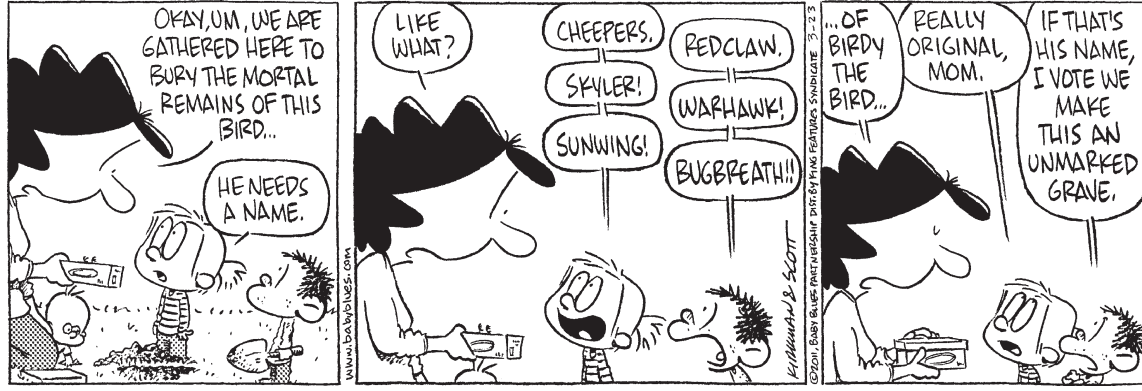
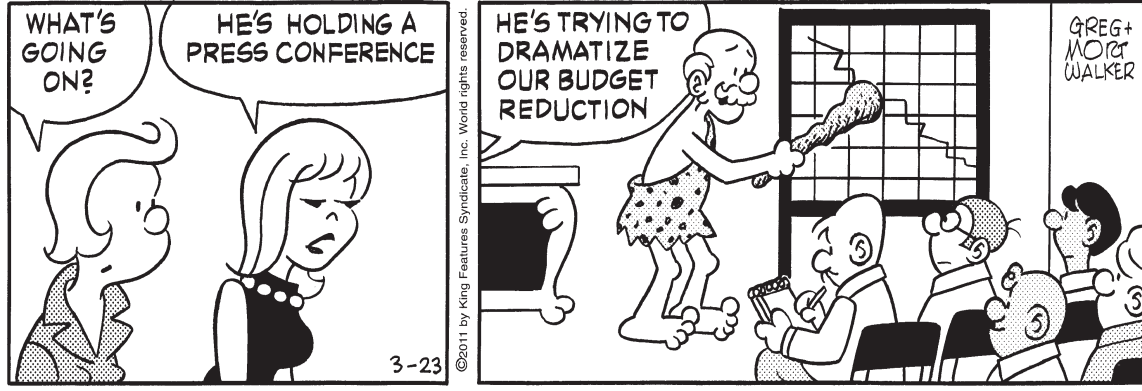


Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young



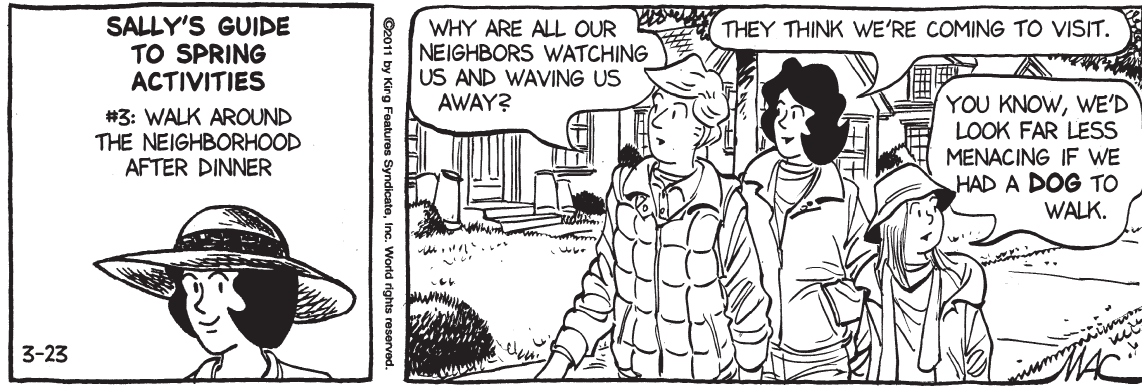
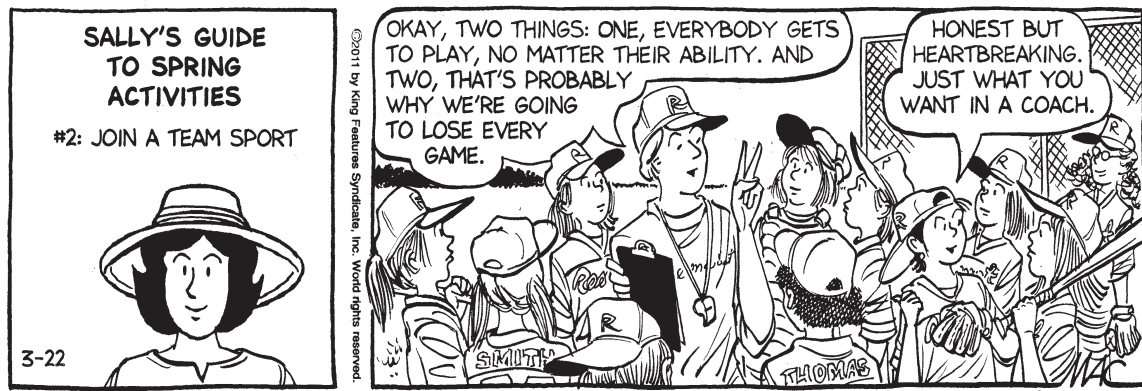
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



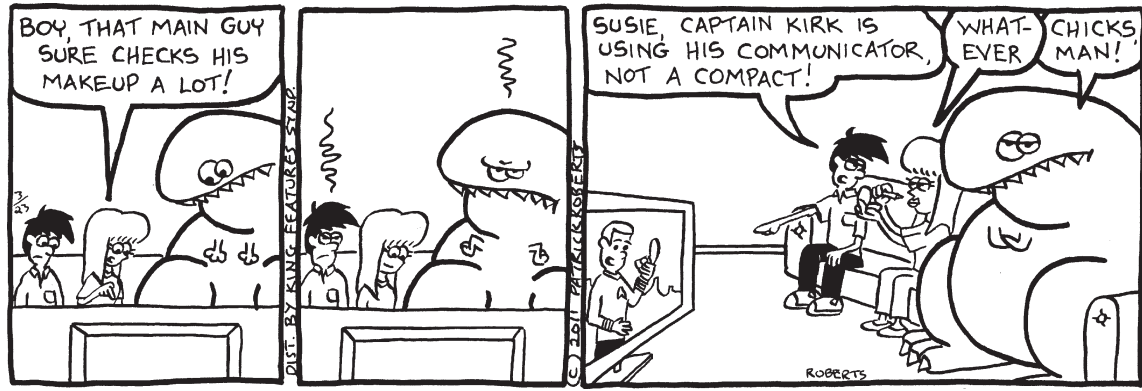
Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise

• Hints from Heloise

Omelet in bag cooks fast, easy

Dear Heloise: Here's how to make "OM-ELETS" in plastic zippered bags. This works great! It's good for when all your family is together. The best part is that no one has to wait for a special breakfast. Have guests write their name on a quart-size plastic freezer bag with permanent marker.

Crack two eggs into the bag (not more than two); shake to combine them. Put out a variety of ingredients such as: cheeses, ham, onion, green pepper, tomato, hash browns, salsa, etc. Each guest adds prepared ingredients of choice to his or her bag and shakes. Make sure to get the air out of the bag and close it. Place the bags in rolling, boiling water for exactly 13 minutes. You usually cook six to eight bags in a large pot.

Open the bags, and the mixture will roll out easily. Be prepared for everyone to be amazed. Nice to serve with fresh fruit and coffee cake; everyone gets involved in the process, and it's a great conversation piece.

Imagine having these ready the night before and putting the bag in boiling water while you get ready! And in 13 minutes, you get a nice breakfast, and it's quick! Try it, it really works! - A Reader, via e-mail

Wow! I thought this was a little wacky, but I tested it several times and love it! The dish turns out more like scrambled eggs with "the fixins." Be sure to use a sturdy freezer plastic bag, and the timing may vary, so watch the pot! - Heloise

HOMEMADE PIZZAS
Dear Heloise: My mom used to make for us kids mini pizzas with English muffins. She would toast them first, then add a spread of tomato paste (sprinkled with oregano and garlic powder), browned, chopped meat and mozzarella or Muenster cheese. She browned them under the broiler until the cheese melted. Your imagination can make any variation, including using leftovers for a unique mini pizza experience. - Dee in Florida

CAKE DISPLAY
Dear Heloise: I had purchased a bakery birthday cake and wanted to display it on a glass-pedestal cake plate. The bakery cake plate was plastic. To keep it from slipping, I cut a shape of the plate from rubber shelf lining, put that on the pedestal and placed the cake on it. The cake looked nice on the pedestal, and there was no slipping. - Susan from South Dakota

DRY GELATIN
Dear Heloise: For many years, I have used dry gelatin (regular or sugar-free) to sprinkle on top of cookies before baking. You can use any flavor you want. - Sandra, via e-mail
You also can use flavored drink mixes. They come in a variety of flavors and would be delicious on cookies. - Heloise
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Bridge • Steve Becker

South dealer. Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ 8 7 5 4 2
♥ 6 4 3
♦ 9
♣ 9 7 6 3

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

EAST
♠ 3
♥ J 10 9 5
♦ K 8 7 3 2
♣ A 4 2

SOUTH
♠ K J 10
♥ A Q 8
♦ Q 10 6
♣ K Q 10 5

The bidding:
South West North East
1 NT Dble Pass Pass
Pass

Opening lead — four of diamonds.

A Mysterious Convention
In tournament bridge, you run into all kinds of bidding systems. Players are generally permitted to use any system or special convention if we want to, provided it can be readily explained to their opponents.

It is normal for a pair arriving at a table to announce that they play weak notrumps, or Flannery, or Precision, or whatever the case may be. Some time ago, when I was playing with a favorite partner in a national tournament, we ran into a pair who announced they were playing "Goldschmidt." This was a brand-new one to us. They started to explain the convention, but we suggested that they hold the explanation until the situation to which Goldschmidt applied came up.

It never did. On the first deal, our opponents overbid their values a bit, got doubled and went down four vulnerable - 1,100 points. On the second deal, the one shown, they wound up in one no-trump doubled.

I was East. I won the diamond lead with the king and returned the three. My partner cashed the J-A and returned the five to my seven. I shifted to the jack of hearts, not bothering to cash my fifth diamond.

West took South's queen with the king and returned a heart, my nine forcing the ace. Declarer now led the king of clubs. I took the ace and cashed two hearts and a diamond.

When I cashed the diamond, South, who by now had only the K-J-10 of spades and the queen of clubs left in his hand, was squeezed. My partner at this point had the A-Q-9 of spades and jack of clubs. When South discarded a spade, my partner discarded his club. A spade lead then gave us the rest of the tricks.

So the outcome was that South took only one trick, the ace of hearts. He went down six - 1,100 points (1,400 in today's scoring) - again!
We never did find out about Goldschmidt.
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Family Circus • Bil Keane



"I don't know if I like this banana or not. I think my cold killed all my taste buds."

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

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.

Cryptoquip

Y M F E P V H P U K N P U V K Y O E V
U X Q R U V X U N E C M O L V R U X E X U
K P M Z H U P V Q P U V Z R C V H Y V L ?
N R M M Y X ' L V R O P F P O R M .

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF A GROUP OF GYMNASTS PERFORMED SOMERSAULTS IN UNISON, COULD YOU CALL THAT FLIP-SYNCHING?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: M equals N

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Safe-cracker
5 Collection
8 Memo acronym
12 Seed coat
13 In favor of
14 Sitarist Shankar
15 Solidly
17 Radar screen noise
18 Defense grp., 1954-77
19 Mate
21 Gear teeth
24 Illustrations
25 Morse "T"
28 Dryer fluff
30 Rd.
33 — Khan
34 Tarzan's transportation
35 Carnival city
36 There
37 Mountain goat
38 Blue shade

DOWN

2 Great Lake
3 River to the Colorado
4 Slight snafu
5 Resort
6 Mess
7 Santa's sackful
8 Lattice-work shelter
9 Healthful rival
10 Hertz
11 Prop for Sherlock
16 As well
20 Butter servings
22 Smooth-talking
23 Trig functions
25 Rotation duration
26 Past
27 Very clean
29 On deck
31 Through
32 A long time
34 Test tube
38 Broken-leg aid
40 Stupéfies
42 Candle count
43 CSA soldiers
44 On the briny
45 Send out
47 Lounge about
48 Composer Khachaturian
49 Pita sandwich
52 Raw mineral
53 Born

Solution time: 21 mins.

Yesterday's answer 3-23

