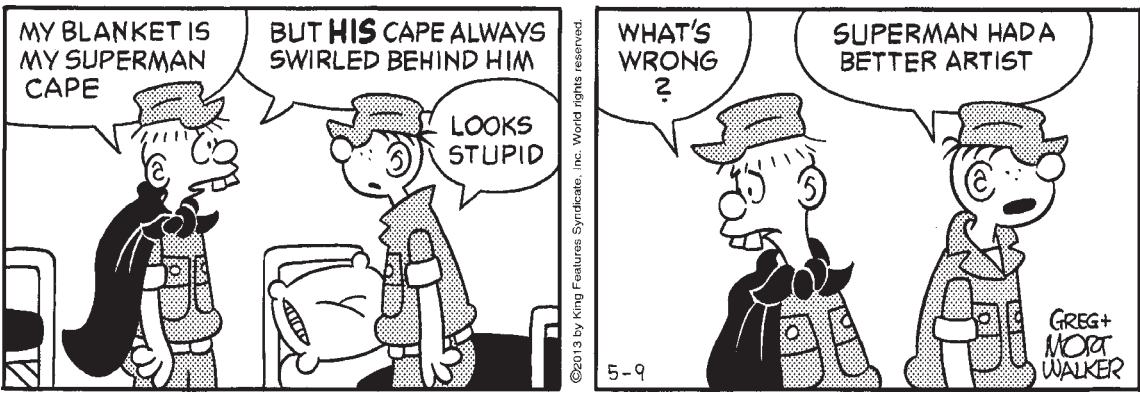


Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



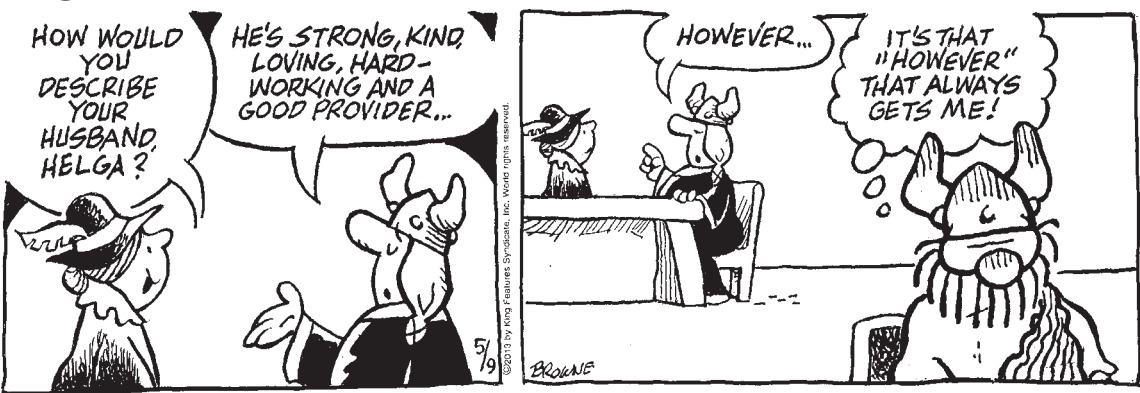
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



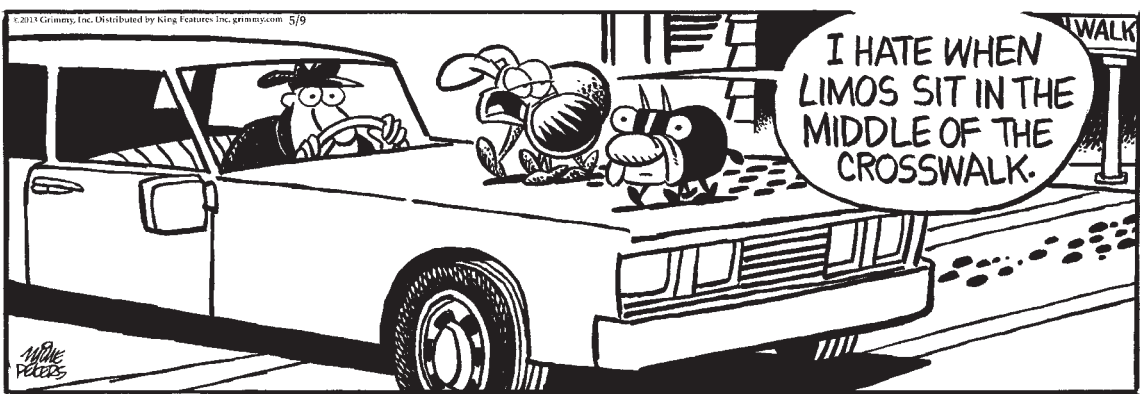
Blondie • Chic Young



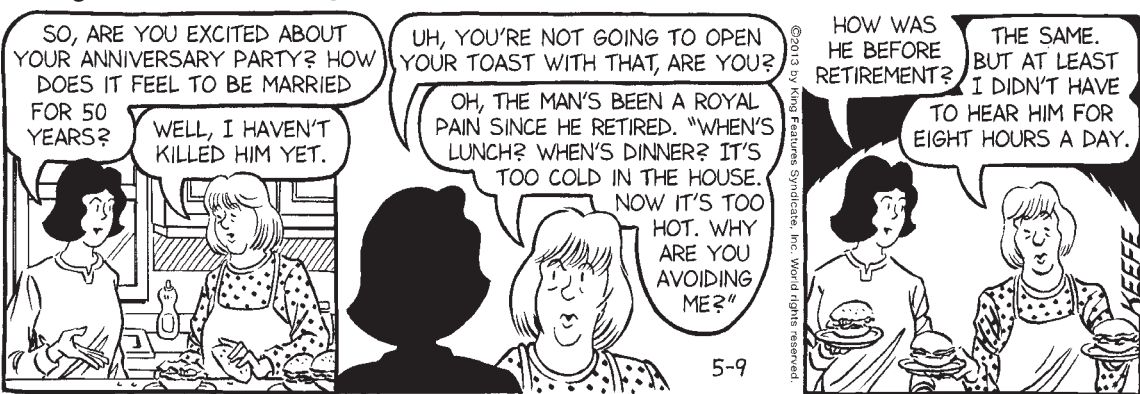
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



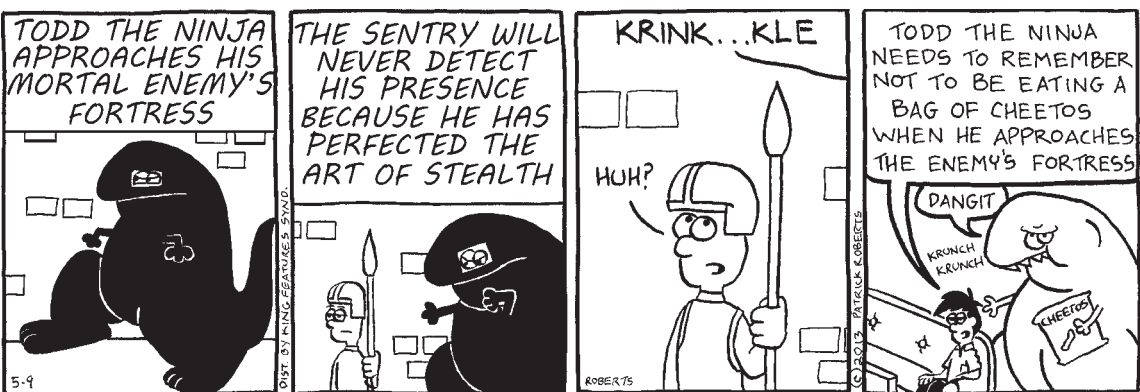
Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



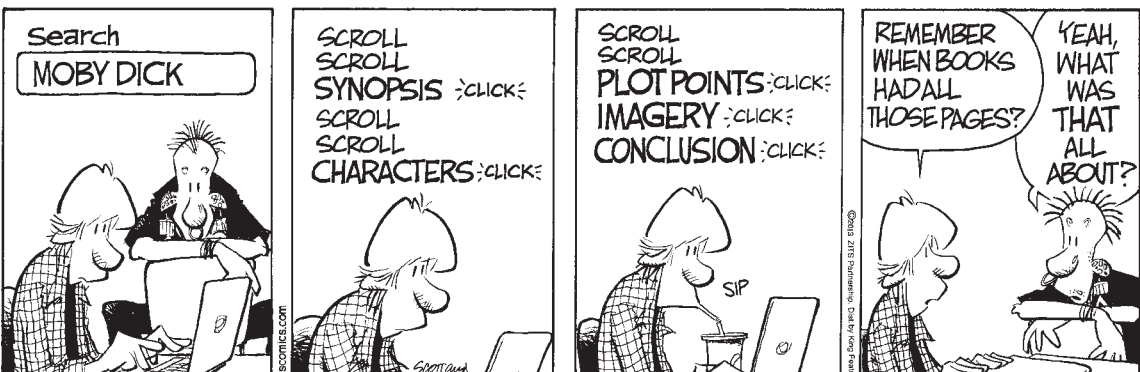
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Terry Kovel
• Antiques and Collecting



Ad giveaway's old, not valuable

Q: I have a 12-inch folding ruler that advertises International Harvester Co. of America. It's made of cream-colored celluloid and has two calendars on the back, one for 1906 and the other for 1907. The front ad reads, "Make it a Rule to bale your hay with I.H.C. Hay Presses." Does it have any value?
A: International Harvester Co., headquartered in Chicago, was in business from 1902 to 1985. Advertising with giveaways like rulers, mirrors, calendars, paperweights and other small items has been popular since the late 1800s. Your ruler would appeal to collectors of advertising or of celluloid, an early plastic. But rulers like yours don't sell for a lot of money. We have seen them offered for \$10 to \$25.

Q: My antique railroad lantern is marked "Thompson's Pat. April 27, 1869" on the back. It's marked "Pacific" on the front. What's it worth?
A: Railroad lanterns are favorites of collectors of "railroadiana" (railroad antiques and collectibles). Nathan Thompson of Brooklyn, N.Y., received a patent for his "lantern improvement" in 1869. His lantern was produced for years and was purchased by different railroad companies. The Pacific Railroad, chartered by Missouri in 1849, was reorganized in 1872 as the Missouri Pacific Railway. So it's likely your lantern was manufactured in the early 1870s. A Thompson Patent lantern like yours auctioned last fall for \$143.

Q: I have an old 4-inch-diameter glass ashtray surrounded by a 7-inch-diameter rubber tire. Both sides of the tire are embossed "U.S. Royal" and "U.S. Heavy Duty Six." Was this an advertising item? What is its value?
A: Your ashtray was indeed an advertising item. Ashtrays like it were made from the 1930s into the '60s to advertise about every American tire manufacturer. If yours is in great shape, an advertising collector might pay about \$40 for it.

Q: I have a vase stamped "Made in German Democratic Republic." It's also stamped "J.L. Menau" and, underneath it, "Kenneberg-Torzellan." Can you tell me who made this vase?
A: Your vase was made by a porcelain factory in Ilmenau, Thuringia, Germany. Although the name of the town looks like "JLMENAU" on some marks, it is actually "Ilmenau," and what looks like "Kenneberg-Torzellan" actually is "Henneberg-Porzellan." The factory was founded in Ilmenau in 1777 and was operated under various names and owners. It became Ilmenauer Porzellanfabrik Graf von Henneberg in 1930. The company was nationalized when Ilmenau became part of the Germany Democratic Republic (East Germany) after World War II. It operated as V.E.B. Henneberg Porzellan Ilmenau from 1949 until 1990. Your vase was made during this period. The company went bankrupt in 2002, and the assets were bought by an investor, who changed the company's name to Neue Porzellanfabrik Ilmenau. The maker is not well-known, so your vase is worth about \$30.

Tip: Put a small rug or dropcloth under a piece of furniture to move it. Pull the rug to slide the furniture across the room. This protects the furniture and floor. But don't try this on a high-pile carpet.

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Bridge • Steve Becker

South dealer, North-South vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ 10 8
♥ A 10 9 3
♦ A 7 4
♣ K 9 6 2

WEST
♠ Q 9 7 5 4 3 2
♥ 7 2
♦ J 10 9
♣ 4

EAST
♠ J
♥ 6 4
♦ K Q 8 5 3 2
♣ J 10 7 5

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

The bidding:
1 South Pass 3 North Pass
4 South Pass 4 North Pass
7 South Pass 5 North Pass

Opening lead jack of diamonds.

Cards Always Tell a Story

Declarer cannot see the opponents' cards when play begins, but he can frequently force them to reveal how their cards are divided, enabling him to achieve the optimum result.

Here is a typical example. West leads a diamond against seven hearts, and South's only real concern is that one opponent might have four (or five) clubs. All his thoughts are therefore focused on protecting against this possibility.

In order to collect all the information he can, South wins the diamond with the ace, ruffs a diamond, cashes the K-Q of hearts and A-K of spades, ruffs a spade and then ruffs a diamond.

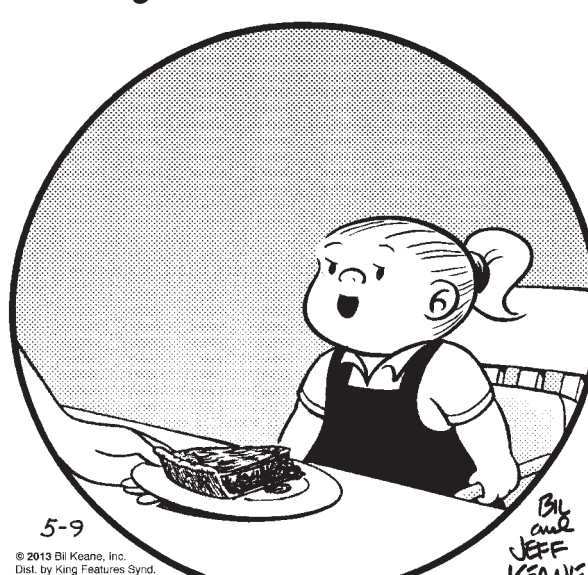
As a result of these machinations, declarer now knows everything he needs to know to make the contract. Since West started with seven spades (East showed out on the second spade lead), two hearts and has followed to three rounds of diamonds, he cannot have more than one club.

So South leads a club to the king, and when West follows suit, he becomes marked with a 7-2-3-1 distribution. When South then returns a club from dummy and East follows low, South finesesses the eight with 100 percent assurance that it will win the trick.

Observe that it would not help East to play the ten on the club lead from dummy. Declarer would win with the queen, cross to dummy with a trump and then lead another club, trapping East's J-7 with the A-8. East is helpless from the outset as long as South does his homework and forces the defenders to reveal their distribution.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



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Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

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.

Cryptoquip

Y P A M D D F E A M E E A B Q N N S
Q M T P ' E S F B S B P N Y R A , E A B
W M X D B P E B X J P W A M X R B
J T T Y B S M X B T E M J P J P R N X S B X .
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN GUYS OUT ON SPACEWALKS ARE DONE LACING UP THEIR SHOES, DO YOU THINK THEY TIE ASTRO-KNOTS?
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: E equals T

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 Tummy muscles, for short
 - 4 Slapstick arsenal
 - 8 Scallopini meat
 - 12 Press for payment
 - 13 Ireland
 - 14 Not working
 - 15 Classic Anne Murray song
 - 17 Location
 - 18 Charlotte's creation
 - 19 Capitol VIP
 - 21 Pamper
 - 24 Gun the engine
 - 25 Melody
 - 26 Sprite
 - 28 Thin smoky streaks
 - 32 Messy sort
 - 34 Cut the grass
 - 36 Fit of peevishness
 - 37 High-strung
 - 39 Michael Jackson album
 - 41 — budget
 - 42 Affirmative action?
 - 44 About to fall asleep
 - 46 Old-style hairpiece
 - 50 Curved line
 - 51 Neighbor of Cambodia
 - 52 Increase rapidly
 - 56 Scandinavian city
 - 57 Sagan or Sandburg
 - 58 Shooter ammo
 - 59 Adolescent
 - 60 Has bills
 - 61 Dr. Ruth's subject

- DOWN**
- 1 Billboards
 - 2 Chignon
 - 3 White-flowered amaryllis
 - 4 Little rock
 - 5 Square of root of IX
 - 6 Blunders
 - 7 Passover feast
 - 8 Compared to
 - 9 Tired texts
 - 10 Choir member
 - 11 Ogle
 - 16 Marry
 - 20 Fresh
 - 21 Money
 - 22 Unctuous
 - 23 Shade provider
 - 27 Watch chain
 - 29 Mountain peak
 - 30 Bowlers targets
 - 31 Remain
 - 33 Blessing
 - 35 Bankroll
 - 38 Ply oars
 - 40 Talks
 - 43 Dixie-style
 - 43 Mirror-ball
 - 45 Sphere for a whodunit
 - 47 Relaxation
 - 48 Portrayal
 - 49 Chew like a chip-munk
 - 53 Trampcar contents
 - 54 Shelter
 - 55 Remiss

Solution time: 25 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 5-9

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12							13			
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	