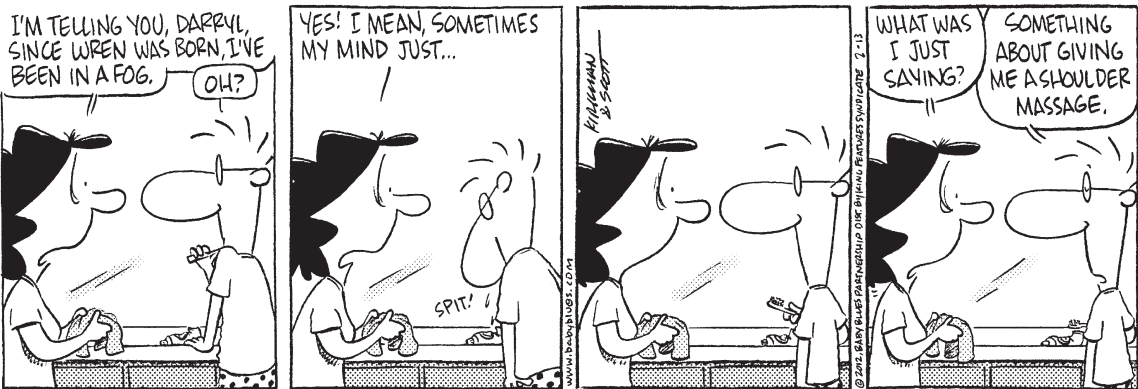
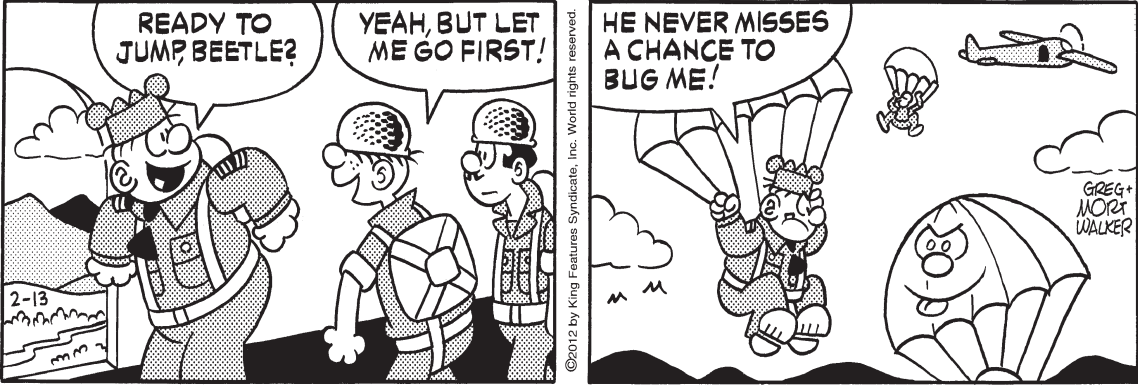


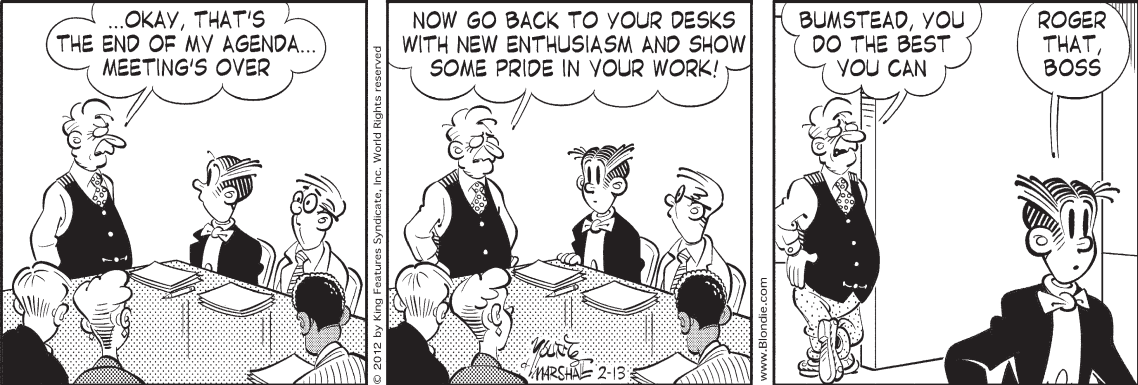
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



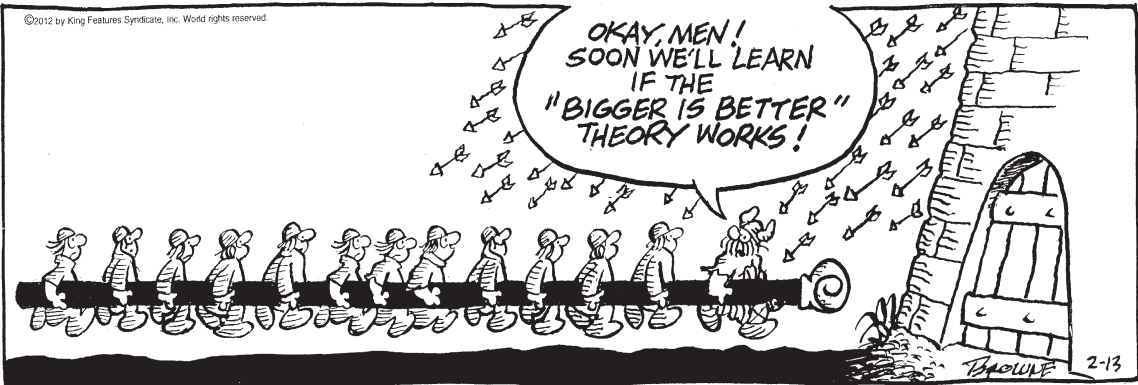
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



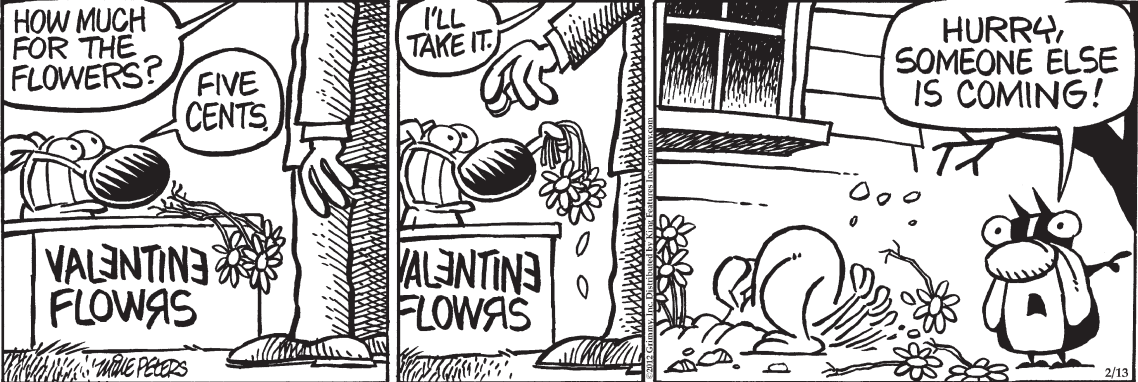
Blondie • Chic Young



Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



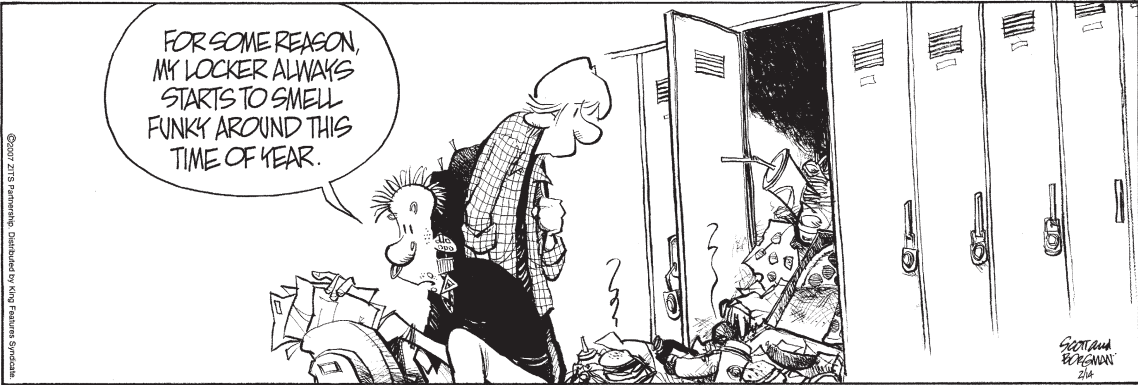
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Dr. Joyce Brothers  
• Ask Dr. Brothers  
Co-workers don't measure up

Dear Dr. Brothers: I am a manager in a small sales firm. Because of recent cutbacks, I have had to do the job of two executives for the past month. I am all alone in my managerial role here, and I am beginning to think I'm the only one with any brains here at all. That sounds harsh, and it isn't helping my business go well or my employees' productivity. I believe they know how disappointed I am. How do I fix this? – G.R.

Dear G.R.: It sounds as though both you and your employees are angry and frustrated because of your lack of faith in them – and don't think they don't know what you think of their abilities. That said, there are plenty of opportunities to turn things around. First, try to determine the problem with employees' motivation. It's more likely they are discouraged than incompetent. It is part of your job to motivate them to do a better job and incorporate the confidence of a top-notch sales force. Unmotivated salespeople rarely prosper.

As for yourself, are you familiar with the technique of visualization used by many athletes to calm the nerves, set performance goals and practice successful methods? Some interesting research by the University of Nebraska shows that participants who visualized positive imaginary co-workers contributed more in the workplace; their values and motivations came out in the way they imagined the co-workers they wanted. You could do this in your free time at home and bring some newfound motivation. Once they understand you believe in them, half the battle is won.

Dear Dr. Brothers: I'm a licensed electrician working for a large regional company. I'm also married, with two kids and a mortgage. I try to remember this when I go to the door and find a hot woman in shorts and a halter waiting for me. This happens frequently, and a few of them even come on to me. So far I have resisted temptation, but this is getting to me. I need some words of advice to cope with all of this in my head. – C.A.

Dear C.A.: I understand your dilemma. A dream scenario for a single guy can be fraught with frustration and anxiety for a married man wanting to do right by his wife and kids. And I'm sure there are a lot of lovely housewives with electrical problems! It's a serious issue you need to address, and you must have stick to your principles. I think you'll find there is a thin line between being friendly and professional toward customers and flirting with them.

You may have to lean over backward to be a little less friendly, even though you don't think you are encouraging anyone. They take their cue from you, and if you barely give them a glance, they should get the hint. And if you don't wear a wedding ring, get one! If this continues to be an issue and you are unable to cope, why not ask for a transfer to a more commercial clientele? You might not run into so many potential hazards doing that kind of assignment. Good luck!

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Bridge • Steve Becker

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

Famous Hand

This deal was played many years ago in a match between two Stockholm teams. South was the Swedish star Einar Werner, who wound up in seven spades doubled.

East's four-diamond bid asked for controls in diamonds and hearts. The five-heart response showed second-round control of diamonds as well as the ace of the agreed trump suit, hearts. Five notrump was the grand slam force, asking West to bid seven if he had two of the three top heart honors.

Believing the opponents' bidding, Werner elected to sacrifice against seven hearts (which would have been down one). He ruffed the heart lead and cashed the rest of his trumps. When the last trump was led, dummy had been reduced to the queen of hearts and A-J-6 of clubs.

At this point, West, who was down to the ace of hearts and K-10-9 of clubs, was squeezed. When he discarded the nine of clubs, Werner pitched the heart queen, took the club finesse and scored the last three tricks with dummy's A-J-6 of clubs. Making seven – 2,420 points.

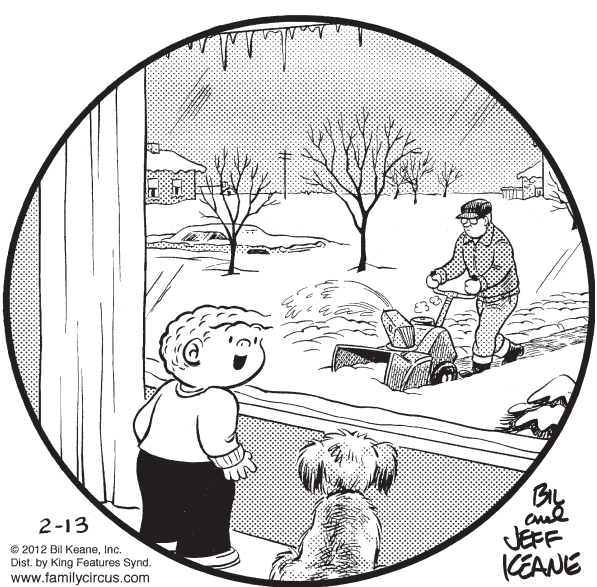
There were fireworks at the other table, too. Werner's teammates, holding the East-West cards, reached seven diamonds doubled, played by East. South led the queen of clubs (North had doubled five clubs at one point). Dummy's king brought forth the ace, ruffed by declarer.

East drew two rounds of trumps and cashed the king of hearts. When South showed out, declarer had to fall back on the club suit. He led dummy's ten, trapping North's jack, and East's J-10-9 of hearts were eventually discarded on dummy's good clubs.

So the Werner team, after scoring a grand slam with the North-South cards, also scored one with the East-West cards (another 1,580 points)! Amazingly, a diamond lead would have beaten both contracts. All told, Werner's team gained 4,000 points and went on to win the match.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



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Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★

2/13

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

Cryptoquip

CHVAG UNED JPNKB J

POKHUSJE RTN OMAHU SJAMED

QNKDTEKB-UTJCHQ VNOOU:

“PNNDMH RNNDMH PJDHO PNG.”

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: BECAUSE THE SCOTTISH HIGHLANDER DID A TRULY COMMENDABLE DEED, I HAD TO CRY “ATTA GAEL!”

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: N equals O

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS
- 1 Stitches
  - 5 Corn spike
  - 8 React in horror
  - 12 Handel's "Messiah," e.g.
  - 14 Aware of
  - 15 Algonquian leader
  - 16 Individual
  - 17 "Of course"
  - 18 Cancel out
  - 20 Poe's bird
  - 23 "Beetle Bailey" dog
  - 24 On in years
  - 25 Luzon language
  - 28 Neither mate
  - 29 Commandments bearer
  - 30 Sheep's comment
  - 32 First person to orbit the Earth
- DOWN
- 2 Historic period
  - 3 Joker
  - 4 Remained
  - 5 Cupid's alias
  - 6 Melody
  - 7 X-ray discoverer
  - 8 Giant number
  - 9 "Karenina"
  - 10 Undo a delete
  - 11 Sit for a picture
  - 13 Portent
  - 19 Greek vowels
  - 20 Skedad-dled
  - 21 Awe-struck
  - 22 Miles of Hollywood

Solution time: 27 mins.

REF	ABUT	CARP
IMA	LORE	USER
DUCK	BILL	RHEA
ELUL	SLYLIL	
ISLAM	THEE	
REIN	FREEWILL	
IMF	SAILS	DIE
SIT	STILL	TEEN
	CURL	GENUS
REHAB	SECT	
STAR	DOWNHILL	
VALE	ALAI	YET
PLOD	BEBE	YET

Saturday's answer 2-13

