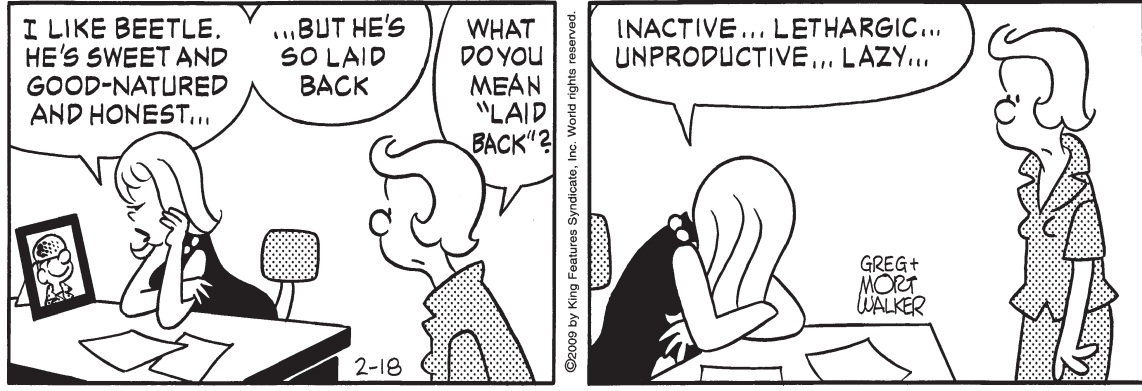


Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



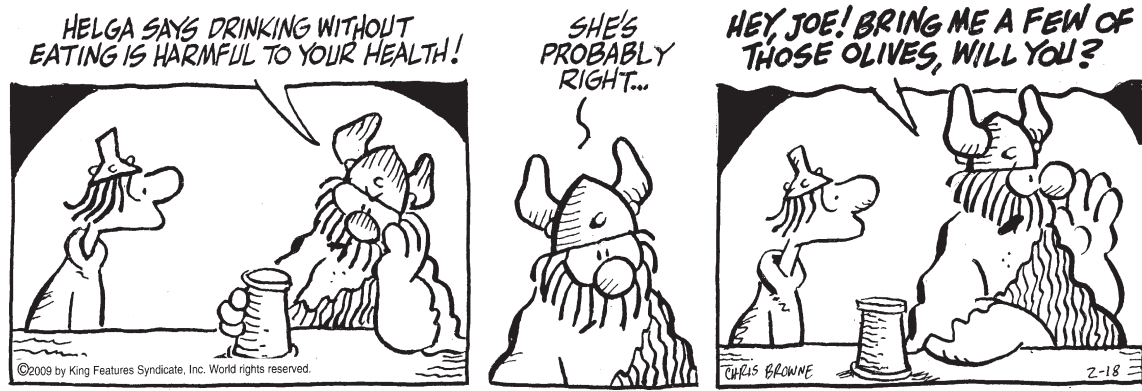
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



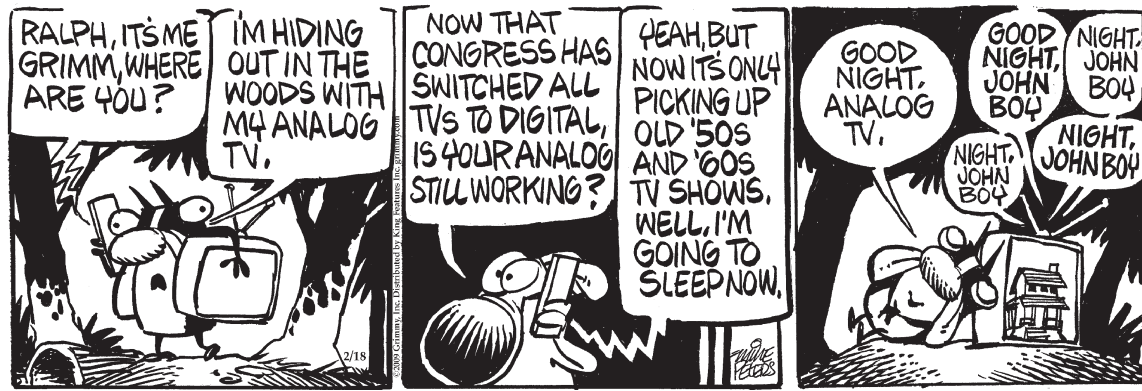
Blondie • Chic Young



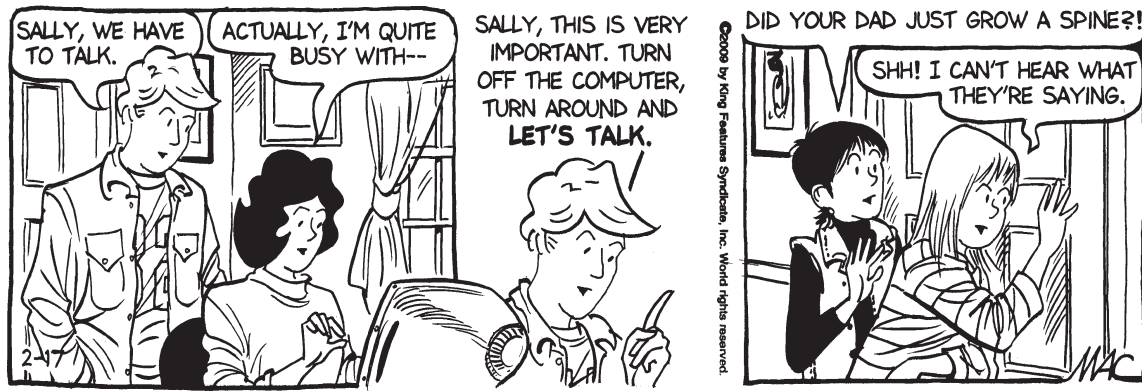
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



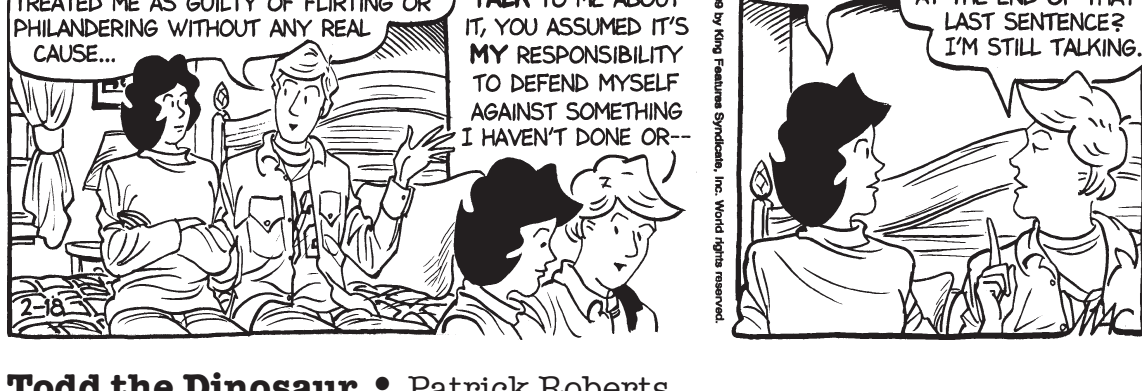
Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



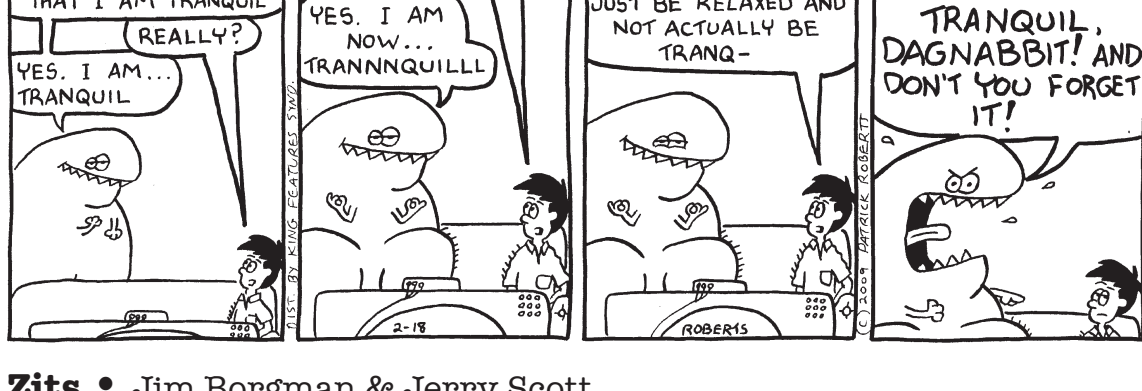
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise
• Hints from Heloise

How to clean tea-stained mugs

Dear Heloise: I drink tea from an insulated mug that's designed to keep hot drinks hot on cold mornings out on the trail. What works really well to clean it is filling the cup with water and dropping in a denture tablet designed to clean false teeth. I let it sit overnight or longer, depending on how stained the cup is. — Brook Evans, Camarillo, Calif.

IS YOUR YEAST BAD?
Dear Heloise: I have OUTDATED YEAST. Is there a way I can still use it? — Fran Fenton, via e-mail.

If it is outdated and won't rise, it's done and dead, but it still might be good if it has been stored in a dark, cool and dry place. You can easily test active dry yeast to see if it's good. Stir 1 teaspoon of sugar into 1/4 cup warm water (100-115 degrees) in a large measuring cup. Be careful not to use hot water, since it will kill the yeast. Stir in a packet of yeast and wait 10 minutes while it dissolves. If the mixture begins to bubble and rise and has a strong yeast smell, it is still active. The yeast can be used in your recipe. — Heloise

PRINTED RECIPES
Dear Heloise: If you print recipes from e-mails or other Internet resources, consider color-coding your printing for easier organization. For example: Use pink paper for desserts, green paper for salads, yellow paper for vegetable dishes, blue for entrees and lavender for miscellaneous.

— Lisa Ayres Traugber, Cedar Hill, Tenn.
Lisa, your hint will certainly make finding a recipe easier. For a delicious, warm cup of soup, why not try my Economical Corn Chowder, found in my All-Time Favorite Recipes pamphlet? Just send \$5 and a long, self-addressed, stamped (59 cents) envelope to: Heloise/All-Time Favorite, P.O. Box 795001, San Antonio, TX 78279-5001. Create a rating system for recipes. Very good could be five-star, and rate down. This way, you will be able to remember if the recipe was good and if it was well-received. — Heloise

COTTAGE CHEESE
Dear Heloise: My hint for you is a real money-saver. After opening cottage-cheese containers, store them upside down in the fridge. You absolutely will not believe how long it lasts.
— Phyllis Papandrea, Fallbrook, Calif.
Yep, we've been printing this hint for a long time! You may want to place the container on a plate or in a bowl, just in case the lid isn't on tight. — Heloise

EGGSHELLS
Dear Heloise: If you get eggshells in your eggs before cooking them, it is very hard to pick them out. I found if you wet the tip of your finger with cool water, you can reach right in with that finger and grab the eggshell fragment, slide it up the side of the bowl and toss it. — S. Beazley, Allen, Texas

Bridge • Steve Becker

North dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ 8 7
♥ —
♦ A 8 7 5 4 2
♣ A K 9 6 2

WEST
♠ A J 10 3 2
♥ J 9
♦ Q J 3
♣ 10 5 4

EAST
♠ K 9 6 4
♥ K 6 5 3
♦ 10 9
♣ Q 8 7

SOUTH
♠ Q 5
♥ A Q 10 8 7 4 2
♦ K 6
♣ J 3

The bidding:
North East South West
1♦ Pass 1♥ Pass
2♣ Pass 3♥ Pass
4♠ Pass 4♥ Pass

Opening lead — ace of spades.

Actions Speak Louder Than Words
Falsecarding effectively is just as much an art in bridge as the ability to execute, say, a complicated squeeze or endplay. The general purpose of the falsecard is to try to convince the opposition that a certain situation exists that in fact does not exist.

Consider this deal from a team-of-four match. At the first table, the bidding went as shown, with South ending up in four hearts. West led the ace and another spade to East's king, and East shifted to the ten of diamonds.
South took his king and cashed the ace of hearts, West contributing the nine and East the three. Declarer's only chance for the contract now was to continue with the queen, hoping West had started with the doubleton J-9 and East with the K-x-x-x. When this proved to be the case, South lost only one trump trick and so made the contract.
At the second table, South also got to four hearts, and again West led the ace and another spade. Here too East returned a diamond to the king and declarer then played the ace of trumps. But at this table, West dropped his jack on the ace, thus posing an altogether different problem for South.

If West's jack was on the level, declarer's only chance now was to lead a low trump in the hope that West had started with the K-J alone and East with the 9-6-5-3. Leading the queen at this point would result in later losing a second trump trick to East's nine if West had actually started with the doubleton K-J.
And so, having decided that West's jack at trick four was probably from the K-J, South led the seven of hearts at trick five. As a result, he lost a trump trick to the nine and later lost another to the king to go down one.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



2-18
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"There was a question twelve?"

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★ 2/18

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.

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

Cryptoquip

CRMXY CQM XCGFFMPL MUN
IMZCX UMBY CM ZPIGY
MBYP YBYPOCRJLI. CRYO
ZPY ZUQZOX FGCCJLI RYZNX.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: NEW SITCOM ABOUT A WEASEL-LIKE MAMMAL WHO RETURNED TO HIS OLD SCHOOL: "WELCOME BACK, OTTER."

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: C equals T

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 37 Collections org. 39 Risked 41 Baghdad or Elizabeth 8 Lather 12 Pistol 13 "Meta-morphoses" poet 14 Contemporary coin 15 "Guinness Book" suffix 16 Quarantine facility 18 Filch 20 Unruly group 21 Apprehends 24 Redden 28 Jesus' home 32 Birthright barterer 33 "Got a Secret" 34 Knapsack part 36 Prior night

DOWN 1 Forever, it seems 2 Bankrupt 3 Initial stake 4 Moolah 5 Eggs 6 Claiborne of fashion truck 7 Dutch cheese 8 Weak 9 No longer chic 10 Illustrations 11 Cattle call 17 Lowe or Morrow 19 Santa Calif. 22 "Little Women" woman 23 Milkshake insert 25 Second-hand 26 Rescue stake 27 Colored 28 Unless (Latin) 29 State with certainty 30 Catherine -Jones 31 Visibility hindrance 35 Magnificent array 38 Uncool 40 Vitamin amt. 42 "Impossible" 45 Italian volcano 47 Parlor piece 48 Wading bird 49 Perches 50 Wander about 51 Past 52 Use a ray-gun 53 Massage 54 Under the weather

Solution time: 21 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 2-18

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					58		
59					60				61		