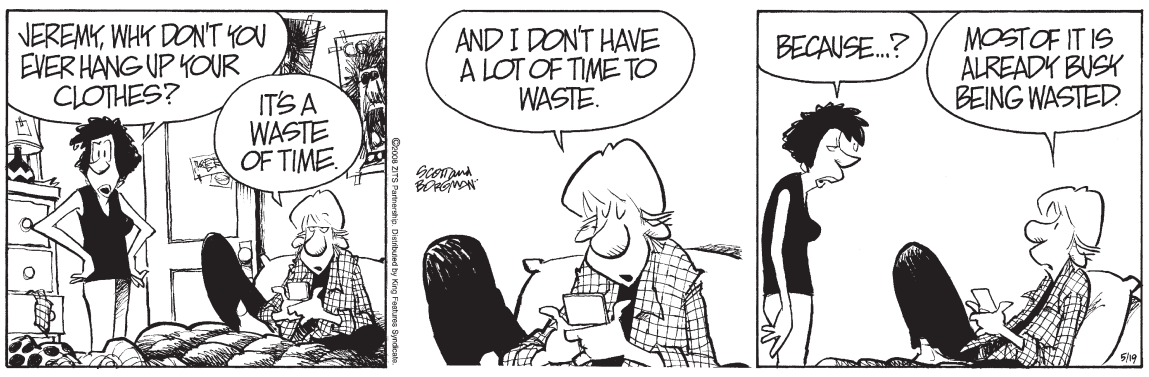
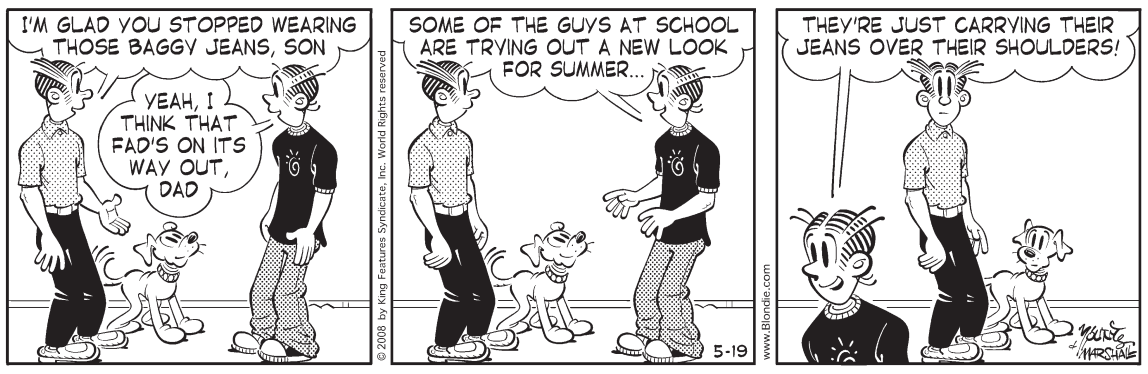
Sally Forth • Greg Howard

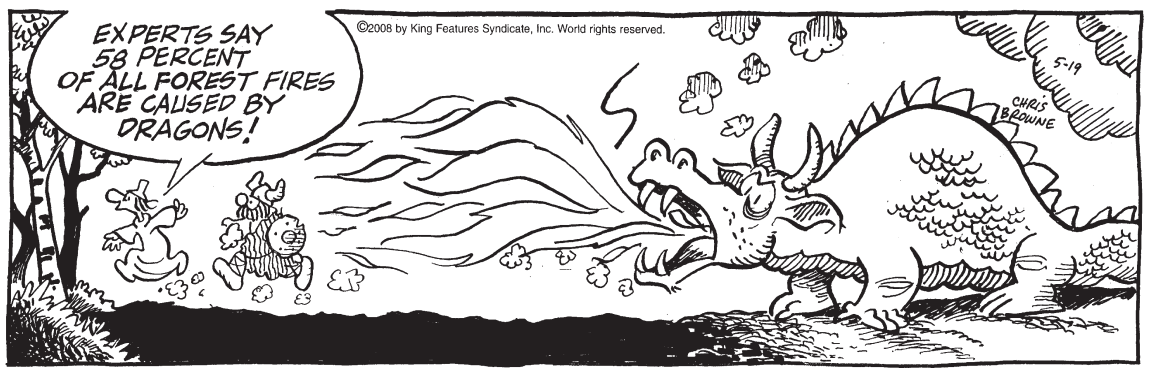
Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



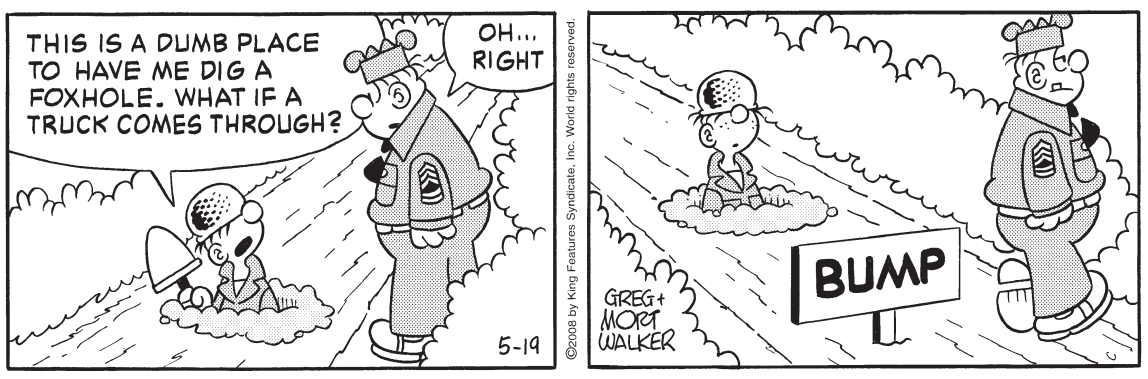
Blondie • Chic Young



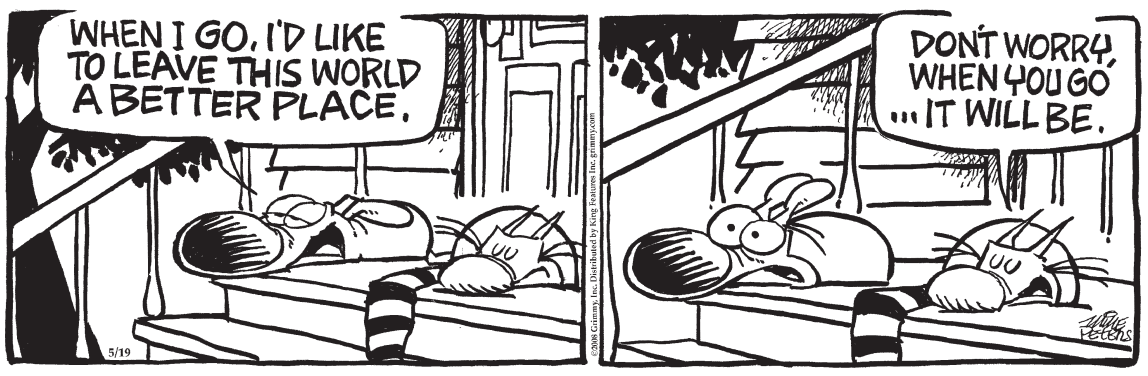
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



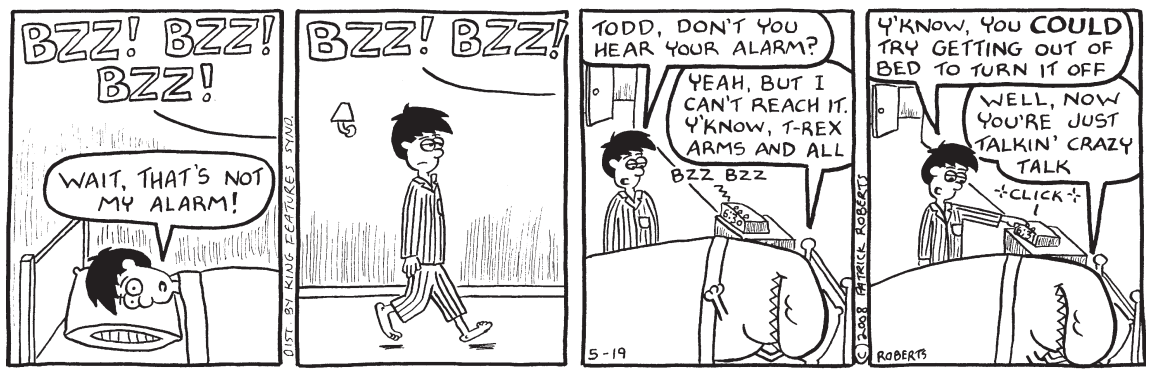
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



Tod the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott

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Cryptoquip

HSAVD Z AJJL AKV BDZXN IZTIVD BJJLZV JFA JS AKV SDZEIV, PJFYE CJF XHC ZA PHX H BJYE XTHN?

Saturday's Cryptoquip: BECAUSE I WAS FINDING IT VERY HARD TO REMOVE MY WINTER FOOTWEAR, I HAD TO USE BOOT STRENGTH.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: J equals O

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★ 5/19

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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.

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

Difficulty Level ★ 5/19

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Bridge

West dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ A K J
♥ K 7 2
♦ Q 10 8 7 5
♣ 6 5

WEST
♠ —
♥ Q J 8 5 4 3
♦ A J 4
♣ K Q J 9

EAST
♠ 9 3 2
♥ 6
♦ 9 6 3 2
♣ A 10 8 3 2

SOUTH
♠ Q 10 8 7 6 5 4
♥ A 10 9
♦ K
♣ 7 4

The bidding:

West	North	East	South
1 ♥	Dble	Pass	4 ♠

Opening lead — king of clubs.

Famous Hand

This remarkable deal occurred during the match between Italy and the United States in Stockholm, Sweden, in 1983. What happened at the two tables might seem incredible, but the plain, unvarnished truth is that everything took place precisely as described below.

At the first table, with Italy North-South, the bidding went as shown, and the U.S. West led the king of clubs. East overtook with the ace and returned his singleton heart at trick two.

The Italian declarer won with the ace and led a trump to the ace, on which West unexpectedly showed out. This development apparently caused something to go wrong with declarer's think tank, since his next play was a low diamond to the king.

At this point, the hand collapsed. West took his ace and led the queen of hearts. East ruffed dummy's king, returned a low club to his partner, and West administered the final blow by cashing the jack of hearts to put the contract down two.

At the second table, with a U.S. pair now North-South, the Italian West likewise led the club king against four spades. Here, also, East overtook with the ace and shifted to a heart.

The U.S. declarer's play now varied slightly when he played the heart ten at trick two, covered by the jack and king. When declarer then cashed the ace of trumps and West discarded a heart, he suddenly found the contract could no longer be made regardless of what he did next. Eventually, he lost two clubs, a diamond and a heart for down one.

Considering that four spades was ice-cold from the word "go," the outcome at the two tables was astonishing. All declarer had to do to guarantee 10 tricks was to take his ace of hearts at trick two, draw trumps and lead the king of diamonds. That's all there was to it.

Even more astounding is the fact that both Souths would be voted among the 10 best players in the world! Each apparently suffered a mental block of some sort, proving that in bridge, as in life, it's very human to err.

Family Circus • Bil Keane

"Did anchormen and anchorwomen start out as anchorkids?"

Crossword

ACROSS
1 Howl at the moon
4 Wheat bundle
9 Wintertime ailment
12 Raw rock
13 Greeting
14 Rowboat propeller
15 Wisconsin city
17 Sister
18 "What Kind of Fool —?"
19 Disagreeing
21 Become communicative
24 Transmit
25 — good deed
26 Got a glimpse of
28 Don't just toss away
31 Piece of work
33 Grumpy companion
35 Bed-frame part
36 Right-hand page
38 Small barrel
40 Altar constellation
41 Stow cargo
43 Impish one
45 Clark Kent's newspaper
47 Moose's cousin
48 Ring around the collar?
49 Wisconsin city
54 Listener
55 Prophets
56 Past
57 Gorilla
58 Islamic God
59 Church seating

DOWN
1 Acknowledge applause
2 "We — not amused"
3 "Certainly"
4 Detective, slangily
5 Chopper's landing site
6 Right angle
7 Pseudonym
8 "Old Folks at Home" composer
9 Wisconsin city
10 Praise highly
11 Coffee shop vessels
16 Darker than beige
20 Individuals
21 Smell
22 Vatican VIP
23 Wisconsin city
27 Stir-fry pan
29 Poet Teasdale
30 And others (Lat.)
32 Ollie's partner
34 Brains
37 Black Sea port
39 Overshoe
42 Lucy's pal
44 Firmament
45 Entreaty
46 Bound
50 Moray, e.g.
51 Space
52 Time of your life?
53 Present

Solution time: 24 mins.

O	F	F		S	C	O	W		E	L	M	S
P	A	R		A	L	S	O		D	U	A	L
E	R	A		M	U	L	L		I	L	I	A
C	O	U	R	S	E	O	F	S	T	U	D	Y
			H	O	D		R	A	H			
L	A	D	E	N		T	A	G		G	A	P
I	D	E	A		M	U	M		M	A	I	L
E	O	N		F	O	X		K	E	L	L	Y
			K	I	T		S	I	N			
S	T	A	Y	T	H	E	C	O	U	R	S	E
L	O	C	O		E	R	O	S		I	O	N
E	D	I	T		R	I	N	K		G	O	V
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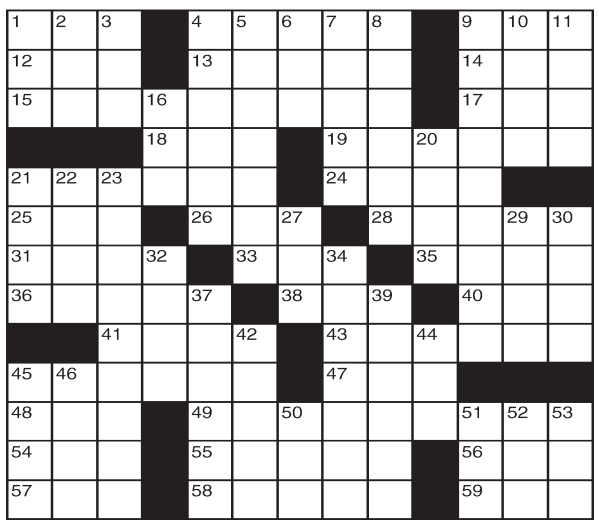
Saturday's answer 5-19