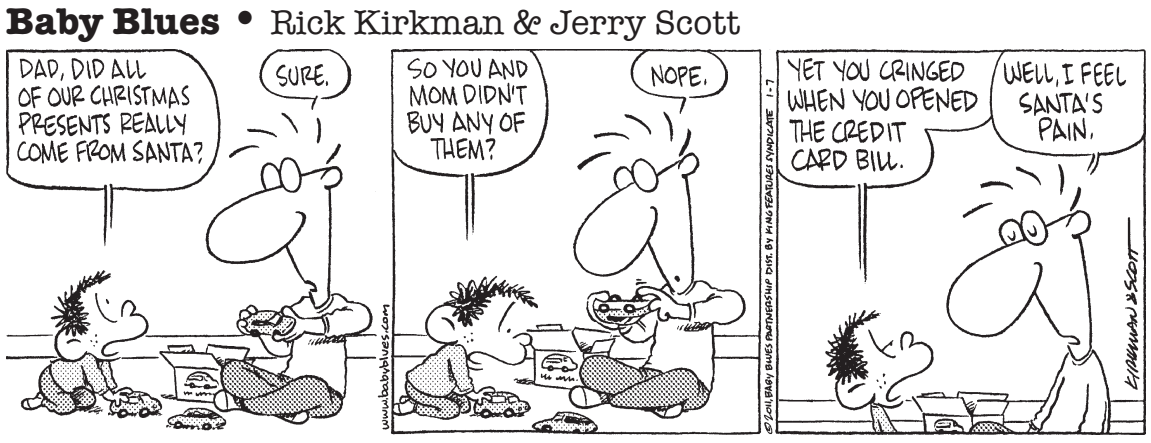
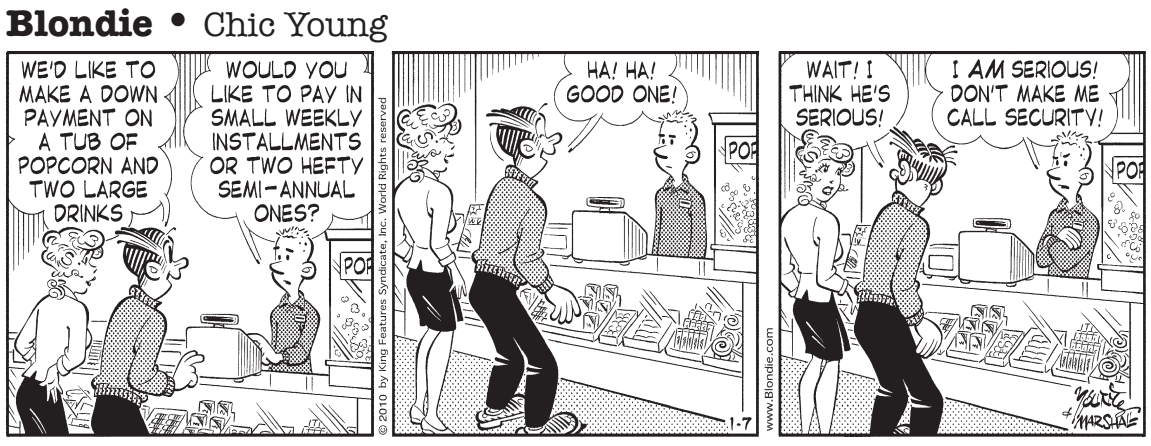
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



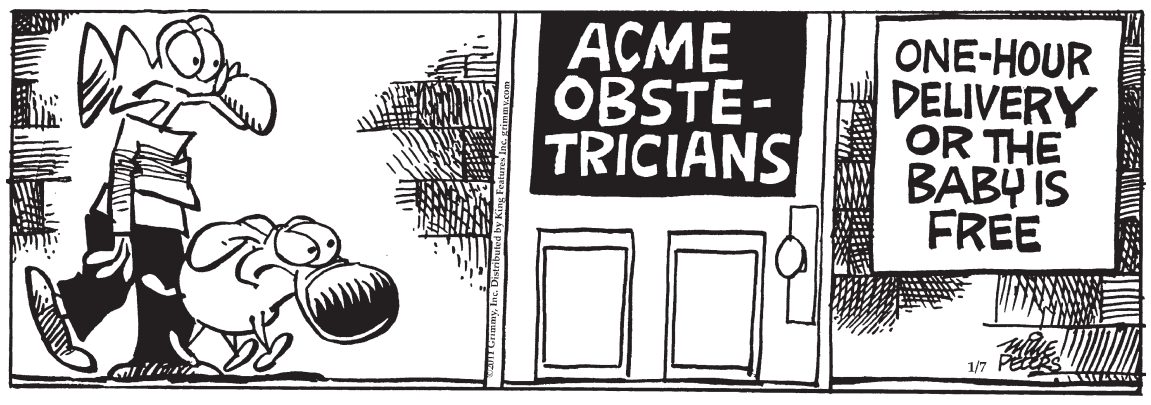
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker

Blondie • Chic Young



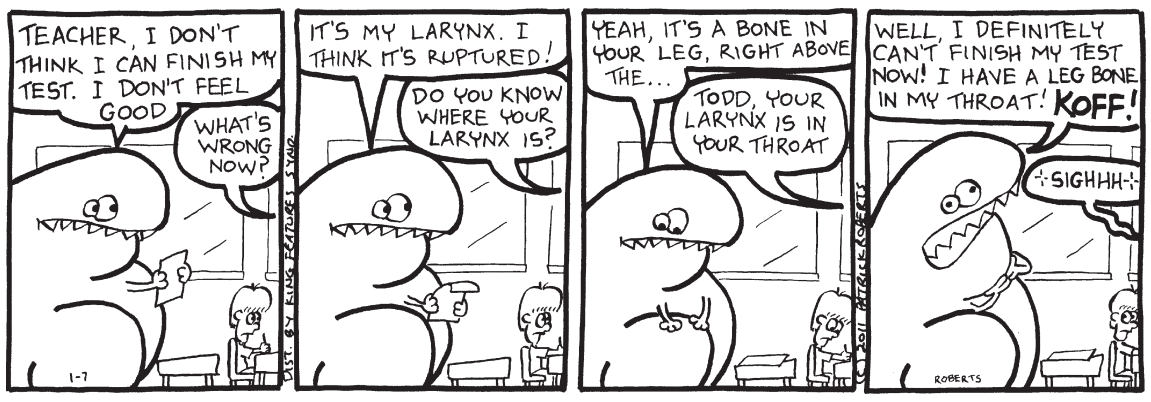
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne

Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters

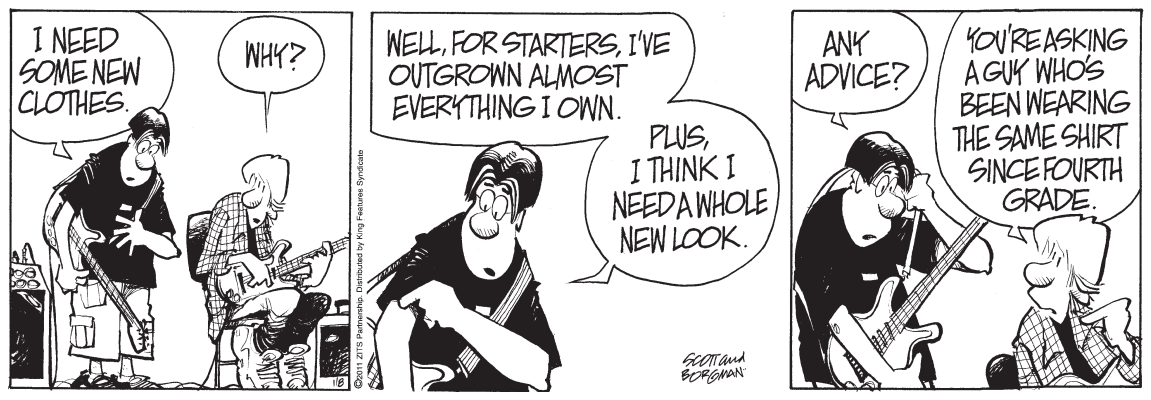


Sally Forth • Greg Howard

Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise

• Hints from Heloise

Make an effort; care for luggage

Dear Heloise: I've come up with some simple hints for STORING LUGGAGE. My goal is to use the space that I have, and to maintain my luggage in good condition. Here are some of my luggage hints:

• First off, be sure to remove all articles from the luggage. This is important, especially if you're returning from a beach vacation or a cruise, where wet swimsuits and clothes may have been tucked into pockets of luggage.

• Keep luggage, especially leather pieces, in your home (not in the garage, damp basement or hot attic).

• Look for places in your home that are out of the way to store bags. Under the bed is ideal if the luggage will fit.

• A used dryer sheet can go in the bag to freshen it. (New dryer sheets may leave an oily spot if subjected to high heat).

• Luggage set pieces usually can "nest" inside larger pieces. – J. Hines, via e-mail

For those who use traditional luggage once in a while, these are good hints. For others, especially using rolling totes, find a closet to store it in between trips. – Heloise

SEND A GREAT HINT TO:

Heloise
P.O. Box 795000
San Antonio, TX 78279-5000
E-mail: Heloise(at)Heloise.com

EASY ACCESS

Dear Heloise: I have found that a bag with dividers meant for wine bottles comes in handy when taking children on trips to museums, play groups, etc. There are six divided compartments, and I use four of them for water bottles, snacks, gloves, eyeglasses in cases, pop-up wipes or whatever else might be needed.

You can slip this inside a larger bag for longer trips. This gives you room for things like coloring or storybooks, a washcloth and towel, or a change of clothes. – Betty Harris, Goffstown, N.H.

HOTEL GERMS

Dear Heloise: The most germ-laden items in hotel rooms are the remote control and doorknobs. My husband uses the plastic bag from the drinking glass to cover the remote. We use it without getting the germs. – A Reader, San Antonio

ADDRESS BOOK

Dear Heloise: For a neat and organized address book, here's my way of keeping it updated: Use a program on the computer to create a label document. Type a label for all friends you keep in your address book. Include the address, phone number, e-mail, birthday, kids' names, etc.

Paste the labels in a store-bought address book. If something changes, it is easy to just change the information in the computer and print out a new one. – Letty in Orange, Calif.

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Bridge • Steve Becker

1. You are declarer with the West hand at Five Diamonds doubled. The bidding has gone:

North	East	South	West
1 ♥	Dble	3 ♥	4 ♦
4 ♥	5 ♦	Pass	Pass
Dble			

North leads the nine of clubs. How would you play the hand?

WEST	EAST
♠ 4	♠ A Q 7 5 2
♥ 7	♥ 6 5
♦ Q J 8 6 5 2	♦ K 10 9 4
♣ Q J 10 8 4	♣ A K

2. You are declarer with the West hand at Seven Diamonds, and North leads the king of hearts. How would you play the hand? (Assume the trumps are divided 3-1.)

WEST	EAST
♠ K J 2	♠ A 8 5
♥ —	♥ 10 7 6 4
♦ A K Q J 8 5	♦ 10 9 7
♣ A Q J 6	♣ K 7 2

* * *

Test Your Play

1. The bidding clearly indicates that North has the ace of diamonds, and the club lead has all the earmarks of a singleton. If you were to play a trump at trick two, you'd run the risk of North winning with the ace and putting South on lead with a heart to make the killing club return.

To try to stop this from occurring, you should cash the ace of spades at trick two and continue with the queen! Assuming South follows low, which is highly likely, you discard your singleton heart on the spade queen. This play costs you nothing; it merely substitutes a spade loser for a heart loser.

North wins the spade but cannot put South on lead in order to get a club return. As a result, you get home in a blaze of glory, and North is left to rue doubling you with a hand such as: [S] KJ86 [H] AK8432 [D] A3 [C] 9.

2. By far the best method of play is to attempt a dummy reversal, which depends essentially on no worse than a 3-1 trump division. This will enable you to avoid having to rely on a spade finesse, which would give you only an even chance of making the grand slam.

Ruff North's heart lead with the jack, play the five of trumps to the seven, ruff the six of hearts with the queen, play the eight of trumps to the nine and ruff the seven of hearts with the king. Next lead a low club to the king and ruff the ten of hearts with your last trump, the ace.

Now cross to the ace of spades and draw the only missing trump with dummy's ten, discarding your jack of spades in the process. The result of all these fancy maneuvers is that you score the last four tricks with your king of spades and A-Q-J of clubs. The 13 tricks consist of two spades, four clubs and seven – count them – trump tricks.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane

"Mommy! This glass is too small for my milk!"

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 1/07

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.

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

Difficulty Level ★★★ 1/06

Cryptoquip

ZXFRS JXF MTIQ VX BTRR QTBM KVFSQAV TVVQASYAP TA XKRX FAYIQEKYVJ T AXEZQPYTA BXRRQPYTA?

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: POPULAR CARTOON DOG WHO LOVES TO GO DIVING WITH A PORTABLE BREATHING APPARATUS: SCUBA-DOO.

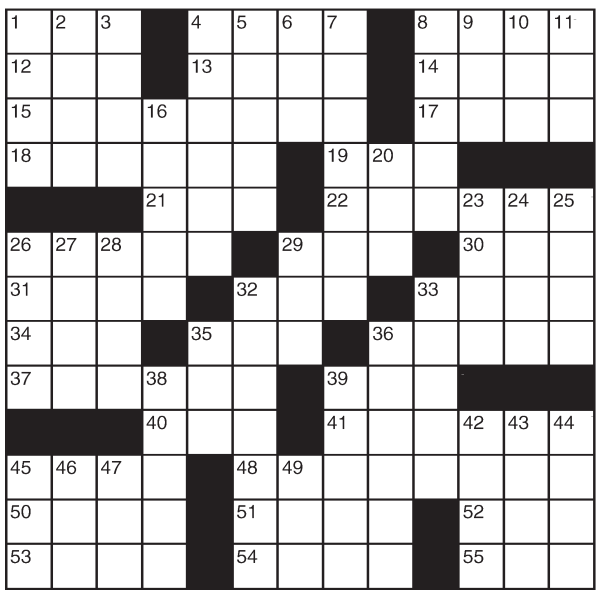
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: J equals Y

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Recipe meas.
4 Chops
8 Partner of Peter and Mary
12 Overwhelm
13 Tiny bit
14 Grooving on
15 Exaggerated advertising
17 Favorable votes
18 Computer-use period
19 X rating?
21 Neither's mate
22 Big bother
26 Virago
29 Corral
30 Moray, for one
31 Pork cut
32 Tavern
33 Corporate symbol
34 Regis and Kelly's network
35 Weep
36 Feel
37 Attention-getting call
39 Sine — non
40 Suitable
41 Sans celebration
45 Lash
48 Pokey
50 Aid
51 Pennsylvania port
52 Actress Myrna
53 Unmatched
54 Landlord's due
55 B&B

DOWN
1 Forbidden (Var.)
2 Trade
3 Hide
4 Pile-up area in a barn
5 Former anesthetic
6 Court
7 Suffocate
8 Schroeder's instrument
9 Whatever number
10 Salt Lake athlete
11 Part of UCLA
16 Irish export
20 A billion years
23 Drudge
24 Stamina
25 Lotion additive
26 Dispatch
27 Vagrant
28 Puerto —
29 Remuneration
32 "Whew!"
33 Draft in an apartment?
35 Police officer
36 Western event
38 Glad
39 Keystone of an arch
42 Wrinkly fruit
43 Lunchtime, maybe
44 17th-century actress Nell
45 Personal question?
46 Coop occupant
47 Under the weather
49 Raw rock

Solution time: 25 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 1-7