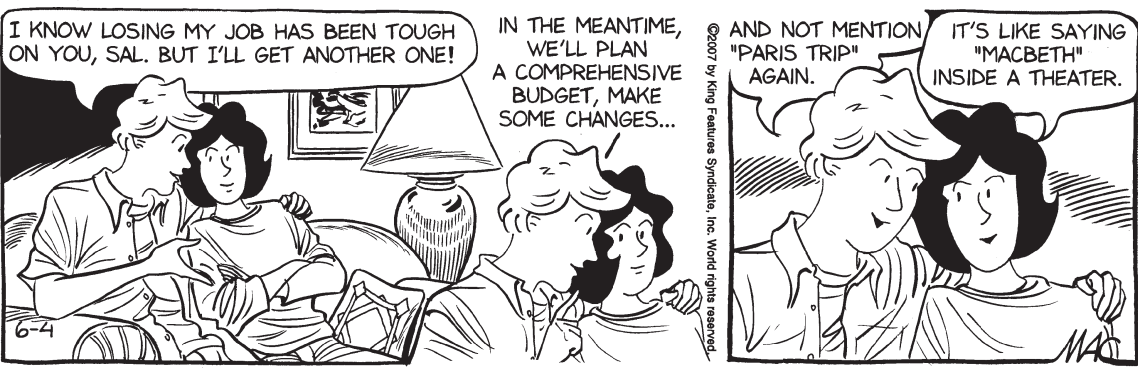
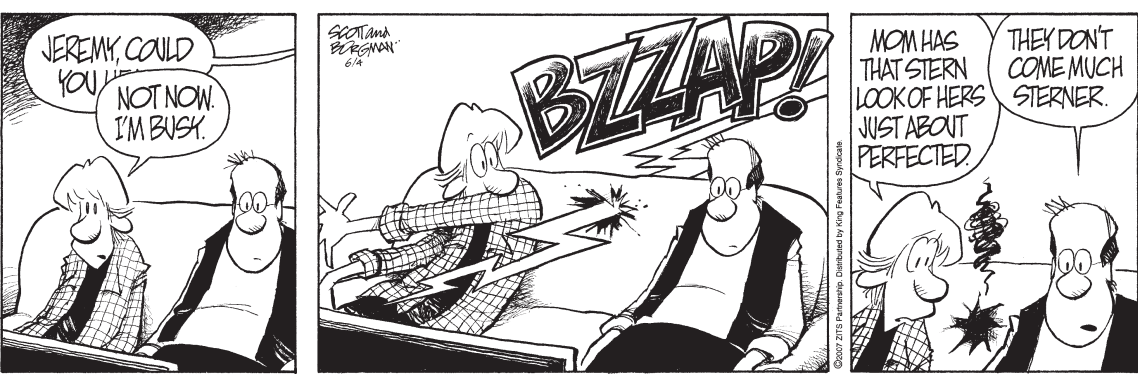


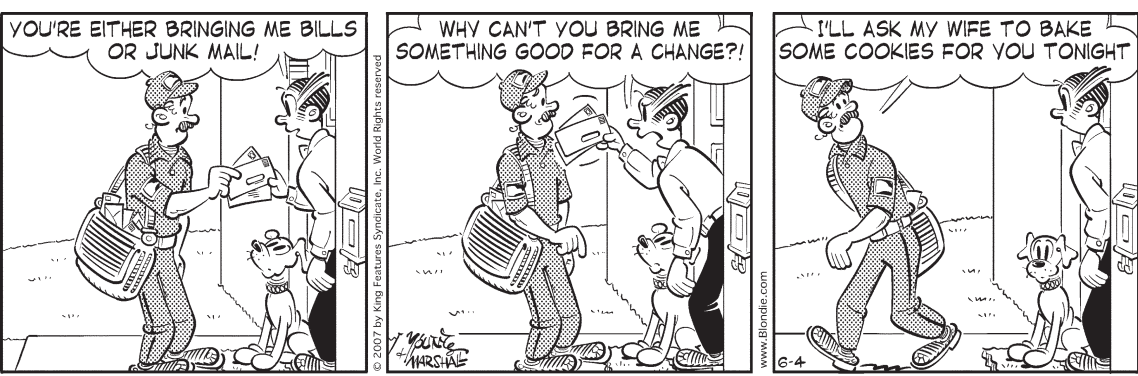
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Blondie • Chic Young



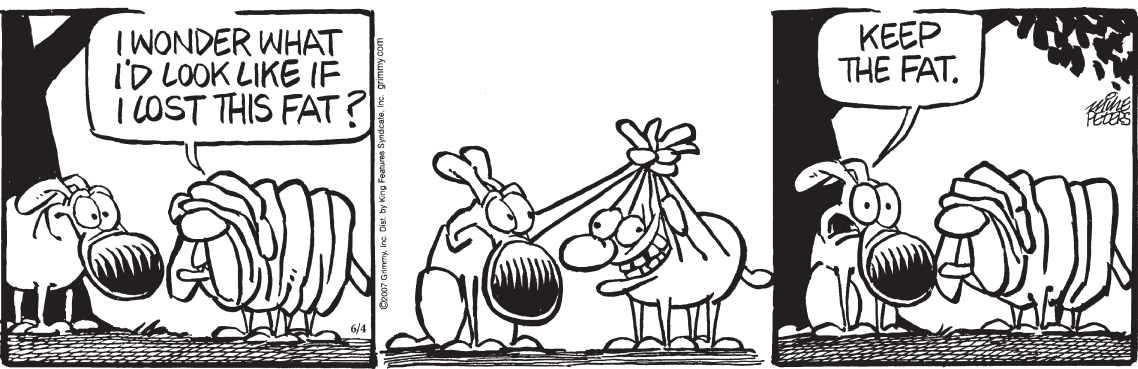
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



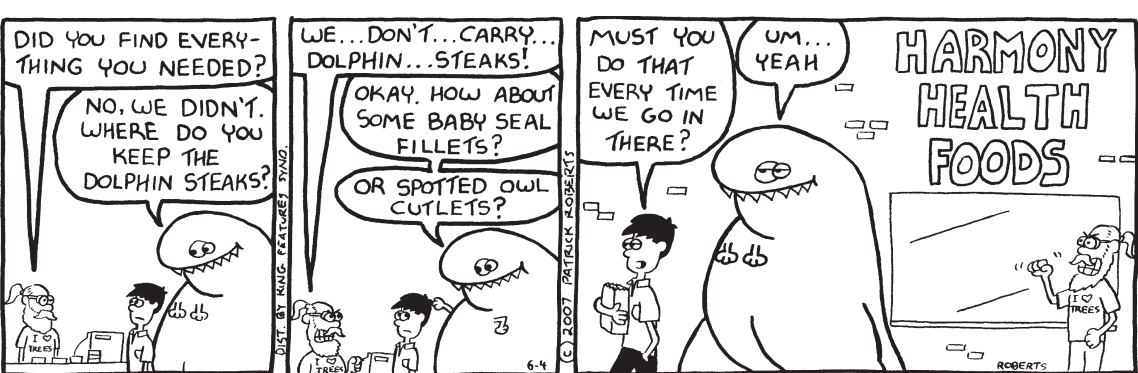
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



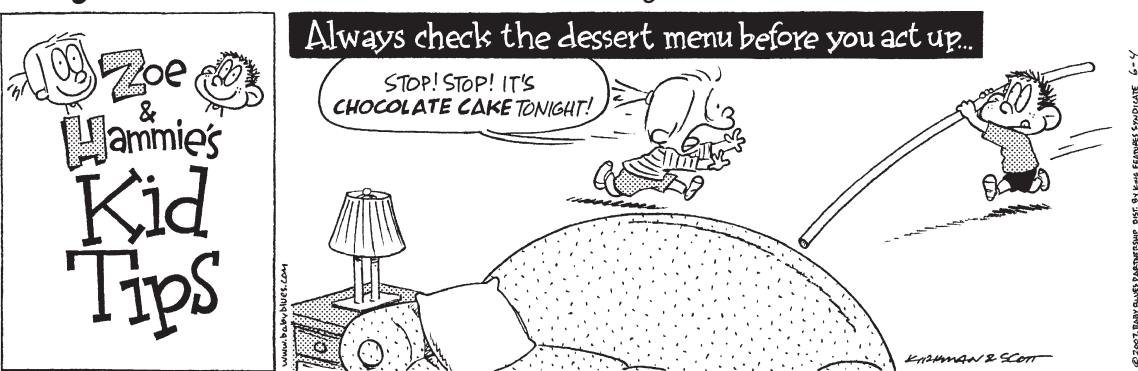
Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



Tod the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



Conceptis Sudoku by Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★ 6/04

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.

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

Difficulty Level ★ 6/04

Bridge

South dealer.
North-South vulnerable.

NORTH

♠ —
♥ A Q J 5 4
♦ K 9 7 3 2
♣ Q 8 4

WEST

♠ K Q 9 3
♥ —
♦ 10
♣ K 10 9 7 6 5 3 2

EAST

♠ A 8 7 6 5 2
♥ 9 7 3
♦ A 8 6 4
♣ —

SOUTH

♠ J 10 4
♥ K 10 8 6 2
♦ Q J 5
♣ A J

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1 ♥	2 ♣	2 NT	Pass
3 NT	4 ♣	4 ♥	Dble

Opening lead — king of spades.

Famous Hand

Psychic bids generally don't pay, but occasionally they produce a sensational triumph. This famous hand features a phenomenally successful psychic by Harold Ogust in the U.S.-Great Britain match in 1960.

Ogust was North, partnered by Howard Schenken against Britain's Terence Reese and Boris Schapiro. Schenken opened one heart, and Schapiro overcalled with two clubs.

At this point, Ogust made the highly irregular bid of two notrump, deliberately suppressing his excel lent heart support in order to create the impression that he had a notrump type of hand.

Reese, gazing at his misfit for clubs, elected to pass, and Schenken — unaware of the abnormal nature of the two-notrump bid — raised to three notrump. Schapiro, his eye on the favorable vulnerability, now bid four clubs, knowing he could not be badly hurt.

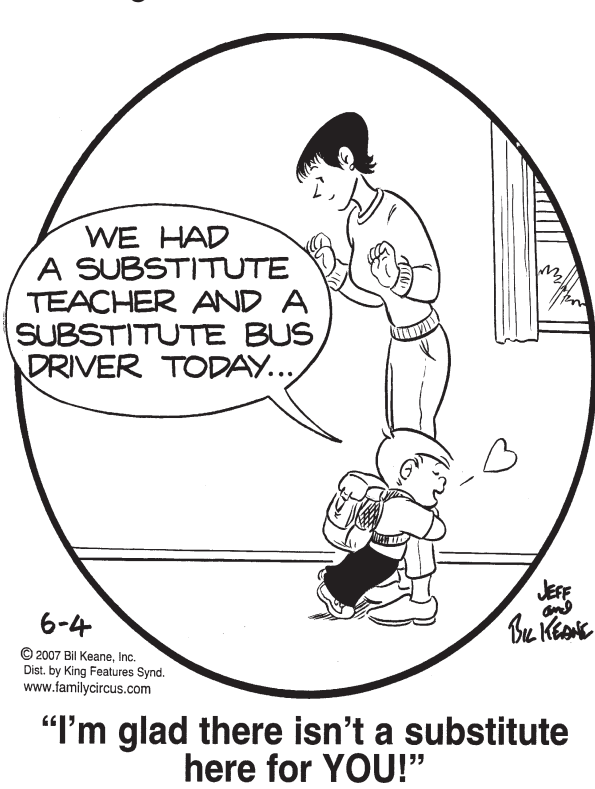
Ogust belatedly raised hearts, and Reese, having kept silent to this point, doubled — partly because of his two aces, and partly because his partner had singlehandedly bid for 10 tricks. Everybody passed, and Schenken made the contract with an overtrick.

Ogust certainly put one over on his opponents, but his strategy proved to be even more successful when subsequent analysis revealed that East-West could have made a grand slam in spades against any defense!

The British pair obviously miscued, but it is not easy to apportion the blame. Perhaps East should have bid three spades over two notrump, or four spades over four hearts. Or possibly West should have bid four spades over four hearts doubled.

But regardless of who, if anyone, was at fault, there is no doubt that Ogust's two-notrump bid was perfectly timed.

Family Circus • Bil Keane



Crossword

ACROSS

1 Venomous snakes
5 "The A-Team" actor
8 Borders
12 Beehive State
13 — de cologne
14 Sandwich cookie
15 Easy gait
16 Clever plan
18 Snow White's allies
20 Melee
21 Land map
23 Set of parts
24 Poker hand
28 Prevalent
31 Have bills
32 Prepare to drive
34 Neither's mate
35 Luxurious
37 Alien

DOWN

1 "— Lang Syne"

39 Also

41 Opposed
42 Handy
45 Vessel for boiling
49 Noncommittal position
53 Festive
54 Pressing need?
55 Argument
56 Type units
57 Albacore, e.g.

2 Pack cargo

3 One of the Three Bears

4 Himalayan talk

5 Some notes

6 Snitch

7 Surf and —

8 Pompous

9 Putting up

10 Grand-scale prefix

11 Beans used in miso

17 Noah's boat

19 Move like a moth

22 Eighth Greek letter

24 Bribe

25 Pair

26 Roadside stop

27 Jailers

29 Enemy

30 Blunder

33 Liver spread

36 Capital of Tasmania

38 Fool

40 Ancient

42 Mail-truck abbr.

43 Dance lesson

44 Rim

46 From one end to t'other

47 "The — King"

48 Sicilian volcano

50 Fugitive's flight

Solution time: 24 mins.

PEPYS	S	E	P	A	R	A	D	E
PULLUP								
ASSUME								
THEN								
KITE								
SON								
CSI								
ARM								
BALE								
IAMA								
NAMERICAN								
SLAG								
LIMA								
SOD								
GOO								
NIPS								
PSI								
SIGN								
ELAN								
AENEID								
ASPIRE								
PEEWEE								
RUINED								
ADDER								
SPATS								

Saturday's answer 6-4

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Cryptoquip

TX IDJHNGIIO JPCOI YN
YPSI ONDI WIXWIOZTKM
OTJO NX ONEP, DTMZY YZIG
QI EWTKSTKM QWIPS XHCTE?

Saturday's Cryptoquip: THE PASTOR ALWAYS SAVED SOME ROOM FOR WHAT HAD BECOME HIS FAVORITE DESSERT, PREACH MELBA.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: X equals F