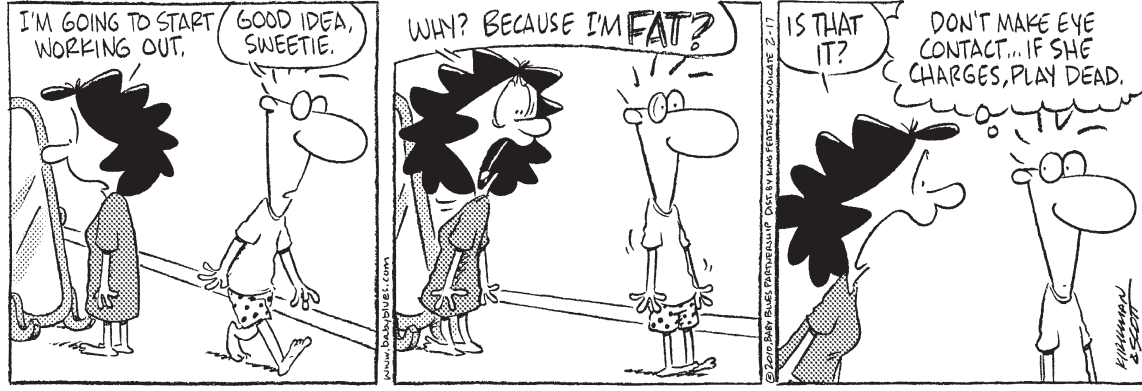
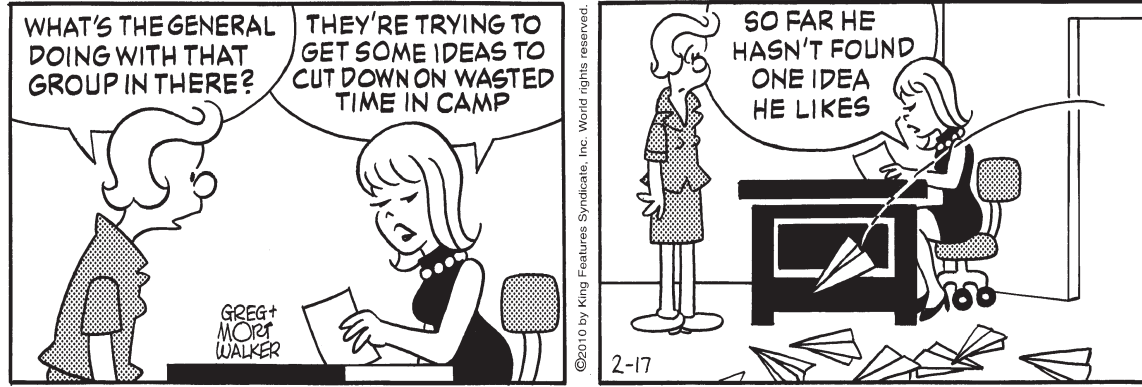


Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



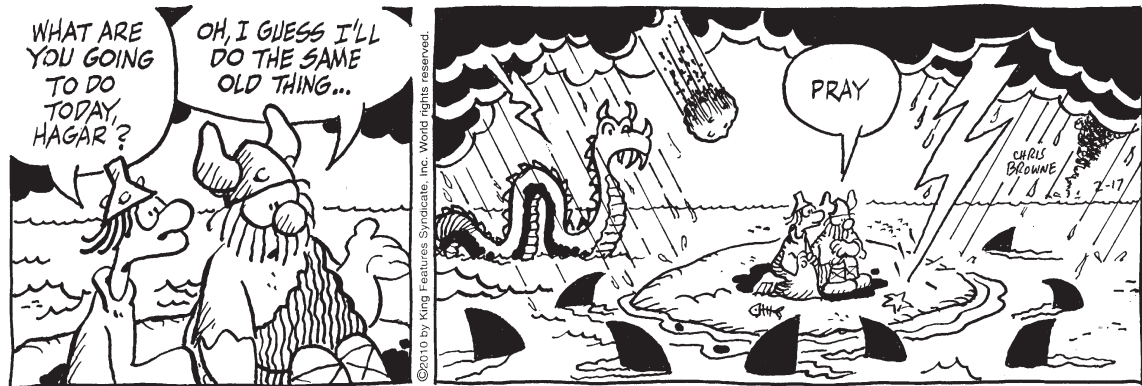
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



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

This cake is in the dumps

Dear Heloise: I have lost my copy of your recipe for DUMP CAKE. Could you please provide me with a copy? – Carolyn Stonesifer, via e-mail
I believe you are requesting the NO-MIX CHERRY-PINEAPPLE NUT CAKE, because you just dump the ingredients into the pan. It is an easy-yet-delicious cake to make. This is what you need:

- 1 (20-ounce) can of crushed pineapple in heavy syrup
 - 1 (21-ounce) can of cherry pie filling
 - 1 (2-layer size) package of yellow cake mix
 - 1 (3-ounce) package of pecans, or 1 cup chopped
 - 1/2 cup (1 stick) butter or margarine (chilled works best)
- Preheat oven to 350 F. Grease a 9-by-13-inch baking pan. Spread the pineapple with its syrup evenly in the prepared pan. Spoon the pie filling evenly over the pineapple. Sprinkle the dry cake mix evenly over the fruits, then sprinkle the chopped nuts over all. Slice the butter into thin slices, then place the pieces evenly over the top. Bake for 50 minutes or until golden. Serve warm. Makes 12 servings.

This is only one of many unique and delicious recipes in my fabulous four-page cake pamphlet. To order a copy, just send \$3 and a long, self-addressed, stamped (61 cents) envelope to: Heloise/Cake, Box 795001, San Antonio, TX 78279-5001. Extra tip: This cake also can be made with other fruit combinations, like pineapple/strawberry, pineapple/apple, pineapple/blueberry, apple/cherry, etc. Serve it with vanilla ice cream and/or whipped cream. – Heloise

ROCK-HARD BUTTER

Dear Heloise: No more being frustrated trying to spread rock-hard butter on my toast. I simply slice off a chunk from the stick of butter, then place it in a small metal measuring cup on top of the toaster as the slices of bread are toasting. By the time the toast pops up, the butter is just right for spreading. An added bonus is that it's energy-efficient, too! Caution: A too-small cup might fly off when the toast pops up, so be careful. – Ernie Henninger, via e-mail

FROZEN GARLIC

Dear Heloise: Several years ago, I accidentally froze my freshly purchased garlic bulbs. What a great mistake! No more soft garlic or cloves that start to "stem out."

The garlic thaws within minutes, and the skin simply falls off! It's easy to slice when still cold, or you can let it thaw to room temperature to mince or crush. Simply remove as many cloves as you need, and put the remainder back in a freezer bag in the freezer. The odor does not permeate. No more dry, shriveled or wasted garlic. It's always fresh for your favorite dishes. – Eileen Gustafson, Perkins, Mich.

EASY CLEAN

Dear Heloise: Dampen a microfiber dust cloth, wring out well and wipe your satin-finish stainless-steel appliances. Fingerprints disappear! Those fingerprints were driving me crazy, and this has saved the day. – Jeanette in Nebraska.

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Bridge • Steve Becker

South dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.
NORTH
♦ K 5 2
♥ A J 3
♠ J 5 4 3
♣ K 5 4

WEST
♦ Q 10 3
♥ 10 9 8 7 2
♠ K
♣ Q 10 6 3

EAST
♦ J 8 7 4
♥ 6 4
♠ Q 9 8 7
♣ J 9 2

SOUTH
♦ A 9 6
♥ K Q 5
♠ A 10 6 2
♣ A 8 7

The bidding:
South West North East
1 NT Pass 3 NT
Opening lead — ten of hearts.

A Subtle Difference

After spending a sufficient amount of time at the table, a player tends to deal with certain recurring situations almost mechanically. The trouble with this is that on some occasions, what appears to be a stock situation turns out not to be.

Consider this deal where South is in three notrump and West leads a heart. Declarer can see eight sure tricks – two spades, three hearts, a diamond and two clubs – and must develop a ninth.

It seems perfectly natural to win the first trick in dummy and lead a diamond to the ten, which loses to West's king. But after declarer wins the heart return and cashes the ace of diamonds, exposing the 4-1 break, he discovers that he can no longer establish a second diamond trick and so finishes down one.

However, the fact is that South can assure himself of an extra diamond trick – no matter how the opposing diamonds are distributed – by playing the suit correctly. Whether the diamonds are divided 3-2, 4-1 or even 5-0 has absolutely no bearing on the outcome!

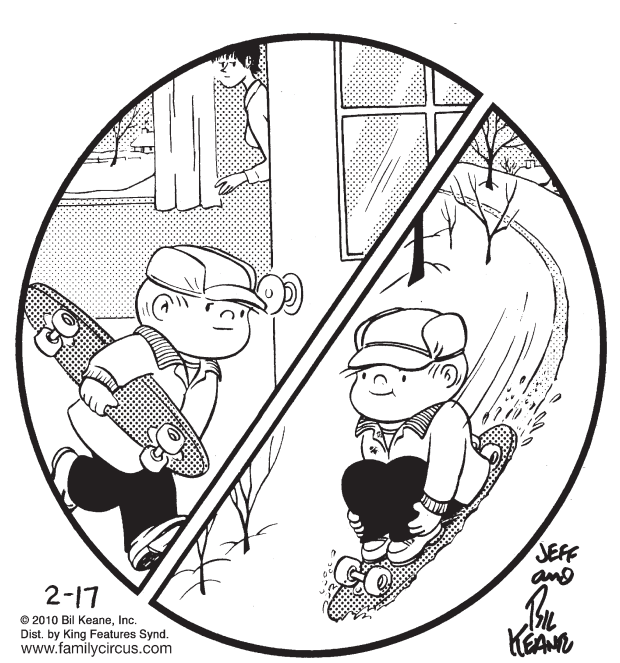
To score a second diamond trick with the given diamond combination, declarer should lead a diamond to the ace rather than the ten at trick two.

In the actual deal, South catches West's king, and his worries are over. But regardless of what West plays on the ace, another trick in the suit is assured by next leading a diamond toward the jack.

If either opponent has the K-Q-x-x or K-Q-x-x-x, the situation is revealed, and scoring a second diamond trick becomes automatic. And if a diamond honor is singleton or the suit breaks 3-2, the task becomes even simpler.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

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.

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

Cryptoquip

LSWC LZRJQ IK CSK IKEC
CMHK ZN PKWV NZV AKZAJK CZ
BJKWG ZRC CSKMV BSMHGKP
QRBCE? NJRK EKWEZG.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF A GRASPING IMPLEMENT FALLS FROM MY HAND AT THE SALAD BAR, MAYBE THAT'S A SLIP OF THE TONGS.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: N equals F

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

- 1 Burst
- 4 Old fogey
- 8 Gets on in years
- 12 Latin 101 word
- 13 Always
- 14 Hobbling
- 15 Zero
- 16 It might not indicate true worth
- 18 Seat at the bar
- 20 Rowing tool
- 21 Unpaid amount
- 24 Eccentric
- 28 King, queen or jack
- 32 "— Breckinridge"
- 33 Wood-shaping tool
- 34 Cornered
- 36 Brooch
- 37 Use a rotary phone
- 39 Friend-sister alternative

DOWN

- 41 Scatter
- 43 Medicinal amount
- 44 Petrol
- 46 Lure
- 50 Means of maintaining
- 55 Verily
- 56 In due time
- 57 Infamous lyre
- 58 Recipe meas.
- 59 Peel
- 60 Remain
- 61 Weeding tool
- 3 Horseback sport
- 4 Ricochet
- 5 Eggs
- 6 Calendar abbr.
- 7 Sandwich cookie
- 8 Old-style call to arms
- 9 Cowboy's sweetie
- 10 Ostrich's cousin
- 11 Witness
- 17 Moving truck
- 19 Praiseful poem
- 22 John Candy's role in "Spaceballs"
- 23 Tire pattern
- 25 Glitch in print
- 26 Three-some
- 27 Pull hard
- 28 Crazes
- 29 Mine entrance
- 30 Despot
- 31 Erte's art style
- 35 Ruin
- 38 Table with a map
- 40 Spelling contest
- 42 Existed
- 45 Without
- 47 Tale of the gods
- 48 Mexican money
- 49 Recording
- 50 Distant
- 51 Singer DiFranco
- 52 Opposed to
- 53 Animal doc
- 54 Mound stat

Solution time: 21 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 2-17

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		
59			60					61		