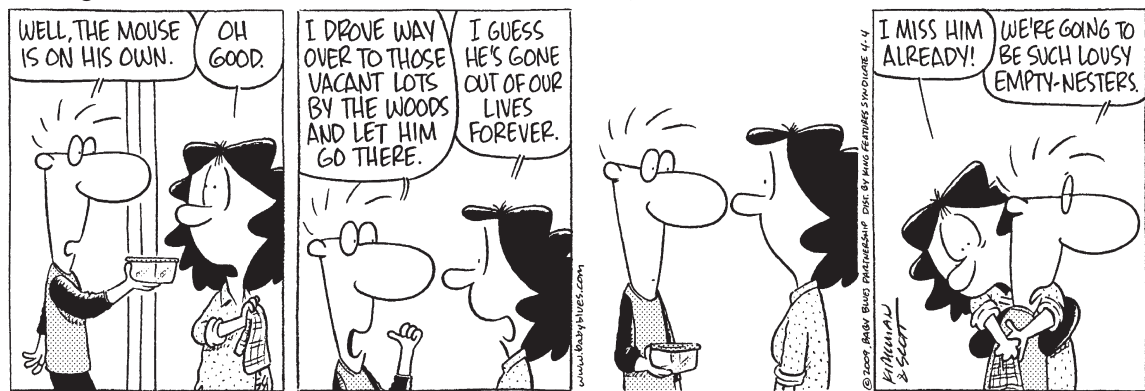
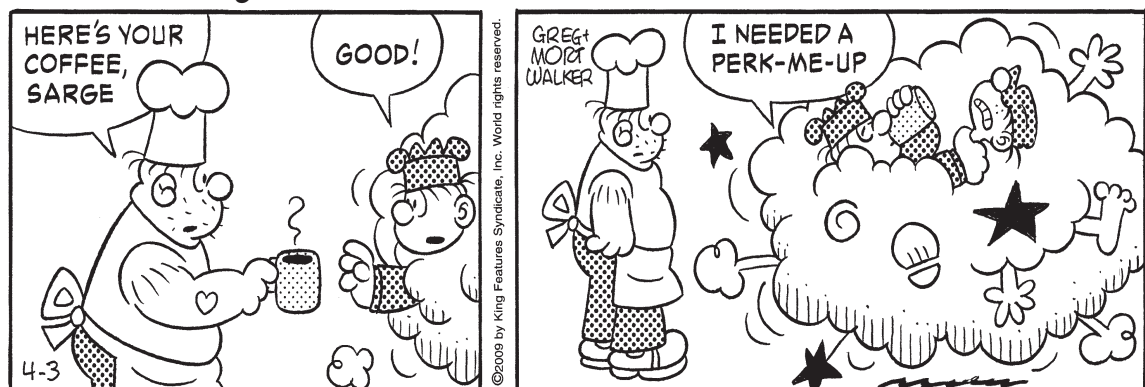


**Baby Blues** • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



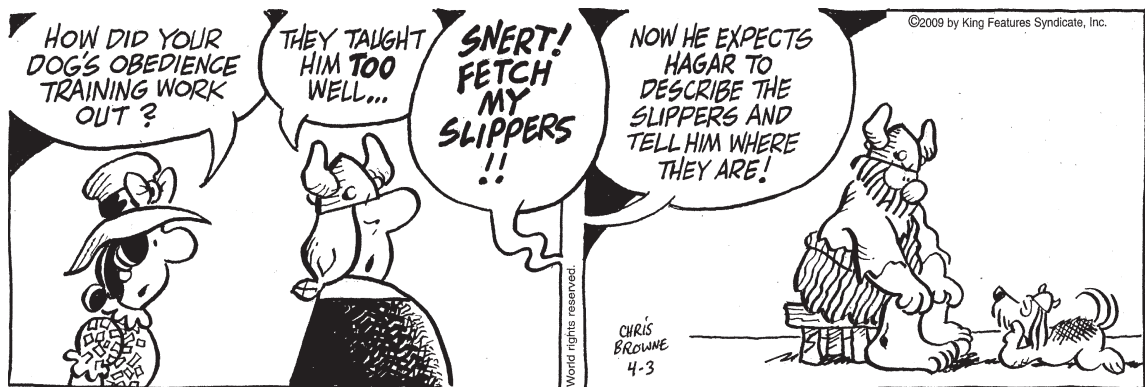
**Beetle Bailey** • Mort Walker



**Blondie** • Chic Young



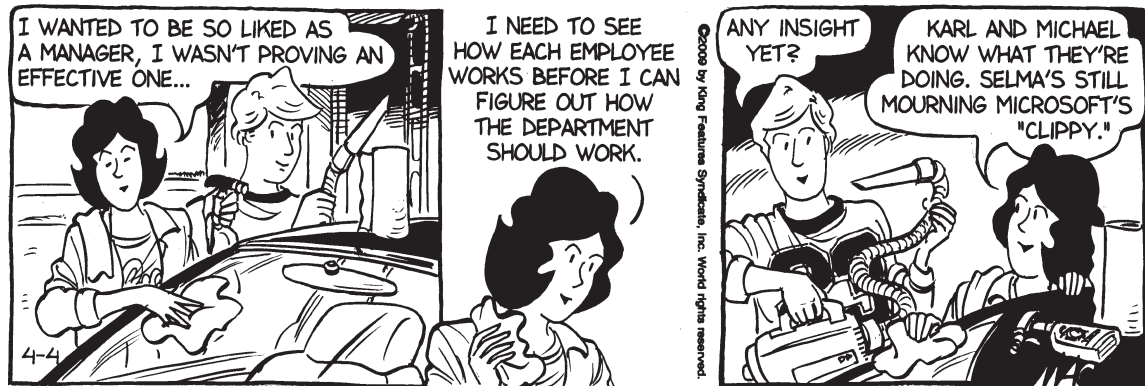
**Hagar the Horrible** • Chris Browne



**Mother Goose and Grimm** • Mike Peters



**Sally Forth** • Greg Howard



**Todd the Dinosaur** • Patrick Roberts



**Zits** • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



**Heloise**

• Hints from Heloise

**Stop mold's hold on bathroom**

Dear Heloise: Can you please tell me how to get rid of shower-tile MOLD and scum? I have tried almost everything on the market, and I also use a scrub brush. Anything with bleach usually works, somewhat, for a very short period of time. -- Eileen Maronna, via e-mail

If it keeps coming back, then it is probably plain old bathroom mold/mildew!  
 To help keep mildew from forming:  
 \* Turn on the exhaust fan, open a window (if possible) and leave the bathroom door open so the moisture can escape!  
 \* Wipe down the water residue on the tiles with a squeegee or towel.  
 \* After a shower, leave the shower door or curtain open until the area is completely dry.  
 Make a mixture of 1 cup chlorine bleach and 1 gallon water. Apply it to the tile, keeping surfaces wet for five minutes to kill the mold, then rinse and dry.  
 Once you do this regularly, you shouldn't have to deal with that pesky mold and soap scum. -- Heloise

**PICKING UP CAPSULES**

Dear Heloise: This is a hint my husband discovered. He was having trouble picking up capsules when I put them on the counter for him to take. If he lightly wet his fingertips, the capsule would adhere to his fingers, making it easy to pick up! I'm the wife of a smart cookie! -- Marilyn, Lake Como, Fla.

**TRAVEL HINT**

Dear Heloise: After traveling the country, I find that many restaurants don't have salsa. Being a salsa lover, I put some in an empty spice bottle. It's much easier than carrying a large bottle of salsa, and much cleaner. -- Lorraine Shattuck, Helotes, Texas

**SEND A GREAT HINT TO:**

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

**SAVE CANDLE**

Dear Heloise: Here's a hint I thought of when putting up big candles that I never burn because they are too pretty to ruin!

I light them and let them burn down so a votive candle (in an aluminum holder) will fit, with the wick showing. When it burns down, I insert another one, and I'll get to enjoy the candle for another few years. -- Chris, via e-mail

**GREEN IDEA**

Dear Heloise: I buy salads in a large plastic box. It seems a waste to throw the container away only to end up in overflowing landfills.

The container is used to loan my colleagues supplies like extra pencils, index cards, crayons and glue sticks when needed for projects. It has my name on it as a reminder to return it, and it is transparent, so contents are visible. It is convenient to share supplies in a container. -- Marguerite, Temple, Texas  
 (c)2009 by King Features Syndicate Inc.

**Bridge** • Steve Becker

You are South, and the bidding has gone:

North	East	South	West
1 ♠	Pass	1 ♥	Pass
3 ♥	Pass	?	Pass

What would you bid now with each of the following four hands?

- ♠ 10 ♥ J8542 ♦ KQ632 ♣ 93
- ♠ 4 ♥ K98632 ♦ 7 ♣ KQ765
- ♠ 952 ♥ A975 ♦ Q83 ♣ 874
- ♠ A96 ♥ KQ743 ♦ 72 ♣ K92

**Bidding Quiz**

1. Four hearts. The value of a hand rises or falls as the bidding progresses. Thus, when you initially responded one heart in this case, game chances looked rather poor.

But after partner raises to three hearts, the outlook changes dramatically. Your anemic hearts take on a brand-new value when partner jump-raises the suit, promising four-card support as well as 16 to 18 points, and the chances of making 10 – or even 11 – tricks become very, very good.

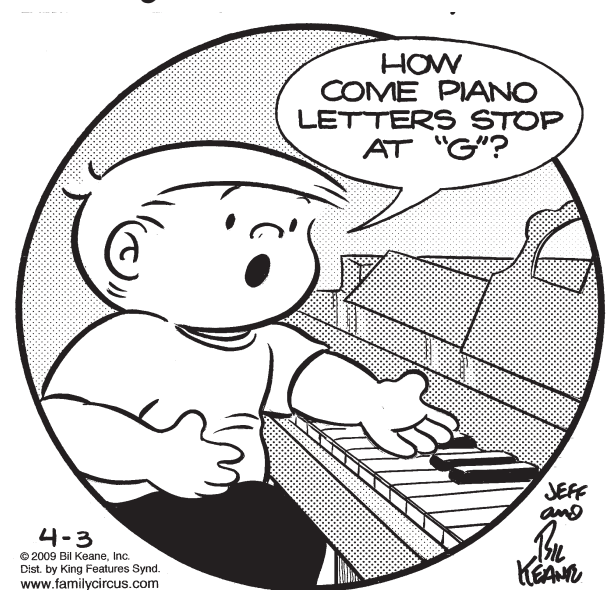
2. Four notrump. Here the number of tricks you can make depends primarily on how many aces partner has, and the Blackwood Convention is therefore invoked. If partner responds five hearts, showing two aces, you will quit then and there. If he bids five spades, showing three aces, you will carry on to six hearts. Point count is not an accurate criterion when you hold a highly distributional hand. Once partner guarantees four trumps by jumping to three hearts, the number of aces he shows in response to Blackwood will definitively indicate how many tricks can ultimately be made.

3. Pass. Partner's jump-raise is not forcing and merely invites you to go on. Passing should prove to be the winning action, since you have no values in either high cards or distribution beyond those previously guaranteed by your one-heart response. Had partner felt sure of 10 tricks after hearing your initial response, he would have bid four hearts, not three.

4. Three spades. Game is certain, of course, but you can't afford to ignore the possibility of a slam. Partner may have as little as: S 43 HAJ92 D A8 C AQ1064 – certainly not an enormous hand – but one which would make slam a virtual certainty. The spade cuebid – indicating first-round control of the suit and interest in slam – will help get you there.

(c)2009 King Features Syndicate Inc.

**Family Circus** • Bil Keane



4-3  
 © 2009 Bil Keane, Inc.  
 Dist. by King Features Synd.  
 www.familycircus.com

"There's plenty of keys to go all the way to 'Z'."

**Conceptis Sudoku** • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★★ 4/03

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.

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

**Cryptoquip**

ZJAQX DUZSPIM Z SGFDUQ

GJ SGSWAZPUV GI KPV XGGJ,

AKQ MFH KZT AG SXH

"TXPIWV ZXQ GI AKQ KGFVQ!"

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF A BUNCH OF PEOPLE COMPELLED SOMEBODY TO EAT A CERTAIN FRUIT, THAT MAY BE PEAR PRESSURE.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: G equals O

**Crossword** • Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- Vacationing
  - Told a tale
  - React in pain
  - Romanian money
  - Between jobs
  - Competent
  - Steven-son's personification of good
  - Leave at the altar
  - Whine
  - E.T.'s carrier?
  - Under the weather
  - "Sex for Dummies" writer
  - Eccentric
  - Attention getter
  - Vast expanse
  - Libertine's feeling
  - Foundation
  - Minus
  - Mound stat
  - Monkey suit
- DOWN**
- Auto-maker
  - Spore producer
  - Honshu mountain
  - Probable
  - Pastoral opus
  - Blueprint addition
  - Tricked
  - Collegian's choice
  - Sapporo sash
  - The whole enchilada
  - Bottom line
  - Oust
  - Saute
  - Addict
  - Criterion
  - Scrambled eggs
  - side dish
  - Eli —
  - Coaster
  - Kitten's sound
  - Now, on a memo
  - Whammy
  - Edition
  - sold the night before
  - "Hungaria" composer
  - Dead heat
  - Kid's racer
  - Egret's cousin
  - "You Were Meant for Me" singer
  - Catch sight of
  - Additional
  - Any time now
  - That girl
  - Cushion
  - Ginger —
  - Reuben holder

Solution time: 25 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 4-3

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
45	46	47				48	49			
50						51			52	
53						54				55