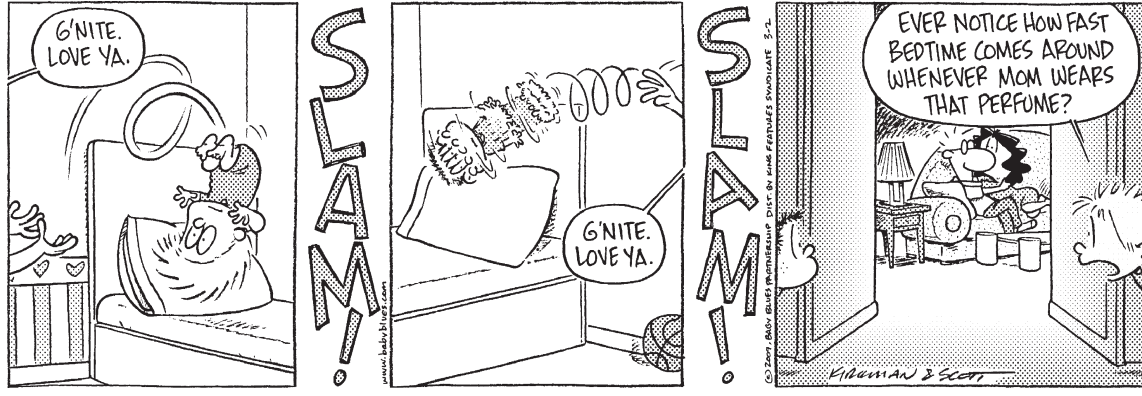
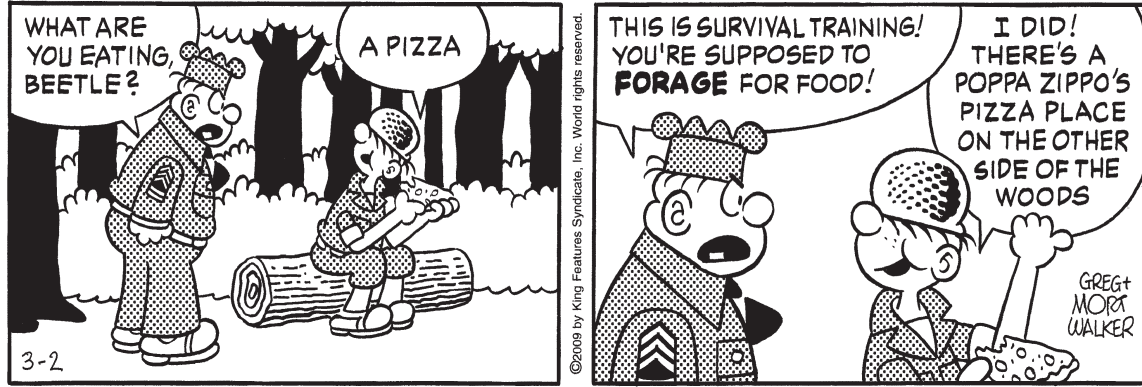


Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



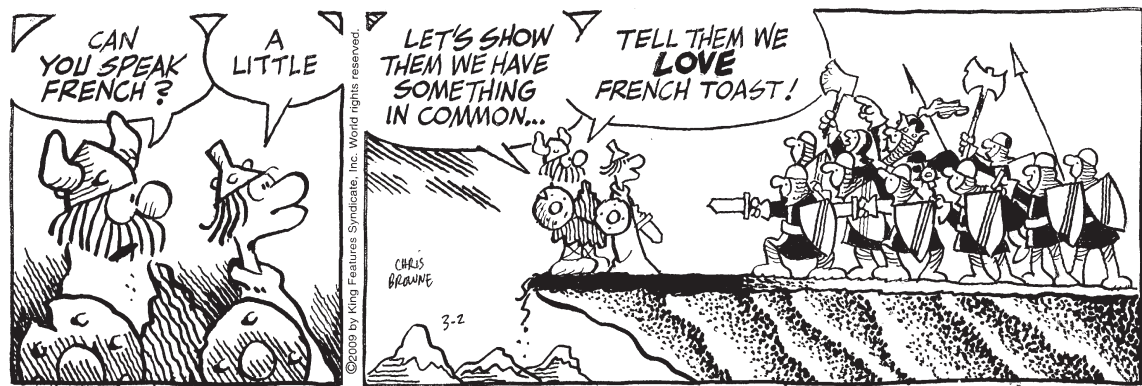
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young



Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



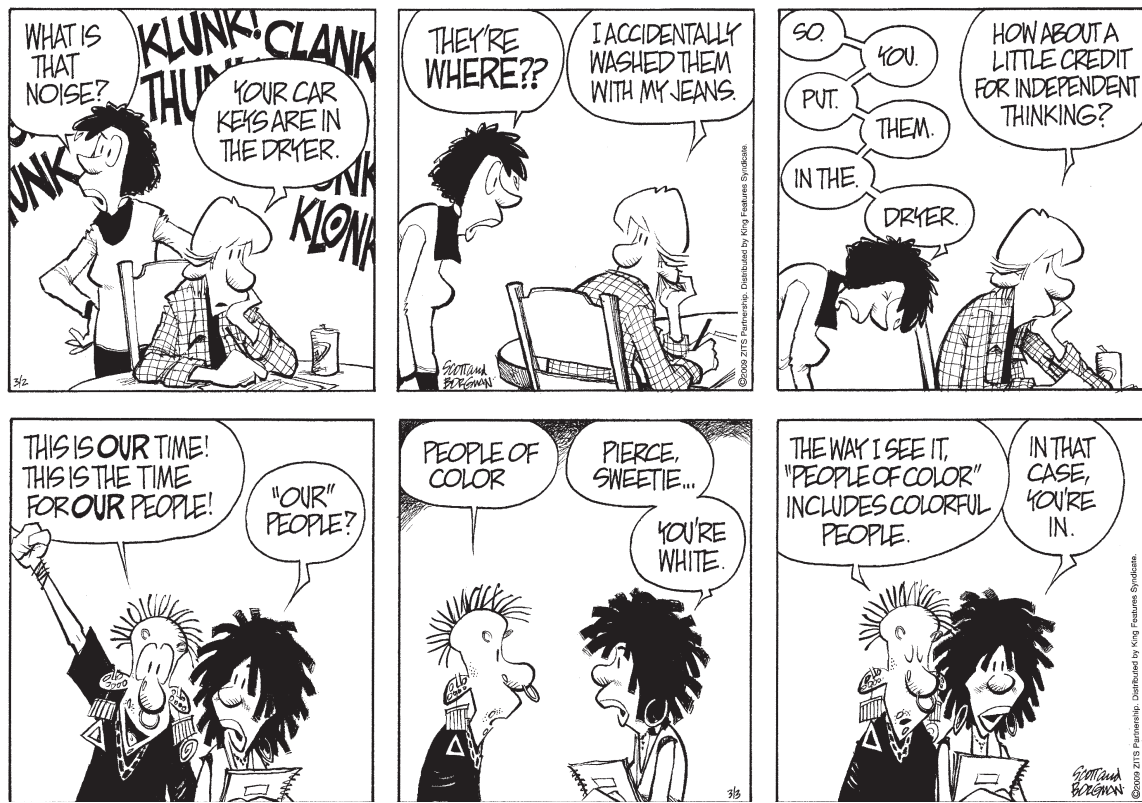
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Dr. Joyce Brothers

• Ask Dr. Brothers
Write important things down

Dear Dr. Brothers: I've been doing it since I was a kid. I'm a lifelong estimator, always figuring I'll get there on time without a watch, or remember when an assignment is due. I have even tried to keep a grocery list in my head. (My wife lets me know that doesn't work, either.) I've always been pretty lucky with things, so far. But lately I've been slipping - and I don't think my boss is too happy about reports coming in late or missed meetings. I need to change! Is there any help for someone who has never worn a Timex? - D.B.

Dear D.B.: Dude! You sound like a slacker from the '60s. But there's a lot more at stake, now that it is affecting your work and you are expected to act like a grownup. Some people really can't stand appointment books, calendars, watches or anything else that might put a feeling of restriction on their freedom. But I think you need to start relying on things other than the stars for luck and guidance. It may be Father Time finally beating you to the finish line, or you may just have used up your lifetime supply of "I THINK that appointment was today."

It's critical for you to take responsibility for your actions. If you need the pressure of a looming deadline to kick you into gear, try something different for a change. Give yourself the gift of a deadline - a real one, written down - and you will see how much easier life becomes. Best of all, you'll probably even get to keep your job.

Dear Dr. Brothers: Nobody else seems to care, but I do. I've recently taken a job at a major software corporation and am extremely happy to have landed this position - but I think I might quit. They don't seem to give a hoot about the environment, and consume gallons of coffee out of non-biodegradable cups. I'm an avid recycler at home and am mortified by this practice - it causes so much waste! I feel like a fraud if I stay there. How can I keep this job and still hold on to my beliefs? - E.H.

Dear E.H.: Before you do anything you might regret later on, pour yourself a cup of decaf (in a recyclable cup) and think this through. While the old saying "You gotta stand for something or you're gonna fall for anything" is good advice, you have to pick your battles and know just how to fight them. There's a difference between taking a symbolic stand and actually doing something about what concerns you. Do you expect others to follow your example and do the same? What if no one notices why you quit?

When we hold any strong belief, it's hard to watch as others who don't share our views act in a contrary manner. We immediately want to "set them right" - tell them all the ways they could act differently - and try to bring them over to our way of thinking. Instead of quitting, why not simply suggest a different kind of cup? You may want to try to find a way that's both eco- and economically friendly before you present the idea. If you really want to make a difference, you must begin to differentiate between grandstanding and effecting a real change. Start small and think big.

Bridge • Steve Becker

South dealer. North-South vulnerable.
NORTH: ♠ Q 10 9, ♥ 10 8 7 6, ♦ K 9, ♣ K 6 2
WEST: ♠ 1 8 7 6 5 4 3, ♥ K Q 3, ♦ 5 3, ♣ 5
EAST: ♠ K 2, ♥ 9 4 2, ♦ J 10 8 4 2, ♣ J 9 7
SOUTH: ♠ A, ♥ A J 5, ♦ A Q 7 6, ♣ A 10 8 4 3
The bidding: South 1♣, West 2♣, North 6♣, East 3♣. Opening lead - six of spades.

Famous Hand
The United States won the 1996 World Olympiad Women's Teams, defeating China in the 96-deal final. The final margin over the Chinese, who during the past two decades have become a world bridge power, was 70 International Match Points.

In the final, the Chinese women got off to a fast start, leading by 20 IMPs after the first 32 deals. But the Americans gained 66 IMPs in the next 16 deals and never trailed again.

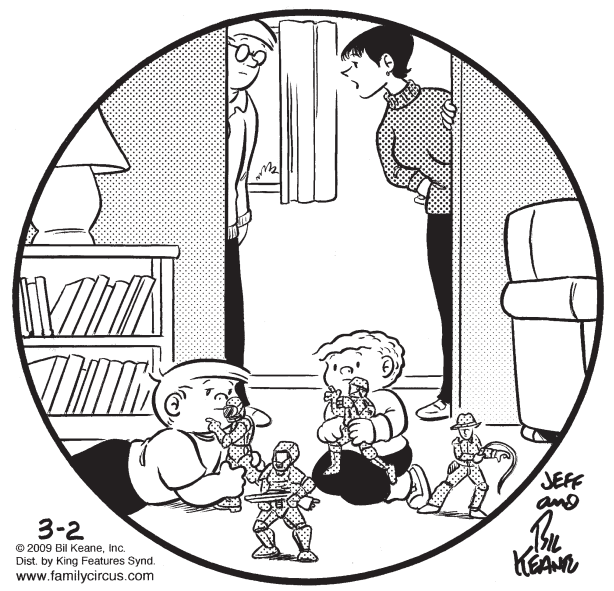
Today's deal is the one that thrust the U.S. into the lead for good. When Jill Blanchard and Irina Levitina held the North-South cards, they reached six clubs as shown. Blanchard's double of two spades was of the "negative" variety, and Levitina cuebid four spades over East's three-spade nuisance bid to indicate a powerful hand. Blanchard felt a five-club bid would not do justice to her excellent support for that suit, so she leaped to slam.

West led a low spade, and East withheld the king as South won with the ace. Declarer drew three rounds of trumps, ending in dummy, and ruffed a spade in her hand, felling the king. This allowed Levitina to discard one of her heart losers on the spade queen, so the slam came rolling home.

At the other table, the Chinese South, Zhang Yalan, also opened one club, but her bid was strong, artificial and forcing, saying nothing about clubs. Juanita Chambers bid three spades, and North, Gu Ling, bid three notrump, ending the auction without the Chinese locating their excellent club fit. North made 11 tricks, but the Americans gained 12 IMPs.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



“Those action figures are being played with by some NON-action figures.”

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★
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.

Cryptoquip

RXVRFJ YKTP XOKIV X
RXYZTK QKBEUB HKLZTP CBKH
DXY LUPXY VK TUQ JKBE:
“YFICCDU KCC VK OICCXDK.”

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: MOVIE ABOUT A SUPER-EXCITING BOXING MATCH OCCURRING IN THE PINE TREE STATE: “THE MAINE EVENT.”

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: C equals F

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Incorrect network
7 Young tulip?
11 Equestrian game
13 Scrooge's cry
14 Black-and-white cookie
15 Basin accessory
16 Blackbird
17 One
18 Pristine
20 Singer Campbell
22 Pinch
24 Completely
28 Used mouth-wash
32 Pancake topper
33 Author James
34 Wrigley product
36 "... oh, where can -?"
37 Support
39 Disarmed a bomb

DOWN
1 Oil-cartel acronym
2 Poultry
3 Run away
4 "The — Daba container
5 "Pow!" page
6 Tex-Mex entree
7 Seeker of fugitives
8 Spigoted vessel
9 Floral neckwear
10 Automaton, for short
12 Anaheim is there
19 Zero

21 Type measures
23 Dowel
25 Raw rocks
26 Oil
27 News-paper
28 Chatters
29 Taj Mahal city
30 Paper quantity
31 Flop
35 Kitten's call
38 Nosh'
40 Mis' neighbors
42 Twangy
45 Ginormous
47 Eager
48 Start over
49 Dandling site
50 Donkey
51 Do
52 Historic time
54 "Family Guy" daughter

Solution time: 27 mins.
SATURDAY'S ANSWER 3-2

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11			12			13			14
15						16			17
18				19			20		21
						22			23
28	29	30				31			32
33						34			35
37						38			39
41						42			43
						44			45
50	51	52				53			54
56						57			58
59						60			61