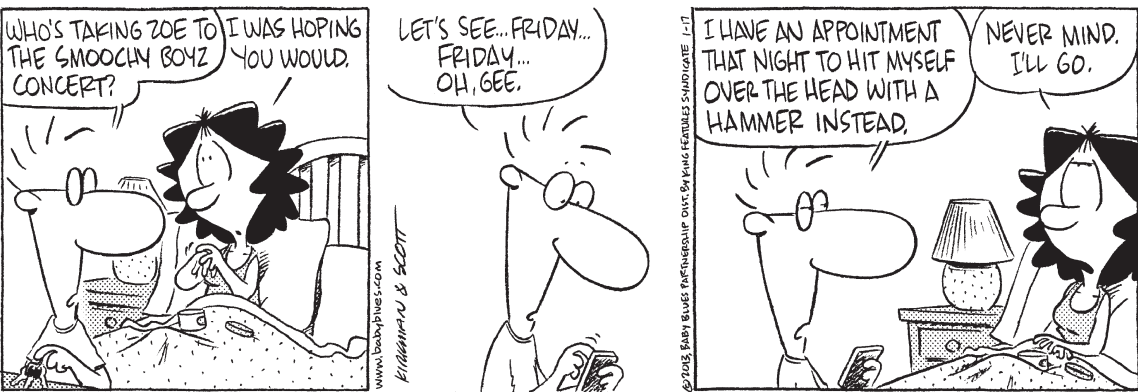
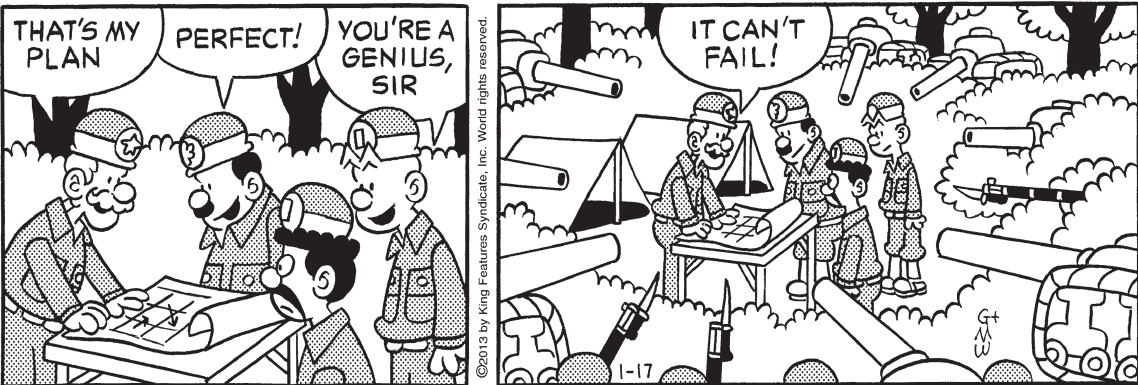


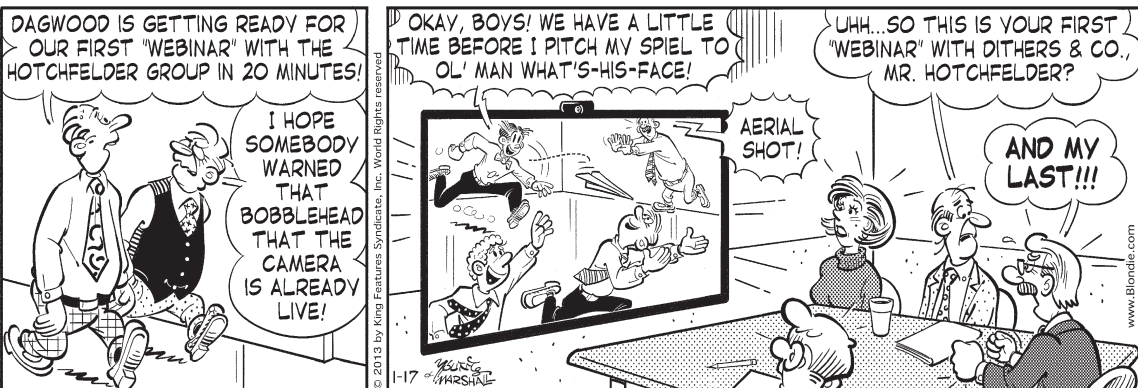
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



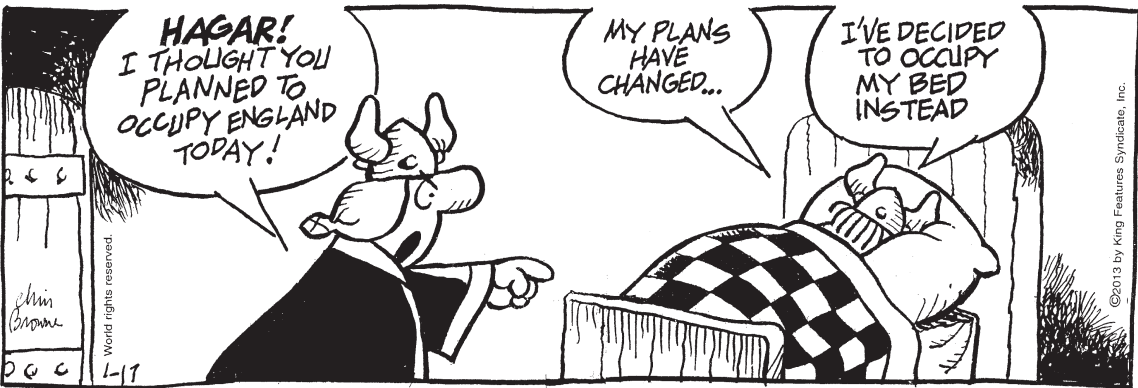
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



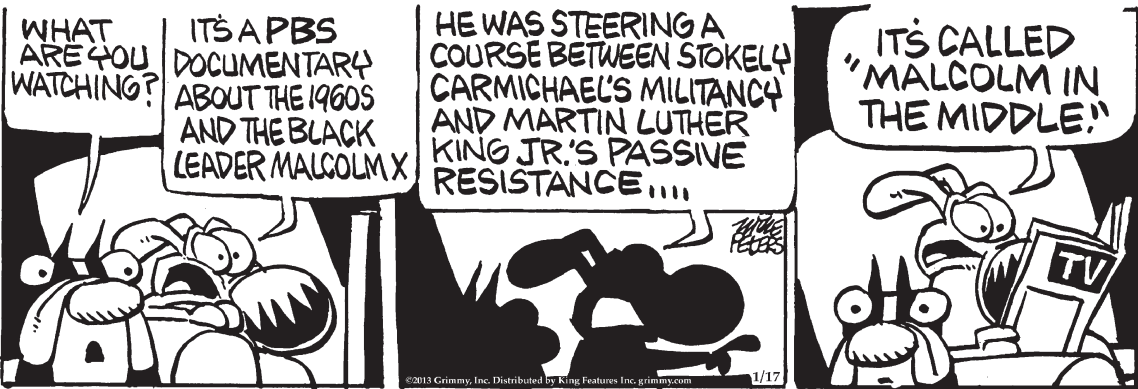
Blondie • Chic Young



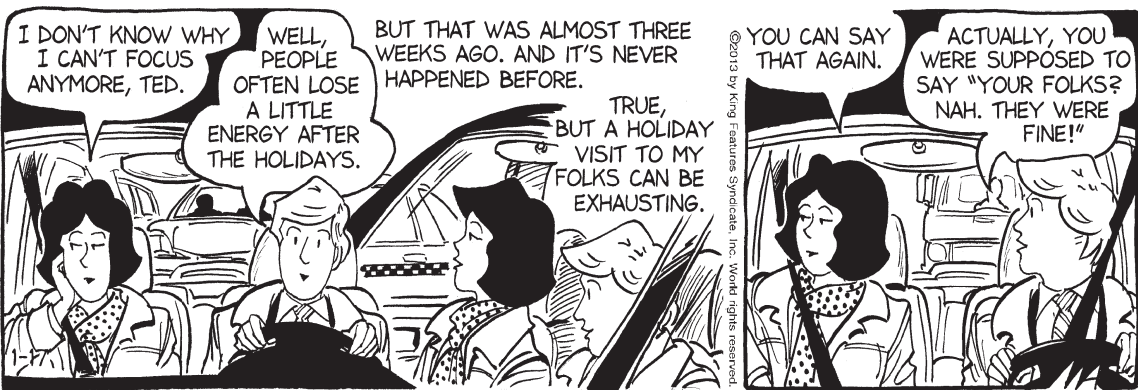
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



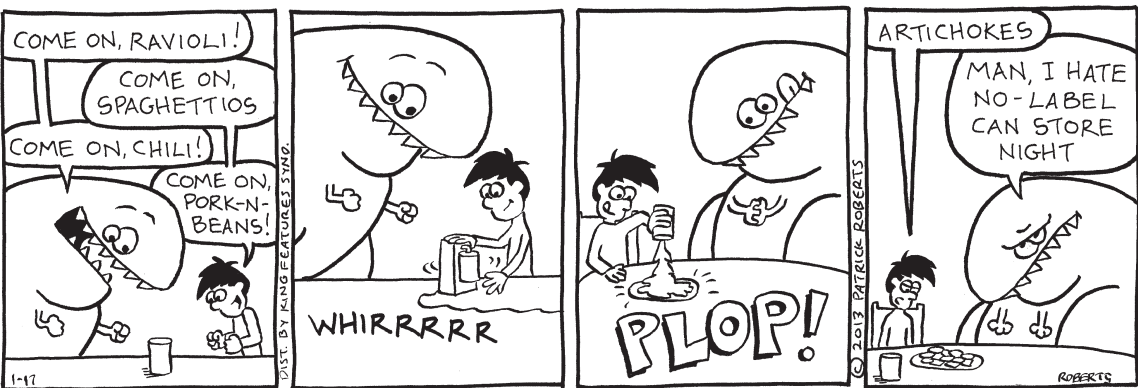
Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



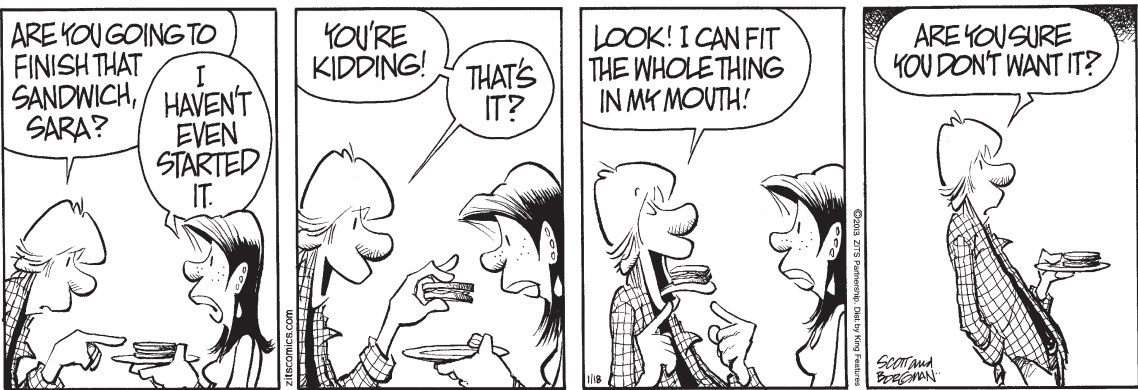
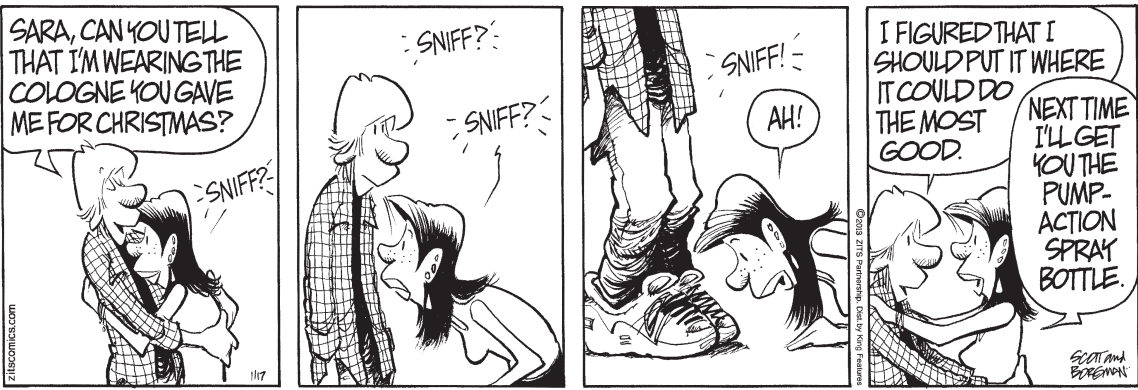
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Terry Kovel

• Antiques and Collecting

Pottery set dates from 1945-1961

Q: I own a Puss 'n Boots cookie jar, creamer and salt and pepper shaker set that belonged to my mother. What is the value of the set?

A: Your Puss 'n Boots pieces were made by Shawnee Pottery, which was in business in Zanesville, Ohio, from 1937 to 1961. It made cookie jars, dinnerware, flowerpots, lamps, planters, vases and novelty ware. Puss 'n Boots pieces were made beginning in 1945. A set like yours sold at auction in 2011 for \$115.

Q: I have three pairs of men's underwear with a neck label that reads "Babe Ruth" in red. They are in a box printed with the word "Sealpax" on the top and also "Step Thru-Button Two" and "A new one free - if this one rips." The boxed underwear came from my dad's family's general store a long time ago. Are they of any value?

A: Sealpax was a trade name registered by the Rubin-Meltzer Corp. of New York in 1915. The company made underwear, robes and pajamas. We found 1926-1930 newspaper ads for Sealpax's Babe Ruth underwear.

Babe Ruth set a record for the most home runs in a season in 1927 and was one of the first five players inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1936. He was one of the era's most popular sports figures and his name was used to promote many different products.

Sealpax's slogan, "Step Thru-Button Two," was used on union suits, a type of one-piece long underwear. Ruth's name also was used to advertise other underwear brands. A box of Babe Ruth underwear sold for more than \$500 a couple of years ago.

Q: My late mother-in-law lived in Ponca City, Okla., and was present the day the large statue, "Pioneer Woman," was unveiled in 1930. The statue depicts a pioneer woman and her young son. My mother-in-law bought a small copy of the statue that day, and we have inherited it.

I recently saw a picture of two small "Pioneer Woman" statues and discovered they are actually bookends. I was told the little statue might be worth a lot of money, but finding out it is a bookend dashed those thoughts. The statue is 8 1/2 inches tall and is marked "BB" behind the boy's foot and "JB" on the back. Can you tell me what it's worth?

A: When Ponca City decided to erect a statue to honor pioneer women, several sculptors were invited to submit small models, which were exhibited nationwide and voted on by the public. The statue chosen was designed by Bryant Baker. The 17-foot bronze statue was unveiled April 22, 1930. Jennings Brothers Foundry of Bridgeport, Conn., made pot-metal replicas of the statue and marked them with Baker's signature, although Baker hadn't given permission. The small statues made by Jennings Brothers originally sold for \$15.95. Value of your statue or single bookend is very little. A pair might sell for \$100. A single is worth less than half as much.

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Bridge • Steve Becker

South dealer.
East-West vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ 5 2
♥ K 9 8 2
♦ Q 9 6 4 3
♣ 8 4

WEST
♠ A 4 3
♥ 6 4
♦ A K 7 5
♣ Q J 7 2

EAST
♠ Q J 10 9 8
♥ 5
♦ 10 8 2
♣ K 10 5 3

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

The bidding:
South West North East
1♥ Dble 2♥ 2♠
4♥
Opening lead — six of hearts.

The Correct Discard

When you realize that half your life at the bridge table is spent defending against opposing contracts, it becomes obvious that unless you and your partner defend reasonably well, you will have very little chance of winning.

In most deals, top-notch defense depends much more on partnership cooperation than on individual effort. Each defender should therefore do everything possible to steer his partner in the right direction.

For example, let's say you hold the East hand and South reaches four hearts as shown. Declarer wins your partner's trump lead with the ten and returns a low trump to dummy's eight. What should you discard at trick two?

This might appear to be an insignificant decision to make, but actually you could cost your side the contract if you make the wrong discard. Let's say you discard either the eight or nine of spades, or the deuce of diamonds or five of clubs.

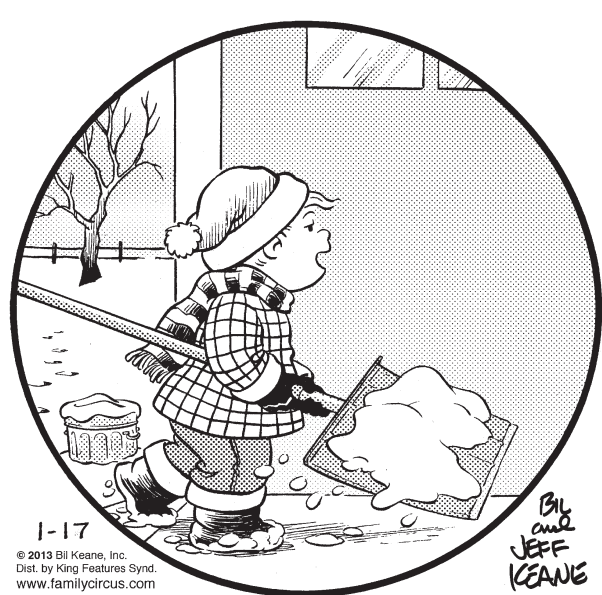
In that case, after declarer led a low diamond to his jack, your partner would win but would have a tough time trying to figure out what to play next. He might conclude that his best return was the ace of spades, which would hand South the contract.

The correct discard at trick two is the queen of spades! This tells West that you have a spade sequence headed by the Q-J-10 while denying that you have the king. (If you had the K-Q-J, you'd signal with the king, not the queen.)

As a consequence of this discard, your partner — knowing that South has the king of spades — would exit with a club at trick four, and declarer would eventually go down one, losing a diamond, a club and two spades.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★ 1/17

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

Difficulty Level ★★★ 1/16

Cryptoquip

OCIS SF ZKEGRCWU WFLU

ZKZZBUW CS EFGV-TFSSFL

ZEBGUW? RUCY FI YFOI

SF SRU TCEVBI' TCWULUIS.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: SUPPOSING A FORMER U.S. PRESIDENT HAD SEVERAL FEMALE FOXES, HE MIGHT NAME THEM NIXON'S VIXENS.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: F equals O

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 Chances, for short
 - 4 TV watch-dog org.
 - 7 Obliterate
 - 12 Shell game need
 - 13 Under the weather
 - 14 Started eating
 - 15 Take a whack at
 - 16 Scrabble or Parcheesi
 - 18 "Monty Python" opener
 - 19 Wander off
 - 20 Hack
 - 22 Pilgrimage to Mecca
 - 23 Prayer ending
 - 27 Rhyming tribute
 - 29 Burning
 - 31 Magician's cry
 - 34 Cow catcher
 - 35 Triangular home
 - 37 Total
- DOWN**
- 38 Constellation component
 - 39 Eccentric
 - 41 Unctuous
 - 45 Twine fiber
 - 47 Payable
 - 48 Indiana university
 - 52 Literary collection
 - 53 "Drops of Jupiter" band
 - 54 "Golly!"
 - 55 Owens
 - 56 Villain in a Christmas tale
 - 57 Halves of 25-Down
 - 58 Scrap
- 25 Type squares**
- 26 Ultra-modernist
 - 28 Weir
 - 30 Swine or bird —
 - 31 Anatomical duct
 - 32 Frequently
 - 33 Glass of NPR
 - 36 Oklahoma city
 - 37 Pistol counter-part
 - 40 Grammarian's concern
 - 42 Coeur d'Alene's home
 - 43 Moon-related
 - 44 You'll get a rise out of it
 - 45 Fax
 - 46 Degres
 - 48 To the — degree
 - 49 Raw rock
 - 50 Pitch
 - 51 "Flying Down to —"

Solution time: 25 mins.

LAV	SASS	ERRS
ELI	KITH	GAIT
VISC	CERAL	ONLY
CAT	REPTILE	
BRONCO	PER	
YOU	HUB	GIVEN
TANG	TEA	PIPE
ENTER	ELF	SEW
	OIL	LADIES
TABLOID	JOT	
BRIO	VISIT	GOIT
AGOG	EMIT	ROE
ROSY	SERA	SPY

Yesterday's answer 1-18

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	