10 Sty cry

11 Shetland, for one

16 Comic Philips
- 20 "— Little Teapot"

22 Vestige

23 Base runner's goal

24 U.K. fliers

25 Right angle

26 Neighbor of alt

27 Prejudice

29 West of Hollywood

30 Dine

35 Kram-den's transport

37 Donut, slangly

39 Copy, for short

40 Shade

41 Snare

42 Ginormous

43 Read quickly

44 Catastrophic

45 Litmus reddener

46 Supplements, with "out"

49 Actress Ullmann

50 Epoch

Solution time: 25 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 7-23

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			