

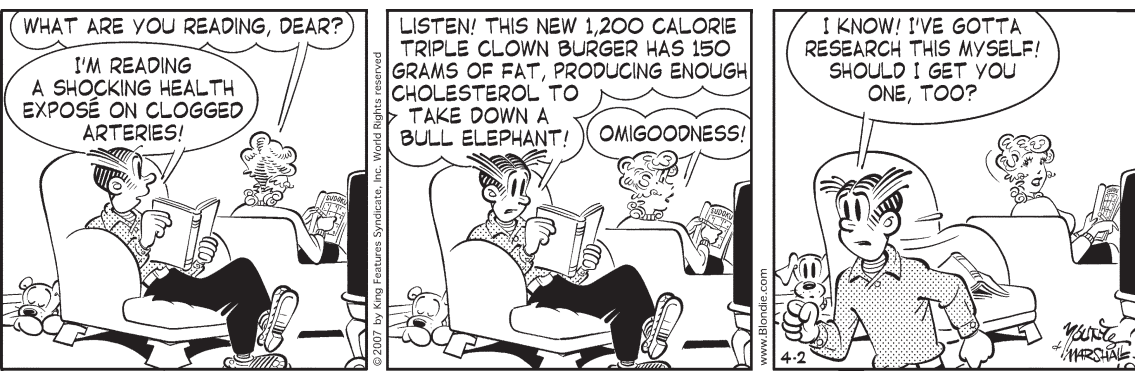
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Blondie • Chic Young



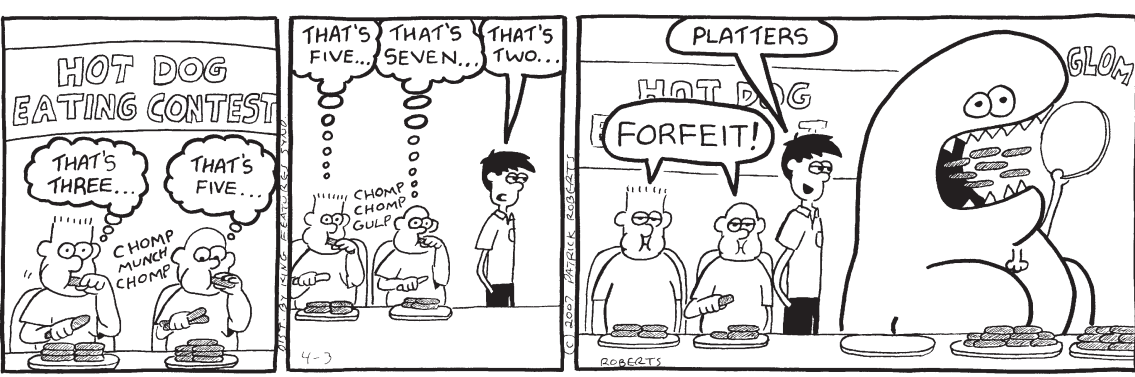
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



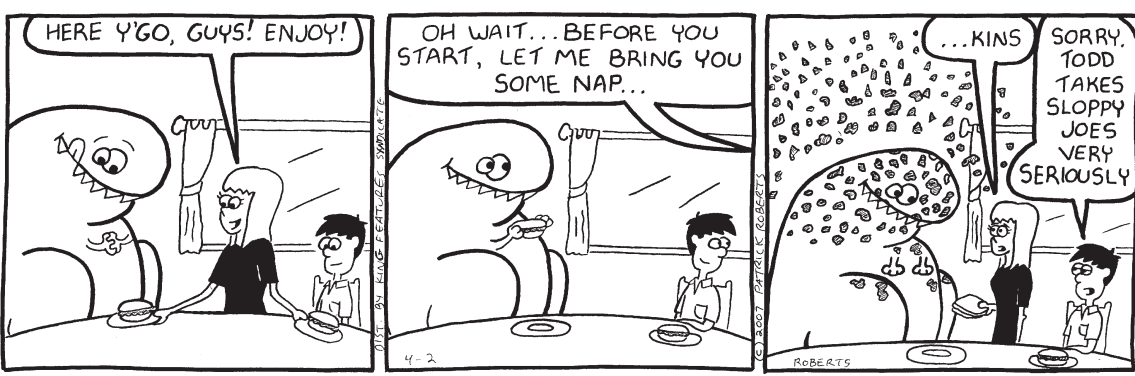
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



Tod the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



Conceptis Sudoku by Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★ 4/02

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.

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

Difficulty Level ★ 4/02

Bridge

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

The bidding:
South 1♥
West 1NT
North Dble
East 5♣
Pass Pass 6♥ 7♣
Opening lead — two of diamonds.

Famous Hand

It is often difficult to reach the best contract when your opponents cramp the bidding space with nuisance bids. However, such tactics occasionally boomerang, which is what happened in this deal from the 1966 World Pair Championship when a Spanish pair crossed swords with a French pair.

The Spanish South opened the bidding with one heart, and the French West overcalled with one notrump! This type of overcall — indicating a long suit and a weak hand — is known in France as the comic notrump (le sans atout comique). North doubled to show a good hand, and East added spice to the goings-on by leaping to five clubs.

South bid five hearts, thus indicating much more than a minimum opening bid, and North raised him to six. Perhaps East should have passed — the bidding surely would have died then and there — but he bid seven clubs as a sacrifice against the small slam he felt sure the opponents could make.

This tactic backfired when it gave South a chance to make a forcing pass and in that way invite partner to go on to seven hearts with a suitable hand. Had South held a weaker hand, he would have doubled to stop his partner from bidding a grand slam.

North had no real problem, under the circumstances.

He realized that his three aces were exactly the kind of medicine South needed for a grand slam.

So he bid seven hearts, which was easily made for a score of 2,210 points, and the comic notrump did not prove to be so comical after all.

Family Circus • Bil Keane



Crossword

- | | | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| ACROSS | DOWN | ACROSS | DOWN |
| 1 Kinsman, for short | 1 Mediocre | 31 Meredith who played Rocky's trainer | 38 Intimidate |
| 4 Prepare for battle | 2 Elevator name | 41 Die | 9 Future |
| 7 Computer image | 27 Loch — top | 43 Slapstick missile maker | 10 Aye |
| 11 Jeans maker Strauss | 28 Near the treasure | 44 Duel tool | 12 Apathy |
| 13 Grazing area | 29 On the briny | 46 Attack dog's sound | 19 Right angle |
| 14 Exploding star | 30 Clenched hand | 50 Deserve | 23 Small barrel |
| 15 Mideast gulf | 31 Replacement | 53 Lingerie item | 25 Toothpaste dispenser |
| 16 Varnish ingredient | 32 Gratuity | 55 Florentine farewell | 26 Elevator deal |
| 17 Golfer Bob | 33 Gratitude | 56 United nations | 27 Loch — top |
| 18 Throng | 34 Oil-drilling equipment | 57 Omelet necessity | 28 Near the treasure |
| 20 Former filly | 35 Dine | 58 Tend text | 29 On the briny |
| 22 Sort | 38 Gratitude | 59 Chomp | 30 Clenched hand |
| 24 "The Compleat Angler" writer | 40 Oil-drilling equipment | 60 Bill's partner | 31 Replacement |
| 28 Brunch stack | 42 Mediterranean sailing ship | | 32 Gratuity |
| 32 Piccolo's cousin | 45 Therefore | | 33 Gratitude |
| 33 "A likely story!" | 47 Verdi opera | | 34 Oil-drilling equipment |
| 34 Astronaut Grissom | 48 IncurSION | | 35 Dine |
| 36 Wading bird | 49 A great deal | | 38 Gratitude |
| 37 Bowling alley-button | 50 Recede | | 39 Oil-drilling equipment |
| | 51 "The Greatest" | | 40 Oil-drilling equipment |
| | 52 "Poppycock!" | | 42 Mediterranean sailing ship |
| | 54 Past | | 45 Therefore |

Solution time: 24 mins.

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

Saturday's answer 4-2

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					57				58		
59					60					61	

THANK YOU FOR READING THE

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Cryptoquip

NGZYZWZO UGZ MGDYDIOKMG'R

QYWZYUDO IDU QPP, NDVPB

JDV AKPP GQR OZEZBJ

"ZBQRDY EZBQAQYZ"?

Saturday's Cryptoquip: IF TWO DEMOLITION COMPANIES COMPETED, WOULD ONE CHARACTERIZE IT AS A RAZE TO THE FINISH?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: P equals L