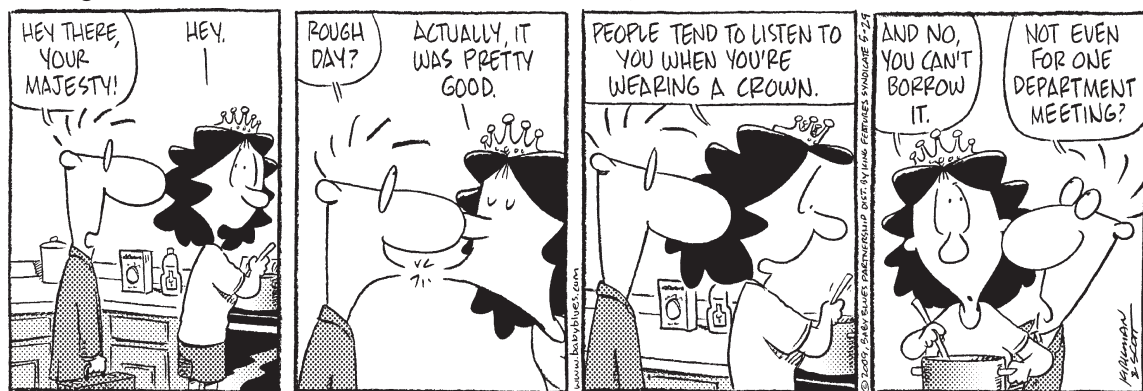
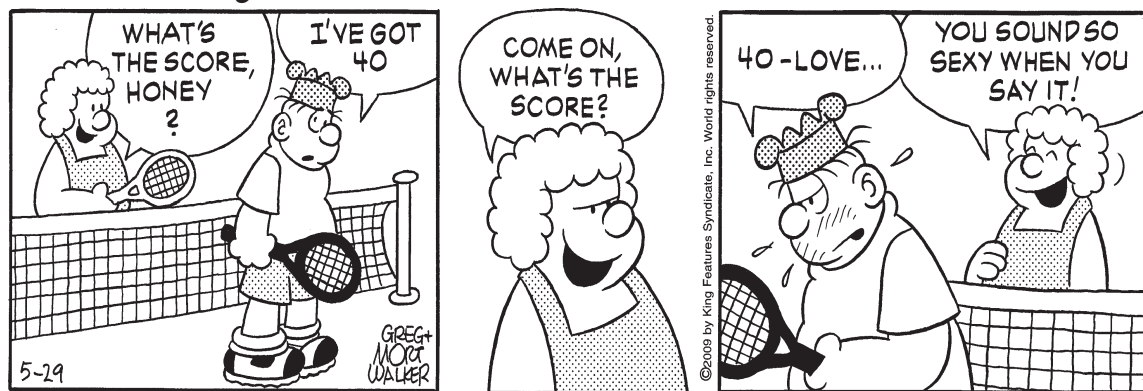


Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



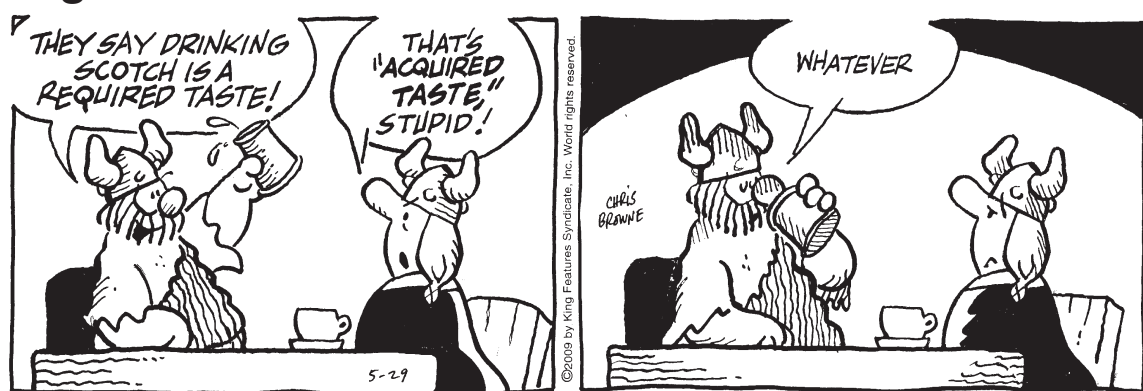
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young



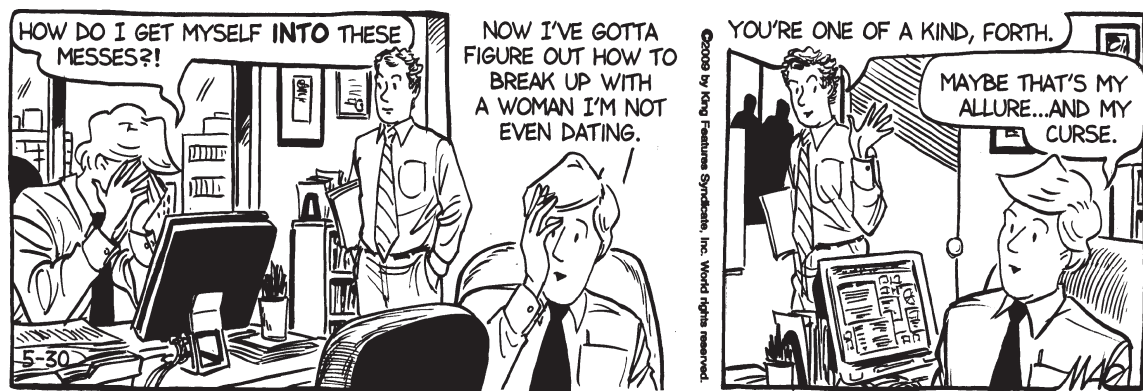
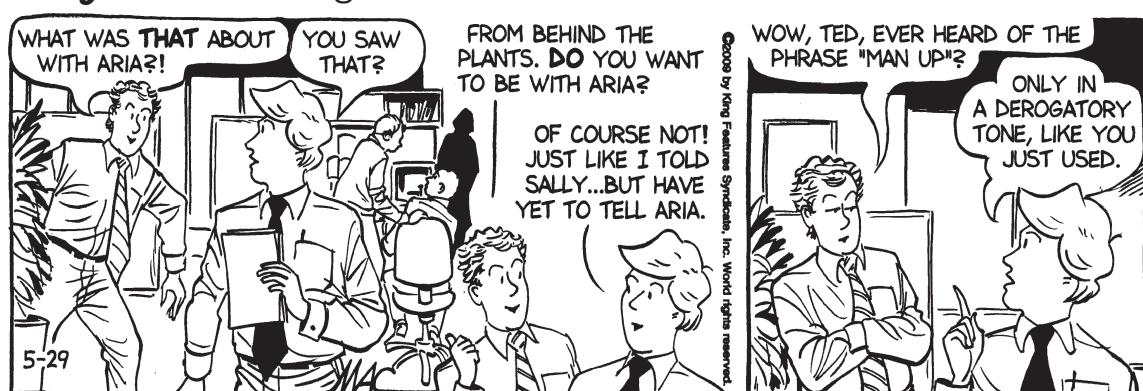
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



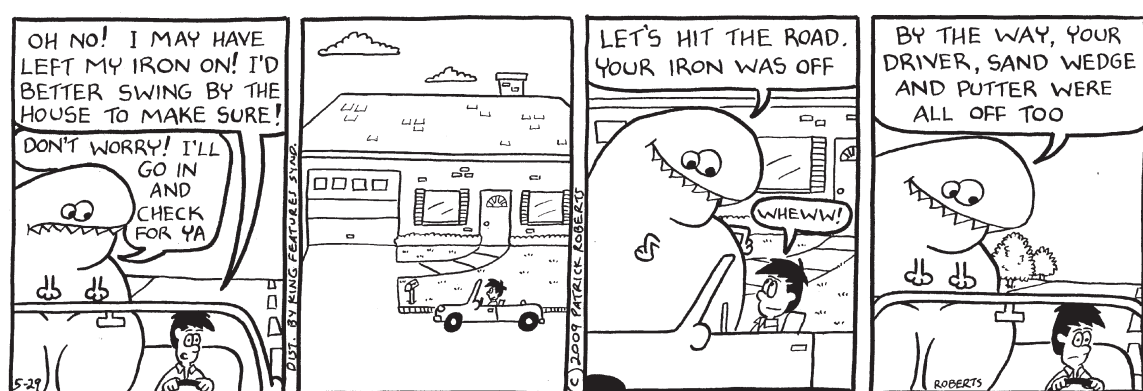
Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



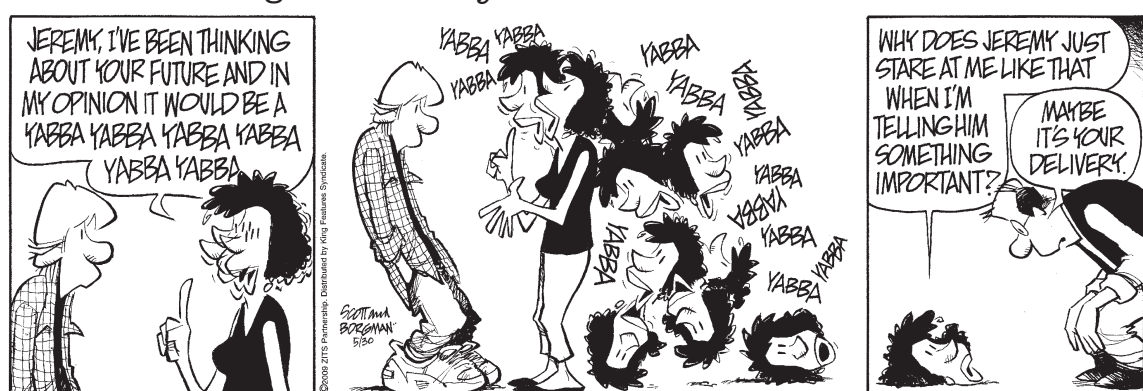
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise

• Hints from Heloise

Get dirt out of tile grout

Dear Heloise: What should I use to clean DIRTY TILE GROUT? I would like to not have to do a lot of "crawling." -- A Reader, via e-mail

I have two "recipes" for grout cleaning. Unfortunately, I don't have a solution to the bending and crawling problem!

1. Mix a solution of 1/2 chlorine bleach and 1/2 water and apply to the grout using an old toothbrush or cotton swab. Leave the solution on for about 20 minutes (longer may not work better), then rinse.
2. Three percent hydrogen peroxide applied directly to the grout also works. Use an old toothbrush to apply, let sit for an hour or more and then scrub. Rinse with water. Note: For both of these methods, you should wear rubber gloves and old clothing or an apron. Both can bleach color from carpet, clothing, towels, etc. So use caution, and be sure the room is well-ventilated.

-- Heloise

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 HINT

Dear Heloise: Since the airlines now limit the amount of liquid that can go in carry-on bags, I prepare bottles of liquids to go in with my clothes, and I came up with an idea to reduce leakage.

The bottle should be only 3/4 full, due to the possibility of expansion. I put it in a zip-top plastic bag. Before sealing the bag, I fold up four to five paper towels and place them in the bag along with the bottle. I seal the bag, and then the whole thing goes into a second plastic zip-top bag. Hopefully, if any liquid were to leak out into the first bag, it would be absorbed by the paper towels and would not go any farther. The paper towels also provide a little bit of padding for the bottles. -- Debbie Carlson, Omaha, Neb.

TINY-BATHROOM DILEMMA

Dear Heloise: When I moved into my 80-year-old house, I was glad for the tiny half-bath. The problem was that there wasn't much space for a towel rack close to the sink. Since we pop in and out often during the day, I wanted some small towels. I put a garment hook on the wall about 12 inches above the edge of the sink, alongside the mirrored medicine cabinet. I bought a bundle of inexpensive washcloths in assorted colors and used my sewing machine to make a buttonhole in one corner of each washcloth to fit the hook. It can be used as it hangs or easily lifted off and returned. -- Suzie Q., Fort Wayne, Ind.

THE PERFECT HOUSEGUEST

Dear Heloise: I read your hints on being a perfect houseguest. You spoke about stripping the sheets. A 5-year-old could handle that.

We have a lot of summer guests at our cottage. The night before guests leave, I tell them there are clean sheets in the dresser, and to please bring their sheets down when they come to breakfast. Never had a complaint -- really, it's a simple way to say "thank you." -- Anna Timmons, Mackinac Island, Mich.

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Bridge • Steve Becker

1. You are declarer with the West hand at Seven Spades, and North leads the jack of clubs. You win with the king and cash the ace of trumps, North playing the jack and South the deuce. You lead the queen of hearts to the king and return a trump from dummy, South following with the three. Do you play the king or finesse?

West
♠ A K 10 9 8 6
♥ A Q
♦ A 7 2
♣ A K

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

2. You are declarer with the West hand at Four Spades, and North leads the ten of diamonds. How would you play the hand?

West
♠ A Q J 10 7 2
♥ K J
♦ Q
♣ 9 5 4 3

East
♠ K 9 6 3
♥ 10 7
♦ A K 5 4
♣ K 6 2

Test Your Play

1. This is not an uncommon situation, and if you don't know the theoretically correct play, it's high time to get acquainted with it. After your left-hand opponent drops the jack under your ace (he might be playing that card either because it is a singleton or because he chose to play it from the Q-J doubleton), you will do better in the long run to finesse the ten on the second round rather than play the king. The odds are about 12-to-7 in favor of the finesse, and you should not buck those odds unless there is a good reason to do so. The theory that applies to this largely mathematical problem is commonly called "restricted choice."

2. Win the diamond lead with your queen and draw the adverse trumps, ending in dummy. Cash the A-K of diamonds, discarding your K-J of hearts on them. The contract is now certain because, at worst, your only losers will be three club tricks. You treat your K-J of hearts exactly the same way as you would if they were the 3-2.

It would be wrong to discard two clubs on the A-K of diamonds. You might wind up losing two heart tricks and two club tricks if, for example, North started with something like:

- [S] 8 5
- [H] A Q 4
- [D] 10 9 8 6 2
- [C] J 8 7

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



5-29

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"I have \$7.35 in my bank, Mommy. Do you think I should get a financial advisor?"

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

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.

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

Cryptoquip

CVNEL ROLIH D EKHBL E

KBXIY HZ AFNEREXLFP

WHXNG-HBL LNNXECNVR OX

LYN ZOZLONR: "YEAAP GEWN."

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF A DEVELOPING BABY BIRD HAS CONVINED TO ESCAPE FROM AN EGG, ONE MIGHT SAY IT HATCHED A PLAN.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Z equals F

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 Hard wood
- 4 Bottle stopper
- 8 Remain
- 12 — Jima
- 13 Reed instrument
- 14 Misplace
- 15 Stats on a perp
- 17 "My bad"
- 18 Hits, old-style
- 19 Pair
- 21 Raw rock
- 22 Pomernian, e.g.
- 26 Monetary gain
- 29 Join together
- 30 Inseparable
- 31 Grad
- 32 More, to Manuel
- 33 Grown-up nits
- 34 Office-holders
- 35 Hen-house invader

- 36 Moist
- 37 Serviette
- 39 Debtor's letters
- 40 USNA rank
- 41 Swamp
- 45 Spill the beans
- 48 Astaire specialty
- 50 Tiny bit
- 51 Prior nights
- 52 AAA task
- 53 Silent
- 54 Depend (on)
- 55 "Monty Python" opener

- 2 Crossed the Channel
- 3 Arizona tribe
- 4 Hold
- 5 Unpleasantly plump?
- 6 Caviar, essentially
- 7 Vessels for boiling
- 8 John B of song
- 9 As well
- 10 Cleo's slayer
- 11 Undeniably
- 16 Rampage
- 20 Bankroll
- 23 Porter's
- 24 Formerly of "The Waltons"
- 26 Reclined
- 27 Radius' neighbor
- 28 Point
- 29 Tus-saud's material
- 32 Lab creation?
- 33 Michelle's predecessor
- 35 Half a sawbuck
- 36 "Give a hoot — don't pollute!" owl
- 38 Skewered
- 39 Urge
- 42 Con
- 43 High-lander
- 44 Wields a needle
- 45 Auction action
- 46 Bud's co-star
- 47 \$ dispenser
- 49 Rd.

- DOWN**
- 1 Melodies
- 5 Solution time: 25 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 5-29

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		
45	46	47				48	49			
50						51			52	
53						54				55