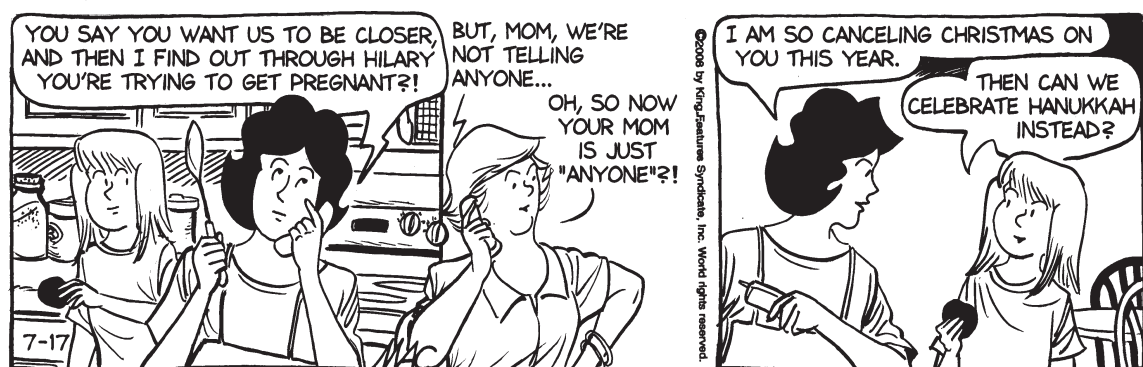


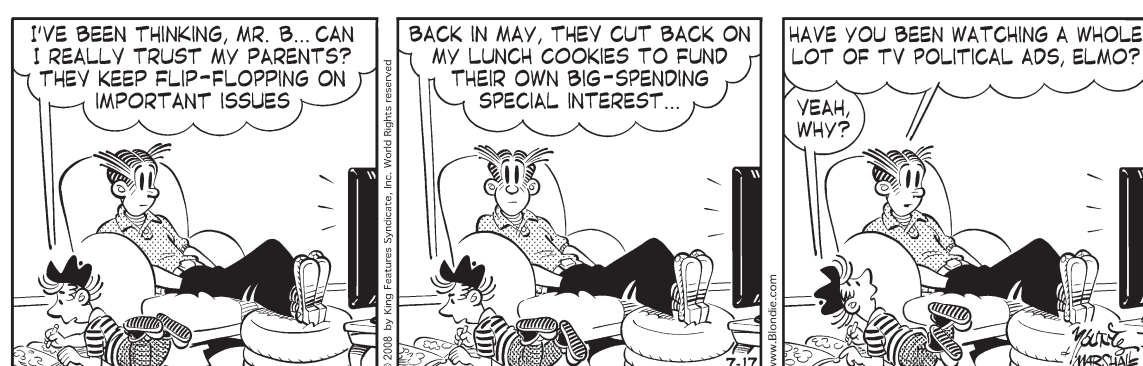
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Blondie • Chic Young



Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



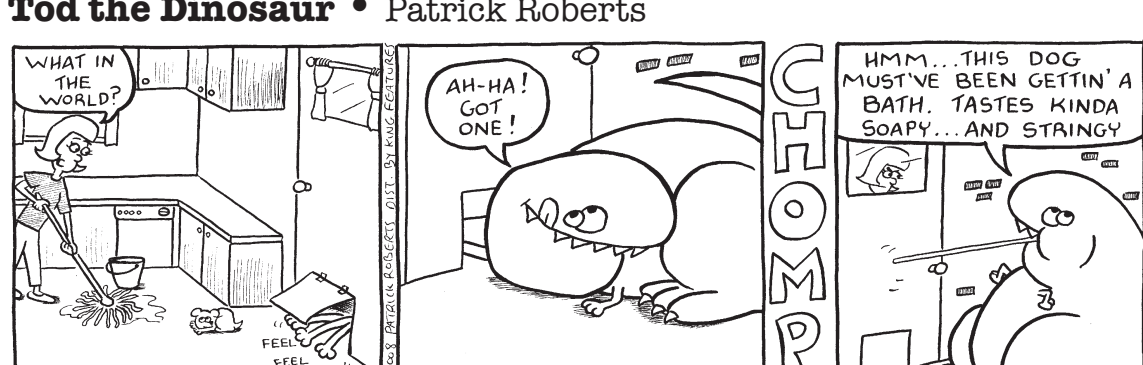
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



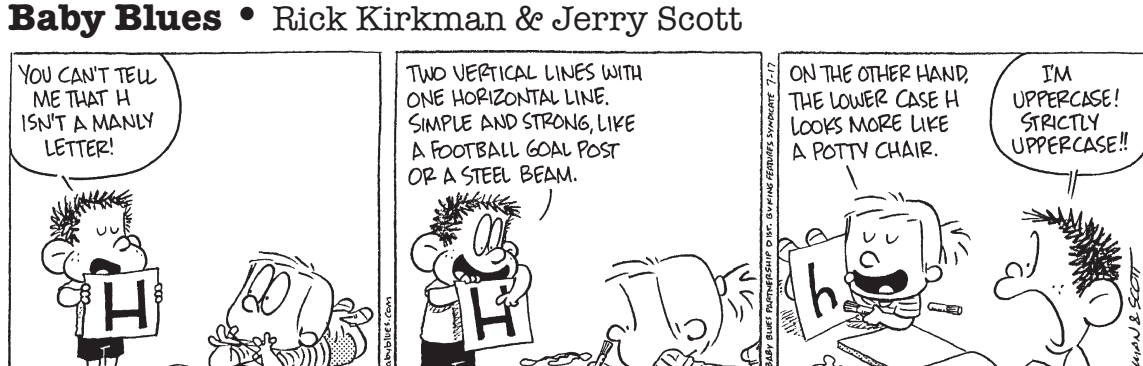
Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



Tod the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



THANK YOU FOR READING THE

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Cryptoquip

SCBWELE LYL FJSZLFL GLDCS
VJ VCBQZ, GBQ WCQ TQ TDD
TG CYL, U IBK KCIL U STI
ZTFVLE QC QZL QLLQZ.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF A COLLEGE INSTRUCTOR MADE SOME TAPIOCA, COULD YOU SAY THAT THE PROF IS IN THE PUDDING?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: L equals E

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★ 7/17

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.

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

Difficulty Level ★★★ 7/17

Bridge

South dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ 8 4 2
♥ K J 7 5
♦ K Q 3
♣ 10 6 3

WEST
♠ A 9 6 5
♥ 3
♦ J 10 9 4
♣ J 9 5 2

EAST
♠ Q J 10
♥ 9 2
♦ A 8 7 6 2
♣ 8 7 4

SOUTH
♠ K 7 3
♥ A Q 10 8 6 4
♦ 5
♣ A K Q

The bidding:
South West North East
1♥ Pass 2♥ Pass
4♥

Opening lead — jack of diamonds.

Reverse Psychology

A defender should always be suspicious of any abnormal play made by declarer. Take this case where South made a good play and East failed to find the proper response to it.

South was in four hearts, and West led the jack of diamonds.

Declarer saw that he might lose the contract at once if West had the ace of spades, so instead of making the normal play of covering the diamond jack with the queen, he played the three from dummy!

East allowed the jack to win, and West played another diamond. The queen forced East's ace, establishing dummy's king as a trick as South ruffed.

Declarer now cashed the A-K of trumps, discarded a spade on the king of diamonds and later lost two spade tricks to make exactly four hearts.

It would not have mattered had West shifted to a different suit at trick two. Declarer could have established the diamond trick himself, and the outcome would have been the same.

East should have realized that declarer's unusual failure to cover the jack of diamonds was not simply an act of charity on South's part.

He should have reasoned that declarer did not want East on lead at trick two because he feared East would shift to a particular suit.

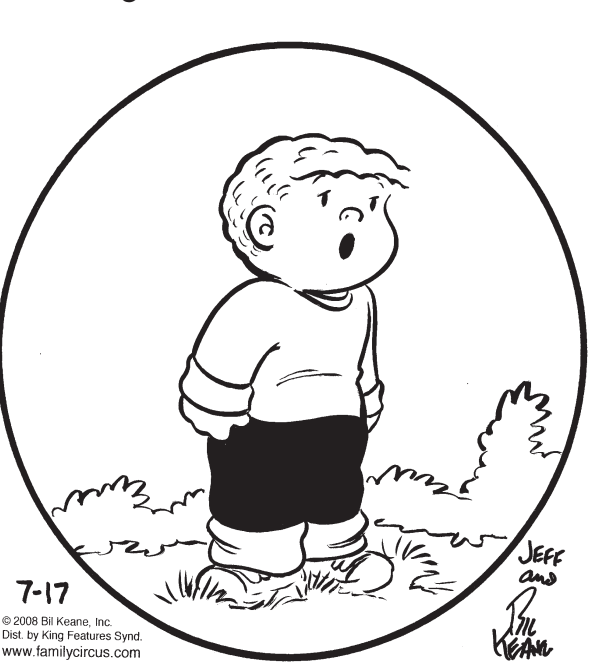
Furthermore, it was inconceivable that South would duck the jack with any holding but a singleton diamond.

East therefore should have overtaken the jack of diamonds with the ace and returned the queen of spades. That would have settled declarer's hash very quickly.

East should have reasoned that if South thought it was good for him not to have East on lead, then it was bad for East not to take the lead, and he should have reacted accordingly.

Tomorrow: Test your play.
(c) King Features Syndicate Inc.

Family Circus • Bil Keane



"I'll play dodgeball if nobody throws a ball at me."

Crossword

ACROSS

- Glaswegian gal
- Urge strongly
- Scarecrow companion
- Portent
- Sternward
- Ashen
- Of a cultural group
- Deity's mouthpiece
- Prior night
- Sailor's assent
- A- No. 1
- Not very much
- Agt.
- Artist
- Jean
- Citric beverage
- Collegiate world
- Press
- Gear projection

DOWN

- Hosp. drip
- Snitch
- Lingerie item
- Common Mkt.
- Become inattentive
- Swiss canton
- Modern, as technology
- Berlin's "What'll —?"
- Coffee-break time
- Activities
- Future phalarope
- Acquire oxygen
- Plow puller
- Moreover
- Bully's target
- Suspend
- "Meta-morphoses" writer
- Divide
- Deuce topper
- Weeding implement

Solution time: 25 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 7-17

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			