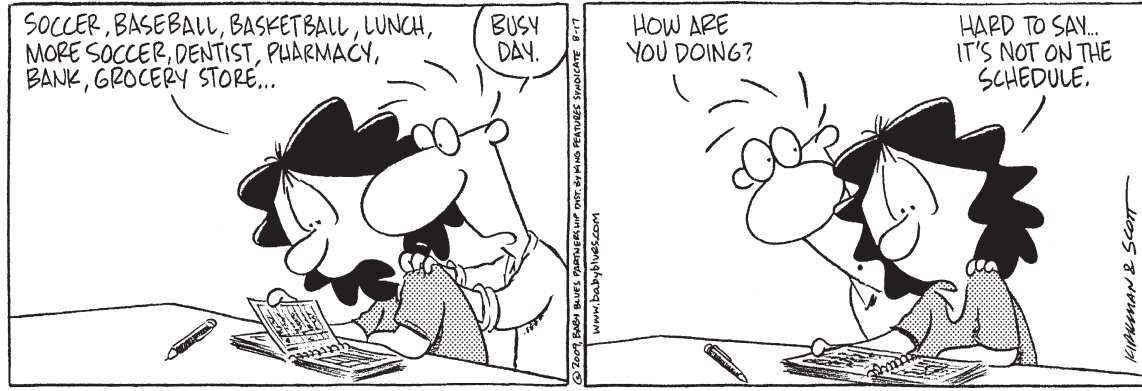
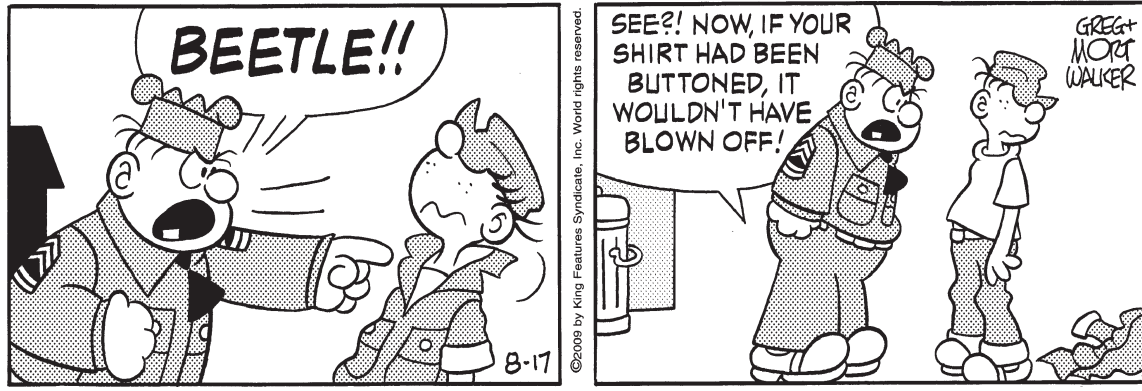


Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



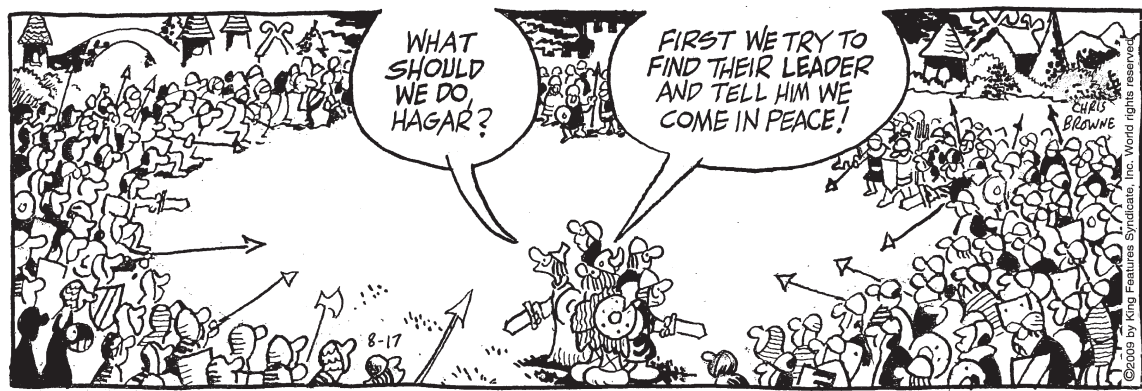
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



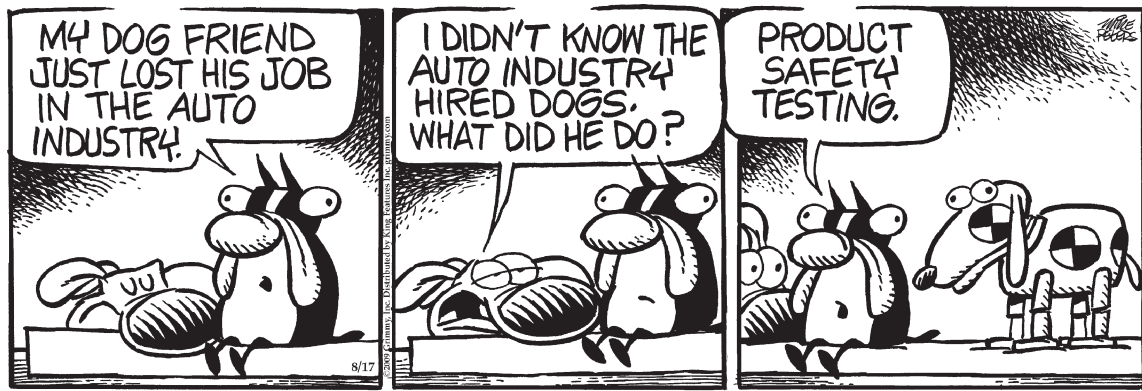
Blondie • Chic Young



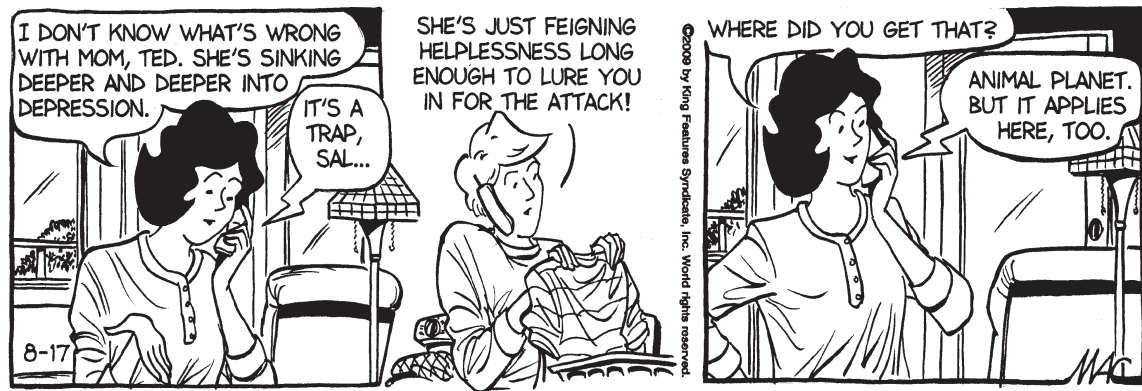
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



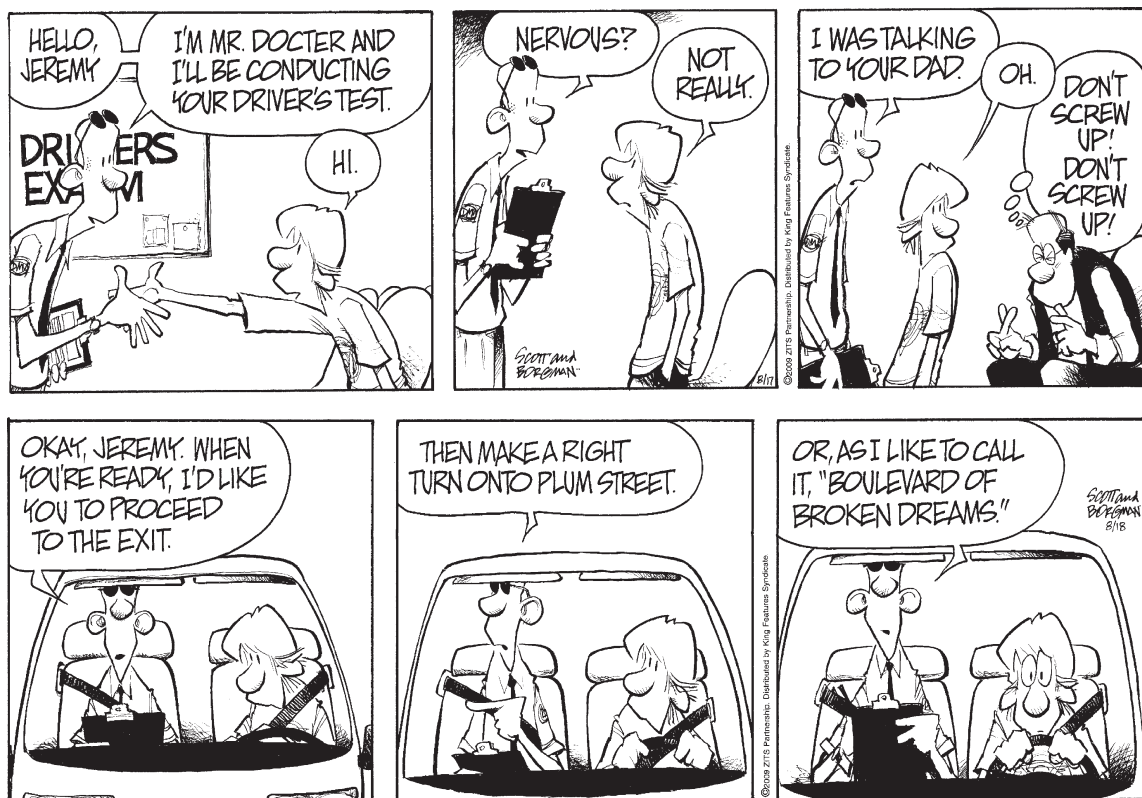
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Dr. Joyce Brothers

• Ask Dr. Brothers

Wardrobe plan shocks a friend

Dear Dr. Brothers: I've been hanging out with a girl I met at work. She's very cool and has a stylish wardrobe. In fact, since we have the same salary, I was wondering how she could keep buying all these clothes. Well, I found out when she invited me to her apartment: She had her dress tags tucked in and said she always returns the dress the next day after wearing it! How can I tell her this is wrong but still be friends? - B.N.

Dear B.N.: You and your friend have something in common: You both want to have your cake and eat it too! She wants to be able to have a large, stylish wardrobe, despite earning too small a salary to afford it. You want to hang out with this glamorous creature, change her evil ways and still have her as a companion. You both are hoping for a lot. She may be getting away with her behavior, and this is standard operating procedure for a certain kind of clotheshorse who sees nothing wrong with sampling clothes for free.

If you don't say anything, she will assume that you endorse her method of shopping. It would be best to speak up sooner rather than later if you want to avoid a really awkward situation. Obviously, you are worried that she will dump you if you bring up the negatives. Short of offering to trade wardrobes for variety or asking her to shop with you at some discount shops, you don't have much to offer in the way of alternate solutions. I don't think appealing to her sense of right and wrong is going to work. You have to decide if you can respect yourself for still admiring her.

Dear Dr. Brothers: I have always taken my annual checkups seriously. I don't like to waste the doctor's time, as I can tell he is busy. So I save up questions, write them down and try to get everything answered so I am set till the next year. But recently, after my routine tests, I don't feel I am getting the detailed answers I need for peace of mind. He says he will call me if anything is not right, but is that enough? I feel neglected. - L.C.

Dear L.C.: I am sorry you are feeling neglected by your physician, but you are not alone. Many patients feel they get short shrift, in the examining room and after waiting for test results. It is not uncommon to hear nothing. If you can be reassured by the "no news is good news" approach, that's fine, but many who don't hear start to wonder if they have been forgotten and their test results overlooked.

As it happens, those who fear being forgotten as you put it, may have something to worry about. A new study from Cornell Medical College, reported in the Archives of Internal Medicine, shows that failure to report test results to patients is "relatively common," and even when results are abnormal, about 7 percent of those patients are not notified by the doctor, or someone at the medical facility. So the squeaky wheel gets the grease. Rather than worry, be the patient who gets a promise from the doctor or staff to let you know the results after your tests, and if you aren't called, get on the horn and call them up yourself. You won't be bothering them - that's their job.

(c) 2009 by King Features Syndicate

Bridge • Steve Becker

South dealer. Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
 ♠ 3 2
 ♥ 3 2
 ♦ AK 5 4 3
 ♣ 6 5 4 3

WEST
 ♠ J 5 4
 ♥ K J 9 8 5
 ♦ J 9 6
 ♣ A 10

EAST
 ♠ Q 10 9 8
 ♥ 7 6
 ♦ Q 10 8 7
 ♣ J 8 2

SOUTH
 ♠ AK 7 6
 ♥ AQ 10 4
 ♦ 2
 ♣ K Q 9 7

The bidding:
 South West North East
 1♣ 1♥ 1♠ 1NT
 4♥ 1♣ 1♠ Pass
 Opening lead - six of diamonds.

Famous Hand

If you don't believe in fairy tales, you won't believe this happened. It is said that the deal was actually played in the early days of contract bridge - more specifically, in 1927!

South opened the bidding with one spade. Of course, today we'd bid a club, but in those days the principle of opening the suit below the singleton had not yet been developed.

West ventured two hearts, a hair-raising action by present standards, but people were more sporting in those days. North got into the spirit of things with three diamonds, but at least he had an opening bid by South to lean on.

South realized he would be unable to score many diamond tricks if he undertook a three-trump contract, so he tried four hearts, even though West had already bid the suit. He thought he'd make enough high-card tricks in the side suits and low-card tricks in trumps to bring the contract home.

West doubled, and North, who had no idea what was going on, passed. West led a diamond, whereupon South quickly wrapped up 10 tricks!

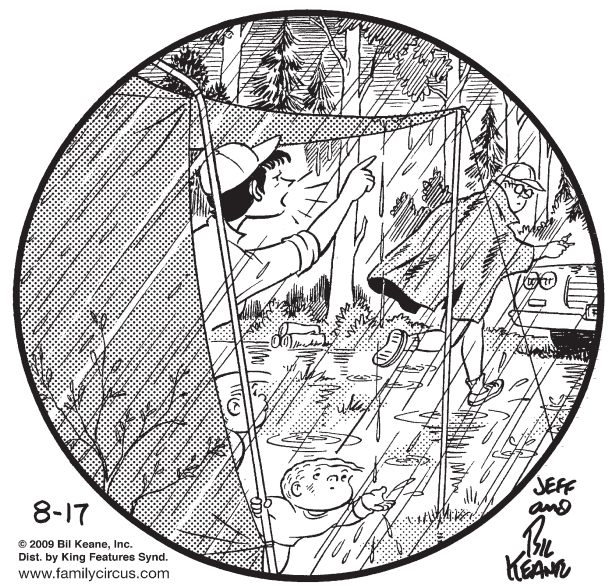
He won the diamond with the ace and cashed the king, discarding a club. He then played a club, losing the king to the ace. Back came a club to South's queen. Declarer then cashed the A-K of spades, ruffed a spade in dummy and a diamond in his hand.

By this time, South had won seven of the eight tricks played and still held the A-Q-10 of hearts, a spade and a club. West had only trumps left.

Declarer led a spade, and West was forced to ruff and return a trump. South won with the ten and exited with a club. Again West had to ruff and return a trump, handing declarer his 10th trick and his doubled contract.

Those were the good old days!
 (c)2009 King Features Syndicate Inc.

Family Circus • Bil Keane



8-17

© 2009 Bil Keane, Inc. Dist. by King Features Synd. www.familycircus.com

"...or coloring books or board games or puzzles or storybooks or..."

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

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.

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

Cryptoquip

QCUQ GKUDFIA JUAUXKIO
 YUGGFRM UGKPIO WFJR
 EKKOEFIOM, MKDR KW ECFYC
 DPMQ XR QCR CKXK'M KXKRM.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF A PERSON WERE AN EXPERT IN EXAMINING LONG, NARROW CRACKS, WOULD THAT MAKE HIM A FISSUREMAN?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: K equals O

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

- | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------|---------------------------|--------------|-----------------|---------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------------|------------------|--------------|----------------------|--------------------|-------------|----------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------|---------------|----------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------|--------------|------------|---------|------------------|---------------------|-----------|
| ACROSS | 1 Trophy room, maybe | 4 Recede | 7 Bloke | 11 Oil cartel | 13 The Red or the Black | 14 Inauguration recitation | 15 "Arrivederci" | 16 Faux — | 17 Second-hand | 18 Wash the pots | 20 Potter's oven | 22 Pinch | 24 Its capital is Riga | 28 Twisted treat | 32 Existence | 33 Ireland | 34 Talk on and on | 36 Get up | 37 Blazing | 39 Round pegs in square holes | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| DOWN | 41 "Am I my brother's —?" | 43 Sock part | 44 Related (to) | 46 Shivel | 50 Unite | 53 Gripe repeatedly | 55 Frat party garb | 56 Reed instrument | 57 Hot tub | 58 Break suddenly | 59 Traps for one | 61 Mag. staffers | 21 Science room. | 23 Mrs. Al Bundy | 25 Henry — | 26 "Meet Me — Louis" | 27 Quite some time | 28 Pinnacle | 29 Wide-spread | 30 Ontario neighbor | 31 Flee from a crime scene | 35 Morsel | 38 "A mouse!" | 40 Boar's mate | 42 Clean the suds off | 45 Back of the neck | 47 Region | 48 "Zounds!" | 49 Siestas | 50 Trot | 51 Japanese sash | 52 Charged particle | 54 8 pts. |

Solution time: 27 mins.

S	A	U	T	E	L	E	A	H	I	C
I	N	S	E	T	O	A	R	A	D	O
N	A	U	R	U	U	S	T	I	N	O
A	R	D	E	N	T	D	O	L	E	
G	A	L	E	G	G	H	O	I	S	T
O	W	L	S	R	E	S	E	T		
P	E	Y	O	T	E					
L	E	T	H	E	O	S	L	O		
L	I	N	D	A	E	A	T	E	E	
O	B	O	E	B	A	R	R	E	L	
U	S	U	R	P	E	D	A	T	E	U
S	E	N	A	B	E	C	A	S	T	E
E	N	S	D	E	R	E	S	S	E	N

Saturday's answer 8-17

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