

Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



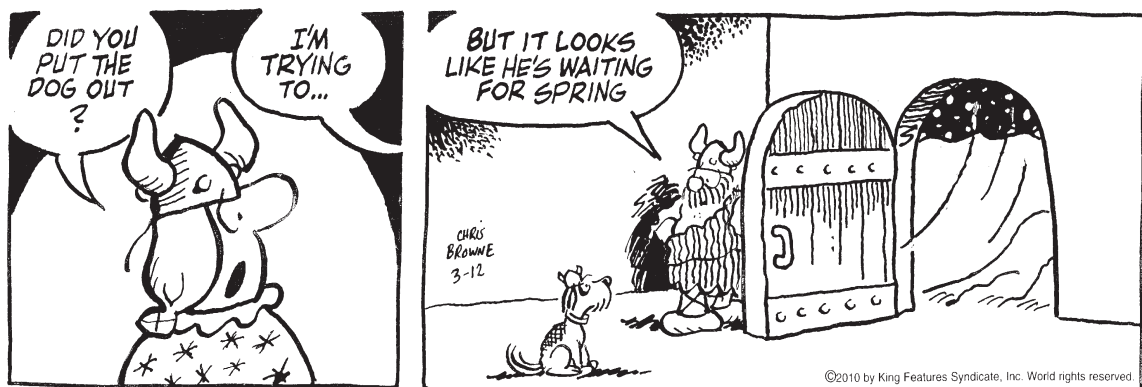
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young



Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



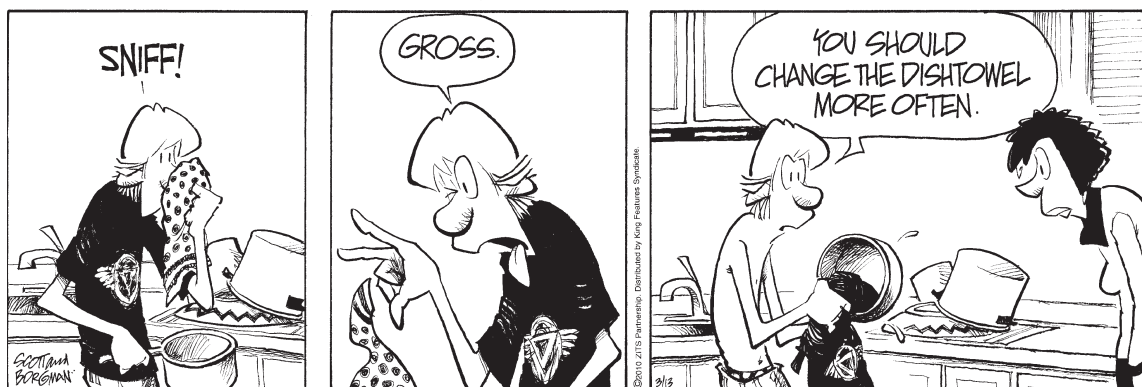
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise

- Hints from Heloise

New light comes to wickless candle

Dear Heloise: What can I do about my favorite large scented CANDLE that no longer has a wick to keep it burning? I'd hate to throw it away. The edges are so much higher than the inside. Please help! — Marian, Crown Point, Ind.

Candles are a billion-dollar industry and add lovely ambience to our homes. Here are some hints from readers that make great use of candles that can no longer burn.

- Angel from Dubois, Ind., puts a tealight candle in a large pillar candle when it burns down.
- Ann from Florida chops the candle up, puts the pieces in a plastic bag and stores them in the freezer to use in a wax burner.
- Sharon from Houston puts the candle in a cupboard to let the smell linger.

For safety, only place candles on a candleholder that is HEAT-SAFE. And keep candles away from children and pets! To prevent soot, always trim the wick to 1/4 inch before lighting, and burn for only a few hours at a time. If you have hints about candles, we would love to hear from you! — Heloise

P.S.: NEVER go to bed or take a nap with a candle still burning!

WINDOW WASHING

Dear Heloise: Here's an easy way I have developed for washing windows. I first spray with window cleaner and wipe with newspaper, paper towels or rags to remove dirt and grime. Then I spray with window cleaner again and squeegee it off. If there are any lines left by the squeegee, they wipe away streak-free with a clean paper towel. — Bruce from Houston

GARBAGE DISPOSAL

Dear Heloise: One thing I learned (the hard way) not to put in the garbage disposal is lots of thin pasta. I turned on the disposal and dropped about four or five servings of leftover shrimp pasta from the colander into the machine.

The first symptom was that the sink next to the disposal would not drain. Once I realized I had a clog, I tried using the plumber's helper to dislodge it, but nothing worked. I waited overnight and the water drained out slowly, but the drain was still clogged.

Since we were going out of town the next day, I had to fix the problem myself. This involved taking apart the p-trap and some of the attached plumbing, and taking them outside to try to dislodge the clog with the spray from a garden hose. The spaghetti had made a perfectly twined clog to obstruct the flow of water and yet was compressible enough to resist the vigorous action of the plunger. — Janet in Louisiana

WIND CHIME

Dear Heloise: If you make a wind chime out of old keys, and the chime is at the back door, you could add a spare house key to the chime. No one but you would know which one was the spare and which ones were worthless. — Theresa, via e-mail

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Bridge • Steve Becker

The bidding has gone One Notrump on your right, Two Notrump on your left and Three Notrump on your right. Which card would you lead with each of the following four hands?

1. ♠AQ94 ♥872 ♦10 ♣QJ543
2. ♠J10 ♥83 ♦J7643 ♣J932
3. ♠J7 ♥KJ832 ♦A9764 ♣5
4. ♠K83 ♥976 ♦K52 ♣QJ93

Opening Lead Quiz

1. Four of clubs. Most notrump contracts feature a race between the opposing sides for the establishment of long-suit tricks. Here, a club is led in the hope that partner has either the king or ace, in which case all your remaining clubs might become tricks after declarer's honor card is forced out.

A club is chosen rather than a spade, even though the spades are stronger, because of the greater length in the club suit. The four is selected because it is the fourth-best card of the suit.

2. Jack of spades. Good defense is mainly a partnership effort rather than an individual effort. You should think in terms of what's best for your side, not just in terms of what's best for your hand.

The chance of a diamond lead working out well here is poor, since even if your diamonds eventually become established, you have no entry with which to gain the lead.

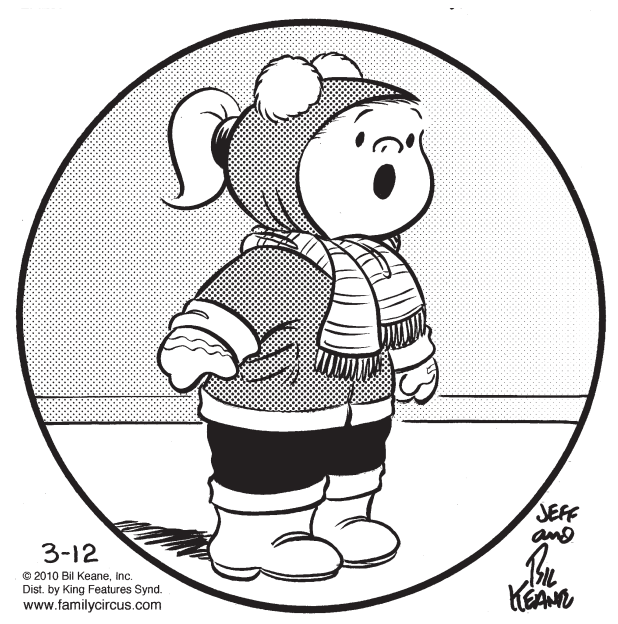
In cases of this sort, it's better to take a shot at locating your partner's long suit, since he might have enough side entries to cash them. To this end, the spade lead is more promising than a heart lead because the J-10 have a much better chance of quickly establishing partner's hoped-for long suit.

3. Three of hearts. The problem here is whether to lead a heart or a diamond; either one might work out well or badly. In the long run, a heart is more promising because it will be easier to develop the suit. If your partner has the queen or ace, you'll be well on the way to your goal, with the ace of diamonds as a side entry. A diamond lead in most cases would require partner to hold two honors in the suit, a much less likely possibility.

4. Queen of clubs. There's no good reason not to lead a club, and the only question is which one. In hands where your long suit is headed by a sequence such as K-Q-J, Q-J-10 or J-10-9, it is customary to lead the highest one rather than fourth-best. The Q-J-9 are treated as equivalent to the Q-J-10, so here the queen is led rather than the three. If the nine were, say, the six, the three would be the proper lead.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



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Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★★ 3/12

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

Cryptoquip

UWP NWPBK JGTFX JGC
ICEDGMFKTRC RWHK AU M
GWRTCR RGWPHK ECMHUU AC

Yesterdays Cryptoquip: A FAMOUS ACTRESS LIKES LIBRARIES SO MUCH, I HEARD SHE'S GOING TO RENAME HERSELF BOOK SHIELDS.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: U equals Y

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 Sheepish remark?
 - 4 Expansive square
 - 8 Cabbie one
 - 12 Every last bit
 - 13 Medley
 - 14 Christmas
 - 15 First State
 - 17 Implore
 - 18 Divorcees
 - 19 Tatar leaders
 - 20 Summoned by beeper
 - 22 Femur or fibula
 - 24 Commotions
 - 25 Suave
 - 29 Apiece
 - 30 Reform Party founder
 - 31 Old French coin
 - 32 Unspecified location
 - 34 Heart of the matter
 - 35 Uncomplicated
 - 36 Sacrifice site
 - 37 Halloween option
 - 40 From square one
 - 41 Authentic
 - 42 Boo-Boo's mentor
 - 46 "Meet Me — Louis"
 - 47 Stork's cousin
 - 48 Regret
 - 49 Closet invader
 - 50 Yearn
 - 51 Young salamander
 - 3 Symbolic story
 - 4 Swore
 - 5 "Sad to say, ..."
 - 6 Round Table address
 - 7 Pirouette pivot
 - 8 It's handy if you have to break your word
 - 9 Emanation
 - 10 Family
 - 11 Alicia of R&B
 - 16 Lumberjacks' needs
 - 19 Entanglement
 - 20 Hemingway sobriquet
 - 21 Mideast gulf
 - 22 Chuck or Halle
 - 23 Bassoon relative
 - 25 Rick of radio
 - 26 So to speak
 - 27 Tittle
 - 28 Rhine feeder
 - 30 Excellent, in modern slang
 - 33 Affluence
 - 34 Commoner, in old Rome
 - 36 Biscotti flavoring
 - 37 Decorate
 - 38 Nevada city
 - 39 Right on the map?
 - 40 Not "fer"
 - 42 ShriLL bark
 - 43 Kimono closer
 - 44 "— Wiedersehen"
 - 45 Emeritus (Abbr.)

Solution time: 25 mins.

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

Yesterdays answer 3-12

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12											
15			16					17			
20	21					22	23				
24									26	27	28
29											
32											
37	38	39									
41											
46											
49											