

Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



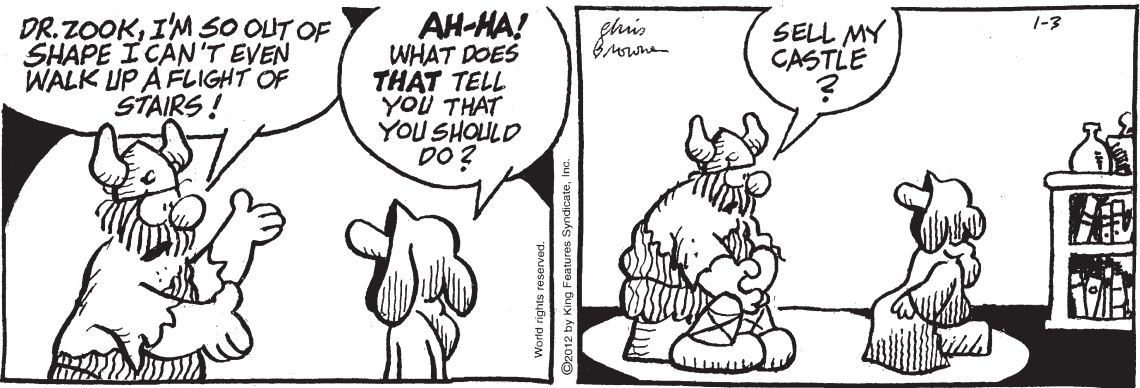
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young



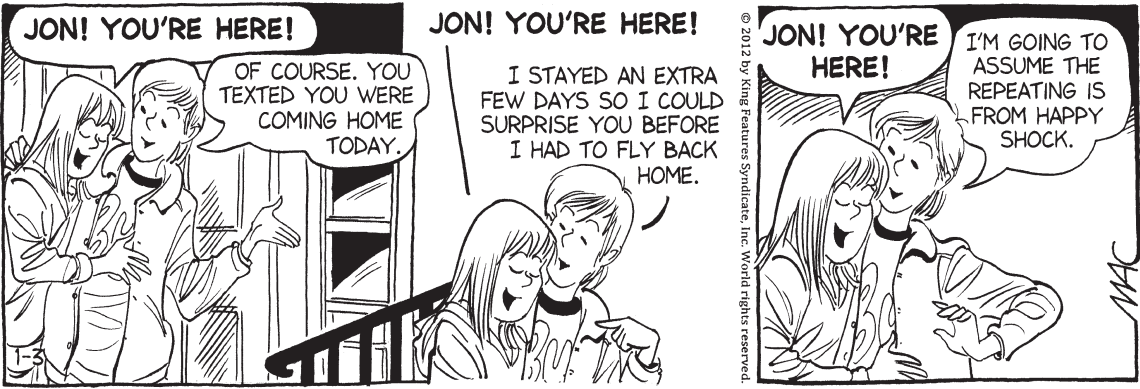
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



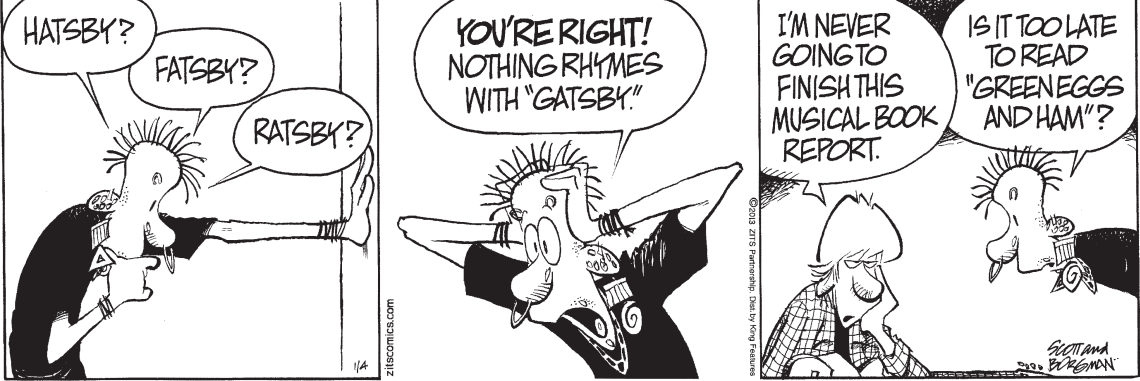
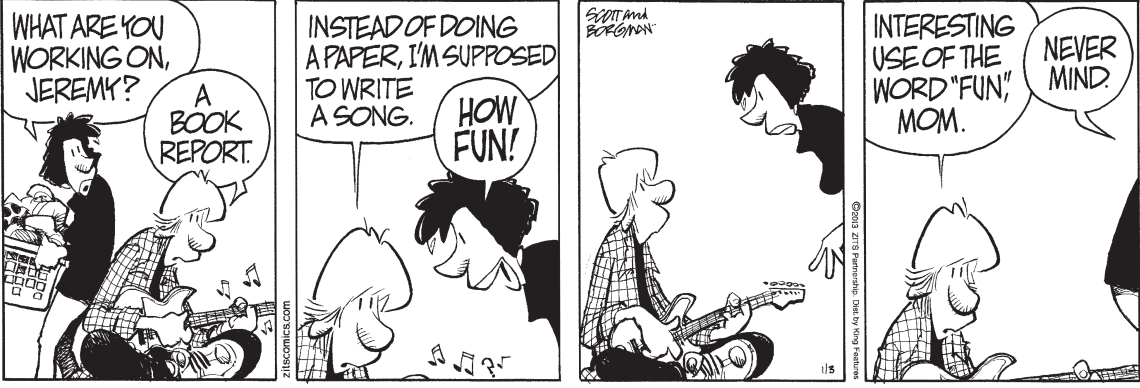
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Terry Kovel

• Antiques and Collecting

Paperweights had 'grave' origin

Q: My dad owned a funeral home in Cincinnati and liked collecting antiques. He left me his collection of paperweights made by Crane & Breed, a Cincinnati coffin manufacturer. The paperweights include an Egyptian sarcophagus, Scottie dog, alligator, camel, frog, turtle, bear, sailboat and ghost. I don't want to sell them, but I'd like to know how old they are and what they're worth.

A: Crane & Breed took over a Cincinnati coffin-manufacturing business in 1854 and stayed in business until 1973. The company held several patents on coffins and coffin parts, and sold coffins to funeral homes in several states.

Today collectors know about Crane & Breed mainly because of its collectible paperweights. From the late 1800s into the early 1900s, the company gave away promotional bronze novelty paperweights to funeral homes and their employees. Today, the sarcophagus paperweight sells for close to \$400, but most of the others are going for less than \$20.

Q: I own a glass dish that has a portrait of a man in the center and the words "We mourn our nation's loss" inscribed around it. There's a wide border of swags around the dish. We think the dish has something to do with President Garfield and also something to do with Vermont. It has been in our family for more than 70 years and we would like to know its history and value.

A: Your plate was made as a memorial to President James A. Garfield, who was assassinated in 1881. The center picture is a bust of Garfield. The pattern is called "Garfield Drape," but it's sometimes called "Canadian Drape." It has been attributed to Adams & Co. of Pittsburgh, but more recent research suggests that it may have been made by Burlington Glass Works of Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. Perhaps that's how it got the name "Canadian Drape."

The pattern was first made in the 1870s. After Garfield died, memorial plates in that pattern were made with his bust in the middle. The only connection to Vermont is that Vice President Chester A. Arthur, who became president after Garfield's death, was born in Vermont. Different versions of your plate were made. Some include the words "Born Nov 19, 1831, Shot July 2, 1881, Died Sep 19, 1881." A colored glass Garfield memorial plate retails for about \$75.

Q: My vintage alligator handbag includes the taxidermied head of the alligator. The bag, made in Cuba, was originally purchased at a high-end New York City store. What is it worth?

A: We frequently see alligator-head bags like yours at antiques shows. They sell for about \$150 to \$200, depending on quality and condition.

Tip: Moths seem to like to eat natural undyed horsehair but, strangely, do not eat dyed hair. Use mothballs and other detergents to protect braided hair-work and stuffed furniture.

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Bridge • Steve Becker

South dealer.
North-South vulnerable.

NORTH			
♦	Q 7 5		
♥	10 8 4 2		
♠	7		
♣	Q J 10 8 3		
WEST		EAST	
♦	J 9 8	♥	K 10 2
♥	7	♠	19 6
♠	Q 10 6	♣	A K J 9 8 5 3
♣	9 7 6 5 4 2	♦	—
SOUTH			
♦	A 6 4 3		
♥	A K Q 5 3		
♠	4 2		
♣	A K		

The bidding:
South 1♥ West Pass North 2♥ East 3♦
4♥ 5♦ Pass Pass

Opening lead — six of diamonds.

An Unusual Defensive Play

Good card-reading is the backbone of good defensive play. For example, take this case where you hold the East hand and partner leads the six of diamonds against South's five-heart contract. You win the diamond with the king, and the key question is, what do you do next?

The first step is to try to decipher the meaning of your partner's six-of-diamonds lead. This is not a difficult task; West, who raised diamonds, must have started with precisely the Q-10-6. He cannot have the deuce or four because he would have led his fourth-best diamond. You can therefore deduce, as soon as dummy appears, that South has the 4-2 of diamonds.

This makes it much easier to find the proper play at trick two — the three of diamonds! This extraordinary play has a remarkable effect. Regardless of what declarer does, he cannot make the contract.

If he ruffs the diamond return in dummy, he eventually loses two spade tricks (assuming correct defense). And if he does not ruff the diamond return in dummy, West wins the trick and shifts to a club at trick three, and East ruffs for down one.

Note that if East leads a trump at trick two, which seems to be the safest thing to do, South makes the contract. He simply plays the A-K-Q of trumps, cashes the A-K of clubs, ruffs a diamond in dummy and finishes with 12 tricks.

Note also that if East returns the ace of diamonds at trick two, instead of a low diamond, South can make the contract by discarding a spade from dummy. East remains on lead and cannot stop declarer from scoring 11 tricks.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



"Already? Didn't we just put it UP?"

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★

1/03

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.

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

Difficulty Level ★★

Cryptoquip

ZQUJ OGTMTB KBGRS YEL

SLVWBTSR XBLXUB KJ

HLVOBHZUUI XUGOMTQ SEBW

LT ROGUBR: G YBMQEBV-YLUH.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF I SEEM UNDULY SUSPICIOUS OF THIS WATERMELON, THAT'S PROBABLY BECAUSE IT'S WAY TOO SEEDY.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: X equals P

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| ACROSS | 40 On the other hand | 3 Nevada city | 24 Weir |
| 1 Shopper's aid | 41 Top story | 4 Fencer's call | 25 Hearty quaff |
| 5 — and Circumstance | 43 Critter | 5 Campaign-funding grps. | 26 Labyrinth beast |
| 9 Frenzied | 47 Slithery squeezer | 6 Tulsa home | 27 Ground-breaking musical |
| 12 Sandwich treat | 48 Twins' home | 7 Blanc or Brooks | 29 Historic time |
| 13 Vicinity | 51 Flightless bird | 8 Song of praise | 30 Charlotte's creation |
| 14 Rocks | 52 Tied | 9 Troubadour | 35 Sub-machine gun |
| 15 Teeny | 53 It's tied | 10 High (Pref.) | 37 Pats down |
| 17 Gun lobby org. | 54 Aachen article | 11 Campus bigwig | 39 Pinnacles |
| 18 Thwarts | 55 — good example | 16 Schuss | 40 Inseparable |
| 19 Bad lighting? | 56 Former frosh | 20 Crimson | 41 Sleeping |
| 21 Conversation starter | | 22 Capital of Belarus | 42 Heavy reading |
| 22 "Olympia" artist | | 23 Leading man | 43 Kournikova or Karenina |
| 24 Knighted woman | | | 44 Stereo alternative |
| 27 Stashed | | | 45 On |
| 28 Carey or Barrymore | | | 46 Wood strip |
| 31 — Baba | | | 49 "— had it!" |
| 32 Literary collection | | | 50 Profit |

Solution time: 25 mins.

ABBA	NAB	OPAH
LOAM	ERR	ROLE
POLIT	ICO	GLOW
SPIGOT	AWAKEN	
	OOH	DANA
ASP	LEO	RIDER
BOOM	RAP	COKE
ALLAY	RAG	TED
	AGES	TAP
SERENE	ERASER	
AXON	POLYGAMY	
SPIT	ILL	AGUE
SODA	ADA	NESS

Yesterday's answer 1-3

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
47				48	49	50				
51				52				53		
54				55				56		