

Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



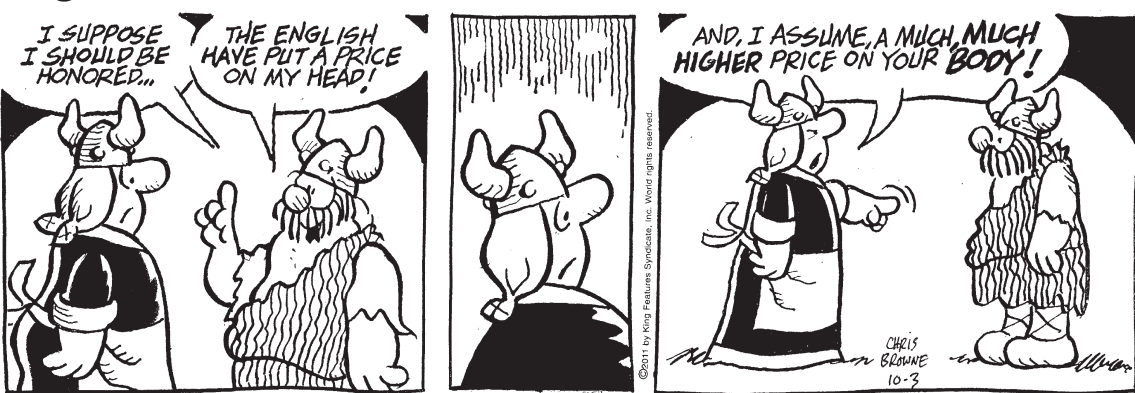
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young



Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



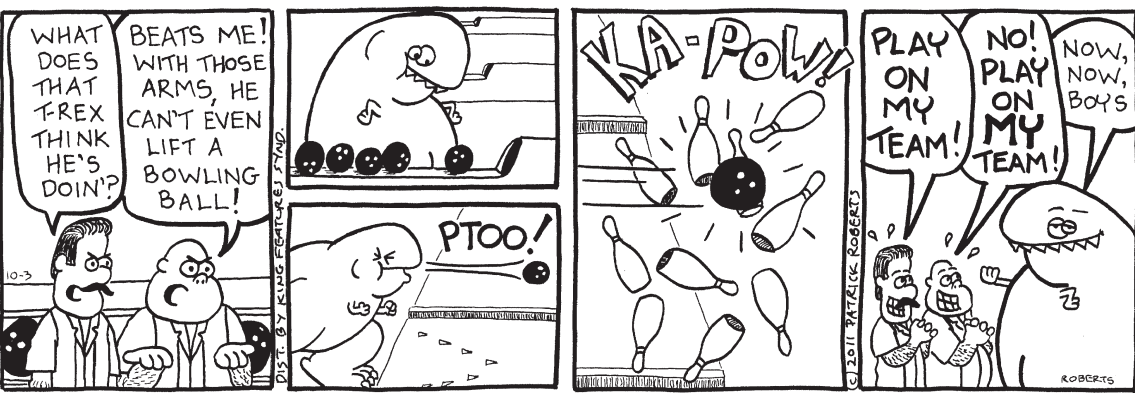
Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



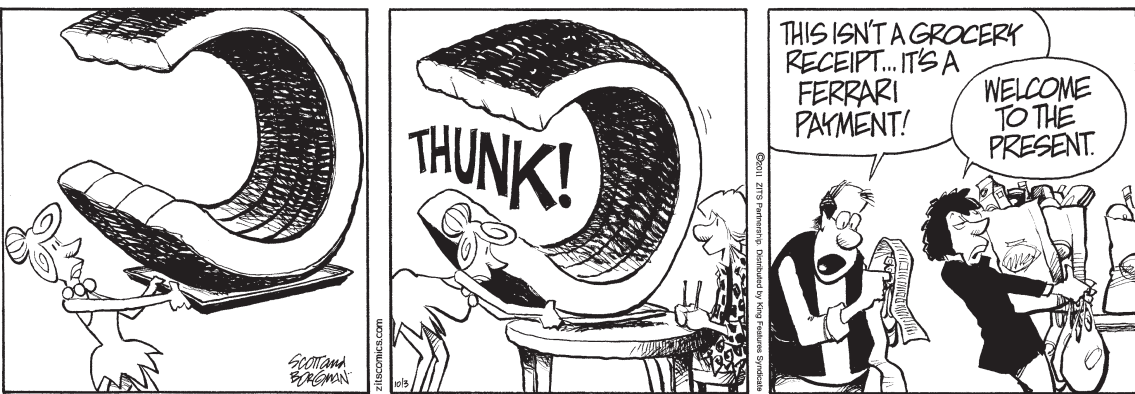
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Dr. Joyce Brothers

• Ask Dr. Brothers

She's afraid of offending boss

Dear Dr. Brothers: I've recently started a job as secretary for the church I have joined. I'm not shy but am afraid to open my mouth around my pastor. He and his wife are sweet and never say anything stronger than "dam" or "heck," while my vocabulary includes an occasional "damn" or "hell." I don't want to jeopardize my job or my status by offending them, but they have commented on how quiet I am. Any advice? — S.C.

Dear S.C.: You seem completely intimidated by the culture at your new church, and I hope you will give the job time to get to know everyone better before you decide they are impossibly holier than thou! It seems you have the best of intentions in trying to not offend anyone, but you may need to lighten up and realize all the people around you are human too.

On the other hand, examine the worst-case scenario: You come out with some expletives and are soundly put down. That might be hurtful and mortifying, but give you some insight into what kind of place you have found yourself worshipping and working at. It may be a poor fit, and in that case it would be better to acknowledge it and find another job and church in which you find yourself less likely to be judged.

So, I would suggest giving the new place and people a chance and then deciding if this is going to be a comfortable workplace and church for you. If your language turns out to be a problem, just realize many people are going to be offended, but just as many are not.

Dear Dr. Brothers: I've been looking forward to moving to a new city with my family, but as the time draws near, I worry about how my kids will adjust to leaving their friends and the only home they have ever known. They are 8- and 10-year-old boys, and while they are excited, they have started whining and fighting more than usual. I wonder how to make this easier on them. My husband and I are fine, but we're adults! — J.T.

Dear J.T.: It would not be unusual for everyone in the family — including the adults — to be on edge when a big move is coming up. Perhaps you don't realize it, but any tension — even with the getting organized for a move — can be reflected in children's behavior. Kids pick up on the emotions you feel, so try to be optimistic and upbeat with them at this stressful time. Your husband also can add to the positive atmosphere by talking with the kids about what they will all do together in the new city. That should help clear the air.

In the meantime, let your kids explore their new home in advance by searching for kid-friendly activities on the Internet. By the time you move, they will have some specific things in mind that will make finding friends and things to do more real to them. Remind them they will always have each other as well as you and Dad, and that this is an adventure for the whole family. Don't be afraid to ask if they have concerns, and take their insecurities seriously. Luckily, the Internet will help them stay in touch with old friends, too.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



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Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★ 10/03

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.

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

Cryptoquip

GJKW-GTNW HQL-QJZ VJWDL

HGJH'E GRMTNZ CLCRNJV

JULKM QDEFLKEDK CLNDFT:

HGT UDNQJRPPT-HJNPDT.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: FAMED MOVIE ACTOR WHO LOVES DRINKING THINGS LIKE COFFEE, TEA AND BEER: BREWS WILLIS.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: H equals T

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

- | | | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| ACROSS | 40 Bankroll | DOWN | 20 Do what you're told |
| 1 Actress Gardner | 41 Warmth | 1 Fire residue | 21 Poi root |
| 4 Vine-covered shelter | 43 Chic | 2 Compete | 3 \$ dispenser |
| 9 Owns | 45 Burn | 3 up | 22 Coin aperture |
| 12 Perch | | 4 Soak | 23 Author |
| 13 Wilkes-—, Pa. | | 5 Knocking | 24 Nathaniel |
| 14 Everything | | 6 Lingerie item | 27 Jump |
| 15 Sur-geons' devices | | 7 Lawn-care brand | 29 Historic times |
| 17 Reason to say "alas" | | 8 Vacation mecca | 30 Whirlpool |
| 18 — con-strictor | | 9 Detectives | 32 Prognos-ticator |
| 19 Addicted garb | | 10 Lotion additive | 34 Women's shoes |
| 21 Unisex | | 11 Coaster | 37 Jennifer's "Friends" role |
| 24 Spheres | | 12 Kimono sash | 39 Rio — |
| 25 — carte | | | 42 Topic |
| 26 "Hum-bug!" | | | 44 Ovum |
| 28 Giggly sound | | | 45 Lily variety stuff |
| 31 Columns' crossers | | | 46 Gunky stuff |
| 33 AAA job | | | 50 CEO's degree |
| 35 Play area | | | 51 Humorous sort |
| 36 Playful water critter | | | 52 Whatever amount |
| 38 Dowel | | | 53 Thanks-giving vegetable |

Solution time: 27 mins.

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

Saturday's answer 10-3

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
54			55						56	
57			58						59	