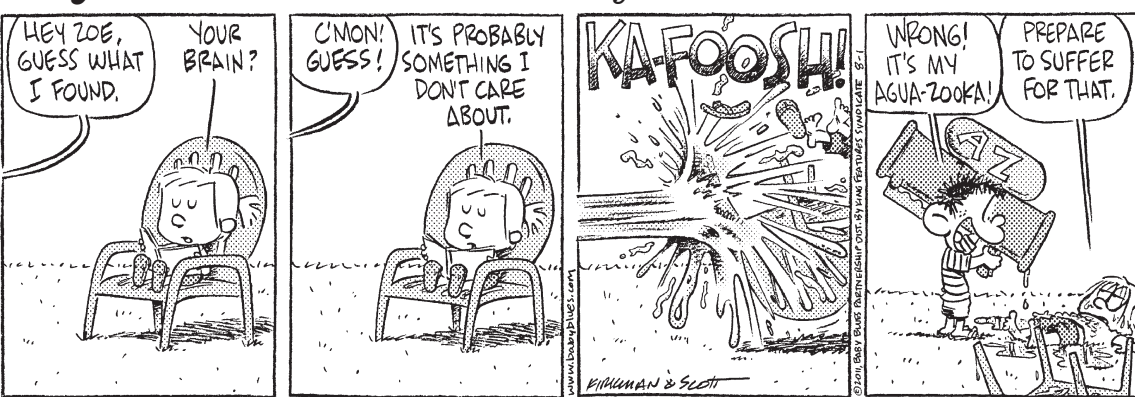


**Baby Blues** • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



**Beetle Bailey** • Mort Walker



**Blondie** • Chic Young



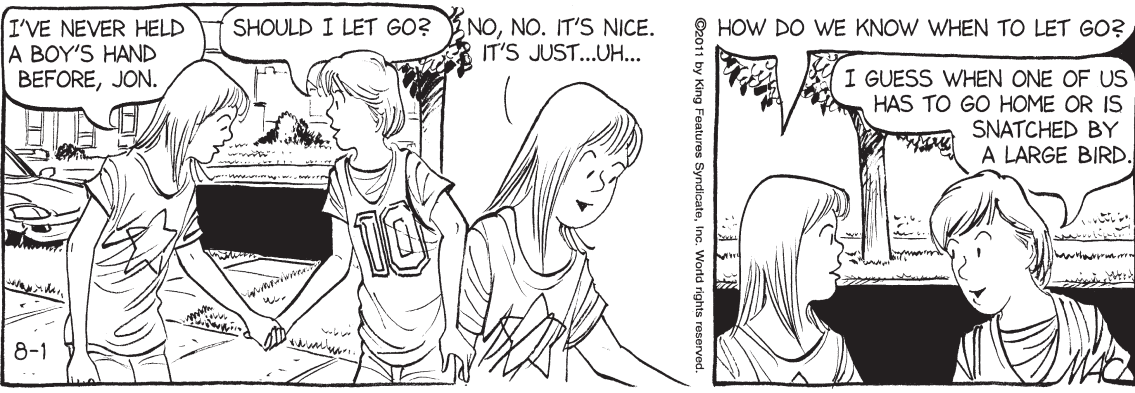
**Hagar the Horrible** • Chris Browne



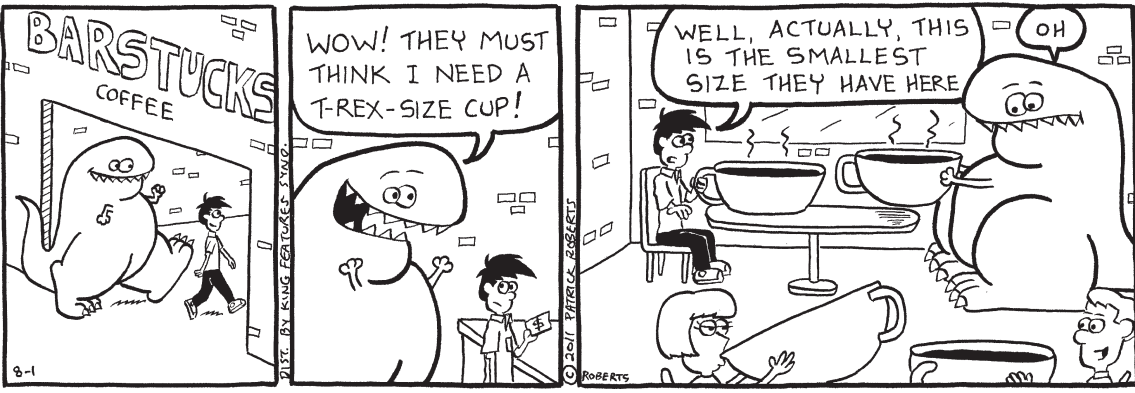
**Mother Goose and Grimm** • Mike Peters



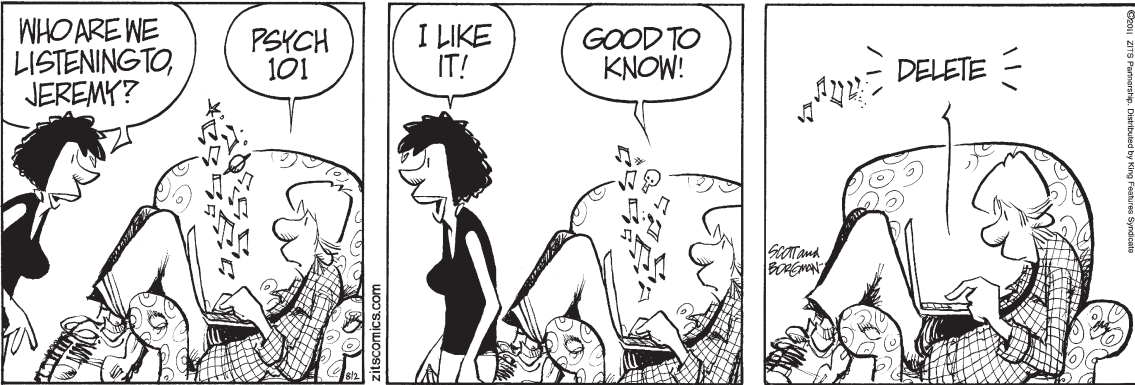
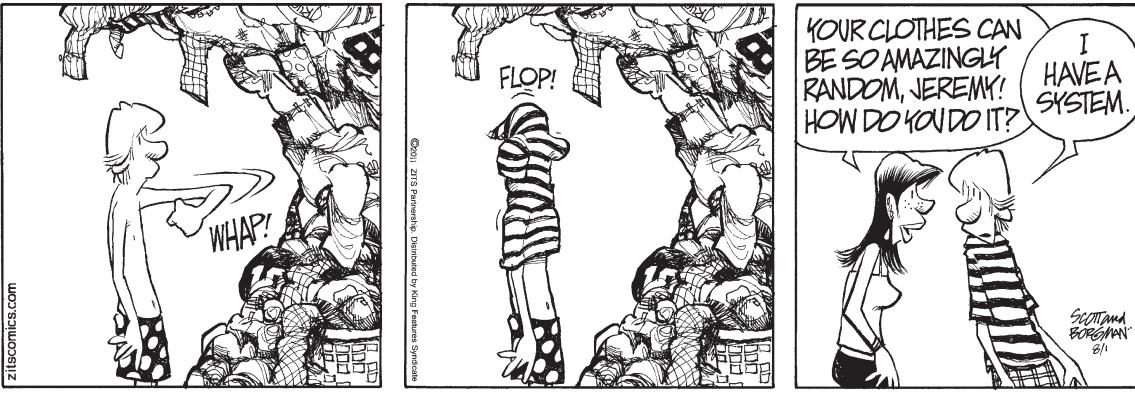
**Sally Forth** • Greg Howard



**Todd the Dinosaur** • Patrick Roberts



**Zits** • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



**Dr. Joyce Brothers**  
• Ask Dr. Brothers

**Does success mean leadership?**

**Dear Dr. Brothers:** Every time I read about getting ahead, it seems to assume the reader wants to be a manager or in some leadership role. I want to succeed, make as much money as possible and all that, but I have no desire to manage employees or take on the ultimate responsibility. Do you think some people are not cut out to be leaders? Being a follower seems better to me. – B.V.

**Dear B.V.:** One thing you have going for you: You know yourself and your limitations, if you choose to call not wanting to be a leader some kind of fault. It needn't be a loaded term, carrying negative connotations; after all, every leader needs a team of people to follow. But what you might look at is why you are uncomfortable with a leadership role, and see if you have strengths that counteract your fears. Being in the spotlight is uncomfortable to some people, but more often it is the responsibility that makes them sweat.

Because leaders are more accountable than the people under them and more is riding on their success or failure in terms of the bottom line, it may be simply too much pressure for some people to handle. But if you want to succeed as a follower, you need to step up your game so others can see you are a real player – dependable, creative, productive, smart, efficient. In terms of interactions with the boss, your loyalty and focus will help you receive the promotions and rewards you deserve. So, being a follower doesn't have to mean getting lost in the crowd.

**Dear Dr. Brothers:** I have a trait most people think is a fault but I actually think of as an asset: I am a habitual procrastinator. Now, to a lot of people that means you are lazy, disorganized, undisciplined, etc., and you probably don't have a very good work record. I'm a freelancer and can set my own schedule, and I haven't missed a deadline. I just seem more motivated to work if it is under pressure at the last minute. What's wrong with that? – L.W.

**Dear L.W.:** Whatever gets your motor running is fine, but working at the last minute because you don't feel the pressure of a deadline earlier is fraught with peril. Because you never have had a disaster, you think it is just fine, and for the most part it is. The work world can accommodate different styles, schedules and ways of doing things, and as a freelancer you have more freedom than most. But unless you are building in lead time and setting up fake deadlines you can miss and still get your work in, you are playing with fire.

It doesn't sound like building in safety measures is your style – the pressure you need in order to complete your assignment just wouldn't be there. As long as nothing goes wrong, you are golden – you've obviously got what it takes to perform when others would be going to pieces. But one day there will be an emergency, or an equipment breakdown or something else that will mess with your deadline, and you will run out of time. And once you do that, you start messing with your reputation for reliability. So, while being a procrastinator can sharpen your skills, it's still a title that's synonymous with "gambler."

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**Bridge** • Steve Becker

East dealer.  
North-South vulnerable.  
**NORTH**  
♦ K Q 5 2  
♥ J 2  
♠ J 8 7 5  
♣ 7 4 3  
**SOUTH**  
♦ A 8  
♥ A K 7 5  
♠ A Q 9 4 3 2  
♣ 10

The bidding:  
East South West North  
Pass 1♦ 2♣ Pass  
2♥ 3♦ Pass 4♦  
Pass 4NT Pass 5♣  
Dble 6♦  
Opening lead — king of clubs.

**Famous Hand**

This deal was played in the U.S.-Italy world championship match in 1951. It was Board No. 185 of the 320-board match, and the Italians were very far behind at the time.

Paolo Baroni was South for Italy, and Mario Franco was North. Baroni started with an artificial one-club bid and wound up in six diamonds after a somewhat mystifying series of bids by both sides.

West led the king of clubs followed by the queen, ruffed by declarer. The fate of the hand now depended on avoiding a trump loser, so Baroni led a spade to the queen and returned the jack of diamonds.

East falsecarded with the ten to encourage a finesse, but despite this, Baroni went up with the ace, caught the king and so made the slam!

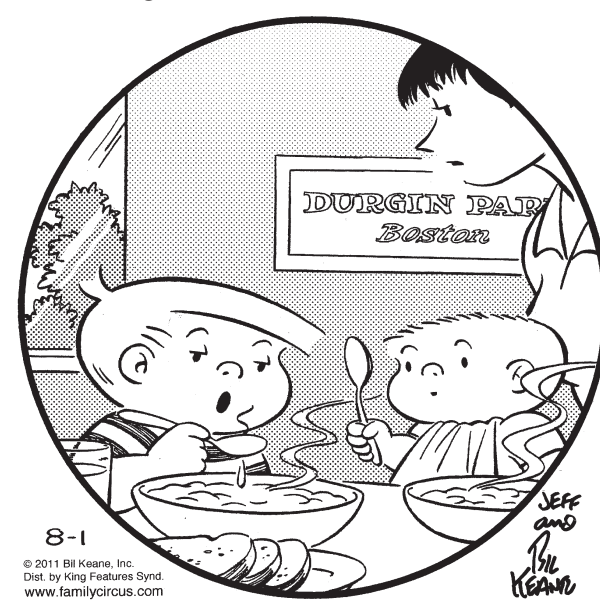
Explaining his anti-percentage play, Baroni said he thought that the American North-South pair at the other table would also bid the slam and that South would undoubtedly make the normal play of finessing in trumps. Baroni could not afford to duplicate the result at the other table, because his team was miles behind in the match, and a tie on the deal would amount to standing still.

And so – rejecting the percentage play – Baroni rose with the ace, realizing that this might cost him 1,470 points but hoping to gain the same amount by finding West with the singleton king.

Baroni was right on all counts! He caught the king, made the slam and was also correct in his prediction of what would occur at the other table. Sure enough, the American South got to six diamonds and went down one when he took the trump finesse.

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**Family Circus** • Bil Keane



**"If this is 'Beantown,' why do they serve so much clam chowder?"**

**Conceptis Sudoku** • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★ 8/01

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.

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

**Cryptoquip**

V U T E W D T H F L E U W I B F E Z  
N Y T K T Z X T J C U V F B T H F  
J F K K - X Y U J Y A U E J F T E N Y D A I E  
B U T G Z : L T E X T V E U G C F E Z .

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: BECAUSE THAT SCANDINAVIAN PLUNDERER RIDES MANY MOTORCYCLES, I SUPPOSE HE'S A BIKING VIKING.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: J equals W

**Crossword** • Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 "Les Miserables" author
  - 5 Brooks or Blanc
  - 8 Vintage video game
  - 12 Crudites
  - 14 Elliptical
  - 15 Working
  - 16 Peru's capital
  - 17 Tokyo's old name
  - 18 Attacked suddenly
  - 20 Emergency light
  - 23 Denomination
  - 24 Lairs
  - 25 Secretly
  - 28 Past
  - 29 Egg-shaped
  - 30 Mentalist
  - 32 Busy
  - 34 Conrad of "Diff'rent Strokes"
  - 35 Ostentation
  - 36 Property divider
- DOWN**
- 4 Earthy pigments
  - 5 Magical power
  - 6 "Xanadu" band, for short
  - 7 Operatic text
  - 8 Courteous
  - 9 "Meta-morphoses"
  - 10 Appellation
  - 11 Pleased
  - 13 Relinquish
  - 19 Rue the run
  - 20 Rx overseers' org.
  - 21 Toy block brand
  - 22 Soon, in verse
  - 23 Unseen problems
  - 25 Absolute ruler
  - 26 Campus area
  - 27 Advanced math, for short
  - 29 Midwestern state
  - 31 Chemical suffix
  - 33 Writing pad
  - 34 Adorn
  - 36 Popular cream-filled cake
  - 37 Kindly bloke
  - 38 Lotion additive
  - 39 Touse
  - 40 Normandy battle town
  - 43 Born
  - 44 Pale
  - 45 Dined on
  - 46 Evergreen variety

Solution time: 27 mins.



Saturday's answer 8-1

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12				13				14			
15								16			
20	21	22				23					
24					25				26	27	
28					29				30	31	
32					33				34		
37	38	39					40				
41						42	43		44	45	46
47						48					
49						50			51		