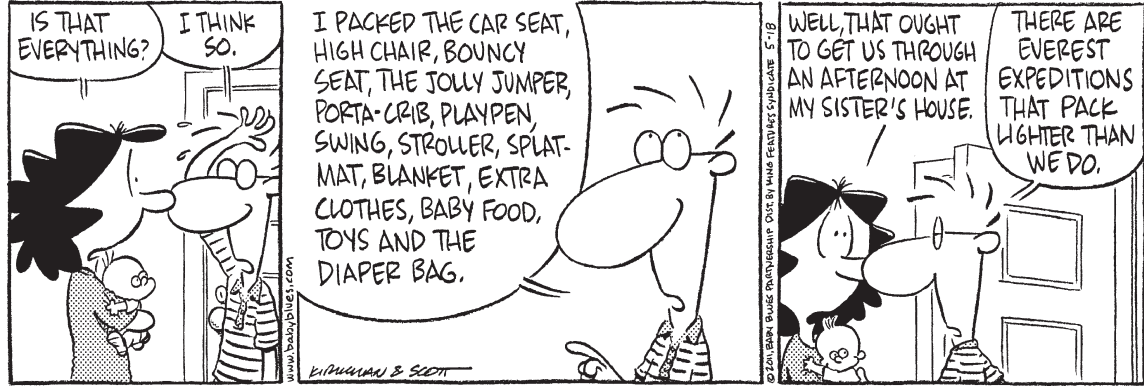
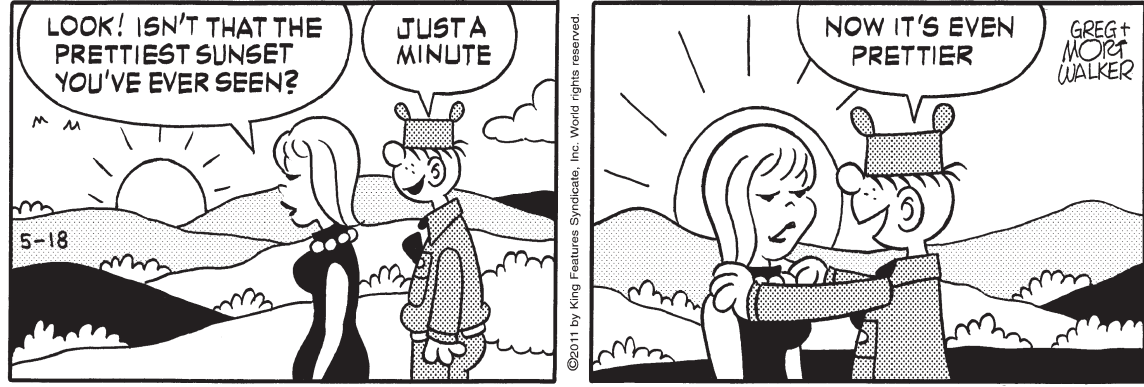




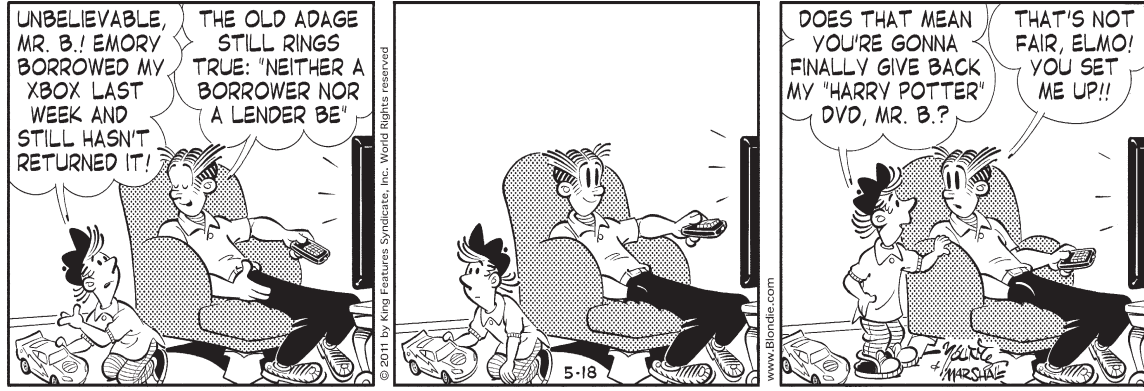
**Baby Blues** • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



**Beetle Bailey** • Mort Walker



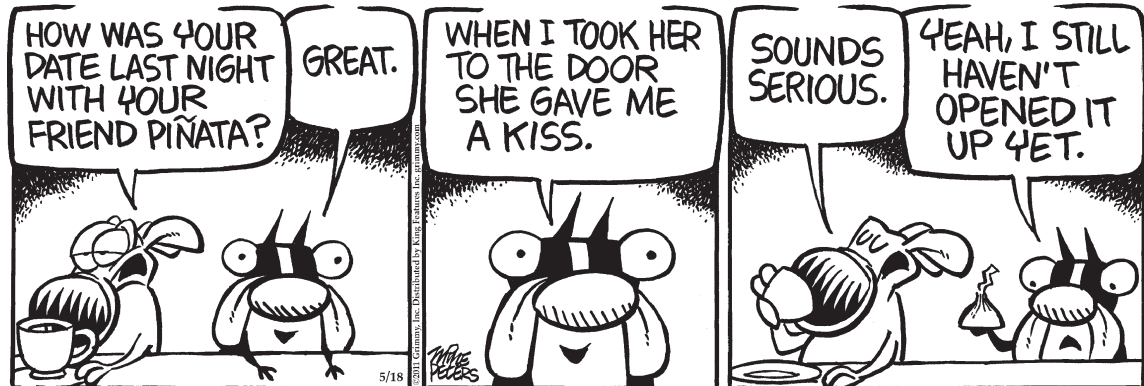
**Blondie** • Chic Young



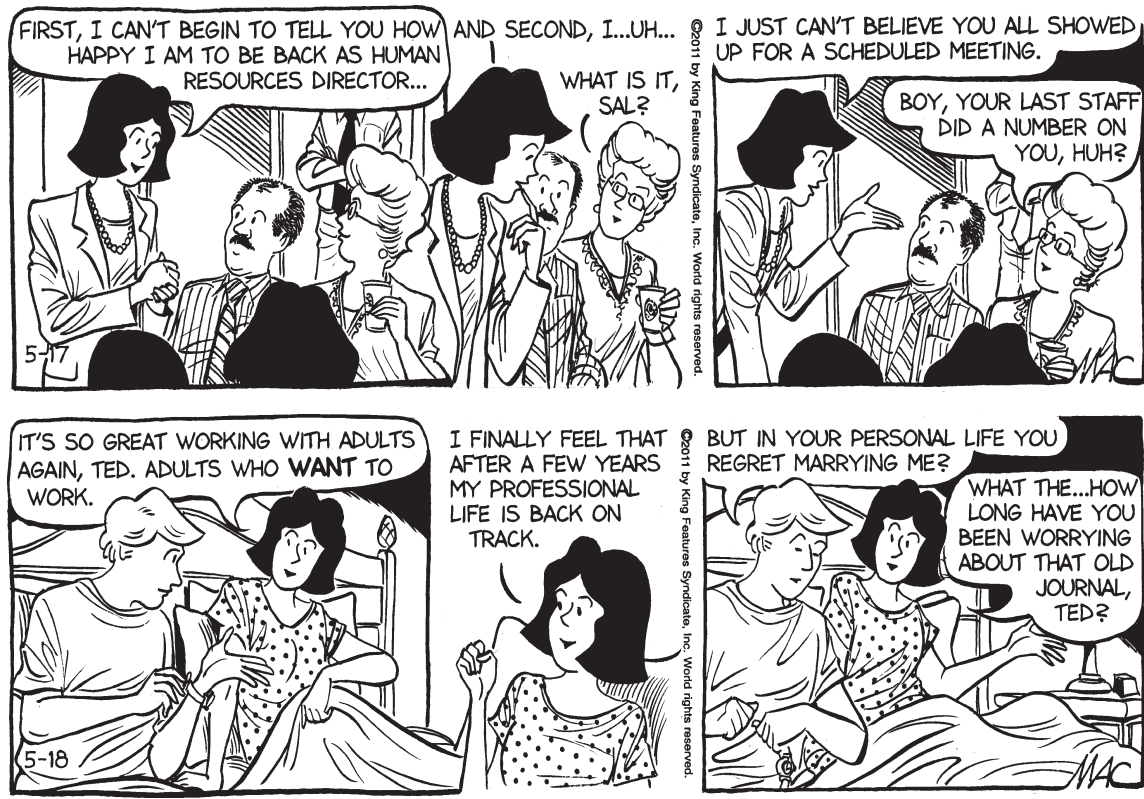
**Hagar the Horrible** • Chris Browne



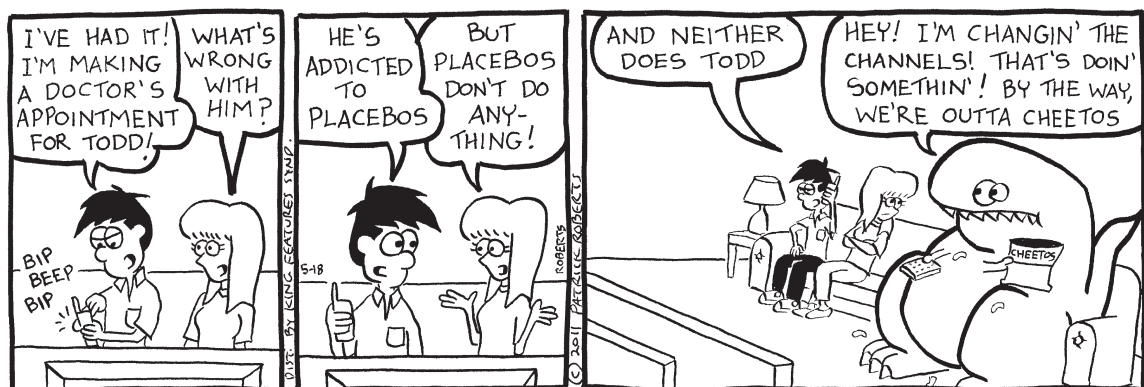
**Mother Goose and Grimm** • Mike Peters



**Sally Forth** • Greg Howard



**Todd the Dinosaur** • Patrick Roberts



**Zits** • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



**Heloise**

• Hints from Heloise  
**Wash produce as recommended**

Dear Heloise: I purchase FRUITS AND VEGETABLES at my local farmers market each week. The produce is not wrapped, and before I prepare any of it, I soak it in water to which I have added 2 tablespoons of bleach. I don't know how many people have handled the produce prior to my purchasing it, and wish to be as safe as possible. — Eva Knight, via email

Washing produce is always important, especially with outbreaks of salmonella and E. coli. We checked with the Food and Drug Administration, and it does NOT RECOMMEND using bleach, soap, detergent or produce washes. They say to thoroughly "wash" all produce under only running water before using or cooking, which means to rub the surface with your hand or a vegetable brush to remove dirt, etc. If you want, you can use a clean paper towel to "scrub" the surface of delicate fruits and veggies.

Scrub firm vegetables, like potatoes, using a produce brush. Fruits with hard skins, like cantaloupe, should be scrubbed using a veggie brush under water so that bacteria don't move from the outside to the inside flesh when the skin is cut. Use a colander when washing fruit or veggies so cleaned items don't sit in dirty water. — Heloise

**SEND A GREAT HINT TO:**

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

**NO WASTE**

Dear Heloise: When opening a carton of fresh strawberries, we tend to reach for the pretty, luscious berries we see on top. Instead, empty them into a bowl and use the ones on the bottom first. Fewer wasted strawberries! — Gloria, via email

**PACKING SUGAR**

Dear Readers: Here are helpful hints for measuring sugar: Confectioners' or powdered sugar, typically used in frostings and icings, absorbs moisture, which causes clumping. This is why it must be sifted or fluffed before measuring, then leveled off with a smooth, flat utensil.

Brown sugar should be pressed down firmly with a spoon and then leveled off. The brown sugar should retain the shape of the cup when turned out into the bowl.

Granulated sugar can simply be placed in the measuring cup and leveled off. Happy baking! — Heloise

**PINEAPPLE JUICE**

Dear Heloise: I opened a can of pineapple juice one day and needed to refrigerate the remainder. Leaving it in the can causes a "tinny" taste. Since my pitcher was not available, I grabbed two clean, empty, 20-ounce water bottles and filled them with the extra juice. It keeps well in the refrigerator and can be easily shaken when it separates. The bottles take up less room than the pitcher and can be grabbed when heading out the door. — Skeeter Gurzick, Omaha, Neb.

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**Bridge** • Steve Becker

South dealer, vulnerable.  
Neither side vulnerable.

**NORTH**  
♠ J 8 7 6 5  
♥ 8 5 3  
♦ K 10  
♣ A Q 9

**WEST**  
♠ A 9 4 2  
♥ Q 10  
♦ 8 2  
♣ 10 7 5 4 3

**EAST**  
♠ K 10  
♥ 7  
♦ A 9 7 6 5 4 3  
♣ K 8 2

**SOUTH**  
♠ Q 3  
♥ A K J 9 6 4 2  
♦ Q J  
♣ J 6

The bidding:  
South West North East  
1♥ Pass 1♦ 2♦  
3♥ Pass 4♥  
Opening lead — eight of diamonds.

**Battle of the Sexes**

In April 1989, a match billed as the "Marathon Bridge Battle of the Sexes" took place in New York and Paris. The nonstop, two-week-long, round-the-clock match between an all-male team and an all-female team, playing the same hands simultaneously at the two sites, ended in a narrow victory for the men.

The event, the brainchild of former New York Times bridge columnist Alan Truscott, established many records, including the longest continuous match (2,352 deals) and the most players participating in a match (more than 1,000). It also raised more than \$15,000 for charity.

This deal, played by R. Jay Becker (no relation to this writer) in New York, contributed to a strong comeback by the men after they had fallen behind. Becker reached four hearts as shown. East won the opening diamond lead and shifted to a trump. Declarer won and smoothly led the spade three, which rode to East's ten. The defense was now helpless.

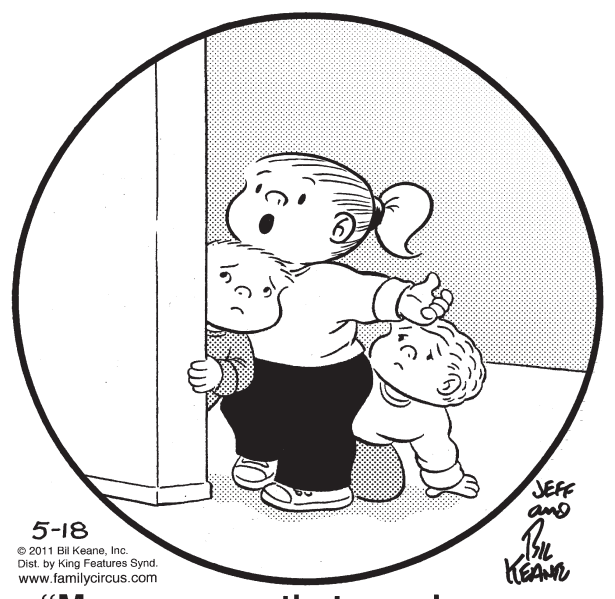
In practice, East returned a diamond to dummy's king. Becker then drew the last trump and led another spade to East's king, ending play. Whether she returned a diamond or a club, declarer had the remainder.

If instead East had cashed the king of spades before returning a diamond, declarer would simply ruff a spade, cross to the eight of hearts and ruff another spade to establish a discard for his losing club.

The only chance for the defense is for West to put up the spade ace at trick three and shift to a club, playing for East to have both black kings. This is not unreasonable, since if South has the club king, he already has at least 10 tricks, while at the same time he is hardly likely to lead a low spade from his hand if he holds the king.

The same contract was beaten when the deal was played in Paris, so the men gained 10 IMPs. (c)2011 King Features Syndicate Inc.

**Family Circus** • Bil Keane



5-18  
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www.familycircus.com

**Conceptis Sudoku** • Dave Green

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

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.

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

**Cryptoquip**

KU ZEGYIETA'Z VEMP  
UELYRLG IEMY KZ JKMT EU  
UQMMA-VEEJKMP, K PQYZZ  
SY SRZ R SQGELEQZ SQGYLQZ.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: DURING THE CHURCH'S ANNUAL "CLERGY AGAINST LAITY" RACE, ONE SPEEDY LADY PASSED HER PASTOR.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: U equals F

**Crossword** • Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**  
1 Mama — of nursery rhyme note  
5 Past measures  
8 Resistance  
12 St. Louis landmark  
13 Pea holder  
14 Bound  
15 What Archie Bunker called his son-in-law  
17 Information  
18 Veranda  
19 Small burger  
21 Penny  
24 Common Mkt.  
25 Prepare for a trip  
28 Table scraps  
30 Sphere  
33 Altar affirmative  
34 Welcome  
35 Costello or Ferrigno  
36 Chum  
37 Portent  
38 Tosses in

**DOWN**  
39 Margery  
41 Wield a teaspoon  
43 Topical antiseptic  
46 Dance under a bar  
50 Cowboy boot attachment  
51 Marx Brothers classic  
54 Chantilly, for one  
55 Greek vowel  
56 Formerly, formerly  
57 BPOE members

20 For fear that  
22 Standard  
23 Kilmer poem  
25 Spot on a domino  
26 Oklahoma city  
27 Burgundy-champagne blend  
29 Scout's shelter  
31 Scepter tables  
32 Clear the Prom garb  
34 Prom garb  
38 Obeys reveille  
40 Buenos —  
42 Sort  
43 Capri, for one  
44 October birthstone  
45 Paradise  
47 Oliver Twist's request  
48 Pedestal topper  
49 Chooses  
52 Multi-purpose truck  
53 Cornfield cry

**Solution time: 21 mins.**

BOG STEED HAM  
AVE CONDO ARE  
HALLOWEEN LET  
E TE MOOLAH  
MOHAIR ARMS  
ABA AER SITBY  
POLO DEB TAURO  
SELMA FIR TAU  
MARL POSTER  
CHANCE ODE  
HER HALLIWELL  
ARK EVIAN EYE  
DOS SEERS KEG

Yesterday's answer 5-18

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		
12					13			14				
15									17			
18							19	20				
25	26	27				28		29		30	31	32
33						34						35
36												
43	44							41		42		
50												
54												
57								58				