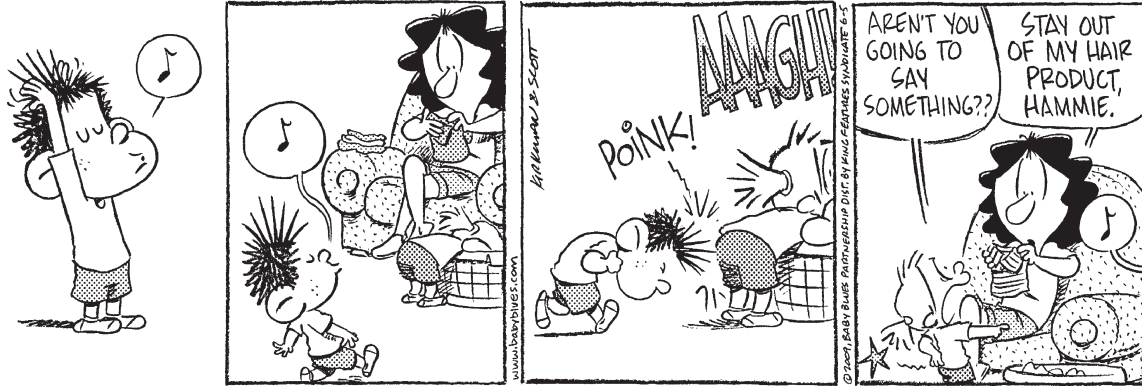
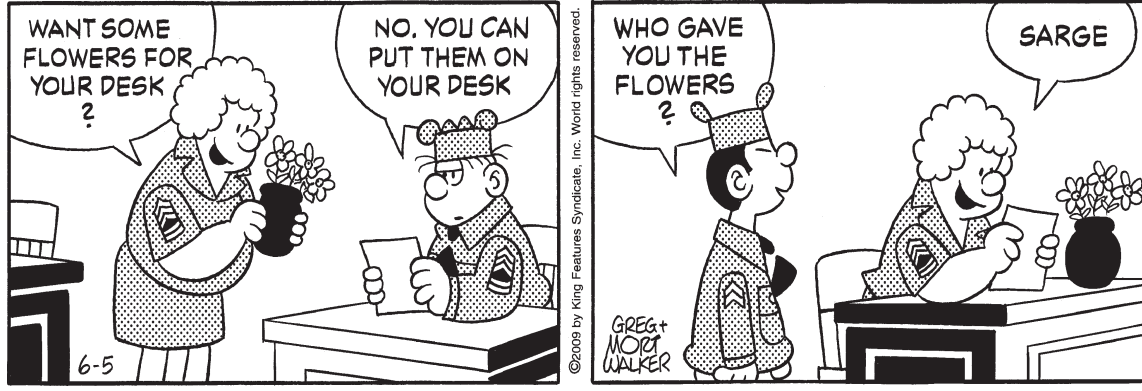


Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



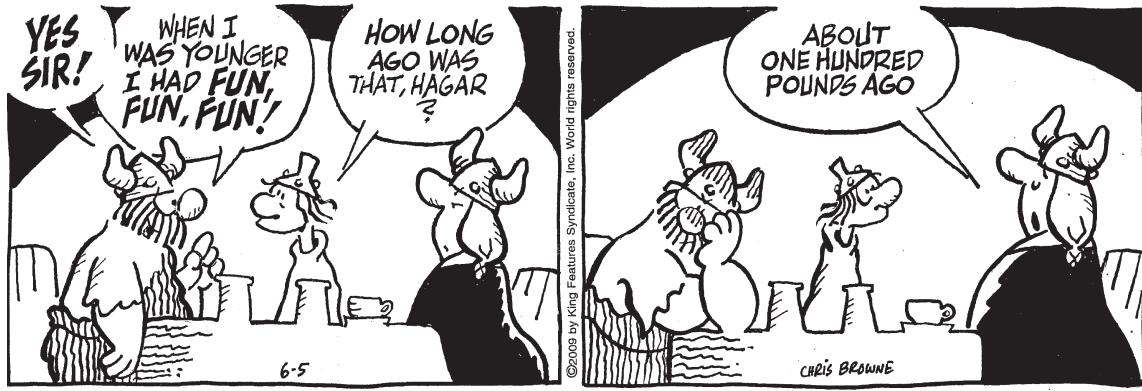
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



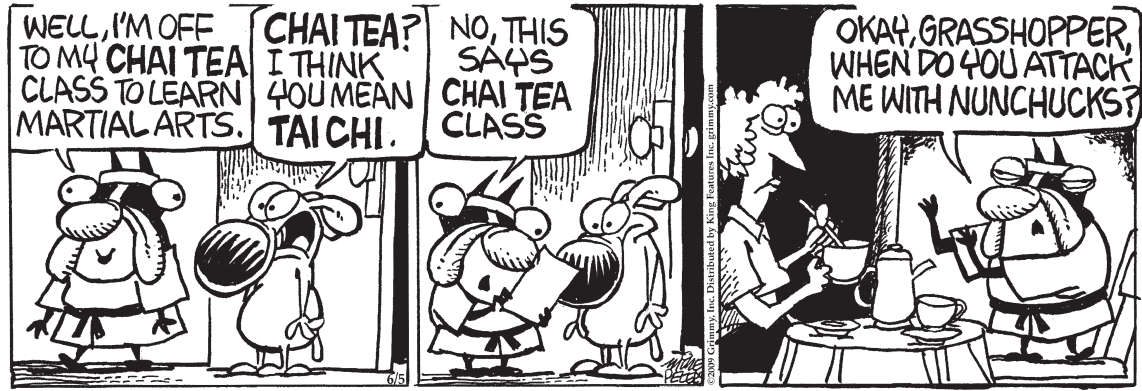
Blondie • Chic Young



Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



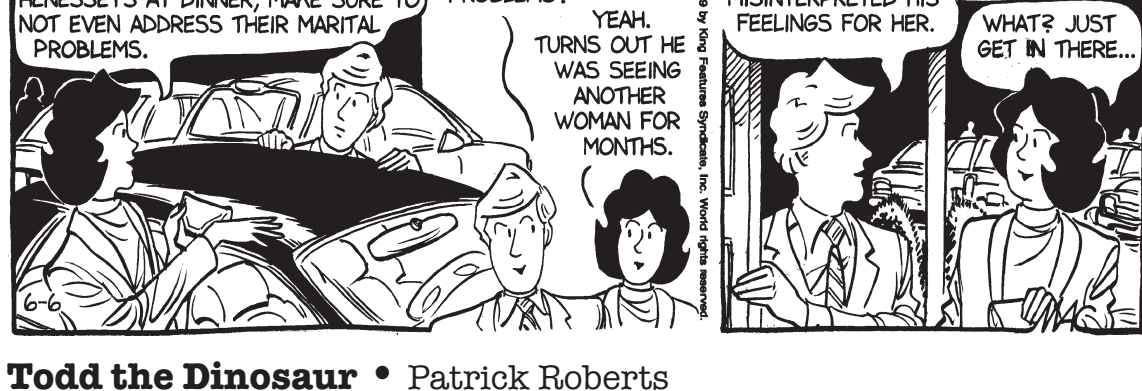
Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



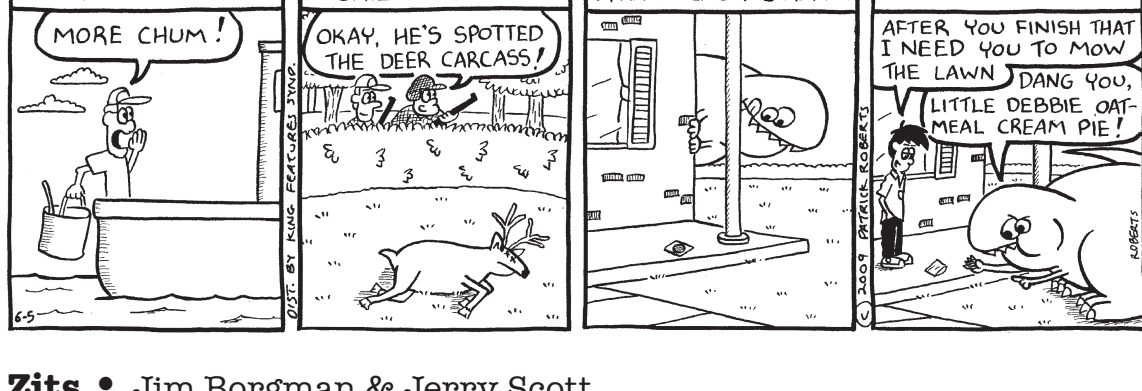
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise

• Hints from Heloise

Clean deck with solution

Dear Heloise: Can you tell me what to use to clean my WOODEN DECK? – A San Antonio Reader, via e-mail

This is a great question that we get every year when it's time to "fix up and clean up" our outdoor living spaces. I have an easy cleaning formula that's made with items you probably have in your home. Mix 1 cup regular laundry detergent with 1 gallon hot water. If mold and mildew are a problem, just add 1 cup chlorine bleach to the mixture. Apply the cleaning solution with a soft-bristle brush or a push broom and let sit for about 20 minutes, then rinse the deck. If there are stubborn stains, you might have to scrub a bit to remove them.

If heavy mold/mildew is a problem, commercial products probably are your best bet. – Heloise

TRAVEL HINT

Dear Heloise: I personally never put my address on luggage tags. It gives people information that they do not need and lets them know that I am not home. A phone number is all that is necessary. – Linda, Mission Viejo, Calif.

Right you are! You can't be too safe! – Heloise

PREVENT MIRROR FOGGING

Dear Heloise: Every time I get out of the shower, of course the mirrors are all fogged up. My exhaust fan doesn't work that well, so it takes forever to clear them up. My mother told me that she thought she'd read something about this is your column. Please help! – Cloudy in Virginia

Let's see if we can help clear up some of that fog. Try rubbing either some inexpensive, white foamy shaving cream or plain hair shampoo on the mirror. Rub the cream or shampoo in and let dry. This should solve the problem. Another thing that works is to use a hair dryer to blow that fog right off. Hope things will be less cloudy for you. – Heloise

EASY ON THE KNEES

Dear Heloise: Because my tile bathrooms are small, I wash my floors the old-fashioned way – on my hands and knees. I use a gardening kneeling pad for my knees and leg that works perfectly. – S.A.K., Cypress, Texas

QUICK CLEANING

Dear Heloise: Here is my hint that makes cleaning up just a bit easier. I place an all-purpose cleaner and a roll of paper towels under the sink in both bathrooms and in the kitchen. This way, I can clean up a spill or spiff up the area quickly. I don't have to leave the room to get cleaning supplies – they are right there waiting for me! – Walter, Omaha, Neb.

COFFEE-FILTER PLACEMENT

Dear Heloise: It seemed I could never get my coffee filter to stay put in the basket, which resulted in coffee grounds in my coffee -- ugh! Now I wet the filter basket and then put the filter in. I run my finger along the edge so the filter is stuck in place. – Linda Lou, Roanoke, Va.

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Bridge • Steve Becker

Partner bids **One Diamond**, and the next player passes, both sides vulnerable. You have a partscore of 60. What would you bid with each of the following four hands?

- ♠ AQ5 ♥ K76 ♦ 952 ♣ AK98
- ♠ 652 ♥ Q963 ♦ 7 ♣ J8542
- ♠ Q84 ♥ AJ5 ♦ KJ973 ♣ K6
- ♠ AJ ♥ A5 ♦ J874 ♣ AK632

Bidding Quiz

1. Two notrump. Normally, the jump-response of two notrump shows a balanced hand of 13 to 15 points. But where there is a partscore of 60 or more, the jump to two notrump becomes a slam try, and the required point range changes to 16 or 17.

The opening bidder should continue toward slam if he has extra strength. The two-notrump bid is not forcing.

2. One heart. It is a generally accepted practice to treat the opening bid of one in a suit as 100 percent forcing upon the responder when the bidding side has a partscore of 60. This of course means that the responder must bid even when his hand is totally worthless.

We subscribe to this practice in principle, but reserve the right to pass every once in a great while. It doesn't seem right that anyone should be hidebound to a flat rule when, in a given case, common sense may dictate otherwise.

In the present case, a response of some sort is clearly indicated because the values held, meager as they are, offer a prospect of game if partner has support for hearts or clubs, or a better-than-average opening bid.

3. Three diamonds. By going one level beyond game (two diamonds in this case), you indicate mild interest in a slam in diamonds. The opening bidder is free to pass unless he has substantial extra values.

4. Three clubs. Regardless of the partscore situation, a jump-shift (jump in a new suit) by responder forces the opener to bid again, just as though there were no partscore. The jump-shift signals that there is a potential slam in the combined hands.

The given hand contains 17 high-card points, plus a fit in diamonds. Most opening one-diamond bids will produce a slam opposite this hand. The forcing jump to three clubs puts partner on notice that more than a mere game is in the offing, and enlists his cooperation in exploring the possibilities.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



"I'm gonna spend all summer not missing school."

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

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

Cryptoquip

W U L I T Z J Y P F A D L P C

B F T K L P O B G W K U S K L S C W T L Z

W C S U L U P B A W S J D Y J O ' S

G J W O S J W O P A L T J S W O K Y P B S B .

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF TOUCHING FINE DISHES MAKES SOMEBODY BREAK OUT IN A RASH, I GUESS HE HAS CHINA SYNDROME.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: C equals F

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

- Pouch
- Heroic legend
- Liniment target
- "I" strain?
- Spring phenomenon
- Burden
- Muse of heroic poetry
- Ilk
- Unctuous
- Fine mate?
- Bender
- Author Bellow
- Jackie Paper's pal
- Nymph changed into Ursa Major
- Outback bird
- Bad investment, maybe
- Tend the lawn
- "Minnie the Moocher" singer

DOWN

- Ever-green variety
- "— Lang Syne"
- Combines resources
- Cancel out
- Right on the map?
- Way out, maybe
- Dirty Harry's last name
- Initial stake
- Church section
- Caustic solution
- Repast
- Oboist's sliver
- Full house or flush
- Vortex
- Willingly, once
- Leading man?
- Zilch
- Part of N.B.
- Otherwise
- Ford or Lincoln
- Mimic
- Nay undero
- Fresh

Solution time: 25 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 6-5

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		