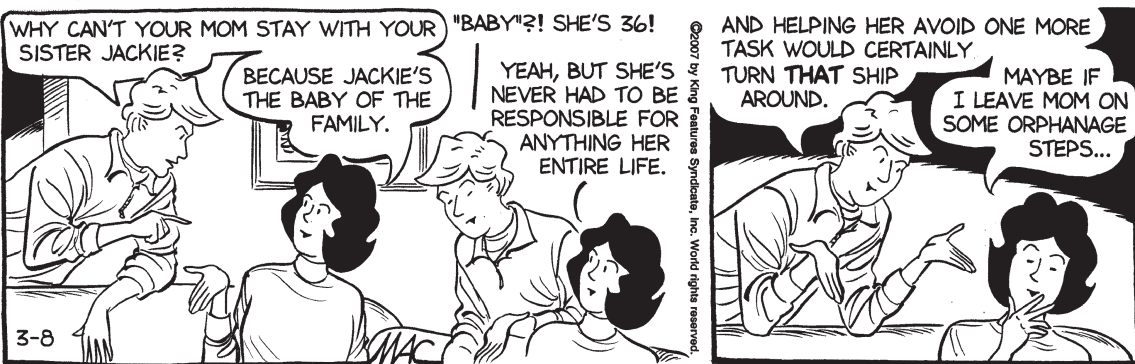


Sally Forth • Greg Howard



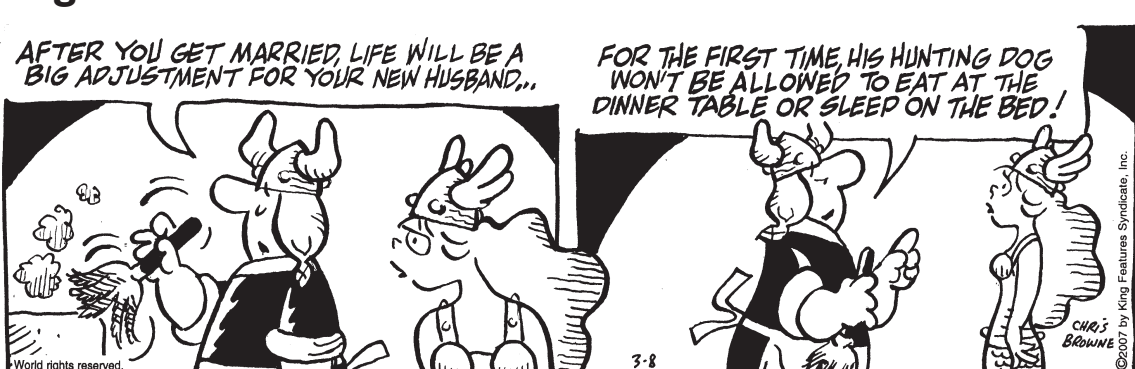
Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



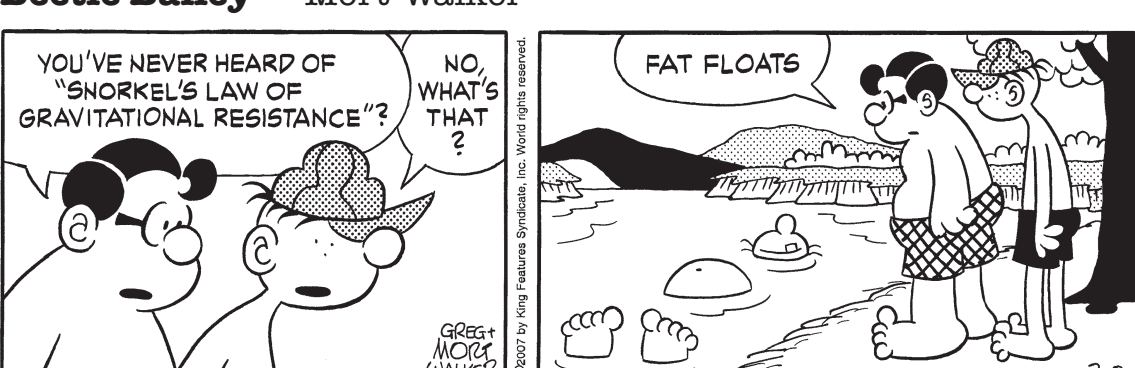
Blondie • Chic Young



Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



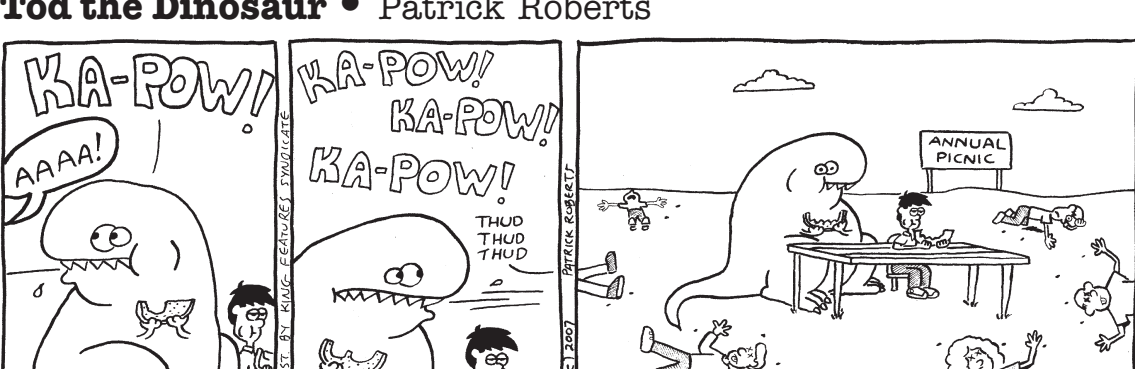
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



Tod the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



Conceptis Sudoku by Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★ ★

3/08

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.

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

Difficulty Level ★★ ★

3/08

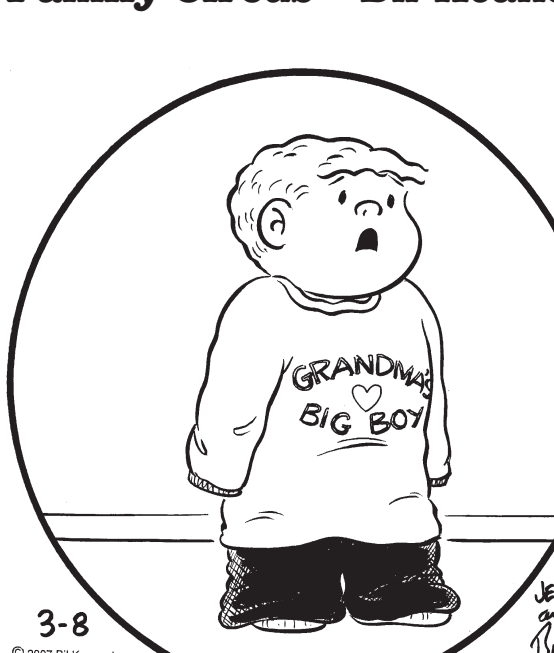
Bridge

South dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ K 6 3
♥ K J 10 4
♦ A 10 9
♣ J 8 2
WEST
♠ Q J 10 8 7 4
♥ A
♦ J 6 4
♣ K 10 3
EAST
♠ 9
♥ 8 2
♦ Q 8 5 3 2
♣ 9 7 6 5 4
SOUTH
♠ A 5 2
♥ Q 9 7 6 5 3
♦ K 7
♣ A Q

The bidding:
South West North East
1♥ 1♠ 3♥ Pass
4♥

Opening lead — queen of spades.

Family Circus • Bil Keane



3-8
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"This new outfit from Grandma makes me feel like a little guy."

How to Deal With a Damsel

The simplest hands are some times the hardest ones to play correctly. Witness this deal where South was in four hearts and West led the queen of spades. South won with the ace and led a trump to West's ace. West returned the jack of spades, and East ruffed dummy's king and returned a club. South finessed and lost the queen to the king, and West cashed the ten of spades to put the contract down one. Unlucky, you could say, but the unadulterated truth is that declarer botched the play. Before playing to the first trick, South should have considered what might happen if West had six spades for his one-spade overall. He might then have seen the wisdom of taking the opening trick with dummy's king in order to prevent East from ruffing it later. After winning with the king, he would next lead the king of hearts from dummy. West would take his ace and lead the jack of spades, but East would find himself in a helpless position. If he ruffed the spade, South would follow low from his hand, and his only other loser would be a club, thus making four hearts. The hand illustrates, for the umpteenth time, why a declarer should not play quickly at trick one. That is the time when he should collect his thoughts, being careful to give consideration to the bidding by the opponents as well as the significance of the opening lead. He should then form a general plan of play and be prepared to alter it should any unexpected development occur. Tomorrow: Bidding quiz.

Crossword

- ACROSS**
1 Infinitesimal
5 October stone
9 Hot tub
12 Birthright barter
13 Finished
14 "Skip to My —"
15 Where patrons get gouged
17 Under the weather
18 Aide
19 Waviness
21 Tag player
22 Entryways
24 Lascivious look
27 Grooved on
28 The folks
31 Mai — (cocktail)
32 Work with
33 Indivisible
34 Proof-reader's find
36 — out a living
37 Puts two and two together
- DOWN**
1 support
2 Gilligan's home
3 Apprehend
4 1980s materialist
5 Bloodhound's clue
6 Luau
7 Raggedy one
8 Release
9 Careless
10 Vault's prop
11 Bygone, to Burns
16 Namath, for many years
20 Illustrations
22 Poorly lit molding
24 Mel of Coopers-town
25 In high spirits
26 1976 Margaux Hemingway film
27 Burr-Hamilton event
29 Tackle's teammate
30 "Undeniably"
35 Granola morsel
37 Rack component
39 "Two wrongs don't make a right, but three — do"
40 Lumox
41 Mislaid
42 First victim
43 Location
44 Wander
45 Tarzan's gang
46 Attention getter
49 Long, crosser
50 "Rocks"

Solution time: 25 mins.

MATH	HAM	SHED							
OBOE	OBI	WAVE							
MEGAPLEX	ARIA								
STARRY	ENGULF								
DOC	DOGS								
LAV	DOT	DEPTH							
EPIC	WAS	REAR							
KUDOS	JOT	XIS							
	ENID	LOB							
BLONDE	AROUSE								
LATE	BIG	CONVEX							
OVER	UKE	DELI							
WAXY	TED	SALT							

Yesterday's answer 3-8

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13					14	
15			16						17	
18							19	20		
		21			22	23				
24	25	26		27			28	29	30	
31				32				33		
34		35		36				37		
		38		39			40			
41	42					43		44	45	46
47				48	49	50				
51				52				53		
54				55				56		

THANK YOU FOR READING THE

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Cryptoquip

FC F VMKXJK X BPXZ JH
CHHP X BKMTHZ FZJH KXJFZR
OMKXJQ GFZJT, FJ GFRQJ
OK X JFV JXV JXVJFV.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: TO HONOR THE VERY BEST MASONS IN THE BUSINESS, MAYBE WE SHOULD HAVE ANNUAL STONY AWARDS.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: H equals O