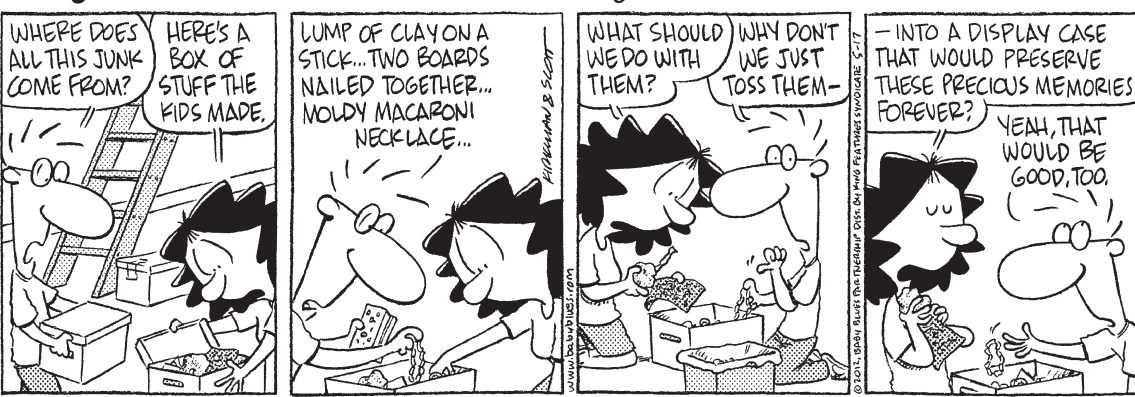


Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



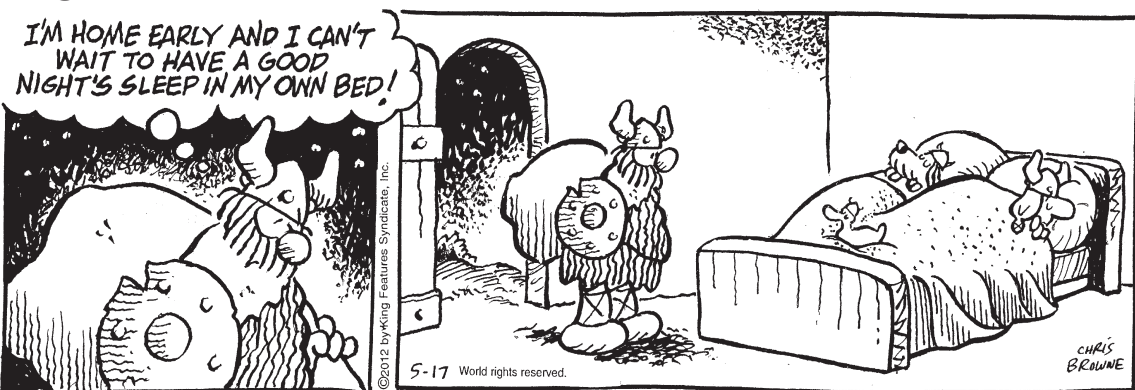
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



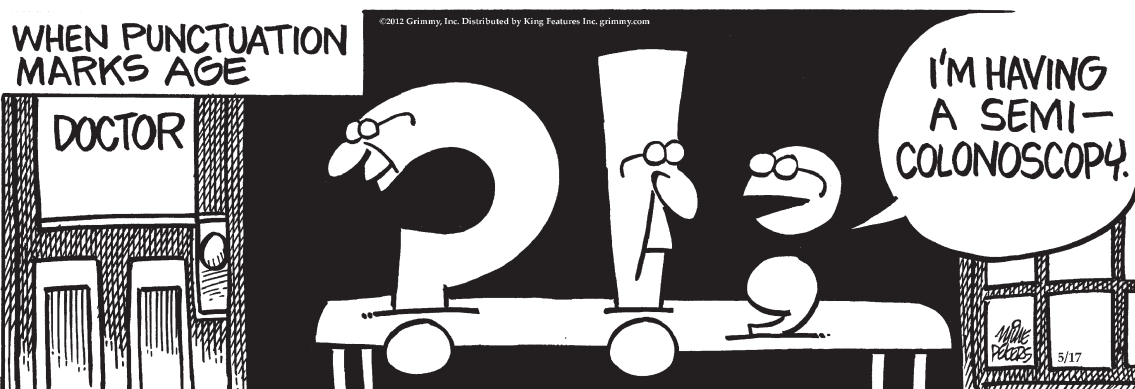
Blondie • Chic Young



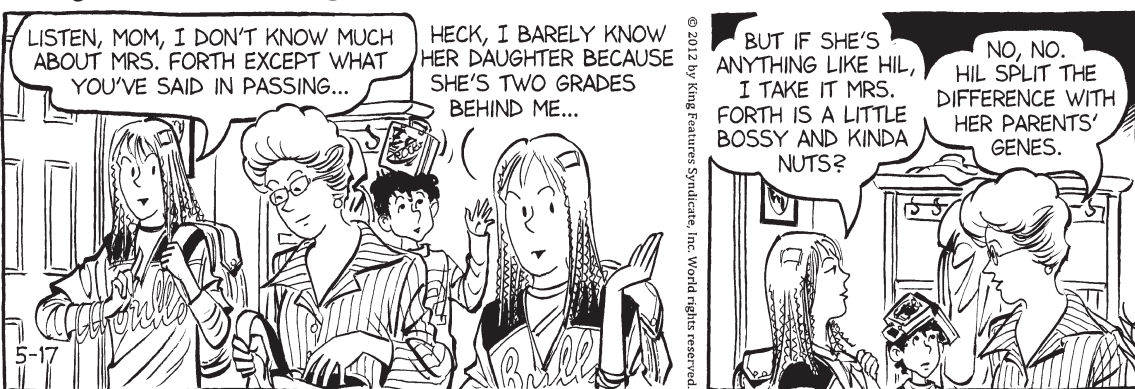
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



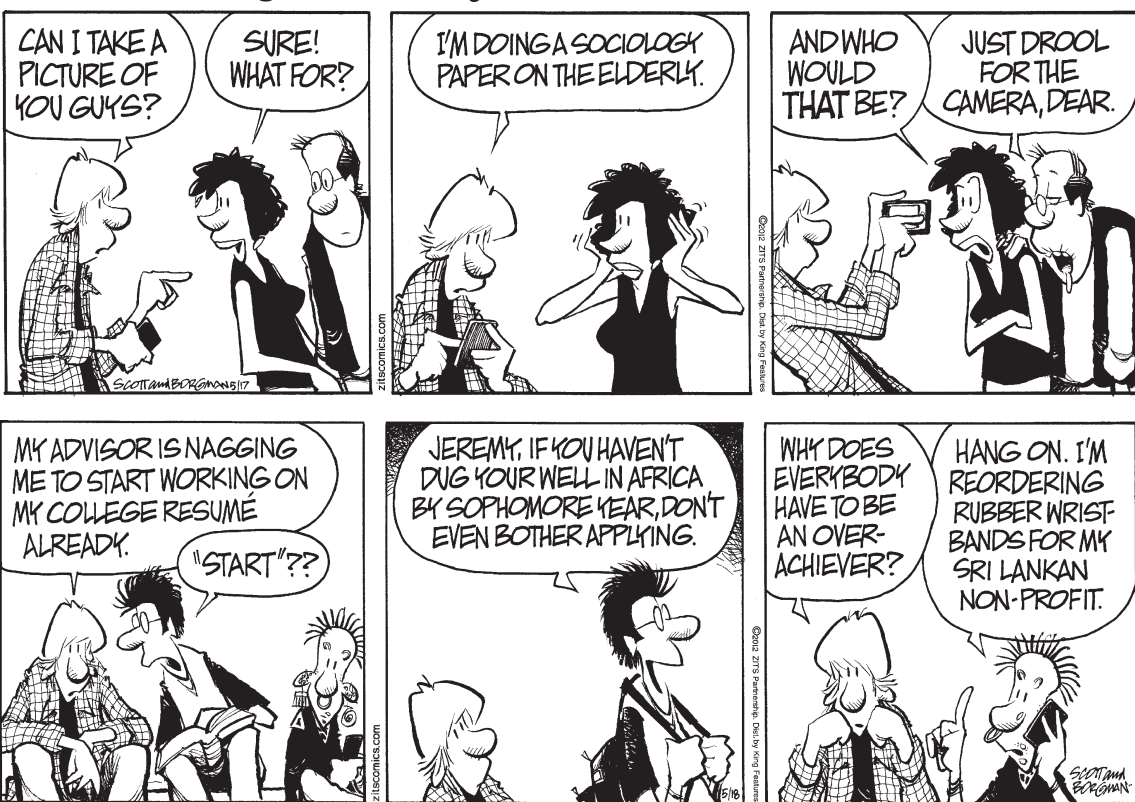
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Terry Kovel
• Antiques and Collecting
Skillet from 90s still a good buy

Q: We paid \$2 for an 8-inch Wagner skillet at an auction. The molded words on the bottom are not like the wording on our other Wagner cookware. Our others are marked "Wagner Ware, Sidney." This one, in a different style of lettering, reads "Wagner's 1891 Original Cast Iron Cookware." Under that, there's "Seasoning Instructions." What can you tell us?

A: Your skillet was made in the early 1990s by General Housewares Corp. of Terre Haute, Ind., to promote Wagner's 100th anniversary. Wagner Manufacturing Co. was founded in Sidney, Ohio, in 1891. Wagner became a division of the Randall Co. of Cincinnati in the 1950s, and in 1959 was acquired by Textron, Providence, R.I. Ten years later, Textron sold it to General Housewares, which sold the factory in 1997. The factory closed in 1999, a few years after making anniversary wares like your skillet. If you paid only \$2 for it, you did all right. We have seen Wagner anniversary skillets selling for \$10 to \$20.

Q: I still have the first and second Kovel's "Complete Antique Price List." Do they have any collectible value?

A: We would love to say "yes." Our first two annual price guides were published in 1968 and 1969, and we think they're classics. But while they provide a fascinating look at the antiques marketplace of 40 years ago, used copies aren't selling for more than about \$8 apiece.

Q: I own close to 900 vinyl jazz records from the 1950s through the 1980s. Where can I sell them? The artists include Stan Kenton, Stan Getz, Count Basie, Phil Woods, Charlie Parker, Dave Brubeck and Paul Desmond. Many of the records have never been released on CD.

A: Vinyl records are tricky to sell. Most sell for very little. But some, including some jazz records, sell for a lot. Do some research before you try selling. Visit a vintage record shop in your area and talk to the owner or knowledgeable salespeople. You also can consult collectors via the International Association of Jazz Record Collectors, IAJRC.org, which publishes a journal for collectors. Another publication for record collectors is Goldmine (GoldmineMag.org). Do some comparison shopping online, then contact stores and collectors in your area or online.

Q: At a local estate sale, I paid \$45 for a small floor-model reed organ called a "harmonium." The brand name on the key cover is "Imperiale" and the back is marked "Made in Japan." I am having it restored. Can you help me figure out maker, age and value?

A: Harmoniums were invented in the 19th century; one version was patented in 1840. From the late 1800s into the 1930s, they often were purchased for home use or for small churches. The Imperiale brand dates from a later decade of the 20th century, perhaps as late as the 1960s. The brand was made by the Marco Polo Japan Corp.

Tip: Be careful about washing good crystal glasses in the dishwasher. The heat could crack them, especially glasses with cut decorations. (c) 2012 by Cowles Syndicate Inc.

Family Circus • Bil Keane



Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★ 5/17

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.

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

Cryptoquip

OYICKH USPB KISOH VMCVJTPB

YSHCPHTKQ DQSSEFKHCL

DQSFTPB TPHS VSLLTESLU

"ETJC HMC MKQQU."

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I ENJOY PUTTING ON DENIM PANTS TO SUCH A DEGREE THAT WHEN I WEAR THEM I CALL IT JEAN THERAPY.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: T equals I

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS** 1 Hot tubs 5 Bottom line? 8 Bedouin 12 Exist 13 Exploit 14 Brightest star in Lyra 15 Ear-related 16 Needlefish 17 Blue hue 18 No-goodnik 20 Locations 22 Fawn's mama 23 Chowed down 24 Use a paper towel 27 Clerics' vesting place 32 Melody 33 Ring decision 34 Ball prop 35 Bishop, often 38 Now, on a memo
- DOWN** 39 Pitch 40 Understood 42 Mountain range 43 K 45 Whole 49 Comedy Central's Daniel Slyra 50 — de deux 52 Paradise 53 "Beetle Bailey" pooch 54 Perch 55 Coaster 56 Nasty stinger 57 Type squares 58 — of the D'Urber-villes"
- 1 Unkempt one 2 Pocket bread 3 Eager, and then some 4 Withdraw 5 Hints at 6 "Born in the —" 7 Griffin of old TV 8 Forward, in Florence 9 Asks 10 Malaria symptom 11 Sheepish remarks 19 With 41-Down, continue
- 21 Listener 24 Bankroll 25 Midafternoon, in a way 26 Disapprovers' demonstrations 28 Alias (Abbr.) 29 Creates a jam 30 Earl Grey, for one 31 "Uh-huh" 36 Drive-in staffer 37 Blunder 38 Authentic 41 See 19-Down 42 Pack away 43 Greek vowel 44 Cathedral feature 46 Between jobs 47 Roger of "Cheers" 48 Tackles' teammates 51 Intention

Solution time: 25 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 5-17

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		

Bridge • Steve Becker

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

Clues and Conclusions

A defender should not permit himself to be governed by rigid rules. He should not always return the suit partner led; he should not always play second-hand low or third-hand high; he should not always cover an honor with an honor. Rather, he should be prepared to deal specifically with each brand-new situation as it arises. What it really boils down to is that good defensive play is mostly a matter of plain common sense.

Consider this case where it would be easy to go wrong. West leads a heart, on which dummy plays the nine. If East makes the mistake of playing the queen, South easily makes three notrump.

Covering the nine with the queen allows declarer to make two heart tricks instead of one, and South breezes home with nine tricks. The defense cannot recover once the queen has been played.

But if East ducks the nine of hearts (at the same time signaling with the seven to show interest in the suit), South must eventually lose three heart tricks and the two minor-suit aces for down one.

Ducking the nine violates the general rule of third-hand high -- but the situation calls for it. East knows from the lead of the deuce that West has precisely four hearts, leaving declarer with two. These can be either A-K, A-x, K-x or x-x.

In the first and third cases, playing the queen costs a trick; in the second case, East's play does not matter because South scores two heart tricks whatever East plays. The only time the queen play gains is when declarer has x-x, but this possibility is remote, considering that South opened the bidding with one notrump.

It therefore follows that playing the seven of hearts will, in the long run, prove far more successful than playing the queen. (c)2012 King Features Syndicate Inc.