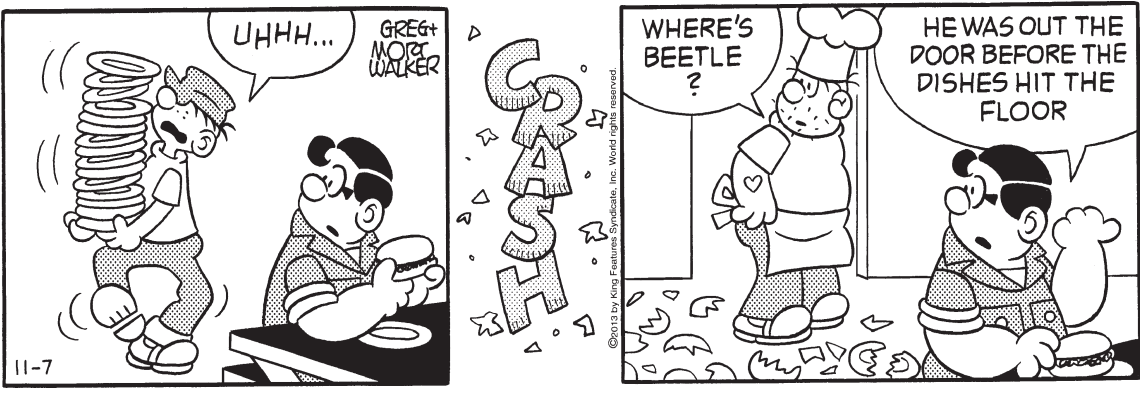


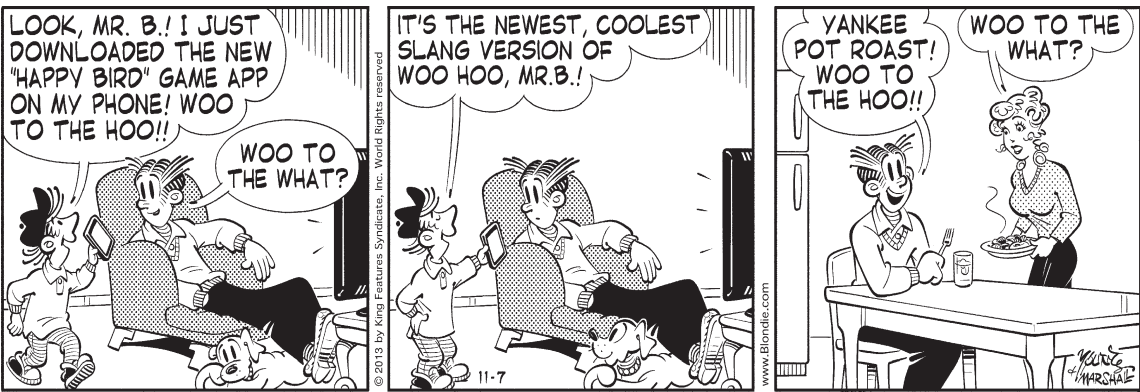
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young



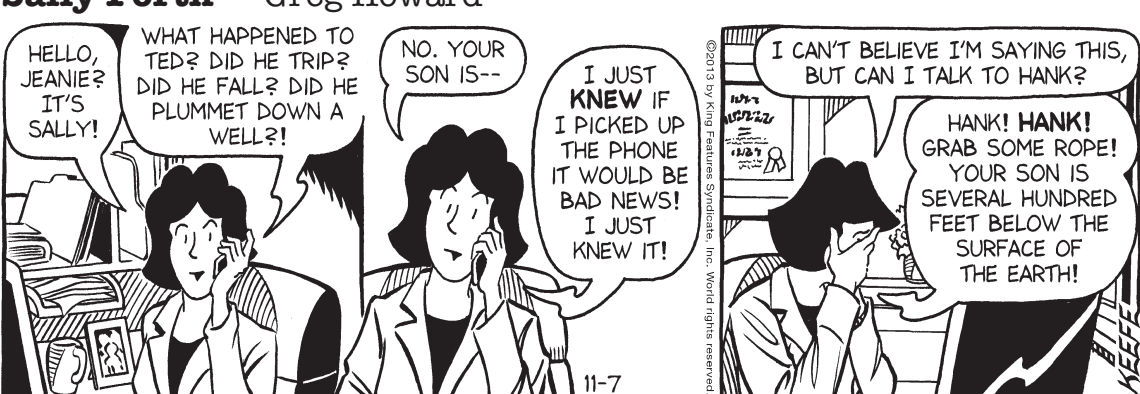
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



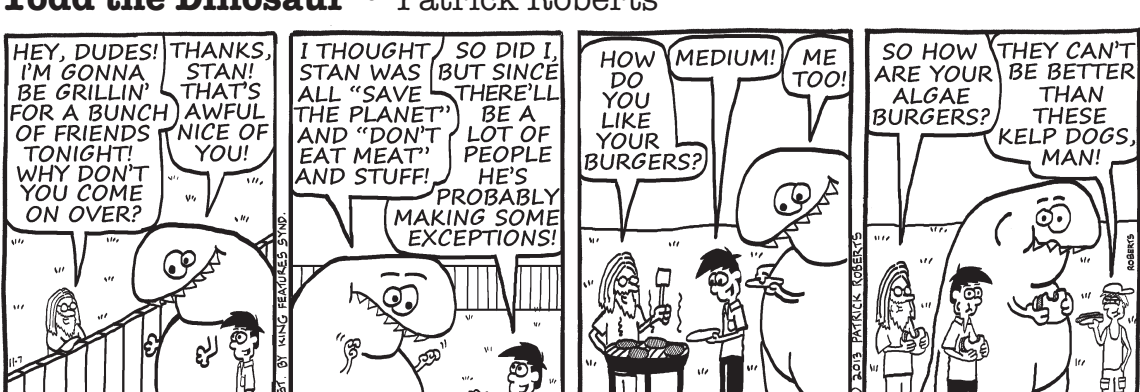
Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Terry Kovel
• Antiques and Collecting

Auto advertising worth big bucks

Q: I have a red, white and blue metal sign that reads "Hudson, Service Station, Essex." There's a blue triangle on the sign that says "Hudson Super Six" and a red hexagon that reads "Essex Motor Cars." The sign is 13 inches high and 27 1/2 inches wide. What is it worth?
A: Hudson Motor Car Co. was founded in 1909. Its Super Six engine was introduced in 1916. The Essex was a less expensive Hudson car introduced in 1919 and made until 1932. Hudson merged with Nash in 1954 and became American Motors Corp. Automobile-related advertising of all kinds is collected. Signs can sell for hundreds or even thousands of dollars, depending on age, rarity and condition. Your sign, from the 1920s, could sell for \$500 or more.

Q: I have a McCoy cookie jar that belonged to my grandmother. It's shaped like an apple and is yellow with red highlights. The lid has a stem and leaf on the top. I'd like to know how old it is and what it might be worth.
A: McCoy pottery was made in Roseville, Ohio. The company made cookie jars from about 1940 until the pottery closed in 1990. Its apple cookie jar was made from about 1950 to 1964. It was also made in turquoise, a rare color that sells for more. The value of yours is about \$100.

Q: I have a late 19th-century bronzed spelter statue of Hernani. It's just under 2 feet tall. He is holding a sword, dagger and horn, and is in excellent shape. Value?
A: Hernani was the title character in a play by Victor Hugo. It opened in Paris in 1830 and is set in the Spanish court of 1519. Bronzed spelter statues of Hugo's fictional characters were popular in the late 19th century. One the size of yours sold for \$140 earlier this year.

Q: I have a picture postcard showing the original photograph of President Franklin Roosevelt signing the Social Security Act on Aug. 14, 1935. It's signed by James Roosevelt, FDR's oldest son. Does it have any value?
A: Thousands of copies of this photograph were sent out by the National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare in a mass mailing in 1985. The committee was founded by James Roosevelt in 1982. It advocated raising Social Security benefits for the "notch" babies, a term coined by Ann Landers for those born between 1917 and 1921 who received lower benefits than people born between 1910 and 1916 because of a change in the way cost-of-living adjustments were determined. The committee still works to prevent cuts to Social Security and Medicare. The mailing was part of a fundraising effort by the committee. The photograph also was in a 1990 mailing. So, your postcard is a common one and not of much interest to collectors.

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Bridge • Steve Becker

South dealer.
North-South vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ A 10 8 7 6 2
♥ 7 6 2
♦ Q 7
♣ Q 7

WEST
♠ J 9 4 3
♥ 9
♦ A J 6 3
♣ J 9 8 4

EAST
♠ —
♥ 8 4
♦ K 9 8 5 4 2
♣ K 10 6 5 2

SOUTH
♠ K Q 5
♥ A K Q J 10 5 3
♦ 10
♣ A 3

The bidding:
 South West North East
 2 ♠ * Pass 2 ♠ Pass
 3 ♠ Pass 4 ♠ Pass
 4 NT Pass 5 ♠ Pass
 6 ♥ Pass Pass Dble
 * artificial and forcing
 Opening lead — three of spades.

A Valuable Convention
 When a player not on lead doubles a slam voluntarily reached by the opponents, the double nearly always is conventional. In effect, it asks partner to make an unusual lead that will probably set the slam.

There is ample justification for this convention. Ordinarily, when a pair undertakes a slam, they either make it or go down one, and there is little to be gained by doubling.
 But if a double by the player not on lead is reserved for cases where only an unusual lead will stop the slam, the gain is enormous when the double is successful. Thus, in the present case, if East's double induces a spade lead that East ruffs, and this is followed by a diamond return and another ruff, East-West wind up plus 500 instead of being on the wrong side of a vulnerable slam.

East's double clearly requests a spade lead. A diamond or club lead would be normal on the bidding, so the double bars either of these leads.
 West did lead a spade -- the three -- which East ruffed, but East, faced with a difficult choice of returns, shifted to a club. As a result, South made the slam.
 Oddly enough, the principal culprit in the mis-defense was actually West, not East. West should reason that East might not know what to return after trumping the first trick. He should therefore lead the nine of spades initially rather than the three as a suit-preference signal to East, asking for the higher-ranking of the two remaining side suits to be returned. With this cue to guide him, East would have had a much easier time finding the winning defense.
 Of course, West can solve the problem even more easily in the actual deal by cashing the diamond ace before leading a spade, but while this stratagem would defeat the slam, it would cost the defenders an extra 300 points.
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Family Circus • Bil Keane



"Next time we should bring Kitycat. She would love it in there."

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★ 11/07

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

LK AKY ZPY TAXYECAL VPY
 ODTQQ, ODKQLNJCAI BKTQ
 ZCNBNO CA YECO OZKY.
 CY'O TA NDVNJO-KAQX TJNT.
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: SUPPOSING SOME ADMIRER KNEW ALL POSSIBLE THINGS ABOUT ACTOR HANKS, WOULD HE BE TOM-NISCIENT?
 Today's Cryptoquip Clue: C equals I

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
 1 Unsigned (Abbr.)
 5 Teens' hangout
 9 Boxing legend
 12 Mother of Castor and Pollux
 13 Vicinity
 14 Lair
 15 Tax write-off
 17 Erstwhile acorn
 18 Avenue
 19 Sondheim/Styne musical
 21 Scale member
 22 Soccer-shoe feature
 24 Do as you're told
 27 Aviate
 28 Offend
 31 Melody
 32 "— the ramparts ..."
 33 Raw rock
 34 Decisive defeat

DOWN
 2 Immediately upcoming
 3 Baltic Sea feeder
 4 To wit
 5 Dillon or Damon
 6 "Entourage" role
 7 Writer
 8 "Blue Sky"
 9 Animal shelter trans-action
 10 Meadows
 11 Black quaffs occupant
 16 Pod
 19 Animal shelter trans-action
 20 Thanks-giving veggie
 22 Transparent
 23 Instrument for Orpheus
 24 Rowing need
 25 Life story
 26 Volcanic burst
 27 Links warning
 29 To and —
 30 Calendar abbr.
 35 Youngster
 37 Wee Persian
 39 Garden intruders
 40 Bound
 41 Sheepish remarks
 42 Loosen
 43 Liberty
 44 Novice (Var.)
 45 Theater box
 46 Carbon compound
 49 Noon, in a way
 50 Tech

Solution time: 25 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 11-07

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		