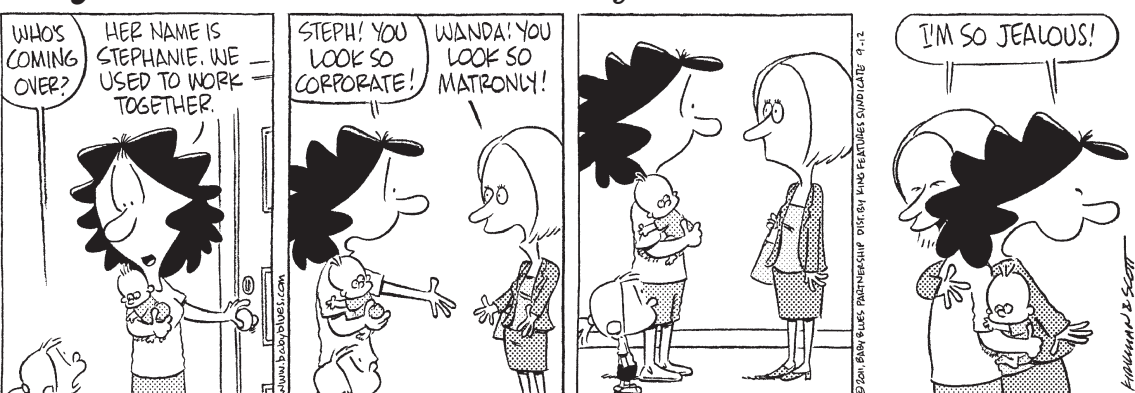


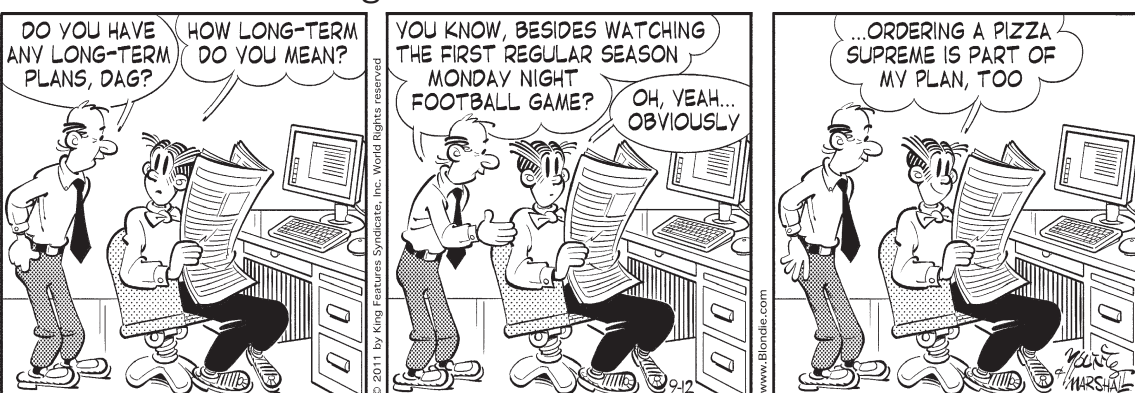
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



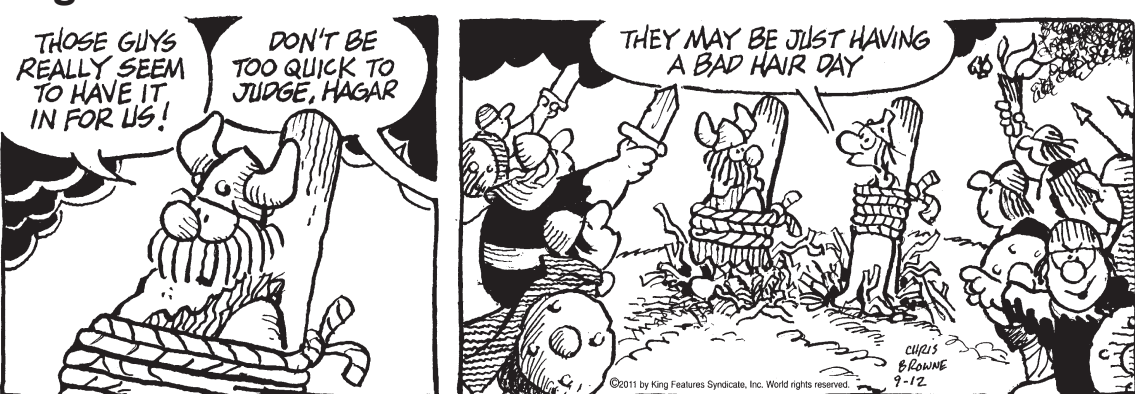
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



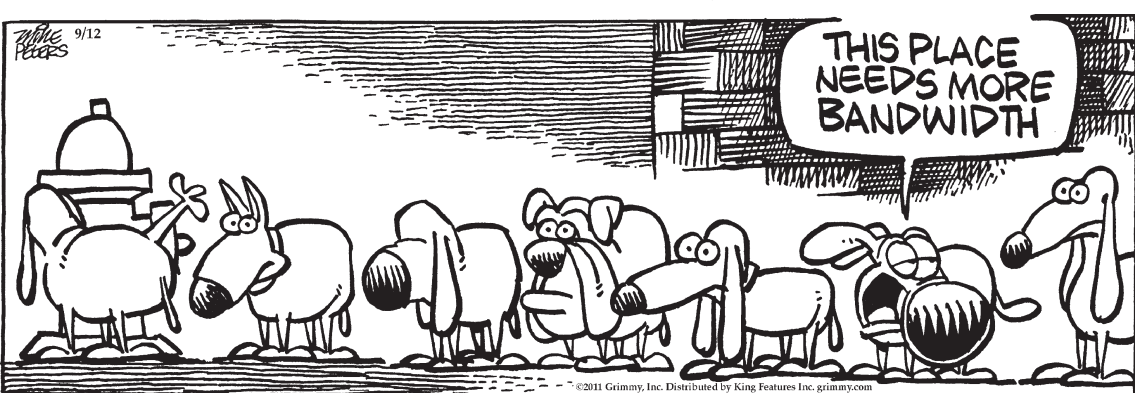
Blondie • Chic Young



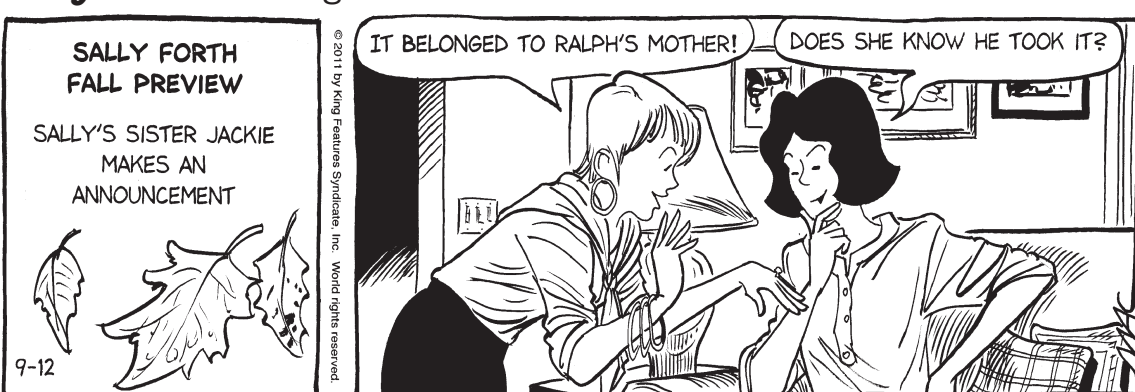
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



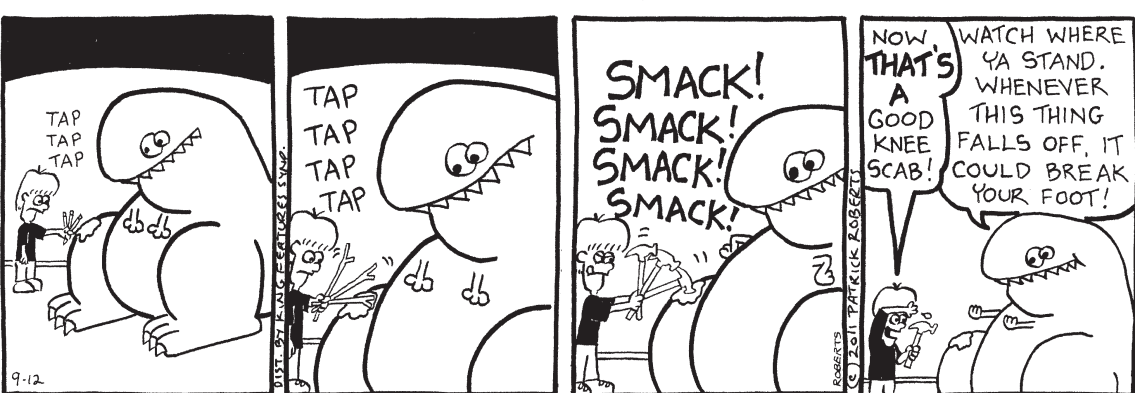
Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



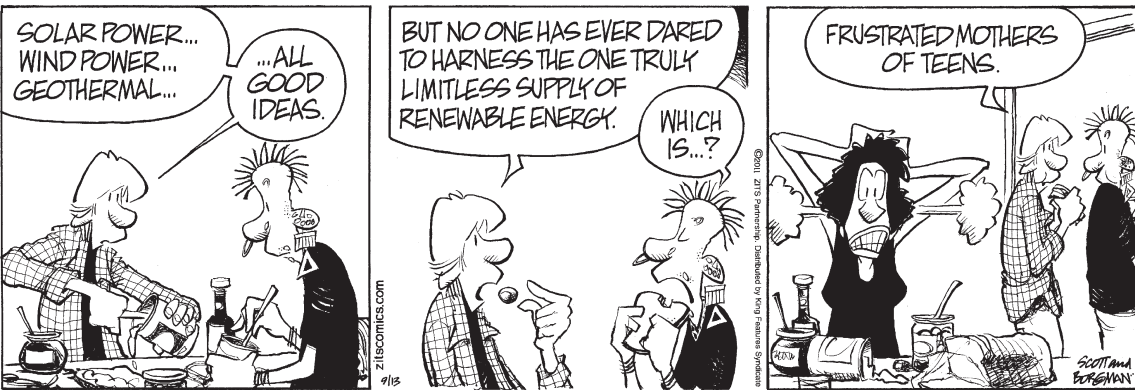
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Dr. Joyce Brothers

• Ask Dr. Brothers

Stress passes to subordinates

Dear Dr. Brothers: One of my supervisors at work gets mean when she's stressed, and I'm fed up. She gets stressed easily and takes it out on me, yelling at me for misunderstandings or innocent mistakes, or even when she makes mistakes. I dread going to work because I'm scared she'll yell at me. Is it worth it to confront her, or should I suffer in silence? – N.V.

Dear N.V.: If your job satisfaction is at stake, and you're dreading going to work for fear of being yelled at, it absolutely is within your rights to stick up for yourself and discuss your feelings with this supervisor. Wait for the right time – when she's not stressed out and when she's calm. If you can approach her at a quiet moment, you'll have more luck with her seeing your side.

There are two possibilities. First, your supervisor might not realize she doesn't respond well, and unfairly targets you. By pointing this out, you may be helping her grow and become a more efficient supervisor. The other possibility is that she knows she reacts with anger and thinks this is a justified means to an end. In this case, all you can do is let her know how her yelling makes you feel. If you let her know a more effective way to get through to you, hopefully she will adjust her methods and make you a little less apprehensive about showing up for work every day.

Dear Dr. Brothers: I'm looking for a new job, and one employer told me that while I am qualified, I need to work on my emotional intelligence. I'd never heard that term, and I'm not totally sure what I'm lacking. I'm friendly, though shy, but I don't think I'm emotionally stunted. Can you explain what emotional intelligence is, and how I might build mine? – S.D.

Dear S.D.: This is a great question, because emotional intelligence is one of the most important factors employers look for, and one that makes employees more successful. Emotional intelligence is your ability to relate to and communicate with people around you. It is made up of four parts: self-awareness, or being in touch with your emotions and understanding how they affect you; self-management, meaning you are able to control your reaction and behave well even in emotionally challenging times; social awareness, or the ability to understand the emotional state of those around you; and relationship management, which is the ability to develop and maintain healthy relationships.

Working on building your emotional intelligence is a lifelong process, but you can start by taking steps like learning how to reduce stress and building your "nonverbal vocabulary," or learning to communicate with body language. Building relationships with others and keeping in mind the four parts of emotional intelligence when you interact with the people you meet on interviews and in the job market can go a long way toward building your emotional skill set. In the end, the more you use the emotional intelligence you have, the better you'll get.

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Bridge • Steve Becker

South dealer. North-South vulnerable.

NORTH

♠ 5 3 2
♥ 6
♦ A K 10 9 4
♣ Q 9 5 3

WEST

♠ A 9 4
♥ 7 3
♦ Q 7
♣ A K 10 8 7 2

EAST

♠ J 10 8 6
♥ 8 5 2
♦ J 8 5
♣ 6 4

SOUTH

♠ K Q 7
♥ A K Q J 10 4
♦ 6 3 2
♣ J

The bidding:

South 1♥ West 2♣ North 2♦ East Pass

Opening lead — king of clubs.

Famous Hand – Part 1

Here is a gem of a hand. It was played in Paris in 1964, and it would probably never have seen the light of day except that a very observant kibitzer witnessed the deal and recorded it for posterity.

West, the then-young French star Jean-Marc Roudinesco, led the king of clubs against four hearts and was faced with a difficult play at trick two. After considering the matter thoroughly – and paying due homage to dummy's threatening diamond suit – Roudinesco shifted to a low spade.

Probably Roudinesco hoped to find his partner with the K-J-10 or K-x, or at the very least the J-10-x-x East actually held, but whatever his thoughts, he obviously felt the low spade lead was the best play he could make.

Declarer took East's ten with the king and played three rounds of trumps, planning next to lead a diamond and let West win a trick with the queen whenever he chose to play it. In that way, South would keep East out of the lead and eventually score four diamond tricks to make the contract.

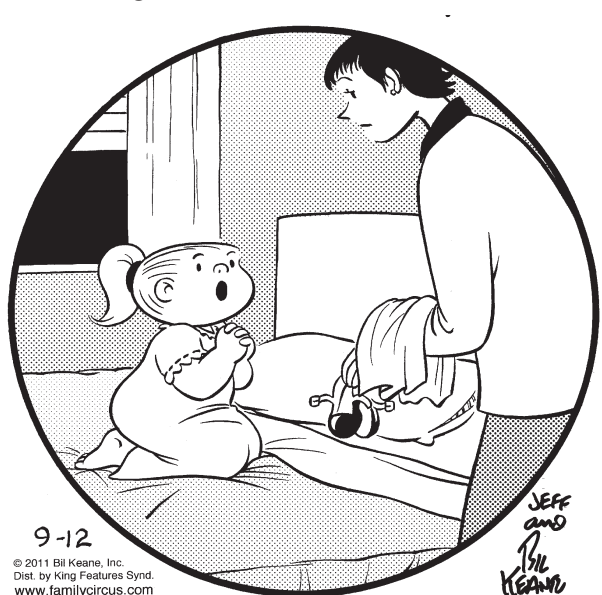
But Roudinesco, suspecting that declarer might be plotting this very play, made a second brilliant move when, on the third round of trumps, he discarded the queen of diamonds!

He recognized that the queen of diamonds was of no possible use to him – regardless of whether East or South held the jack – and that it was potentially a millstone around his neck.

At this point, the kibitzer was called to the phone and left the table, certain that Roudinesco's magnificently planned defense would prove successful. But when the kibitzer returned shortly thereafter, he learned to his surprise that South had made the contract! Just how he managed to do so will appear in this space Wednesday.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



9-12

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★

9/12

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.

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

Cryptoquip

XQFT LWFUMSN GJQBWFT

VBSMM BLWB QXQFTZDGT

NDXQV BD PDAVSUQ DA ZFJBVL

VBFQQBPWFV: BFWUV-MWB.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: THAT STRANGE NUMBER IS NOT BEHAVING VERY SENSIBLY AT ALL. I SUPPOSE IT MUST BE IRRATIONAL.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: M equals F

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 Assn.
 - 4 Photo, for short
 - 7 Brussels-based
 - 11 Reddish horse
 - 13 Parisian pal
 - 14 Valhalla VIP
 - 15 Othello's foe
 - 16 Carpet
 - 17 "Finding —"
 - 18 \$1,000
 - 20 Long story
 - 22 Pick a target
 - 24 Saskatchewan's capital
 - 28 Mixture
 - 32 NYC Marathon founder
 - 33 Body powder
 - 34 Hoover, for one
 - 36 Hawaiian fowl
 - 37 Acrylic fiber
 - 39 At ease
- DOWN**
- 1 First (Abbr.)
 - 2 Sound from 47-Down
 - 3 Pop singer
 - 4 Standard
 - 5 Radio host
 - 6 Stogie
 - 7 One approaching 100
 - 8 Citric drink
 - 9 Allen or Curry
 - 10 John's Yoko
 - 12 Virgin, to a bartender
 - 19 Use a shovel
 - 21 Solidify
 - 23 Crazy
 - 25 Mountain goat
 - 26 Zilch
 - 27 Dumb-struck
 - 28 Molecule component
 - 29 Stallion's partner
 - 30 "— Well That Ends Well"
 - 31 Scratch
 - 35 Kitten's call
 - 38 Fresh
 - 40 Once around the track
 - 42 Postpone
 - 45 —
 - 47 Jungle critter
 - 48 Garfield's pal
 - 49 Small pie
 - 50 "I — Camera"
 - 51 Pen name?
 - 52 Conclusion
 - 54 Group of whales

Solution time: 27 mins.

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

Saturday's answer 9-12

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	