

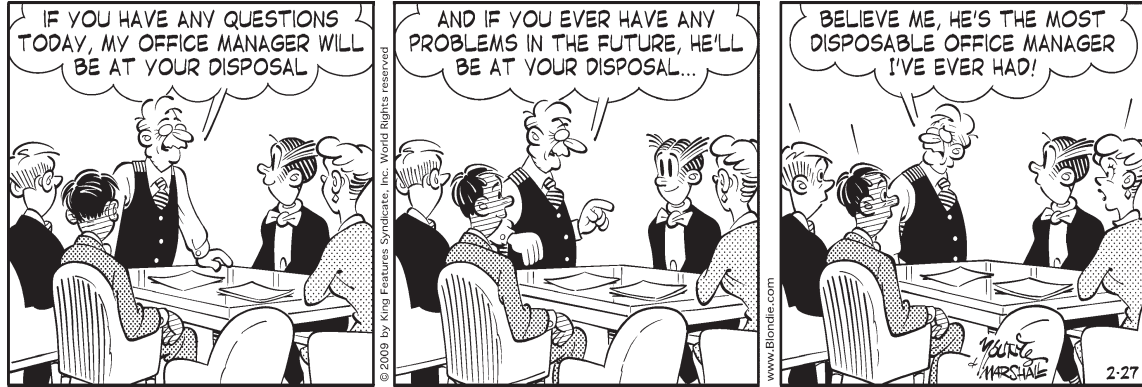
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



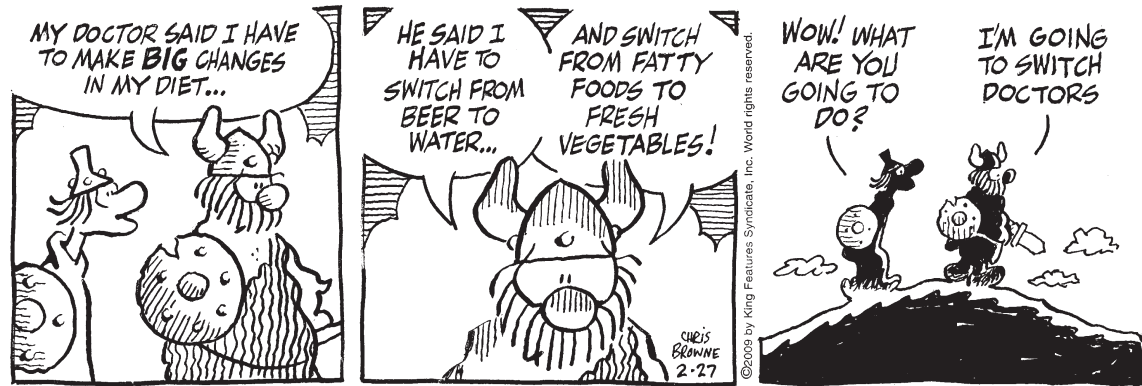
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young



Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



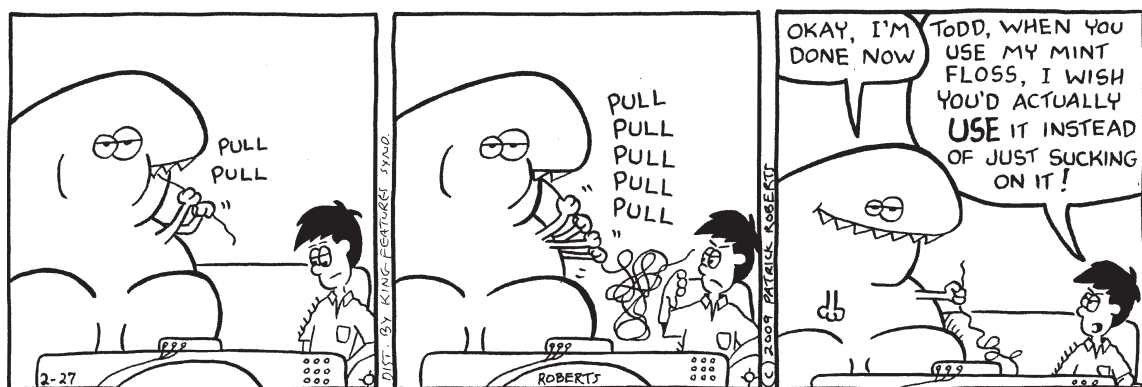
Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



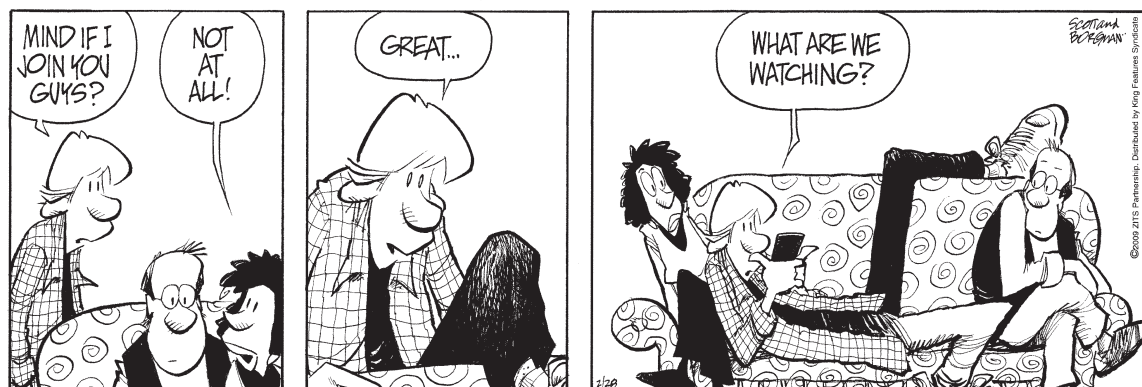
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise

• Hints from Heloise

Keep paint neat and in order

Dear Heloise: I've enjoyed reading your column for years, and have benefited from many of the great suggestions submitted by your readers. Perhaps these PAINTING TIPS are already being used, but may I suggest the following:

- * Mark the paint-can label with the date used and room or location that was painted.
- * Wipe off paint runs, which may prevent you from reading instructions on the side of the can.
- * Use up paint from the stir stick and the ridge well when concluding painting each day.
- * Clean remaining paint from the ridge well before placing the lid back on. If this paint is cleared, it allows for a more secure closure.
- * Place a paper towel across the lid when tapping the lid back on to absorb any paint splashing out.

* Print a "key" card of your paint supply and place near the cans for awareness of what is available or needed: paint color, number, company, date purchased, room painted, amount in can.

Keep up the beneficial service, Heloise! Hope these tips are useful. — Ron Sturiga of Edinboro, Pa.

SEND A GREAT HINT TO:

Heloise
P.O. Box 795000
San Antonio, TX 78279-5000
Fax: 210-HELOISE
E-mail: Heloise(at)Heloise.com

TRAVEL HINTS

Dear Heloise: The long, narrow bags that newspapers are delivered in are also great for shoes when traveling. One pair fits perfectly in each bag.

The plastic bags that curtains and valances come in, with the zipper across the top, also are great for traveling. I use one for panties, one for bras and one for pantyhose. They are small and help to keep your luggage neat. — Lee Phillips, Staten Island, N.Y.

CELL-PHONE CLIPPING

Dear Heloise: I usually read your column away from the house. I capture the hint or recipe I want with the camera on my cell phone and e-mail it to myself. When I return home, I save it in the appropriate folder on my hard drive and print out as needed. No clipping or snipping and wondering later where I put it! — Hal Hollingsworth, via e-mail

We tried this with several camera phones, and most photos were a little blurry, but it's worth trying. — Heloise

SAVING MONEY

Dear Heloise: Rather than using so many paper towels in the kitchen, I got a toilet-tissue holder and put it inside the cabinet door below the sink. Tissue is run through the opening of the door, and, when closed, all you see is a little of the exposed tissue. Works great, as lots of times you need only a little bit of paper to do a small job, thus not using expensive paper towels. I get the cheapest toilet tissue. — Elizabeth in Texas

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Bridge • Steve Becker

Partner bids One Notrump (15 to 17 points), and the next player passes. What would you respond with each of the following hands?

- ♠ 8 ♥ AQ9653 ♦ 1082 ♣ K74
- ♠ 93 ♥ 72 ♦ AK985 ♣ KJ73
- ♠ Q76 ♥ 4 ♦ QJ9432 ♣ AQ3
- ♠ AQ5 ♥ KQ9 ♦ AQ10 ♣ J985

Bidding Quiz

1. Three or four hearts. It is clear that you belong in game opposite an opening notrump bid, and you can best reach it by jumping to either three hearts (forcing), or by going directly to four hearts.

Some players might mistakenly bid two hearts and — after their partner passed this nonforcing weak response and they finished with 10 or more tricks — might wonder why partner did not bid again. Since responder would quite properly also bid two hearts with [S] 5 [H] J8754 [D] Q84 [C] 7642, opener would be in the dark as to whether or not to bid again. For this reason, with any hand that offers the potential for game, responder must do something stronger — such as jump in his suit — to make sure game is reached.

2. Three notrump. With 11 high-card points and no interest in a major-suit game, the best bid is three notrump. There is no need to worry about your lack of strength in spades and hearts; spades is a strong favorite to have both of these suits under control. An 11-trick game in a minor suit is much less likely to make than three notrump and should therefore be dismissed from consideration.

3. Three diamonds. With 11 high-card points, game must certainly be undertaken, but in this case whether the best contract lies in notrump or diamonds is unclear at this point. Accordingly, you jump to three diamonds, suggesting a distaste for notrump and a belief that game in diamonds may actually prove superior to a game in notrump. If partner rebids three notrump, you should respect his judgment and pass.

4. Six notrump. There is no need to shilly-shally in this situation. You know that the combined point count is 33, 34 or 35 points — enough for a small slam but not enough for a grand slam — and there is no reason to seek a suit contract rather than notrump. You therefore go directly to six without further ceremony.

A four-notrump bid would be a serious error, as this would not ask for aces and would allow partner to pass with a minimum. You should not issue an invitation when you already know where you want to be.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



"C'mon, Daddy! 'There once was a tired daddy whose kids went right to bed. The end.' isn't a story."

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★★ 2/27

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.

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

Cryptoquip

OBNCU WDBTS W ITEUH-
UZJCSRA DBZCRA OWSJQ
BJJTHCRA CR SQU ECRU SHUU

ISWSU: "SQU OWCRU UNURS."

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF AN ARTICLE WERE SNIPPED OUT FROM SOME NEWS PUBLICATION, WOULD IT BE CALLED A PAPER CLIP?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: S equals T

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

- Spills the beans
- English channel?
- Shade source
- Genuflect
- Bruins legend
- Ultra-modernist
- Preamble
- Rifle attachment
- Drink
- Chaste
- Field, briefly
- La preceder
- Stickup
- Mines' output
- Grill brand
- Potassium source
- Los Angeles suburb
- Jargon
- The Red and the Black
- Summarize

DOWN

- Schuss
- Quaint stopover
- Chatroom predecessor, e.g.
- Bacterium
- Unkempt ones
- Out-fielder's slip-up
- Highland hillside
- Weep
- Boredom
- Ogler's looks
- "For Me and My —"
- Borscht necessity
- Hawkeye
- Drew's daytime-TV predecessor
- 401(k) alternative
- Yon maiden
- Antipasto ingredient
- Greeted the villain
- Pinch
- Obi toggle
- Petrol
- Kreskin's claim
- Hansel's sis
- Sped
- Cheer up
- Castro, e.g.
- Master, in old India
- Actress Ward
- Zilch
- Kvetch
- Collection
- Mag. staffers

Solution time: 25 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 2-27

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			