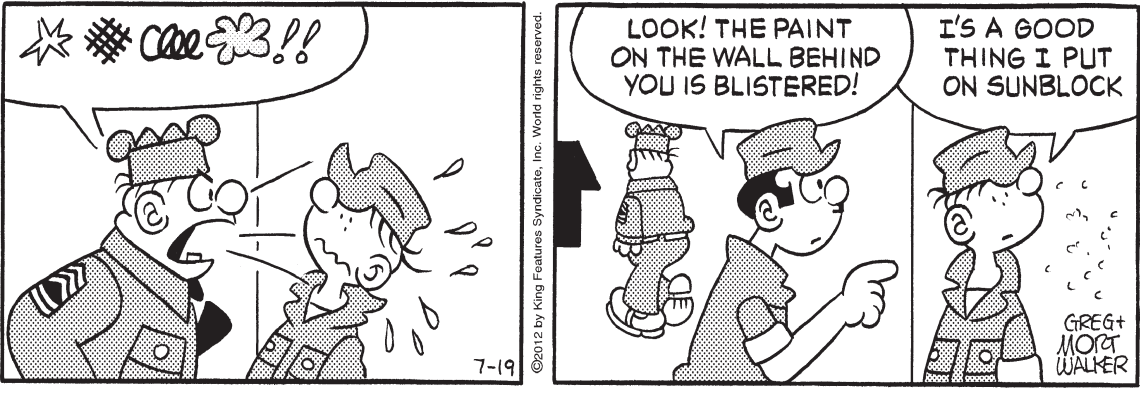


Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



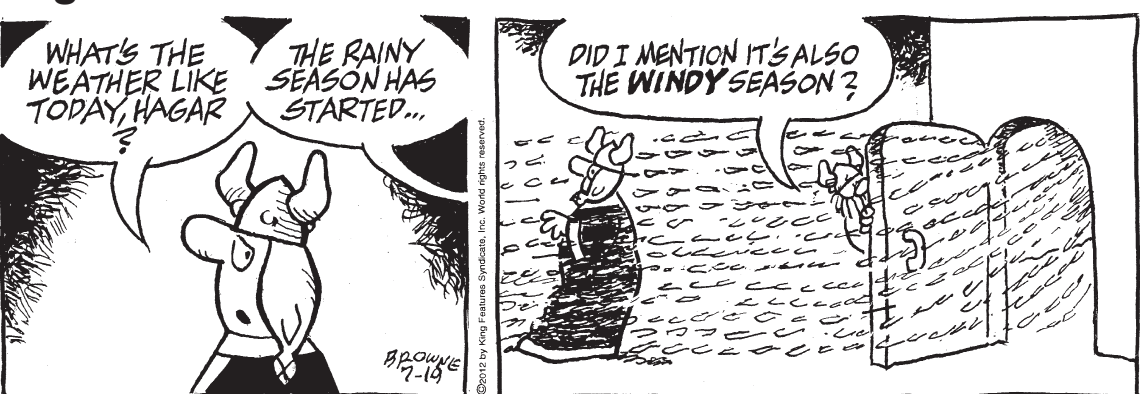
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



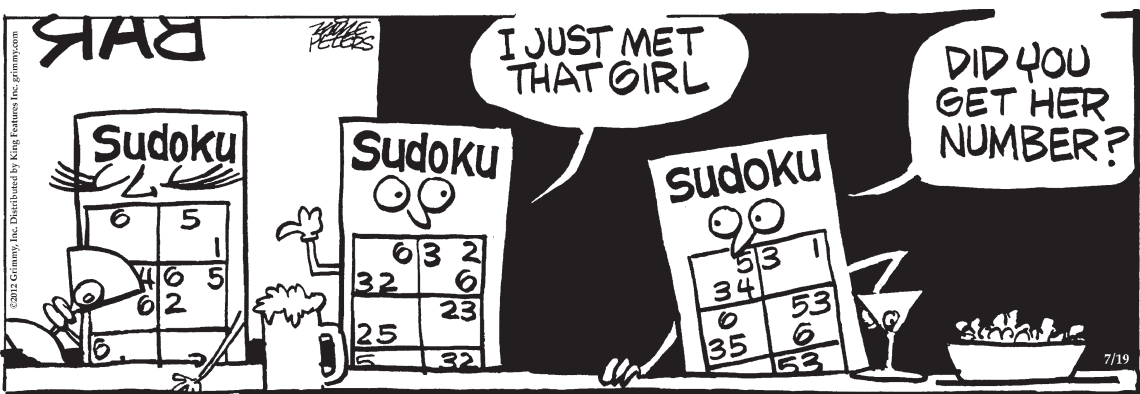
Blondie • Chic Young



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

Execution seen in 1865 print

Q: My father found a print being used as backing for an old photograph he inherited from his mother, labeled "Execution of the Conspirators." It has two panels. The left is labeled "Praparing (sic) for Execution" and the names of the conspirators, Surrat, Powell-Payne, Harold and Atzerodt, are at the bottom. The right panel is titled "Springing of the Trap" and shows them hanging. We've been to Ford's Theater, the Smithsonian, and Lincoln's summer cottage at Soldiers Home, but we've never seen this particular picture. Anything you can tell us would be helpful.

A: Although photographs were taken of the hanging of the Lincoln conspirators at the Old Arsenal Prison, newspapers of the day were not able to print them. Pictures in newspapers were printed from engravings. Alexander Gardner was the only photographer allowed to take pictures of the execution. There are two misspellings on your print, "preparing" and the name of the conspirator Herold. The print was published in 1865.

Q: I have a 1955 Mickey Mouse wind-up watch. The strap is black, and everything is original. Could you tell me the history of the watch and its present value? Thank you!

A: The first Mickey Mouse watches were sold in 1933. Made by Ingersoll Waterbury Clock Co. of Waterbury, Conn., the watch was introduced at the 1933 "Century of Progress" expo in Chicago. Disney merchandizing promoters saw the watches as a cheap way to promote their brand.

The first Mickey Mouse watches cost \$3.25. Ingersoll, which became Timex, continued to make the watches until the early '70s. A 1955 watch in very good condition sells for about \$100.

Q: My aunt gave me a water pitcher years ago, made of a white metal - stainless, aluminum or silver. It has "5600 9HR Regency" stamped on the bottom of it and "RJR" stamped on the side. My aunt retired in the late '60s from the RJ Reynolds Tobacco Co. What is the value?

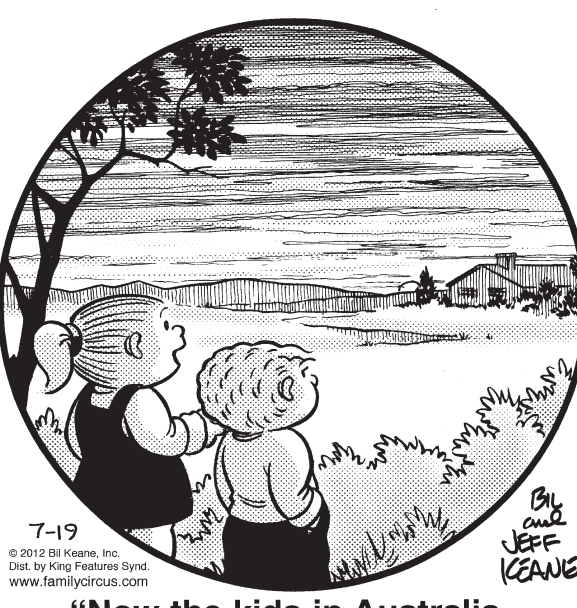
A: Reed and Barton has been a sterling-silver and silverplate manufacturer in Taunton, Mass., since 1824. The company has a rich history; having made weapons for the Union Army, silverware for the White House and medals for the 1996 Atlanta Summer Olympics. It is still privately owned by the family of Henry G. Reed.

The stamp on the bottom is the reference number. It means that the pitcher is silver-plated and part of the Regency collection. "RJR" must mean it was made for RJ Reynolds Tobacco Co. An identical pitcher in poor condition recently sold for \$10.

Terry Kovel answers as many questions as possible through the column. Write to Kovels, (Colby Free Press), King Features Syndicate, 300 W. 57th St., New York, NY 10019.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



7-19
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Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★ 7/19

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.

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

Cryptoquip

Q R E DVEZJ-RXEGTXXBXO ZBKAA
A X B X G K D X T E H X H X B W
A E Z J Q V W, W K N Z K N V O
Z E V V Q G E B E H X F V N F E G Q Z.
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHENEVER I SKETCH A ROUGH DRAWING OF TV'S HERMAN OR LILY, FOLKS SAY I'VE CREATED A MUNSTER.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: W equals Y

Bridge • Steve Becker

South dealer. Neither side vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ 10
♥ K J 10
♦ 9 7 6 4
♣ A Q 10 9 3
WEST
♠ J 9 7 6 3
♥ 8 4
♦ A 8 5
♣ 8 7 2
EAST
♠ A 5 4 2
♥ 7 6 5 2
♦ 3 2
♣ 6 5 4
SOUTH
♠ K Q 8
♥ A Q 9 3
♦ K Q J 10
♣ K J
The bidding:
South West North East
2 NT Pass 4 NT Pass
6 NT
Opening lead — six of spades.

Musical Chairs

There are times when a player might wish that a hole would open beneath him and swallow him up, chair and all. The best one can do in such situations is to try to transfer this feeling, along with the hole, to somebody else at the table.

Today's deal recounts just such a happening. Due to an overabundance of optimism on North's part, South found himself in six notrump off two aces. West started the proceedings by leading a spade to East's ace. Fortunately, East returned a spade to declarer's king, giving South a moment's respite.

Declarer quickly added his tricks, but several desperate counts revealed that only 11 were available. The 12th could come only from the diamond suit, and South didn't think the opposition would duck the setting trick.

However, declarer was not the type to give up without a fight. It was clear that West had the ace of diamonds, since East surely would have cashed it at trick two if he had it. Perhaps, South thought, West could be talked out of his ace by a bit of chicanery.

So, after taking the king of spades, declarer ran dummy's clubs, discarding the J-Q-K of diamonds! He then cashed his heart tricks.

When the fourth heart was played, West, down to the ace of diamonds and J-9 of spades, had to make a discard. He thought long and hard, but South's earlier diamond discards had left an indelible impression. Eventually, afraid that declarer had the Q-x of spades remaining, he let go of the ace of diamonds, and South scored the last two tricks with the spade queen and diamond ten.

If West had paid more attention to his partner's plays - East had returned the deuce of spades at trick two, indicating four cards in the suit, and had later discarded his two remaining spades - he would not have had a problem. Nor would he have felt that sudden urge to have a hole swallow him up, chair and all.

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Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Taj Mahal city
5 Brat's stuffing
9 Hollywood trickery (Abbr.)
12 Upper palate
13 Formerly
14 Bygone
15 Caved in
17 See 41-Across
18 Sly
19 Big winds
21 Cellist
22 Michelangelo masterpiece
24 Wear a rut in the rug
27 Shack
28 TV's talking horse
31 Pair
32 Exist
33 Mess up
34 Partner

DOWN
1 Curved paths
2 Continue
3 Portrayal
4 Blazing
5 Mimic
6 Switch
7 Expert positions
8 Sill
9 Apprehended
10 Merriment
11 Mid-month date
16 Alias
20 \$ dispenser
22 Prize money
24 Couple in a gossip column
24 School org.
25 Piercing tool
26 Crashed
27 Greet
29 Historic period
30 Parched
35 Tibetan bovine
37 Olympic Frisbee?
39 Transfer
40 "Gosh!"
41 Stay away from
42 Sit for a shot
43 Stage presentation
44 Italian volcano
45 "Bill & Excellent Adventure"
46 Fussess
49 Tramcar load
50 Tyler or Ullmann

Solution time: 25 mins.
YESTERDAY'S ANSWER 7-19

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
47				48	49	50				
51				52					53	
54				55					56	