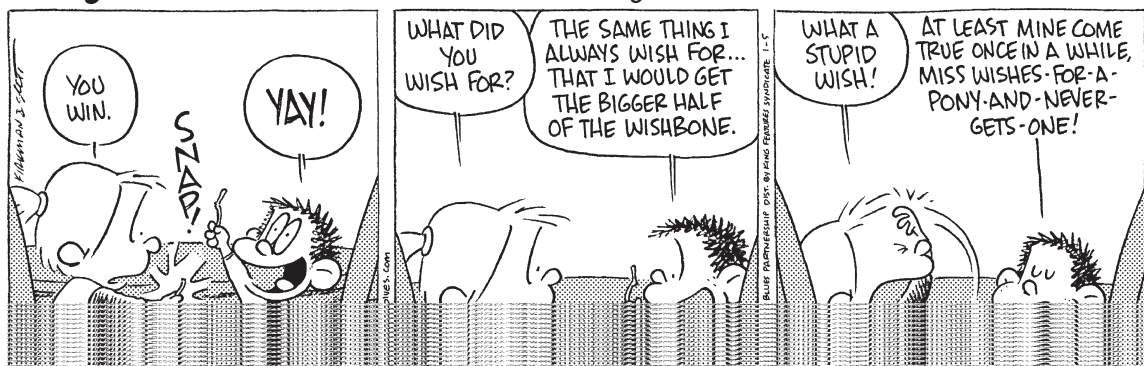
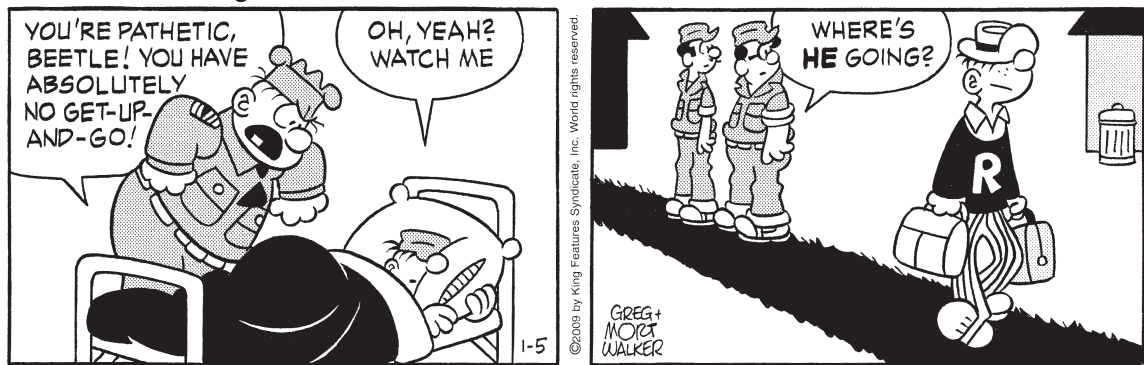


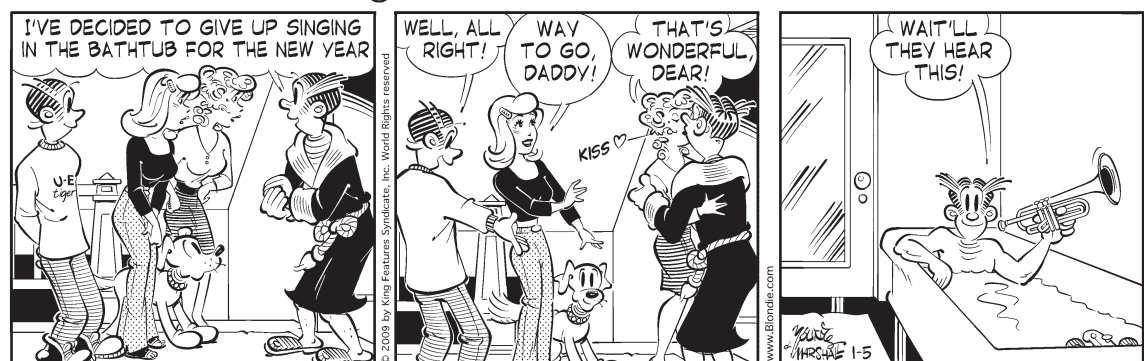
**Baby Blues** • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



**Beetle Bailey** • Mort Walker



**Blondie** • Chic Young



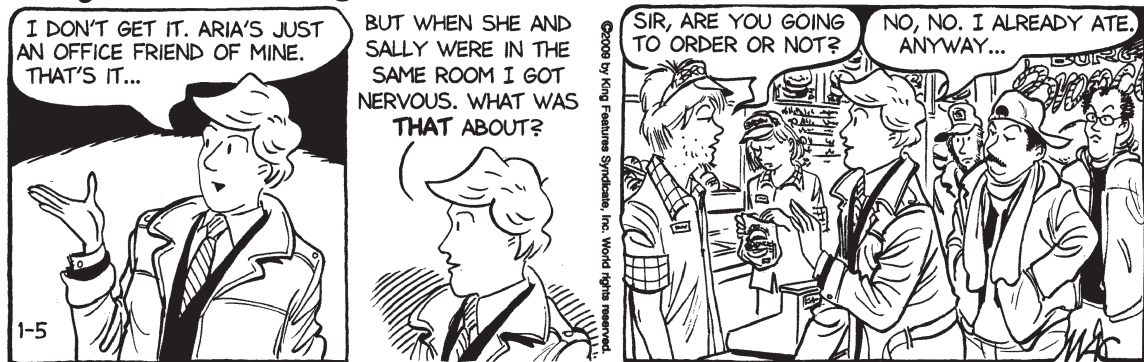
**Hagar the Horrible** • Chris Browne



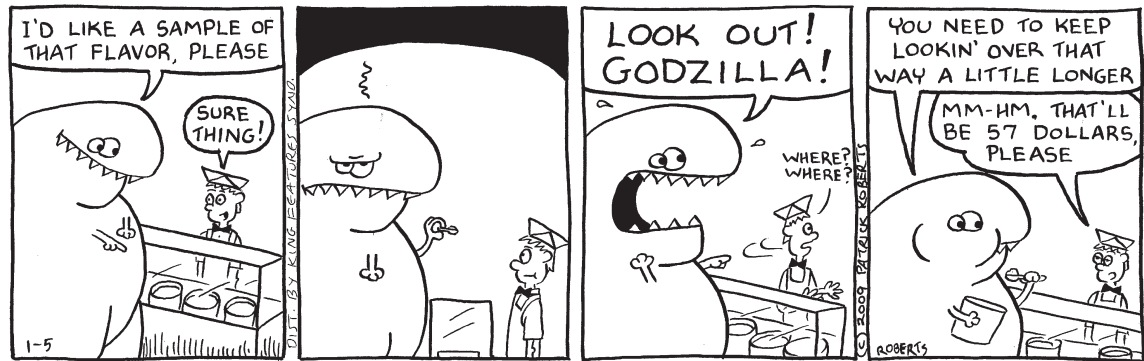
**Mother Goose and Grimm** • Mike Peters



**Sally Forth** • Greg Howard



**Tod the Dinosaur** • Patrick Roberts



**Zits** • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



**THANK YOU FOR READING THE**

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**Cryptoquip**

TQ NHDS APSXJQ AEDL XJJZD  
ZOWQHFM LGWL DWTJ LEFJ  
KJZJWLJNOQ. H MEJDD GJ  
GWD W PFJ-LKWSX THEN.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN MY FRIEND DONATED A KIND OF COMPUTER HARDWARE CHIP, I SAID "THANKS FOR THE MEMORY!"

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Q equals Y

**Conceptis Sudoku**

By Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★

1/05

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 the last Sudoku puzzle is at right.

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

Difficulty Level ★★ ★

1/02

**Bridge**

East dealer.  
Neither side vulnerable.

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

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

**EAST**  
♠ A J 9 8 2  
♥ K 3  
♦ 10 6 3  
♣ J 8 6

**SOUTH**  
♠ 10 4 3  
♥ A Q 9 7 6 5  
♦ K  
♣ K 4 2

The bidding:  
East South West North  
Pass 1♥ Pass 1NT  
Pass 2♥ Pass 4♥  
Opening lead — five of clubs.

**Famous Hand**

Opening lead -- five of clubs.

This deal occurred in a match between Canada and Mexico, and features a brilliant defensive play by Miguel Reygadas of Mexico, who held the West hand.

The Canadian North-South pair reached four hearts as shown. As played by them, North's notrump response was forcing for one round, and South's two-heart rebid guaranteed at least a six-card suit.

Reygadas led his singleton club, taken by dummy's ace. Because declarer couldn't afford to play trumps before doing something about his three spade losers, his next move was a low diamond to the king.

Reygadas took the king with the ace, led a low spade to East's ace and ruffed the club return. It was the third trick for the defense. He then exited with a diamond to dummy's queen. After discarding the 10-4 of spades on the Q-J of diamonds, declarer next led the heart ten and, when East followed low, finessed the queen.

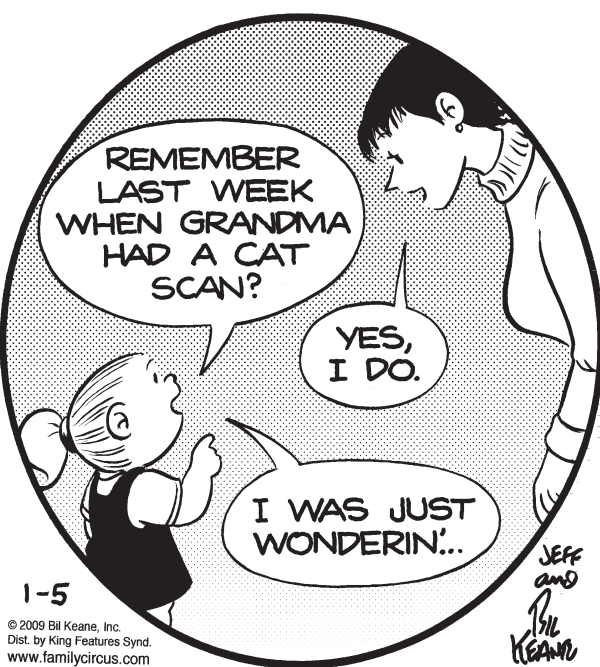
Since the heart finesse succeeded and the jack and king of hearts were about to fall under the ace on the next round, it might seem that South was sure to take the rest of the tricks. But a funny thing happened on the way to making the contract.

Visualizing perfectly what was about to take place, Reygadas refused to make life easy for declarer. When the heart ten was led to South's queen, he played his jack instead of woodenly following with the four.

Declarer cannot really be blamed for what happened next. To him it appeared, naturally enough, that West had no more trumps, which in turn meant that a second finesse would be necessary to trap East's "marked" K-4 of hearts. But when declarer tried to cross to dummy with a club to repeat the finesse, Reygadas trumped with the four of hearts, and the seemingly certain contract went down one.

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**Family Circus** • Bil Keane



"... for little kids do they have kitten scans?"

**Crossword**

**ACROSS**

1 "\_\_\_ gets too hungry ..."  
4 Existed  
7 Go  
11 Baby  
13 Frozen over  
14 With  
15 Approximately  
16 Can metal  
17 High-flying toy  
18 Prepare to drive  
20 Medicinal measurement  
22 Ply oars  
24 Online biz  
28 Talk and talk and talk  
32 Push hard  
33 Wooden strip  
34 Pooch  
36 Divisible by two  
37 Unfriendly

**DOWN**

1 Glaswegian, e.g.  
2 Tortoise's opponent  
3 Otherwise  
4 Humor  
5 Alkali  
6 Church council  
7 Refuse to answer  
8 Kimono sash  
9 Last (Abbr.)  
10 "The Catcher in the \_\_\_"  
12 Summer holiday  
19 Cauldron  
21 "Mayday!"  
23 Marry  
25 Inlet  
26 Exceeding  
27 Clothing store  
31 Scepter  
35 Wrigley product  
38 Winter ailment  
40 Monk's address  
42 Luxury craft  
45 It may be a proper subject  
47 Quaker's pronoun  
48 "My Name Is \_\_\_"  
49 Put in jeopardy  
50 Ms. Sills, to pals  
51 Peron or Gabor  
52 Melody  
54 Obtain

**Solution time: 24 mins.**

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

Yesterday's answer 1-3

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