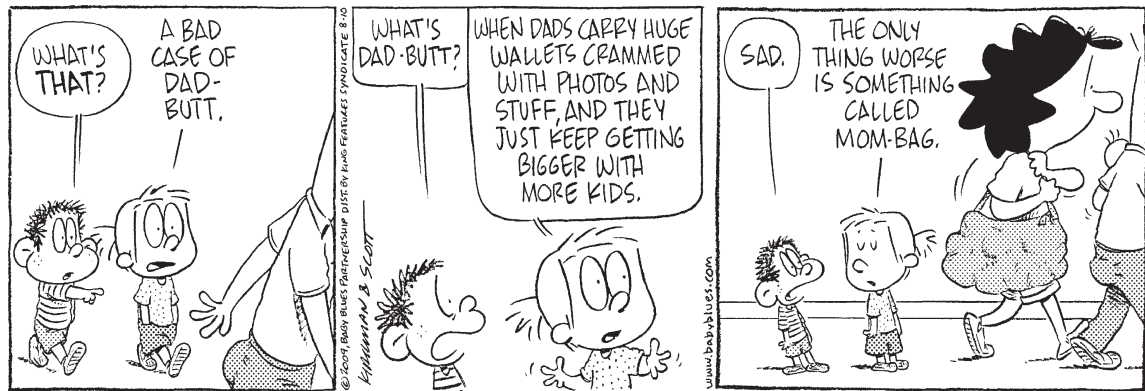
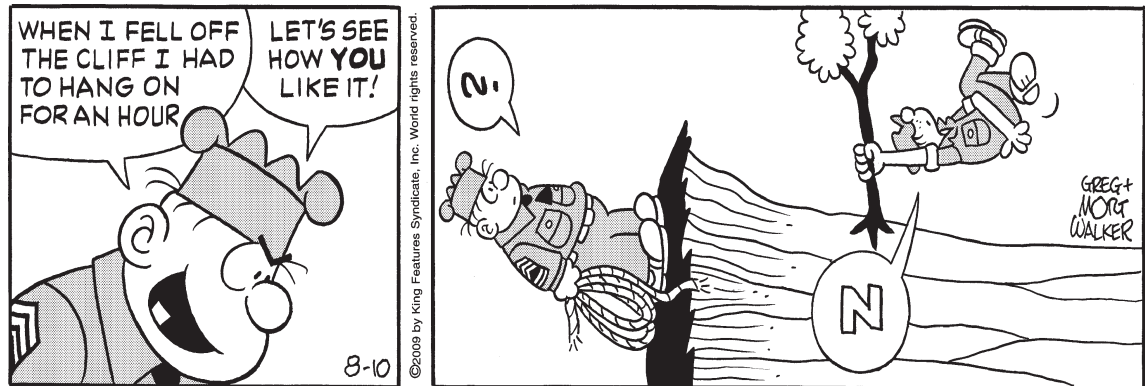


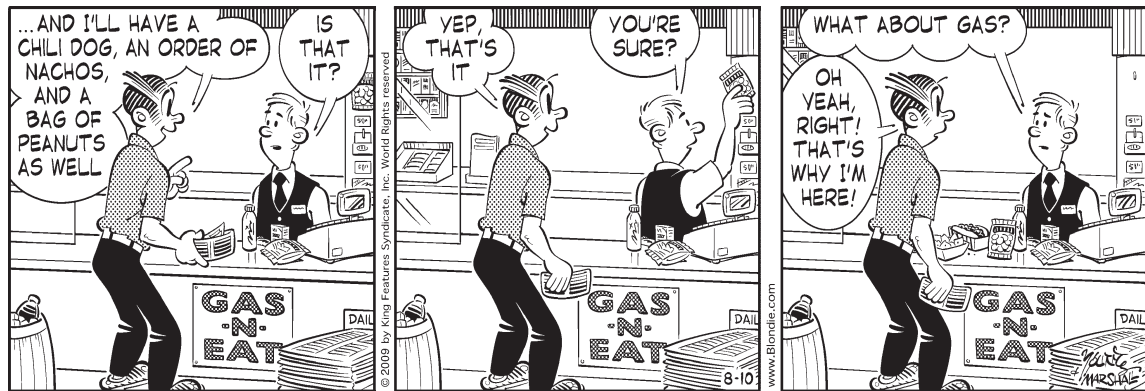
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



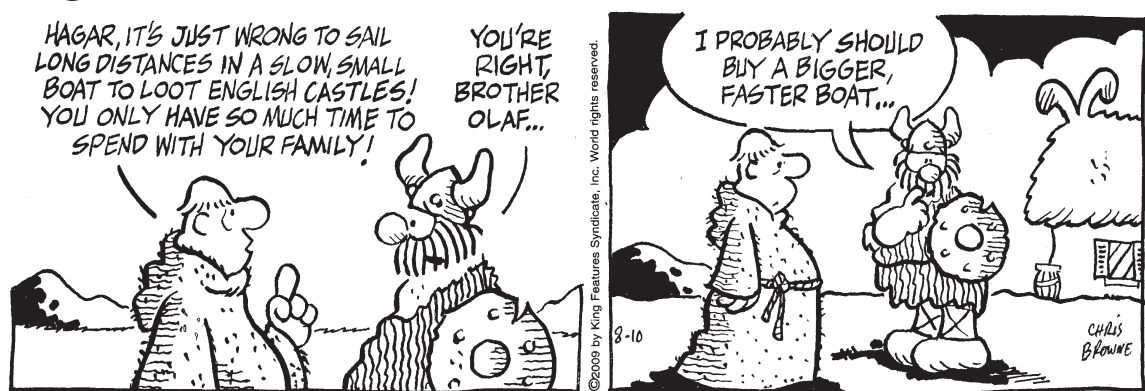
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young



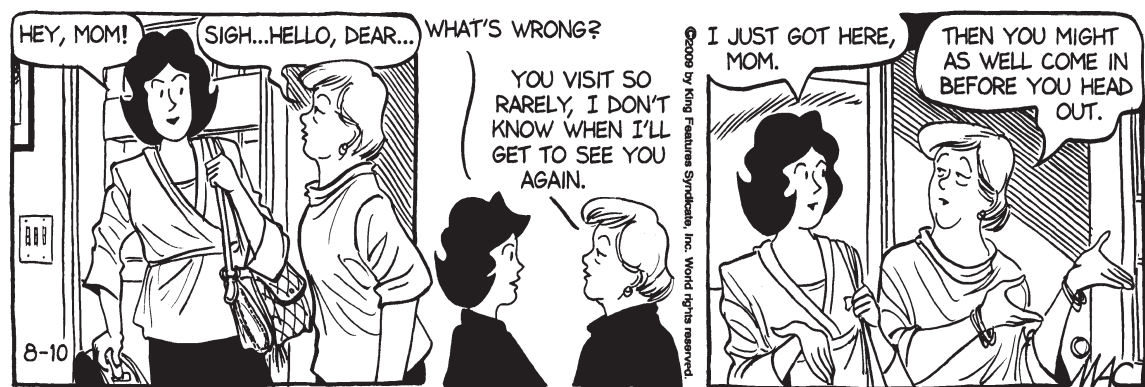
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



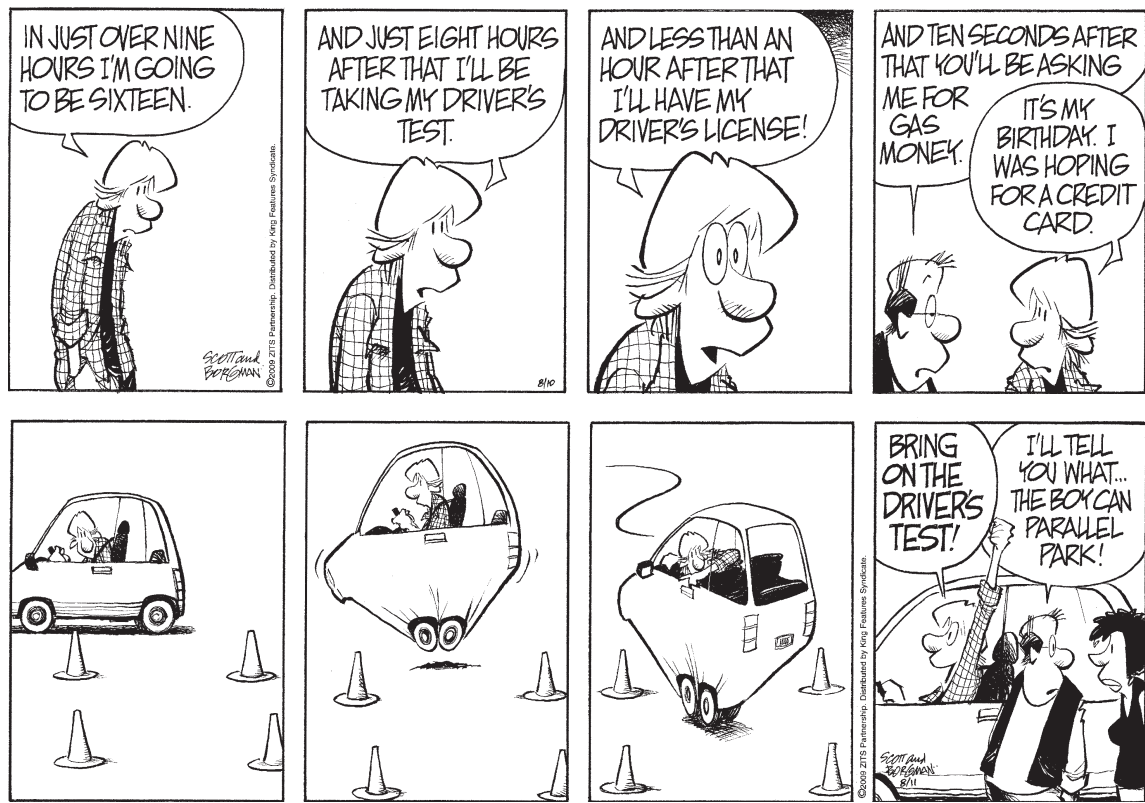
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Dr. Joyce Brothers
• Ask Dr. Brothers
Has sister gone too far?

Dear Dr. Brothers: My sister has been making some spare change for the past few years as a self-proclaimed psychic. She's an actress, and between gigs she goes to parties, where she tells fortunes and does readings, and her business is mostly harmless. That is, until she told me of a couple who interpreted a reading as a sign to sell off all their stocks! She makes a point of not being too specific, but these people have now divested their entire nest egg because they think it's what the "spirits" want! How can she be sure not to mess up? She's very upset. - G.F.

Dear G.F.: Your sister has learned a valuable lesson. When it comes to psychic readings, there's a fine line between entertainment and emotional fraud. Usually "messages from the great beyond" are innocuous and of the "Your mom/dad is smiling" variety, but sometimes people read something into it that's not there. It shouldn't be very surprising: We're all looking for a good piece of advice to help us out, especially in today's financial climate, and who better to solicit an opinion from than those who can see into the future?

Though it's against the rules of the game - just as it's bad form for a stage magician to reveal how he saved the woman in half - your sister needs to come clean to these clients. She needs to inform them of the truth - that she is a performer, and what she does is entertainment. It may harm her business, but she needs to ask herself if she really wants to feel responsible for the economic future of an elderly couple. I'm sure "the spirits" would approve of your sister's honesty.

Dear Dr. Brothers: My brother is beginning to depress me. He just turned 37 and has spent the past 20 years trying to make it big with his band. While he is very talented - he's been writing his own songs for as long as I can remember - it's kind of sad to see him playing the same local club week after week. I think the time has come for him to realize it's just not going to happen. How do I tell him? - C.C.

Dear C.C.: It all depends on just what you want to tell him. Do you want to tell him to give up his dream of being on the cover of Rolling Stone, or do you want to suggest to him that perhaps he should take his music less seriously? Either way, talking to your brother could be tricky business - no one wants to be told they're a failure.

Perhaps a redefinition of just what makes a person successful is in order. Is your brother's passion for music interfering with his family life? Does he stick to his music at the expense of his wife and kids? It's one thing to sacrifice income when there's just one person involved, but it's quite another to shirk the duties of being a father and husband. If your brother seems happy and is balancing responsibility with his art, maybe you shouldn't be so concerned. There are millions of musicians who are not considered superstars. But for a large number of them, having a platinum record is not their ultimate goal - just playing the music they love for any size audience is reward enough for them. If you remember that what separates a true musician from a one-hit wonder is how long he or she sticks with it, your brother will seem like a star in your eyes.

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Bridge • Steve Becker

West dealer. Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH	
♠	1632
♥	A1082
♦	31062
♣	5

WEST	
♠	K109
♥	954
♦	983
♣	10986

EAST	
♠	75
♥	KJ73
♦	J
♣	AKQJ72

SOUTH	
♠	AQ84
♥	Q6
♦	KQ754
♣	54

The bidding:
West North East South
Pass Pass 2 ♣ 2 ♠
Pass 3 ♣ 3 ♠
Pass 4 ♣ Pass 3 ♠
Pass 4 ♣ Pass 4 ♣
Opening lead - ten of clubs.

Famous Hand

This deal occurred in the 1975 world team championship played in Bermuda. When the United States held the North-South cards in its match against Italy, the bidding went as shown. South made four diamonds for a score of 130 points, but failed to get to an excellent game contract in spades. Instead of bidding three diamonds on the second round, South could have bid three spades, which North would surely have raised to four.

South was understandably reluctant to make a stronger bid than three diamonds because he thought it was unlikely that he could make a game opposite a partner who had passed originally. In the actual case, South's judgment turned out to be wrong, since four spades could not be defeated. At the second table, with an Italian pair now North-South, the bidding went:

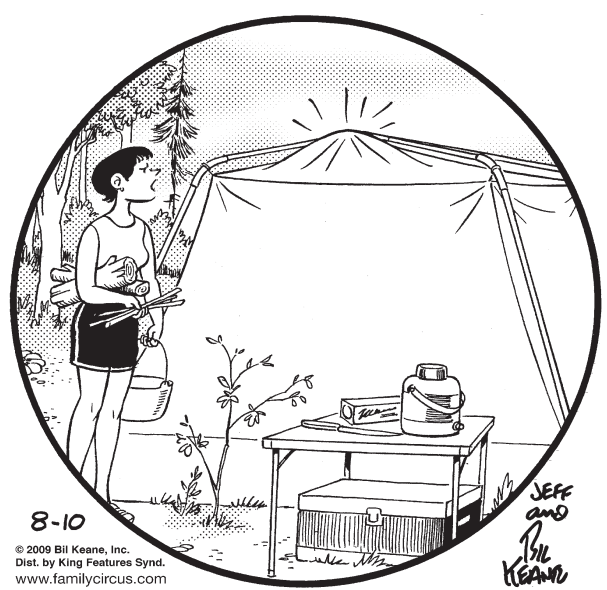
West		North		East		South	
Pass	Pass	1 ♣	Dble	2 ♠	2 ♠	3 ♠	4 ♠
Pass	2 ♣	Dble	2 ♠	3 ♠	3 ♠	Pass	3 ♠
Pass	3 ♣	3 ♠	Pass	4 ♠	4 ♠	Pass	4 ♠
Pass	4 ♣	4 ♠	Pass	4 ♠	4 ♠	Pass	4 ♠

The American West led a club to East's king, and East returned the jack of diamonds to dummy's ace. Declarer now led a low trump from dummy and would have gone down one had he finessed.

Instead, fearful of an impending diamond ruff, he went up with the ace and returned a low trump, after which there was no way to stop the contract. South lost only a spade, a heart and a club, giving Italy a net gain of 490 points on the deal.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



"Stop bouncing on those air mattresses!"

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★ 8/10

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 the last Sudoku puzzle is at right.

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

Cryptoquip

Y X T C O N T P R Q C Q P O
N D O V T S R B Q B O D D J R O V P T I,
S R H N N Q R T J Q H V Q H D I
R O J S B ' R Y X Q D D J X Q D J.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN THE TWO MAGICIANS MET, THEY WERE DEFINITELY CONVINCED IT WAS LOVE AT FIRST SLEIGHT.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: B equals T

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	DOWN
1 Make inquiries	1 Intention
4 Like old bread	2 Go schussing
9 Tend the lawn	3 Barbie's cohort
12 Eisenhower	4 1984 Cyndi Lauper hit
13 Apiary homes	5 Break Rd.
14 "— not choose to run"	6 Rd. Tether
15 Thanks-giving pie filling	7 Tether mate
17 Neither mate	8 Regard
18 Lincoln sages	9 Tiny
19 Safe and sound	10 Smell
21 Panda's fodder	11 Had on once
24 Towel marking	16 "Cash —"
25 Mentalist Geller	20 Grouch
26 Boxer	Solution time: 27 mins.
28 Chinese peninsula	W A S M E L B L I M P
31 Go under	A V E I R E R A R E R
33 Pitch	S T T C A N D Y C A I N E
35 Unopened tulip	P A T A S I A N
36 Spud	S N O B E N D B O O B
	R A D S H A N D Y
	M A N O N A N O D E
	B R A N D Y A W N
	A P E X E B B S O L O
	S A N D Y H O O K I I I
	I N A I R T A I U R N
	P A Y E E A D D M E G

Saturday's answer 8-10

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	