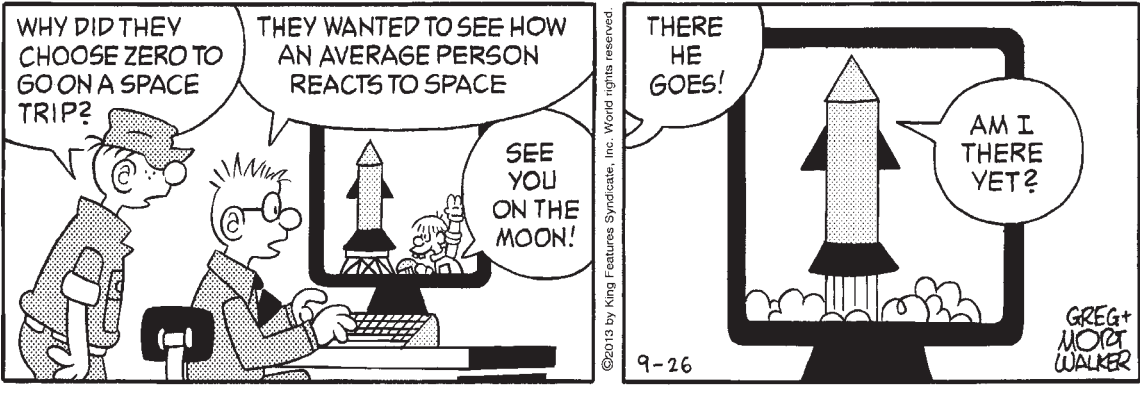


Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young



Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



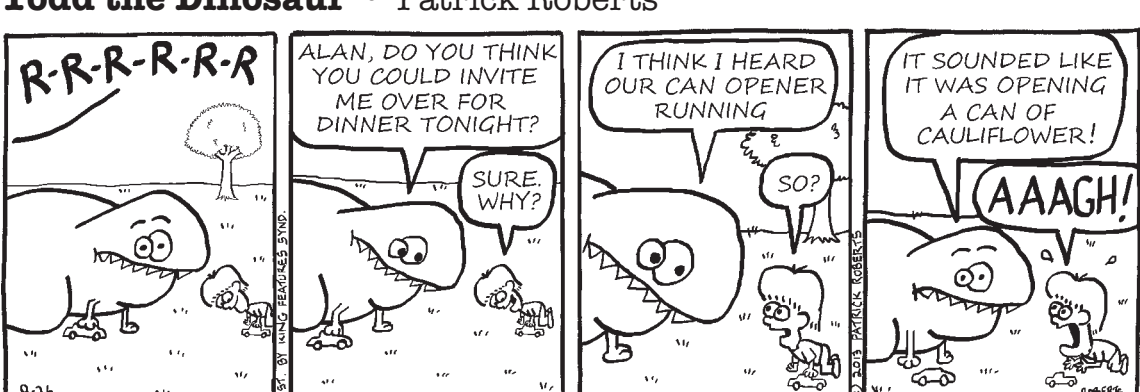
Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Terry Kovel
• Antiques and Collecting

Wings poster a true original

Q: In the summer of 1972, I was traveling in Europe and read that Paul McCartney and Wings were to appear at the Montreux Pavilion in Montreux, Switzerland. So off I went. The streets were lined with posters for the concert, so I pried one loose, and today it's framed and hanging on a wall in my basement. Any idea what it's worth?

A: McCartney's stop in Montreux was part of his new group's "Wings over Europe" tour. Your poster, obviously an original, is not as valuable as an original Beatles poster. Still, it could sell for up to \$70.

Q: In 1950, on my 5th birthday, I was given an Empire toy stove. It was made by Metal Ware Corp. I still have the little stove and it is still working, 63 years later. If you could give me any information on it, I would appreciate it.

A: Metal Ware Corp. has been operating in Two Rivers, Wis., for more than 90 years. It has made steam engines, driving accessories, popcorn poppers, roasters, hotdog warmers and other electric cooking appliances. In 1921 Metal Ware Corp. bought patent rights to the Empire toy line from Hughes Electric Co. of Chicago and began to make toy stoves. The stoves worked and would probably horrify today's safety-conscious parents. Your 1940s toy stove sells today for \$10 to \$35, depending on condition. Older Empire stoves from the 1920s and 1930s sell for more. The company still makes and imports small electrical appliances.

Q: I inherited a 12-inch white pitcher and small covered dish from my grandmother, who was born in 1880. The pieces are white with gold trim and are decorated with blue and yellow flowers. Inside the dish is a disc with a hole. The bottom of each piece is stamped "Wheeling Pottery Co." inside a wreath. Can you tell me their value?

A: Wheeling Pottery Co. of Wheeling, W.Va., was in business from 1879 until about 1923. The firm went through a number of mergers and name changes during that time. It made decorative and utilitarian pottery, semi-porcelain, art ware and sanitary ware. Your pitcher, from a toilet set, is worth \$25 to \$50; if you had the matching wash bowl, the set would be worth about \$125. The small dish is a soap dish worth \$15. Wheeling's flow blue pieces sell for more.

Tip: Green-colored corrosion is sometimes found on old costume jewelry. It will spread if not removed. Clean with a mixture of a tablespoon of vinegar, a tablespoon of salt and a cup of hot water. Rub with an old toothbrush or a nylon scouring pad. Dry completely with towels and a hair dryer set on cool.

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Bridge • Steve Becker

East dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ 7 3 2
♥ Q 5 2
♦ J 10 9 6 4
♣ K 6
WEST
♠ A J 8 4
♥ 7 3
♦ K 5
♣ J 10 9 7 5
EAST
♠ K 9 5
♥ J 9 8 6 4
♦ 7 2
♣ 8 4 3
SOUTH
♠ Q 10 6
♥ A K 10
♦ A Q 8 3
♣ A Q 2

The bidding:
East South West North
Pass 2 NT Pass 3 NT
Opening lead — jack of clubs.

The End Justifies the Means
There is very little similarity between the bridge played in a national championship and the bridge played in the average home game. The number of cards and shape of the table might be the same, but that's about as far as the resemblance goes.

For example, take this deal from a national event where a wily declarer "stole" three notrump. He won the club lead with dummy's king and played his queen on it! This was followed by the jack of diamonds from dummy, the finesse losing to West's king.

It's hard to blame West for continuing with another club. He naturally thought declarer had started with the doubleton A-Q. The club continuation did not turn out well when South scampered home with three hearts, four diamonds and two clubs for a total of nine tricks.

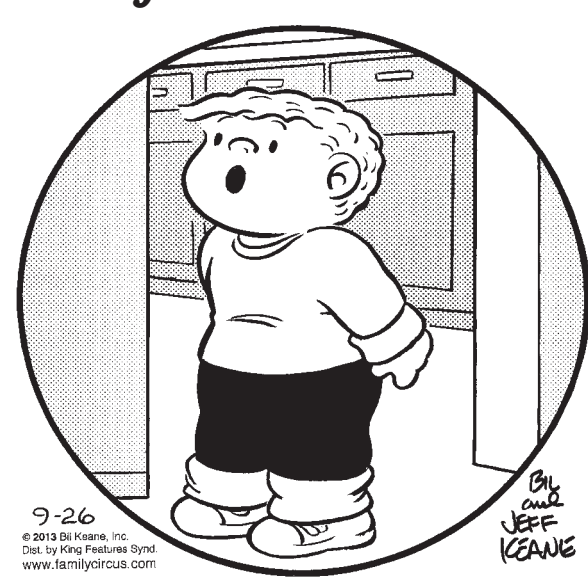
Now let's suppose South had made the more normal play of the deuce of clubs on the king at trick one. In that case, West, after taking his king of diamonds at trick two, and mindful of his partner's discouraging play of the three on the opening trick, might have appreciated the futility of continuing clubs and shifted to a low spade instead.

This play would have laid declarer low. East would win with the king and return the nine of spades, and the contract would go down the drain. But the smoke screen set up by South's clever play of the club queen at trick one made it almost automatic for West to return a club at trick three.

The fact is that bridge is in many ways a psychological game, and laying a trap for a defender to fall into is a legitimate part of the game. Anything a declarer can do to induce an error by the defense is just as acceptable as making a contract solely on its merits.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



"Be careful when you're walking in the kitchen that you don't step on any of the ants."

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★ 9/26

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.

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

Cryptoquip

MG HGA AVVZHEML TZMU
LEHU GMULB RLHBLMIJ, Z
RWQQGRL MUL MTG XLRM QEIR

HGWIP WRL XWPPJ IEVDWEDL.
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: SINCE OUR SPORTS TEAM'S MANAGERS ARE TRULY WEIRD PEOPLE, WE'RE DEFINITELY PLAYING FOR CREEPS.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: M equals T

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
42 Fix the sound-track
44 Kid-lit author Snicket
46 City of Israel
50 Distant
51 Mine entrance
52 Harsh
56 Storybook villain
57 Entrance
58 Actress Thurman
59 Burn slightly
60 Black-thorn fruit
61 James Bond, e.g.
2 "What Kind of Fool —?"
22 Ottoman title
3 Funny
4 Profession
5 I love (Lat.)
6 It may be a common object
7 English composition
8 Skilled worker
9 "— Your Enthusiasm"
10 Sewing kit item
11 Citi Field fore-runner
16 Anti-quoted
20 Kittenish comment
21 Airport area
22 Ottoman title
23 Affirmative
24 action?
27 Acknowledge
29 Heroic
30 Divisible by two
31 Alluring
33 More tranquil
35 Conger, for one
38 Valentine mis-spelling
40 Preceding
43 Hitchcock menaces
45 Scratch
46 New Mexico art colony
47 Lip
48 Old Italian money
49 String instrument
53 Sticky stuff
54 Ref
55 Express

DOWN
1 Wager
3 Water
11 Wager
12 Wager
13 Wager
14 Wager
15 Wager
16 Wager
17 Wager
18 Wager
19 Wager
21 Wager
22 Wager
23 Wager
24 Wager
25 Wager
26 Wager
27 Wager
28 Wager
29 Wager
30 Wager
31 Wager
32 Wager
33 Wager
34 Wager
35 Wager
36 Wager
37 Wager
38 Wager
39 Wager
40 Wager
41 Wager
42 Wager
43 Wager
44 Wager
45 Wager
46 Wager
47 Wager
48 Wager
49 Wager
50 Wager
51 Wager
52 Wager
53 Wager
54 Wager
55 Wager

Solution time: 25 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 9-26

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
32			33		34		35		36	
37			38		39		40		41	
			42		43		44		45	
46	47	48			49		50			
51					52		53			54
56					57				58	
59					60				61	