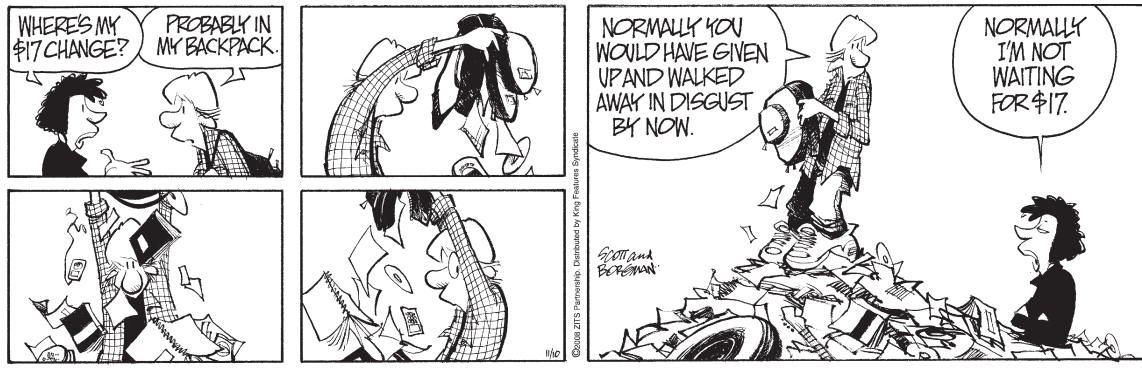


Sally Forth • Greg Howard



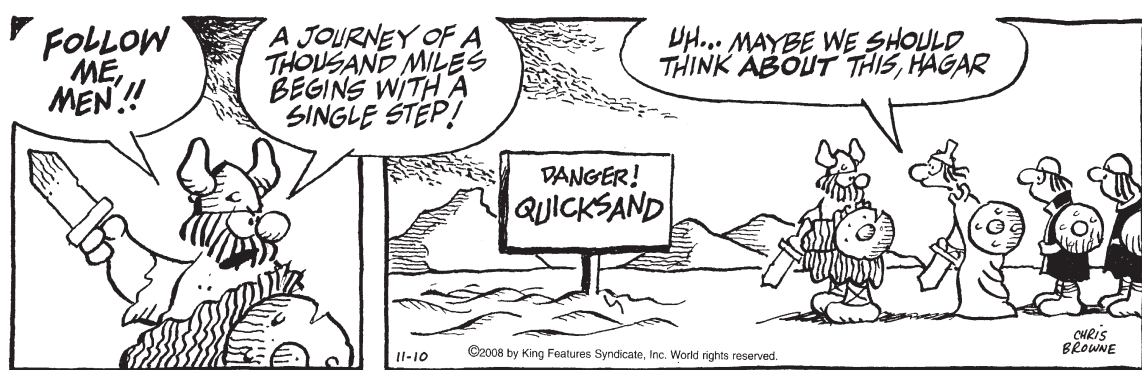
Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



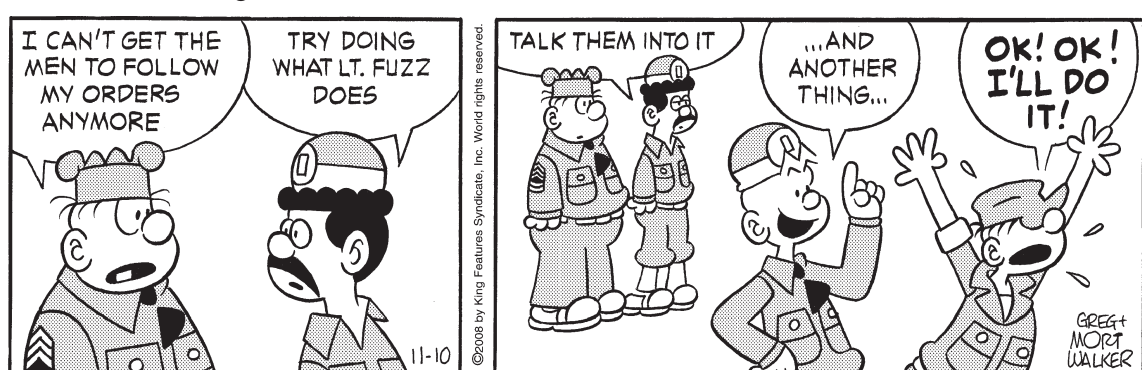
Blondie • Chic Young



Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



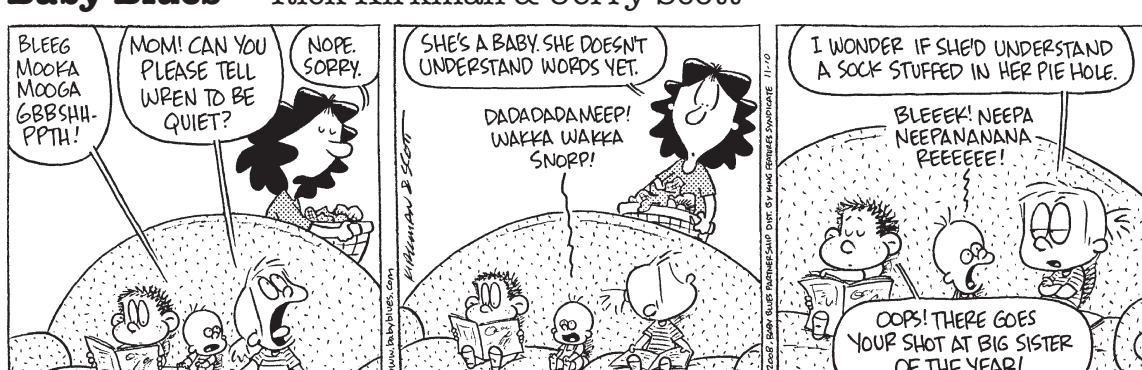
Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



Tod the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



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Cryptoquip

QG NMBKMCK BPKN P VQND
MG LPWWMON, WPVQNDKN
PCV APBN, LMEUV AME LPUU
ODPO WMMO LMLJOPQU?

Saturday's Cryptoquip: THAT GUY DOESN'T EAT NEARLY AS MUCH ROUGHAGE AS HE CLAIMS. HE'S DEFINITELY A FIBER FIBBER.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: A equals Y

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★ 11/10

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.

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

Difficulty Level ★ 11/10

Bridge

North dealer. Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ K Q 2
♥ —
♦ Q 8 2
♣ A K 9 7 5 4 2

WEST
♠ J 5 4
♥ A K 8 3
♦ 10 6 5 4
♣ 10 8

EAST
♠ 3
♥ 10 9 7 6 5 4
♦ K J 7
♣ Q J 6

SOUTH
♠ A 10 9 8 7 6
♥ Q J 2
♦ A 9 3
♣ 3

The bidding:
North East South West
1 ♣ Pass 1 ♣ Pass
3 ♣ Pass 3 ♣ Pass
4 ♣ Pass 6 ♣ Pass

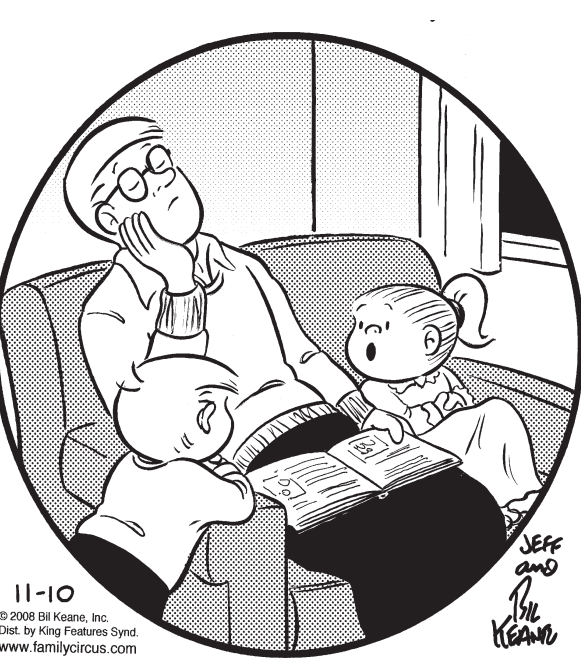
Opening lead — king of hearts.

Famous Hand
This deal occurred in a tournament in Italy in 1952. South was Michele Giovine, co-inventor of the Marmic system. He reached six spades as shown and went down one.

Disturbed by the outcome, since he could have made the slam, Giovine the next day presented the North-South cards to Swiss star Jean Besse and asked him how he would play the hand. Besse also went down, as did Roger Trzecz, Pierre Jais, Adam Meredith and other well-known European experts that were consulted. Only Frits Goudsmit of Holland found the right line of play. This extraordinary series of failures is even more remarkable when it is considered that the correct line of play is self-evident once it is pointed out. Apparently, the hand produces a blind spot among experts. What South should do is ruff the heart lead in dummy, cash the A-K of clubs, discarding the jack of hearts, and then ruff East's queen of clubs with the ace of spades. He then leads a trump to the queen and plays a fourth round of clubs, discarding the queen of hearts. It does not matter whether the spades were originally divided 3-1 or 2-2 because the contract is now sure to make regardless of what is returned after one of the defenders (West in the actual case) ruffs the established club. Dummy still has the king of spades as an entry for the remaining good clubs, and there is only one adverse trump left.

The suggested approach is more likely to succeed than any other line of play. It wins whenever the defenders' cards are divided normally, that is, when the clubs break 3-2 (68 percent) and when the spades are divided either 2-2 or 3-1 (90 percent). There is nothing complicated about the hand, but, for some mysterious reason, most of the experts failed the test. Tomorrow: Third-hand low. (c)2008 King Features Syndicate Inc.

Family Circus • Bil Keane



"I like this story, but it always makes Daddy sleepy."

Crossword

ACROSS
1 Possess
4 Beast of burden
7 Frost
11 USPS delivery
13 Fun and games
14 Foot fraction
15 Capri or Wight
16 Scratch
17 Attend
18 Larceny
20 Netting
22 AAA job
24 Get smart
28 Sleepwear
32 Interrup- tion
33 "Once — a time ..."

DOWN
1 Leave out
2 Cleanse
3 Cleopatra's river
4 Upper limb
5 Line of fashion?
6 Threaded nail
7 Timeline points
8 Lennon's lady
9 Perform- ance
10 Pi
12 On both sides
19 Huck's chum
21 Part of R.S.V.P.
23 "— the Dog"

Solution time: 24 mins.

Saturday's answer 11-10

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