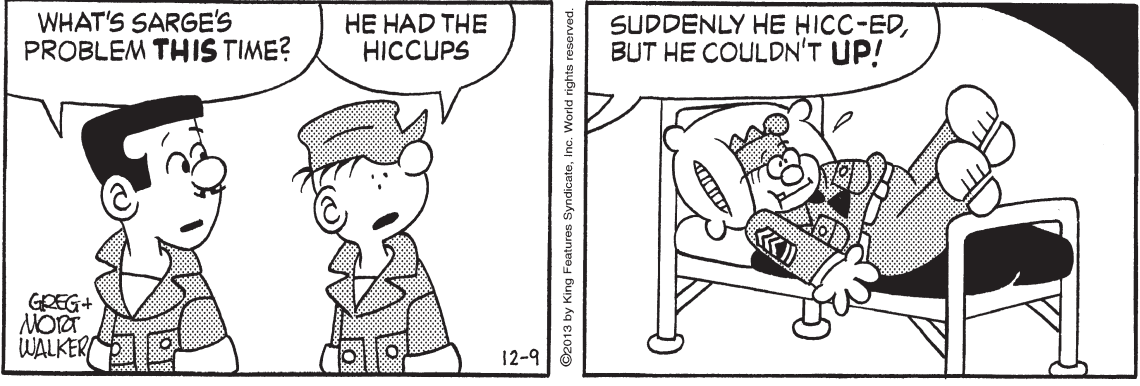


Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young



Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



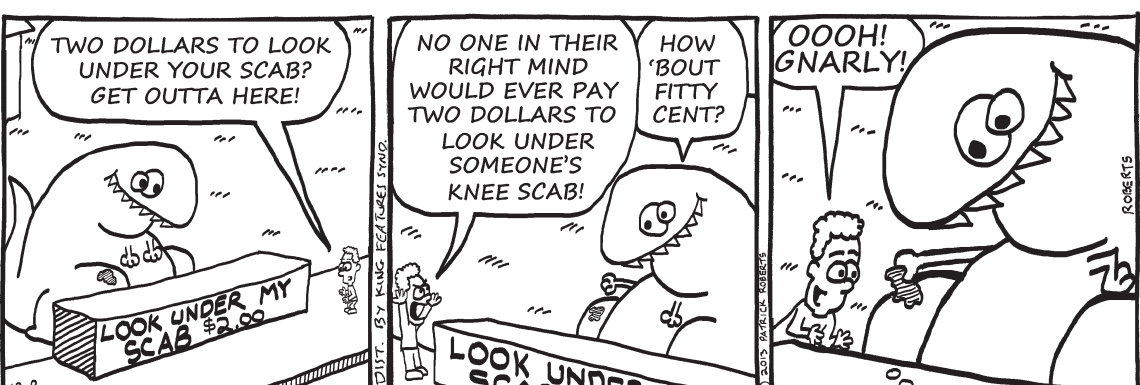
Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



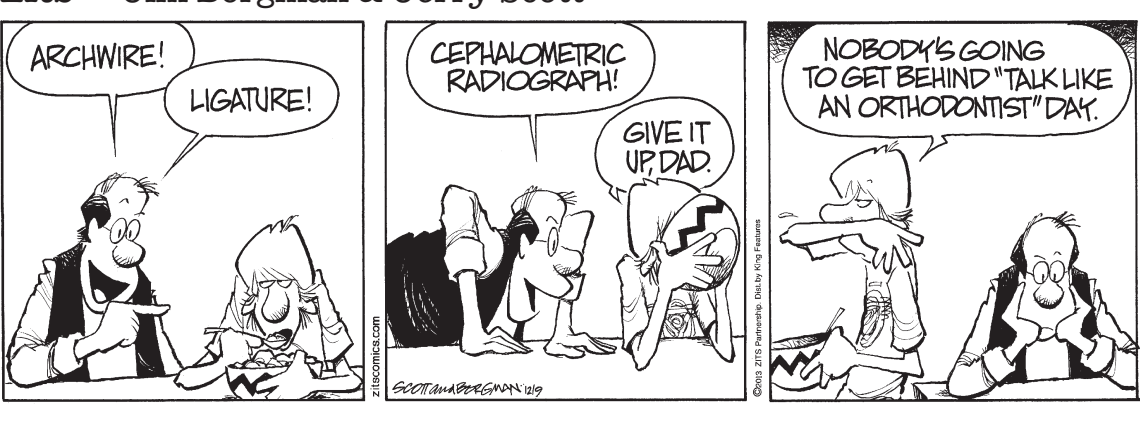
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Terry Kovel
• Antiques and Collecting

Art sidelines offer good value

Artists often create many different kinds of art: paintings, etchings, prints, ceramics, jewelry, furniture, marble sculptures, bronzes and perhaps designs for commercial products.

So it is possible to buy a piece of jewelry by Alexander Calder for far less than one of his large mobiles. Or an electric fan or pedal car designed by Viktor Schreckengost, who is best known for making the ceramic "Jazz Bowl," an icon that has sold for as much as \$200,000.

Works by famous artists can be part of your collection if you buy war bond posters (Norman Rockwell) or advertising figures (Maxfield Parrish) or teapots (Michael Graves).

Lockwood de Forest (1850-1932) was an American artist and decorator who worked in the American Orientalist style, influenced by his travels in India and the Middle East. By 1915, he had moved to California, and his paintings were typical California landscapes. Today collectors are again searching for some of his furniture, jewelry and textiles made after 1879 at the Ahmedabad Wood Carving Co. and later at Tiffany.

De Forest's furniture was modeled after chairs he had seen in Indian palaces. It was hand-crafted of teak, brass and other materials. A pair of 1881 chairs designed by de Forest sold for \$242,500 at Bonhams New York in September. But bidding on the chairs may have gone that high because de Forest used them in his own home — and they were later purchased by William Randolph Hearst, the famous newspaper publisher.

Q: I have some old postcards with colored drawings of the head and shoulders of pretty women wearing big hats or Indian headdresses. The pictures are copyrighted by Schlesinger Bros., New York. What are they worth?

A: The Schlesinger brothers were photographers in business in New York from 1907 until the 1920s. The company published greeting cards as well as postcards. The pictures on your postcards are hand-colored photomechanical reproductions of pencil drawings. They also were produced in a large size, suitable for framing and hanging on the wall. Postcards with pictures like yours sell for about \$10 each.

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Bridge • Steve Becker

South dealer.
North-South vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ 10 9 8 6 5
♥ —
♦ Q 4
♣ A 10 8 7 5 2

WEST
♠ 4
♥ K 9 7 3 2
♦ A J 7 2
♣ Q J 3

EAST
♠ Q J
♥ A J 10 6
♦ 10 9 6 5 3
♣ K 9

SOUTH
♠ A K 7 3 2
♥ Q 8 5 4
♦ K 8
♣ 6 4

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♠ Dble 3 ♠ 4 ♥
Pass Pass 4 ♠ Dble
Opening lead — three of hearts.

Famous Hand
The 2002 Rosenblum Open Teams — emblematic of world bridge supremacy — was won by a veteran Italian squad, which easily defeated an Indonesian team, 160 IMPs to 70, in a 64-deal final. The event drew a total of 160 teams from all over the globe to Montreal that summer.

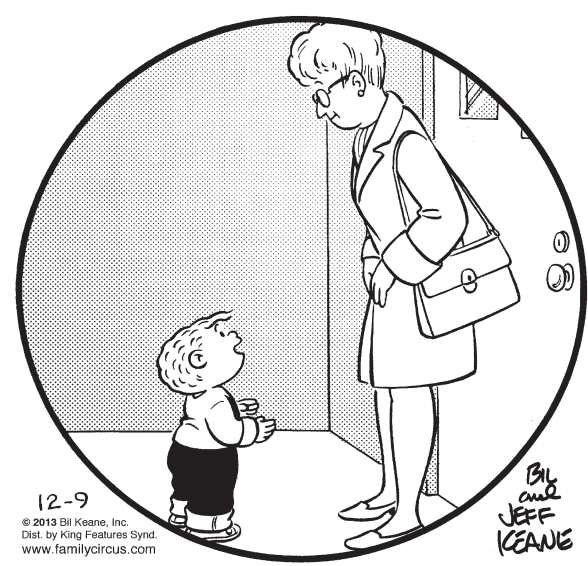
Today's deal occurred in the round of 16, when a second Italian entry of upcoming young stars ousted the former world champion United States squad of Richard Freeman, Bob Hamman, Jeff Meckstroth, Nick Nickell, Eric Rodwell and Paul Soloway. The Americans led by 7 IMPs as the deal — the last of the 64-board match — got under way.

When the Italian pair of Mario D'Avossa and Stelio Di Bello held the North-South cards, the bidding went as shown. D'Avossa's initial raise to three spades — on a hand with which most players would bid four immediately — had the effect of trapping Meckstroth and Rodwell into doubling D'Avossa's subsequent four-spade bid. Against this contract, the Americans could collect only a diamond trick and a club trick, so Di Bello finished with a score of plus 990.

At the other table, the Italian East-West pair judged correctly to sacrifice against four spades by bidding five hearts, which was doubled and defeated only one trick — plus 100 for the U.S. The difference of 890 points gave the Italians a 13-IMP pickup on the deal, enough to win the match by 6 IMPs and earn them a place in the quarterfinals.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



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Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★ 12/09

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.

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

Cryptoquip

WFXQKILG'R KZQQR HFUH UIL
DUGJBUWHJILK HZ QZZN QXNL
MILUH DUHFLDUHXWXUGR:
BIUWHXZG BXMJILR.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: THOSE GROUPS OF FURRY WATER MAMMALS WERE PLAYING IN A WHOLLY SILLY WAY. IT WAS OTTER NONSENSE!

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: H equals T

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
1 Zinger
5 Awful
8 Chopped
12 Stench
13 Compass pt.
14 Hodge-podge
15 Dalai —
16 Belie
18 Makes corrections
20 Bit of corn
21 Information
23 Yuletide beverage
24 Woe
28 Anger
31 Historic time
32 Spanish appetizers
34 Afternoon get-together
35 "Dragnet" star Jack
37 Prudently silent
39 Sprite
41 Confucian dynasty
- DOWN**
42 Establish firmly
45 Optimally
49 Mess
51 Two-wheeler
52 Summer-time pest
53 Beer's cousin
54 Huron neighbor
55 Deviates off course
56 Cushion
57 Tear
11 Year-end refrain
17 Corral
19 Pub
22 Jellied dish
24 Morning moisture
25 Anger
26 Carpenter tool
27 Strutted ostentatiously
29 "Goshi!"
30 Chow down
33 Highlander
36 Swells up
38 Kind of stamp
40 In favor of
42 Nervous
43 1492 vessel
44 Snare
46 Ireland
47 Epidermis
48 Prepared to drive
50 — carte

Saturday's answer 12-9

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12				13			14				
15				16			17				
18				19			20				
				21			22				
24	25	26				27		28	29	30	
31				32			33		34		
35				36			37		38		
				39			40				
42	43			44			45		46	47	48
49				50				51			
52				53				54			
55				56				57			