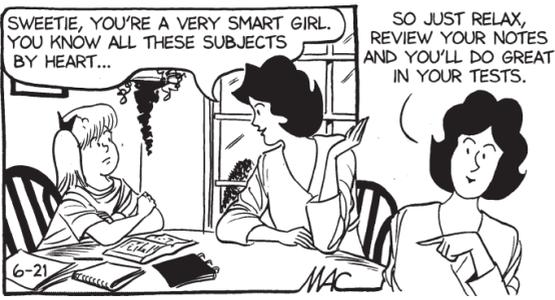
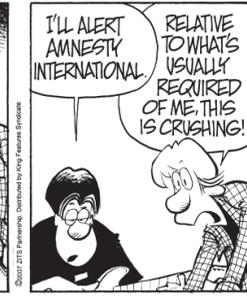


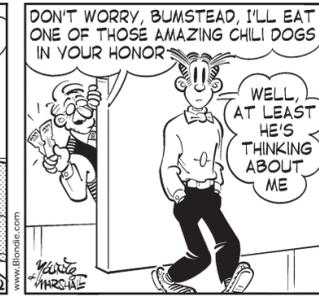
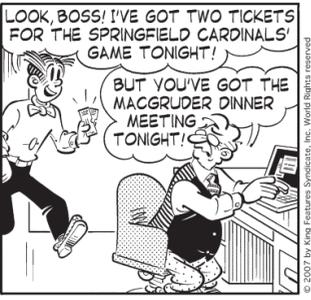
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



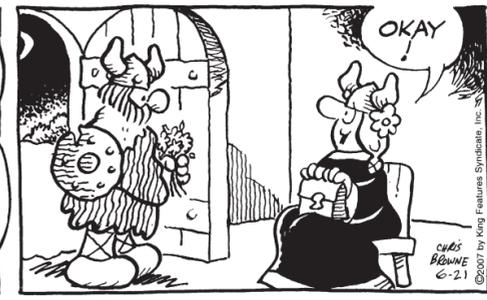
Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Blondie • Chic Young



Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



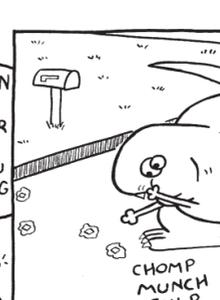
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



Tod the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



Conceptis Sudoku

by Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★

6/21

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

Difficulty Level ★★

6/21

Bridge

South dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ Q
♥ K 10 8 2
♦ J 8 4 3
♣ A Q 10 6
WEST
♠ A K J 10 9 7 4 2
♥ 9 5
♦ 9
♣ 8 3
EAST
♠ 6 3
♥ A 7 4
♦ Q 10 6
♣ J 9 7 5 2
SOUTH
♠ 8 5
♥ Q J 6 3
♦ A K 7 5 2
♣ K 4
The bidding:
South West North East
1♦ 4♠ 5♦ All Pass
Opening lead — king of spades.

A Case of Eavesdropping

Generally speaking, when a player makes a bid, or a series of bids, his primary purpose is to portray to his partner as nearly as possible the type of hand he has.

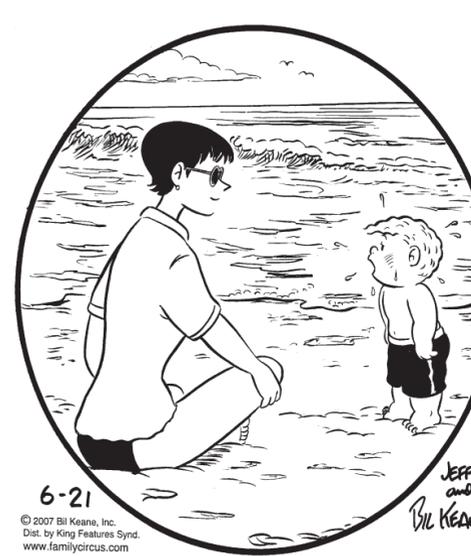
In doing so, however, he cannot avoid revealing the very same information to the opposition. After all, the opponents also have ears, and have every right to listen in on what is basically intended as a private conversation. As a result, both sides are frequently able to take advantage of the knowledge they pick up from the adverse bidding. In the present case, for example, South knows a great deal about West's hand from his four-spade bid, and he can put this knowledge to good use to help him make the contract. Let's say West leads the king of spades and shifts to a club. Since South must lose a heart in any case, his sole concern at this point is to avoid losing a trump trick. If he plays normally, that is, if he cashes the A-K of diamonds, he makes the contract if the diamonds are divided 2-2 or either player has the singleton queen.

However, with West known to have seven or eight spades, the odds are greatly against his having two diamonds. Indeed, West is far more likely to have one diamond than two. South should therefore base his play in the trump suit on this assumption and should reason that, if West has a singleton, there is twice as good a chance it is the ten or nine rather than the queen. Accordingly, he should win West's club return at trick two with dummy's queen and lead the jack of diamonds, planning to finesse if East follows low.

If East covers the jack with the queen and West produces the ten or nine, South should cross to the ace of clubs and finesse against East for the missing key card.

In the actual deal, this method of play succeeds, and South loses only a spade and a heart.

Family Circus • Bil Keane



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Crossword

- | | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| ACROSS | DOWN | DOWN | DOWN |
| 1 Garden tools | 1 Tom's pal | 19 Ever, in verse | 21 "What did you say?" |
| 5 DNA sharer, maybe | 2 Pasta that resembles rice | 24 Blond shade | 25 Floral accessory |
| 8 Recipe meas. | 3 "Zounds!" | 28 Greek vowel | 29 Motley Crue drummer |
| 12 Desire | 4 TV actor's hope | 30 Zodiac sign | 31 Longing |
| 13 Salary | 5 "Malcolm X" director | 36 Politico | 37 "See ya" |
| 14 Canal zone? | 6 Writer Fleming | 38 Streisand classic | 41 Yours truly |
| 15 Despot | 7 Harmonization | 42 Applies lightly | 43 Lend a sly hand |
| 16 Hostel | 8 Saint of Avila | 44 Old fogey | 46 Academic |
| 17 Littlest of the litter | 9 "Enter the Dragon" actor | 47 Part of T.A.E. | 48 Yuletide refrain |
| 18 Alaskan bear | 10 Kitchen fixture | 51 Saturn auto model | |
| 20 Investigates | 11 Letterman's "trick" performers | | |
| 22 Storm center | | | |
| 23 Exploitation | | | |
| 24 Hannibal's hurdles | | | |
| 27 With intent to kill | | | |
| 32 Bishop's bailiwick | | | |
| 33 Ike's WWII command | | | |
| 34 Shoe width | | | |
| 35 Bright headlight | | | |
| 38 Menial laborer | | | |
| 39 Fella | | | |

Solution time: 25 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 6-21

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		

THANK YOU FOR READING THE

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Cryptoquip

6-21 CRYPTOQUIP

AN R FYLBJ LN JVYPBOOALD-
A O G O T V D G R Y L B D W
O T A J A D F G M A D F O, O M L B E W
A G I V P R E E V W R O G V R E I R D W?

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: CAN YOU BELIEVE THAT ACTOR JACK JUST EMPLOYED A LIVE-IN HOUSEKEEPER TO BE HIS LEMMON AIDE?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: N equals F