

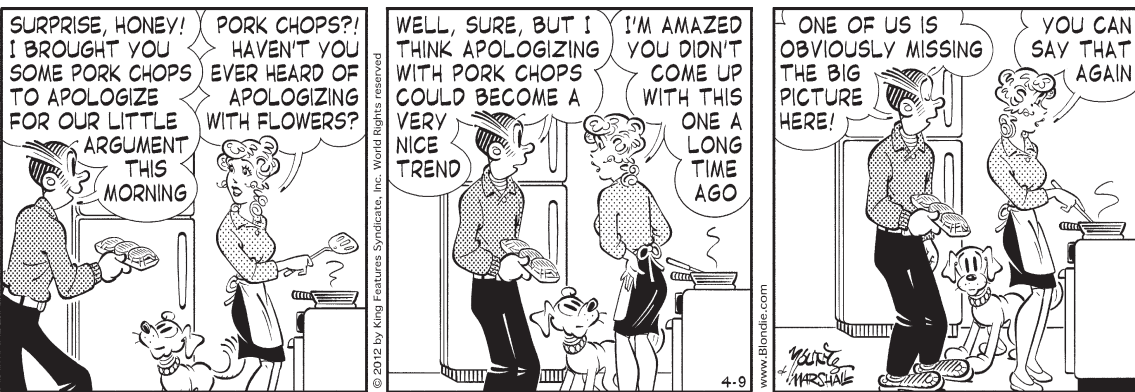
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



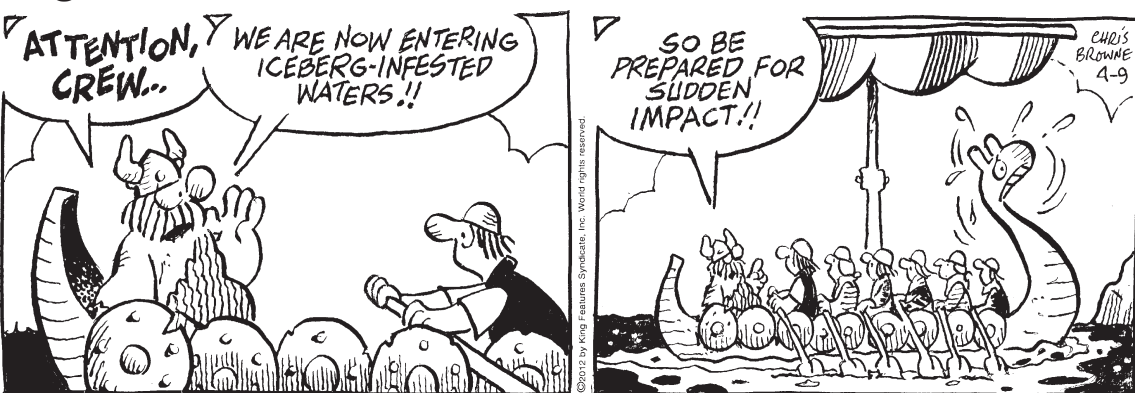
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



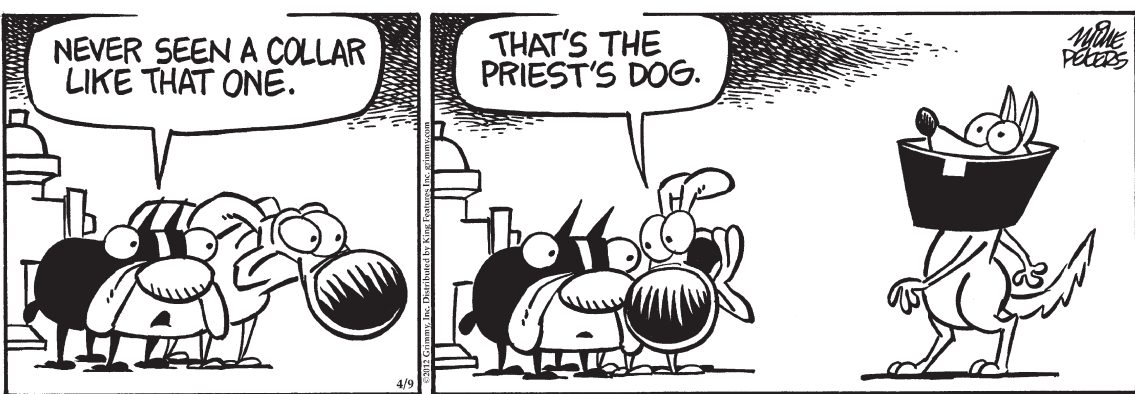
Blondie • Chic Young



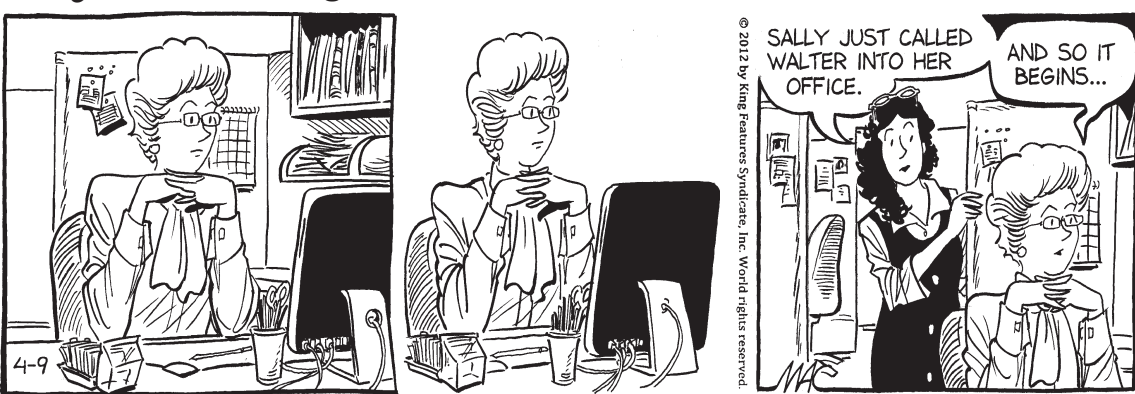
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



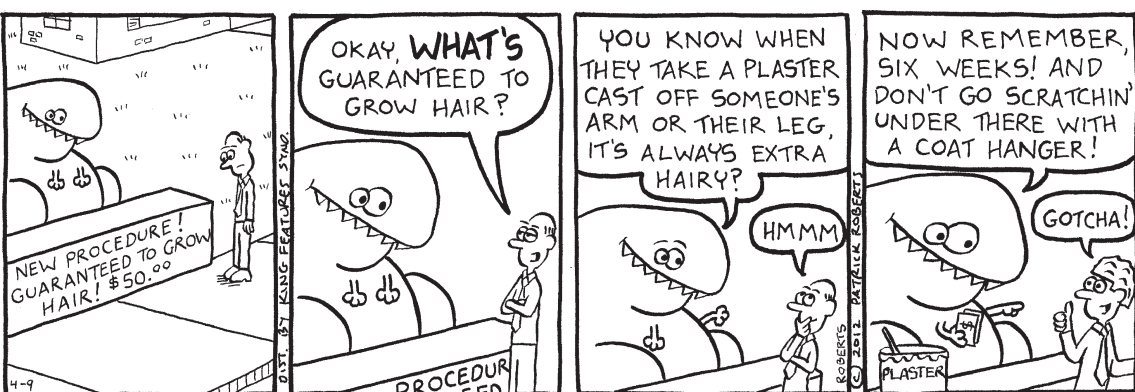
Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



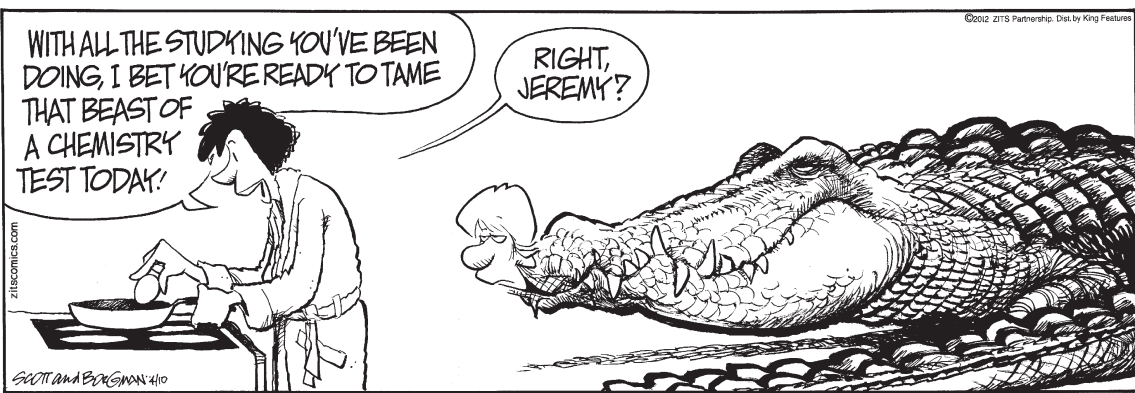
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Tom and Ray Magliozzi

• Click & Clack Talk Cars

'Dual exhaust' may not be real

Dear Tom and Ray:
I really like the look of the prominent chrome dual exhausts seen on so many cars and trucks these days. To me, they give a look of masculinity to the vehicle. For years, it seemed manufacturers installed only single exhausts, except on the most powerful or sporty cars. And in many cases, the exhausts were hidden from view. Are "duals" now being installed more for looks, or do they enhance performance? Thanks. — Gary

TOM: Good question, Gary. Real dual exhausts will increase performance.

RAY: Here's the basic tutorial: Fresh gasoline and air go into the cylinders. It gets detonated by the spark plug, it combusts and then it turns into what? Exhaust.

TOM: And before you can send more fresh gasoline in there, you have to get that exhaust out. The faster you can get the old stuff out and the new stuff in, the better your engine "breathes," and the more power it can produce.

RAY: A lot of manufacturers have made their engines breathe better by adding more valves per cylinder — valves are the holes through which stuff enters and exits the cylinders.

TOM: But another way to improve breathing is to add an additional exhaust pipe. For instance, if you have a V-6 or V-8 engine, you can use one exhaust pipe to take the exhaust from just one bank of cylinders all the way to the back of the car. And you could have a second exhaust pipe for the other bank of cylinders. That gives you twice as much capacity to remove exhaust.

RAY: So it does work. But very few cars actually do it. More often, what you see are fake dual exhausts. There's actually a single exhaust pipe running from the engine to the muffler, and then the pipe is split, sending one tailpipe to each side of the car. That's just for looks.

TOM: Then there's the really cheap version, where the single exhaust pipe goes within inches of the rear bumper, then splits into two exhaust tips at the very end. Neither of those systems will affect performance. But I agree with you — they do enhance the look of a car and make it look more expensive.

RAY: Of course, the problem with a real dual exhaust system is that it is expensive — not only to manufacture, but to maintain. Think about it. When it rusts out, you'll need to buy TWO new exhaust systems. You'll be a hero at your local Midas Muffler. The guys'll have pinup posters of you in every bay.

What is the most cost-effective way to buy a car? Tom and Ray hash it all out in their pamphlet "Should I Buy, Lease, or Steal My Next Car?" Send \$4.75 (check or money order) to Next Car, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.

Get more Click and Clack in their new book, "Ask Click and Clack: Answers from Car Talk." Got a question about cars? E-mail Click and Clack by visiting the Car Talk website at www.cartalk.com.

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Bridge • Steve Becker

South dealer. Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
AKQ95

AKQ95

AKQ95

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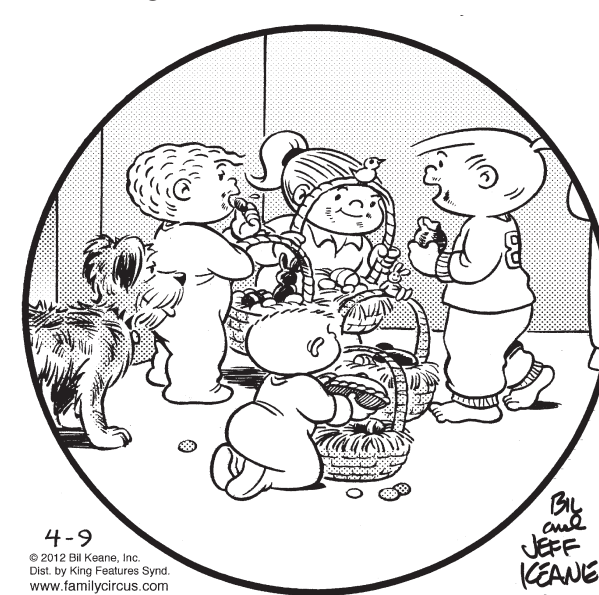
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Family Circus • Bil Keane



4-9
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Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★ 4/09

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.

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

Cryptoquip

QV VCO ODO NLZVLTB
FQWQ, H TOZELX VCOD YRBV
WLRXFO QTLRXN QWW XHFCV
VOWWHXF ZLTXOQ YLEOB.
Saturday's Cryptoquip: EPIC POEM

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: BECAUSE THIS FRAGILE FABRIC RIPS SO EASILY, I GUESS PEOPLE OUGHT TO CALL IT TEAR-Y CLOTH.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: W equals L

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

- | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| ACROSS | 35 Operatic solo | 2 John's Yoko | 21 Coral construction |
| 1 Columns' crossers | 36 Rouse card game | 3 Simple game | 22 River through Florence |
| 5 Head of st. | 37 Hedge shrub | 4 Treeless plain | 23 Summer or Shalala |
| 8 Despot | 40 Listener | 5 Singer or Campbell | 25 Productive |
| 12 Turkish peninsula | 41 Jeans-maker | 6 Lubricate | 26 Chess castle |
| 14 Crosby's pal | 42 Strong Alda or Thicke | 7 Valhalla maiden | 27 Harvard rival |
| 15 Predict | 43 Become a band of workers | 8 Royal seat | 29 To be (Fr.) |
| 16 Parks at a bus stop? | 44 Zilch | 9 Any time | 31 Swamp |
| 17 Bowling target | 45 CSA leader | 10 Church area | 33 George |
| 18 Danish money | 46 Branch of advanced math | 11 Back name | 34 Mom or dad |
| 20 Covers a present | 47 U.K. fliers | 12 Elevator | 36 Texas city |
| 23 Actress Cannon | | 13 Elevator name | 37 Blueprint |
| 24 Roll call reply | | 14 Anger | 38 Move, to a Realtor |
| 25 Skill for an identity thief | | 15 "How come?" | 39 — the Terrible |
| 28 Longing | | | 40 Great Lake |
| 29 "Sesame Street" Muppet | | | 43 Individual |
| 30 LummoX | | | 44 Evergreen type |
| 32 "Wheel of —" | | | 45 Sub-machine gun |
| 34 Staff | | | 46 Segment of a trip |

Solution time: 27 mins.

PEP	AUTO	PESO
OAR	GREW	RILL
PRODIGAL	ORAL	
PALE	OMEGA	
SNORE	DADO	
HOST	FELDSPAR	
AMASLAMS	RIO	
DOLPHINS	FORM	
RAPS	POLYP	
ALLOW	WACO	
RIOT	PROVINCE	
AFRO	SORE	GUT
BEEN	ICED	SEA

Saturday's answer 4-9

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		