

Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



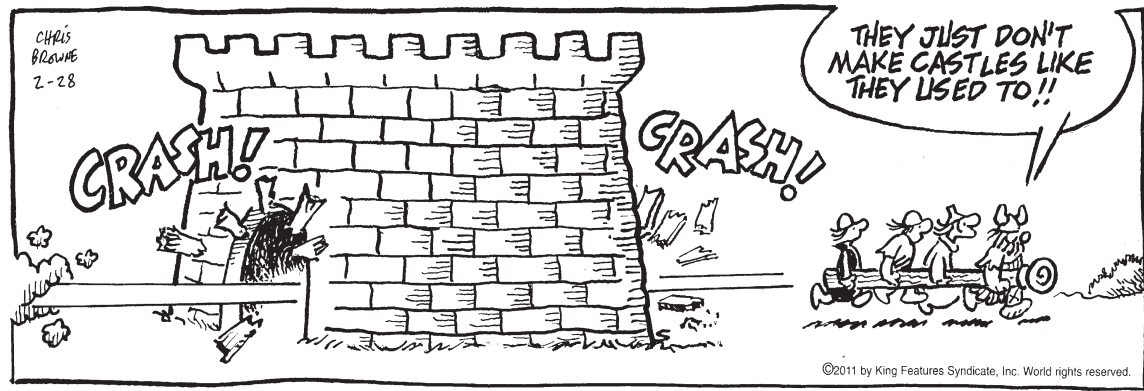
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young



Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



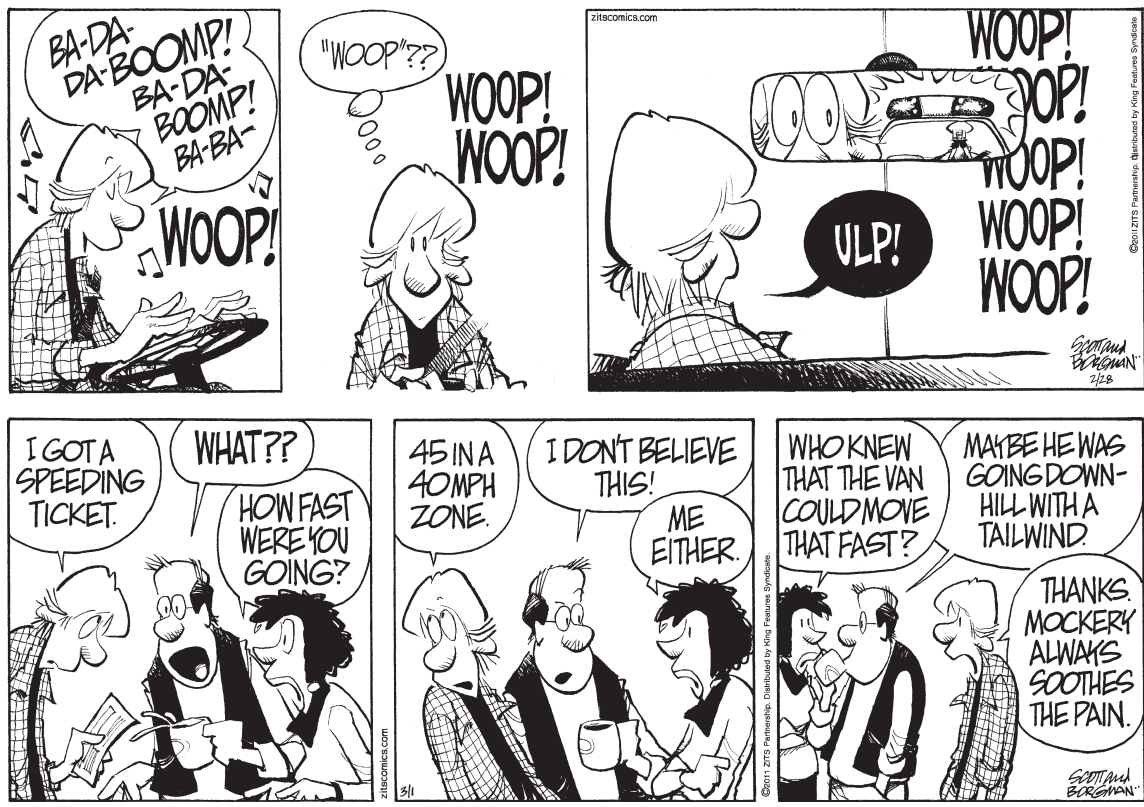
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Dr. Joyce Brothers
• Ask Dr. Brothers
I think I made a Frankenstein

Dear Dr. Brothers: I'm in dire need of help! I run a small business and promoted someone from clerical to supervision. Now, six months in, he's out of control. He wants what's best for the company, but is unrealistic in executing his ideas. Everybody loves him (he's very charismatic), so nobody wants to see him go. I just don't know what is happening. — G.F.

Dear G.F.: It is great when a business owner gives an employee a chance. Promotion is a reason small outfits keep a loyal staff — if there is room for growth, there is little reason to ditch the company. That job security is precious. But promoting an employee carries risk, especially in a small business. In your case, it is likely the fellow's charisma helped convince you he is the type to be a leader. You were right. He has charmed everyone, from management to underlings.

Now the question is, Can he help enough to keep him in that position? Or is he a loose cannon? Often, charismatic leaders are overconfident, spending so much time feeding their image they don't back up their grandiose plans. You would be best off making sure the supervisor is well-supervised. If he knows someone is watching and he will be held accountable, he is more likely to scale back his efforts to what he can actually accomplish. That will be good for everyone.

Dear Dr. Brothers: My wife and I live in a nice place in the country. I thought we were both happy with our location, but it seems she doesn't like it here. The moment she got the house the way she likes it, she wants to move! She's looking for houses online, and today I was shocked to learn she had a realtor look at our house! Is there any way I can persuade her otherwise? — S.S.

Dear S.S.: I hate to be the one to tell you this, but some women enjoy changing their home the way others buy shoes. Your wife may have a creative streak feeding a craving for constant change, or it could be something that gives her pleasure. For some frequent movers, there's the thrill of the chase, the fun of shopping, the challenge of transforming a plain home into something theirs alone. On the other hand, perhaps your first thought was key: Maybe she really doesn't like it there; fixing up the house was fun, but when it was done, she realized its shortcomings weren't fixable, or the location was problematic.

What strikes me, though, and should concern you is the fact that your wife has gone ahead with all these unilateral moves — looking online and even making an appointment with a salesperson to look at the house. With a major decision like where you are going to live, it would be important to reach a consensus before one of you started looking for the next house. You should ask her what is troubling her about living in the home she has just fixed up, and if there is anything you can do to help. It could be she is looking for excitement or even busy work to keep her mind off — fill in the blank.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



“... and I did all my homework. So I think I really AM sick.”

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★ 2/28

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

Cryptoquip

THONW LQRL TNMCPYWG HO
TWMCG HT R GHKWLHZW
KWGMO, H LWOP LM LQHOUMK
QHZ RT R UMYWR NYHZHORG.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IN WINTER WEATHER, DO YOU THINK A FOUR-HEADED MONSTER LIKES TO WEAR A COAT OF MANY COLLARS?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: H equals I

Bridge • Steve Becker

South dealer. Both sides vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ Q 6 2
♥ 10 9 8 7 4 2
♦ 18 5
♣ 7
WEST
♠ K 10 8 7
♥ Q J 3
♦ 4 3
♣ K Q 10 8
EAST
♠ A J 9 5 4 3
♥ A K 5
♦ 10 9 2
♣ 2
SOUTH
♠ —
♥ 6
♦ A K Q 7 6
♣ A J 9 6 5 4 3
The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♥ 2 ♣
3 ♦ 4 ♣ Pass Pass
4 NT Pass 5 ♦ Dble
Opening lead — seven of spades.

Famous Hand

There is no unanimity about who is the best player in the world, but there's also no doubt that one of the leading candidates for this honor is Bob Hamman. His long string of successes in national and world championships is truly remarkable, and this extraordinary hand from a tournament some years ago is a good indicator of how and why he has achieved that status.

Hamman was East and doubled five diamonds after the sequence shown. His partner, Bobby Wolff, led the spade seven, and declarer ruffed Hamman's jack. South then played the ace and another club, trumping with dummy's eight — whereupon Hamman discarded a heart!

You'd have to search far and wide to find anyone else who wouldn't have overruffed at that point. But Hamman knew exactly what he was doing. Had he won the trick, declarer would have gone down only one — 200 points. South would have trumped the spade return, ruffed a club with the jack, drawn trumps with the A-K and then conceded a club trick to West's king.

But Hamman realized that on the bidding South very likely had 0-1-5-7 distribution and that he could cause declarer a great deal of aggravation by not overruffing at trick three.

And that is precisely what happened. Declarer next led a heart from dummy. Hamman won with the king and returned a low spade, South ruffed, reducing his trump holding to the bare A-K-Q, and could do no better than ruff one of his remaining five clubs with dummy's jack.

After that, the only tricks declarer could take were his A-K-Q of trumps, so he wound up scoring only five trump tricks in his hand, two trump tricks in dummy and the ace of clubs. Thanks to Hamman's superb play, the contract went down three — 800 points — or 600 points more than just about anyone else would have earned on the deal.

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Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 1 Diner sandwich, for short 4 Matter-horn, for one 7 Too 11 Atmosphere 13 That woman 14 Lowly worker 15 Applaud 16 Past 17 End of a magnet 18 Pair on a Bactrian's back 20 Rise high 22 Fall behind 24 Broccoli cluster 28 Custodian 32 Over 33 Oil cartel 34 Director Luhrmann 36 State with certainty 37 Op-ed piece

39 Occidental 41 Missive 43 "How — love thee?" 44 Wife of Osiris 46 Tyrolean melody 50 Office reminder 53 Toothpaste type 55 — con-tendere 56 Persia, now 57 Have bills 58 Slugger Sammy 59 — and crafts

60 Genetic matter (Abbr.) 61 Fellows

DOWN 1 Com-poser 2 Hum-dinger 3 Streetcar 4 "Eureka!" 5 Lower limbs 6 Irrefutable evidence 7 Acts of praise 8 Virgo neighbor 9 Scale note 10 Insep-arable

12 Computer programs 19 Perched 21 — carte 23 Sailor 25 Wander 26 Always 27 Gull's cousin 28 "Piano Man" singer 29 Church section 30 Egg container? 31 Uncooked 35 Last letter in London 38 Affirmative 40 Sauce source 42 Severity 45 Stitched 47 Ill fate 48 Otherwise 49 Give temporarily 50 Actress Farrow 51 Blunder 52 Wrestling surface 54 Meadow

Solution time: 27 mins.

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

Saturday's answer 2-28

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
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