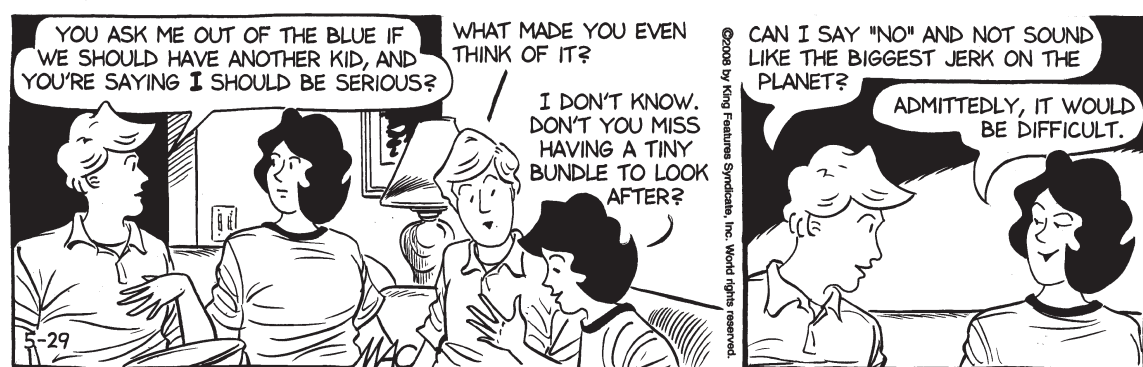
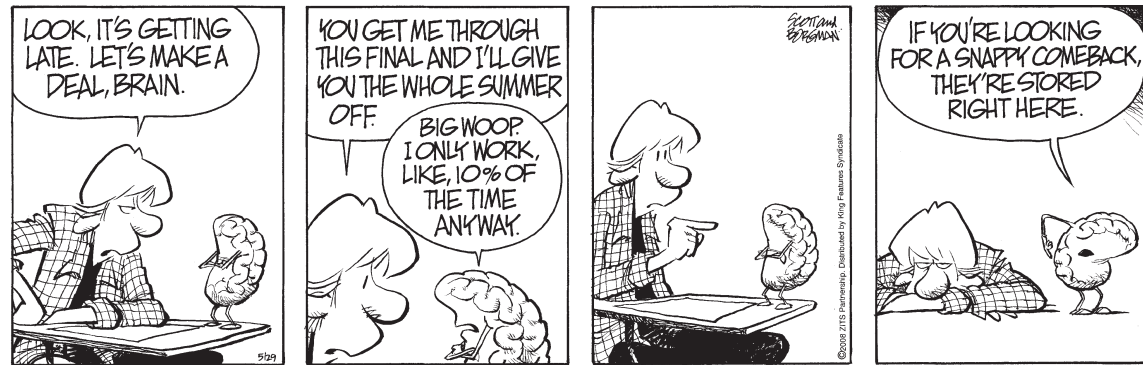


Sally Forth • Greg Howard



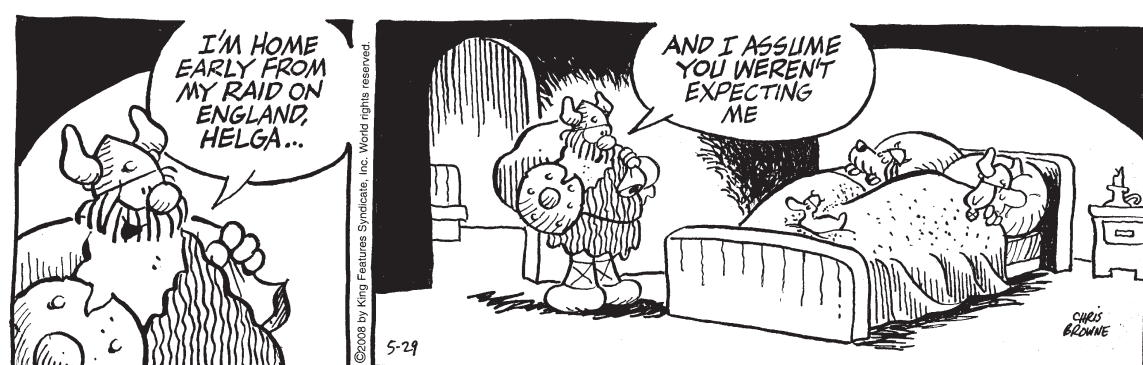
Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Blondie • Chic Young



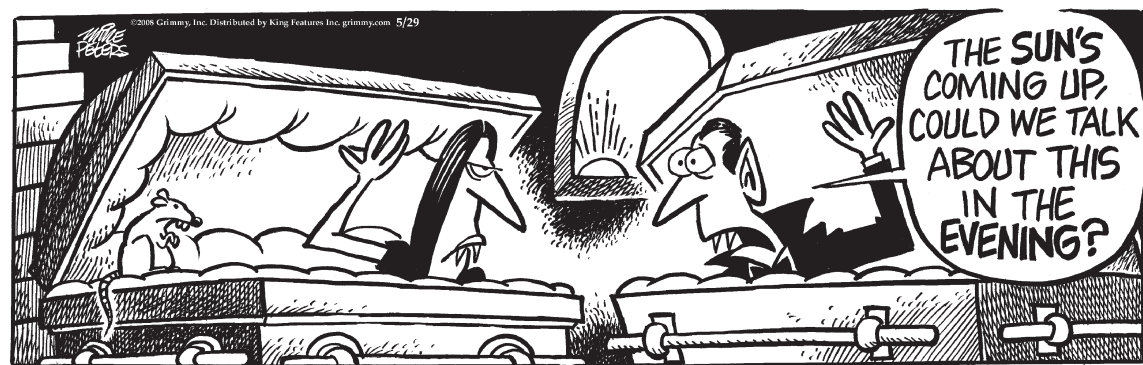
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



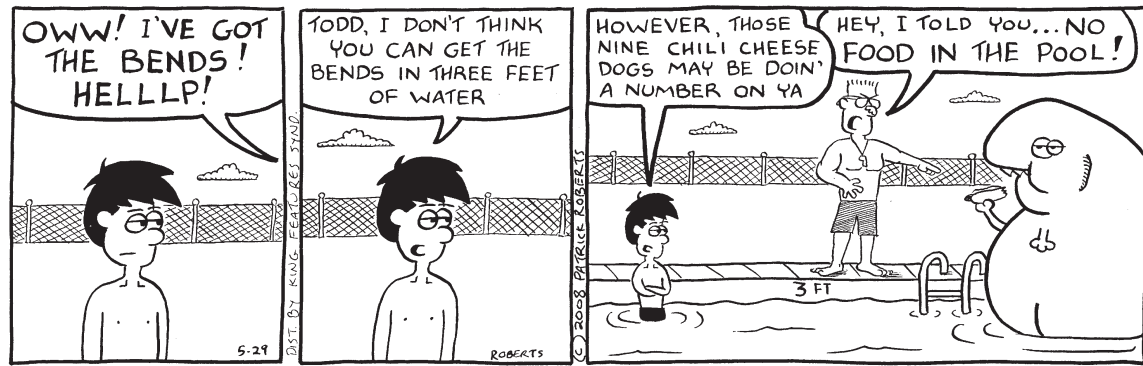
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



Tod the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



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Cryptoquip

SAEDQ VAE JFZFJ PA PRF
UFJHAB VAE'JF UDWVMB
W JAEBQ AZ CADZ SMPR
WH W UWJIMBC UWJPBFJ!

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF YOU SPOT A RABBIT, PICK IT UP, AND FLEE, IT COULD BE SAID THAT YOU TAKE THE BUNNY AND RUN.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: J equals R

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

5/29

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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.

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

5/29

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Bridge

East dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ 6 5
♥ 7 5 3 2
♦ A Q
♣ A 7 6 4 2

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

EAST
♠ Q J 10 7 4
♥ K
♦ 9 4 3
♣ J 10 8 5

SOUTH
♠ K 8
♥ A 8 6
♦ K J 10 5
♣ K Q 9 3

The bidding:
East South West North
Pass 1 NT Pass 2 ♣
Pass 2 ♦ Pass 3 NT
Opening lead — queen of hearts.

What Can Possibly Go Wrong?

Safety plays take so many forms that it is almost impossible to enumerate them, let alone memorize them. It is therefore wiser to try to understand the theory behind a safety play than to rely on memory or past experience.

A safety play is a technique by which declarer attempts to guard against a potentially unfavorable lie of the opposing cards. He tries to find a way to protect against that distribution if it exists.

Consider this deal where West leads the queen of hearts, on which East plays the king. Declarer wins with the ace because he does not want to run the risk of a spade shift by East.

South's play at trick two is crucial. If he makes the mistake of playing the king of clubs, he goes down because of the unlucky 4-0 club division.

Instead, even though three notrump looks easy to make, he asks himself: "Is there anything that can possibly defeat me?" It is this very question that so often leads declarer to a safety play.

Obviously, only a 4-0 club split can defeat him, so his next step is to try to overcome that division if it exists. After some thought, declarer concludes first that he is powerless if West has all four missing clubs, but that he can handle the situation if East has them.

Accordingly, he leads a low club to the ace at trick two. After West shows out, South returns a low club from dummy at trick three. When East plays the ten, South wins with the queen, crosses to the ace of diamonds and leads another club. Declarer's K-9 trap East's J-8, and he finishes with nine tricks -- a heart, four diamonds and four clubs -- thanks to the safety play.

Family Circus • Bil Keane



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Crossword

ACROSS
1 Family-biz abbr.
5 Support
9 Storefront sign stats
12 Helper
13 Trevi toss, once
14 Ump's call
15 All but one in a million?
17 Kyoto cummerbund
18 Layers
19 Stun gun
21 Mother
22 Tremor
24 Heavy reading
27 Boxer
28 Quite some time
31 Greet the villain
32 Wet wiggler
33 Mork's home planet
34 "Scat!"
36 Indispensable
37 Vacillate

DOWN
1 Super-market supply
2 Laugh-a-minute
3 Bloodhound's clue
4 Snuffleupagus' street
5 Entreaty
6 Outfit
7 Assoc.
8 Trattoria fare
9 Jail
10 Hayseed
11 Use a teaspoon
16 Greek vowel
20 Alias abbr.
22 Odd
23 Pre-swan
24 Cable sta.
25 Ah's mate
26 Saskatchewan city
27 Lapdog, for short
29 Historic time
30 Firmament
35 "the ramparts..."
37 Boy
39 Increases the temperature
40 Mined-over matter
41 Spheres
42 Rind of rind
43 Second-hand
44 Infamous lyricist
45 Radius neighbor
46 Stalk
49 Lubricate
50 Inseparable

Solution time: 25 mins.

L	O	A	F	C	O	W	I	S	T	S	
T	I	D	L	E	H	I	E	M	O	N	O
S	O	F	T	B	A	L	L	T	I	F	F
T	R	A	C	A	M	L	O	T	T	O	S
S	I	S	K	E	Y	S	T	A	N	D	
K	N	O	B	D	A	S	E	R	I	E	
I	N	F	R	A	W	O	E	E	L	Y	
T	A	L	L	U	M	P					
B	U	S	I	L	I	F	I	E	S	T	A
E	N	O	L	S	O	F	T	S	H	O	E
E	T	A	L	O	W	L	T	A	R	O	
R	O	P	E	L	E	E	O	M	E	N	

Yesterday's answer 5-29

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		