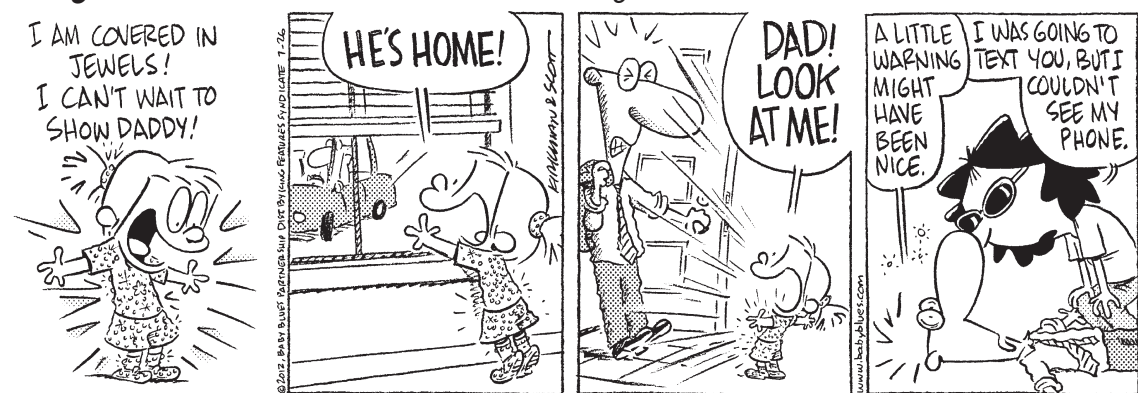


Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



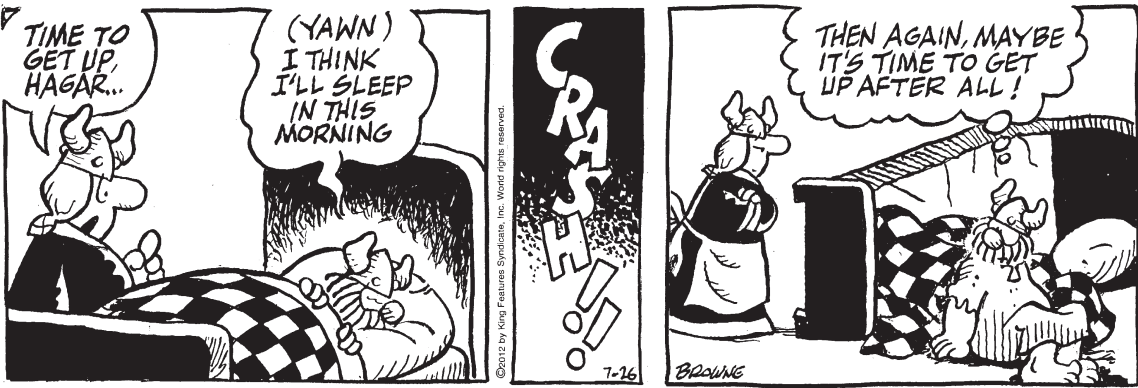
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



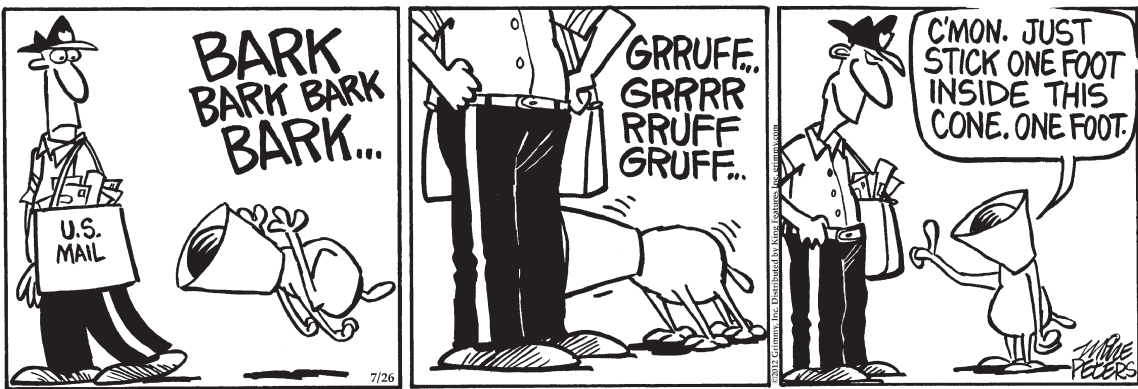
Blondie • Chic Young



Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



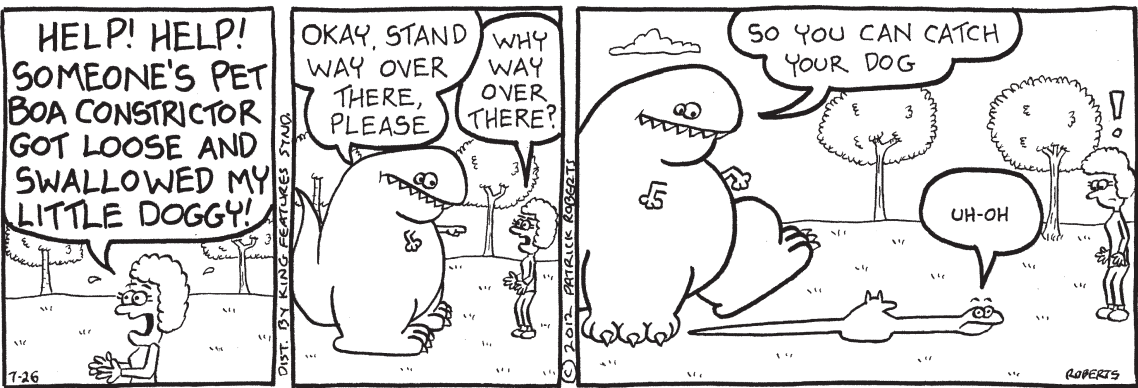
Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



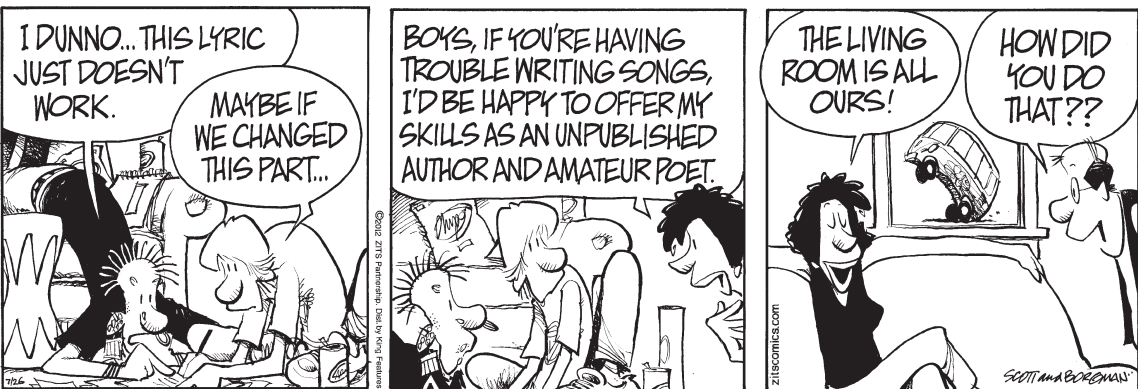
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Terry Kovel
• Antiques and Collecting

Figurines show comic characters

Q: I have two figurines with "Gold 2Y, Mark Hampton Co. Inc. Marriage Bldg. 1909-1910, New York City, Regitt HC Fisher" printed on bottom. "Mutt" and "Jeff" are engraved into the bases. Any information you can give will be greatly appreciated.

A: "Mutt and Jeff" was a long-running newspaper comic strip, created in 1907 by Bud Fisher, about two mismatched gamblers. One was very tall, and the other was very short. The Mutt figurine is 9 1/4 inches tall, Jeff is 5 1/2 inches. "Mutt and Jeff" is generally accepted to be the first daily comic strip. A pair of Mark Hampton Co. "Mutt and Jeff" figurines in excellent condition recently sold at auction for \$40.

Q: My daughter recently inherited an old "Quick-Lite Lamp Q 307" and separate pump. Can you tell me its value and any other information on it?

A: Your lamp was made by the Kansas-based Coleman Co. They've been making lamps and lanterns since 1900. According to the lamp's tag, yours is from 1928. The Quick-Lite technology allowed the white gasoline-fueled lamps to be lit with a match instead of a torch. At the time, Coleman Co. offered to convert their older desk lamps to Quick-Lite for \$3.50. "Q" refers to the model; "307" refers to the ribbed glass shade. A similar Quick-Lite lamp recently sold at auction for \$40.

Q: My husband and I attended a surprise party for a friend's 70th birthday. He was a Roy Rogers fan and was given a Roy Rogers and Dale Evans lunchbox. I'd like to know what it's worth.

A: The first Roy Rogers lunchboxes debuted in 1953. "The King of Cowboys" was winding up his film career and moving into television with "The Roy Rogers Show." Lunchboxes were made by the American Thermos Co., and became an instant hit with children. More than 2.5 million units sold the first year. Original metal lunch boxes are collectible, with price determined by condition and rarity. A complete box came with matching thermos. Your lunchbox, with Roy mounted on a rearing Trigger in front, and eight scenes from Double R Bar Ranch on back, was made in 1955 and 1956. It originally sold for \$2.89. Value today: \$40-\$100, depending on condition.

CURRENT PRICES
Current prices are recorded from antiques shows, flea markets, sales and auctions throughout the United States. Prices vary in different locations because of local economic conditions.
Toy stroller, cast iron, spoke wheels, original paint, Hubley, early 1900s, 4 1/2 x 4 x 2 inches, \$115.
Limoges salad plate, yellow daffodils, lavender scrolled border, gold trim, A. Lanterner, green stamped mark, 1891-1914, 8 inches, \$125.
Montgomery Ward catalog, 1954-55 fall and winter, black-and-white and color photos, taupe linen hardcover, Chicago, 1,024 pages, \$125.
Yogi Bear cookie jar, American Bisque, Hanna-Barbera, 1961, 13 1/2 inches, \$295.
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Bridge • Steve Becker

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

A Crucial Defensive Play
Let's say you hold the West hand and are defending against four spades. You begin by leading the K-Q of hearts, on which East contributes the 5-6 and declarer the 3-4, in that order. What would you play next?

It may not look like much of a problem, but what you play next is crucial. Let's assume you shift to the ten of diamonds at trick three, which many players would do. This might seem like a harmless play, but you'd soon learn that you had handed declarer the contract.

South wins the diamond with the queen and plays the ace and another trump. You score your king of trumps, but that's your last trick. Declarer finishes with 10 tricks consisting of four trumps, four diamonds, a club and a heart ruff in dummy.

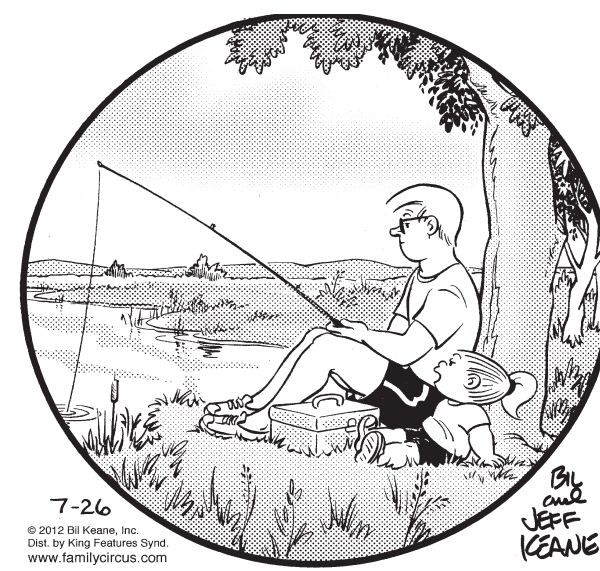
Now let's go back to trick three and lead a low club instead of the ten of diamonds. This is a much more sensible approach, and in the actual case it sinks the contract. Regardless of what declarer does next, he has to lose a club trick and so go down one.

The club shift at trick three is not dangerous at all. If South has the queen, you are no worse off, but if your partner has the queen, it is vital to attack clubs while you still have the king of trumps.

Players who would not lead a club at trick three might be overly influenced by the general rule that it's risky to lead away from a king. However, that rule is not relevant here, since the king is as dead as a doornail if declarer has the queen. Your best chance to defeat the contract is to find East with the queen of clubs, and that's all the reason you need for shifting to a club at trick three.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



7-26
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"I'm not surprised we have to wait so long. I'd have to be REALLY hungry to eat that worm."

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★ 7/26
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.

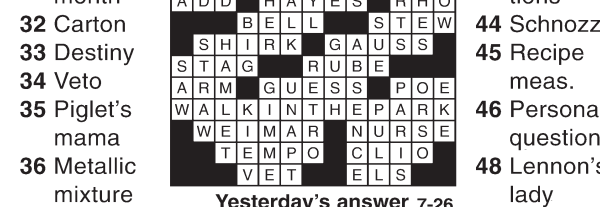
Cryptoquip

WCM TRLZRUF QUWFZNRU
CGTHGF TYW TGL QWOFM
BONCZI WQ PWHNZZNF B G
PUNHR YNHLRCQ: TIGZZ KRUK.
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I IMAGINE THAT THE ABSOLUTE BEST CUT OF MEAT FROM A ROARING BEAST COULD BE THE TENDERLION.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: T equals W

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Campus mil. program
5 Stein or Stiller
8 Carpet style
12 Vicinity
13 George's brother
14 Mimicking bird
15 Tide type holder
17 Leave out
18 Singer Fats
20 Snatch
22 Orange-flowered impatiens
26 Shade
29 Meadow
30 Biblical verb suffix
31 Hebrew month
32 Carton
33 Destiny
34 Veto
35 Piglet's mama
36 Metallic mixture
37 Unpredictable beams
41 Royal attendant
45 Clone
47 Heavy weight
49 Queen of Carthage
50 Molt
51 Away from WSW
52 Cupid's alias
53 Bouquet
54 Two, in Tijuana
55 Medicinal amount
21 "I — Camera"
23 Emmett Kelly, for one
24 "Beetle Bailey" dog
25 You folks
26 Minimal change
27 Hedge-podge
28 Non-essential comforts
32 Bragged sign?
33 Inundated
35 Bashful
36 Candle count
38 Halloween bagful
39 Units of force
42 Muralist Joan
43 Commotions
44 Schnozz meas.
46 Personal question?
48 Lennon's lady

Solution time: 25 mins.



Yesterday's answer 7-26

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			