

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



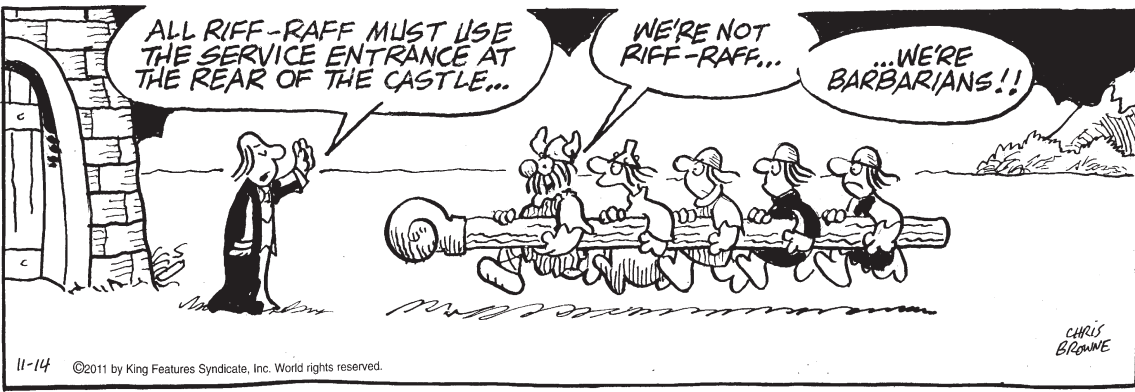
**Beetle Bailey** • Mort Walker



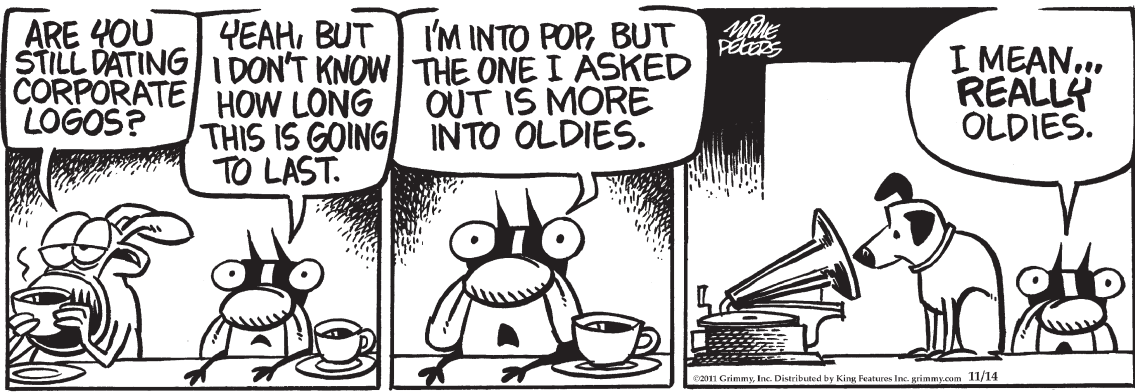
**Blondie** • Chic Young



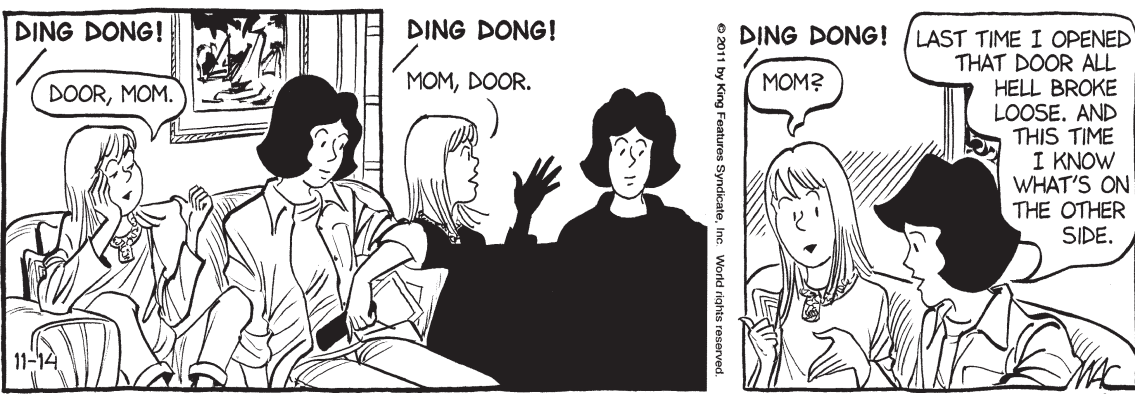
**Hagar the Horrible** • Chris Browne



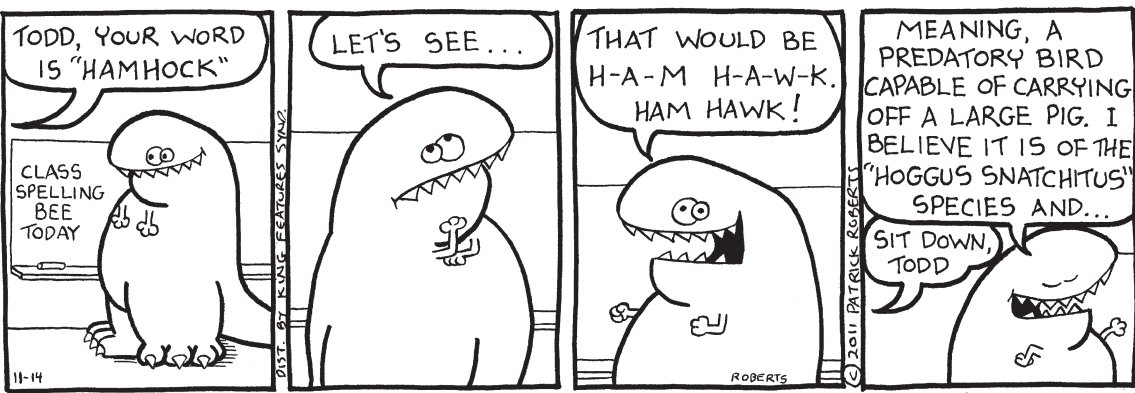
**Mother Goose and Grimm** • Mike Peters



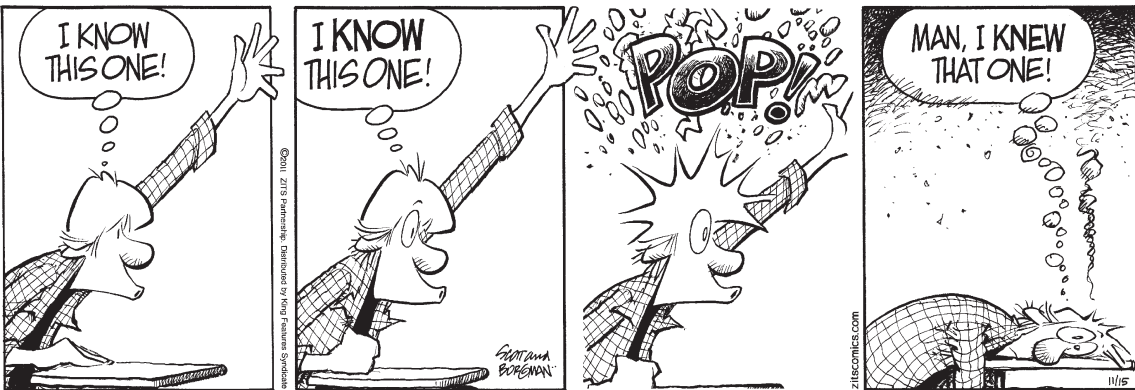
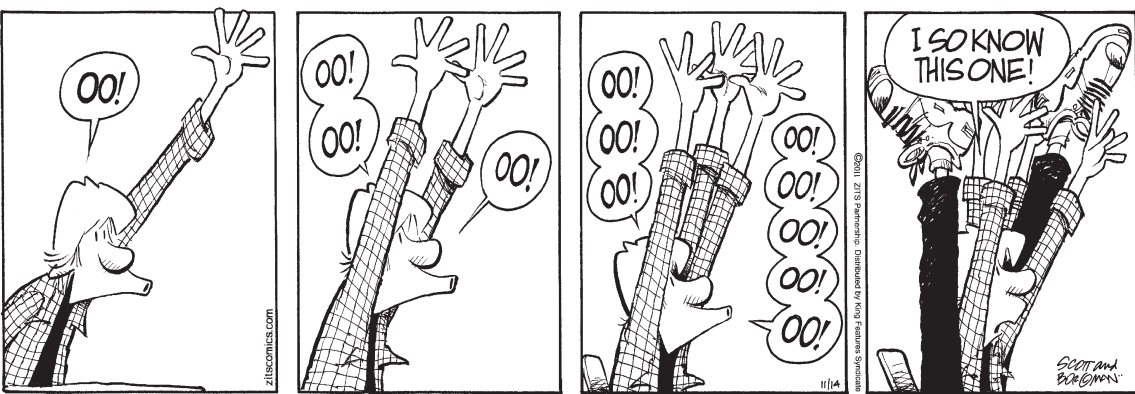
**Sally Forth** • Greg Howard



**Todd the Dinosaur** • Patrick Roberts



**Zits** • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



**Dr. Joyce Brothers**

• Ask Dr. Brothers

**Too much work; trouble at home**

**Dear Dr. Brothers:** I am a hard worker. I like to finish projects and start new ones before the boss even asks. But I can't finish everything without putting in a lot of overtime, and my husband is upset. I hang out with one or two other late workers, and we generally eat dinner together. When I get home around 10, my husband complains. I want to stand out in this economy, and since my job is more lucrative than my husband's, how can he expect me to cut back now? – L.J.

**Dear L.J.:** Your strong work ethic is to be applauded, and it is tempting to overachieve during frightening economic times. People are doing everything they can to hold on to their jobs. But the truth is that if your company decides it needs to cut back, there will be nothing you can do to put yourself in a safe position. You may be targeted if your salary is on the high side, or if other employees have more seniority, or for any other random reason. So, what you need to do is look at working late night after night as something that may not really pay off, or may even backfire.

At the same time, weigh your routine against your marriage. Your husband is not happy, and you are annoyed by his attitude. There is going to be an erosion of intimacy if you force him to eat and spend evenings alone. And you might want to examine your motives – are your colleagues more fun to dine with? Maybe your routine isn't all about work, and you need to open your eyes to the danger signals.

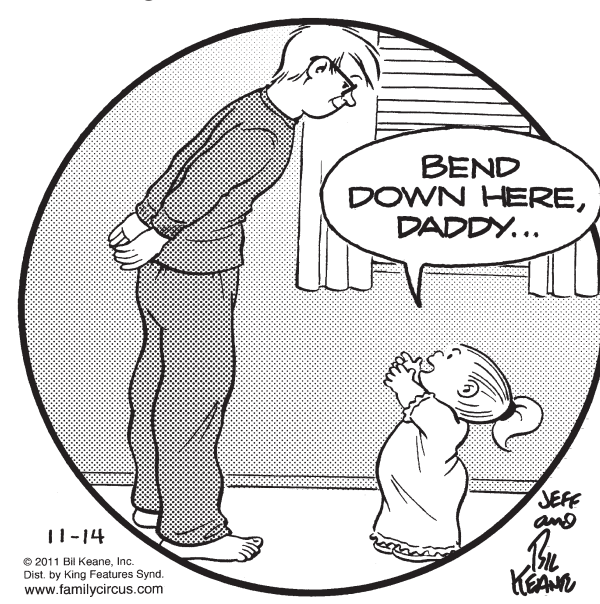
**Dear Dr. Brothers:** My husband is a proud member of the dentistry profession. He wants nothing more than to someday introduce our only child as "my son, the dentist." Josh is 15, and while he went along with this idea as a child, he is starting to rebel. He has told me he has no interest in dentistry and wants to be a teacher. I'm not sure his dad will even pay for college if it doesn't include professional school. Help! – B.K.

**Dear B.K.:** It is wonderful your husband enjoys his profession so much he'd like his son to follow in his footsteps, and it is fortunate he has the means to provide an education. But unless your son is on board, he will not step into his dad's shoes. Medical school requires motivation and work, and if your son lacks the former, he's not likely to follow through with the latter. Now he has developed career interests of his own, it probably is too late to indoctrinate him with the desire to carry on with the family profession.

The biggest problem is not your son's career but the attitude your husband takes. To refuse to pay for college unless your son follows a prescribed path would be difficult for the whole family. Although it might inspire your son to find his own resources, it easily could crush his dreams and cause a rift between him and his father. It may take your husband a while to come to terms with the death of his dream, but you need to start talking with him about letting your son develop his own career plans. And the sooner, the better.

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**Family Circus** • Bil Keane



11-14  
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"... My arms are in the mood for a hug."

**Conceptis Sudoku** • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★ 11/14

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.

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

**Cryptoquip**

CFYEI YU TJLRDHVRD UVTA  
PAY LFD YEZ IFLBZVBVJC  
ZADV F YHHDF-TRLZVJC  
TRVHHT: DDHT YJ PADDHT.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: THEATER IN WHICH YOU WOULD EXPECT SEVERAL EVIL DEEDS TO HAPPEN SIMULTANEOUSLY: THE SIN-A-PLEX.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Y equals O

**Bridge** • Steve Becker

West dealer. North-South vulnerable.  
NORTH: ♠Q6, ♥43, ♦AJ752, ♣AQJ2  
WEST: ♠J3, ♥AQ5, ♦Q9863, ♣K84  
EAST: ♠A109754, ♥92, ♦K10, ♣1073  
SOUTH: ♠K82, ♥KJ10876, ♦A, ♣965  
The bidding: West 1♦, North Pass, East 1♠, South 2♥, Pass 2♦, Dble, Pass 4♥, Pass 4♠, Opening lead — jack of spades.

**Famous Hand**  
Good defense is generally regarded as much more difficult than good declarer play. Furthermore, if a mistake does occur during the course of play, it is usually easier to discern where declarer went wrong than where the defense went wrong.

For a typical example, consider today's deal from the 1987 National Men's Pair Championship. At most tables, South made 10 tricks in a heart contract, whether the game was bid or not. The play most often started with J-Q-A of spades, after which the ten-of-spades return was taken by declarer's king. Next came a successful club finesse, then a trump to the jack and queen.

West returned a diamond to dummy's ace, which was followed by a trump to the ten and ace. South ruffed the low diamond continuation, cashed the trump king, repeated the club finesse and then cashed the A-2 of clubs, discarding his last spade to finish with 10 tricks.

But at the table where George Rosenkranz, distinguished Mexican star, held the East cards, four hearts was reached as shown, and the contract was defeated. The spade jack was also led here and covered with the queen. But Rosenkranz, after considering the matter carefully, allowed the queen to win the trick!

As a result of this unusual play, South could no longer make the contract regardless of how he continued. In practice, declarer led a heart to the jack at trick two. West took his queen, led a spade to East's ace and scored the setting trick with the five of trumps when Rosenkranz returned a third spade.

In finding the winning defense, the only real problem Rosenkranz had came at trick one, when he had to judge whether the spade jack was more likely to be a singleton or a doubleton. He followed the percentages that favored a doubleton, and was well-rewarded for his thoughtful play.

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**Crossword** • Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**  
1 Soft muddy stuff  
5 Swab-bie's tool  
8 Cinder-ella's horses, really  
12 Apiary structure  
13 Anger  
14 Out of control  
15 Iowa city  
16 Slapstick missile  
18 Joan of Arc, for instance  
20 Slanders in print  
21 Cambodia neighbor  
23 "Le Coq —"  
24 "Old soldiers —"  
28 Use a strainer  
31 Opposite of 24-Down  
32 "No man is an island" poet  
34 Lincoln, to pals

**DOWN**  
1 Fraud  
2 Peru's capital  
3 Finished partner  
4 Mortar's partner  
5 Teeny-tiny photo  
6 Bobby of hockey lore  
7 Rind  
8 Ball-room dances  
9 Royal shape  
11 — out of Eve (supplements)  
17 Help  
19 Three feet  
22 Muscle connector  
24 Opposite of 31-Across  
25 Storm center  
26 Produce plants  
27 Peps up  
29 Justice Dept. agcy.  
30 Golf ball holder  
33 Other-wise  
36 Food merchant  
38 Each boat  
40 Noah's  
42 Competent  
43 Talon  
44 Half a ticket  
46 Slender  
47 Therefore  
48 Accomplishes  
50 Playwright Levin

Solution time: 27 mins.

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

Saturday's answer 11-14

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		