

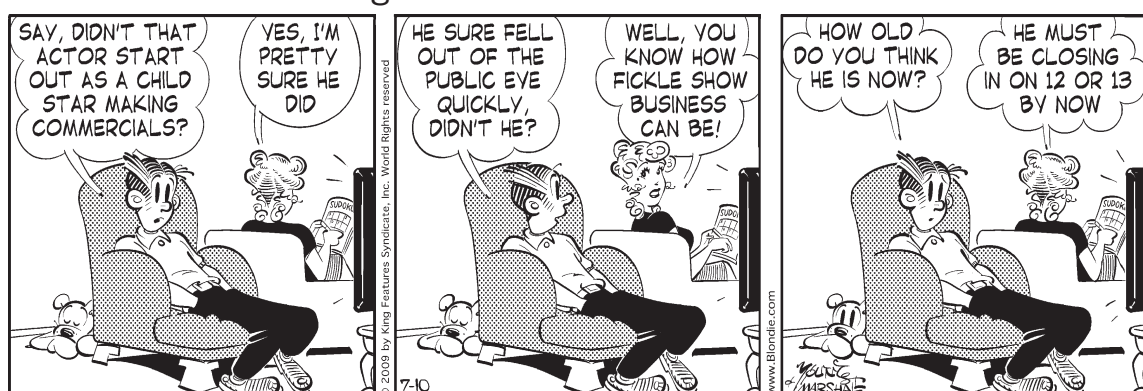
**Baby Blues** • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



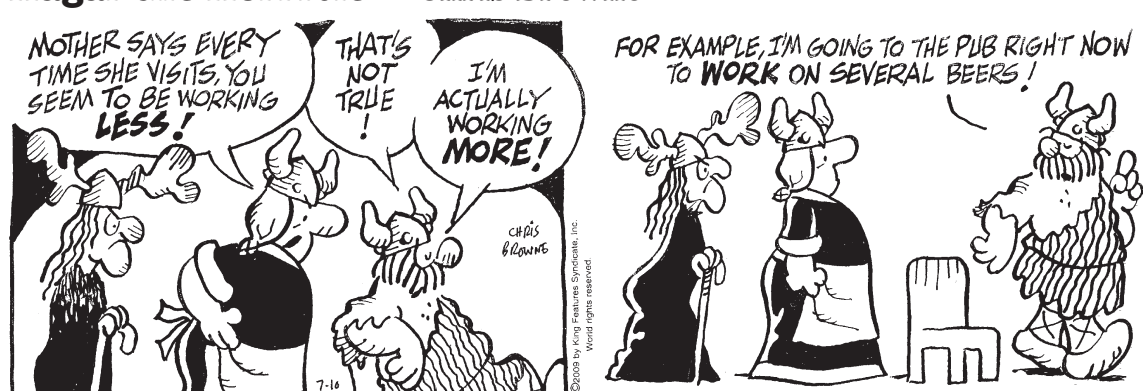
**Beetle Bailey** • Mort Walker



**Blondie** • Chic Young



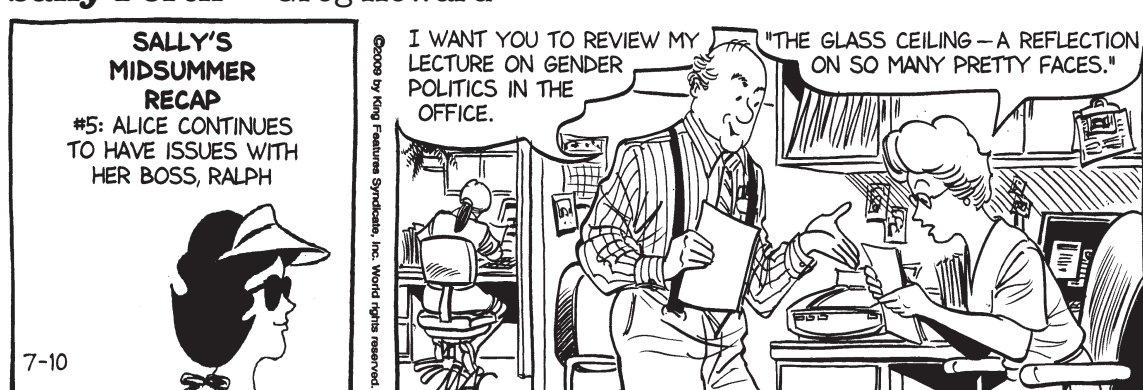
**Hagar the Horrible** • Chris Browne



**Mother Goose and Grimm** • Mike Peters



**Sally Forth** • Greg Howard



**Todd the Dinosaur** • Patrick Roberts



**Zits** • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



**Heloise**

• Hints from Heloise

**Garage openers require safe use**

Dear Readers: Automatic GARAGE-DOOR OPENERS are nice, but they should be checked to be sure they are working safely. Here are some hints to use to keep your family safe:

• First and foremost, DO NOT let children play with the remote control. The wall-mounted control should be placed in the garage high enough that young children cannot reach it. And the remote-control "boppers, clickers, etc." should be kept locked in a car and out of the reach of children.

• Never try to "beat" the door on its way down. It's imperative that children do not try to do this! It could end tragically!

• When going on vacation, unplug the garage-door unit so that it cannot be opened. Burglars sometimes get several garage-door openers and drive down a street using them to see if they can get a door to open. Some garage-door openers have a safety feature that disables the remote while you are away from home. — Heloise

Dear Heloise: I use night lights in hotel rooms but have not left any behind. I carry the night lights and sticky notes in a plastic bag. When I plug the night light in, I put a sticky note that says "light" on the hotel-room door. I can't leave the room without seeing the reminder note. This not only saves electricity but prevents the noise that some fans connected to bathroom lights cause. — Nancy Weaver, Spring, Texas

**CAN-OPENER SAVVY**

Dear Heloise: I read in your column about cleaning can openers after using. I have always washed the tops of all cans with soap and water and dried them before opening with a can opener. There are lots of germs on top of canned goods that can be transferred into the food once the lid has been removed. — E.S., Okeechobee, Fla.

Good advice, but food gets on the blade itself and might contaminate other food, so clean it also. — Heloise

**NECK PILLOW**

Dear Heloise: I have an alternate use for an inflatable pillow that fits around your neck for traveling. I use it as a bathtub pillow. — Sharon, San Antonio

**SAVE MONEY**

Dear Heloise: Ever since I was a small child, my mom would cut the box of table salt in half to get the last bit of salt out of it. Now, I do the same thing with a tube of lotion. I carefully cut the bottom of the tube off and dip lotion from that end to get it all out. — Pat Zoccali, Warren, Ohio

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**Bridge** • Steve Becker

1. Spades are trump, and it's your lead with the South hand. How do you play to make all the tricks?

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

**WEST**  
 ♠ 7  
 ♥ 6  
 ♦ Q 5 3  
 ♣ 9 4

**EAST**  
 ♠ Q 10  
 ♥ 10 9 6  
 ♦ Q 3

**SOUTH**  
 ♠ Q  
 ♥ 5  
 ♦ A J 8  
 ♣ A 10

**Two Double-Dummy Problems**

1. Cash the diamond ace and lead the jack. If West covers with the queen, ruff in dummy, overtake the king of clubs with the ace and play the queen of spades, placing East under severe pressure.

He cannot spare a heart, which would make dummy's hearts all tricks; he cannot spare the diamond ten because you'd then cash your eight, squeezing him again; nor can he spare the club queen because you'd cash your ten, continuing the squeeze.

If West ducks the jack of diamonds, you discard a heart from dummy, ruff the diamond eight, overtake the king of clubs and play the queen of spades, once again placing East in the same hopeless predicament.

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2. You are on lead with the South hand and, with diamonds trump, must make five of the last six tricks against best defense. How would you play the hand?

**NORTH**  
 ♠ A 2  
 ♥ A Q 6  
 ♦ Q  
 ♣ —

**WEST**  
 ♠ K Q  
 ♥ 10  
 ♦ —  
 ♣ K 5 3

**EAST**  
 ♠ 3  
 ♥ K J 8  
 ♦ —  
 ♣ A Q

**SOUTH**  
 ♠ 4  
 ♥ 2  
 ♦ K  
 ♣ 6 4 2

2. Play a spade to the ace and ruff a spade. East is forced to discard a club on this trick and, furthermore, must discard the ace! (If he discards the queen instead, you lead the deuce of clubs next and discard a heart from dummy, forcing East to win and return a heart into dummy's A-Q.)

Now lead the deuce of clubs. If West follows low, you discard a heart, compelling East to win with the queen and return a heart. If West instead goes up with the king of clubs to prevent East from being endplayed, you ruff in dummy and lead the six of hearts. If East wins, he must yield two heart tricks to dummy; if West wins, he must yield two club tricks to your 6-4!

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**Family Circus** • Bil Keane



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**Conceptis Sudoku** • Dave Green

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

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

**Cryptoquip**

GLTNQE LQ KVVRS SR PJKLT

WNM XNIC HLVVKNQK WLPNS,

SWK ERIVKJ CKHNCKC NS

XLM SNGK SR SKL RVV.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: SUPPOSING SOMEBODY WERE WONDERFUL AT USING INFLATABLE BOATS, I'D SAY THAT'S FINE RAFTSMANSHIP.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: V equals F

**Crossword** • Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 A welcome sight?
  - 4 "Eureka!"
  - 7 Halloween option
  - 12 "The — Daba Honey-moon"
  - 13 Wager
  - 14 Proportion
  - 15 Gridlock component
  - 16 Garnet variety
  - 18 Fool
  - 19 Steeple
  - 20 Expert
  - 22 — de cologne
  - 23 Frat-party garb
  - 27 Started
  - 29 Cheap
  - 31 "Cats" inspiration
  - 34 Put into words
  - 35 Small chicken
  - 37 Feathery accessory
  - 38 Osseous
- DOWN**
- 1 Large, showy parrot
  - 2 Embarrass
  - 3 Ankles, to anatomists
  - 4 Rudiments
  - 5 Piled
  - 6 Places in the heart
  - 7 Verifiable
  - 8 Operated
  - 9 List-ending abbr.
  - 10 Have a bug
  - 11 Place-kicker's pride
  - 17 Very dry, champagne
  - 21 Polish money
  - 23 November birthstone
  - 24 Kyoto cummerbund
  - 25 Card-table call
  - 26 Consumed
  - 28 H, to Hellenes
  - 30 Seek the hand of
  - 31 Go back
  - 32 "7 Faces of Dr. —"
  - 33 Hostel
  - 36 Intend
  - 37 Ravel piece
  - 40 Levees
  - 42 Fiery gems
  - 43 Fleet-related
  - 44 Plaintive poem
  - 45 Equitable
  - 46 Passel
  - 48 Petrol
  - 49 Heidi's height?
  - 50 Carnival city
  - 51 Distant

Solution time: 25 mins.

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

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	