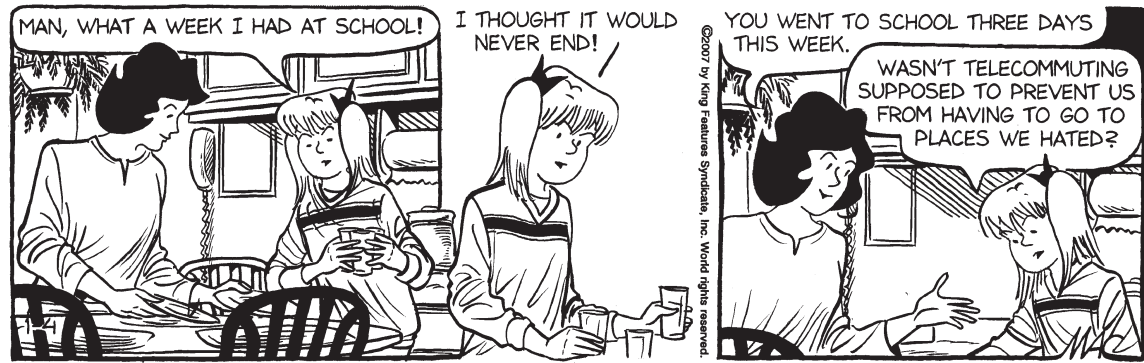
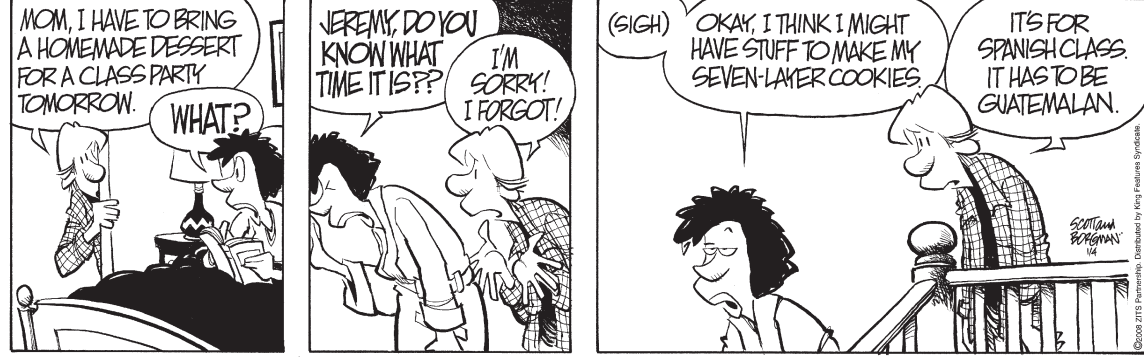


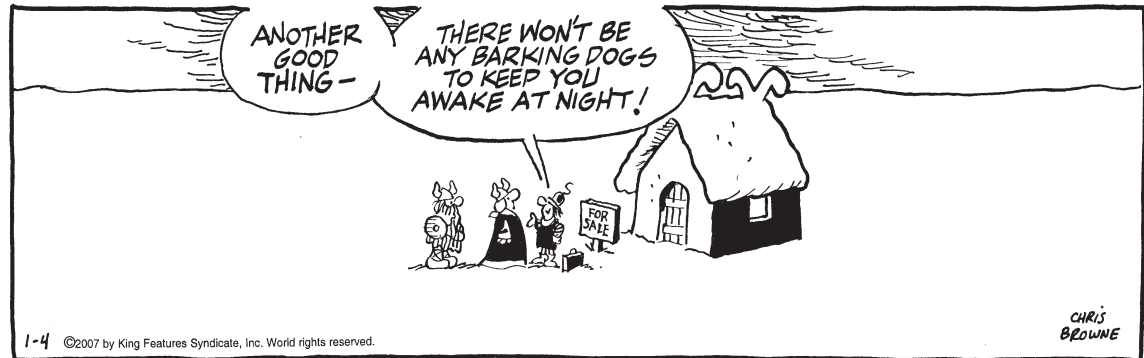
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



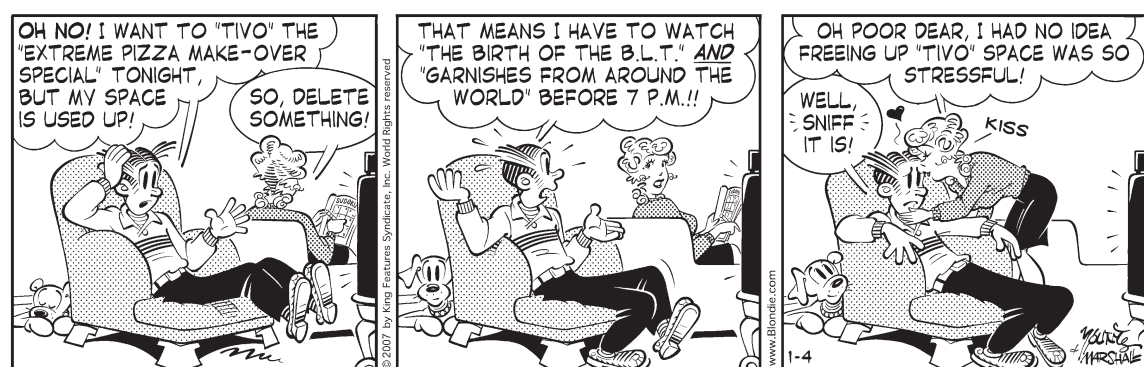
Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



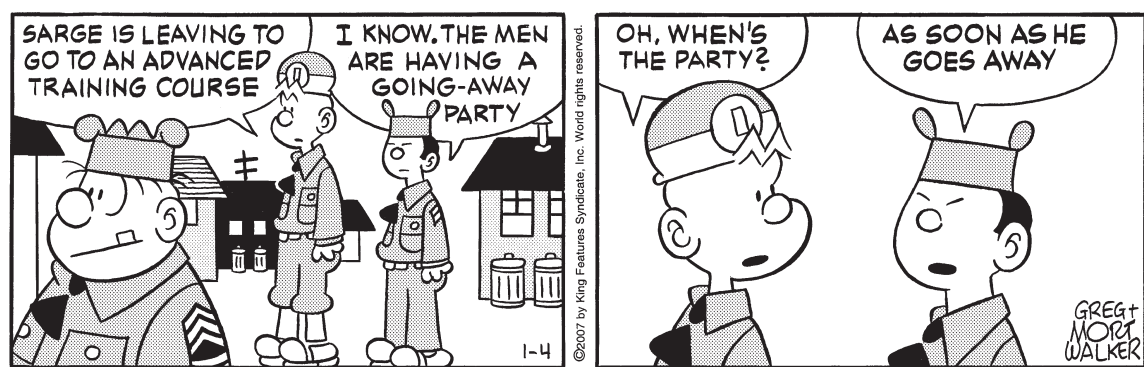
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



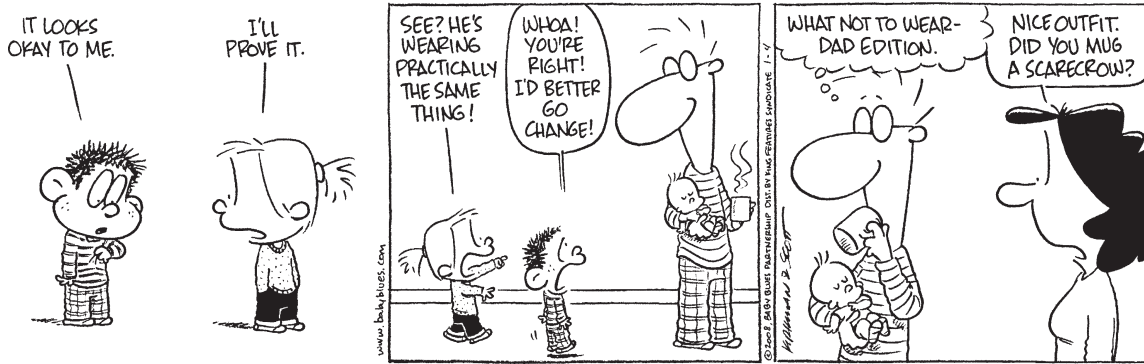
Blondie • Chic Young



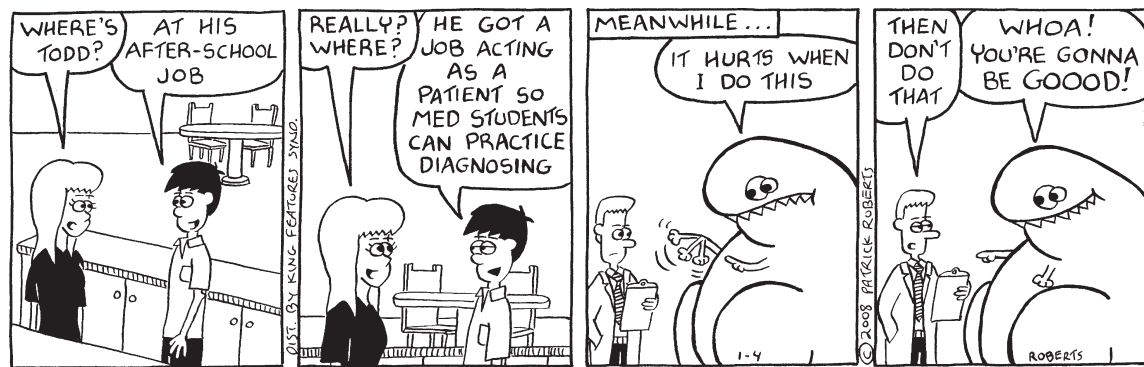
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



Tod the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



Cryptoquip

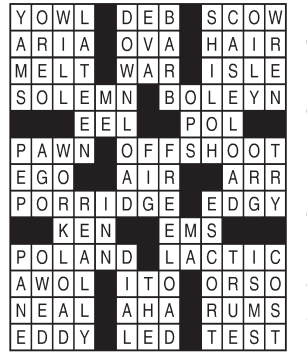
MY EWU PDHX GWUY
 ZDCCMDIUX GUCU DCCDYIUP
 HVS TVSKP XDH EWDE ZDYI
 TVSAKUX GUCU ACU-ADMCUP
 Yesterday's Cryptoquip: THE PASTOR'S SERMONS ARE IN POETIC FORM. THEY TYPICALLY REFER TO HIM AS THE RHYME MINISTER.
 Today's Cryptoquip Clue: H equals Y

QRKCSYR MGR KTTN'Y
 KPCXME DHTMY CPR DTPHE
 DHCBBRU TSM, GR GCY
 WCBE GCHX-QCNRU YKGRWRY.
 Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IN THE DAYS WHEN MARRIAGES WERE ARRANGED, YOU COULD SAY THAT MANY COUPLES WERE PRE-PAIRED.
 Today's Cryptoquip Clue: T equals O

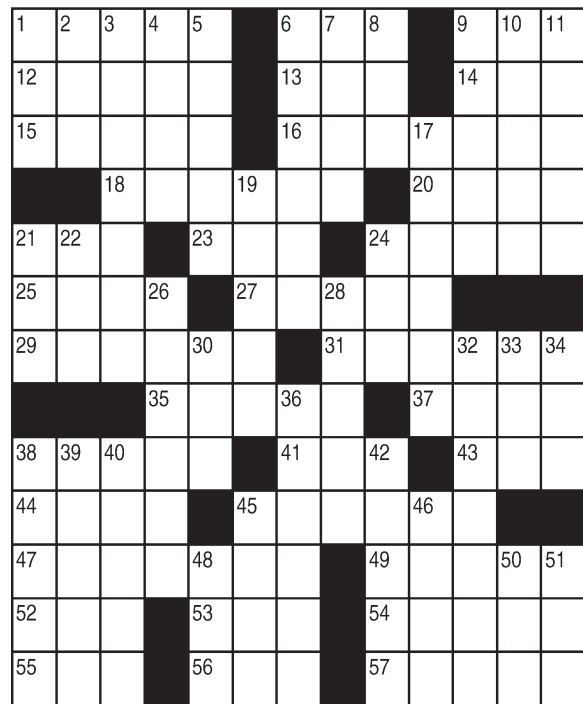
Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Towns
 - 6 "Bam!"
 - 9 Raw rock
 - 12 Dizzying designs
 - 13 Mimic
 - 14 Gender
 - 15 Ancient Roman port
 - 16 Workaday grind
 - 18 Beast
 - 20 Culture medium
 - 21 Pismire
 - 23 Affirmative action?
 - 24 Skilled
 - 25 Out of bounds
 - 27 "Aida" composer
 - 29 Period of decline
 - 31 Blue shades
 - 35 Fillies' mothers
 - 37 No purebred
 - 38 Reached
- DOWN**
- 41 1950s DJ's stack
 - 43 Festive
 - 44 Belligerent deity
 - 45 Kitchen device
 - 47 Hoarder of a sort
 - 49 Wipe out
 - 52 Biblical verb
 - 53 Rocks suffix
 - 54 Chipped in
 - 55 — Moines
 - 56 Garden plot ...
 - 57 ... and what may grow there
 - 1 Greet the villain
 - 2 Boom times
 - 3 Knocking noise
 - 4 Smile
 - 5 Blotch
 - 6 Procession
 - 7 October stone
 - 8 Drench
 - 9 Orange variety
 - 10 Summarize
 - 11 Put forth
 - 17 Curie discovery
 - 19 Man with a van
 - 21 Keep talking
 - 22 Ultramodernist
 - 24 Wood-shaping tool
 - 26 Grayish-red
 - 28 Grates
 - 30 Roscoe
 - 32 Kids (Sl.)
 - 33 Greek vowel
 - 34 Pigs' digs
 - 36 Walking on air
 - 38 Stared open-mouthed
 - 39 Speak from the soapbox
 - 40 Georgia and Cal
 - 42 Remove wool
 - 45 Spiked club
 - 46 Cube-maker
 - 48 Eve, originally
 - 50 Witness
 - 51 Mag. staffers

Solution time: 25 mins.

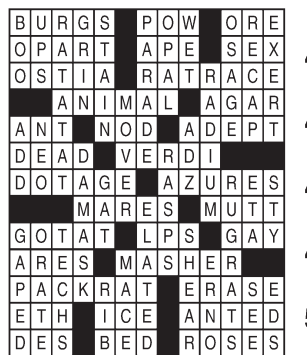


Yesterday's answer 1-4



- ACROSS**
- 1 "— the nerve!"
 - 6 Analgesic targets
 - 11 "Rome wasn't built —"
 - 12 Extended family members
 - 14 Iliad locale
 - 15 Smooth fabric
 - 16 Pussy-cat's partner
 - 17 "Forget it!"
 - 19 Commotion
 - 20 Speaker's platform
 - 22 Allow
 - 23 Masticate
 - 24 Church council
 - 26 Dignified women
 - 28 Actor Stephen
 - 30 Romanian money
 - 31 Lists
 - 35 With abundance
 - 39 Doggy bag fill
 - 40 Fa follower
 - 42 Soft cheese
 - 43 Praise in verse
 - 44 Preclude
 - 46 Caviar, essentially
 - 47 Type of temperature scale
 - 49 One searching thoroughly
 - 51 Spit
 - 52 Strata
 - 53 Boutonniere site
 - 54 Abrasive substance
 - 55 Nano and Shuffle
 - 13 Packs away
- DOWN**
- 1 Unilateral
 - 2 Form ranks
 - 3 Pt. of speech
 - 4 Deposited
 - 5 Disinfectant brand
 - 6 Very important
 - 7 From the beginning
 - 8 Bedridden, maybe
 - 9 "Wind-talkers" tribe
 - 10 Home of the Geats
 - 18 Height of fashion?
 - 21 Categorizes
 - 23 Morsel
 - 25 Sandra or Ruby
 - 27 Earl Grey, for one
 - 29 Weapon collection
 - 31 Castles
 - 32 Trial
 - 33 "Street-car ..."
 - 34 Weep
 - 36 One who writes "QED"?
 - 37 Servant's garb
 - 38 They last for months
 - 41 Big dipper?
 - 44 Jackknife, e.g.
 - 45 Paper quantity
 - 48 Special someone
 - 50 Caustic solution

Solution time: 27 mins.



Yesterday's answer 1-5

Bridge

You are South, and the bidding has gone:

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♣	Pass
2 ♦	Pass	2 ♥	Pass

What would you bid now with each of the following four hands?

1. ♠ AKJ82 ♥ J4 ♦ AQ96 ♣ Q3
2. ♠ KQ953 ♥ 8 ♦ AJ94 ♣ K76
3. ♠ KQJ1074 ♥ Q86 ♦ AQ52 ♣ —
4. ♠ AQ872 ♥ Q4 ♦ AQJ83 ♣ 10

Bidding Quiz

1. Three notrump. This rebid indicates that you have more high-card points than would be shown by a two-notrump rebid, and usually a 5-4-2-2 distribution.
2. Three clubs. It is important to pinpoint your heart shortage, while at the same time indicating three-card support for partner's first-bid suit. The three-club bid also implies minimum values for your opening bid.
3. Three spades. Considering partner's two forcing bids, this is surely a game-going hand. Your spade suit is virtually self-sufficient, so it is time to let partner in on the nature of your hand.
4. Three diamonds. This rebid conveys several messages at the same time. It indicates five diamonds since you are rebidding the suit, and simultaneously confirms that you have five or possibly six spades, since you would otherwise have opened with one diamond. All of this expresses lack of interest in notrump play, but if partner bids three notrump next, you will have no choice but to pass, as you have fully

South dealer. Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH		EAST	
♠	10 9 6 2	♠	4
♥	K 8	♥	Q 9 5 2
♦	K 10 7 3	♦	J 6 4
♣	A 6 2	♣	K Q 8 5 3

WEST		SOUTH	
♠	Q J 7 3	♠	A K 8 5
♥	J 6 4	♥	A 10 7 3
♦	Q 8 5	♦	A 9 2
♣	10 9 7	♣	J 4

The bidding:
 South 1 NT
 West Pass
 North 2 ♣
 East Pass
 Opening lead — ten of clubs.

A Sleight-of-Hand Trick

It is sometimes possible to make a contract that seems destined for sure defeat. Bridge is a rewarding game in this respect -- you can occasionally pull a rabbit out of a hat. South was in four spades, and it didn't look difficult to make when dummy came down. His probable losers were a spade, a diamond and a club, assuming Declarer ducked the club lead and took East's trump shift with the ace at trick two. After cashing the K-A of hearts, he played the king of spades and discovered this put a totally different light upon matters. South couldn't make the contract now unless he found a way to avoid a diamond loser, since he had already lost a club and was bound to lose two spade tricks. With this goal firmly in mind, he ruffed a heart in dummy, then cashed the ace of clubs and trumped a club in his hand to produce this position:

North
 [S] 10
 [D] K 10 7 3
 West
 [S] Q J
 [D] Q 8 5
 East
 [H] Q
 [D] J 6 4
 [C] K
 South
 [S] 8
 [H] 10
 [D] A 9 2

The ten-of-hearts lead forced West to ruff to prevent declarer from ruffing in dummy and scoring his eighth trick. West cashed his remaining trump, but was then forced to return a diamond. A low diamond lead would have permitted South to first trap East's jack and next West's queen.

West did as well as he could when he led the queen instead. But declarer, playing for the honors to be split, went up with dummy's king and finessed the nine on the return to bring in his game.

Family Circus • Bill Keane
 THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



"Look, Mommy! It's something new I've taught PJ how to do!"