

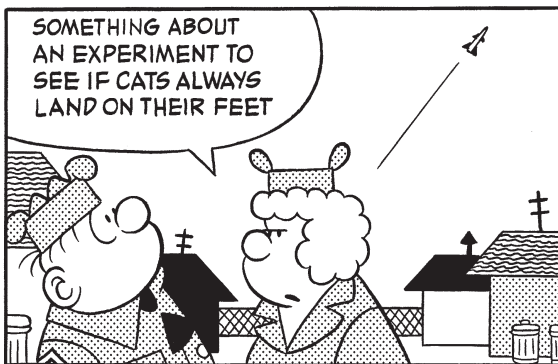
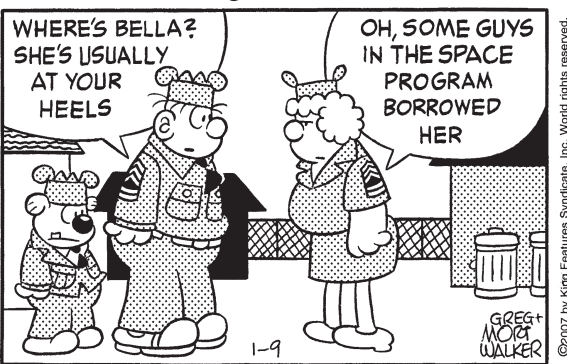
**Sally Forth • Greg Howard**



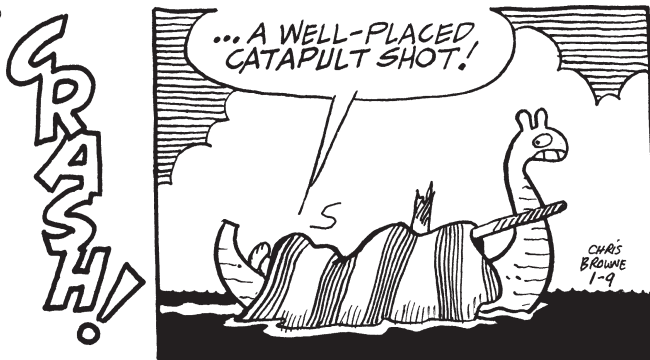
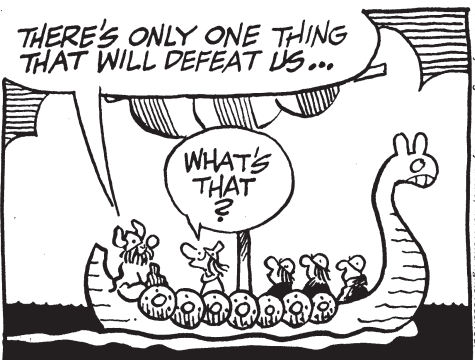
**Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott**



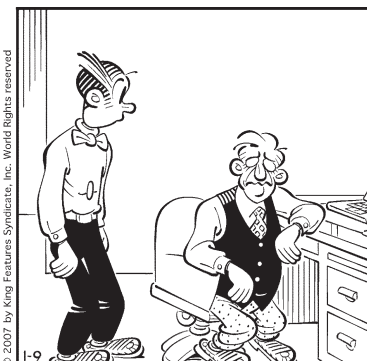
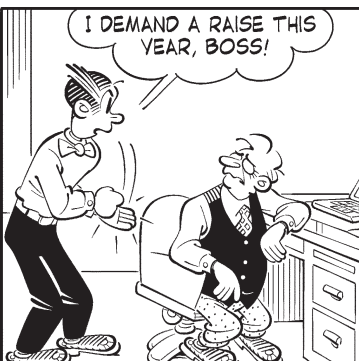
**Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker**



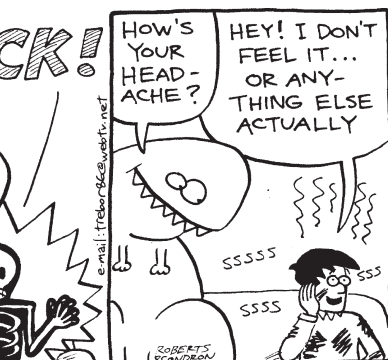
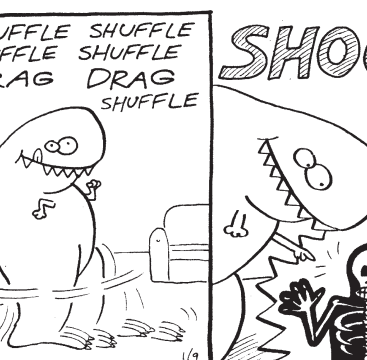
**Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne**



**Blondie • Chic Young**



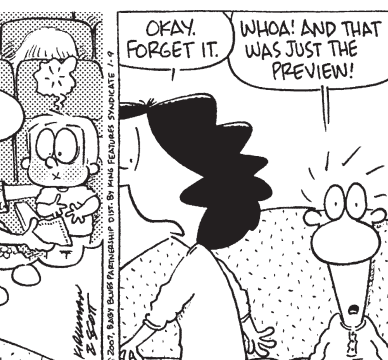
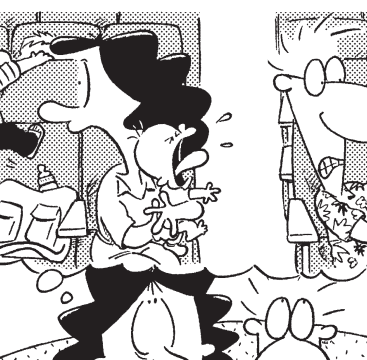
**Tod the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts**



**Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters**



**Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott**



**Cryptoquip**

ZKFR EQYF CURL HEVQ G UWGC "MEV  
 GMPMEUCFE YMOF CKFUP AWKQGIWT VQCU WSMVK  
 ZML URCQ YL GQQJK'E ESUR, MZQGBEM," XZP AZPTC UWX G  
 KF ZME PFMBBL CUISFO. HWU BGIGQB SWGK HWKQGB.  
 Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF SOMEBODY ROUTINELY PUT CASH INTO A BIG COFFEEPOT, I GUESS HIS MONEY WOULD BE WELL-URNED. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: K equals H  
 Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN SOME TINY PARASITES MADE THEIR WAY INTO MY POOCH'S SKIN, HE WAS REALLY TICKED. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: X equals Y

**Crossword**

**ACROSS**  
 1 Venomous  
 5 Speedometer  
 8 "Monopoly" card  
 12 — En-lai  
 13 Savings plan  
 14 River of England  
 15 Elvis hit  
 17 Snatch  
 18 Still  
 19 Peculiar  
 20 Teakettle feature  
 21 Distorted  
 22 Feathery accessory  
 23 Examine ore  
 26 "— on the Roof"  
 30 Carpet style  
 31 Play on words  
 32 Eat in style  
 33 Fizzy drink  
 35 Coasters  
 36 Glutton  
 37 Shock partner  
 38 Insect-eating bird  
 41 Meadow  
 42 Scrooge's cry  
 45 Saharan  
 46 "Much Ado ..." constable  
 48 Fast-food request  
 49 Sapporo sash  
 50 Flaccid  
 51 Unexpected problem  
 52 Funnyman Bill, familiarly  
 53 Come in last  
**DOWN**  
 1 Needing liniment  
 2 Sandal, e.g.  
 3 Look of disappointment  
 4 Baltimore newspaper  
 5 Sailor blouse  
 6 Cattle driver's tool  
 7 Crone  
 8 Simple swimming stroke  
 9 Modern coin  
 10 Jacob's brother  
 11 Credit-card result  
 16 Hunky—  
 20 Turf  
 21 1997 Dustin Hoffman movie  
 22 Crib  
 23 Onager  
 24 That woman  
 25 Actor Mineo  
 26 Bear hair  
 27 Falsehood  
 28 Remnant  
 29 Dos' neighbors  
 31 Cribbage scorer  
 34 Menagerie  
 35 Use a Q-Tip  
 37 Sponsorship  
 38 Cisterns  
 39 Dietary supplement  
 40 Latvia's capital  
 41 Timber wolf  
 42 Vivacity, in music  
 43 Venus' lack  
 44 Advertise forcefully  
 46 Grumpy leader?  
 47 Right angle

**Solution time: 21 mins.**

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

Yesterday's answer 1-9

**Bridge**

South dealer.  
 North-South vulnerable.  
**NORTH**  
 ♠ Q 8 6  
 ♥ Q 9 4  
 ♦ 5  
 ♣ A Q J 7 4 3  
**WEST**  
 ♠ 10 7 2  
 ♥ J 5 3  
 ♦ A 10 7 4 3  
 ♣ 8 2  
**EAST**  
 ♠ J 9 5 3  
 ♥ 10 8 6 2  
 ♦ K 9 2  
 ♣ K 6  
**SOUTH**  
 ♠ A K 4  
 ♥ A K 7  
 ♦ Q J 8 6  
 ♣ 10 9 5

The bidding:  
 South 1 NT  
 West Pass  
 North 3 NT  
 East All Pass  
 Opening lead — four of diamonds.

**Pop Goes the Weasel**

There are plays that are difficult for a declarer to make because they run completely contrary to standard procedure. But bridge being the kind of game it is, there is room for an occasional deviation from the norm — especially when logic indicates that the deviation has everything to gain and nothing to lose.

Take this case where West led the four of diamonds against three notrump, and East won with the king. East returned the diamond nine, covered by declarer with the queen, whereupon West made the eminently correct play of the three.

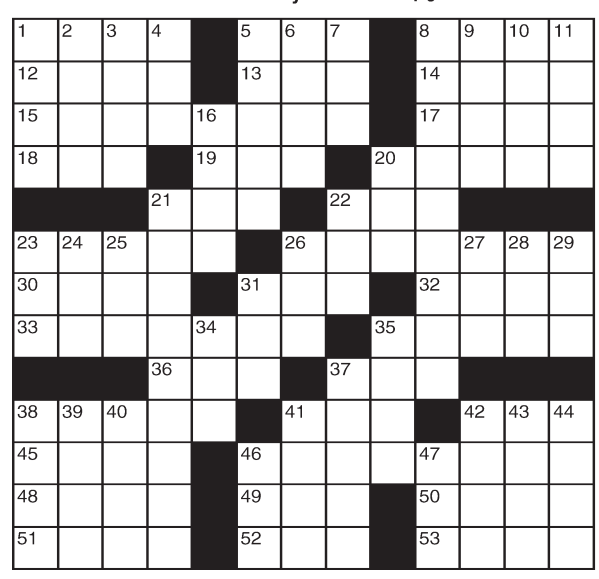
West's only hope was that East would later gain the lead and return a third diamond before declarer could score nine tricks. East's return of the nine indicated he did not have four diamonds originally, as in that case he would have returned his original fourth-best diamond. Declarer's most likely diamond holding, therefore, was Q-J-x-x.

Lacking a ninth trick, South now tried a club finesse. East won with the king and returned a diamond, and the contract went down one.

The excellent defense notwithstanding, declarer did himself in at trick two when he covered East's nine of diamonds with the queen. Instead, he should have played his eight on the nine! This maneuver would have thoroughly discombobulated the defense. Another diamond lead by East would have given the defenders their third trick, and East's king of clubs would subsequently have scored their final trick.

From declarer's viewpoint, the diamond duck at trick two guarantees three notrump regardless of whether West started with four, five or six diamonds. The hard part is to think of it before the queen or jack pops out of declarer's hand.

Contract: Seven Diamonds.  
 North-South vulnerable.

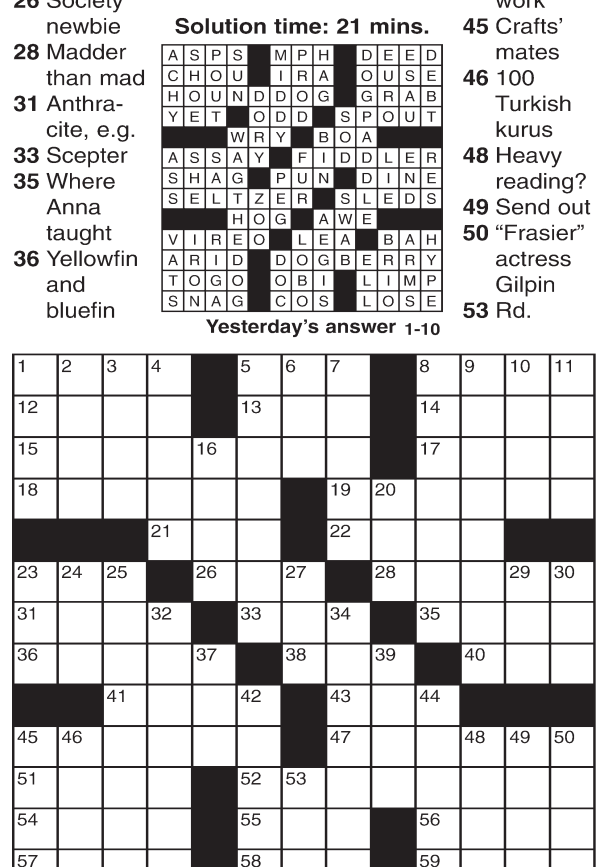


**ACROSS**  
 1 "My Name Is —"  
 5 Urban transport  
 8 Roe provider  
 12 Sculptor's medium  
 13 Tin Man's need  
 14 Possess  
 15 Not factory-produced  
 17 From square one  
 18 Wild parties  
 19 Put on the clothesline  
 21 Pismire  
 22 Layer  
 23 Tray remnant  
 26 Society newbie  
 28 Madder than mad  
 31 Anthracite, e.g.  
 33 Scepter  
 35 Where Anna taught  
 36 Yellowfin and bluefin  
 38 Under-stand  
 40 Bunches of ozs.  
 41 Dick Van —  
 43 Retainer  
 45 Conceding the fact that  
 47 Foot part  
 51 Laugh-a-minute  
 52 Nice-looking  
 54 Jog  
 55 Prior night  
 56 Eastern potentate  
 57 Benefit  
 58 Started in  
 59 Sasquatch's cousin  
**DOWN**  
 1 Reverberate  
 2 Winged  
 3 Pealed  
 4 Groucho's "Tattooed Lady"  
 5 Tabletop protector  
 6 Succor  
 7 Sheepish remark  
 8 Those who aren't greedy  
 9 Staircase feature  
 10 State with certainty  
 11 Moist in the morn  
 16 Repair  
 20 Three on a sundial  
 23 Performance  
 24 Old French coin  
 25 Manual terrain  
 27 Cranberry  
 29 Bill  
 30 North Sea feeder  
 32 Baby's stuff  
 34 Explained a word  
 37 Schuss  
 39 See to  
 42 Lucy's partner in mischief  
 44 English homework  
 45 Crafts' mates  
 46 Iates  
 48 Heavy reading?  
 49 Send out  
 50 "Frasier" actress  
 53 Rd.

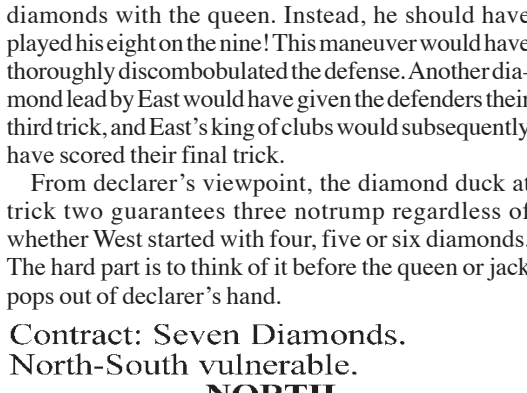
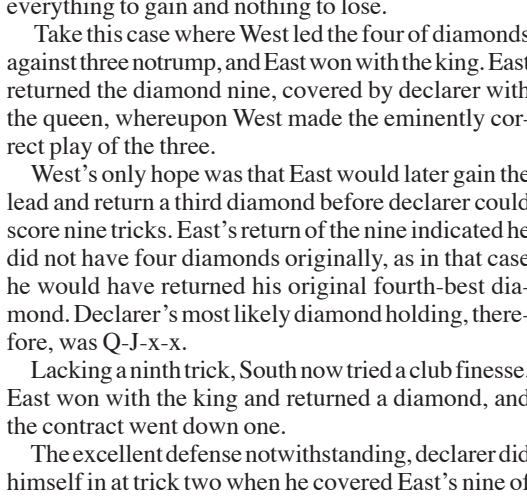
**Solution time: 21 mins.**

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

Yesterday's answer 1-10



**Family Circus • Bill Keane**



**Family Circus • Bill Keane**

