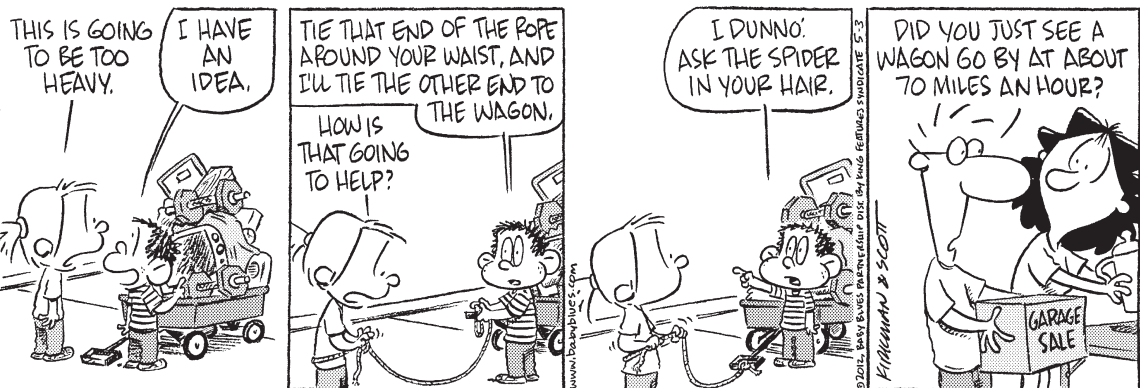
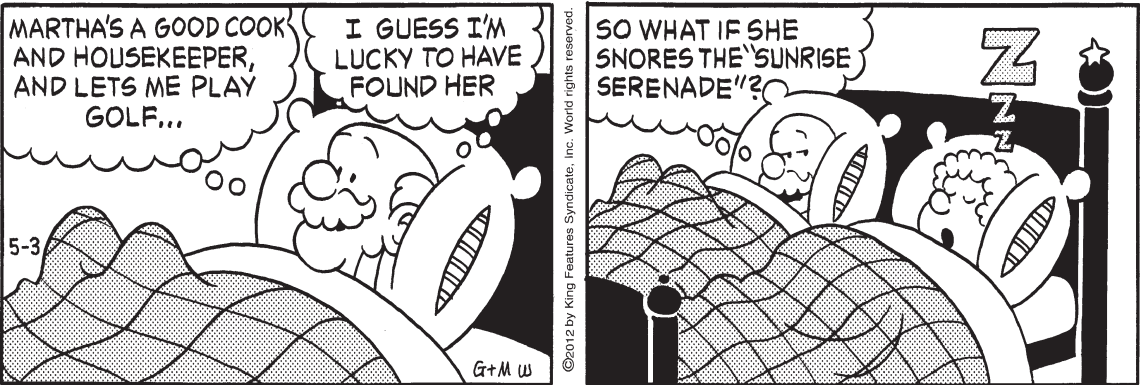


Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



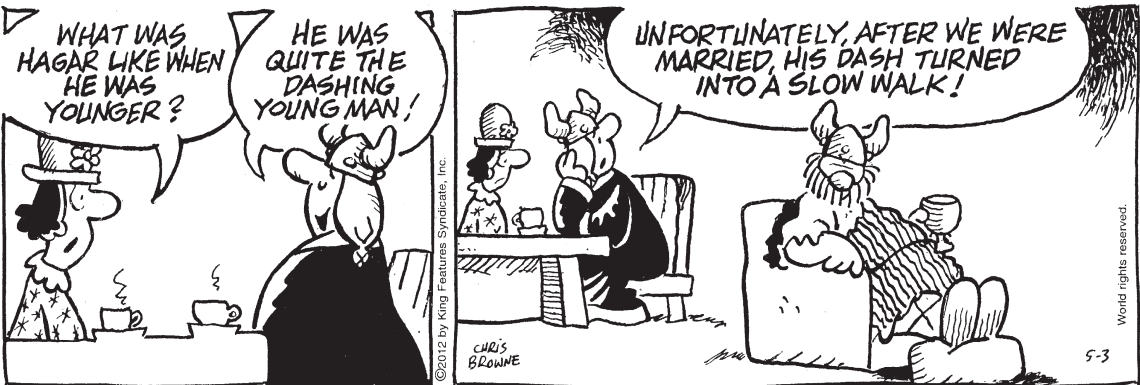
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young



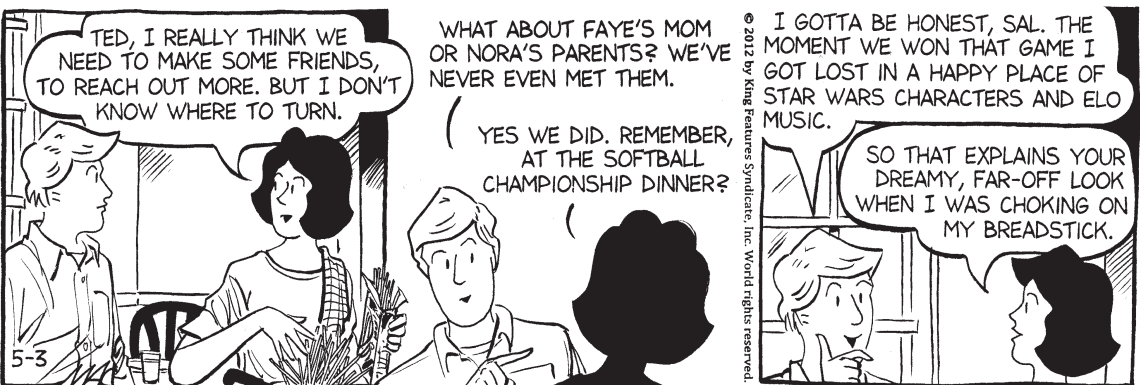
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



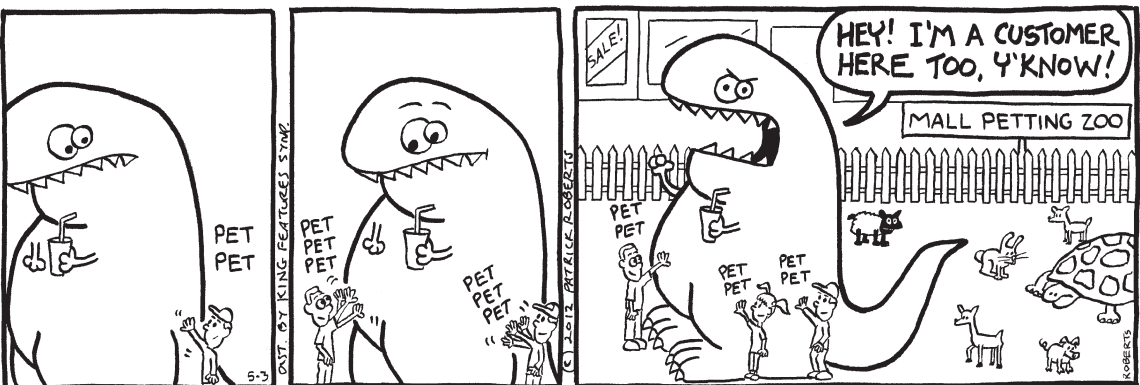
Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Terry Kovel

• Antiques and Collecting

Weather vane outlives Colonel

Q: I'm trying to find information about my five-foot Col. Sanders metal weather vane. I was in a crew which remodeled a Kentucky Fried Chicken restaurant in Miami in 1980. The weather vane was going to be trashed, so I took it home and stored it in my garage. A full figure of Col. Sanders holding his cane up in the air, it must have stood on top of the restaurant for about 20 years. What is it worth? How should I sell it?

A: Harland Sanders (1890-1980) opened his first restaurant in Corbin, Ky., in 1930. The first Kentucky Fried Chicken franchise opened in 1952; there were 600 by 1964. We have seen Col. Sanders weather vanes for sale for about \$500, but a few have sold at auction for \$1,000 or more. Price depends on where and how you sell it, and on condition. If your weather vane is not rusty or faded, contact an auction that specializes in advertising. You will have to pay a commission.

Q: We're moving and have a collection of old pictures in frames that my great-grandfather bought at a barn sale in the 1950s. One is a print of cattle and ducks signed by James M. Hart. Under his signature are the words "copyrighted 1899 by James M. Hart." There are some brown stains in the corner. Is it worth anything?

A: James McDougal Hart was born in Scotland in 1828. His family immigrated to Albany, N.Y., in 1830. Hart started out as a sign painter's apprentice, then studied art in Germany. In 1854 he opened a studio in Albany. Hart died in 1901. Several of his works are in museums.

The brown stains on your print, called "foxing," can be caused by deterioration due to age or exposure to heat, cold or humidity. Some oil paintings by James M. Hart sell for several thousand dollars. But his prints, in perfect condition, sell for just a few hundred dollars. Your print would be difficult to sell since it is in poor condition.

Q: In the late 1800s, my great-grandfather owned a tinware company in Cleveland called Mannen & Esterly Co. I have tried to gather information about the company. As for its products, I have only found a few painted tea boxes.

A: John E. Mannen is listed in the 1886 Cleveland city directory as a tinsmith. In 1894-95, his business is listed as "stoves."

Mannen and Willis M. Esterly were granted a patent for a "clothes dryer for laundries" in 1903 and another for a "heating apparatus" in 1904. By 1909 the company advertised sheet-metal goods, plain and decorated cans, janning, "Manest" laundry dryers, "Manest" natural gas furnaces, dust separators, and exhaust and blow pipework. By 1919 the name of the business became "John E. Mannen Co., successor to Mannen & Esterly." That company made Dri-Rite laundry dryers and Age-Gar garage heaters. By 1936 John Mannen is listed as president of the Metal Fabricating Corp., founded in 1932 and still in business in Cleveland. Since most Mannen & Esterly products were large appliances, you won't find much to collect other than the tin containers you have already found.

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Bridge • Steve Becker

South dealer. Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ 5 4
♥ K 5 4 2
♦ 9 2
♣ Q J 8 5 3

WEST
♠ 10 8 7 2
♥ 19 7 6 3
♦ 5
♣ 9 6 4

EAST
♠ 9
♥ Q 8
♦ A Q J 10 6 3
♣ K 10 7 2

SOUTH
♠ A K Q J 6 3
♥ A 10
♦ K 8 7 4
♣ A

The One That Got Away

Some plays go very much against the grain, but that is not a good reason for failing to make them when the occasion calls for it. Consider this deal where West leads a diamond to East's ace and East returns the queen of diamonds.

Let's assume South covers with the king, ruffed by West, and that a heart is returned. There is nothing South can do now to save the contract, and he eventually loses two more diamond tricks to go down one.

Yet the contract is as cold as a mackerel if declarer, aware that the opening lead might be a singleton, takes steps to guard against that possibility. All he has to do to ensure 10 tricks is to play low from his hand on the queen of diamonds!

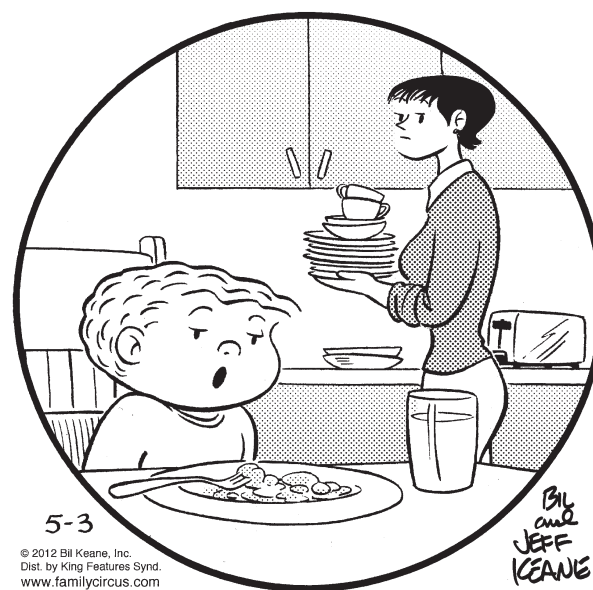
True, this is an unnatural play, but it is the right thing to do because it guarantees the contract against everything short of a volcanic eruption. There is a substantial danger that West may have a singleton diamond, and the advantage of ducking the diamond queen at trick two becomes apparent once declarer stops to think about it.

After the queen of diamonds wins, East cannot do any harm to declarer, even if he next plays the jack of diamonds, which South also ducks. In that case, West would score a trump trick, but that would be the last trick for the defense.

The virtue of ducking the queen of diamonds at trick two can be more readily appreciated if South realizes that he is looking at 10 tricks -- six spades, two hearts, a club and the king of diamonds -- after East wins the opening diamond lead with the ace. All declarer has to do is to make sure that the king of diamonds doesn't get taken away from him at trick two. Ducking the queen of diamonds, and ducking the next diamond if necessary, assures that that will not happen.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★ 5/03

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

PXIC XI DVHM SXI BVFCHRVI

FHMI BNTJM XTFS OL

ZFIVDSZNCI, H'M DVL XI

AVRI OI DSIFCTO PVFCHCA.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: SINCE I AM IN A REALLY CHEERFUL FRAME OF MIND, COULD YOU SAY I'M IN THE SUNSHINE STATE?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: X equals H

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| ACROSS | DOWN | ACROSS | DOWN |
| 1 Long-time TV host | 34 Hostel member | 1 Painter | 19 Greek nouns |
| 5 Lion or tiger | 37 Region of Northern Ireland | 2 Director | 21 Expert |
| 8 Wound cover | 40 Repeat | 3 Kazan | 23 Shell out |
| 12 Lotion additive | 41 Griped | 4 Cheer (for) | 24 Starch yielding palm |
| 13 Caustic solution | 45 Out of the storm | 4 11/11 honoree | 25 Luminary |
| 14 Dorothy's dog | 47 Inseparable | 5 Pristine | 26 Secular |
| 15 Violent protest | 49 Cab | 6 Nay canceler | 27 — Domini |
| 16 Always, in verse | 50 Transmit | 7 Lay of the land | 28 Historically significant building |
| 17 Soldiers collectively | 51 Summer mo. | 8 Flight component | 32 Spacecraft statistic |
| 18 Connected series | 52 Finished | 9 Fine-grain leather | 33 Any of 100 in Washington |
| 20 Incursion | 53 Compassion | 10 \$ dispenser | 35 School org. |
| 22 Finds by chance | 54 "CSI" evidence | 11 Tarzan's son | 36 Pair |
| 26 Actor | 55 Relax | | 38 Indigent |
| 29 Chart format | | | 39 Last letter |
| 30 Cistern (Abbr.) | | | 42 Hub |
| 31 Unsigned | | | 43 Former partners |
| 32 Corral | | | 44 Gossip |
| 33 Long story | | | 45 Cleopatra's slayer |
| | | | 46 Mainlander's memento |
| | | | 48 Sister |

Solution time: 25 mins.



Yesterday's answer: 5-3

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				
31				32				33		
34				35				36		
37				38			39			
				40				41		
45	46			47	48			49		
50				51				52		
53				54				55		