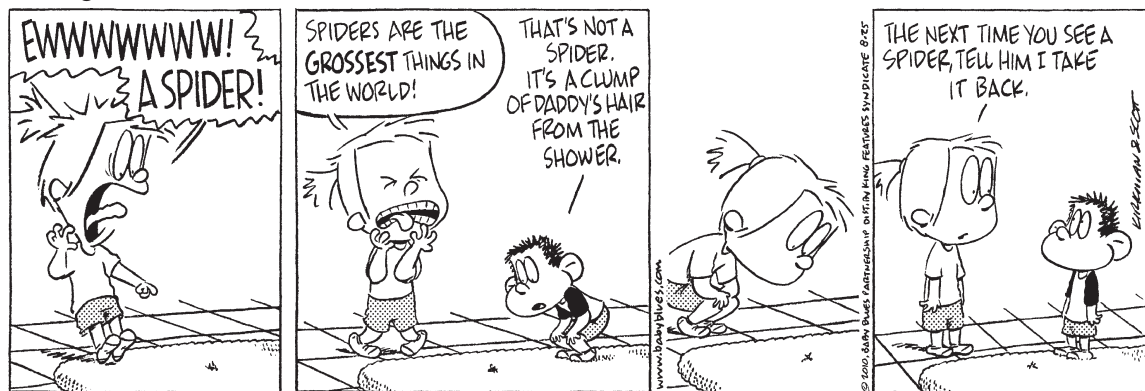
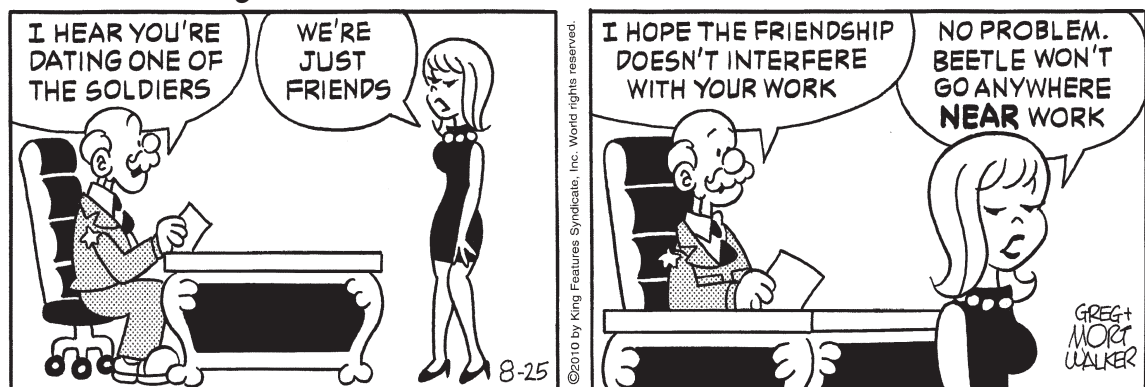


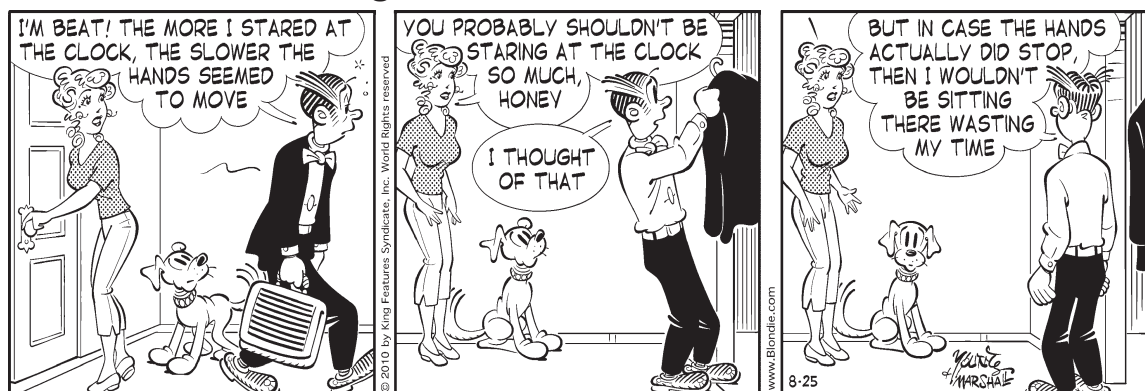
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



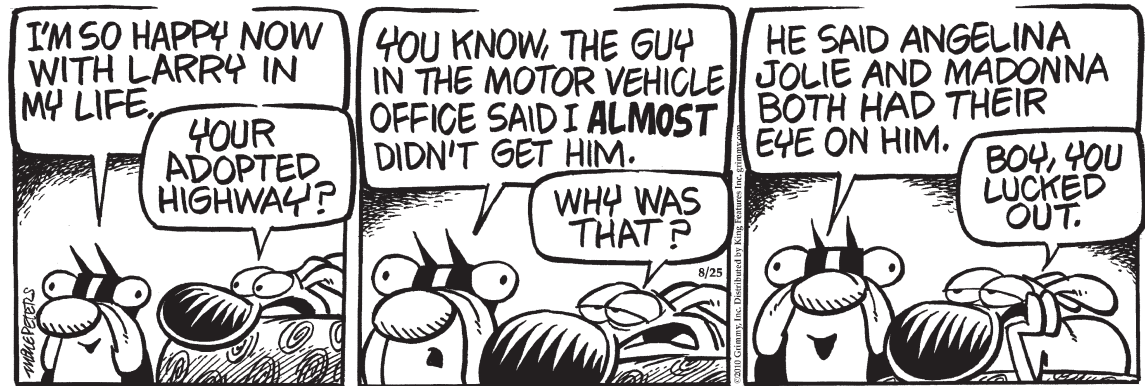
Blondie • Chic Young



Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



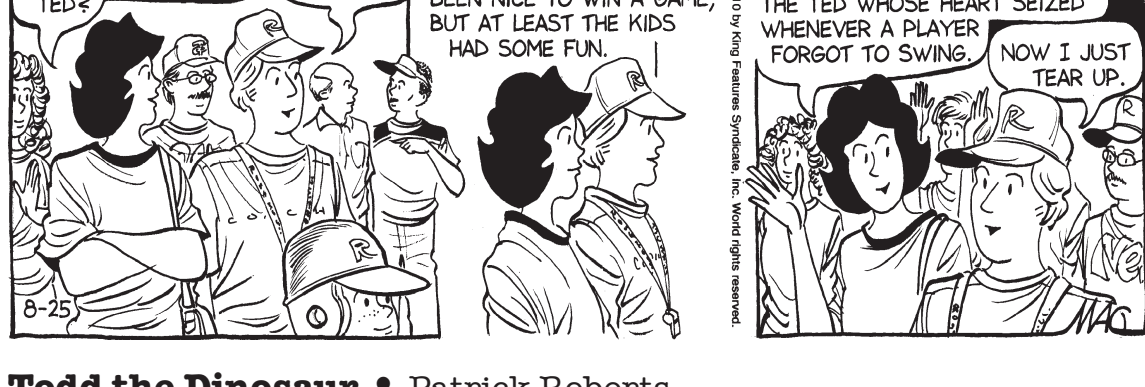
Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise
• Hints from Heloise

Special bread has special story

Dear Readers: While we were looking through archived columns, we ran across this recipe that ran in 1961, in my mother's (the original Heloise) column. We thought you might enjoy again this recipe for PAT NIXON'S DATE-NUT BREAD:

- 1 pound packaged dates
- 2 teaspoons baking soda
- 1 1/2 cups boiling water
- 1 tablespoon butter
- 1 3/4 cups sugar
- 1 egg
- 2 3/4 cups flour
- 1 cup chopped nuts
- 1 teaspoon vanilla

Cut dates into small pieces and place in a bowl. Add baking soda to boiling water and pour over dates in bowl. Set aside and let mixture stand. With a mixer, cream butter and sugar together. Add the egg. Strain water from the date mixture into the cream, sugar and egg mixture. Add flour and beat well. Add nuts, dates and vanilla. Pour the mixture into greased loaf pans. Bake for one hour in a 350 F oven. For more favorite Heloise recipes, send \$5 and a long, self-addressed, stamped (61 cents) envelope to: Heloise/Recipes, P.O. Box 795001, San Antonio, TX 78279-5001. For a get-together, make this along with a pumpkin and a zucchini bread. Then sit back and watch them disappear. This date-nut bread also makes a great hostess gift. — Heloise

STOPPING COOKING ODORS

Dear Heloise: When you boil cabbage, corned beef or other odor-creating foods, add a tad of vinegar to the water to help prevent those smells.

Also, I love to make salads in the summer — macaroni and potato. I like chopped eggs in the salads, but hate the chopping. I grate carrots into the macaroni salad, and one day tried using the grater on the eggs. Worked beautifully, and took much less time! — Colleen in New Jersey

BLUEBERRY EXCESS

Dear Heloise: My family recently picked several gallons of blueberries at an Indiana blueberry farm. My heart sank when friends told me to freeze them individually on cookie sheets before placing them in freezer bags or they would all stick together in a clump. My only freezer is the one connected to my refrigerator, and a cookie sheet won't fit in it easily. I tried another method, which worked wonderfully.

I washed the berries in a colander and placed them in a single layer on a clean terry dish towel. Then I blotted them with another clean dish towel. I put them in freezer bags, squeezed the air out and popped them into the freezer. The berries are perfectly individually frozen, and it's so easy to pour out a few for our morning cereal. — Sue from Valparaiso, Ind.

EASY ICE CUBES

Dear Heloise: My husband came up with an idea. Because ice cubes generally water down drinks, he decided to take some drinks and make ice cubes with them. Then when used, they won't water down the drinks. — Val T., via e-mail

NONFAT DRY MILK

Dear Heloise: Keep a box of nonfat dry milk in your pantry for recipes that require milk. If you don't have fresh available, this will always be on hand for that emergency, and it doesn't need refrigeration. — A Texas Reader, via e-mail
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Bridge • Steve Becker

North dealer.
North-South vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ A 6 2
♥ Q 8
♦ 10 7 5
♣ A Q J 10 3
EAST
♠ Q 8 7 4
♥ 5 3 2
♦ A J 8
♣ K 6 2
SOUTH
♠ K 5
♥ A K J 10 9
♦ Q 6 4
♣ 9 8 5
The bidding:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♥ Pass
2 ♣ Pass 3 ♥ Pass
4 ♥
Opening lead — jack of spades.

The One and Only Way

Let's say you're East defending against four hearts. Partner leads the spade jack, won by South with the king, and declarer plays three rounds of trumps, West following suit.

South next finesses the nine of clubs, which you duck, then the ten, which you win. You know from partner's high-low that declarer has the missing club, and the question is what you can do at this point to stop the contract.

Obviously, you have to lead a diamond, and if you lead the jack, South goes down; if you lead anything else, he makes the contract. The jack return leaves South helpless, whether he covers with the queen or not. Either way you collect three diamond tricks.

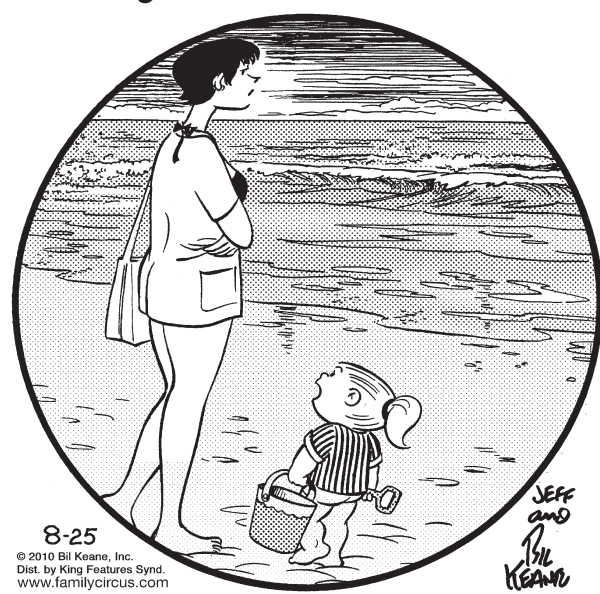
But if you make the mistake of leading the ace or the eight instead of the jack, South makes the contract with perfectly normal play. He simply follows low if you lead the eight, or does the same a trick later if you cash the ace first.

The basis for the jack play is that in order for you to have any chance of collecting three diamond tricks, you must assume that partner has the king, and also the nine (or queen) to go with it. The jack lead caters to the K-9-x-(x) possibility, while leading either of your other diamonds does not.

If declarer has the king instead of your partner, he will wind up with 12 tricks instead of 11, but that is a very small price to pay for trying to stop the opponents from scoring a game.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



"What time do they turn off the waves?"

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

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

Cryptoquip

GX CWDBRWHO LBPB WRCBCCBH
LGQU CITVC TIH SGVVBPC,
QUTQ DTO RB ZUTPTZQBPGSBH
T C T XTCQBI-TQGW I.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: BECAUSE THAT NOBLEWOMAN LIKES TO WRITE LOTS OF MEMOS, FOLKS SHOULD CALL HER NOTER DAME.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: B equals E

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Service-woman
4 Mailing ctr.
7 "Green Mansions" character
8 First, second, third and reverse
10 "Carmen" composer
11 Be there
13 Enrollment for all
16 Pale professionals
17 The non-professionals
18 Place-kicker's pride
19 De-pressed
20 Farm fraction
21 Two fingers raised, e.g.
23 Closet intruders

DOWN
1 Shrivel
2 "So be it"
3 Mail-order book
4 "Understand?"
5 Sucker
6 Raw materials
7 Philbin's co-host
8 Street urchin
9 Tattle-tale
10 Arrow launcher
12 Morrison's band, with "the"
14 Sunrise
15 Born
19 Gaming cube
20 Noshed
21 String instrument
22 Hairnets
23 Isin-glass
24 Late, as a payment
25 "What's up, —?"
26 The Devil bought his soul
28 Jurors, theoretically
29 Horse play?
30 Shore birds
31 Weaponry
32 "My home, sweet home"
34 Perches
35 Expression

Solution time: 21 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 8-25

