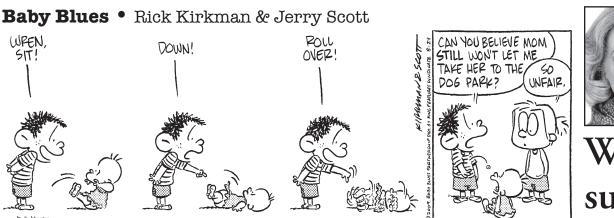
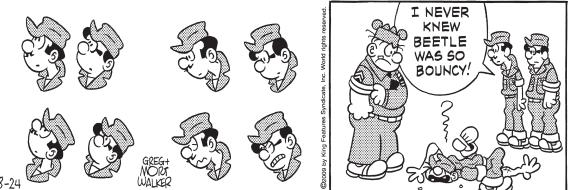


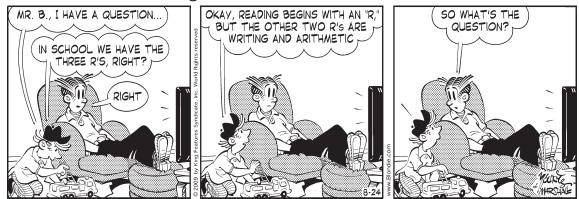
Colby Free Press Monday, August 24, 2009 Page 9



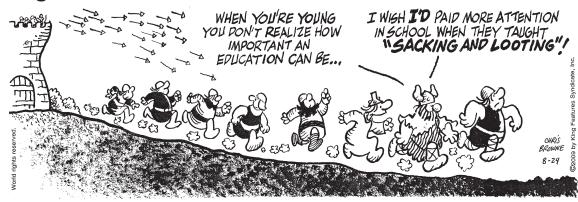
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young



Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters





Dear Dr. Brothers: Every year around this time, I feel like the "opposite man." While everyone is happy and on their way to the beach, I feel the need to wrap myself in a blanket and go to sleep. I like to keep my apartment dark and not let sun in, and I try to go outdoors as little as possible. It seems weird that this happens only in the summertime – what's wrong with me? – L.B.

Dear L.B.: There's a good chance you may suffer from seasonal depression, also known as seasonal affective disorder. Although most people experience SAD during the winter months, there are those who feel its effects during the summer. And like seasonal depression in the winter, no one is really sure what causes it.

But that doesn't mean you have to suffer until the fall. There are many ways of treating SAD everything from diet to how much you exercise can affect your condition. The important things are to not let your apartment become a cocoon, and to not go it alone. Too often when depression strikes, we withdraw from the outside world. We enter into a circle of misery where our symptoms feed on each other and it's hard to see any exit. Realize it's easier for you to isolate yourself because you don't want to become a drain on everyone else. Schedule an appointment with your doctor for a thorough assessment. Only a professional can help you decide what is best. There's no reason to hibernate every summer - the quicker you seek help, the faster you can rejoin the world.

Dear Dr. Brothers: My good friend of 20 years has been doing my landscaping for as long as I can remember. Recently I learned there's another guy who does good work for half the price. My friend's been getting a little shaggy in his job, and I'm thinking of letting him go. How should I approach this? - W.R.

Dear W.R.: With the economy the way it is today, we're all looking to save. But it's up to you to decide if hiring a new person is worth it. Your situation is different from firing a contractor, so you have to take other things into consideration: How much does your friend rely on you for his income? Will firing him put a dent in his business? Are you willing to lose your friendship?

Is it possible for your friend to come down in his price? Explain there's a person who will do Sometimes doing business with a friend is no deal - his work may not be up to par because you won't complain. This doesn't mean your friend is taking advantage of you - at least, not consciously - it just means he may have become too comfortable with your relationship. Sometimes a friendship can accommodate a business relationship, other times it's impossible. It's not the end of the world - you just need to decide what's best for your relationship with your friend.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



"Daddy, did you ever know any cavemen?"

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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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.

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i	Difficu	lty Lev	el **	**					8/21	

Cryptoquip

24

QBR TRPSUZG CULQRG QP the work at half the price, and see how he reacts. X F Z U Q F B U L U C E K T H Q F B, WKO QZPKWTR 🌧 BR BUG EHLGHLI OBR ZHIBO XSPO. **Cryptoquip:** THE THREE Yesterday's ARCHAEOLOGISTS WERE ABOUT TO EAT A WHEN SOMEBODY MEAL. TOGETHER SUDDENLY CRIED "DIG IN!"

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: B equals H

Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Bridge • Steve Becker

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Famous Hand

We can all take solace from some of the things that happen even in the most expert company. For example, take this deal from the match between Great Britain and the United States in 1955. It serves to demonstrate just how far from par the experts can stray even in a world championship event.

When the British held the North-South cards, the bidding went as shown. Kenneth Konstam opened one diamond, and Boris Schapiro jumped 21 to two hearts. Schapiro was trying for a slam, of 23 course, and Konstam went along with the idea by leaping to four diamonds. He apparently was trying to show a self- sufficient suit as well as a very respectable opening bid.

It is not known whether Schapiro's fournotrump bid was intended as Blackwood. It is also difficult to say how Konstam interpreted four notrump, given his somewhat unorthodox leap to 34 six notrump. Whatever the case, six notrump became the final contract, and the American East 35 unsympathetically cashed the A-K of hearts to defeat the slam a trick.

At the other table, the U.S. pair of William Rosen and Milton Ellenby arrived at the same contract, but this time with South as declarer. Rosen opened the South hand with three notrump, which Ellenby promptly raised to six.

In explanation of this bidding, it should be noted that Rosen-Ellenby were playing "gambling three notrump" openings, wherein three notrump showed a long solid minor suit and not much else on the side.

Ellenby's decision to bid six was based on the hope that there would either be a legitimate play for the slam or that the contract would be made on a wrong opening lead. The latter wish was granted when the unfortunate English West led the jack of spades, giving Rosen all 13 tricks.

So the American team, with a big assist from Dame Fortune, gained 1,070 points on the deal. Both teams missed the ice-cold six-diamond contract.

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Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

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