

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 today's Sudoku puzzle is right.

5	8	9	4	6	7	2	3	1	
7	6	1	9	2	3	5	8	4	Inc
4	3	2	5	1	8	6	7	9	©2006 Conceptis Puzzles Dist by King Features Syndicate Inc
8	4	3	1	9	2	7	5	6	Same
1	9	7	3	5	6	8	4	2	King E
6	2	5	7	8	4	9	1	3	Diet by
9	5	4	6	7	1	3	2	8	Puzzles
3	7	8	2	4	9	1	6	5	oncentis.
2	1	6	8	3	5	4	9	7	02006
<b>Difficulty Level</b> ★★ ★ 11/30									

11/30

## **Beetle Bailey •** Mort Walker

Sally Forth • Greg Howard

**Zits** • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott

**Blondie •** Chic Young

FLORIST

LET'S HAVE

HAGAR !

Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne

WHAT DO YOU

I'D LIKE TO ORDER A BOUQUET OF FLOWERS, PLEASE

IHAVETHE

WHOLEHOUSE

TO MYSELF

SALLY FORTH'S HOLIDAY CHECKLIST

#4. STREAMLINE THE HOLIDAY

GREETING CARD PROCESS.

SLAM!

I SEALED ALL THE

CARDS INSIDE!

AND I DON'THAVE

TO DO ANYTHING I

DON'T WANT TO DO!

THE CARD SHOULD SAY: "SORRY YOU HAD SUCH A "BAD DAY AT WORK"

FLORIST

I CAN DRINK Y

I STAMPED

ALL THE

**ENVELOPES** 

AND I DIDN'T GET

A CHANCE TO WRITE

ON ANY OF THEM.

NO WONDER THIS **FOOK ONLY 15 MINUTES** 

WHATSHOULD

I NOT DO

FIRST

SEND THEM TO DAGWOOD BUMSTEAD AT THIS ADDRESS.

FLORIST

BUT THEN I HAVE TO GO TO MY AUNT EMWA'S FOR DINNER







**Mother Goose and Grimm •** Mike Peters



**Mother Goose and Grimm •** Mike Peters



Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



**THANK YOU FOR** 

**READING THE** 

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**WEATHER** 

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## Cryptoquip

GTINZF GIAGVNU

EVFF JAWVN EZQ,

BJVRR 0 I J GIJFW

UTZU SU'R SA CJFF RSAB.

TO BE A SPROCKET SCIENTIST.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: R equals S

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: TO BE GOOD AT WORKING WITH TOOTHED WHEELS, IT HELPS

**Bridge** East dealer.

Both sides vulnerable. **NORTH** A K **V** 10 9 2

**♦** 9 6 4 **♣**J9763 WEST **EAST ♠** J 6 **♥** O 8 6 4 **♥** K 7 3 ♦ K Q 10 5 ◆ AJ872 **♣**10 8 5 **♣**A Q 4 SOUTH ♠ Q 10 8 7 5 3 2 ♥AJ5 **♦**3

The bidding: East South West North 1 • 3 ♦ 4 🏚 Opening lead — king of diamonds.

## A Problem of Logistics

Solving an entry problem is often the critical factor in the play of a hand.

Consider this case where the defense starts off with two rounds of diamonds.

South ruffs and would like to take two heart finesses, as well as lead a club toward his king. Since he has only two entries to dummy to attempt these three plays, South has a problem of logistics to solve.

The best way to resolve the problem is to lead a trump to the king at trick three and return a low heart, finessing the jack after East follows low.

West takes the queen and can do no better than return a diamond. South ruffs, crosses to dummy with a trump and leads the ten of hearts, finessing again after East follows low.

This is declarer's second lead from dummy, and when the finesse succeeds, he discontinues hearts and leads a club to the king.

Since East, as expected, has the ace, South accomplishes his mission; his only losers prove to be a heart, a diamond and a club.

Note that if East covers the ten of hearts with the king on the second round of the suit, South is able to return to dummy with a low heart to the nine to make the crucial club lead toward the king.

Note also that if South starts playing the hearts by leading the ten from dummy, instead of the deuce, he later runs into a dead end.

The next time he gets to dummy with a trump, he can lead a heart or a club — but he can't do both. As a result, he finishes down one.

Tomorrow: Test your play. (c)2006 King Features Syndicate Inc.

Family Circus • Bil Keane

"I said I'm worried that the inventor of the leaf blower might be working on something else!"

DOWN

1 Right

weight

Sister of

Pygma-

**20** Sort

22 Blood-

23 Sweet

**29** Oath

30 Dandling

site

31 Sailing

vessel

between

33 Act as a

35 Pendu-

lum's

place

38 Sinbad's

**40** Boy's

dad 43 Group of

45 Spread

46 Nails a

47 Family

48 Picture

**49** Hide

base

member

health?

seeds

hound's

potato 27 Tibetan

## Crossword

**ACROSS** 

Kreskin's

claim

			117		0
4	Morse bit		compan-	2	Ocean
8	Trade		ion?	3	Long-
12	Actress	44	Mortar-		popular
	Thomp-		board		TV game
	son		adorn-		show
13	"When		ment	4	Began to
	you see	46	Urban		develop
	— reach		transport	5	Past
	"	50	Tier	6	Turf
14	— Alto,	51	Atmo-		partner
	Calif.		sphere	7	Many-
15	Arguer's	52	Bit of		headed
	goal		techno-		monster
17	Sandwich		jargon	8	Directed
	treat	56	Summer-		attention
18	Trinity		time pest		to
	member	57	Neigh-	9	Imperfec-
19	Waste		borhood		tion
	(away) bit	58	Disen-	10	Sheltered
	by bit		cumber	11	Indigent

59 Eyelid woe

60 Vanessa's

sister

suturing

Angel' **61** 4-Across star counter-24 Every last crumb 25 Altar Solution time: 25 mins. affirmative Rotation 28 Excitingly fashion able

"Touched

by an

32 Campus home 34 Chart 36 Albacore Command equipment

53 Buddhist 54 Carnival 55 Insecticide, short