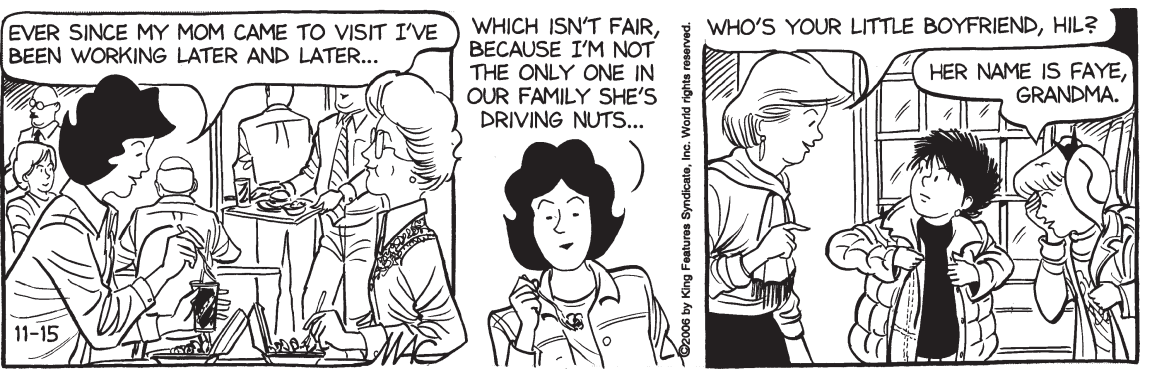
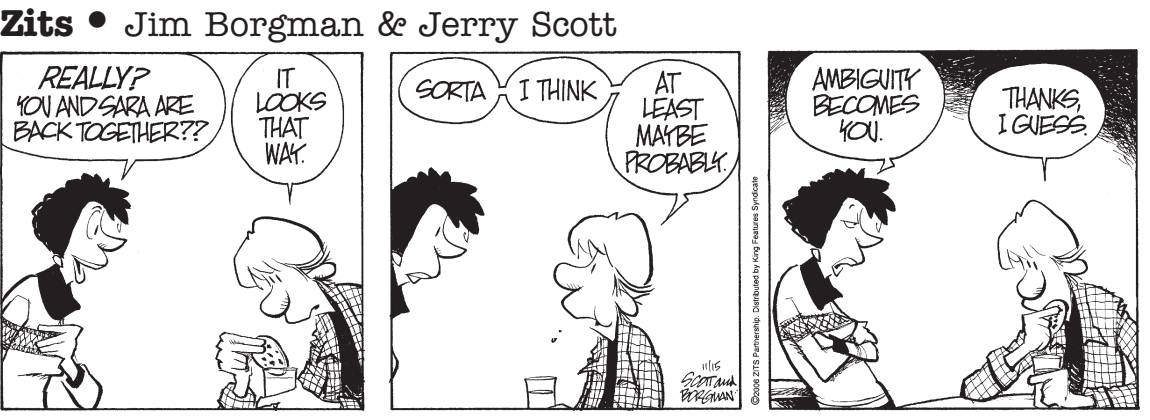
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



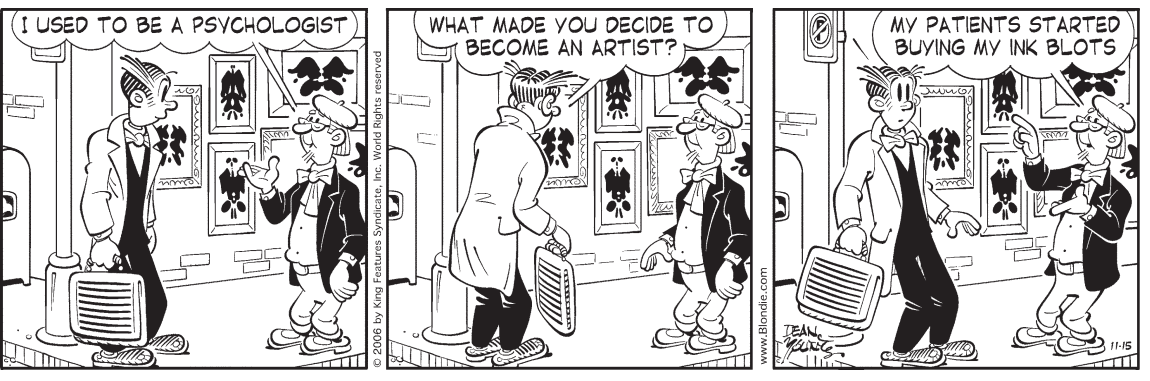
Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott

Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott

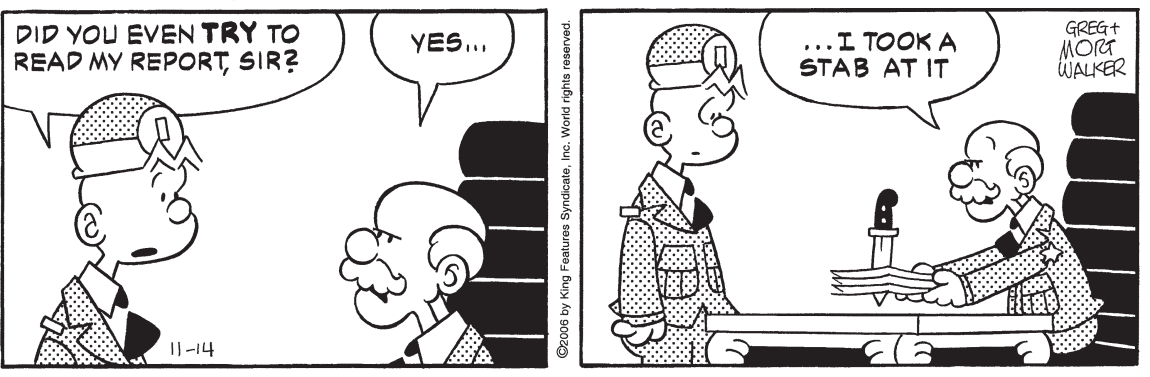


Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne

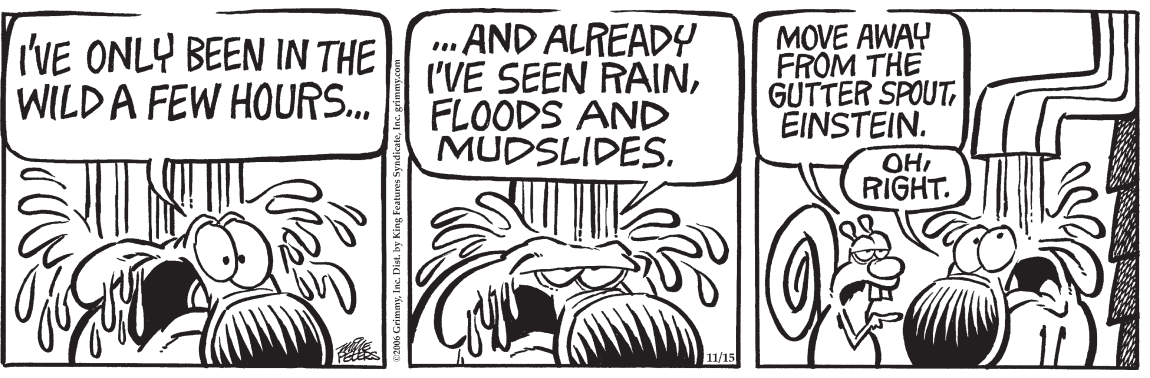
Blondie • Chic Young



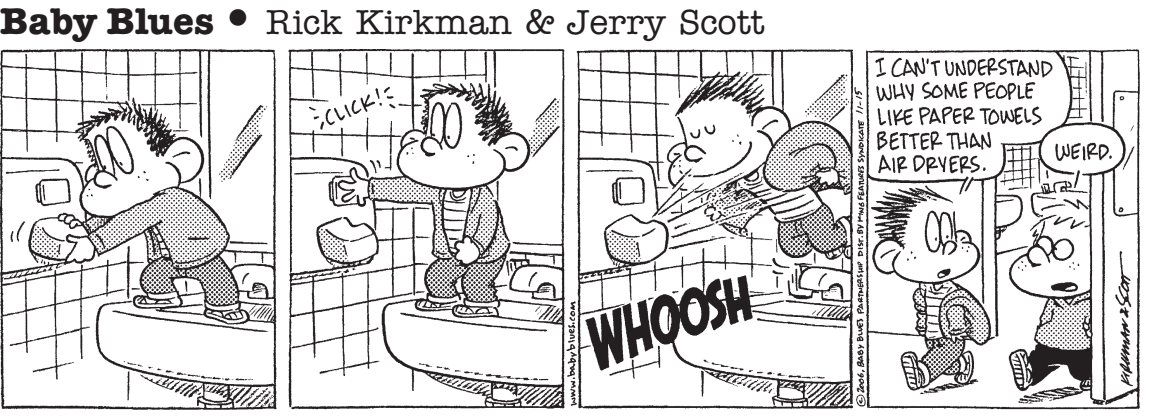
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



Cryptoquip

JLFV QLEMIT F TEW XSLY WEZ SIHL KSL AIGG KE EJUZY TE JKVL F IZFQL? XOUKL UY IY EGM LAWRKUIY OZYLFOQ LZ EMWLV VE GIYAZIAL, U'M NIGG KSIK OMII VLZ OMW EU KV. KSL NERKUN YLOHL.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF A COUPLE OF TINY ARACHNID PARASITES WERE TO SPEAK, WOULD YOU CALL THAT TICK TALK?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: J equals W

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHAT SHOULD A DOG OWNER DO WITH A LEASH? PERHAPS HE OUGHT TO PULL THE PUG ON IT.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: K equals T

Crossword

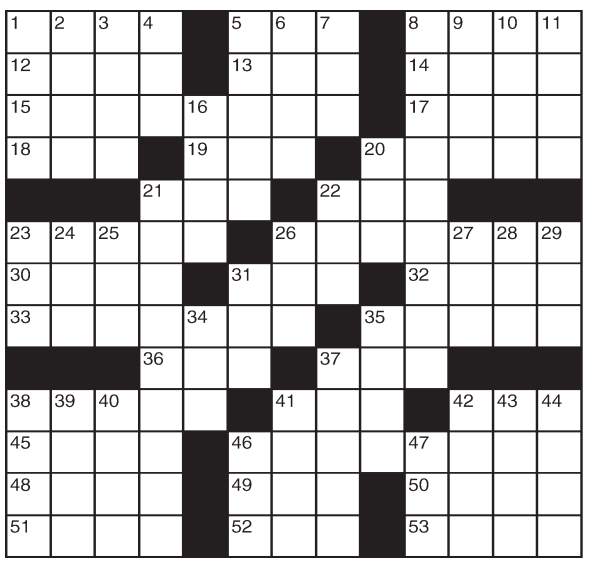
ACROSS
1 Cogitosum link
5 Male sib
8 Tropical island
12 Emblem on Canada's flag
13 Listener
14 Grandscale tale
15 Photos of hunky guys
17 Existence, to Antony
18 The Musketeers wanted this ...
19 ... for this
20 Place
21 Tarzan's son
22 Jongg preceder
23 Fencing equipment
26 Witty reply
30 Unembellished
31 Upper limit
32 Conceited
33 Capistrano flier
35 Worked for the ILGWU
36 Menagerie
37 Midmorning
38 Threaded nail
41 Puncturing tool
42 Enjoy the slopes
45 Moby's pursuer
46 Straight paths
48 Diner's card
49 Beluga product
50 Hamiltonburr event
51 Mop
52 Additionally
53 Look leeringly

DOWN
1 "... ere I saw —"
2 Stagger
3 Highlander
4 Vacationing
5 Cecil's pal
6 Croupier's prop
7 Tramcar contents
8 Schroeder's idol
9 Church section
10 Bart and Maggie's sister
11 On the rocks
16 Doves' remarks
20 Fool
21 The devil
22 Blend
23 Midsummer trio?
24 Worshippers' bench
25 Historic time
26 Uncooked
27 Got a glimpse of
28 Cravat
29 Remnant
31 Barnyard noise
34 Depressed
35 Hawk
37 Tammany Hall boss
38 Snead and Spade
39 Masticate
40 Frog genus
41 Many millennia
42 Cuddled up cozy
43 Main part of a ship's structure
44 Gilligan's home
46 Underwear with underwire
47 Bachelor's last utterance

Solution time: 21 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 11-14



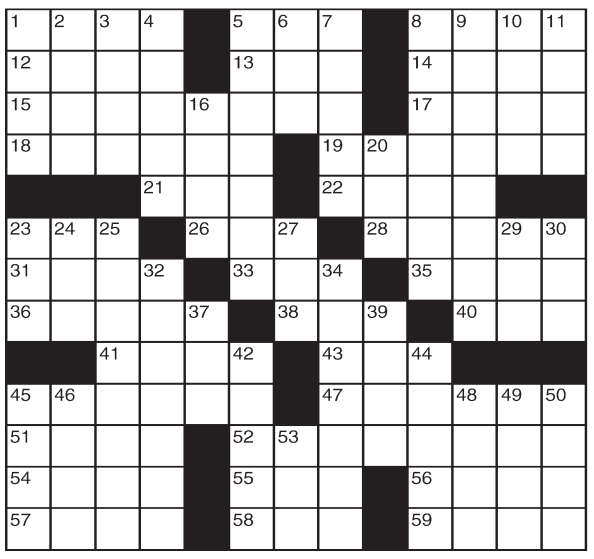
ACROSS
1 Somewhere out there
5 Bush league?
8 Towel designation
12 Lawrence Berra's nickname
13 Kanga's kid
14 Watermelon shape
15 Blackmailer's doing
17 Nibble
18 Damascene, e.g.
19 Tripped the light fantastic
21 Sister
22 Coin aperture
23 Ram's mate
26 Ess follower
28 Tolerate
31 Tab
33 Lair
35 Turn, in a sense
36 Censorship sound
38 Long. crosser
40 Born
41 Twine
43 Droop
45 Shackle
47 Enrobe
51 Met melody
52 Pilot's escape method
54 A-line designer
55 Trinity member
56 See to
57 Fax
58 Solidify
59 Clumsy craft

DOWN
1 Favorable votes
2 Sly
3 Culture medium
4 Castorbean poison
5 Smiled like the Cheshire cat
6 Tic-tac-toe win
7 Fishing sites
8 Rubs elbows
9 Tenant's dread
10 Assessment
11 Coaster
16 Lacking slack
20 Carte lead-in
23 Undergo recession
24 Actor Wheaton
25 November event
27 Conger, for one
29 Payable
30 Before
32 Ballet-class wear
34 Coming into existence
37 Opposite of "post-"
39 Body powder
42 Complete a salad
44 Must, slangily
45 Crazes
46 Canal zone
48 Wedding-cake feature
49 Gridlock noise
50 Tackles' teammates
53 Montana or Namath

Solution time: 21 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 11-15



Family Circus • Bill Keane

"Is this YOU? Gee, Grandma, what happened?"

"Parents' Night is not a sale, Billy. We don't put prices on our drawings."

Bridge

East dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ A Q 10
♥ 7 4 3
♦ K 10 8 5 2
♣ K 9

WEST
♠ J 9 7 6 3
♥ K 8 2
♦ Q
♣ 10 7 6 4

EAST
♠ 4 2
♥ J 10 9 6 5
♦ A J
♣ 8 5 3 2

SOUTH
♠ K 8 5
♥ A Q
♦ 9 7 6 4 3
♣ A Q J

The bidding:

East	South	West	North
Pass	1 NT	Pass	3 NT

Opening lead — six of spades.

A Stitch in Time Saves Nine

There are many deals where declarer tries to shape his play so that a particular defender cannot gain the lead at a critical time. For ex ample, take this case where West leads a spade against three notrump.

When the deal occurred, South won the spade with the king and, since he couldn't make nine tricks without attacking diamonds, next led a diamond toward dummy. West's queen was covered by the king and ace, whereupon East re turned the jack of hearts.

Declarer was now a dead duck regardless of what he did. In practice, he finessed the queen, losing to West's king, and won the next heart with the ace. A diamond was then conceded to the jack, and East cashed three more hearts to score a two-trick set.

South's undoing came at trick two, when he covered West's queen of diamonds with the king. After the queen appeared, South should have re cognized that he could guarantee the contract by playing low from dummy!

If West had the Q-J doubleton, East would have to win the queen with the ace, establishing dummy's remaining diamonds. If West had the A-Q doubleton, the queen would win, but West could not then effectively attack hearts from his side. This would be equally true if West had the A-Q-J.

Finally, if West had the singleton queen, as in the actual case, no harm could come from playing low, but the contract might be lost by playing dummy's king, since this would al low East to take the ace and return a heart before the diamonds were established. Thus, every threat could be defused by withholding the king, rendering the defense helpless. Note that East could not afford to over take the queen with the ace, as this would establish the diamonds.

While it's true that the recommended play would lose a trick if West had the A-Q doubleton, this is of no import. As always, the object is to make the contract, and declarer should take whatever steps are necessary to achieve that goal.

East dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.

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

WEST
♠ A 10
♥ J 7 3
♦ K Q 9 6 2
♣ 10 7 4

EAST
♠ Q 5
♥ Q 9 5
♦ A 8
♣ K Q 9 8 5 2

SOUTH
♠ K 8 7 3 2
♥ 8 4
♦ 10 5 4
♣ A J 6

The bidding:

East	South	West	North
1 ♣	1 ♠	2 ♦	3 ♠
Pass	Pass	Dble	

Opening lead — four of clubs.

Let's Not Get Rambunctious

It might seem that declarer must go down one at three spades doubled, losing three diamonds and two trump tricks. But the fact is that South made the contract, and there was nothing the defenders could do about it after West's club lead.

Declarer took East's queen with the ace, cashed the A-K of hearts and ruffed a heart, establishing dummy's two remaining hearts. He then ruffed a club in dummy and returned the ten of hearts.

It did not matter whether or not East ruffed, because in either case South would score nine tricks. In practice, East ruffed low, South discarded a diamond and East-West later scored two diamonds and the ace of trumps to finish with just four tricks.

Had East discarded a club on the ten of hearts, South would still have discarded a diamond, forcing West to ruff with the ten of spades. Declarer would later finesse against East's queen of spades and again limit himself to four losers to make three spades doubled. West could have justified his doubtful double of three spades with the inspired lead of a low diamond at trick one. Had he made this unusual lead, the defense could have scored three diamond tricks at once and two trump tricks later on to nip the contract by an eyelash.

West's double was a violation of the general principle that you should not double for penalties unless you expect to beat the opposing contract at least two tricks. West had no good reason to expect a two-trick set after his partner opened the bidding but passed at his next opportunity, and he should have subsided peacefully.