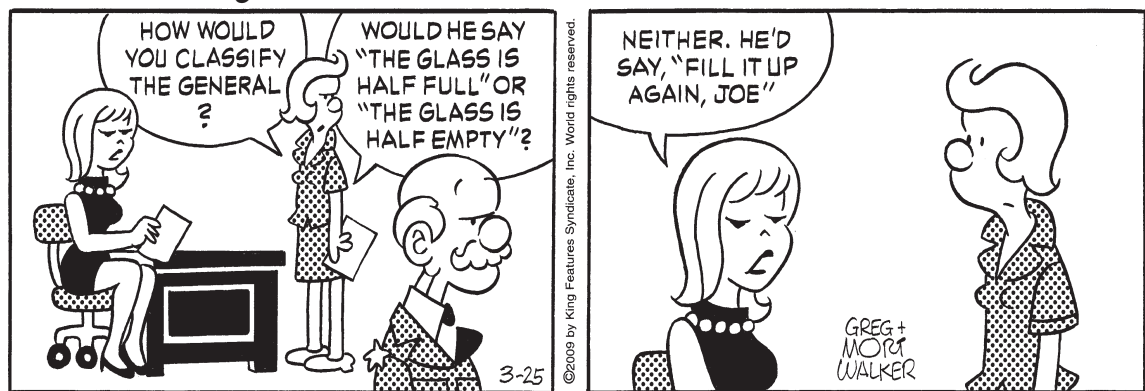


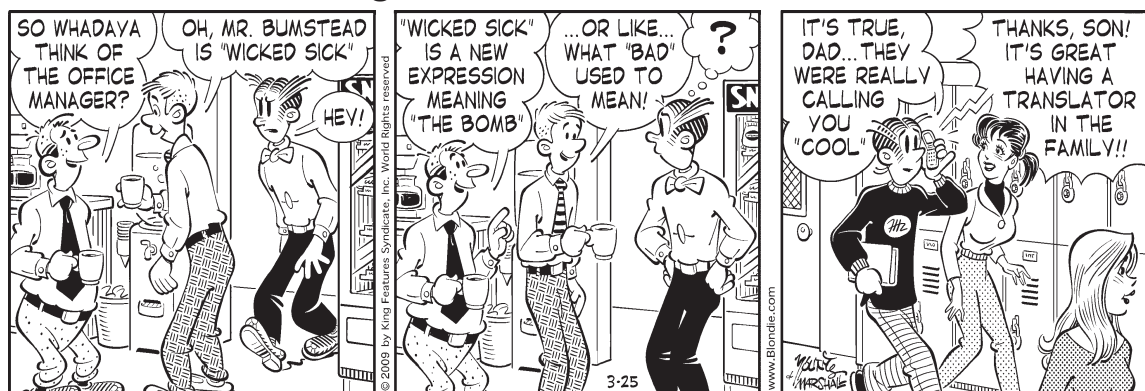
**Baby Blues** • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



**Beetle Bailey** • Mort Walker



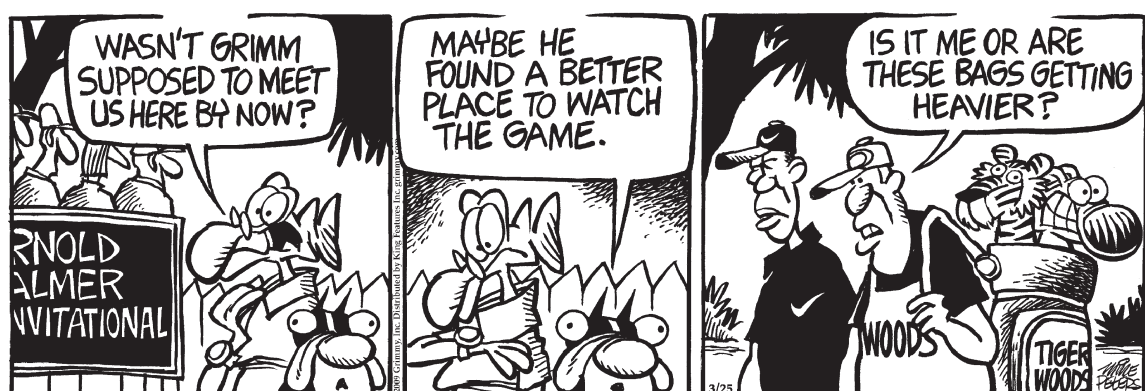
**Blondie** • Chic Young



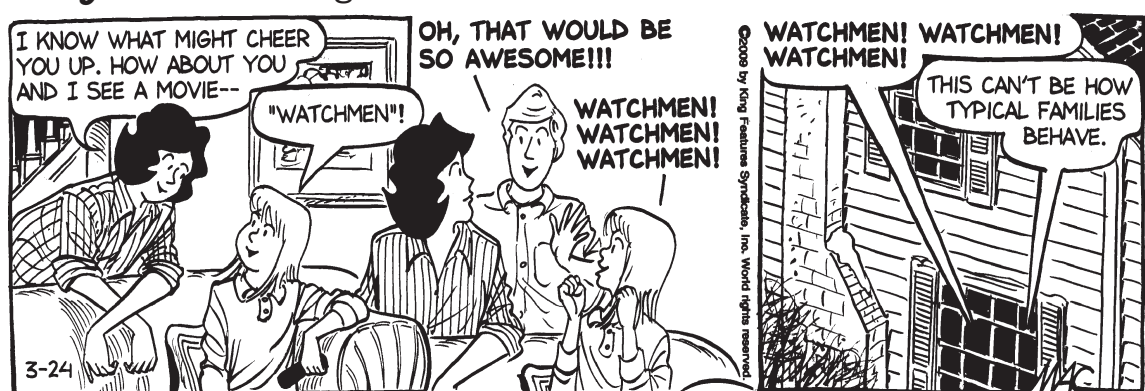
**Hagar the Horrible** • Chris Browne



**Mother Goose and Grimm** • Mike Peters



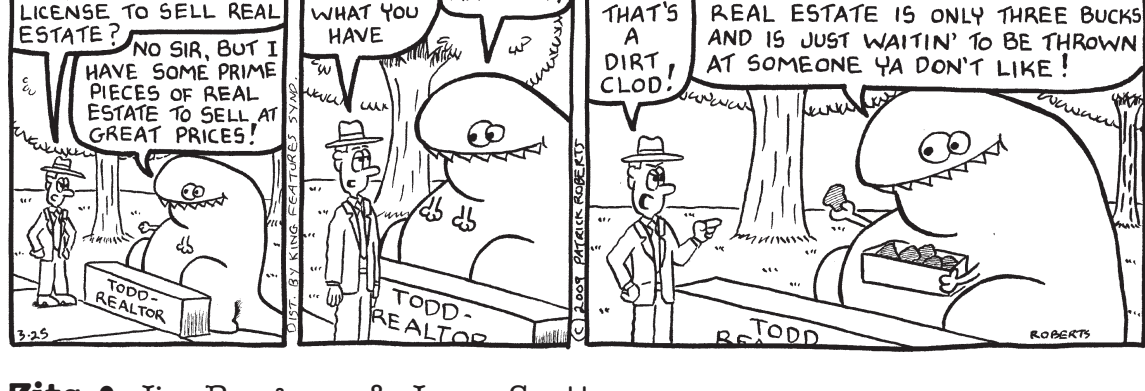
**Sally Forth** • Greg Howard



**Todd the Dinosaur** • Patrick Roberts



**Zits** • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



**Heloise**

• Hints from Heloise

**From a cake comes cookies**

Dear Heloise: Would you please give me the recipe for making COOKIES FROM A CAKE MIX? - Lorraine, via e-mail

What a popular recipe this is! We receive thousands of requests for it, so a reprint is in order. To make it, you'll need:

- 1 (18.25-ounce) box cake mix
- 2 eggs
- 1/2 cup vegetable oil

Choose your favorite flavor - I like chocolate, and the lemon mix makes tasty lemon cookies.

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Mix ONLY the above ingredients (although you can add 1/4 cup chopped nuts, raisins or chocolate chips) in a large bowl until blended. Drop the batter by spoonfuls about 2 inches apart onto an UNGREASED baking sheet. Bake on the middle rack for 8-10 minutes, watching them carefully. They'll brown quickly, so stand by the oven for the first batch. You can find this and a bunch of other cheap and easy-to-make recipes, such as Heloise's Non-Fat Cream Soup, Hot Potato Salad and Taco Casserole, in my All-Time Favorite Recipes pamphlet, which you can have by sending \$5 and a long, self-addressed, stamped (59 cents) envelope to: Heloise/Recipes, P.O. Box 795001, San Antonio, TX 78279-5001. FYI: You can cut calories and fat by cooking with nonfat powdered milk instead of whole milk in many recipes. - Heloise

**TO-GO RECIPES**

Dear Heloise: When I am going to the grocery store on a meat-buying expedition, I take along my recipe book. If I buy a cut of meat I wasn't intending to, I won't arrive home without one of the ingredients needed for that particular recipe. Also, my grocery list is clipped to the top of the cart with a clothespin, leaving both my hands free. - Patricia Impens, Bonita Springs, Fla.

**PIZZA BAKING STONE**

Dear Heloise: We use our pizza baking stone for takeout pizza. When we order the pizza, I put the stone in the oven at 400 degrees. When the pizza arrives, I take the hot stone out of the oven and put it on a hot pad on the counter. Then we slide the pizza out of its cardboard box and onto the hot stone. The pizza stays warm, and the crust stays crisp. - Cadi Fuhler, San Antonio

**SHOPPING BAG**

Dear Heloise: Every time I go shopping, I take along my "bag." This is a gallon resealable plastic bag in which I place my shopping list, pen and coupons. I seal it shut, place it in my purse, and everything is right in place for my shopping trip. - D.L., Iowa

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**Bridge** • Steve Becker

East dealer.  
Both sides vulnerable.

**NORTH**  
♠ 7 5 4 3 2  
♥ 6  
♦ 7 5 4  
♣ K 7 3 2

**WEST**  
♠ —  
♥ Q J 8 5 3  
♦ K Q 8 2  
♣ J 9 8 6

**EAST**  
♠ J 9  
♥ A K 10 9 7 4 2  
♦ 9 3  
♣ 10 5

**SOUTH**  
♠ A K Q 10 8 6  
♥ —  
♦ A J 10 6  
♣ A Q 4

The bidding:  
East 3♥ South 4♥ West 4♥ North Pass  
Pass 4♣ 5♥ 5♠  
Pass 6♣  
Opening lead — queen of hearts.

**Big Things in Small Packages**

"For the want of a nail, the kingdom was lost" might well apply to many bridge hands where a seemingly insignificant card makes all the difference between success and failure for declarer.

If declarer doesn't have the critical card, then he can't be held accountable for the outcome. But if he has it when play begins and misuses it, he has no one to blame but himself for an unsatisfactory result.

Take this deal where South wound up in six spades after a highly competitive auction. Pleased with his prospects, he ruffed the opening heart lead with the six, drew trumps and then played the A-Q-K of clubs, setting the stage for an end-play.

If the clubs had broken 3-3, or if West had started with only two clubs, the plan would have succeeded. South would then have led a diamond to the jack, forcing a diamond return from West into the A-10 or a ruff-and-discard, either of which would have yielded the slam.

As it was, though, when declarer led a diamond to the jack, West won and exited with his remaining club. South ruffed and had to lose another diamond for down one.

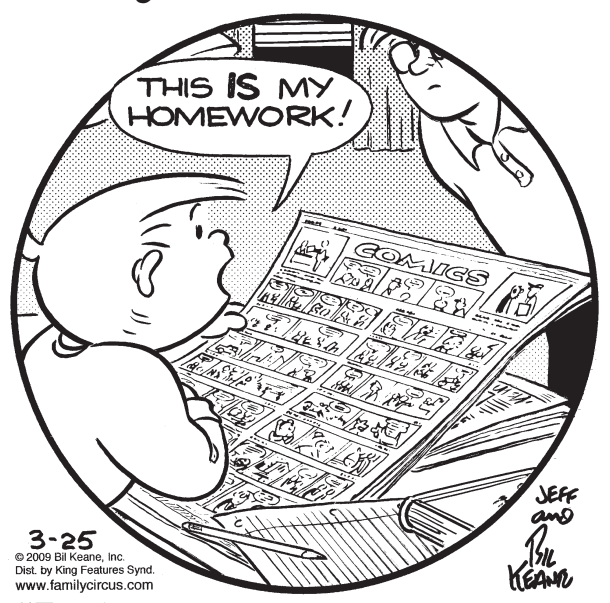
As the cards lie, declarer could have made his contract by ruffing dummy's club and leading the jack of diamonds from his hand. But this would not have worked out well if East had started with one of the diamond honors. However, given that the slam was a sure thing from the start regardless of how the opposing cards were divided, that declarer misguessed how to play at the end at least served the interests of justice.

To assure the slam, all declarer has to do is ruff the opening heart lead with any spade higher than the six. After drawing trumps and cashing the A-Q-K of clubs, he ruffs dummy's last club high and then leads the six of spades to dummy's seven. Now a diamond to the jack truly endplays West.

Thanks to the lowly six of spades, the slam was a certainty. All declarer had to do was to recognize its value at the outset.

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**Family Circus** • Bil Keane



3-25

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"For 'current events' I'm s'posed to read the newspaper."

**Conceptis Sudoku** • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

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.

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

**Cryptoquip**

FA Q ETCSJYW OLCE'O  
OEWYFQNMV FO CAAWTFHK  
ATWOL-EFYRWS YCTH, XFGLM VCJ  
YQNN FM Q OMQNR XQTRWM?

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN TV WEATHERMAN AL IS MANAGING HIS INVESTMENTS, I BELIEVE HE HIRES ROKER'S BROKERS.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: F equals I

**Crossword** • Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

- 1 Tackles weeds
- 5 Miss Piggy's pronoun
- 8 Rough journey
- 12 Piedmont wine region
- 13 Curved line
- 14 Trumpet
- 15 St. Patrick's Day emblem
- 17 Dermatology subject
- 18 McCain's running mate
- 19 Northerner
- 21 Settle down
- 24 Kitten's call
- 25 Judicial raiment
- 28 Creme-filled cookie
- 30 Shade source
- 33 Actress Mendes
- 34 Dress
- 35 Meadow
- 36 Quarterback Marino

**DOWN**

- 1 Padlocked fastener
- 2 Job-safety org.
- 3 And others (Lat.)
- 4 "Hard as nails," for one
- 5 Chinese chairman
- 6 Killer whale
- 7 Gross
- 8 Scottish feudal lord
- 9 "Saturday Evening Post" artist
- 10 Sea eagle
- 11 Last word of "Oh! Susanna"
- 16 Genetic abbr.
- 20 Wild and crazy
- 22 Sushi wrapper
- 23 Whimsically witty
- 25 Roulette bet
- 26 Eggs
- 27 Wad
- 29 Outside (Pref.)
- 31 Writer
- 32 Treasure seeker's aid
- 34 Envelope feature
- 38 Early March baby
- 40 Marks' replacements
- 42 Western st.
- 43 Church area
- 44 Seethe
- 45 Small combo
- 47 Corridor
- 48 "Born Free" lioness
- 49 Passel
- 52 Scepter topper
- 53 Mainlander's memento

**Solution time: 21 mins.**

Yesterdays answer 3-25

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			