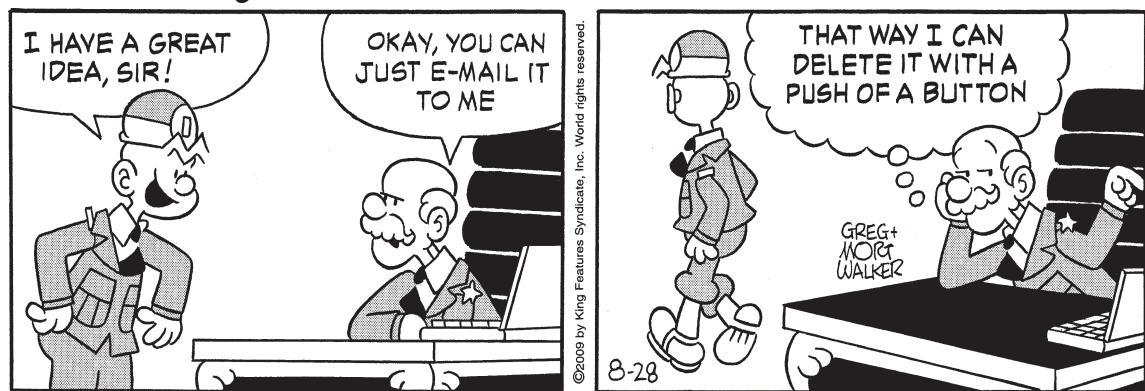


Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young



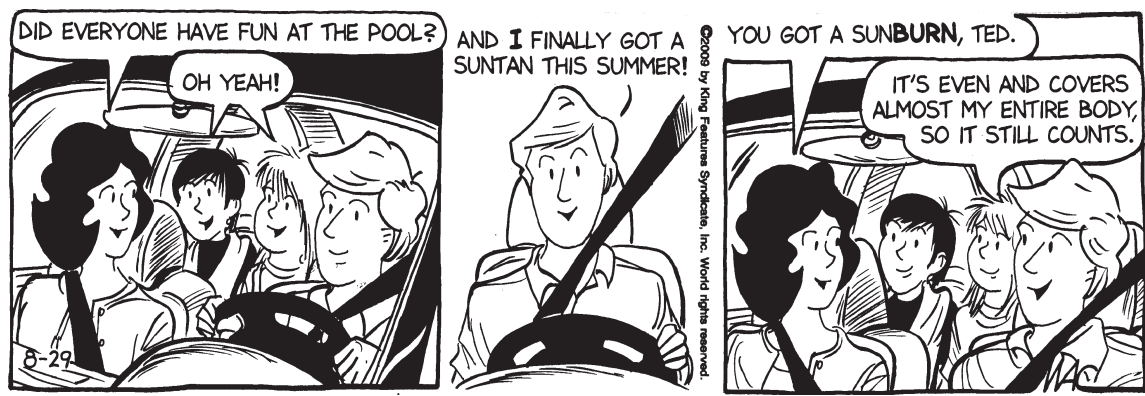
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



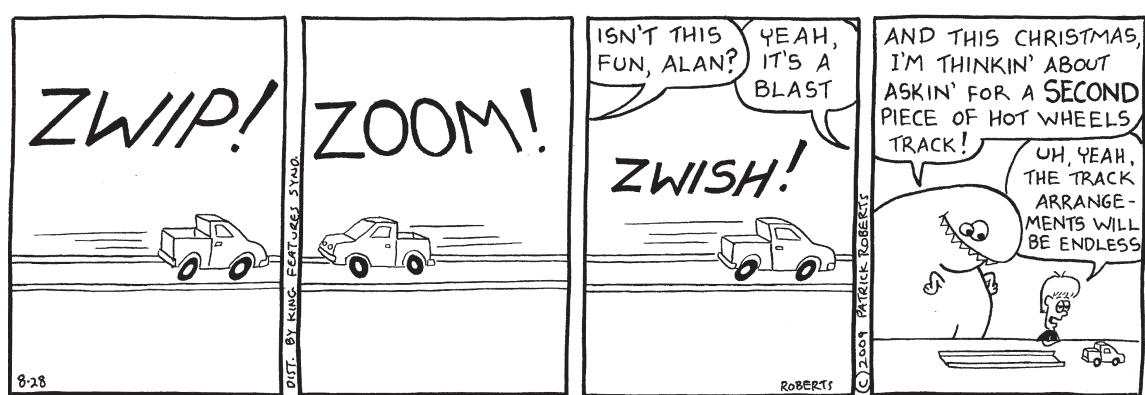
Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



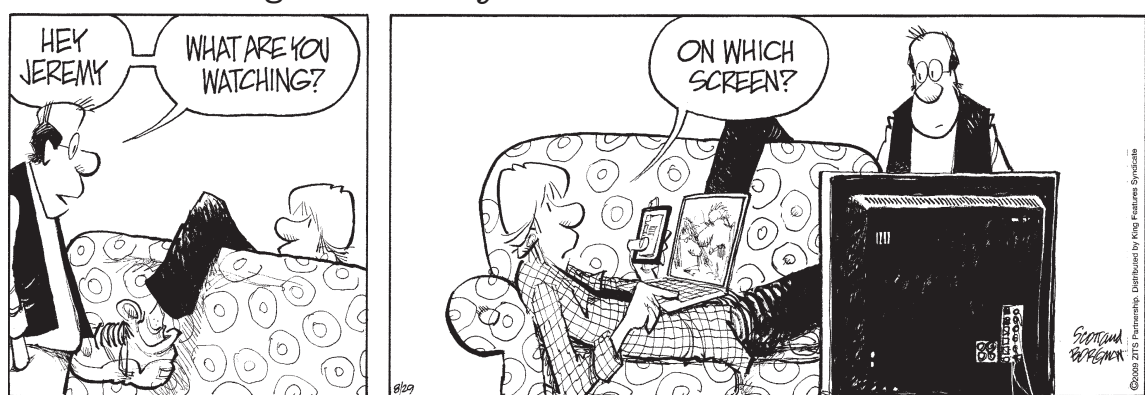
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise

• Hints from Heloise

Rubber yellows linoleum floors

When the Rubber Hits the Linoleum
Dear Heloise: We have small throw rugs with RUBBER BACKING (helps to keep them from sliding) on two bathroom linoleum floors, which have yellowed from the imprint of the rubber backing. We have tried every known cleaner without success. Any hints on how we can get these ugly stains out? – Michael and Betty in Iowa
Sorry to say, probably not. It's not really a "stain" that can be removed. The yellow is from the rubber causing a chemical reaction with the linoleum or even a cleaning agent or polish. Flooring experts agree that you should not use rubber-backed rugs on linoleum for just this reason.
Hint: Your mats aren't the only thing that could stain this flooring. Rubber feet on bar stools, or rubber wheels on kitchen islands or microwave carts, also could damage your linoleum.
Speaking of linoleum, a quick tip for removing those black scuff marks that shoes leave behind is to rub the area with a wet fabric-softener sheet, and voila! – Heloise

TRAVEL HINT

Dear Heloise: I have read your columns on hints for traveling, and they came in so handy when I went back East on the train. I used my address labels on everything, and took some to put on things as I bought them.

I also took lots of resealable storage bags of all sizes to put used clothing and such in. I used smaller bags for bath soap, shampoo and toiletries. This was helpful to keep things from getting other things wet. I had ribbons on my luggage, and it was easy to find. One woman had used fabric paints and painted flowers all over hers. It looked cool, too. – B.J. from New Mexico
VINEGAR TO CLEAN EYEGASSES
Dear Heloise: You had a solution with vinegar for cleaning eyeglasses. Would you please run it again? Thanks! – Dale Fisher, via e-mail

Dale, you bet! Especially in these tough times, it's smart to use low-cost, safe products. For sparkling-clean windows, mirrors or your glasses, add 1/2 to 1 cup of vinegar to 1/2 gallon of water. Put the solution in a labeled spray bottle. Wipe with a soft cloth so your eyeglasses don't get scratched.
Vinegar is a multiuse money-saver. If you're interested in other uses for vinegar in cleaning, order my pamphlet, Heloise's Fantabulous Vinegar Hints and More. Just send \$5 with a long, self-addressed, stamped (61 cents) envelope to: Heloise/Vinegar, P.O. Box 795001, San Antonio, TX 78279-5001. I'll be happy to mail one out to you! Another handy vinegar hint is to soak your paintbrushes in vinegar and water for a few hours to keep them soft and supple. – Heloise

GARBAGE DISPOSAL

Dear Heloise: If your dishwasher drains through the garbage disposal, turn it on when the dishwasher is draining. This cleans and freshens the disposal. – Tommie Rogers of Tyler, Texas
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Bridge • Steve Becker

Partner opens One Notrump.

You are playing 15- to 17-point opening notrumps, Stayman, and are not playing transfers. What would you respond with each of the following five hands?
1. ♠ KJ6 ♥ 73 ♦ K64 ♣ Q9852
2. ♠ K9743 ♥ AQJ105 ♦ 108 ♣ 7
3. ♠ Q96 ♥ A83 ♦ AQ7 ♣ KJ42
4. ♠ Q753 ♥ 6 ♦ K962 ♣ J865
5. ♠ 10 ♥ K98743 ♦ 5 ♣ QJ732

Bidding Quiz

1. Two notrump. This is the normal response when you have about nine points and a balanced hand. Partner passes your response with 15 points, bids three notrump with 17 points and exercises his judgment with 16 points.
2. Three spades. This is a game-going hand opposite a 15- to 17-point notrump. However, since a response of two spades or two hearts to an opening notrump bid is weak and not forcing, it is necessary to make a jump-response to assure getting to game.
Despite the disparity in strength of the two suits, it is better to mention your spades first. If partner rebids three notrump, you can then bid four hearts, asking partner to choose between the two suits. An initial three-heart response would leave you in an awkward position if partner next bid three notrump.

3. Four notrump. This is not Blackwood. Rather, it indicates 16 or 17 points and invites partner to bid a slam with maximum values for his opening notrump bid. Opener passes with 15 points, carries on to six with 17 points and can bid five notrump to indicate exactly 16 points and thus leave the final decision to you.
4. Pass. Game is virtually out of the question, so the only problem is to find the best partscore contract. Granting that the hand easily might be better at a partscore in spades, diamonds or clubs, there is no practical way of finding a better spot than one notrump. Despite your singleton heart, partner is a favorite to make at least one notrump when you contribute six high-card points.
5. Four hearts. High-card point count is not a reliable guide in measuring the value of distributional hands. It is much better to estimate the trick-taking power of unbalanced hands containing long suits, relying more on plain common sense.

Thus, in the present case, despite a conspicuous shortage of high cards, you should assume that opposite the great majority of opening one-notrump bids, you are unlikely to lose more than three tricks with hearts as trump. You should therefore go straightaway to four hearts.
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Family Circus • Bil Keane



"Aw, Mommy! 'My Brother's Clothes' isn't really a brand name, is it?"

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

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

Cryptoquip

DQJOEVQ SZQ JHLYOTR XV

HUUQKXTB LQT'V YKHWEJSV

HTCR, RHE LXBZS JOCC XS

O LOCQ HKWQK DEVXTQVV.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IN WHAT CRAMPED AREA OF THE HOUSE MIGHT YOU FIND YOUR BABY HAPPILY PLAYING? THE CRAWL SPACE.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: V equals S

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Brother of DUBYA
4 Boast
8 King's defender
12 Foreman foe
13 Barrett or Jaffe
14 Curved molding
15 Big numbers
17 Retirement funds, for short
18 Clover piece
19 Despots
20 It's for mass consumption
22 Reverberate
24 Uncontrollable
25 Pomp
29 Solidify
30 Hymn
31 Actress Thurman

32 Support-
ed
34 High-lander
35 Ahs' mates
36 Tea variety
37 They get in the whey
40 Zinger
41 Ellipse
42 Program numbers
46 Chromosome part
47 Relaxation
48 Meadow
49 Droops
50 Liniment target
51 Yule fuel

DOWN
1 Poke
2 Yale student
3 Wallet
4 Pipe type
5 Santa's runway
6 Landers or Curry
7 Petrol
8 Toxic substance
9 Taj Mahal city
10 Have on
11 Loch — Monster
16 Welsh veggie
19 Subsequently
20 Carry on
21 Churchly cry
22 Blunted blades
23 Dressed
25 Obi
26 Platypus feature
27 "Typee" sequel
28 Assessment
30 Experts
33 A lot
34 Belgrade resident
36 Lottery winner, e.g.
37 Gear teeth
38 Eye layer
39 Pealed
40 Wild party
42 Royal insomnia cause
43 Varnish ingredient
44 Zodiac feline
45 Trail the pack

Solution time: 25 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 8-28