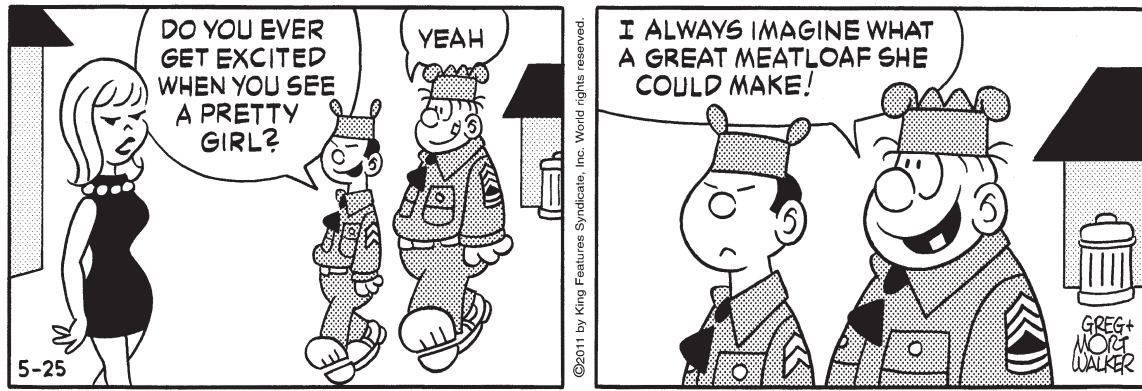


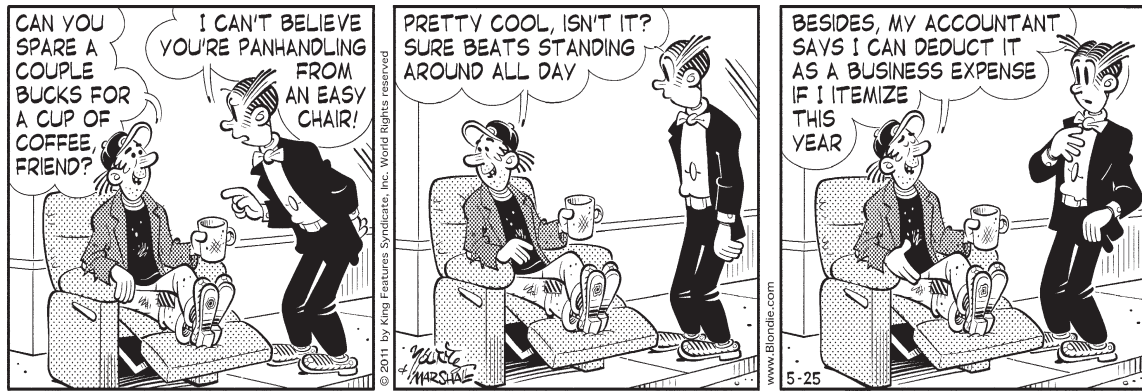
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



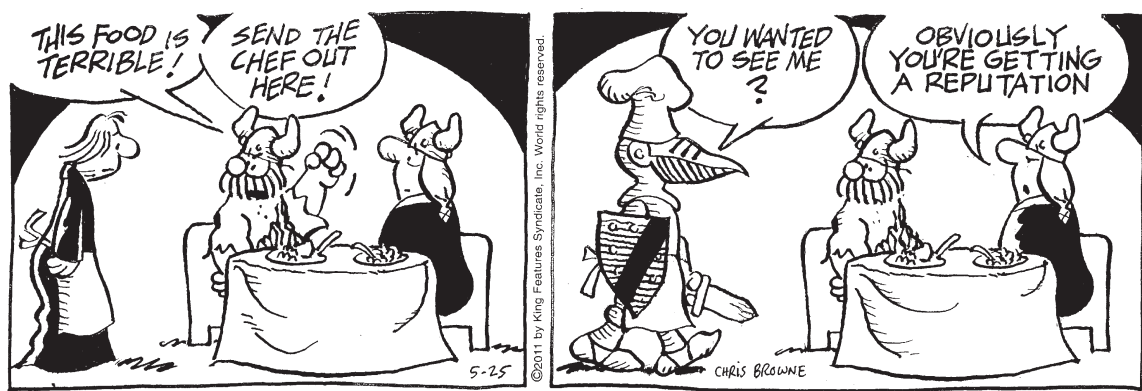
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young



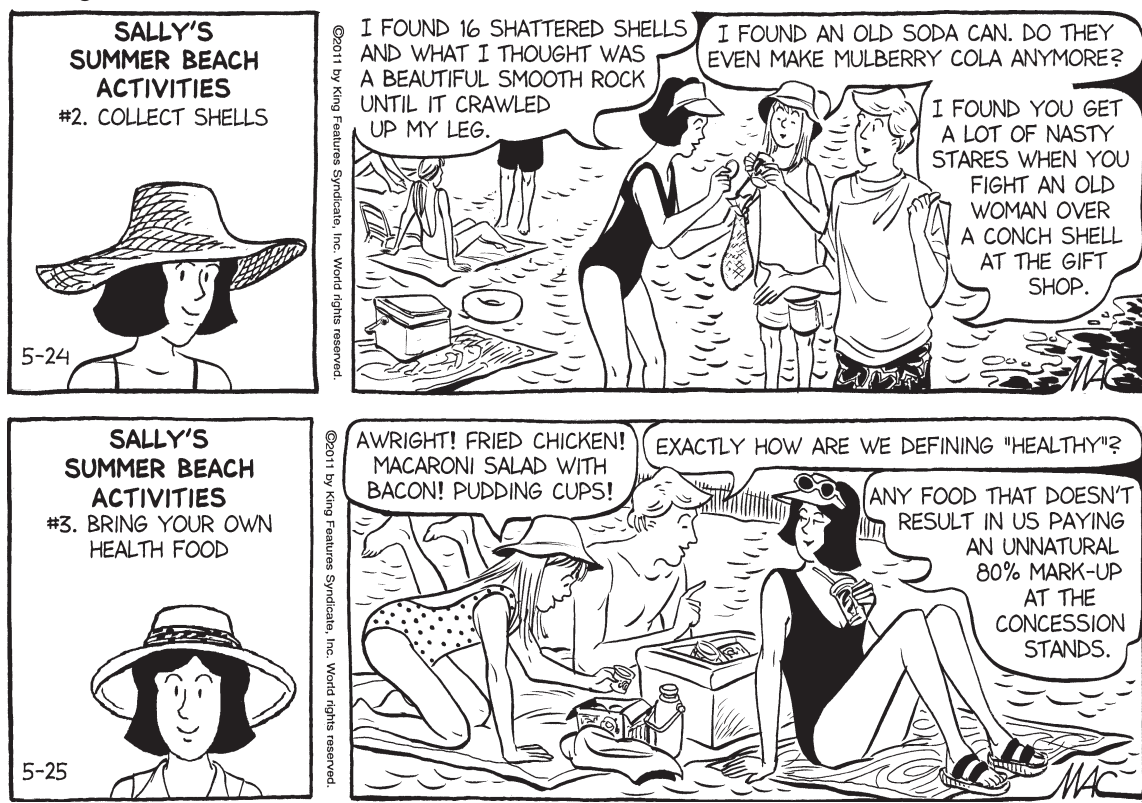
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



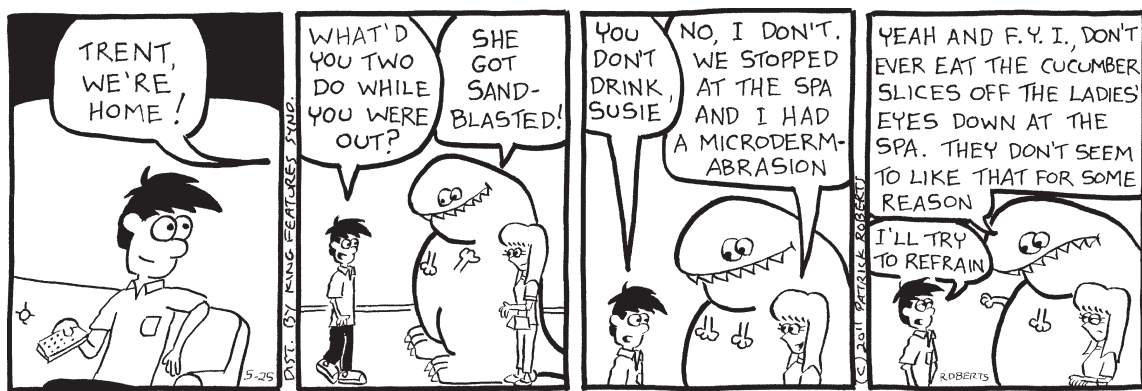
Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise

• Hints from Heloise

Fill trash bags clear to the top

Dear Heloise: Here is a great idea for saving on plastic TALL KITCHEN GARBAGE SACKS: Buy the kind with drawstrings and use in your trash can. When it's full, take it out and hang a loop of the drawstring on a pull knob or the corner of a drawer (close the drawer so the sack hangs securely), and fill the sack until it is FULL. I get three times as much trash in the sack. It is a little unsightly, but if you aren't entertaining, what the hey?

You spoke to the Texas Extension Education Association when Hurricane Ike came through the Gulf (September 2008 - Heloise), and that was one of the highlights of my life. Thank you so much for your accommodating personality. - Carolyn West from West Texas

Hi to my friends in West Texas and the Extension Service! That was a special speech for me, too! Sharing stores about my mother, my five-point plan for clutter-control hints from past to present and funny hints that never make it to print! Then closing up our coast house and heading to San Antonio, my home, just ahead of the hurricane. - Heloise

CONVECTION-OVEN CLEANING

Dear Heloise: Can you help me and let me know if I can use an oven-cleaner spray on my convection oven? Unfortunately, I cannot find any instructions that might have come at the time I bought it. - Ruth H., Basking Ridge, N.J.

A convection oven can be a countertop oven, or the convection feature can be part of a self-cleaning electric or gas oven. If your oven has a self-cleaning feature, do not use oven cleaner!

Research shows that you should NOT use regular oven-cleaner spray in a convection oven. What to do? Use a wet sponge/nylon pad or cloth and some elbow grease to clean. Putting baking soda on the sponge will provide an added cleanser. Baking soda should be in every household! I have a pamphlet filled with hints to save money. To receive one, send \$5 and a business-size, stamped (64 cents), self-addressed envelope to: Heloise/Baking Soda, P.O. Box 795001, San Antonio, TX 78279-5001. Do you know how to test to see if baking soda is still active? My pamphlet will tell you, along with some tasty recipes using baking soda as an ingredient! - Heloise

PIZZA DOUGH

Hi, Heloise: I found a way to help my pizza dough finish rising when it seems to "stall" or it won't start rising because I inadvertently used a package of yeast that is old. When it is finished kneading in my food processor, I wrap a heating pad around it, set on "low." This has worked beautifully a couple of times, and it sure beats having to start another batch of dough. - Joanne V. Romano, Houston

HANDY TRIVET

Dear Heloise: I use an overturned cupcake baking pan as a trivet. Works well. - Jim of Rahway, N.J.

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Bridge • Steve Becker

East dealer. Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
 ♠ A K Q 6
 ♥ A Q 5
 ♦ J 10 8 2
 ♣ Q 8

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

WEST
 ♠ 8 7 4
 ♥ 10 3 2
 ♦ 7 6 4 3
 ♣ 6 5 4

SOUTH
 ♠ 10 3
 ♥ J 7 6
 ♦ A K Q 9 5
 ♣ 9 7 2

The bidding:
 East 1♣ South 1♦ West 2♦ North 2♠
 Pass 2♦ Pass 5♦
 Opening lead — four of clubs.

Proper Technique Pays Off

One of the more interesting types of squeeze plays is the one known as the Vienna coup, so named because it supposedly was first executed in Vienna.

The principal feature that distinguishes this squeeze from others is that declarer at one point in the play deliberately establishes a high card for one of the defenders. The purpose of this maneuver is to prevent the dummy or his own hand from becoming squeezed instead of one of the defenders.

Take this case where East won the first two club tricks against five diamonds and continued with another club, ruffed in dummy. South now had to score the rest of the tricks to make the contract.

Relying on a heart finesse appeared futile since East almost certainly had the heart king for his opening bid. The only hope, therefore, was to play for a squeeze. For the squeeze to succeed, declarer had to hope that East had to guard spades as well as the king of hearts.

The first move was to cash the ace of hearts. This play - the establishment of East's king as the high heart - was a necessary preliminary to the eventual squeeze.

The rest of the play followed standard lines. South simply cashed all of his trumps, discarding the Q-5 of hearts from dummy.

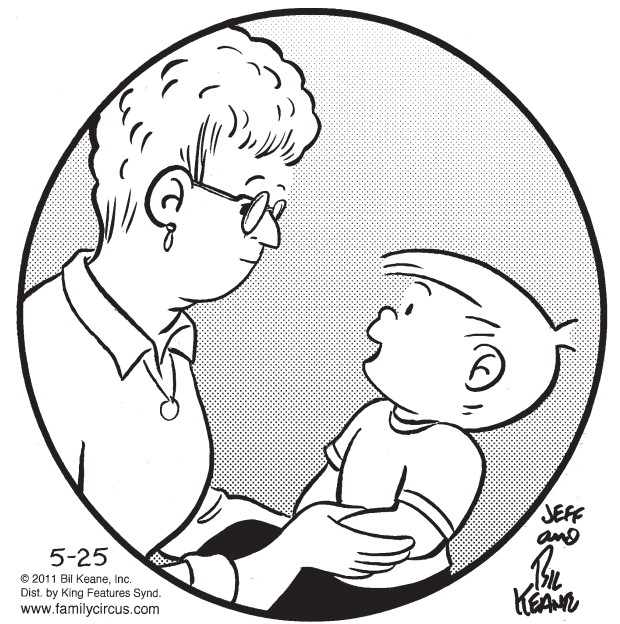
At this point, declarer's hand consisted of the 10-3 of spades and J-7 of hearts, while dummy's last four cards were the A-K-Q-6 of spades.

But on the last trump lead, East, holding the J-9-5-2 of spades and king of hearts, also had to come down to four cards. No matter what he discarded, South was bound to make the last four tricks.

Observe that the squeeze would have failed if the ace of hearts had not been cashed earlier. Dummy would have been squeezed instead, and declarer would have gone down.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



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Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★ 5/25

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

Cryptoquip

GYFX BV YT NTZBFXTG JYT

AWB DKXZ WNK VBBGKGBBF

GWX AWBFX VYFF KXYKBT:

"YDGDJT BT YT BGGBJYT."

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF YOU FIRMLY INTEND TO FIRE A SLOTHFUL EMPLOYEE, I SUPPOSE THAT'S TERMINATION DETERMINATION.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Y equals A

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Phony coin
 5 Bankroll
 8 "Scrabble" piece
 12 Sound of contentment
 13 Ostrich's cousin
 14 Elevator name
 15 "No kidding!"
 17 Works with
 18 Kitchen vessel
 19 Wine vessel
 21 "Whadja say?"
 22 Female red deer
 23 Mueller's org.
 26 Scarlet
 28 Coral structures
 31 Reply to "Shall we?"
 33 Massage
 35 Harvard rival
 36 Retract one's words

DOWN

11 Being, to Brutus
 16 Tea time
 20 Melody
 23 Winter ailment
 24 Stiller or Affleck
 3 — Major
 4 Boardroom
 7 Netherlanders
 8 Series of contests
 9 "Agreed"
 10 Willingly, old-style
 5 Meteorologist's ken
 6 Film buff's choice
 7 Netherlanders
 8 Series of contests
 9 "Agreed"
 10 Willingly, old-style
 25 "Meet you then"
 27 Payable
 29 Aviate
 30 Witness
 32 Mean ones
 34 Open up, as a bud
 37 Thee
 39 One of the Three Bears
 42 Surname meaning "maker"
 44 Gordon and Westheimer
 45 Money
 46 Sandwich cookie
 48 Let gravity take over
 49 Stare stupidly
 50 Grand story
 53 Pirouette pivot

Solution time: 21 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 5-25

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13			14			
15				16			17			
18						19	20			
21						22				
23	24	25		26		27	28		29	30
31			32		33		34		35	
36				37		38		39		40
41				42		43		44		
45	46					47		48	49	50
51				52		53				
54				55				56		
57				58				59		