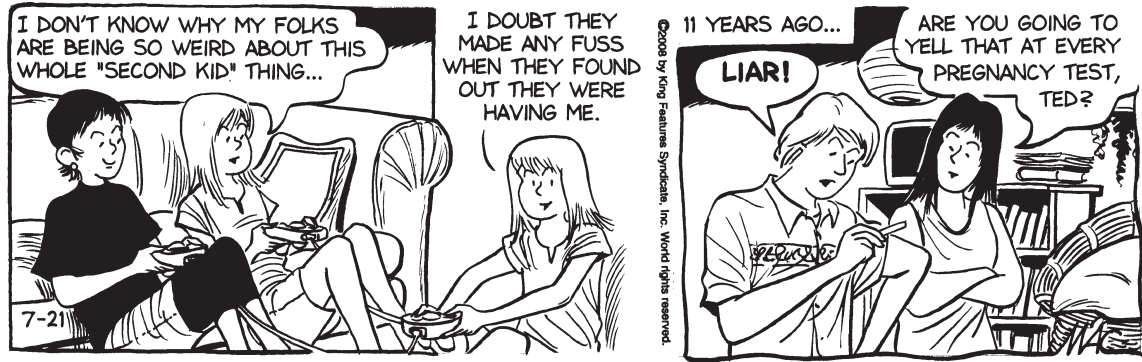


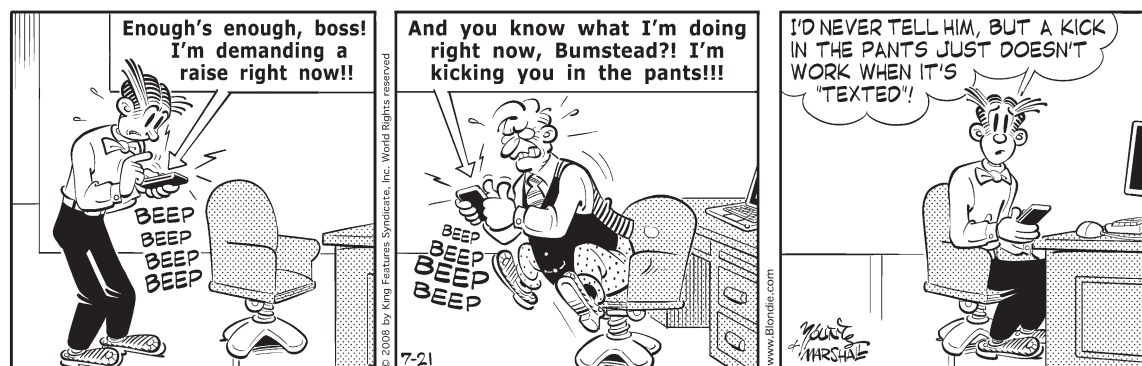
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



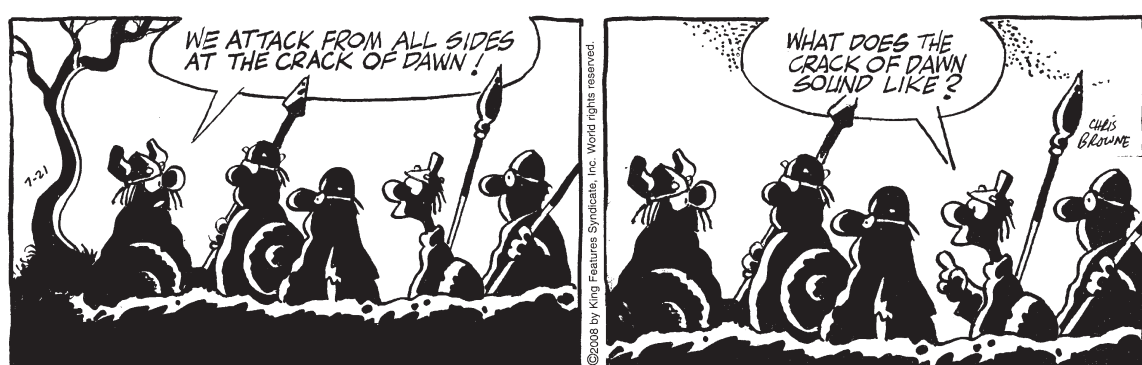
Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Blondie • Chic Young



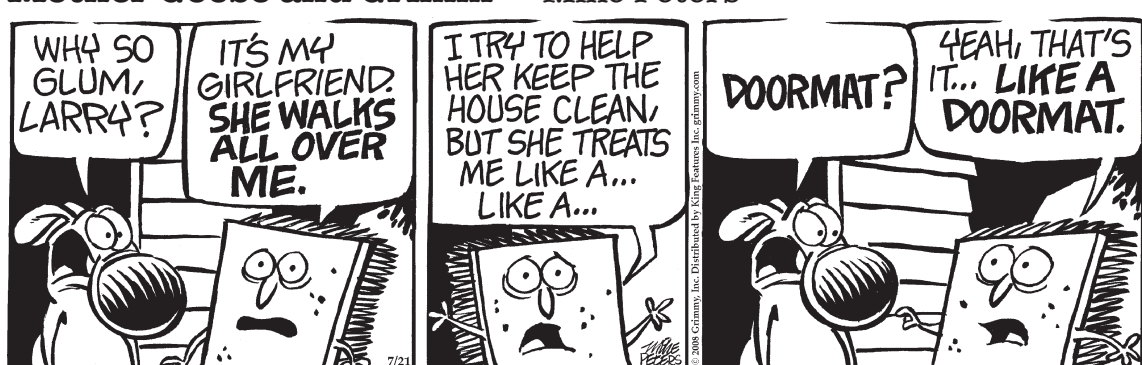
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



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

GEJ XYCEJYTPL CVTPQN

EUEJC TP KTC JZGJTLZJXVEJ,

T QPZS X DNDMTCV SKE

SEWMU WCZ YTQTPL CEUX.

Saturday's Cryptoquip: WHEN LEATHERWORKERS SING, I THINK THEY'RE PROBABLY SUPER AT BELTING OUT TUNES.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: T equals I

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★ 7/21

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.

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

Difficulty Level ★ 7/21

Bridge

North dealer. Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ Q J 9 3
♥ 6 4
♦ J 10 6 4
♣ 9 6 5

WEST
♠ A 6 4
♥ 9 8 7
♦ A Q 9 7 5
♣ A 8

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

SOUTH
♠ K 7
♥ A Q 10 5 3
♦ 8
♣ Q J 10 4 2

The bidding:
North East South West
Pass Pass 1♥ Dble
Pass 1♠ 2♣ Pass
Pass Dble Pass

Opening lead — ace of clubs.

Famous Hand

Partscore contracts are not usually as dramatic as games or slams, but they provide at least as many opportunities for skillful play. Here is an exceptionally well-defended hand played in an intercity match many years ago between Los Angeles and New York.

The L.A. South opened one heart, West (Howard Schenken) doubled, and East (George Rapee) responded one spade. Rapee's hand was much stronger than his spade response suggested, but he judged it not quite good enough for a jump-response.

After South bid two clubs, West and North passed. Rapee now felt he had to do something to show his values, so he doubled, and everyone passed. Schenken decided to lead a trump in order to protect any heart strength his partner might have. After playing the ace and viewing dummy, he continued with the eight of clubs, on which dummy played low, and so did Rapee!

Had Rapee won the eight and returned a trump, South would have made the contract. Dummy's nine would have provided an entry for a successful heart finesse, and declarer would have lost only one spade, one heart, one diamond and two clubs.

As it was, South won the club eight with the ten and led the king of spades. Schenken very properly ducked, but won the next spade with the ace and returned a low diamond. Rapee won with the king, cashed the trump king and returned a diamond. Declarer ruffed and played the A-3 of hearts. Rapee took the jack and returned his last diamond.

Declarer ruffed and played another heart. Rapee won with the king -- the sixth trick for the defense -- but had to concede the last two tricks to dummy's Q-J of spades.

East-West didn't score much -- 100 points -- but they earned every point they got. At the other table, where the defense was less inspired, South made three clubs.

Family Circus • Bil Keane



Crossword

ACROSS

1 Many millennia

4 PC alternative

7 Involved with

11 Pirates' drink

13 Part of "to be"

14 Hammer target

15 Fence opening

16 Zero

17 Changed color

18 Sailing vessel

20 Ms. Moore

22 Snitch (on)

24 "Scram!"

28 Battled for a bargain

32 Grit your teeth

33 Jai —

34 Neither mate

36 Pinnacle

37 Tennessee's Sen. Alexander

39 California city

41 Dionne sang about

41 Antarctica

43 Cow noise

44 Fishing line

46 Tangle

50 Prom-goers' car

53 Partner of

44-Across

55 Great Lake

56 Sufficient, old-style

57 Work with

58 Big rig

59 Epi-dermis

60 Kitten's sound

61 Foolish sort

DOWN

1 Diner's breakfast supply

2 Exam format

3 "Just say — drugs"

4 Fellow

5 Sahara-like

6 Star

7 Ford portrayal

8 Aye

9 Dead heat

10 Anti-quoted

12 "Sweet" gal of song

19 Crony

21 "Family Guy" daughter

23 Perfect score

25 Mexican entree

26 Doctrines

27 Quaker's address

28 Patriot

29 Nathaniel

29 Winged

30 Set component

31 — and don'ts

35 Aries beast

38 Regret

40 Beverage made with

1-Down

42 Antitoxin

45 Misplace

47 Vicinity

48 Edges

49 Floral

neckwear

50 "— Miserables"

51 Pen filler

52 Yours truly (Fr.)

54 Morning moisture

Solution time: 24 mins.

SATURDAY'S ANSWER 7-21

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			62