Sally Forth • Greg Howard
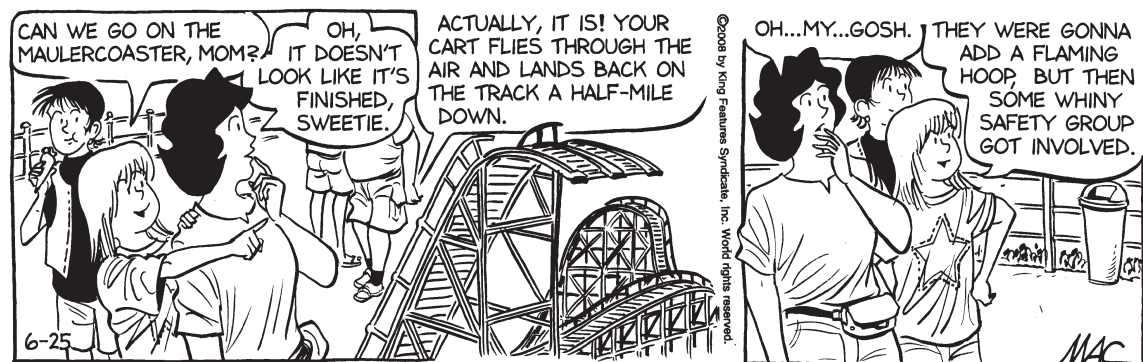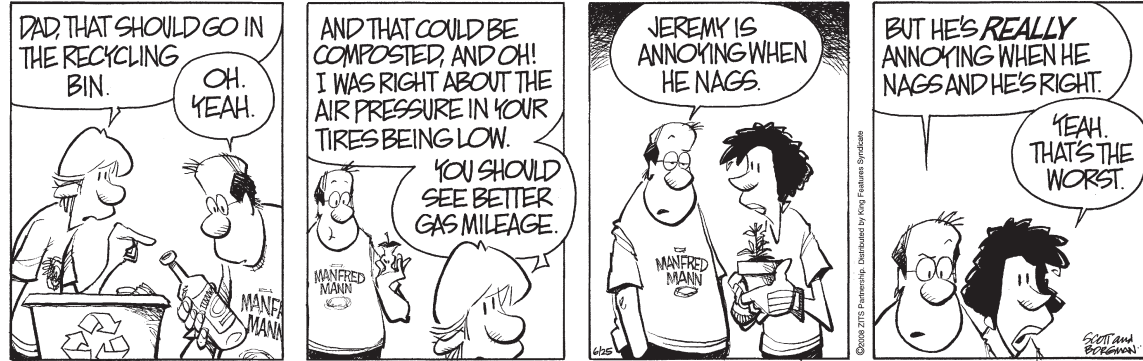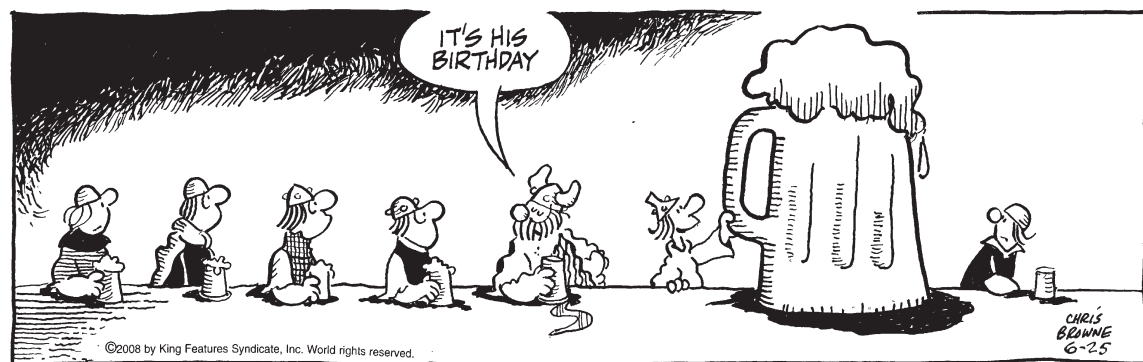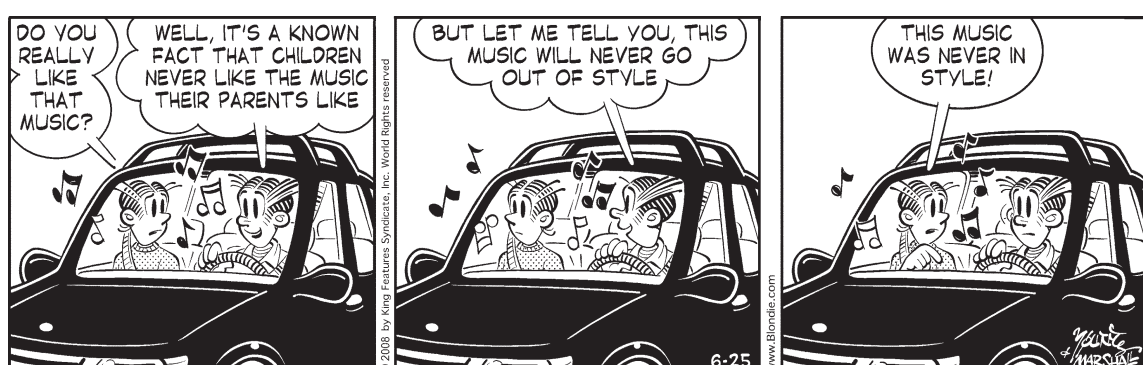

Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott
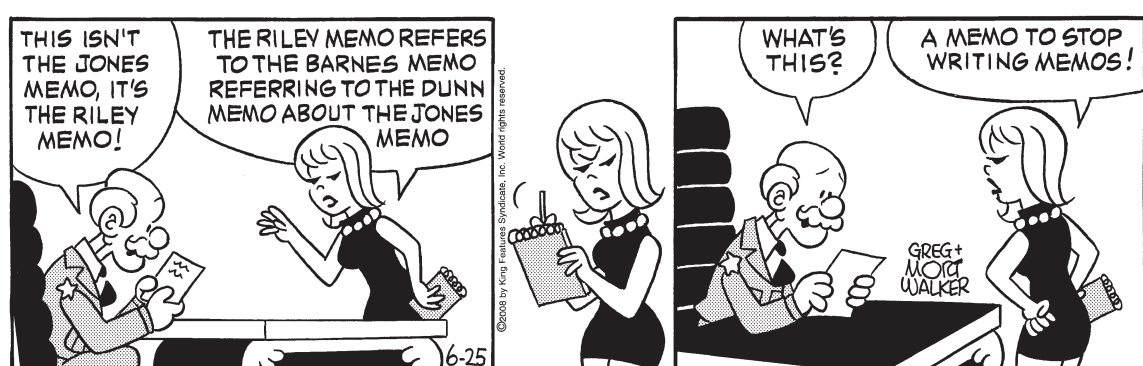

Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne

Blondie • Chic Young

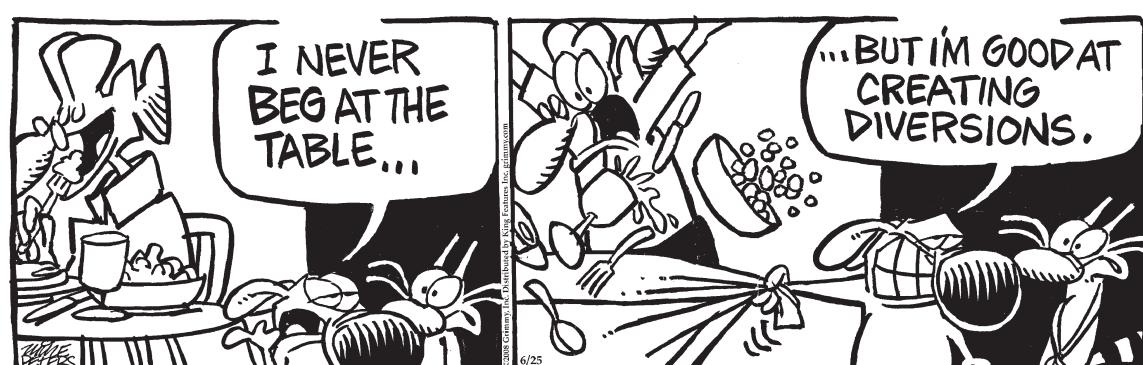## Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker

Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott

Tod the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts

Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters

Cryptoquip

UGWFVO WGBY YEGW, DFOYQ

C JGVKY EP OCB BQCQFEV

CQQMVUCVQB JM FV TGDTMW-

QE-TGDTMW QWCPPFK?

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHY DO YOU THINK
THE COOK MIGHT WELL BE CONVICTED AND
SERVE TIME? BECAUSE HE'S AN EGG BEATER.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Q equals T

LVC SUA'QV ZJXAGGS OYQVV

JX EVOOYCE OVZBVW ZGG

DLV OYHV, UCV HYELO BZS

SUA ZQV ZO OJYO'B VCW.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: DURING RUSH HOUR,
MIGHT A BUNCH OF GAS STATION ATTENDANTS
BE IN PUMPER-TO-PUMPER TRAFFIC?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: G equals L

Crossword

ACROSS
1 Temper-ate
5 The girl
8 Masticate
12 Smell
13 Cornfield cry
14 Visibility hindrance
15 One may be imaginary
17 Green land
18 Sun Yat-—
19 Exist
20 Toss out
21 Snoop
22 Tibetan bovine
23 Examine ore
26 Start of a Jewish month
30 Use a spatula
31 Clear the tables
32 Emana-tion
33 What compositors do
35 Knap-sack part
36 Carpet
37 Apiary denizen
38 Crabby one
41 Feathery neckpiece
42 Erstwhile acorn
45 Relaxing exercise
46 Perfect partner
48 Shed
49 Omelet need
50 "Hey, sailor!"
51 Eyelid woe
52 Blond shade
53 Pirates' drinks

DOWN
1 Swabs the deck
2 Between jobs
3 Bank trans-action
4 Parched
5 Frighten-ing
6 Despise
7 Lamb's mama
8 Coup for Kasparov
9 Mus-tache makeup
10 Pound of poetry
11 Sob
16 Creche figure
20 Wit-nessed
21 Pen name?
22 "Of course"
23 Sternward
24 Crafty
25 Taste the Tokay
26 Eccentric
27 "— Town"
28 — pro nobis
29 Siesta
31 Plead
34 Dine
35 Cachet
37 Tree part
38 Workout sites
39 Source
40 Pre-swan
41 Marshy areas
42 Hawaiian island
43 Teensy bit
44 Jailer's janglers
46 Vast expanse
47 Scratch

Solution time: 21 mins.

Yesterday's answer 6-24

ACROSS
1 Film fragment
5 Purchase
8 Resorts
12 Verdi opera
13 Work with
14 Har-vester's collection
15 Offer
17 Use a whet-stone
18 Dieters' entrees
19 Drunk
21 Realtor's parcel
22 "Get lost!"
23 Filch
26 Fish eggs
28 Run-down areas
31 After-dinner speech?
33 Energy
35 Break suddenly
36 Unemo-tional
38 Fond du —, Wis.
40 Prohibi-tionist
41 Trudge
43 "The 7 Faces of Dr. —"
45 Come up with a plan
47 Corsage favorite
51 Shopping center
52 Foretell
54 Initial stake
55 Squirrel's home
56 "— Brocko-vich"
57 Base-ball's "Say Hey Kid"
58 Erstwhile airline abbr.
59 Got up

DOWN
1 Upper-case
2 Old Italian money
3 "Ameri-can —"
4 Re Benedict XVI
5 1956 Inge drama
6 Part of N.A.
7 Screams
8 "College Bowl" competi-tors
9 Offer for consider-ation
10 Top-notch
11 Raced
16 Blood-hound's clue
20 Cries of surprise
23 Couric's network
24 Chic no more
25 Stuff you own
27 Moray, for one
29 Ruin the veneer
30 Agent
32 Modern exercise regimen
34 Lout
37 Private bed?
39 Find fault
42 Station
44 Brownish yellow
45 Mosque VIP
46 Actress Delany
48 Long sandwich
49 Fertility goddess
50 Unit of force
53 Inexpe-rienced

Solution time: 21 mins.

Yesterday's answer 6-25

Bridge

East dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.

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

The bidding:

East	South	West	North
Pass	1 NT	Pass	3 NT

Opening lead — five of clubs.

There's Only One Right Play

One of the most common failings of many declarers is the tendency to deal with each suit separately rather than assess the play of the hand as a whole.

Take this case where declarer won the opening club lead with dummy's ten and played the K-Q of diamonds, hoping the defense would take the ace. But East uncharitably ducked both diamonds, leaving South with an impossible task.

When he tried leading the ten of spades from dummy, East covered with the queen, and the king lost to West's ace. A spade was returned, and South could now do no better than cash eight tricks.

Declarer lost the contract on the very first trick when he should have won the club lead with the ace instead of dummy's ten.

South should realize that the contract is not likely to be made unless the diamonds can be run, and should not rely exclusively on the hope that the opponents will take the first or second diamond lead. He should allow for the possibility that either defender might have been dealt three or four diamonds to the ace and might not take the first two diamond offerings.

The purpose of playing the club ace at trick one is to ensure a subsequent club entry to dummy in case the diamond ace is held up. Thus, in the actual case, South leads three rounds of diamonds after winning the opening club lead. East takes the ace and can do nothing to injure declarer. If he returns a club, dummy automatically acquires an entry to cash the good diamonds.

If East returns a heart instead, declarer wins and leads a club to force his way into dummy and again has 10 tricks. And if East chooses to return a spade, South plays low from his hand to obtain the same result.

It all goes back to what declarer does at trick one. If he mechanically follows low from his hand and then starts to think, he will soon learn to his sorrow that the opportunity to make his game has already passed.

North dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

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

The bidding:

North	East	South	West
Pass	Pass	1 ♥	Pass
4 ♥			

Opening lead — king of clubs.

Solving a Defensive Problem

Declarer certainly does not have a monopoly on counting out a hand. In most cases, a defender has just as good a chance of figuring out the distribution of the outstanding cards. Take this deal where West was able to work out the winning defense at a critical juncture in the play. West led the K-A and another club, ruffed by declarer. South cashed the ace of hearts, revealing the bad trump split, and then led a diamond to the ace.

After playing a heart to the king, declarer ruffed the queen of diamonds in dummy, East following with the deuce and four on the two rounds of diamonds to indicate an odd number of cards in the suit. West was then given his trump trick and, since he had no more hearts or clubs, had to choose between returning a spade or a diamond. Although West could not be absolutely certain, it appeared from the fall of the cards and declarer's manner of play that South had no more diamonds left at this point. If so, a diamond return would present South with a ruff-and-discard.

It might seem, therefore, that West should return a spade. But if he does, he hands declarer the contract. If West leads the jack, South wins with dummy's king and then finesses East for the queen. If West tries a low spade instead, declarer takes East's queen with the ace and picks up West's jack on the next round.

But if West returns a diamond, deliberately conceding a ruff-and-discard, South eventually has to lose a spade for down one. How can West know this? By counting out the hand.

At the point where West wins the heart queen, he knows that declarer started with five hearts, two clubs and two diamonds. This leaves South with four spades. If these include the A-Q, there is no hope, so West must assume East has a spade honor.

If East has the ace or Q-10-x, it doesn't matter what West does. But if East has the Q-x-x, a spade return is disastrous, while a diamond return, though it yields a ruff-and-discard, leaves declarer helpless.

Family Circus • Bill Keane

"Not if you're a banana."