

Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



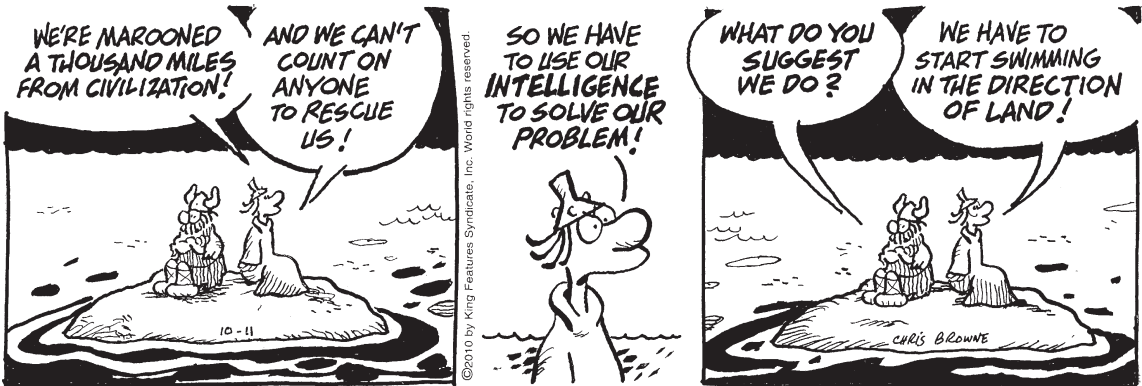
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



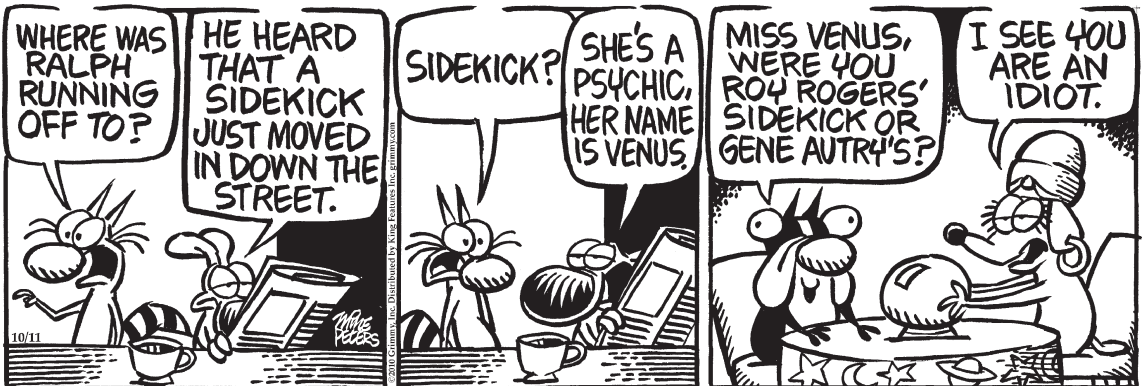
Blondie • Chic Young



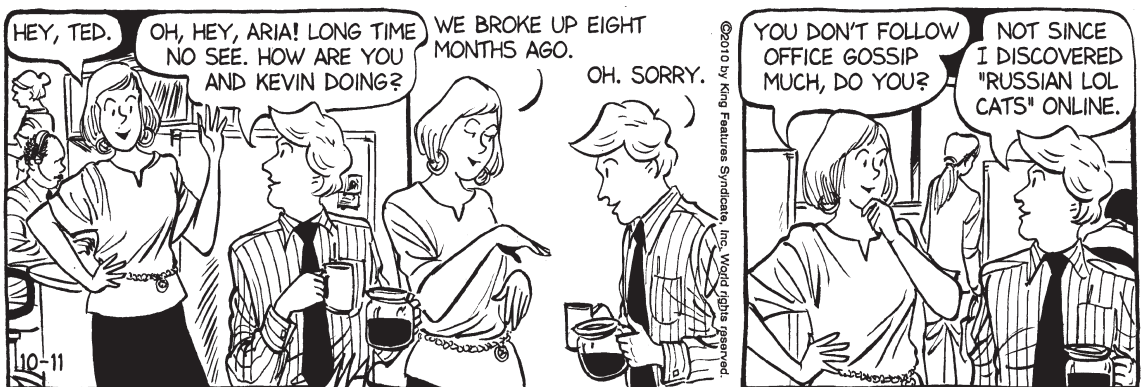
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



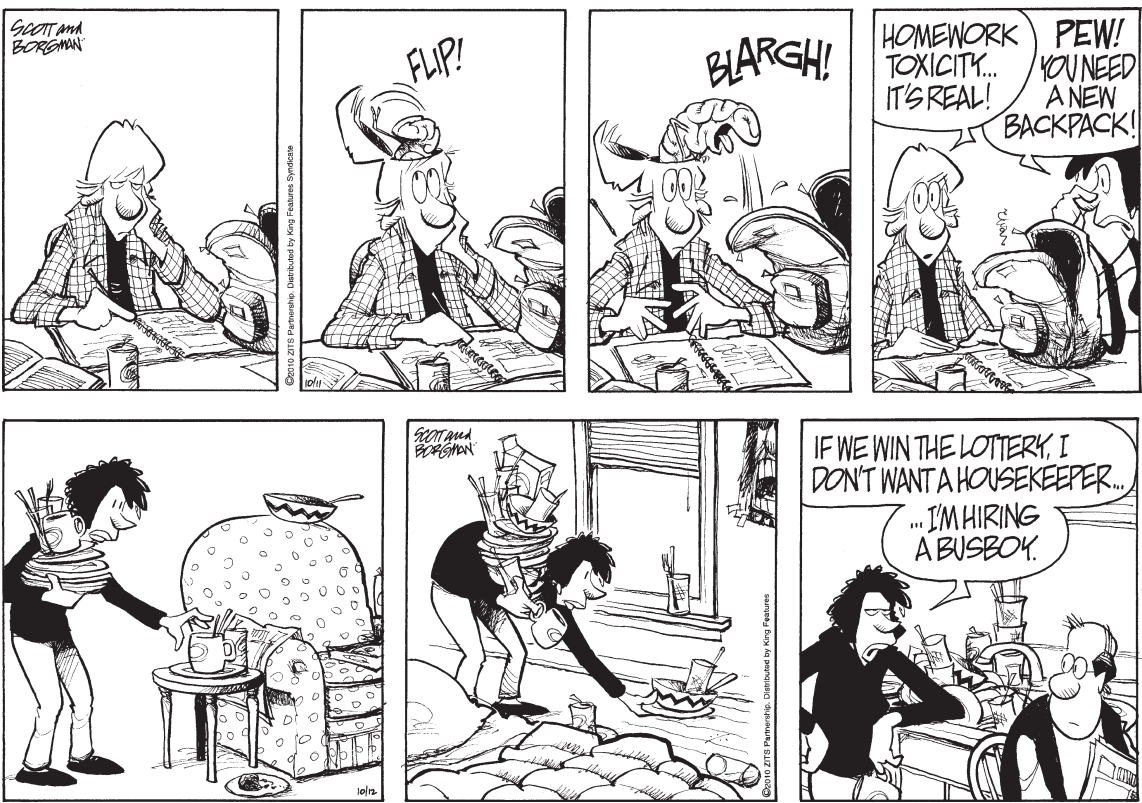
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Dr. Joyce Brothers • Ask Dr. Brothers

How are kids after Katrina?

Dear Dr. Brothers: I can't believe it has been more than five years since the devastation of Hurricane Katrina. One of my friends lived in New Orleans – she went back home with her kids, but says many of the children seem to be depressed or acting out all these years later. I can't help but wonder if there is something that can be done for them, or are they damaged forever? – D.L.

Dear D.L.: It is a tragedy that the Katrina years have not brought more healing than they have – despite the huge number of volunteers who tried to help, and the continuing work in New Orleans. The recent oil spill and economic devastation for fishing has been another blow to the stability of families in the area. So, one could say the picture looks bleak.

The worst outcome seems to be the continuing emotional and mental-health problems developed by children who were forced to leave their homes and live in temporary housing – some of which still has not been replaced by permanent homes. A recent study tells how bad the situation is. Columbia University had its research published in *Disaster Medicine and Public Health Preparedness*, that one in three children displaced by the Katrina disaster have been diagnosed with mental-health problems. Another group found that 38 percent of more than 400 children studied since the hurricane have been diagnosed with anxiety, depression or a behavior disorder. Those from very poor families generally have fewer resources to handle emotional problems, and figures remain alarmingly high.

Dear Dr. Brothers: I moved in with another girl to share the rent, and although she had only two cats and one dog when I gave her a year's lease, those numbers have now doubled! I have seven months to go, and I can't take it. I mean, I like dogs and cats, but I can't cope with all the noise, smell and work. She takes care of them, but I am afraid she can't stop adopting and rescuing. How do I approach this with her? – S.H.

Dear S.H.: Everyone appreciates the neighborhood cat lady in some sense, for she takes in the strays the rest of us feel guilty we are unable to help. At the same time, if there are cats and dogs all over the place, the home becomes an eyesore, a health hazard or a noisy annoyance, we no longer admire the collector of unwanted animals and we start to call her a name that indicates there is something wrong upstairs. And so it goes. What doesn't usually happen is for the cat lady to be a young person acting impulsively, as if she were at a store picking out three or four pairs of shoes.

It's impossible to know how serious this is going to be with your roommate. It sounds like you haven't talked about this with her, so you aren't sure how serious she is. You need to confront her and ask if she knows the local laws about keeping pets, or if the landlord is going to object and cause trouble for both of you. You can tell her you can't stand it and will break your lease (or sublease). See if that provides a wake-up call. At least it should start the ball rolling.

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Bridge • Steve Becker

North dealer. East-West vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ K 6 5 4
♥ Q 10 9
♦ A 10 4
♣ K 6 5

WEST
♠ J 8 3 2
♥ A 2
♦ Q 9 7 6 2
♣ 9 2

EAST
♠ 3
♥ K J 8 5 3
♦ A Q J 10 8 7 4
♣ 3

SOUTH
♠ A Q 10 9 7
♥ K J 8 7 6 5 4
♦ 3
♣ 3

The bidding:
North: 1♣, 1♦, 5♣, Pass
East: Pass, 4♣, Pass, Dbl
South: 1♥, 5♣, 6♣, Rdbld
West: Pass, Pass, Pass, Pass
Opening lead — six of diamonds.

Famous Hand

When the defenders allow declarer to make a redoubled slam missing two cashable aces, the guilty parties can only hope that all memory of the painful incident will quickly fade away. The last thing you'd expect is that one of the victims would voluntarily divulge the details of the disaster in a daily newspaper distributed to 10,000 bridge players attending a national tournament. But that's exactly what happened when Richard Pavlicek suffered just such a debacle in the Spingold team championship some years ago and then published his tale of woe for all to see in the Daily Bulletin.

Pavlicek was East and started his side off on the wrong foot by passing North's opening club bid. He then tried to make up the lost ground by leaping to four clubs at his next turn. This elicited a cuebid of five clubs from South, supposedly showing first-round control of the club suit.

When South subsequently bid six hearts, Pavlicek doubled, hoping his partner would work out that he wanted a spade lead. South then muddled the waters even further by redoubling. At this point we quote Pavlicek's own account: "There we were, defending six hearts redoubled with two cashable aces and a ruff for frosting – but it didn't work out that way. My partner knew my double showed a void in spades or diamonds, but which one? Could the opponents be concealing a nine-card spade fit? Very unlikely. But they certainly could have an eight-card diamond fit.

"So partner led a diamond, and away went our ace of clubs and the spade ruff. We did carefully manage to score the trump ace to prevent an overtrick. Minus 1,570 was not a pleasing result when we were cold for six diamonds. Next time I'll just overcall with one diamond to avoid all this nonsense."

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★ 10/11

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.

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

Cryptoquip

UOVC S HVJEMC VSYE YMM

ASCZ UOVSY HJMRBFYE SY

MCV YLAV, FMBPR ZMB FSPP

OLA S NPBYVC NPBYMC?

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: A BRUTAL FELLOW PLANNED TO BEAT UP THE WAVE RIDERS, BUT HE DIDN'T EVEN SCRATCH THE SURFERS.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: M equals O

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Request
4 Scrooge's cry
7 Soft drink
11 Colorado skiing venue
13 — Khan
14 Tiger's ex
15 Norway's capital
16 Thanks-giving
17 Tense
18 Jubilant yell
20 Asian desert
22 Small barrel
24 Nullify
28 Largest planet
32 Tequila source
33 Remove the lid
34 Bill
36 Divisible by 2
37 Be a glutton
39 They end in "amen"

DOWN

1 Acknowledging
2 Cumberbund
3 Metric weight
4 Proscribe
5 Enthusiastic
6 Destruction, plus
7 Aide for the blind
8 Antiquated
9 Use a shovel
10 Whatever quantity
12 Alice went through it
19 Favorite
21 Sheepish thing to say?
23 Obtain
25 Bear lair
26 Always
27 Camera part
28 Trots
29 "Once — a time"
30 Lima's land
31 Knock
35 Lingerie item
38 Tarzan portrayer
40 — carte
42 Oxen's joiners
45 Sneaker brand
47 Privy to
48 Modern-day money
49 Second-hand
50 Spot on a domino
51 Rage
52 Spy org.
54 Morning moisture

Solution time: 27 mins.

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

Saturday's answer 10-11

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				58			
59					60					61		