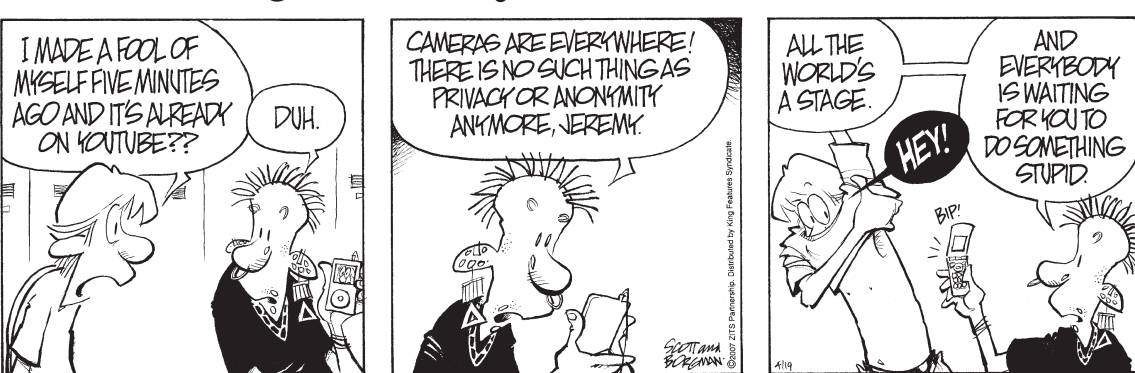


**Sally Forth • Greg Howard**



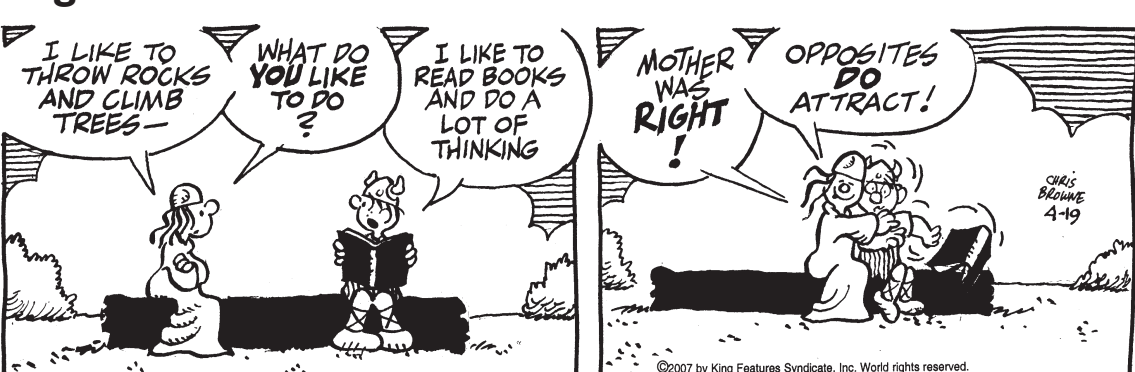
**Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott**



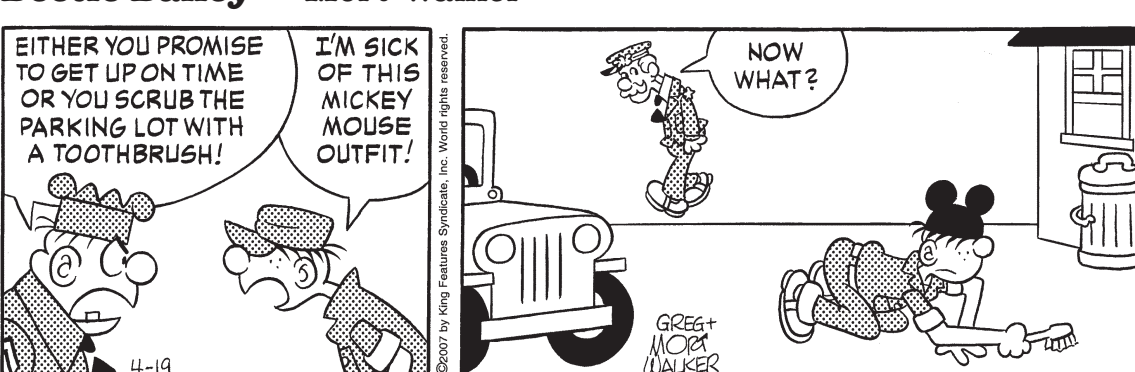
**Blondie • Chic Young**



**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**



**THANK YOU FOR READING THE**

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**Cryptoquip**

WN CKT NWLQOC IGKS TS  
RKZQ BNEQA-PWLLQA  
IBLPWQR, KLQ IKTOP RBC  
EGBE CKT ZWLIQ ZWLER.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: FLICK ABOUT A GIFTED GECKO WHO GROWS UP TO BE A WHIZ-BANG CARPENTER: "THE LIZARD OF SAWS."

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: C equals Y

**Conceptis Sudoku by Dave Green**

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

**Difficulty Level** ★★★ 4/19

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.

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

**Difficulty Level** ★★★ 4/19

**Bridge**

South dealer.  
North-South vulnerable.

**NORTH**  
♠ K Q J 5  
♥ A K 8 3  
♦ Q 10  
♣ 7 6 2

**WEST**  
♠ 10 9 8 4 2  
♥ 10 6 5  
♦ 8 5  
♣ K 10 4

**EAST**  
♠ 6  
♥ Q 9 7 4  
♦ 9 7 6 4 2  
♣ J 9 3

**SOUTH**  
♠ A 7 3  
♥ J 2  
♦ A K J 3  
♣ A Q 8 5

The bidding:  
South 1♦ West Pass North 1♥ East Pass  
2 NT Pass 6 NT  
Opening lead — ten of spades.

How to Increase Your Chances

If you toss a coin, there is a 50-50 chance it will come up heads. If you toss two coins and bet that one or both of them will be heads, the odds of being right change to 75-to-25, or 3-to-1, in your favor.

This is, of course, just another way of saying that two chances are better than one, a principle that is especially important in bridge. Declarer neglected to apply that principle here, and it cost him a slam.

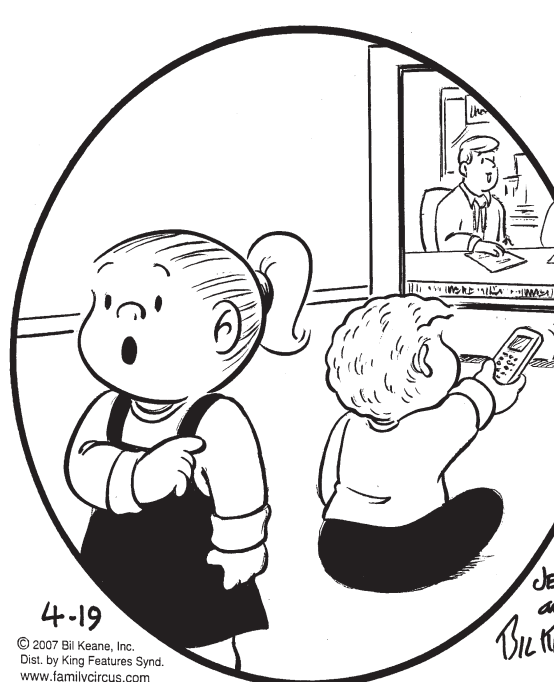
West led a spade, and South, with 11 sure tricks in sight, won in dummy and led a club to his queen. When the finesse lost to West's king, declarer could find no other source of a 12th trick, and he eventually went down one.

Although South's line of play had a 50 percent probability of succeeding, he overlooked an approach that would have raised his chances for the slam from 50 percent to 75 percent. Instead of attempting a club finesse so early in the play, he should have led a low heart from dummy toward his jack at trick two! If East has the queen, he can take it or play low, but either way South's jack becomes his 12th trick.

The great advantage of this method of play is that if it fails because West has the queen of hearts, South still has the club finesse to fall back on. This additional opportunity does not exist if declarer attacks clubs first and loses the finesse, since he can no longer afford to give up a heart trick.

Nowadays it is not easy to get two of anything for the price of one, but in bridge these opportunities are as plentiful as ever. All you have to do is look for them.

**Family Circus • Bil Keane**



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**Crossword**

**ACROSS**

1 Tummy muscles  
4 Not up yet  
8 Conceal in the hand  
12 Attack dog's command  
13 Approach  
14 Largest of the seven  
15 "The Departed" director  
17 Gets stuck  
18 Tier  
19 Convict's dreams  
21 Pele's game  
24 Bottom line  
25 Blond shade  
26 Bad hairpiece  
28 Turkish official  
32 Mirth  
34 "1 vs. 100" group  
36 Wound cover  
37 Heart line?

**DOWN**

1 Balaam's mount  
2 Pen name  
3 Really hot day  
4 Question, on "Jeopardy!"  
5 Quilters' get-together  
6 Relaxation  
7 Gown  
8 Sleep-over raiments  
9 Now, in a memo  
10 Rickey flavor  
11 Sunday service  
16 Sinbad's bird  
20 Gaffer's target

**Solution time: 25 mins.**

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

Yesterday's answer 4-19

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
32			33		34		35		36	
37				38		39		40		41
				42		43		44		45
46	47	48				49		50		
51						52		53		54
56						57				58
59						60				61