

Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



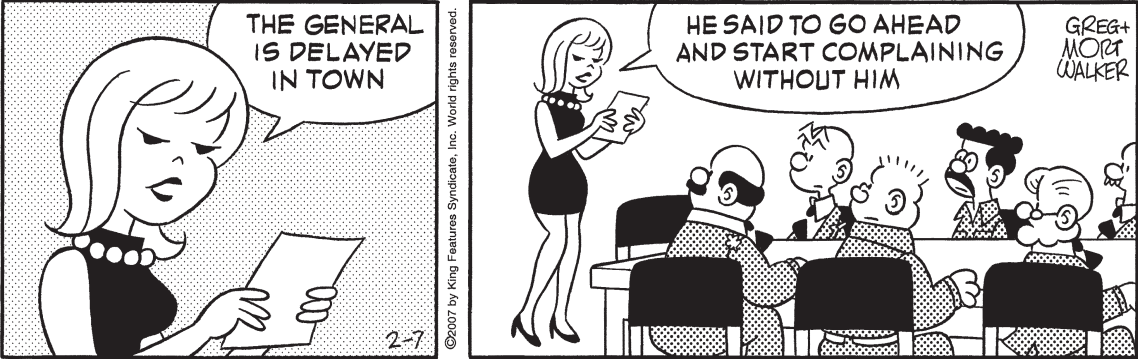
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



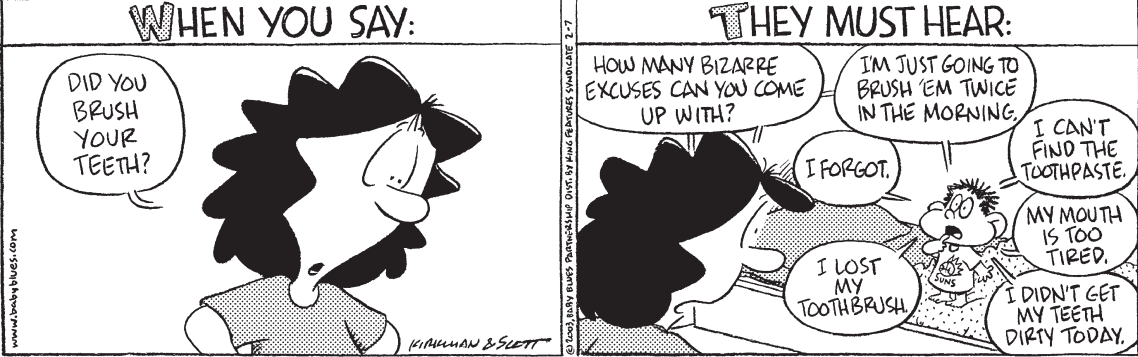
Blondie • Chic Young



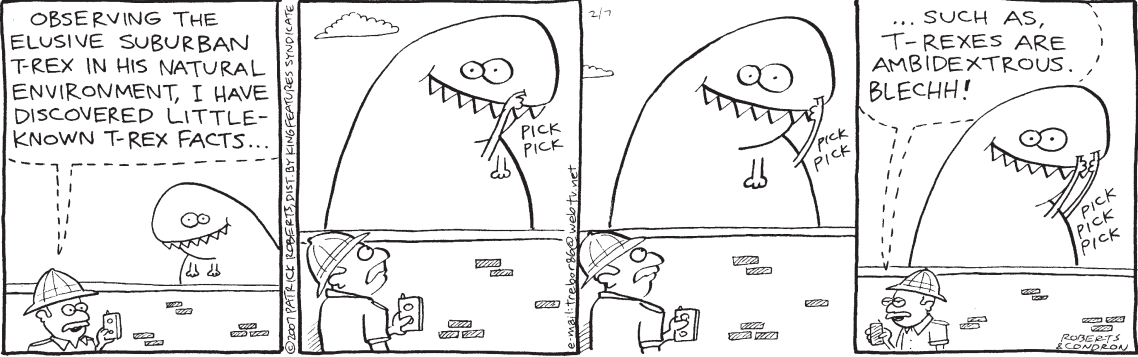
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



Tod the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



Cryptoquip

HAS INNTB SG PSS NT HAS

USSQMB HORJRD CANU ADC

IRJSL ARGCSMT HAS

LRPQLDGS "HAS DCQ-GDCHSO."

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF YOU ATE SOME PAGES FROM A FAVORITE NOVEL, PERHAPS YOU WOULD WIND UP WITH READER'S DIGEST.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: H equals T

CP FBI NDUG U XJUMM

PMBNDG RBIZIDE ESUE'X

ZICED EFOCAUM, CE JCTSE

RD OUG PBG ESD ABGXUTD.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: THE GOOFY EMCEE OF THE WEEKLY TRIVIA SHOW HAS GIVEN HIMSELF THE NICKNAME "THE ASK-MASTER."

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: E equals T

Crossword

ACROSS

1 Publisher/punster Bennett

5 U.K. polit. party

8 Bow-wow

12 Hodge-podge

13 Bachelor's last utterance

14 Green acres?

15 Enjoyable pastime

17 Anger

18 Carte lead-in

19 Physicist Georg Simon —

20 Move laterally

21 Seek restitution

22 Triumphed

23 Considerably

26 Bracelet attachments

30 Benefit

31 Monkey suit

32 Foundered

33 Went bad, as milk

35 — bear

36 Director Howard

37 Monokini's lack

38 Summarize

41 Shuffle-board stick

42 Commandment

45 Surrounded by

46 Apiary denizen

48 Speck

49 Curved line

50 Deserve

51 Eyelid woe

52 — jongg

53 Belligerent deity

DOWN

1 Caesar's longtime co-star

2 Hebrew month

3 Kelly of daytime TV

4 Egg-yung link

5 Flexible

6 The same, in bibliographies

7 Squeezing snake

8 It's between Alaska and Siberia

9 Saharan

10 Streamlet

11 Proposer's perch

16 See 31-Down

20 Trinity member

21 Gidget portrayed

22 Polish up

23 English channel?

24 Addressee

25 Supporting

26 Unopened flower

27 Young man

28 Conclusion

29 Firmament

31 With 16-Down, "message received"

34 Prune

35 Genealogy chart

37 Group

38 St. Louis team

39 Give off

40 Metropolis

41 Dagwood's boss's wife

42 Ski-lift type

43 Roll-call reply

44 Hungers

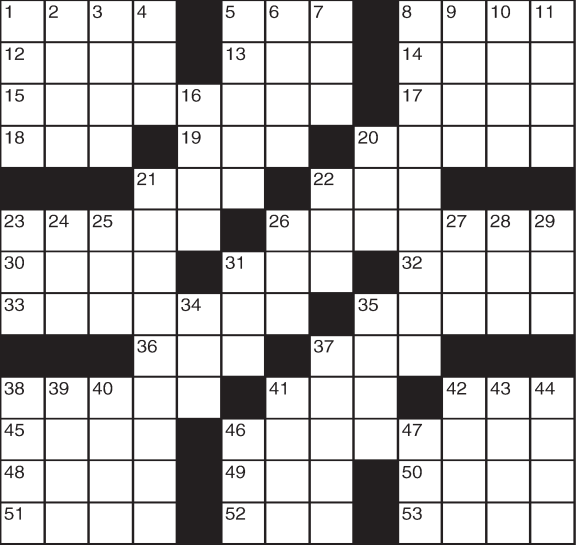
46 Scenery chewer

47 Verily

Solution time: 21 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 2-6



ACROSS

1 Some recyclables

5 Wager

8 Pinnacle

12 Reed instrument

13 Driver's license stat

14 Ali's old name

15 Sound of stock footage?

17 Croupier's tool

18 Antenna

19 Wood louse, e.g.

21 Past

22 Fender bender result

23 "— Wiedersehen"

26 Dawn goddess

28 Eagles' nest (Var.)

31 Man is one

33 Siesta

35 Stallion's mate

36 Jockey's handful

38 Party bowlful

40 Corral

41 Begged

43 Writer

45 Dilbert's workplace

47 Tenant

51 D.C. types

52 Without delay

54 Jog

55 Tier

56 Top-notch

57 Enervates

58 "Of course"

59 Got up

DOWN

1 Comedian

2 Skilled

3 Bleak, as film

4 Old photo color

5 Mont-golfiers' transport

6 Swelled head

7 Luke-warm

8 NATO, for example

10 Shark variety

11 Kept tabs on

16 Zoo structure

20 Bishopric

23 Atmosphere

24 Exploit

25 Sandal type

27 Blue

29 Anger

30 Still, in verse

32 Signs up

34 Bed accessories

37 Moment

39 Chick's sound

42 Express disapproval of

44 PBS curmudgeon

45 Makes a decision

46 — song (cheaply)

48 "Scat, gnatt"

49 Many millennia

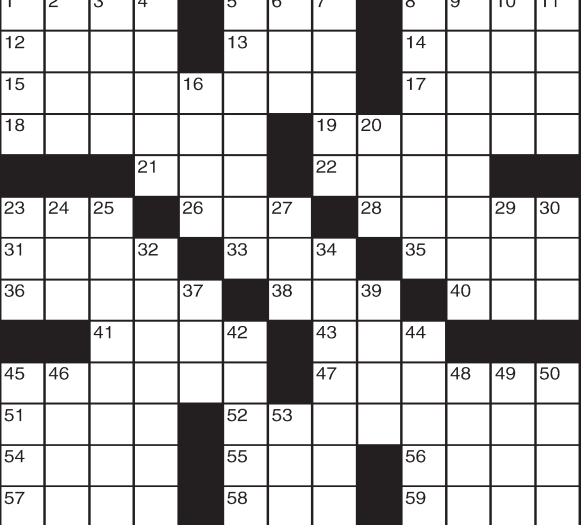
50 Duel tool

53 Garden implement

Solution time: 21 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 2-7



Family Circus • Bill Keane



Bridge

North dealer.

East-West vulnerable.

NORTH

♠ K J 8 4

♥ 7 3

♦ K 6

♣ K Q J 9 2

WEST

♠ 10 6 3

♥ K 10 9 5 4

♦ Q 10 8

♣ A 7

SOUTH

♠ A Q 5

♥ Q 8 6 2

♦ A J 5 3

♣ 10 6

EAST

♠ 9 7 2

♥ A J

♦ 9 7 4 2

♣ 8 5 4 3

The bidding:

North

1 ♣

1 ♠

3 NT

East

Pass

Pass

Pass

South

1 ♦

2 NT

Pass

West

Pass

Pass

Pass

Opening lead — five of hearts.

Assume you're West and lead a heart against three notrump. East plays the ace and returns the jack, which wins, and then shifts to a diamond. You cover South's jack with the queen, taken by dummy's king, and declarer then forces out your ace of clubs. If you now cash the king of hearts, South makes three notrump; if you don't, he makes four notrump.

Too late you realize that if you had overtaken partner's jack of hearts with the king and returned the ten, South would have gone down one. The question that arises, therefore, is whether you should have made that play, aware that in the process you would establish declarer's queen as a trick that he could not otherwise get.

The answer is yes. For his two-notrump bid, South is virtually certain to have the A-Q of spades and ace of diamonds, as well as the queen of hearts; he is already known to hold by virtue of East's jack return.

However, this translates into only six tricks for declarer. Even if you give him a free heart trick by overtaking East's jack, he won't have enough tricks to make three notrump without establishing dummy's clubs. By overtaking the heart jack at trick two, you can thus ensure getting four heart tricks and a club before South can score nine tricks — and who could ask for anything more?

It is true that if East started with the A-J-x of hearts, overtaking the jack would cost you a trick and maybe make you feel a bit foolish. But your primary duty as a defender is to beat the contract, and that consideration always supersedes the question of whether declarer goes down one or two.

Since one way you're certain to defeat the contract, while the other way you might or might not defeat it, overtaking the jack of hearts with the king at trick two is clearly the correct play.

South dealer.

Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH

♠ A 9 8 7

♥ 8 5 3

♦ K J 4

♣ A Q 10

WEST

♠ 6 2

♥ K Q 10 7

♦ 10 6 3 2

♣ 9 8 4

SOUTH

♠ K Q J 10 3

♥ A J 4

♦ Q 8

♣ J 5 2

EAST

♠ 5 4

♥ 9 6 2

♦ A 9 7 5

♣ K 7 6 3

The bidding:

South

1 ♠

4 ♠

West

Pass

Pass

North

3 ♠

Pass

East

Pass

Pass

Opening lead — king of hearts.

Most players are familiar with the Bath Coup, even though they might not know the technical name for the play. It gets this name because the play is said to have originated in the resort town of Bath, in England.

Consider this deal where West leads the king of hearts. If South knows his way around a bridge table, he plays the four on the king, hoping West will continue the suit and hand him an extra heart trick. The duck of the king, holding A-J-x, is called a Bath Coup.

However, if West is familiar with this holdup play, he will switch to a different suit after East plays the discouraging deuce of hearts on the king. It is here that declarer must be careful not to dissipate his advantage.

Let's say West shifts to a club at trick two. South cannot afford to finesse, since this would subject him to defeat if the finesse lost and East returned a heart. So to ensure the contract, he goes up with the ace.

He next plays the K-Q of trumps, followed by the queen of diamonds. Assume East wins the second diamond with the ace and returns a heart. South takes the ace, crosses to dummy with a trump and discards his heart loser on dummy's third diamond. He then concedes a club to the king to make the contract.

Observe that if South takes the king of hearts with the ace at trick one, he goes down. East later gains the lead with either a diamond or a club and returns a heart through declarer's J-4. The Bath Coup thus proves to be the key to making the contract, even though declarer may have no idea that the play he has employed carries a very fancy moniker.

