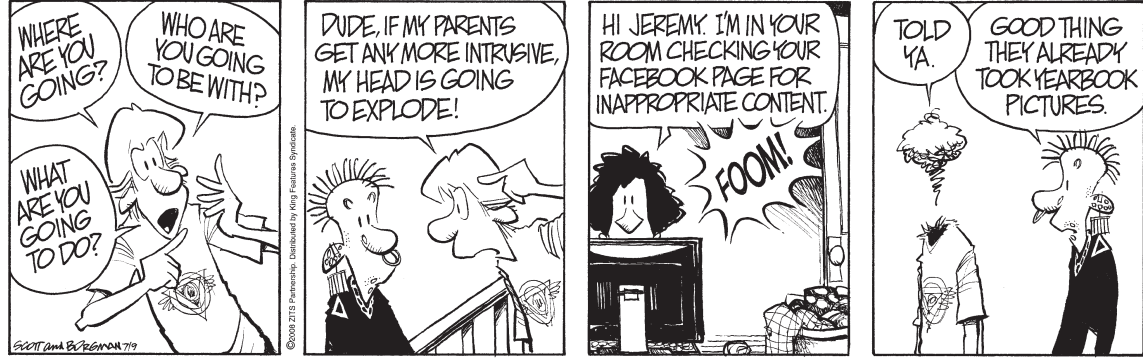


Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Blondie • Chic Young



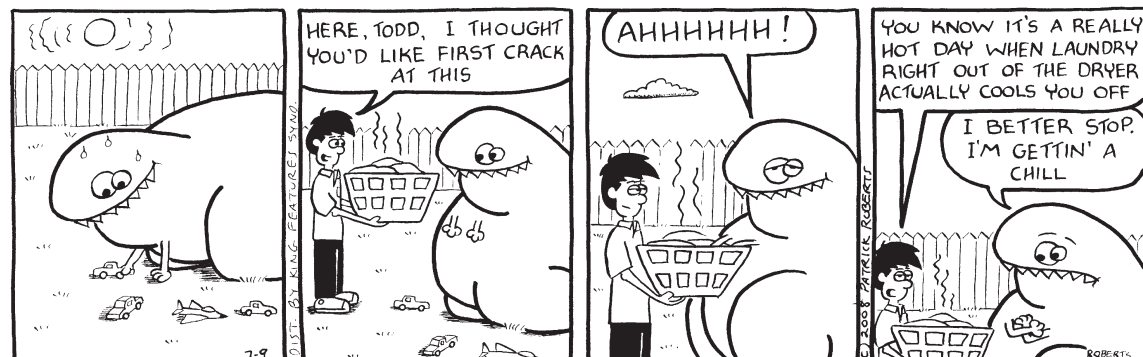
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



Tod the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



Cryptoquip

BY HSR BIIDJHABFDJ JBHXA
MIXQRA JSXZNXA SXJ X
YXLFABHR MXJHX OBJS, OI
QFD HSBZN BH'J AXLB-FIB:
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: TV SHOW IN WHICH PRODUCERS MUST ATTEMPT TO DISCOVER THE MOST TALENTED SAILOR: "TAR SEARCH."
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Q equals Y

SWHO MI H SHF OE BMRZYP
OZYY H VZQIEB WZ WHI
SHOZQ GQEVYZOI EB WMI
YHSB? SMOW HYY GZS QZIVZRO.
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF THE ILLUSTRIOUS SITAR PLAYER SHANKAR HAS A FAVORITE PASTA DISH, DO YOU THINK IT'S RAVI-OLI?
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Y equals L

Crossword

ACROSS
1 Make tea western
5 From the beginning city
9 Edge
12 Auction occurrence
13 Theater box
14 Expert
15 Southern cap. city
17 Allow
18 Milne bruin
19 Leather look-alike
21 Buffalo
24 Actress Gilpin
25 Reddish horse
30 Possess
31 Daytime TV fare
32 "Psst!"
33 People on vigil
35 Break suddenly
36 Mimicked
37 Large
38 Succeed
40 Molt
42 Rushmore face

DOWN
43 Southwestern
48 Bart, to Homer
49 Emanation
50 Missile shelter
51 Height of fashion?
52 Dance lesson
53 Venus de —
4 Bow and arrow, e.g.
5 Choir voice
6 Ark builder
7 Future flamingo
8 Otters' kin
9 Southern cap. city
10 On the rocks
11 Apportion (out)
16 "Smoking or —?"
20 Spoonbender
2 Grit Geller
(on)
21 Forehead
22 Dubuque is there

Solution time: 21 mins.

FREE	CAT	RSVP
OILCLOTH	EMIR	
ROLLOVER	POLE	
ALE	IMAGES	
TRAIL	ILES	
HOUR	ROLLTOP	
EAT	SEWED	PUB
ROLLBAR	MUTE	
LION	HASTE	
ERRATA	PAS	
ROAM	ROLLCALL	
GAGA	DUOLOGUE	
ODES	STY	TOGA

Yesterday's answer 7-8

Bridge

East dealer.
North-South vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ Q 9 8 3
♥ J 5
♦ 8 7 5 2
♣ A 10 7

WEST
♠ 7 2
♥ Q 9 4
♦ K Q J 10 9 6
♣ J 4

EAST
♠ 6 4
♥ 10 7 6 2
♦ 4 3
♣ K Q 5 3 2

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

The bidding:
East Pass 1 ♠
South Pass 6 ♣
West Pass 4 ♦
North Pass 4 ♠
Opening lead — king of diamonds.

The Right Time to Lose a Trick

It can't be said that North was at all shy during the bidding. He was about a king short for his four-spade bid, and a pass would have been more in order. He could reason that if South couldn't take action himself over West's four-diamond pre-empt, nothing much would be lost.

Of course, South would have acted over the four-diamond bid, either doubling or bidding four hearts. In either case, the proper contract, four spades, would have been reached.

As it was, though, South, who didn't need much of a four-spade bid from North to make a slam, went on to six spades.

A club lead would ultimately have laid declarer low, but the normal diamond lead gave him a legitimate chance for the contract. A quick glance at dummy told South he had two club losers, with no hope of a successful squeeze or endplay.

His best chance, which he adopted, was to assume that West had the queen of hearts. Accordingly, South won the diamond lead with the ace, cashed the A-K of trumps (fortunately finding them divided 2-2) and then led a low heart toward dummy's jack. West played the queen, dummy the five, and the hand was effectively over.

With dummy's jack of hearts now a trick, and the A-K of hearts able to provide two club discards from dummy, South could not be stopped from eventually ruffing two clubs with the Q-9 of spades.

Declarer was, of course, lucky to get a diamond lead, and to find the trumps favorably divided and West with the queen of hearts. He needed all of these fortuitous breaks to make the contract.

It wasn't all luck, though. South had to play the hand as he did to bring in the slam, so he certainly deserves a substantial measure of the credit.

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		

ACROSS
1 Shoot with a ray gun
4 Categorize
8 Depend (on)
12 Have debts
13 Somewhere out there
14 Canal zone?
15 Raw rocks
16 Unyielding
18 Talking bird
20 Addressee
21 Rickey flavoring
24 Sen.
28 Flag position
32 Franc successor
33 Ecol. org.
34 Go — tailspin
36 Greet the villain
37 Helper (Abbr.)
39 Courier's offering

DOWN
3 Hammerhead
4 Raw-fish dish
5 Frequently
6 "Norma —"
7 Salver
8 Just say no
9 Historic time
10 Fleur-de —
11 Nevertheless
17 Bambi's Aunt Ena, e.g.
19 TV alien
22 "Death in Venice" writer
23 Lauder of cosmetics

Solution time: 21 mins.

BREW	ANEW	RIM
SALE	LOGE	ACE
ATLANTA	AGA	LET
POOH	SUEDE	
BISON	PERT	
ROAN	TWILIGHT	
OWN	SOAPS	HEY
WATCHERS	SNAP	
APED	MACRO	
GOFAR	SHED	
ABE	PHOENIX	AZ
SON	AURA	SILLO
HEM	STEP	MILLO

Yesterday's answer 7-9

East dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ 9
♥ Q 10 7
♦ Q 7 5 4
♣ A 10 8 7 5

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

EAST
♠ A K 7 5 2
♥ A K 5
♦ K J 3
♣ 9 3

SOUTH
♠ J 10 6 4
♥ 6 2
♦ A 2
♣ K Q J 6 4

The bidding:
East Pass 1 ♠
South Pass 3 ♣
West Pass 3 ♠
North Dble Pass 4 ♣
Opening lead — ten of diamonds.

Diabolical Duck

As an abstract proposition, it seems impossible for South to make four clubs doubled in this deal. He has four obvious losers consisting of a spade, two hearts and a diamond.

But Peter Weichsel did make the contract when he played the hand in the 1984 national men's pair championship (won by Weichsel and his partner, Mike Lawrence).

It all came about in strikingly simple fashion after West led the ten of diamonds, on which dummy played the four, East the three and Weichsel the deuce! When West continued with another diamond, Declarer won East's jack with the ace, led a low trump to dummy's ten and ruffed the seven of diamonds, felling East's king and establishing dummy's queen as a trick. Next came a trump to the ace followed by a heart discard on the queen of diamonds.

Since Weichsel still had two trumps in his hand to ruff two of dummy's hearts, and since there were still three trumps in dummy to ruff the J-10-6 of spades, he wound up making the contract, losing only a diamond, a heart and a spade.

West could, of course, have defeated four clubs doubled by shifting to a heart or a spade at trick two. To be fair about it, however, the fact is that most defenders with the West hand, not seeing declarer's cards, would have continued with a diamond at trick 1. The outcome was indeed more a tribute to declarer's skill than the result of a clear-cut error by the defense. Weichsel had quickly decided at trick one that on the bidding and opening lead, East was sure to have the K-J of diamonds, and he simply hoped that what did happen would happen.

Family Circus • Bill Keane

