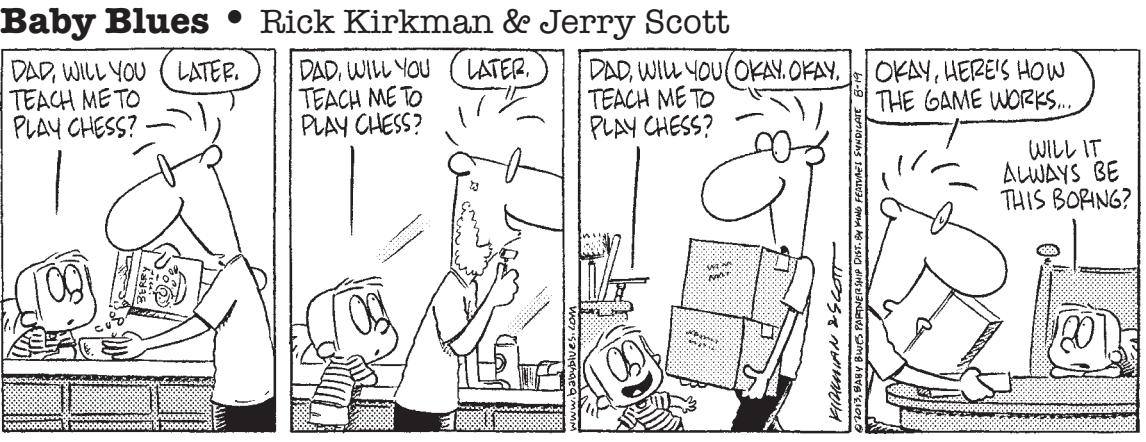
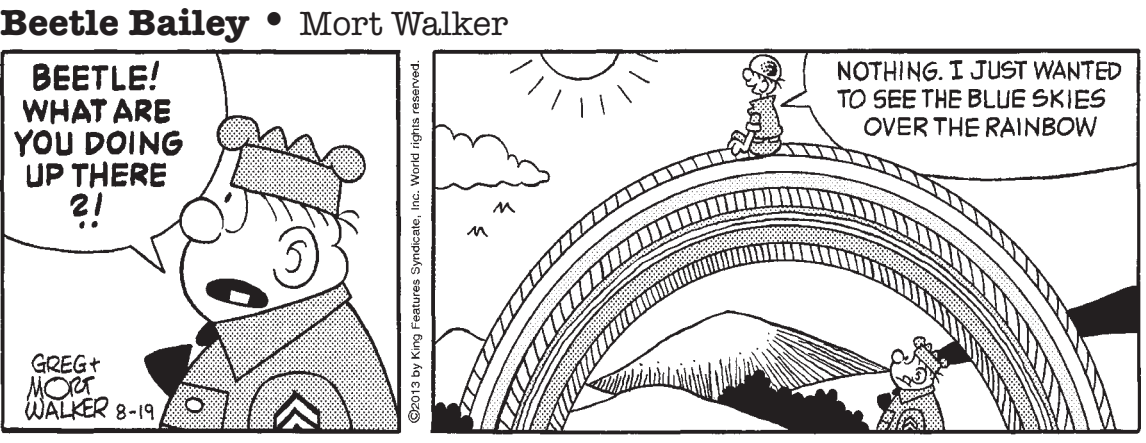
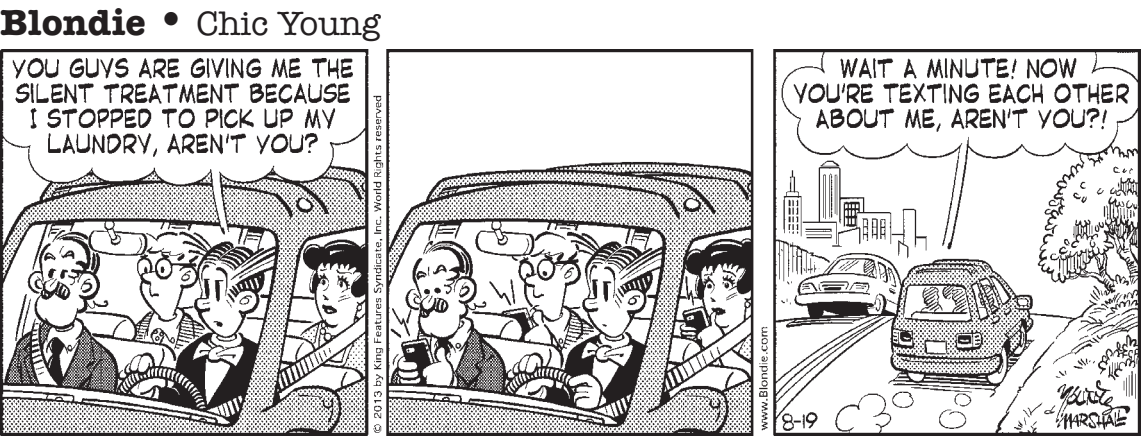
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young

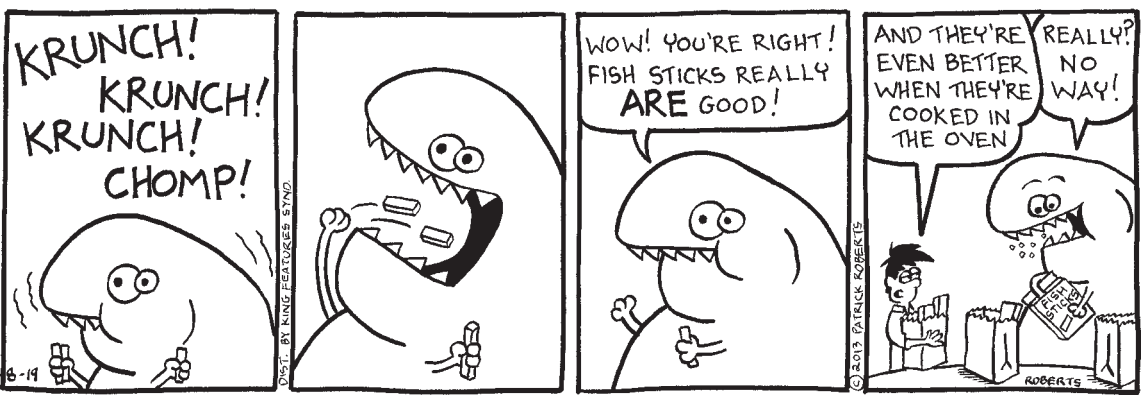


Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne

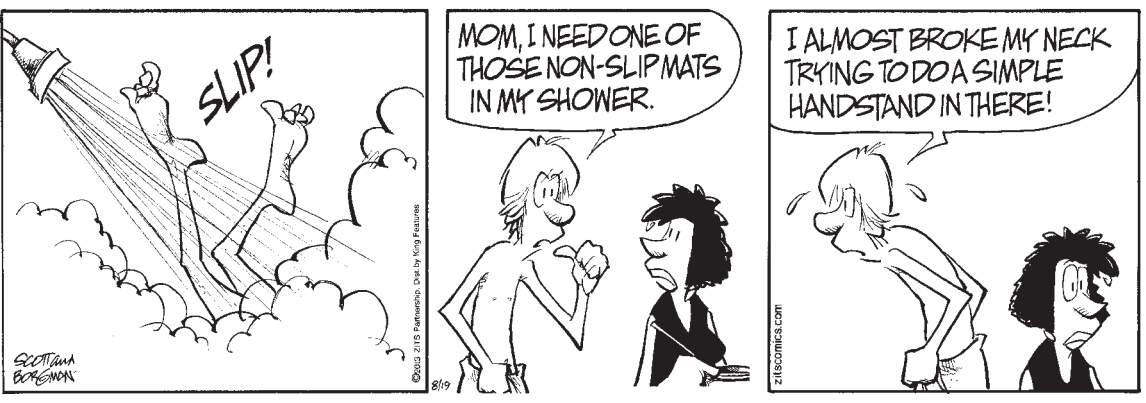
Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters

Sally Forth • Greg Howard

Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Terry Kovel

• Antiques and Collecting

Feet, shoes good as decorations

A realistic replica of a full-size foot in a sandal seems like a strange choice of ornament for the average home.

Piero Fornasetti (1913-1988) created this life-size bronze foot to be used as an ornament. It sold for $393 at Humler & Nolan, an auction gallery in Cincinnati.

But feet and shoes have been popular ornaments for centuries. The foot of an ancient black man wearing a two-strap gold sandal was made by the modern artist Piero Fornasetti to be placed on a table in a modern house. The 3 1/2-by-9-inch foot is life-size. A 19th-century bronze candleholder was made in the shape of a foot in a sandal with an extended large toe topped by a cup to hold a candle. One 20th-century advertisement for a foot powder was a plaster replica of an oversized bare foot. A wooden bare foot, a little smaller than life-size, was carved by a 1920s folk artist as a gift for his podiatrist; it was to be used as a paperweight. A sleek modern bronze bare foot paired with a bronze hand was made by a 1970s Danish artist. Victorians seem to have preferred feet wearing shoes as ornaments. Some shoes were padded to be pincushions, and pressed glass shoes with no special use are easy to find at antiques shows. A podiatrist we know has a famous collection of shoe-shaped objects in his office - more than 100 items. Collecting by shape is just one way to organize a hobby. Most popular are cats, dogs, lady's heads, angels, buildings and, of course, hands and feet.

Q: We have four Hitchcock-style chairs made by the Boling Chair Co. of Siler City, N.C. We have been unable to find any information about this company. Can you help?

A: Boling Chair Co. started out in 1901 as Siler City Bending Co. One of the company's founders, Mal Boling, rounded up new investors in 1904 and reorganized the company as High Point Bending and Chair Co. It made bentwood parts for other companies before producing its own bentwood furniture. It later expanded its furniture lines. The company's name became Boling Chair Co. in 1956 or '57, and then Boling Co. in 1979. Today it's based in Mt. Olive, N.C., and is called Boling Furniture Co.

If your chairs are marked "Boling Chair Co.," they were made between 1956 and 1979. Chairs like it sell online for about $50 apiece.

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Bridge • Steve Becker

East dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ K
♥ Q 10 9 7 6 2
♦ 4
♣ A K Q 7 5

WEST
♠ A 5
♥ A K 5 3
♦ K Q 8 6
♣ 9 6 3

EAST
♠ J 9 8 6 3
♥ J 8 4
♦ 5 2
♣ 10 8 2

SOUTH
♠ Q 10 7 4 2
♥ —
♦ A J 10 9 7 3
♣ J 4

The bidding:

East	South	West	North
Pass	2 ♠	Dble	Pass
Pass	3 ♦	Dble	

Opening lead — king of hearts.

Famous Hand

When this writer first began attending national bridge tournaments back in the '60s, virtually all the players were from one of the American Contract Bridge League's four member countries -- the U.S., Canada, Mexico and Bermuda.

Today, all that has changed. National tournaments now attract scores of the world's top players from Europe, South America and the Far East -- including mainland China. The result has been that many of the ACBL's most prestigious titles lately have been captured by visiting internationalists either independently or in concert with North American players.

One of these successes was a victory in the 2001 Spingold Teams. Americans Ralph Katz and George Jacobs teamed up with four of the 2000 Olympiad champions, Giorgio Duboin, Alfredo Versace, Lorenzo Lauria and Norberto Bocchi of Italy, and scored a 48-IMP victory in the final over an upstart team captained by Mike Moss.

Today's deal from the final shows the Italians in action. Bocchi's opening two-spade bid showed spades and an unspecified second suit. West doubled for takeout, and when East left the double in for penalties, Bocchi retreated to his other suit.

West doubled this for penalties, and Duboin now made an excellent decision to leave his partner in diamonds despite holding a significantly better spade, as East was already known to be well-heeled in spades.

Three diamonds proved impossible to beat. Bocchi ruffed the heart lead and conceded a spade to West's ace, and West could score only his K-Q of diamonds from that point on. So the contract was made with an overtrick for a score of +570. At the other table, the American North played in four hearts, down three, for -150.

The two results combined gave the eventual victors a 12-IMP gain on the deal.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane

"Why does PJ always get to pick out his cereal first?"

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★ 8/19

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 8/16

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Cryptoquip

DHOUS ERHD BQEHUTS HD DG PATT GP QSZAOZBOUHSD, H'Z ZSPHOHESTM DBM ERBE HE'D QSCSBE-QSCTSES.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF ENOUGH SEDIMENT FORMS WITHIN ONE'S COFFEE FILTER, I WOULD CALL THAT SUFFICIENT GROUNDS.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: H equals I

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Broad
5 Cushion
8 Big name in PCs
12 Diva's offering
13 Individual
14 Un-escorted
15 Welter-weight's weapon
16 Quoits, e.g.
18 Apparel with some-thing to say?
20 Thanks-giving fare
21 Acronym for The Big Easy
23 Deviate off course
24 Noted circus family name
28 Two-masted vessel
31 In favor of
32 Embank-ment
34 Brazilian tourist mecca
35 Repair
37 Curls
39 Try the tea
41 Corporate symbol
42 Neighbor of Washing-ton
45 Badmin-ton exchange
49 Cell phone alert
51 Tradition-al stories
52 Church section
53 "— in victory"
54 Wicked
55 Sly look
56 Opposite of 50-Down
57 Profound

DOWN
1 Float gently
2 Eye part
3 Menu option
4 Gastro-nome's pastime
5 Less slender
6 Blackbird
7 Fender mishap
8 Wander-ing
9 Kitchen props
10 Otherwise
11 Optimistic
17 Fellow
19 Hot dog holder
22 Black-smith's surface
24 Spinning stat
25 Anger
26 "Poppy-cock!"
27 Christo-pher Columbus, by birth
29 Humor
30 — Angeles
33 Frozen waffle brand
36 Backhoe, e.g.
38 Did nothing
40 Cauldron
42 Exam format
43 Mature
44 PBS science show
46 Zero, in tennis
47 One of HOMES
48 Shrill bark
50 Opposite of 56-Across

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

Saturday's answer 8-19

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			46	47	48
49						50		■	51			
52				■	53			■	54			
55				■	56			■	57			