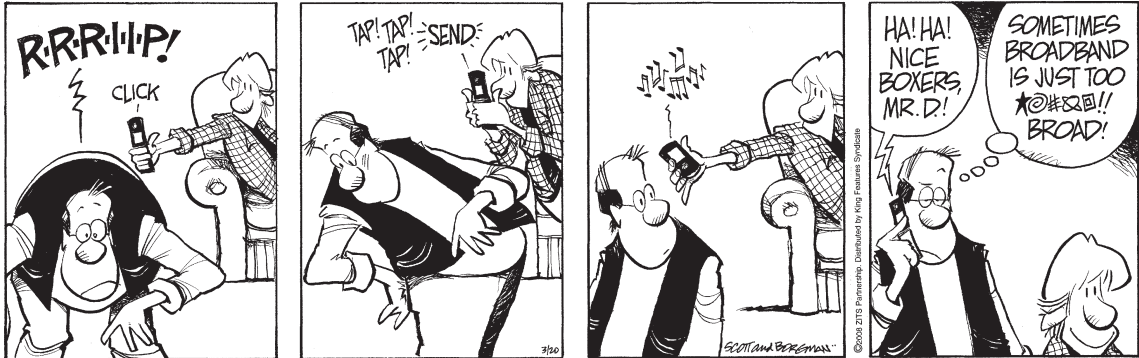


Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



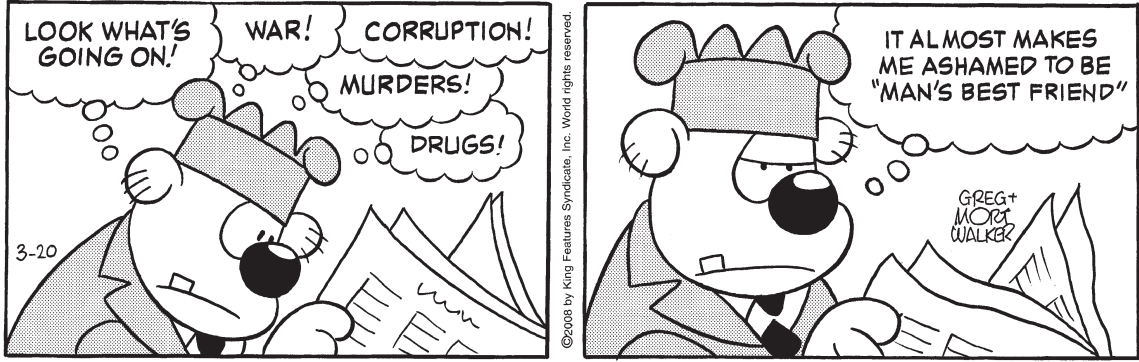
Blondie • Chic Young



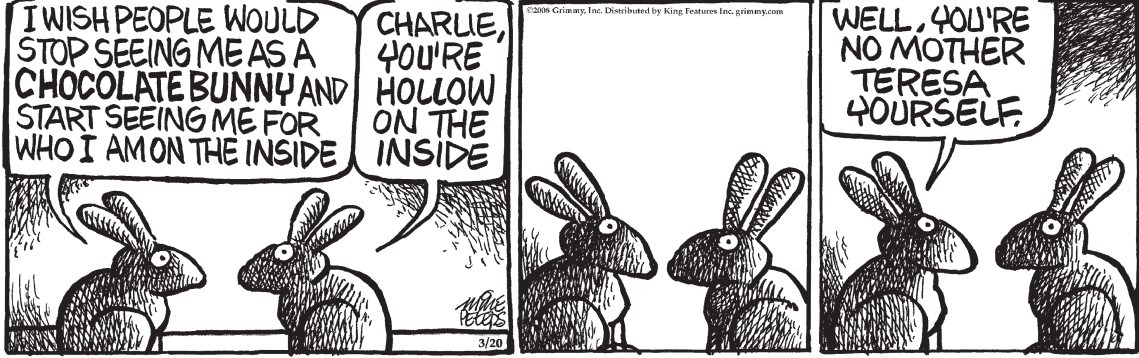
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



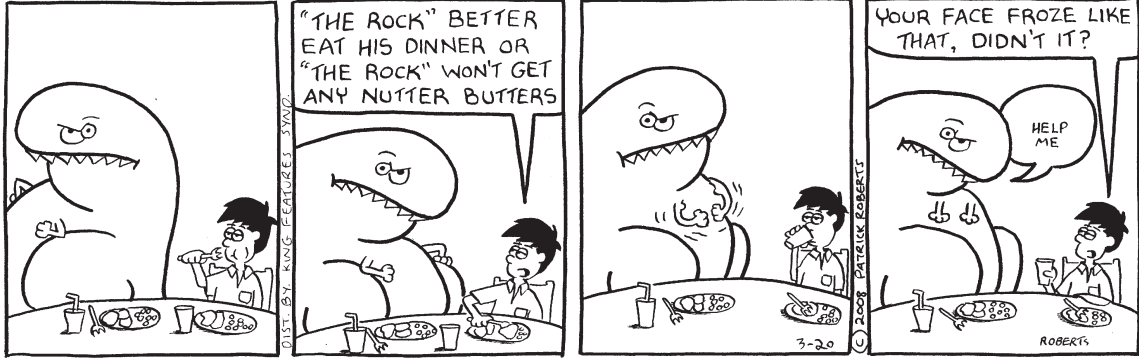
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



Tod the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



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Cryptoquip

SCLOK ILP VUBDL OFUEK
O FEIXG UM XEKL OIJ
AUBOFAL IDSGK XCOPALCY:
'PUCVY UM LIJLOCVLIK.'
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: A POLLUTED SHORE WHERE MUCH INDUSTRIAL GARBAGE IS DUMPED HAS BEEN DUBBED "THE WASTE COAST."
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: P equals W

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

3/20

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.

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

3/20

Bridge

West dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ A 7 4 2
♥ K 6 5 4
♦ J 7 6
♣ 9 5

WEST
♠ Q 10 8 5 3
♥ 9
♦ 9 5 3 2
♣ 6 4 3

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

SOUTH
♠ —
♥ A 8
♦ K Q 10 4
♣ K Q J 10 8 7 2

The bidding:
West North East South
Pass Pass 1♥ 5♣
Opening lead — nine of hearts.

Family Circus • Bil Keane



What Can Defeat Me?

Assume you get to five clubs on the bidding shown and West leads a heart. If you are a happy-go-lucky sort, it does not take you long to fail. You win the heart lead with the ace and play a trump. East takes the ace and returns a heart, which West ruffs. Sooner or later you lose a diamond to the ace and go down one.

But if you're by nature a more cautious soul, you wind up making the contract. As soon as dummy comes down, you can see that the only real danger is the possibility that West's heart lead is a singleton. There is certainly a reasonable possibility that East's opening heart bid was based on a six-card suit.

The next step is to ask yourself whether there is any way of averting a heart ruff. Once you've gotten this far, it should not take long to find the answer. Accordingly, you win the heart lead with dummy's king, play the ace of spades and on it discard the ace of hearts!

The rest of the play is anticlimactic. At trick three, you lead a trump. East wins with the ace and returns a heart. You ruff, draw trumps, concede a diamond to the ace and finish with 11 tricks.

The hand is a further illustration of how a truly careful declarer goes about the business of nailing down a contract that might otherwise fail. "What can defeat me?" he asks himself, and he then takes whatever steps are necessary to overcome the incipient danger.

Crossword

ACROSS

1 Four qts.
4 Metal refuse
8 Spud's buds
12 Discoverer's cry
13 "Oh, where, oh, where can —?"
14 Lummo
15 Holiday
17 Taj Mahal city
18 "The Greatest"
19 Speech
21 Spot
24 Inventor Whitney
25 9 mm sub-machine gun
26 DIY buy
28 Couches
32 Family-biz abbr.
34 Boxer
36 Catalan kid
37 Annual visitor
39 Spigot
41 Took out of context?

DOWN

1 Head of st.
2 "Eureka!"
3 Site
4 Comic bit
5 Muumu accessory
6 "Peek—!"
7 Category
8 Joy
9 Boo Boo's mentor
10 Modern coin
11 Ollie's pal
16 Brewery product
20 Capp and Capone
21 Works on the sound-track
22 Pound of verse

Solution time: 25 mins.

Yesterday's answer 3-20

23 Piece of advice
27 Egyptian boy king
29 Unhealthy attachment
30 From square one
31 Lays down the lawn
33 Depot
35 Whale group
38 Jackie's second hubby
40 Majestic home
43 Specks
45 Barracks bed
46 Pindaric works
47 "Billy Budd" captain
48 Plankton component
49 Wine region of California
53 Louis —
54 Lennon's lady
55 Beak

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
56					57				58	
59					60				61	