

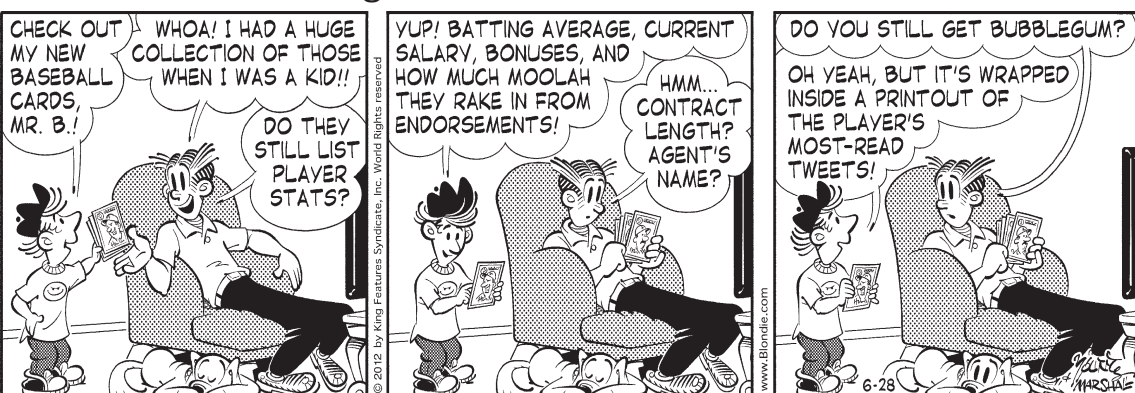
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



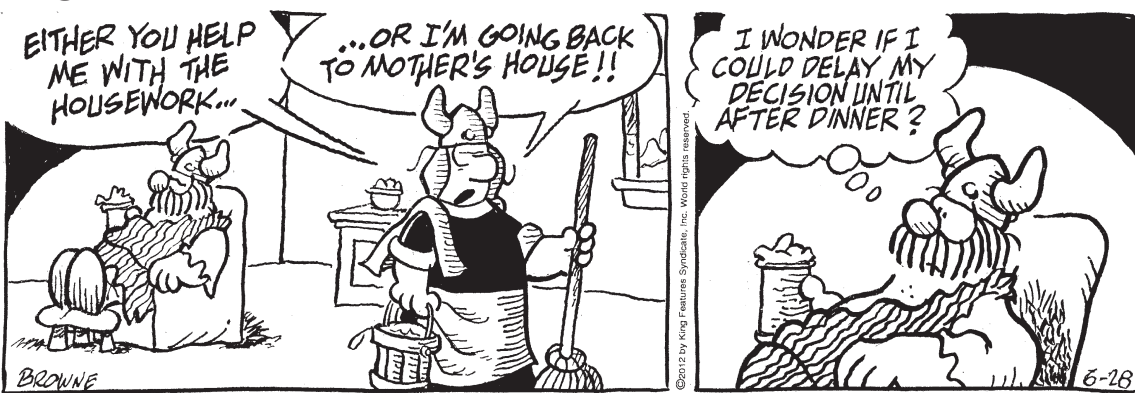
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



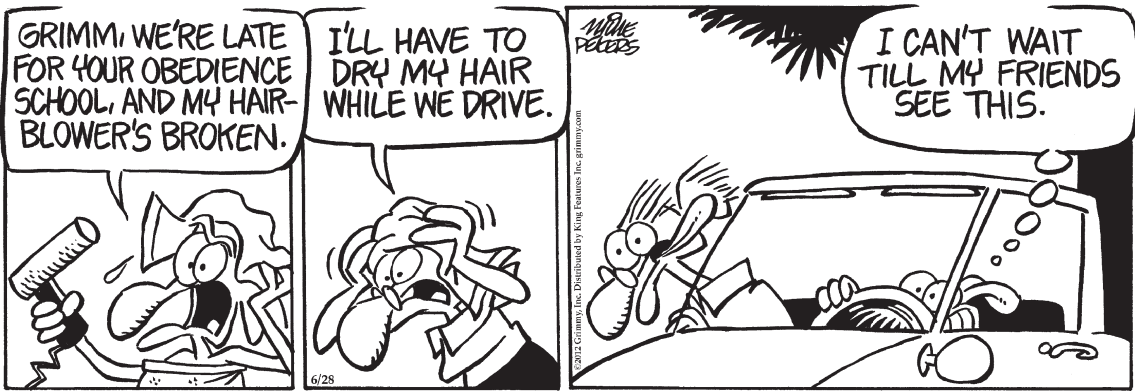
Blondie • Chic Young



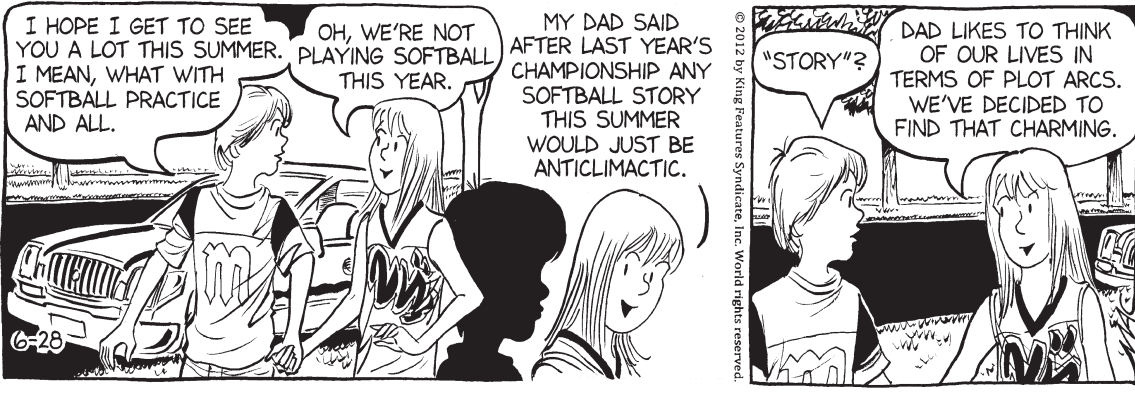
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



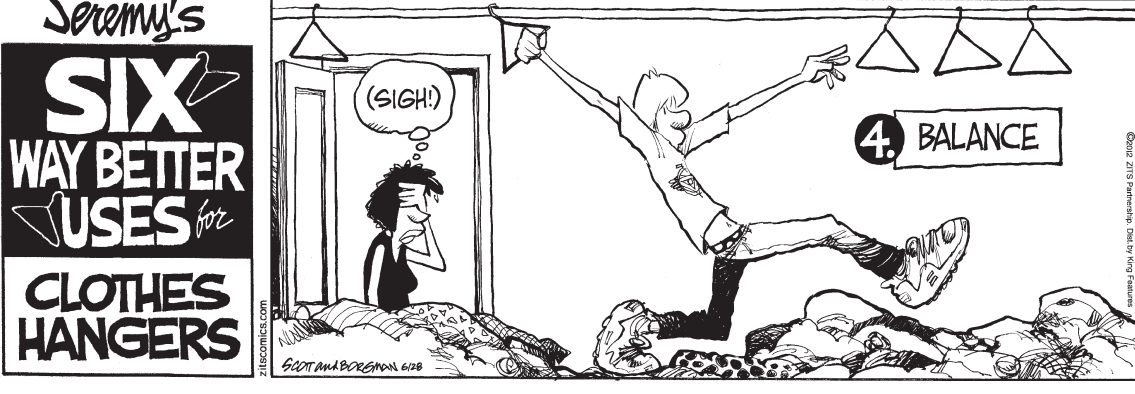
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Terry Kovel
• Antiques and Collecting

Antique iron burned gasoline

Q: My antique clothes iron has a little fuel tank attached to the front end. The top of the iron is marked "Sunshine" on one side and "Pat Pending, Made in the USA" on the other. The iron is 7 1/2 inches long. What type of fuel did it burn and when it was made?

A: The manufacturer of your Sunshine iron is unknown, but it's not hard to find the model at flea markets. Sunshine irons date from the early 1900s and burned gasoline. Other liquid-fuel irons burned kerosene, alcohol or liquefied natural gas. Irons that burned liquid fuel were a big improvement over irons that burned coal, which produced smoke and soot. Your iron is worth \$75 to \$100 if it's in good condition.

Q: I got a pressed-glass toothpick holder from my grandmother. She told me it's in the Crocus pattern and that she's had it for a long time. Can you tell me something about this pattern? Is the toothpick holder valuable?

A: Your pattern is probably "Croesus," a pattern first made by the Riverside Glass Co. of Wellsburg, W.Va., in 1897. Riverside was founded in 1879 and closed in 1907. The pattern features C-scrolls separated by crosshatching and fan shapes. It was first made in amethyst, emerald green or clear glass, with or without gold trim. Several tableware items were made, including a butter dish, pitcher, salt and pepper shakers, sugar and creamer, toothpick holder and other serving pieces. The National Glass Co. made Croesus at the McKee factory from about 1907 to 1917. Reproductions have been made since the early 1970s. The value of your Croesus toothpick holder is about \$35.

Q: We own a bed with a metal label on the headboard. The label says, "Made by Staples & Co. Ltd. by Royal Warrant." There's a lion and unicorn crest and the words "Dieu et Mon Droit." Can you tell me anything about it?

A: The label attests to the fact that Staples & Co., a British firm, has been a supplier of beds to the British royal family. The company was founded in 1895, when Englishman Ambrose Heal purchased rights to a U.S. patent for a spiral-spring mattress. King George V bought one of these mattresses in 1915 after his back was injured in a fall from a horse. The king granted the "royal warrant" in 1932, and every British monarch since then has renewed the warrant. Staples is still in business and, of course, uses the warrant in its ads. The French phrase, which literally translates to "God and my right," is the motto of the British monarchy, and the crest is the royal coat of arms.

Tip: If you are storing a large closed container like a trunk for a long time, put a piece of charcoal in it to absorb odors.

Terry Kovel answers as many questions as possible through the column. Write to Kovel, (Name of this newspaper), King Features Syndicate, 300 W. 57th St., New York, NY 10019.

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Bridge • Steve Becker

South dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ J 6
♥ 4
♦ AK 9 3
♣ A 9 7 5 2

WEST
♠ Q 8 7 2
♥ 1 8 7 5 2
♦ 6
♣ K J 3

EAST
♠ K 9 4
♥ 10 9 6 3
♦ Q 8 7 4
♣ Q 10

SOUTH
♠ A 10 5 3
♥ AK Q
♦ J 10 5 2
♣ 8 4

The bidding:
South West North East
1♦ Pass 2♣ Pass
2NT Pass 3♦ Pass
3NT Pass

Opening lead — five of hearts.

Haste Makes Waste

Bridge is, first and foremost, a game of probabilities. Certain bids are made rather than other bids because they figure to produce the best results in the long run. A certain line of play is adopted rather than another line of play because it has a greater chance of success than an alternative approach.

Today's deal provides a case in point. North-South arrived at three notrump, and West led a heart. Declarer won and could count seven sure tricks — a spade, three hearts, two diamonds and a club.

A finesse was available in diamonds, and if West had the queen, nine tricks would be there for the taking. So South led the jack of diamonds at trick two and let it ride. East won with the queen and returned a heart, and declarer was now in deep trouble. He had no way of establishing a ninth trick before the opponents could collect five, and he finished down one.

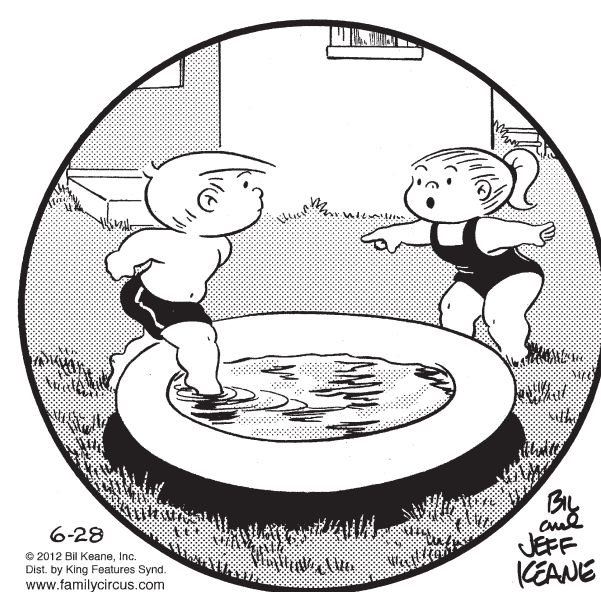
In effect, South gave himself about a 50 percent chance — the probability that West had the diamond queen. Before attempting the diamond finesse, he should have asked himself whether another approach was available that might improve his chances. This might have led him to consider the possibility of trying to establish dummy's clubs, a move that was, percentage-wise, far better than the one he chose.

All South needs to establish three extra club tricks is a 3-2 division of the missing clubs — a 68 percent probability. Furthermore, if the clubs fail to divide, he still has the diamond finesse in reserve, giving him better than an 80 percent chance of success all told.

In the actual deal, South would duck a club at trick two, win the presumed heart return and lead a club to the ace. When the suit broke normally, he would concede a club to West's king and finish with 10 tricks without breaking a sweat.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



6-28

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"Stop! You didn't wait an hour after eating!"

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

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.

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

Cryptoquip

FRDM ISK QZ B EODI

UWOPPMW VRW TURSPQHK RSP

PFM SHIMWKWRSHI NOUOHOPZ

QSWWRE RV OHNMTPOKBPORH

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I CAN'T TOTALLY PAY FOR THIS SWANKY FLOWER NECKLACE, SO HOPEFULLY I CAN PUT IT ON LEI-AWAY.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: V equals F

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 Venomous
 - 5 Pan-handle
 - 8 Pinnacle
 - 12 Secular
 - 13 Pitching stat
 - 14 Slender
 - 15 Culture medium
 - 16 Shriner's topper
 - 17 Wet wrigglers
 - 18 Jungle expedition
 - 20 Grand story
 - 22 Killjoy
 - 26 Nasality
 - 29 Every last bit
 - 30 Rowing tool
 - 31 Like a Cabernet
 - 32 Color
 - 33 Remedy
 - 34 Mel of Cooperstown
 - 35 Greet the villain
 - 36 Name

- DOWN**
- 2 "The Forsythe —"
 - 3 Chan-teuse Edith
 - 4 Not merely
 - 14- Across
 - 5 Succeeded
 - 6 Preceding
 - 7 Graceful runner
 - 8 Had a home-cooked meal
 - 9 Super-market section
 - 10 Wire measure
 - 11 Type units
 - 19 Rule, for short
 - 21 Chum
 - 23 Louisiana waterway
 - 24 Count counter-part
 - 25 Genealogy chart
 - 26 Noah's passengers, e.g.
 - 27 Accompanying
 - 28 Pangolin, for one
 - 32 Territories
 - 33 Noisy insects
 - 35 A/C meas.
 - 36 Gratitude
 - 38 Same
 - 39 Beauty parlor
 - 42 Point
 - 43 Listen to
 - 44 Catch sight of
 - 45 Middle O?
 - 46 Mex. neighbor
 - 48 Island garland

Solution time: 25 mins.

	PAS		CAM		
	ARCH		MAGUS		
	EBONY		ERASED		
	BLUES		BROTHERS		
	BED		TOILET		TOO
		FEAT		CHIP	
		ABORT		DATED	
		EWER		PUBS	
		GAS		KEENS	PTA
		GREENS		KEEPERS	
		DEVISE		NONES	
		MESAS		COCK	
		SHY		ERE	

Yesterday's answer 6-28

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12					13			14		
15					16			17		
18				19			20	21		
				22			23			24
26	27	28				29			30	
31					32			33		
34					35			36		
37					38			39		
					40			41		
45	46				47	48		49		
50					51			52		
53					54			55		