

Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



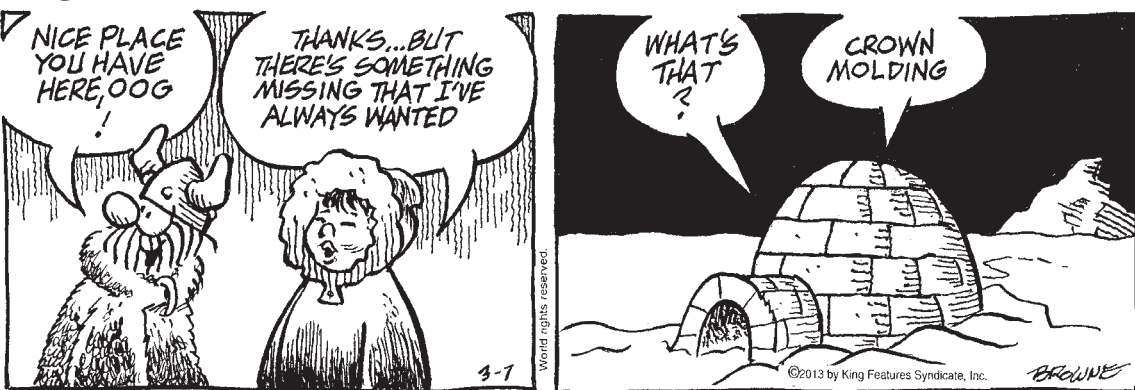
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



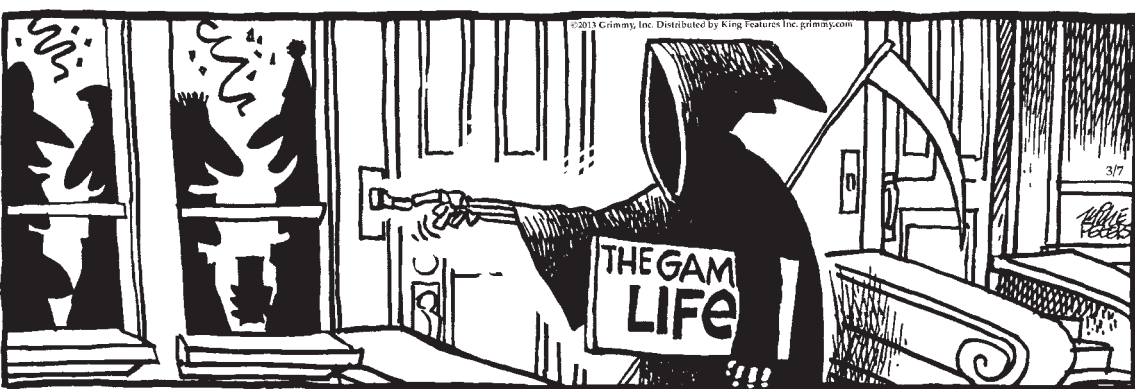
Blondie • Chic Young



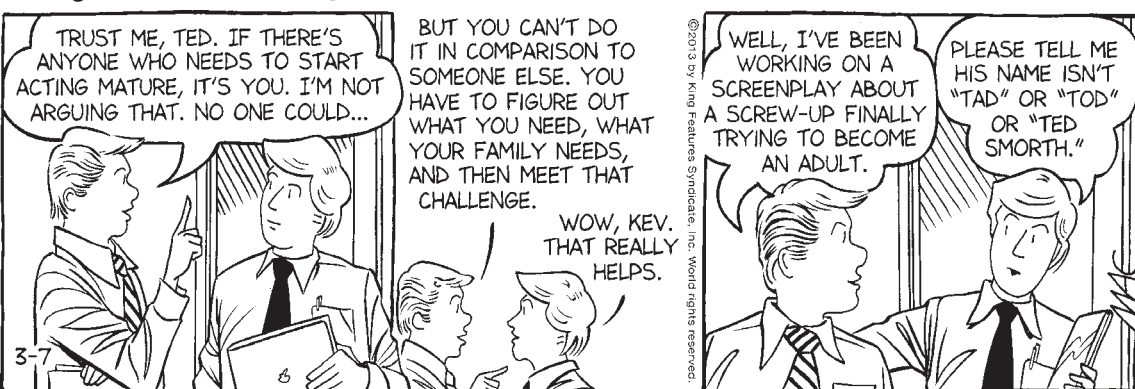
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



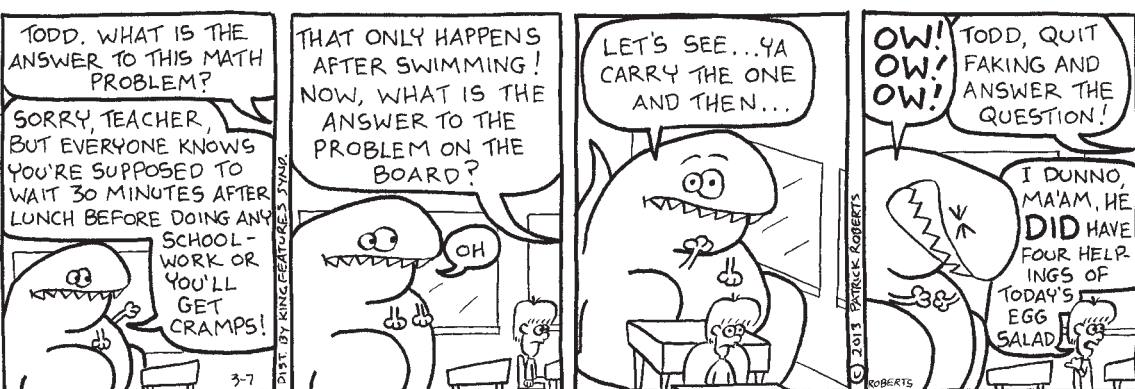
Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



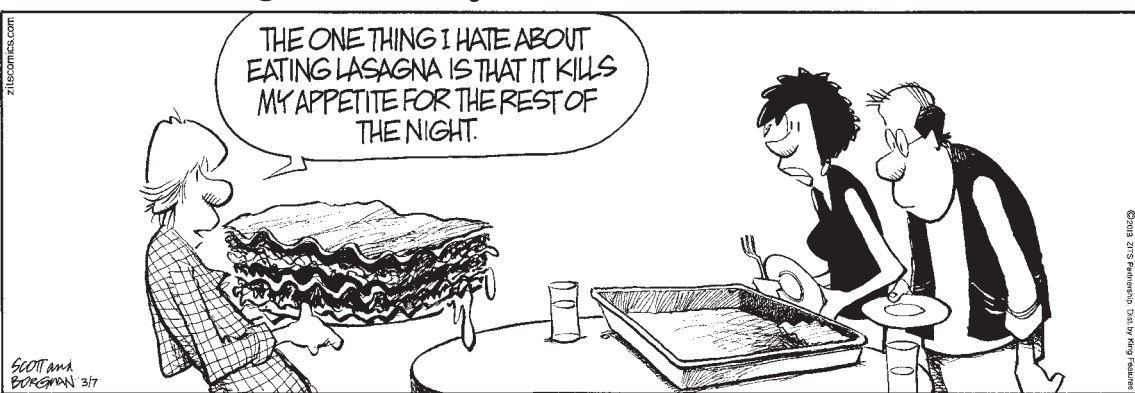
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Terry Kovel

• Antiques and Collecting

Toy riding horse made steerable

Q: I recently acquired a Mobo pressed-metal child's riding horse. The label on the front reads "It steers!" and "Sebel Products Ltd., New York." It's in good condition, with little paint loss. Can you tell me when it was made and its approximate value?

A: D. Sebel & Co. was founded in East London in 1921 and made various metal products. It made metal furniture and toys beginning in the 1940s. The Mobo Bronco riding toy, the company's best-known toy, was made from 1947 to 1972. When the rider pushed on the stirrups, the horse moved forward. The mechanism was patented in 1942, but production didn't begin until 1947. Several models were made.

"Magic Steering" was added in 1950. The horse could be made to turn by pushing on one stirrup. The company opened a factory in Erith, Kent, England, in 1947 and a subsidiary in New York City in 1948. A Mobo horse probably would sell at auction for \$100 to \$325. The better the condition, the higher the price.

Q: Does old sheet music have any value? We have some that was published between 1880 and the 1940s. We're trying to raise money for a local charity, and thought we could frame some of the more colorful ones and see if they would sell. We don't know what to charge for them. Can you tell us?

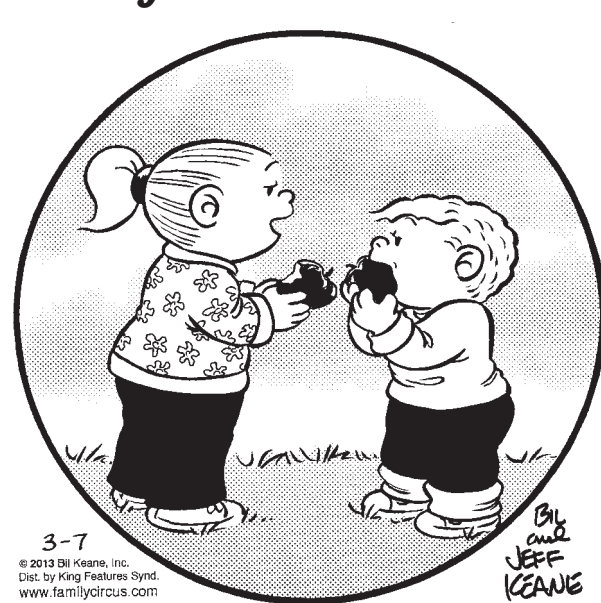
A: A piece of sheet music published in the 20th century usually sells for about \$5. Earlier sheet music may sell for more, especially if the cover is interesting, colorful or appeals to collectors. Most collectors want sheet music that's complete, untrimmed, unframed and in good condition. Start at \$5 to \$30 for unframed examples. Ask more if they're very unusual.

Q: I have a John F. Kennedy "friendship spoon." One side of the handle is marked with "1961." The other side just has "19," because the last two numbers of the year are missing. I saw one online that had all four numbers on each side. Why would two numbers be missing? What is the value of this spoon?

A: Wm. Rogers Manufacturing Co. made souvenir spoons honoring the 1962 flight of Friendship 7 in both silver plate and gold plate. Piloted by astronaut John Glenn, it was the first manned orbital flight launched by the United States. In 1961, President Kennedy announced the goal of landing a man on the moon by the end of the decade. Seven astronauts were chosen, and a tradition of letting the astronauts choose the name of their space capsules began with the first flight. John Glenn's children chose the name "Friendship," and the number "7" was added in honor of the original group of astronauts. Most of the Rogers spoons found online have "1961" and "1963" underneath a bust of President Kennedy, and obviously were made after he was assassinated in 1963, but we found one pictured that had only the number "19" on the right side of his bust. It was listed as being made in 1962. Value: about \$10.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



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Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★ 3/07

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.

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

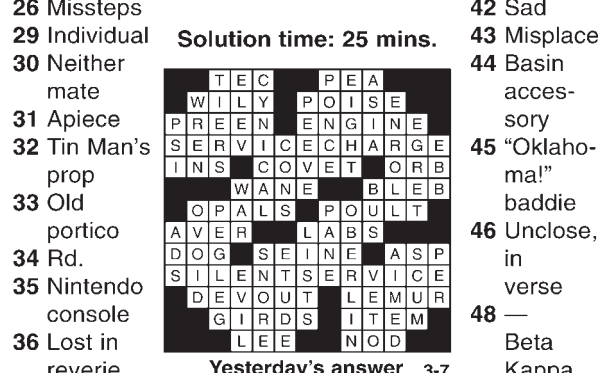
Cryptoquip

QRODA QCA'Q NELJY YL BRSA
ERPYC, R GNX NUUPLNDC
YCA BLNY NOI PAGNPV

"XLJ'SA BLYYN EA VRIROB!"
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: SOME FOLKS THINK THAT LEGENDARY SINGER TORME IS LIKABLE, BUT I HONESTLY FIND MEL ODIUS.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Q equals S

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

- | | | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| ACROSS | 37 Visa | DOWN | 24 Middy |
| 1 Departed | rival | 1 Praise | 25 Small wagon |
| 5 Id | 40 Retain | 2 Lip | 26 Line of fashion? |
| counter-part | 41 Handy | 3 Autumn | 27 Volcanic outflow |
| 8 Unclear | 45 Rivers | 4 Win | 28 Emulate Johnny Weir |
| view | or | 5 Pole | 32 Logan or LAX |
| 12 Hebrew | 47 Make | 6 Republi-cans | 33 Fizzy drink |
| month | a | 7 X-rated | 35 Teensy |
| 13 High-arc | choice | 8 — buddy (close pal) | 36 "— Doubt-fire" |
| shot | 49 Oxen's onus | 9 Investi-gate | 38 Barber-shop quartet member |
| 14 Leak | 50 Doing | 10 Subma-chine | 39 Cars |
| slowly | 51 Pi | 11 Kin (Abbr.) | 42 Sad |
| 15 Wrinkly | 52 English | 12 Petrol | 43 Misplace |
| fruit | river | 13 Raw rock | 44 Basin accessory |
| 16 Biden, Cheney, etc. | 53 Ante-lope's play-mate | 14 "— the season ..." | 45 "Okla-homa!" baddie |
| 17 Earth | 54 "— the season ..." | 15 Equal | 46 Unclose, in verse |
| 18 Flood | 55 Equal | | 48 — Beta Kappa |
| 20 Diner | | | |
| employee | | | |
| 22 Brains of the operation | | | |



Bridge • Steve Becker

South dealer. North-South vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ 10 6 3
♥ 6 4
♦ A K Q 7 4 2
♣ 7 3

WEST
♠ K 8 2
♥ 10 9 7
♦ J 9 8 3
♣ K 10 5

EAST
♠ J 9 7 5
♥ 5 2
♦ 10
♣ J 9 8 6 4 2

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

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

*strong, artificial
Opening lead — ten of hearts.

Keep Your Eye on the Goal

Let's say you're playing rubber bridge and you find yourself in a vulnerable six-heart contract. If you make the slam, you'll score 700 points for winning the rubber, 750 for slam and 180 for the tricks — 1,630 points in all. Conversely, if you go down one, you'll lose 100 points. The total difference between making the slam and going down one is, therefore, 1,730 points.

Now let's suppose you have a chance for an overtrick, which would give you an additional 30 points. In view of what's at stake, this is obviously a mere drop in the bucket.

All this is said by way of introduction to today's sad tale, where South bid aggressively to reach a sound six-heart contract but then failed to make it.

Declarer won West's opening trump lead and drew the outstanding trumps in three rounds. He next cashed the A-K of diamonds, receiving a jolt when East showed out on the second round. After cashing the queen and discarding a spade, he stewed for a while, not knowing which black-suit finesse to take. As it happened, he couldn't guess right, and he eventually lost a trick to each of West's kings to finish down one.

South's line of play was geared more toward making an overtrick than ensuring his contract. Since he could afford to lose a trick, he should have taken out insurance against a 4-1 diamond division.

The proper play is to lead a diamond at trick four and let the opponents win it! It is then a simple matter to win any return and run the rest of the diamonds to make the slam.

It is true that in adopting this approach, South might lose a diamond trick he didn't have to lose. But considering what's at stake, he should be willing to give away 30 points to score 1,630.

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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			