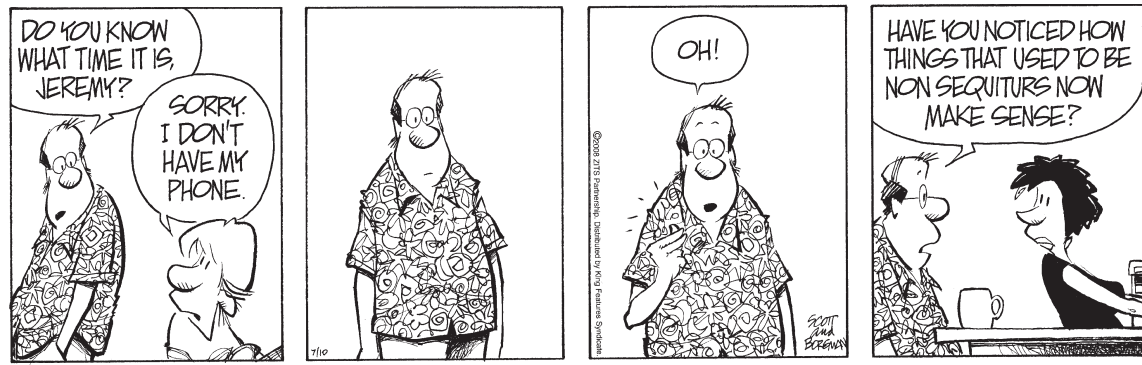


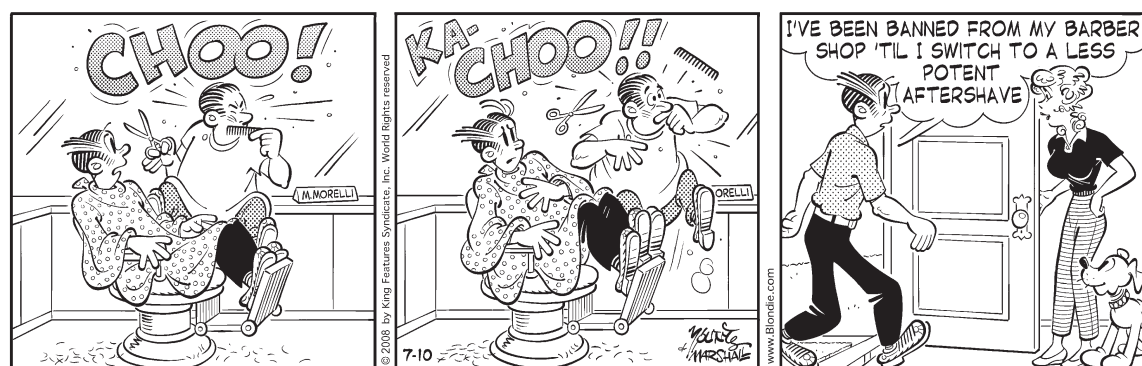
**Sally Forth • Greg Howard**



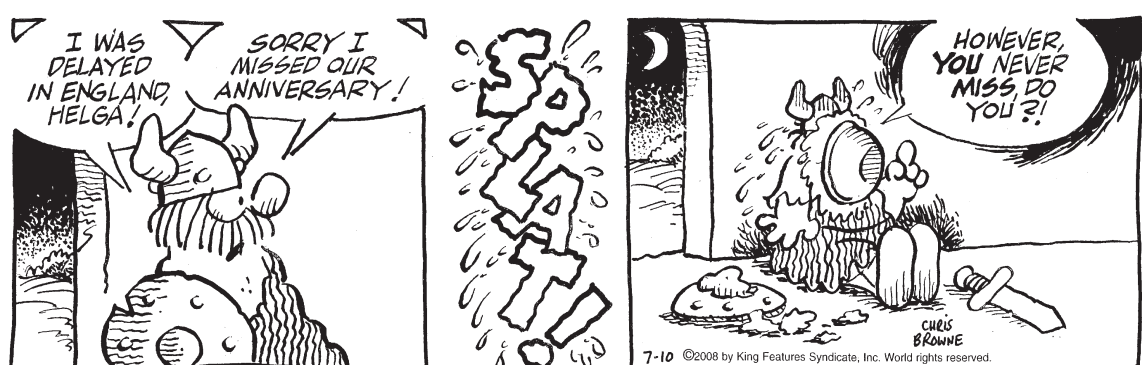
**Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott**



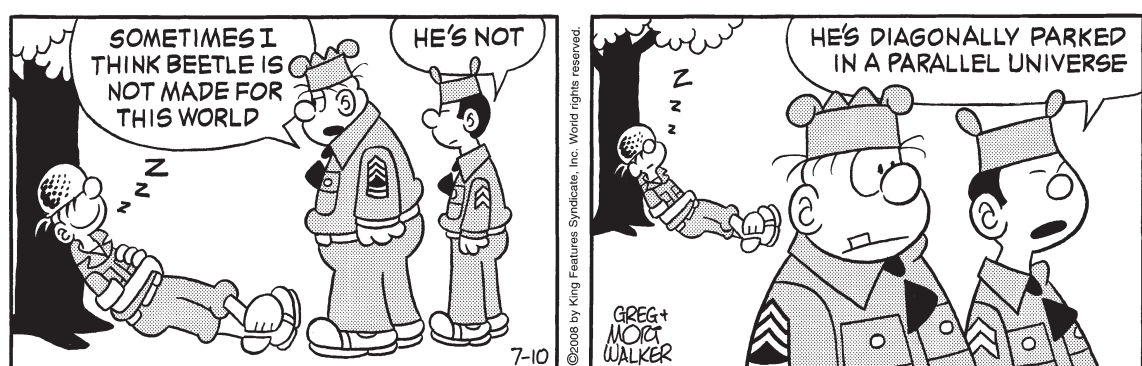
**Blondie • Chic Young**



**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**



**THANK YOU FOR READING THE**

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**Cryptoquip**

CKZX M SMXEOOP SBLXY VP  
OBXH - VMQUOEFZY KBOZ -  
ULXFKMXH WBBO, M EXXBLXFZY

"ECO MQ XBW OBQW."  
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHAT IS A WAY TO NICELY TELL A PERSON HE HAS WATER DROPLETS ON HIS LAWN? WITH ALL DEW RESPECT.  
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: B equals O

**Conceptis Sudoku**

By Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

7/10

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

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**Bridge**

North dealer.  
Both sides vulnerable.

**NORTH**  
♠ 6 4 2  
♥ A K  
♦ Q 10 9 8 7 5  
♣ A K

**WEST**  
♠ 9  
♥ J 6 5 3 2  
♦ A K  
♣ 8 7 6 4 2

**EAST**  
♠ A K 8 7 5 3  
♥ 8 4  
♦ J 2  
♣ 10 5 3

**SOUTH**  
♠ Q J 10  
♥ Q 10 9 7  
♦ 6 4 3  
♣ Q J 9

The bidding:  
North 1♦ East 1♣ South 1NT West Pass  
3 NT  
Opening lead — nine of spades.  
**A Tall Tale**

Dear Mr. Becker: I have been a reader of your column for many years and have followed with interest your recounting of the exploits of some of the most prominent players in the world.

However, though I've never won a national championship or, for that matter, any other kind of championship, I hereby stake my claim to at least equal recognition as one. The only catch is that all my marvelous bids and plays take place while I'm asleep, and I must confess that there is an enormous difference between the way I play when I'm awake and the way I play when I'm asleep. In case you don't believe me, just ask my partners how I play when I'm not in the land of Nod.

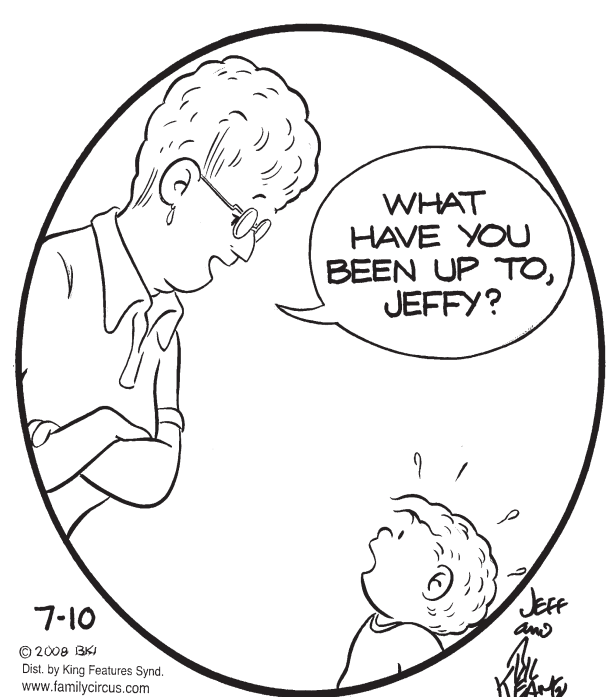
Here is a typical example of my prowess. I played the hand just last night -- while asleep, of course. I was West and led the nine of spades. My wife, Sapphira, won the trick with the king and continued with the ace and another spade.

I'm sure everybody would think that South must now make the contract, since his only losers, as the cards lie, appear to be two diamond tricks. But, as I stated earlier, these players are totally unaware of the brilliance of my play when I am in the arms of Morpheus.

On Sapphira's ace of spades I discarded the king of diamonds, and on the third round of spades I discarded the ace of diamonds! As a result of these two plays, there was nothing South could do to avoid going down two.

Cordially yours, Ford E. Winx.

**Family Circus • Bil Keane**



7-10

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www.familycircus.com

"What did Dolly tell you?"

**Crossword**

**ACROSS**  
1 "Family Guy" daughter  
4 Worm, often  
8 "Take — Train"  
12 Expert  
13 Radius neighbor  
14 Lend a hand  
15 Banner  
17 Relaxation  
18 Journal  
19 Hit the ice  
21 Hesitate  
24 Lanka lead-in  
25 Blackbird  
26 Succumb to gravity  
28 Group character  
32 Pro-tracted  
34 Run-down horse  
36 Ganges garment  
37 Prepared to pray  
39 Deviate off course

**DOWN**  
41 Disney/Pixar's Remy, e.g.  
42 Doctrine  
44 Row, row, row your boat  
46 Run playfully  
50 Solidify  
51 Standard  
52 "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire"  
57 Stench  
58 Promptly  
59 Type of fruit  
60 Beaks  
61 First lady  
22 Very soon  
23 Operated stat  
27 Festive  
29 Uncompromising  
30 Exam format  
31 Location  
33 Scintilla  
35 Space  
38 Recipe meas.  
40 Bets  
43 Crenshaw, for one  
45 Benicio —  
Toro  
46 Go postal  
47 "Unforgettable" singer  
48 Vicinity  
49 Carnival attraction  
53 Watch chain  
54 Autumnal abbr.  
55 Lamb's mama

Solution time: 25 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 7-10

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				57						58	
59					60					61	