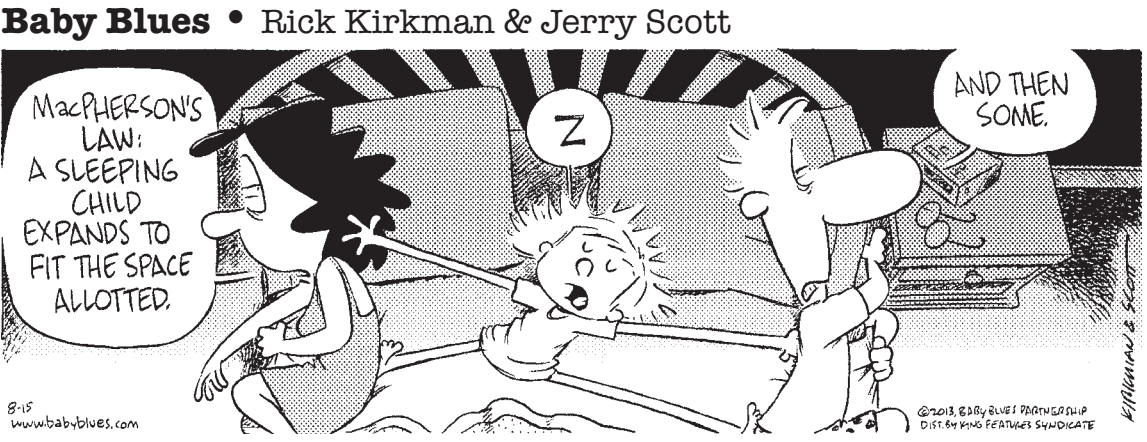
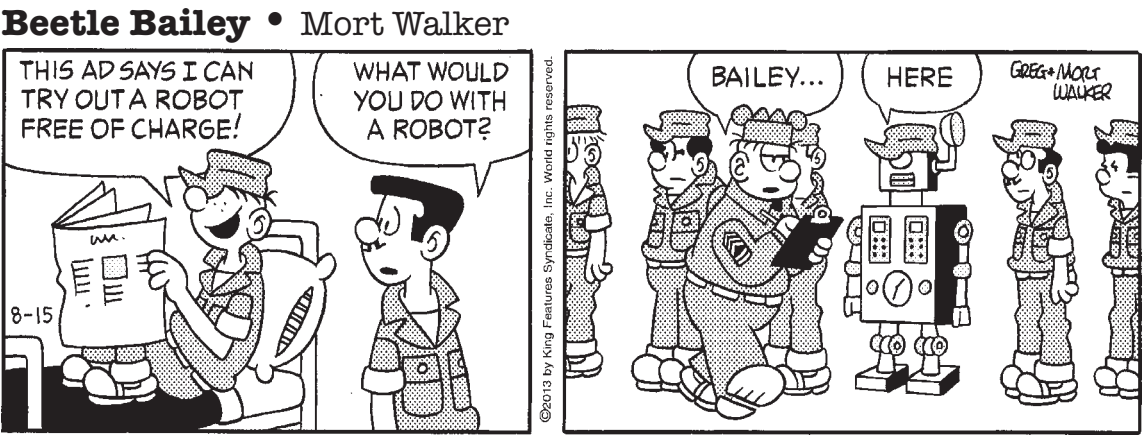
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott

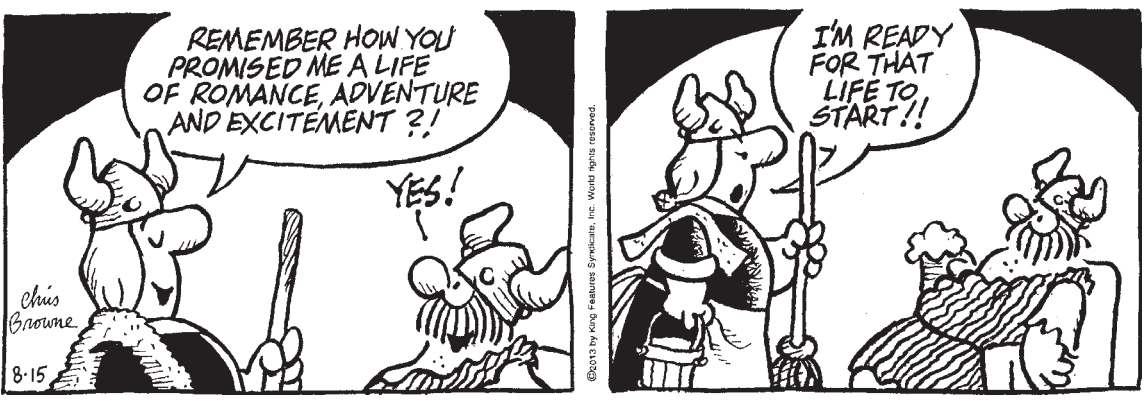


Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



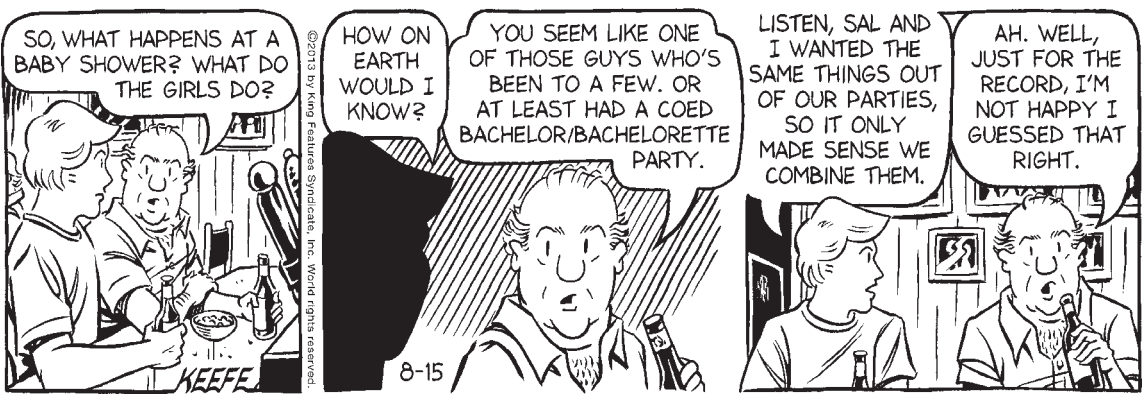
Blondie • Chic Young

Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



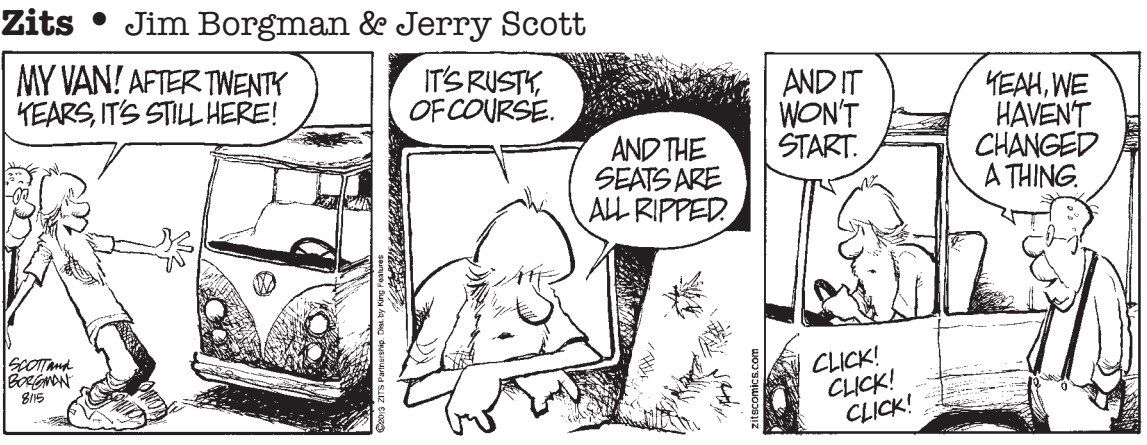
Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters

Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts

Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Terry Kovel

• Antiques and Collecting

Swiss clock has two faces

Q: A relative left me a Swiss-made "Twin Dial Alarm Clock." It has a clock face on both sides and still runs. The box it's in says the maker is Semca. Please tell me something about it and what it's worth.

A: Semca Clock Co. was based in Germany, but it had an office in New York City. It made a lot of styles of clocks and wristwatches, including a few double-face clocks like yours.

Your clock, from the middle of the 20th century, was designed to sit on a shared night stand between two single beds. Another, larger double-face model was made to sit on a partner's desk. Your clock could sell online for $25 to $50.

Q: My son inherited a cast-iron mechanical bank that has been in the family for several generations. I think it's a "Hoover bank" – a man sitting in an office chair with one hand extended. When you put a coin in his hand, he puts it in his pocket and nods his head. The bank has its original paint and has never been refurbished. We are curious about its value.

A: The design for your son's mechanical bank, known as the "Tammany Bank," was patented by John Hall of Watertown, Mass., in 1873. It also has been known as "Little Fat Man Bank" and "Boss Tweed." Tammany Hall was a New York City political organization, and William "Boss" Tweed was its corrupt leader. He was jailed for embezzlement in 1873. J&E Stevens Co. of Cromwell, Conn., introduced the bank in 1875 and continued making it for about 45 years.

Early versions did not include its name, but later banks were labeled "Tammany Bank" on the chair. Both 1873 and 1875 patent dates can be found on the bank. In most versions, the man is wearing gray pants. A rare version with brown pants sells for the highest price, $500 to $600.

The bank is popular and has been reproduced.

Q: I would like some information about a TV lamp that has been in my family since the 1950s. It's a figural leopard designed by Leland Claes in 1956. If I decided to sell it, what would a fair price be?

A: Figural TV lamps were popular for a decade, the 1950s. Many thought watching TV without indirect lighting could harm their eyes. Leland Claes (1916-2000) of Turlock, Calif., designed TV lamps shaped like cats or dogs. The majority were made by William H. Hirsch Manufacturing Co. of Los Angeles. The lamp sat on a TV and shed light through the animal's eyes or open back. Most sell for under $100, but yours is extremely rare and could bring 10 times that if it's in perfect condition.

Terry Kovel answers as many questions as possible through the column. Write to Kovels, (*Colby Free Press*), King Features Syndicate, 300 W. 57th St., New York, NY 10019.

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Bridge • Steve Becker

South dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ A 10 9 8 6 4 3
♥ 6 3
♦ Q J 6
♣ 4

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

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

SOUTH
♠ 5
♥ A 4
♦ A K 10 9 7 4
♣ K 9 8 3

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1 ♦	2 ♦ *	Dble	Pass
Pass	2 ♥	2 ♠	3 ♥
4 ♦	4 ♥	4 ♠	Pass
5 ♦	Dble		

* strong takeout

Opening lead — king of hearts.

Careful Play Saves the Day

How should declarer play this hand in five diamonds doubled? Of course, he cannot see the East-West cards; his only real clues lie in the bidding and the opening lead.

A great deal of information is available from the bidding. First, declarer should assume that West has no diamonds for his two-diamond bid and subsequent strong bidding. For the same reason, West should also be credited with virtually every missing high card, since his direct cuebid showed a powerful hand.

So while it is true that South cannot actually see the defenders' hands, he can nevertheless approximate their holdings, and all he has to do is to try to take advantage of this knowledge.

Declarer's first key move is to duck the king of hearts! This is an important part of the overall plan of play. Let's say West leads another heart. South wins and leads the king of clubs! This play is likewise crucial to declarer's plan.

West takes the ace and can do no better than lead the king of spades. Declarer wins with the ace and trumps a spade. From then on, he has clear sailing. South trumps his 9-8-3 of clubs in dummy, re-entering his hand each time by ruffing a spade, and so finishes with 11 tricks. The early heart duck and the seemingly extravagant play of the club king at trick two pave the way for a successful crossruff.

Observe that if South takes the king of hearts with the ace at trick one, he can be defeated. West can sooner or later put East on lead with a heart to return a trump and ruin the crossruff. Similarly, if declarer leads a club lower than the king at trick three, West can win and gum up the works with a trump return. Two hurdles, carefully surmounted by South, get him home safely.

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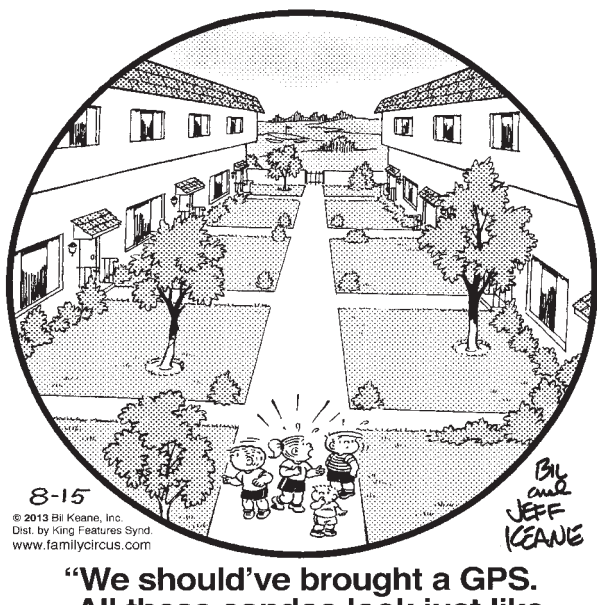
Family Circus • Bil Keane



"We should've brought a GPS. All these condos look just like Grandma and Granddad's!"

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★ 8/15

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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.

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

Difficulty Level ★★★ 8/14

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Cryptoquip

XSLX BLTG RIMPGM BIIPDZQ JXGR MGLKKU BLZ'X RLDX XI TDZDJS. SG'J LKRLUJ RLXBSDZQ XSG BMIBP.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF YOU WERE PLACED IN A BOXING RING WITH HOLYFIELD, I EXPECT YOU WOULD BE AN EVANDER EVADER.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: X equals T

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Doctrines
5 Sexy skirt feature
9 Chest protector?
12 Paper holder
13 Vow
14 Berlin's "What'll —?"
15 1912 follower of Teddy Roosevelt
17 Cariou of Broadway
18 Highway divider
19 Pass along
21 Empire St.
22 Wheat bundle
24 Credit card result
27 Tarzan's son
28 Judicial garb
31 Gardner of Hollywood
32 Once around the track
33 Writer Buscaglia
34 Clobber
36 Gorilla
37 Yemeni port
38 Anteroom
40 Alternatively
41 Chain reaction pioneer
43 Wayward
47 Tokyo's old name
48 Quasimodo's place
51 Past
52 Welsh emblem
53 Sported
54 Sleep acronym
55 — out (supplements)
56 Blackthorn fruit

DOWN
1 Cold War weapon, for short
2 Pivot
3 Not too spicy
4 Aid for a broken arm
5 Any time now
6 "7 Faces of Dr. —"
7 "Monty Python" opener
8 Yonder
9 Wallet
10 Notion
11 Skeletal
16 Kentucky Derby time
20 Canal zone?
22 Lathered up
23 Overblown promotion
24 Slight touch
25 Previous night
26 Cotillion site
27 Spill the beans
29 Spelldown
30 A billion years
35 Huck's pal
37 Quiver contents
39 Holy book
40 Scrap
41 Dread
42 Advantage
43 BPOE members
44 MPs' quarry
45 Pianist Peter
46 Genealogy chart
49 "A mouse!"
50 Grant's foe

Solution time: 25 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 8-15

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			