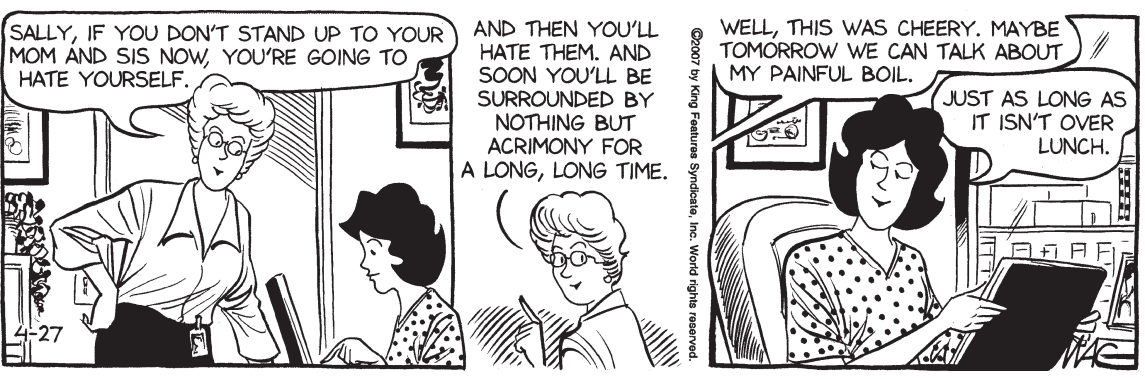
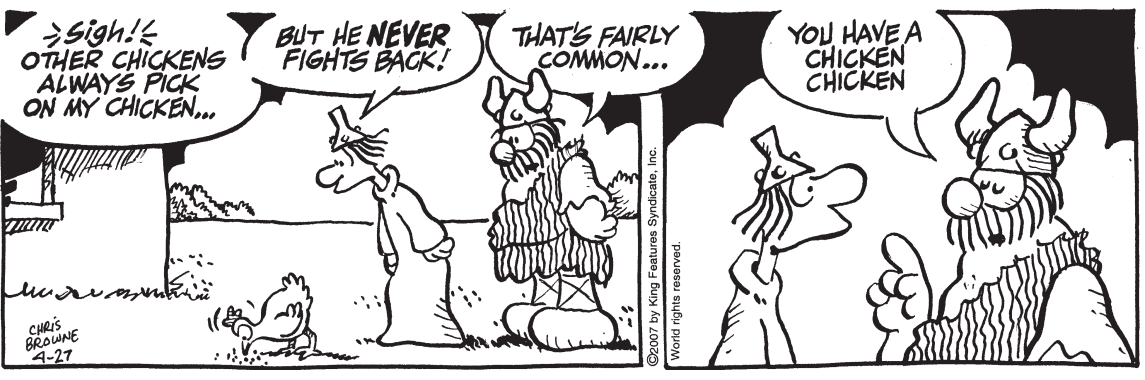
Sally Forth • Greg Howard

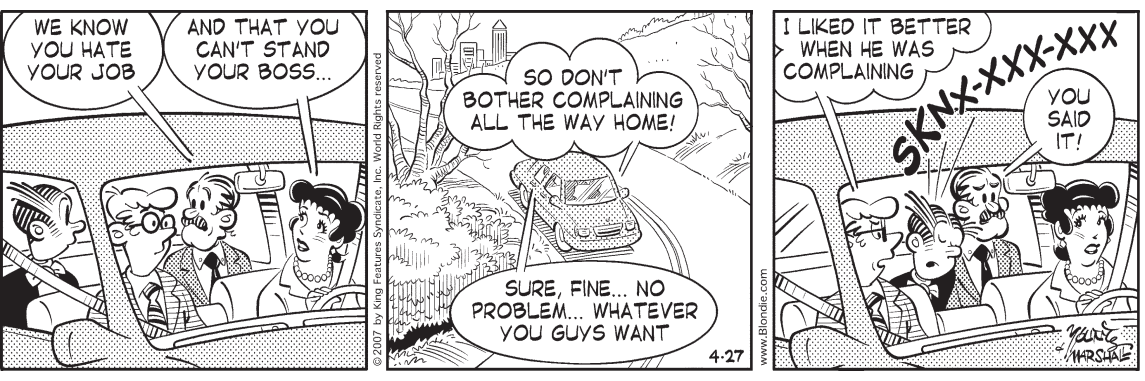


Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott

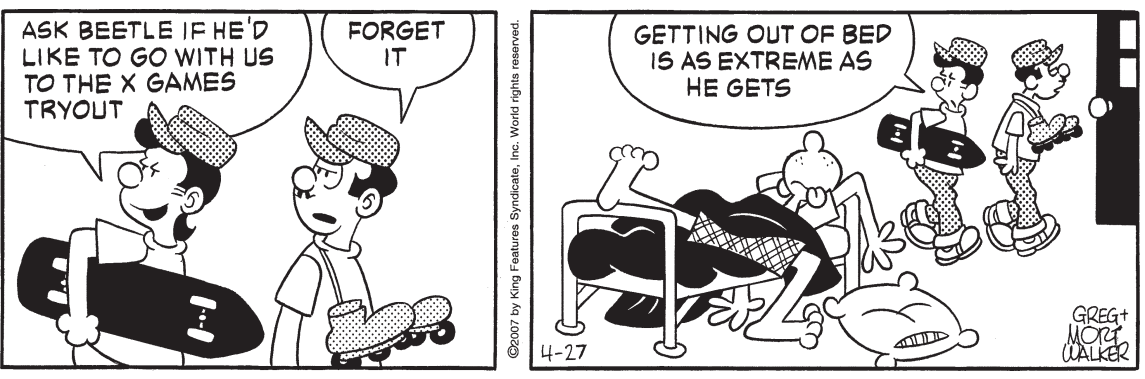
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Blondie • Chic Young

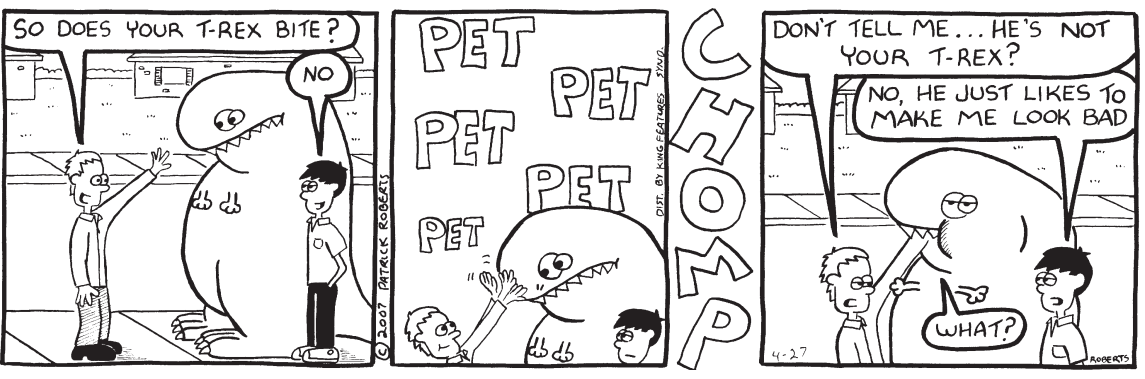


Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott

Tod the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters

Cryptoquip

VKNR DFXKR N OTPIYG BNJJ EYJZI VKY NPT IDYYRKFGX HYVG OFTBTI YE BYPG? ZTPGTJ INGHTPI.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF A CERTAIN WIND INSTRUMENT WERE DECLARED OFF-LIMITS, WOULD IT BE FORBIDDEN FLUTE?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: V equals W

AV W BYPRKL AR HWS EKK VKLC KV VPANWEYR WLC CYREPKSYPR, RKFY FANXE RWS AE'R HWPRXAB HKPRXAB.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHAT MIGHT A PERSON CALL FOLKS WHO ARE SMOOTHING DOWN PIECES OF CORN? KERNEL SANDERS.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: K equals O

Crossword

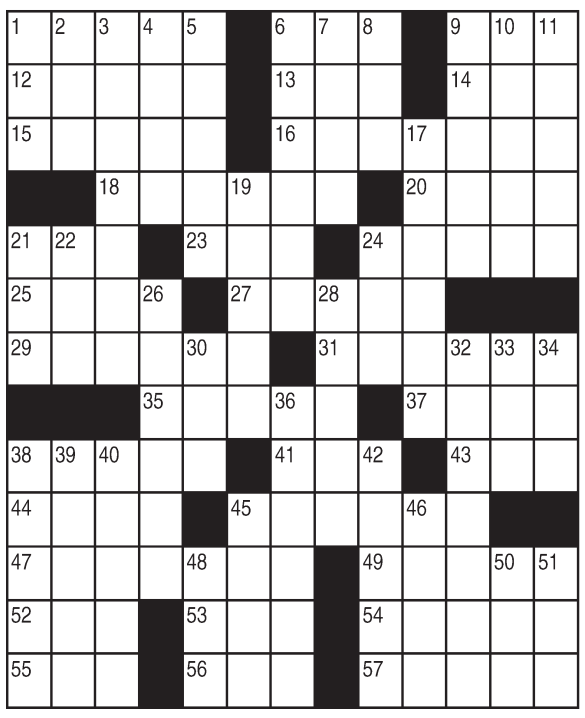
ACROSS
1 Incubator noises
6 Diner lunch order
9 Links stat
12 Characteristic
13 Actor Stephen
14 Feast-famine link
15 Match
16 Beforehand
18 Man with all the answers?
20 Initial stake
21 La-la lead-in
23 Columnist Smith
24 Michaelmas daisy
25 "— Fiction"
27 Dweebs
29 Exasperating
31 Farewells
35 Swag-bag item
37 Facility
38 Different
41 Common Mkt.
43 Uncultured
44 "Arrivederci"
45 Jackson or Johnson
47 Frank
49 In reserve
52 Schedule abbr.
53 Ms. Farrow
54 Cart
55 Aye canceler
56 Frivolous one of song
57 Craves (for)

DOWN
1 Sch. org.
2 Work unit
3 Mundane
4 See 5-Down
5 With 4-Down, Atlantic City attraction
6 Light wind
7 Secrecy thwarter
8 Pitch
9 Purpose
10 Mountain crest
11 Harder to find
17 TV pooch
19 Game of chance
21 Choose
22 "— Town"
24 Toss in
26 Dupe
28 Shone in beams
30 Postal creed word
32 Some insects
33 NAFTA signatory
34 Ply a needle
36 Re canines, etc.
38 "Caribbean Queen" singer Billy
39 Coronet
40 Magician Houdini
42 Go on all fours
45 Largest of the seven
46 Birthright barterer
48 North Sea feeder
50 Speck
51 Navy rank (Abbr.)

Solution time: 25 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 4-27



ACROSS
1 Serf
6 Actor Fernando
11 Appetizer
12 Inventor — Graves Otis
14 Wastes no time
15 Spurts forth
16 New Haven collegian
17 Assertion
19 "Go, team!"
20 Cribbage gizmos
22 Diplomatic agt.
23 Bear lair
24 Bert's pal
26 Egg white
28 Apply Brylcreem
30 Mess up
31 Relax briefly
35 "Hi" in Hilo
39 Writer Kingsley
40 Bumped into
42 Eventual statue
43 Android, for short
44 Give private lessons
46 Parched
47 No tee-totalers
49 Advertises
51 "Sing some more!"
52 Construction pieces
53 Dilutes
54 Small change

DOWN
1 Van
2 Pulver's rank
3 — -di-dah
4 Cartel acronym
5 Induction motor pioneer
6 Easy to read
7 Grad
8 "— for the million ..."
9 Religious retreat
10 Make a bundle
11 Thin pancake
13 Wan
18 "I — Rock"
21 Factions
23 Ringlets
25 Corrode
27 Monokini's lack
29 Puzzles
31 Dinette necessity
32 Quantity
33 Tackiness
34 Bottom line
36 Trite
37 Seraglios
38 Big pit
41 Subject
44 Gull's cousin
45 Hayseed
48 — polloi
50 D.C. title

Solution time: 27 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 4-28

Bridge

You are the dealer, both sides vulnerable, and have opened One Club. Partner responds One Diamond. What would you bid now with each of the following five hands?

1. ♠ K93 ♥ AQ ♦ J865 ♣ KJ94
2. ♠ AQ ♥ AJ ♦ Q43 ♣ KQJ862
3. ♠ 5 ♥ AQ93 ♦ KJ7 ♣ AKQ73
4. ♠ AJ62 ♥ — ♦ A84 ♣ KQ9752
5. ♠ 10 ♥ A ♦ AKJ92 ♣ KQ8643

* * *

Bidding Quiz

1. One notrump. Though it is normal to raise partner whenever you have four trumps — and it might therefore be contended that the proper rebid is two diamonds — there are good reasons for preferring one notrump. First, the hand is well-suited for notrump play, which is best expressed by a rebid of one notrump. A raise in diamonds would tend to imply more in the way of distributional values, such as a singleton or a couple of doubletons, which is not the case here. Also, the opponents' silence makes it more likely that partner has a good hand and is headed for game. If this hope materializes, a nine-trick notrump game seems far more promising than an 11-trick diamond game. Furthermore, if the best contract is notrump, your tenace positions in the majors suggest that the hand will play better from your side of the table. 2. Three notrump. You should be unwilling to settle for less than three notrump once partner responds with a diamond. A jump to two notrump or three clubs would run the risk of a pass, since either of these bids would merely invite, but not force, partner to bid again. 3. Two hearts. The jump-shift in hearts forces partner to bid again and commits the partnership to game. With this gigantic hand, you can afford to insist on another response, even though partner might have only six points. Game, perhaps even a slam, is highly probable in clubs, diamonds, hearts or notrump. 4. One spade. You have no choice but to try to describe your distribution on an installment-plan basis, bidding spades now and showing diamond support later to identify the three-suited nature of your hand. Of course, you have a strong preference for clubs as trumps over spades, but you cannot afford to bypass the possibility that partner has four-card spade support. 5. Four notrump. The number of aces partner has is the key to how many tricks you can make with diamonds as trumps, so you use Blackwood to find out. If partner shows no aces by bidding five clubs, you bid five diamonds; if he shows one ace, you bid six diamonds; if he shows two aces, you bid seven diamonds.

West dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ 10 2
♥ A Q 8
♦ A Q 6 5
♣ 8 6 5 3

WEST
♠ A 9 5
♥ K 10 5 4 2
♦ K 9 3
♣ K 10

EAST
♠ J
♥ J 7 6 3
♦ J 10 7 2
♣ A Q 9 4

SOUTH
♠ K Q 8 7 6 4 3
♥ 9
♦ 8 4
♣ J 7 2

The bidding:

West	North	East	South
1 ♥	Pass	3 ♥	Pass
4 ♥	Pass	Pass	4 ♠
Dble			

Opening lead — four of hearts.

Foresight Is Rewarded

This deal occurred during the 1984 World Team Olympiad in the match between Pakistan and Germany. It features a play that is seldom seen in actual practice, although the opportunity for it arises more frequently than is generally realized.

Declarer with the South hand was Jan-e-Alam Fazli of Pakistan. His out-of-the-blue four-spade bid was intended primarily as a sacrifice against four hearts. But when West led a heart and the surprisingly strong dummy came down, Fazli realized he had a genuine chance to make the contract.

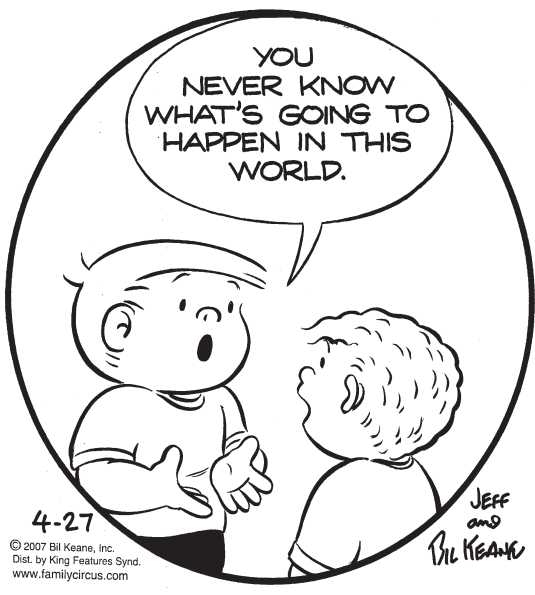
He finessed the queen of hearts at trick one and cashed the ace, discarding a club. At this point, most declarers would probably lead a low trump from dummy, hoping to lose only one trump trick and two clubs and so make four spades.

But this approach would not have met with success. West would win the king of spades with the ace and shift to the K-10 of clubs, won by East with the queen. A third round of clubs would then render South helpless. If he ruffed low, West would overruff with the nine; if he ruffed with the queen instead, West would discard and eventually score the setting trick with the nine of trumps.

Fazli wisely foresaw that this might occur if he led a spade at trick three, so instead he led the eight of This immaculate play effectively severed the defenders' communications. After winning the heart, West led the K-10 of clubs, declarer ruffing East's queen. Fazli then finessed the queen of diamonds and returned a low spade.

West took the king with the ace but could do no better than return a diamond. Fazli won with the ace, cashed dummy's ten of spades and ruffed a diamond. The queen of spades then drew West's nine, and the doubled contract came rolling home.

Family Circus • Bill Keane



"Yeah. Nobody tells me anything."