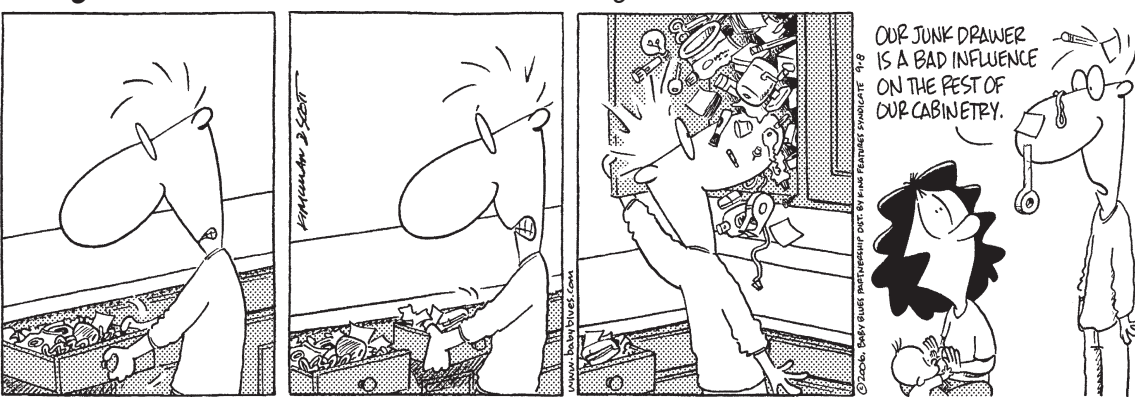


Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



Dr. Joyce Brothers

• Ask Dr. Brothers

Mom can't stand boys' roughness

Dear Dr. Brothers: I always envisioned myself as the mother of little princesses, but ended up with three rough-and-tumble boys. My husband is a workaholic, and it's pretty much up to me to cope. The problem is they are very physical, always roughhousing, and I can't stand it. The boys are 5, 6 and 8. I try to get them involved in art or science projects, but they just want to wrestle. What can I do to keep my sanity but not turn them into sissies? — G.G.

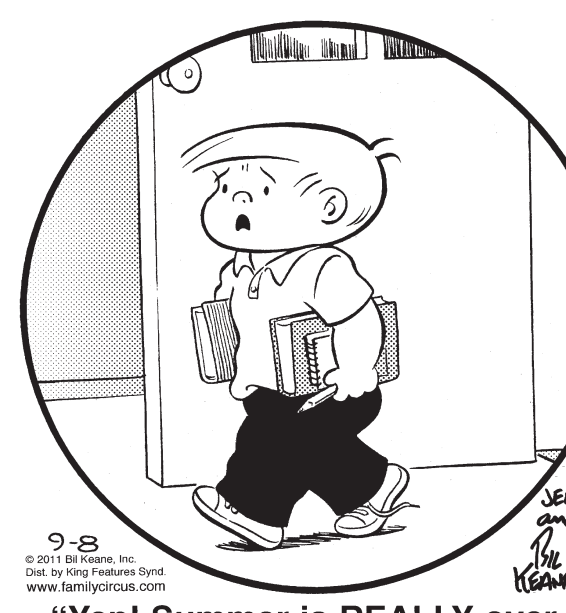
Dear G.G.: It would be great if your husband could get involved with his sons, at least on weekends. They need a strong presence of a father, guiding them and helping them grow into good kids. It sounds like they have a lot of energy, but scrapping easily can turn into fights or end up with someone getting hurt — so you are not being entirely unreasonable when you prefer they do something else. They probably are taking advantage of you being the only enforcer. You also know they don't enjoy the activities you have suggested, so you need to be more sensitive to their interests while not stifling their enthusiasm. When you do engage with your sons, try to do something that interests them. It's not too early to get them involved in sports like baseball, soccer and tennis. They don't have to choose the same thing. Some boys might prefer martial arts, but you can point them toward running, biking or swimming. The list is endless. I think they just need their energy directed toward more organized activities. In the meantime, work on your husband to be more of an involved dad. It's important, and the family will be healthier and happier.

Dear Dr. Brothers: I've been married six years, and have always had mixed feelings about pregnancy. I can't wait to have our baby girl, but since I pride myself on my figure, it is hard to watch my waist disappear. I feel fat and ugly, and my husband is less interested in having sex. He says I am still beautiful, but I'm only five months along, and I'm worried about looking even worse. Can you help me? — K.F.

Dear K.F.: I am sure that as you move farther into your pregnancy, you will feel better about your body. The baby will be kicking, and you will look like a pregnant woman instead of an overweight one. As you begin showing more, you can go shopping for maternity styles — those that prominently feature the baby bump! So patience and getting used to changes in your body will help. Please don't diet. I'm willing to bet your husband thinks you're beautiful but may feel hesitant to make love because he's afraid of hurting the baby or endangering the pregnancy. A talk with your physician should clear that up. Understand he has to make adjustments in his emotional state during pregnancy as well. You both are heading into an exciting time. With your pride in your body, you won't have trouble getting back into shape after the birth of your daughter. And please don't let vanity deprive her of mother's milk. Try to stop worrying and enjoy this special time.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



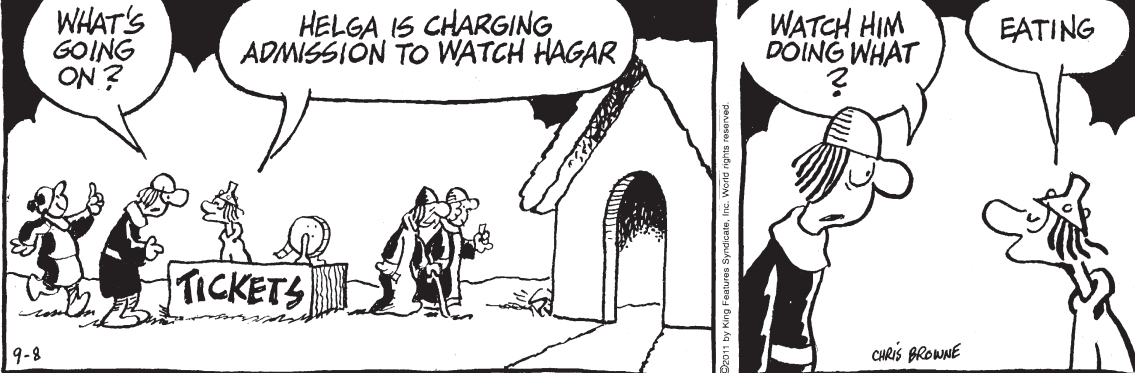
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young



Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



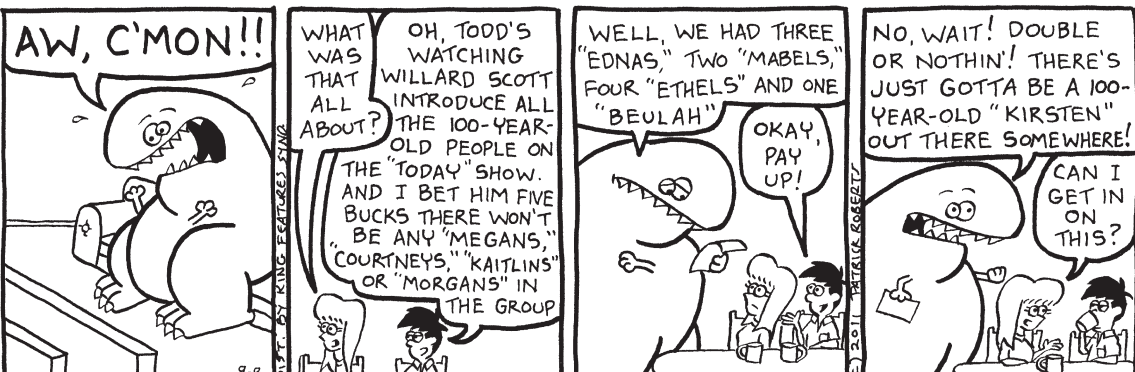
Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



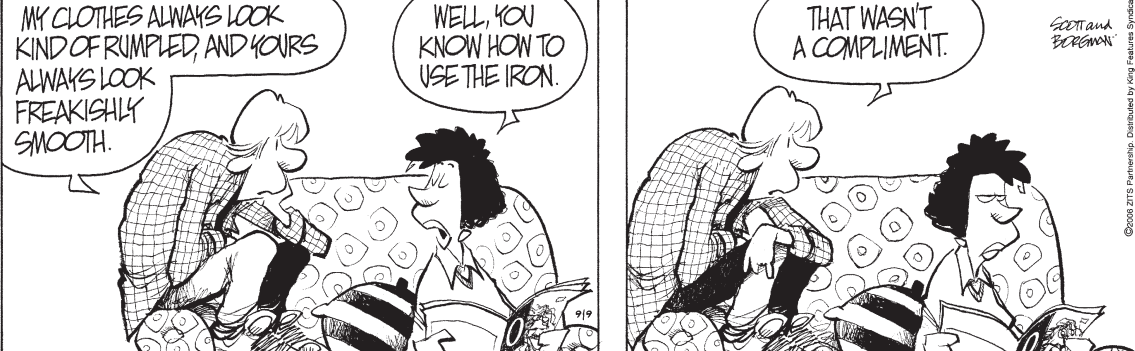
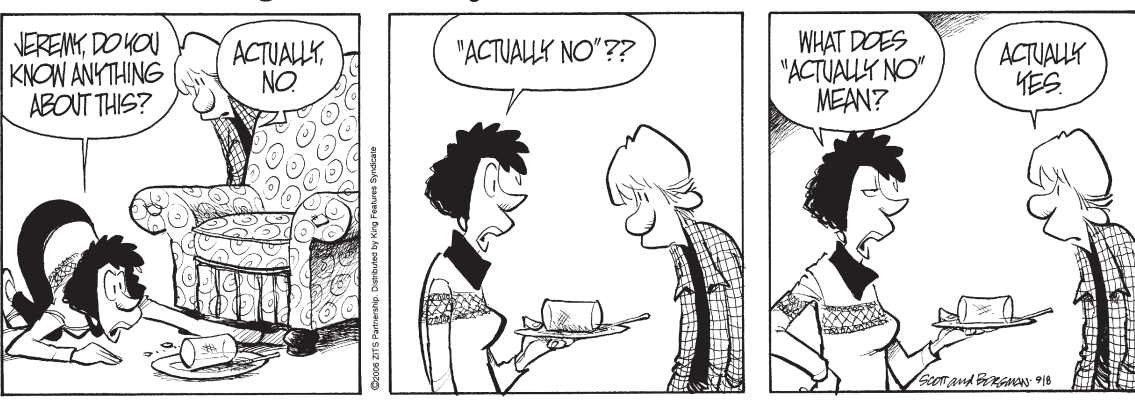
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

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.

Cryptoquip

TRBFIEQFEZ WSTKST CERKE
MRI QJCSET BFID LRFKIMO
BROOFDWJOO GSZU: ZGF
ULSCFI RM ZGF GRYUF.
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: THAT DANCER IN MUSICAL FILMS FAMOUS FOR RUDELY EYEBALLING EVERYONE MIGHT'VE BEEN FRED A-STARE.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: R equals O

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Money
5 Here
8 Off-key
12 Minstrel's instrument
13 —
14 Regarding
15 Met
16 Moment
17 Slave to cross-words?
18 Mimicry expert
20 "The Maltese Falcon" director
22 Enjoy Aspen
23 Sch. org.
24 —
27 Pest
32 Possess
33 Larry King's former employer
34 Western st.
35 Paraphrases

DOWN
1 Applaud
2 Emanation
3 Use a tea-spoon
4 Same Simeon publisher
5 Natural aptitude
6 Miler software
7 Foot fraction
8 Franco de Mayo party
9 Case
10 Italian river
11 Adolescent
19 Suitable

21 High points
24 Supporting
25 Shock and —
26 Teach
28 French article
29 Sets up for use, as
30 Rotating part
31 Inventor Whitney
36 Restaurant furniture
37 Hatchet
38 Wrap
41 Wizard's place
42 Antitoxins
43 "The Good Earth" heroine
44 Anything but that
46 Glimpse
47 Model Macpherson
48 Tosses in
51 Will Smith biopic

Solution time: 25 mins.

BAKE JAW AGES
ALAN ECO VALE
GANGSTER TIME
SWEAT DRAGON
HUGE ONCE IMP
USA CODAS EAU
BEN EKES FROG
GAS REEL
CALL TO GONNA
OLIO GANGWAYS
NOON RIO EPEE
GENE ELM RATA

Yesterday's answer 9-8

Bridge • Steve Becker

South dealer.
East-West vulnerable.
NORTH
♦ J 6 3
♥ 7 5 2
♦ K 8 4
♠ A 9 8 3
WEST
♦ 7 5
♥ J 10 9 3
♦ J 10 5 2
♠ J 7 4
EAST
♦ 8 4 2
♥ Q 6 4
♦ 9 3
♠ K 10 6 5 2
SOUTH
♦ A K Q 10 9
♥ A K 8
♦ A Q 7 6
♠ Q
The bidding:
South West North East
2♦ * Pass 2NT ** Pass
3♦ * Pass 4♦ * Pass
6♦ *
* strong, artificial ** positive, natural
Opening lead — jack of hearts.

Trump Management

The question of when to draw trumps, and how many rounds to draw, is the central issue in many hands. Take this deal where West leads a heart against six spades. South wins with the ace, and if he draws three rounds of trumps, he eventually goes down one, losing a heart and a diamond. By drawing all the missing trumps immediately, declarer more or less banks his hopes on a 3-3 diamond division. Since the odds on this are almost 2-1 against, South should search for greener pastures. He can increase his chances substantially by drawing only two rounds of trumps with the A-K. He then leads a diamond to the king, a diamond back to the ace, a club to the ace and another diamond toward the Q-7. In the actual deal, as well as against several other possible distributions, the defense is rendered helpless by this succession of plays. What can East do when the eight of diamonds is led from dummy? If he ruffs, declarer follows low and later discards a heart from dummy on the queen of diamonds. He eventually ruffs his losing heart in dummy, so the only trick he loses is East's diamond ruff. If East does not trump the eight of diamonds, South wins with the queen and ruffs the diamond seven in dummy with the jack of trumps. The only trick declarer loses against this defense is a heart. From the outset, South aims to extract every ounce of mileage out of his trumps. Two rounds of trumps are exactly the right number to draw before starting the diamonds. The suggested method of play is by no means guaranteed to win, but it gives declarer a much better chance of making the slam.

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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		