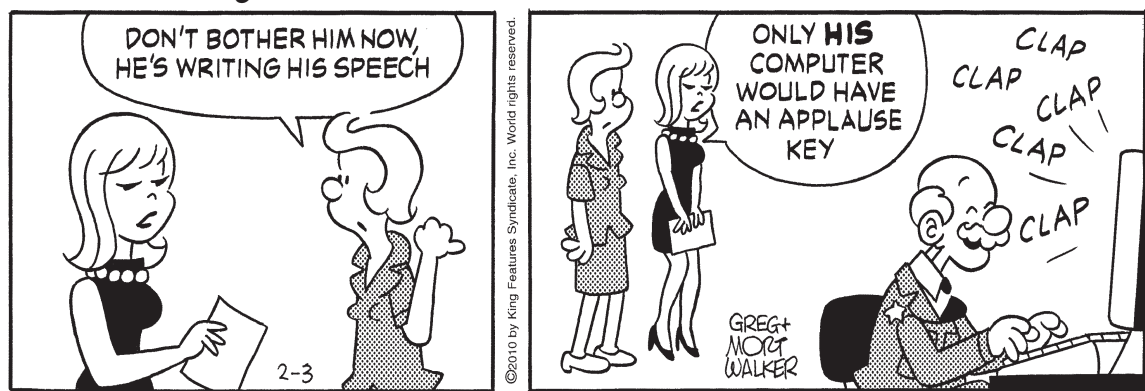


Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young



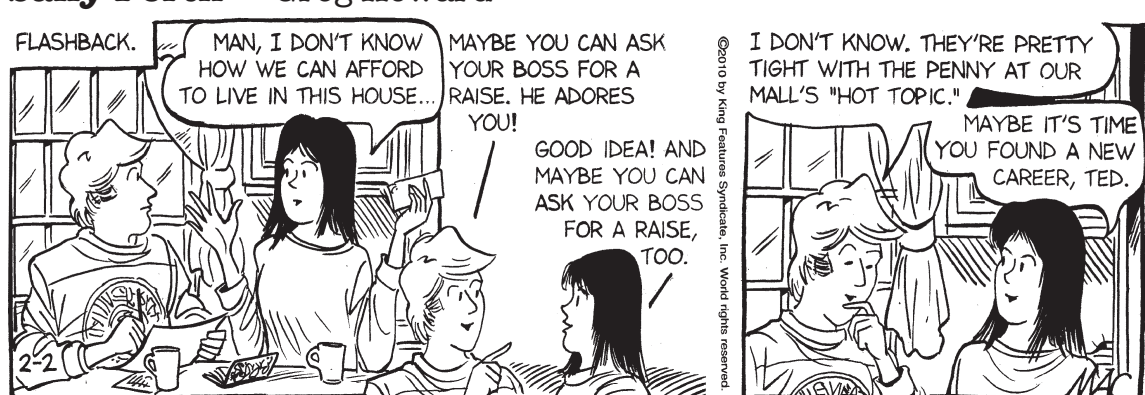
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



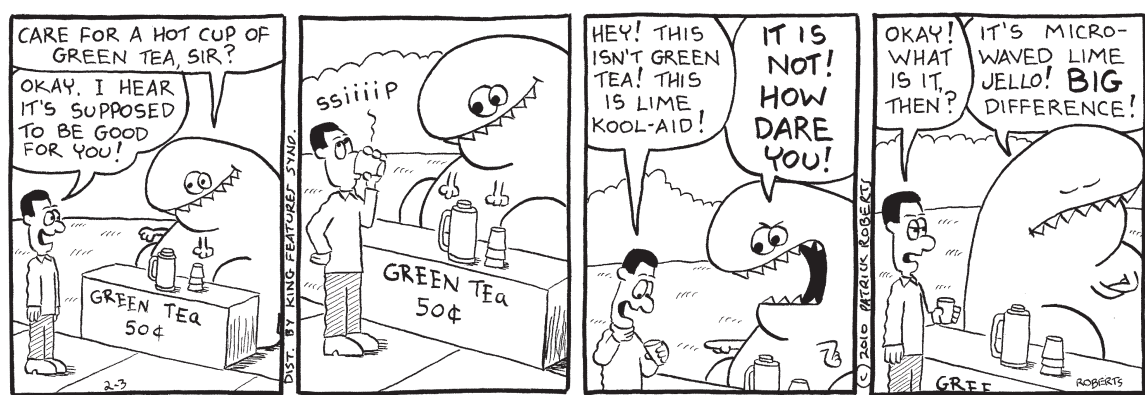
Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



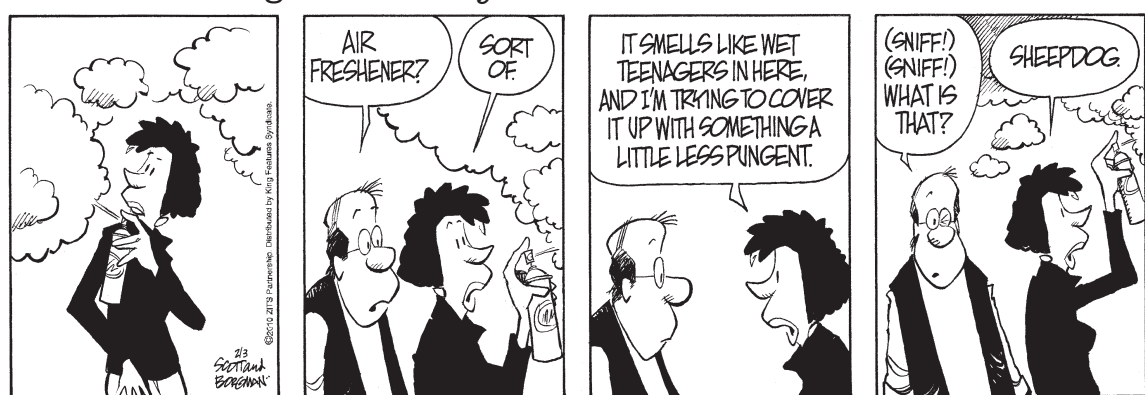
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise

• Hints from Heloise

Baked-on grease comes right off

Dear Heloise: How can I get burned or baked-on GREASE off of my glass and metal pans? That stuff takes a lot of scrubbing, and still it doesn't all come off. Thanks! - Carolyn Lamb, Biloxi, Miss.

Carolyn, I have just the thing! Set the pans on a couple of layers of newspaper, and then give them a generous spray of oven cleaner. Do this in a well-ventilated area, or use the no-fume cleaner. Let sit a short while (out of reach from kids and pets), then put the pans in the sink and give them a good scrubbing. The gunk should just roll off. If not, apply another spray of cleaner and then clean. Good luck! - Heloise

DELICIOUS GAZPACHO

Dear Heloise: My mother used to blend left-over fresh vegetables with tomato juice and assorted spices for her own delicious version of gazpacho. - L.D., Dallas

Yum! I make quick gazpacho with a small can of chilled vegetable juice, and just chop up some cucumbers and other vegetables. Want to try other easy-to-make soups? Just send \$5 and a long, self-addressed, stamped (61 cents) envelope to: Heloise/Soup, P.O. Box 795001, San Antonio, TX 78279-5001. You will find recipes for Potato Soup, Chicken Tortilla Soup and others, along with many quick, low-cost ones. - Heloise

HOT MASHED POTATOES

Dear Heloise: I use sour cream instead of milk when making mashed potatoes. Leftovers stay creamy and taste fresh when microwaved. - Maxine in Arkansas

Sounds yummy! Here's another mashed-potato hint from Jill M. of Springfield, Ohio. She says, "When preparing mashed potatoes, preheat the milk and butter, and the mix will stay warm much longer in the pan until served." - Heloise

EASY ID

Dear Heloise: When using plastic plates for a dinner, I buy two different colors and alternate the colors. This way, it is easy to get one plate at a time as guests use the buffet line. Everyone always loves this hint. - Marvalene Given, Sidney, Ohio

SALMON CROQUETTES

Dear Heloise: I have used the salmon croquettes recipe for ages; however, my husband had a health problem (and I'm always looking for ways to cut calories), so I made them according to the recipe but dropped them on a cookie sheet and baked them instead. Granted, they are not as crunchy and crisp as when fried in oil, but they're rather darned good served with ketchup or hot sauce. - Wanda Richardson, via e-mail

LID RECYCLING

Dear Heloise: I save all of the lids from things that are in plastic tubs, such as butter, cream cheese, dips, coffee, etc. I put them in the drawers around my kitchen, under the microwave and next to the stove, and I use them as spoon rests. When finished, I just throw them away. It's so handy! Saves cleaning countertops and buying a regular spoon rest. - K.B. in Texas

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Bridge • Steve Becker

South dealer. North-South vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ J 6 5 4 3
♥ 5 3
♦ 6 3
♣ A K 5 2

WEST
♠ K Q 10
♥ 10 8 6
♦ Q 9 7
♣ Q J 10 8

EAST
♠ Q J 9 2
♥ 10 8 5 2
♦ 9 7 6 4 3

SOUTH
♠ A 9 8 7 2
♥ A K 7 4
♦ A K J 4
♣ -

The bidding:
South 1♣ Pass
West 6♣
North 4♣
East Pass
Redble
Opening lead - queen of clubs.

The Saga of Endplay Charlie

Nobody ever contended that Endplay Charlie was a great player. His bidding was bad, his defense mediocre, and his dummy play - in general - left much to be desired.

But when it came to endplays, nobody could surpass Charlie. He could smell an endplay a mile away, and he was never happier than when he was executing one. His talent was really exceptional, and if the rest of his game had only been on a par with it, he would have ranked as the best player in the world.

Here is an example of Charlie strutting his stuff. Perhaps West shouldn't have doubled six spades - particularly with Endplay Charlie at the helm - but West felt sure he had two trump tricks, so he did.

Charlie thereupon proceeded to wrap the contract around West's neck. Warned by the double that West had all the missing trumps, Charlie held him to one trump trick.

He started by discarding a heart on the king of clubs and ruffed a club. After cashing the A-K of diamonds and ruffing a diamond, he trumped another club. Next he played the A-K of hearts and ruffed a heart, producing this position:

North
♠ J 6 5
♣ A

West
♠ K Q 10
♣ J

East
Immaterial

South
♠ A 9 8
♦ J

Charlie now led the ace of clubs, ruffed it with the eight, and then played the jack of diamonds. If it did not matter which card West ruffed with - he could score only one trump trick!

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



2-3
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"...why'd you write it on the back of the picture I drew for my teacher?"

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★ 2/03

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.

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

Cryptoquip

VHRIQ BFQDQ VRZDMLG
KDMHPI RSMAZ VHRNKAHHN
BFPHQ SQZZPLU ML URXQG
MK IFRLIQ: URXSMHPLU IRGPLM.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF YOU TRY A FOOD AND IT TASTES ABSOLUTELY FANTASTIC, YOU COULD CALL IT AN INCREDIBLE EDIBLE.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: M equals O

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Vicinity
5 Inhabitant (Abbr.)
8 Detail
12 Paper quantity
13 Kanga's kid
14 Undressed
15 No. 51 on the table
17 Unforeseen problem
18 Sarajevo's land
19 Baffler
21 Frequently
22 Tango moves
23 Antonym (Abbr.)
26 Teeny tale
28 Attack dog, e.g.
31 Island dance
33 Help
35 Ms. Moore

DOWN
1 Bedouin
2 Nevada city
3 Dines on type
4 Acid
5 Zagreb's land
6 Charged bit
7 Tinkered (with)
8 Flat
9 No. 74 on the table
10 Cheese choice
11 Ginormous
16 Irk
20 Penpoint
23 Surprise cries
24 Young seal
25 No. 78 on the table
27 Chest protector
29 Ostrich's cousin
30 Umbrella-frame part
32 Keen senses of judgment
34 Hang on the line, maybe
37 Recede
39 Eastern bigwig
42 Fireplace residue
44 Campus staffers
45 Money
46 Bound along
48 Chills and fever
49 Bivouac setup
50 Make - meet
53 Mouth, slangily

Solution time: 21 mins.

Yesterdays answer 2-3

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 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 |
| 31 | | | 32 | | 33 | | 34 | | 35 | |
| 36 | | | | 37 | | 38 | | 39 | | 40 |
| | | | 41 | | | 42 | | 43 | | 44 |
| 45 | 46 | | | | | 47 | | | 48 | 49 |
| 51 | | | | | | 52 | 53 | | | |
| 54 | | | | | | 55 | | | 56 | |
| 57 | | | | | | 58 | | | 59 | |