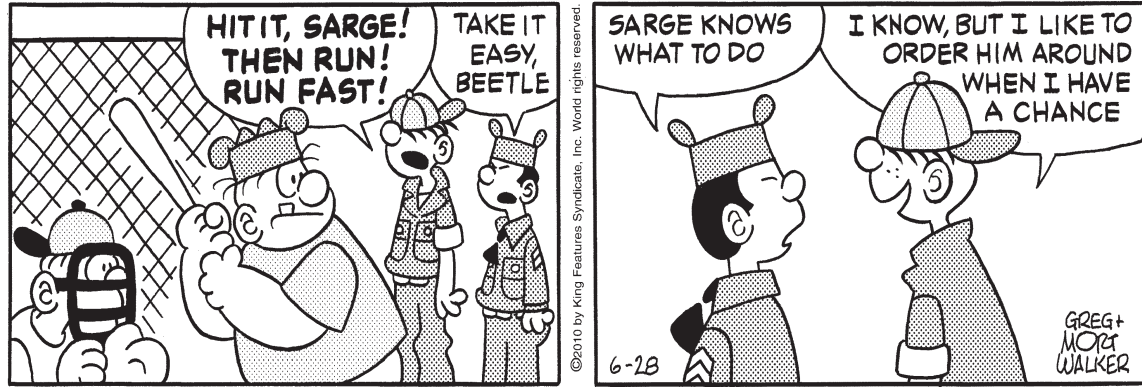


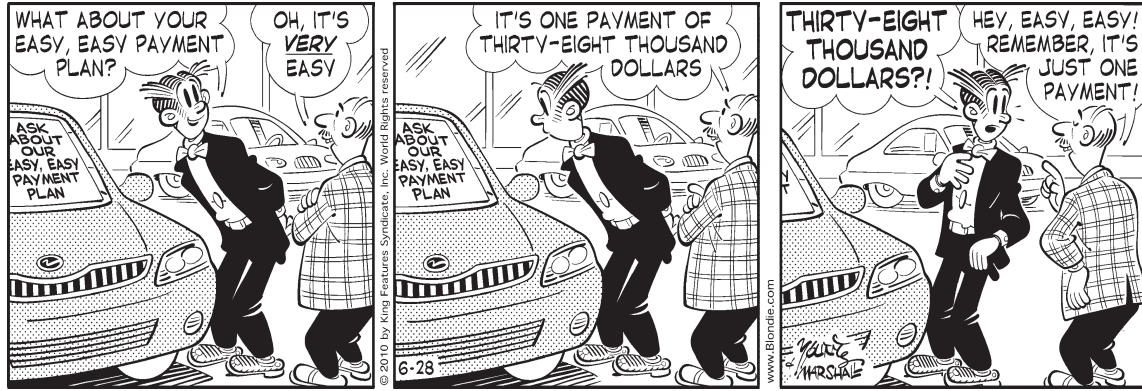
**Baby Blues** • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



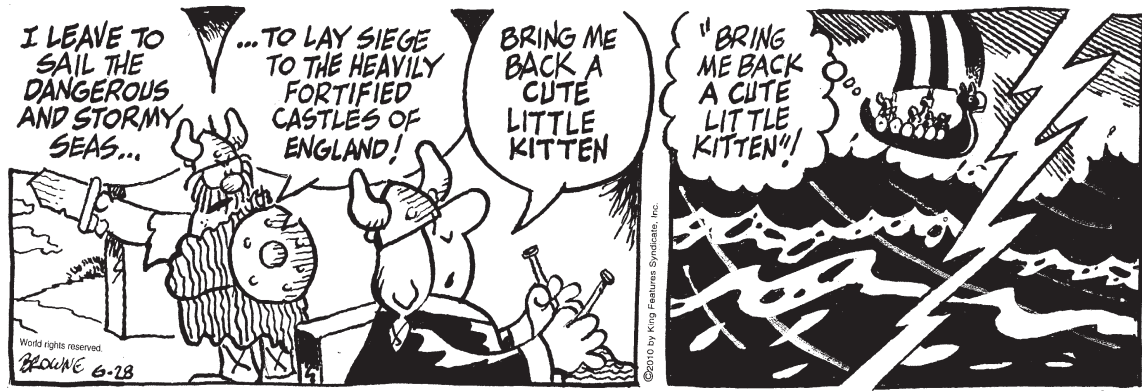
**Beetle Bailey** • Mort Walker



**Blondie** • Chic Young



**Hagar the Horrible** • Chris Browne



**Mother Goose and Grimm** • Mike Peters



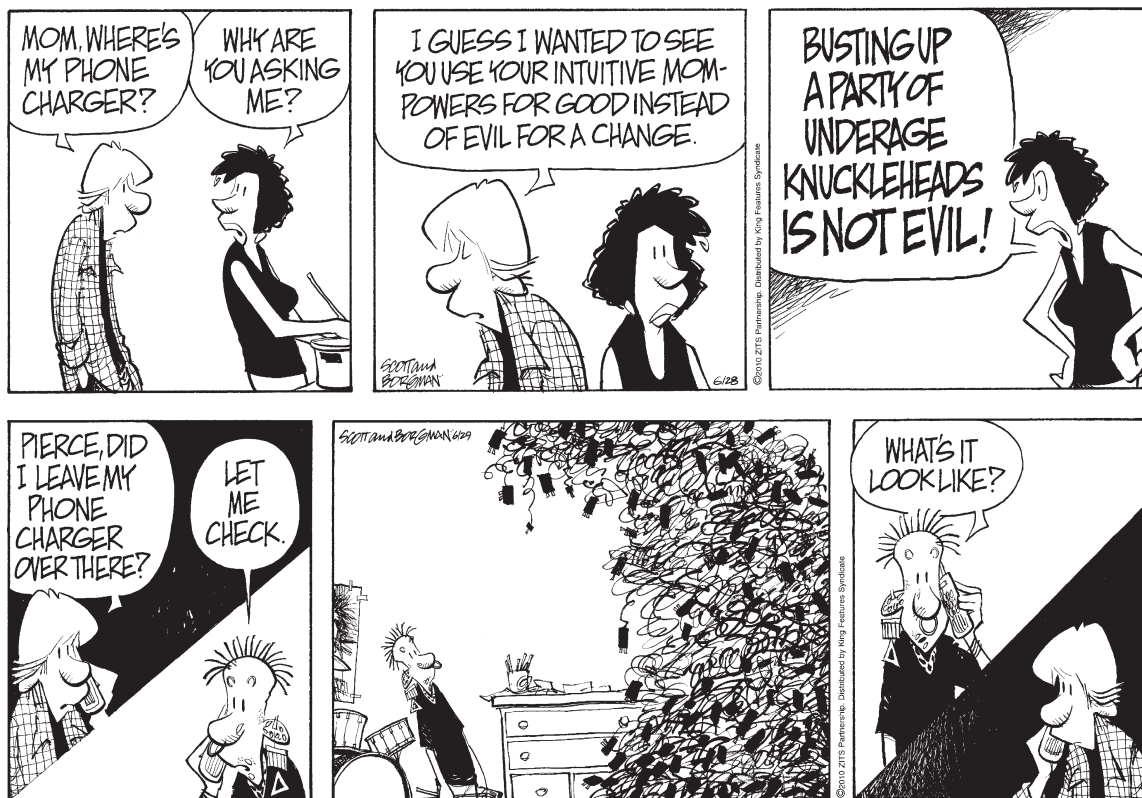
**Sally Forth** • Greg Howard



**Todd the Dinosaur** • Patrick Roberts



**Zits** • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



**Dr. Joyce Brothers**

• Ask Dr. Brothers

**Job suffers due to lateness**

**Dear Dr. Brothers:** My life is a mess. I can't ever meet deadlines - I'm a chronic procrastinator, and my boss is threatening to fire me. I can't seem to help it. It's as if I want to lose my job. Is that possible? Is my subconscious telling me it's time to look for a new line of work? I can't afford to be without income. I don't know what to do! I never thought I'd be in this kind of a rut. - L.D.

**Dear L.D.:** One thing our current economic doldrums have brought into sharp focus is the way we feel about our work. In the past, if the job wasn't right for us, or we weren't climbing the corporate ladder fast enough, or if people or workloads were driving us crazy, or we didn't make enough money, we just got out the resume and changed jobs. It was never pleasant, and it took work, but it was doable. Today, we just have to cling to what we've got and pray the lifeboat doesn't turn over. When the economy improves, many jobs won't even exist anymore, but there also should be new fields and new opportunities for people to do something they really love. If you can stick it out until things improve, you will not be making things much worse for yourself.

You need to figure out what kind of work will suit you, but since you have a job in the meantime, try to deal with your procrastination. The trouble with your lack of self-direction is that if you miscalculate the time needed for the task, you end up doing a lousy job. Or you may miss the deadline. If your boss is on your case, the deadline isn't working for you. Try setting your own deadlines ahead of the real one. Break down tasks into units with assigned time frames.

**Dear Dr. Brothers:** I moved my office to a new room. After three weeks, I noticed I was feeling all out of sorts and edgy. I could not figure out what it was. I went to visit my old office, and suddenly felt relaxed again. I noticed that the color of the walls in my old office was green. The new office is white. I've heard about colors affecting your psyche; is there anything to this? - B.D.

**Dear B.D.:** That's a good question. Some people feel the psychology of color is no more valid than a horoscope or handwriting analysis, and others feel all three are very valid ways to plan and guide their daily activities. So you have to decide for yourself. Before you settle on the color green or white - or anything else - as the culprit in your unhappy office move, think about other factors involved. Were you literally kicked upstairs, perhaps promoted or (demoted) to a job you don't like as much? Or, if the job is the same, is the move to an inferior space - smaller, maybe, without a window? In fact, is there a window?

Often, the amount of light can make a difference in mood. Is the ambient noise level different, or are you now amongst a bunch of strangers? Sometimes change alone can make us feel on edge, until the new becomes old hat. So, don't blame your white walls. But you might have a case. Green is thought to be calming - why do you think the TV talk shows stick nervous guests in the green room? You can always ask the boss for a paint job!

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**Bridge** • Steve Becker

South dealer.  
Both sides vulnerable.

**NORTH**  
♠ K Q 3  
♥ 8 6 5 4  
♦ J 10 6  
♣ K 8 5

**WEST**  
♠ A 10 7 5 4  
♥ K 7  
♦ K 3 2  
♣ A 4 2

**EAST**  
♠ J 9 6 2  
♥ 3  
♦ 8 7  
♣ Q J 10 7 6 3

**SOUTH**  
♠ 8  
♥ A Q J 10 9 2  
♦ A Q 9 5 4  
♣ 9

The bidding:  
South West North East  
1♥ 1♣ 2♥ 2♠  
3♦ Pass 4♥ 2♣  
Opening lead - ace of spades.

**Famous Hand**  
This deal occurred in the quarterfinals of the 1988 Spingold team championship. It features excellent play by Jim Mahaffey, captain of the team that eventually captured the title.

Mahaffey held the South cards and reached four hearts on the bidding shown. West led the ace of spades, cashed the ace of clubs and exited with a second club.

It appears that declarer must lose two more tricks to West's red kings and so go down one. But Mahaffey proceeded to demonstrate that this was not the case.

He won the club with dummy's king, discarding a diamond, and discarded two more diamonds on the K-Q of spades. This brought him to the crossroads.

One obvious line of play is to take a finesse in hearts and, if it loses, later try a diamond finesse. As can be seen, this fails as the cards lie.

However, Mahaffey had paid close attention to the bidding and therefore adopted an approach designed to protect against West's holding both missing kings - a possibility made more likely by West's vulnerable overcall.

At trick six, he ruffed dummy's last club, then cashed the ace of hearts. When the king did not appear, he continued with a second heart, saddling West with the lead.

This left West with two losing choices: He could either return a diamond into South's A-Q or lead a spade, allowing declarer to ruff in dummy while discarding the queen of diamonds. Either way, the game was home, giving Mahaffey's team a sizable pickup on the deal.

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**Family Circus** • Bil Keane



**Conceptis Sudoku** • Dave Green

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

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

Difficulty Level ★★

**Cryptoquip**

DX C MOHPCDJ CDHADJO  
YXXOHF C QYHJDJS QOCA,  
D HOMRYJ PNCP QDSNP LO  
C MYJPDJOJPCA LHOCRCFP.

**Yesterday's Cryptoquip:** A PAIR OF MALE SIBLINGS WHO ARE WORKING FOR THE VALET SERVICE CALL THEMSELVES PARKER BROTHERS.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: P equals T

**Crossword** • Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 Barber-shop tool
  - 5 Alter the sound-track
  - 8 Poet
  - 12 Winged
  - 13 Before
  - 14 Midday
  - 15 Venus de —
  - 16 Skilled musician
  - 18 On tiptoe
  - 20 — shepherd
  - 21 Soda flavor
  - 23 N.J. neighbor
  - 24 Mournfully, in music
  - 28 Show-room sample
  - 31 Altar affirmative
  - 32 Backbone
  - 34 Sister
  - 35 37-Across swimmers
- DOWN**
- 1 A summer place?
  - 2 Hodge-podge
  - 3 Timbuktu's land
  - 4 Mustang accessories
  - 5 Evolves
  - 6 Mentalist
  - 7 Titanic van-quisher
  - 8 Accustomed
  - 9 Photog's choice
  - 10 Santa —, CA
  - 11 In due time
  - 17 Sluggish Williams
  - 19 Craggy peaks
  - 22 From east of the Urals
  - 24 Conk out
  - 25 Praise in verse
  - 26 Child's treat
  - 27 Official
  - 29 Greek consonants
  - 30 Yoko of music
  - 33 "Zounds!"
  - 36 "Oklahoma!" carriage
  - 38 Cook-wear?
  - 40 "Golly!"
  - 42 Burn somewhat
  - 43 Norway's capital
  - 44 Being, to Brutus
  - 46 Skip
  - 47 Horse's neck hair
  - 48 Break unexpectedly
  - 50 Sermon subject

Solution time: 27 mins.

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

Saturday's answer 6-28

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			