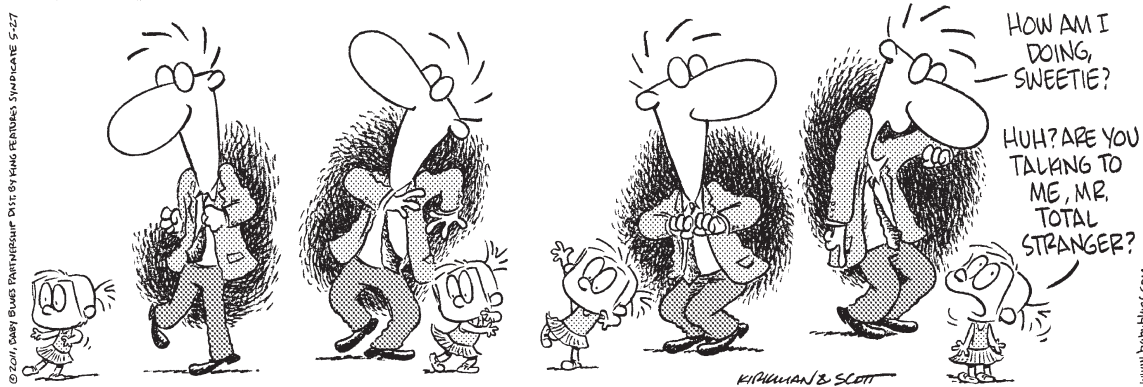
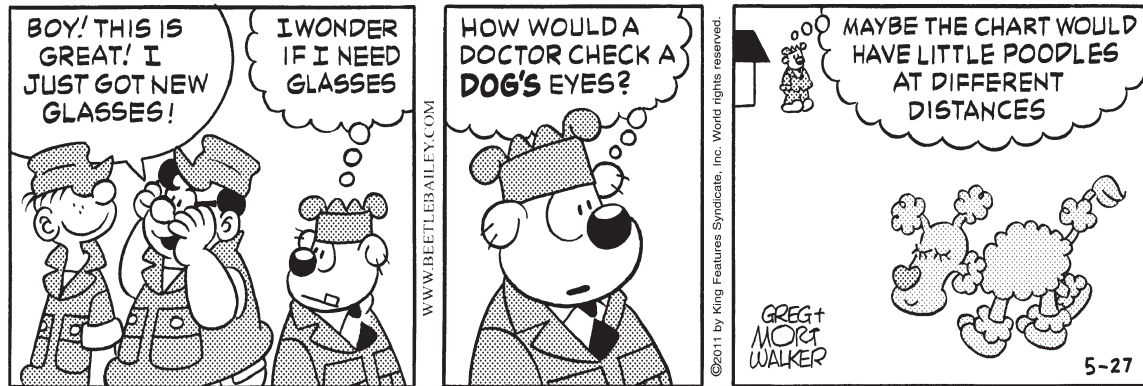


Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



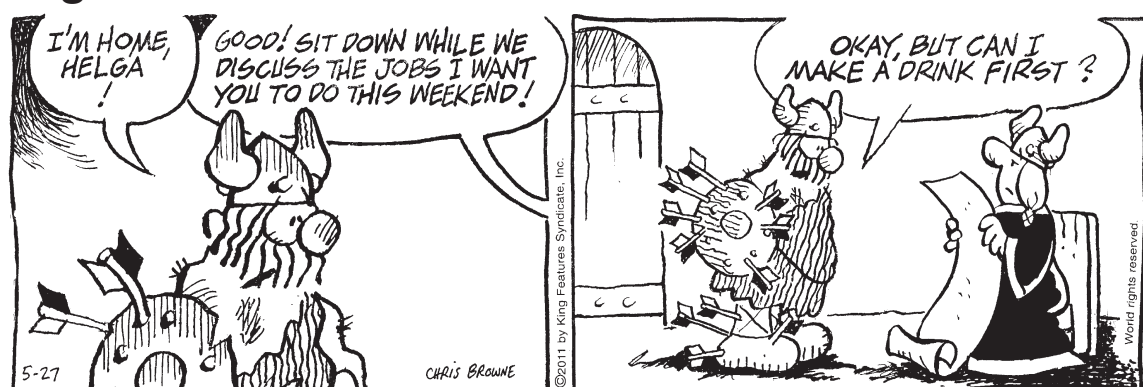
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young



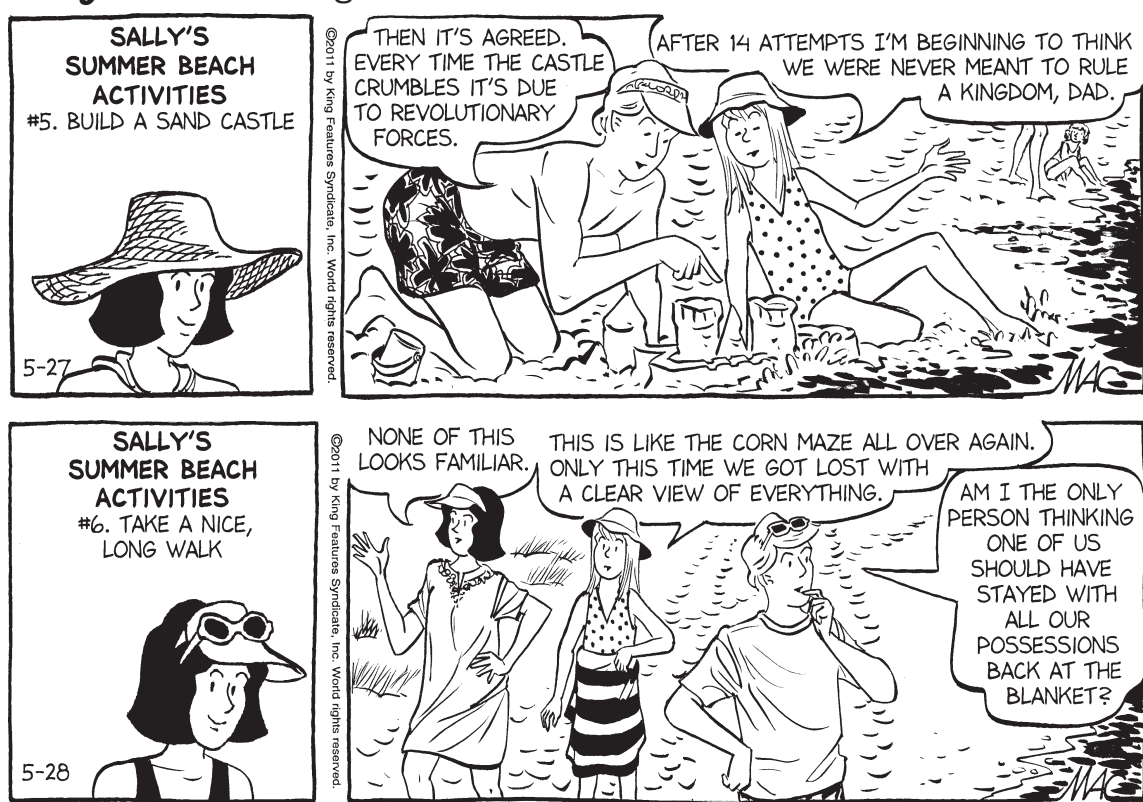
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



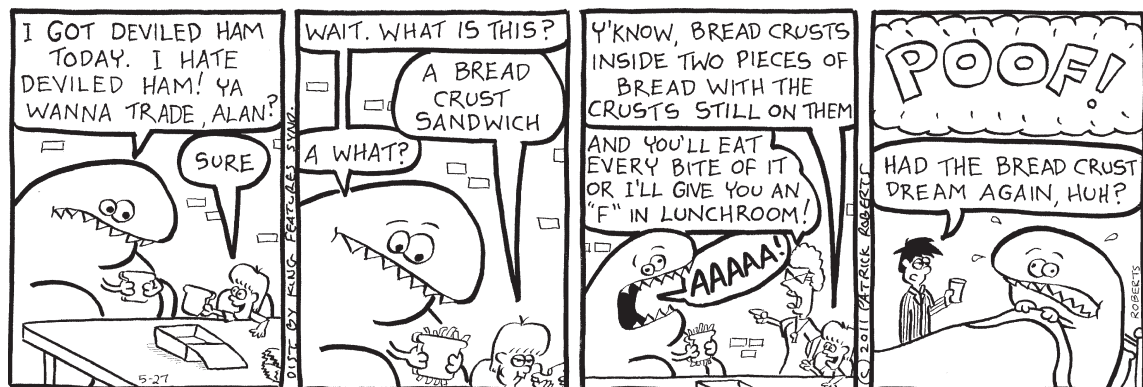
Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise

• Hints from Heloise
Dilute bleach even in dispenser

Dear Heloise: I just had to thank you and the woman who wrote to share what she learned about the use of the BLEACH DISPENSER in an automatic washer. That finally solved the mystery of the intermittent spots in my laundry. I was getting a few small bleach spots only every once in a while, and it seemed to coincide with the times that my husband helped by doing his load of whites with bleach. After reading about how bleach can lodge in the bleach dispenser and be spit out onto the following load, I realized what had happened.

Following my mother's admonition, I had always diluted the bleach I put into the dispenser, but my husband hadn't, so the spots appeared only after he'd done his bleach load. He now knows to dilute the bleach! — Elsie in Huntsville, Ala. Isn't it amazing that we are still learning from each other? Thanks to all my readers who take the time to share. — Heloise

MOVING HINT

Dear Heloise: When preparing to move across the country, I bought a three-section wire-bound notebook to help keep me organized.

I used one section for details on the place I was moving from: the realtor's info, checklist of utilities to turn off, garage sale/recycling info, how to transfer medical records, etc. I used another section for details of the place I was moving to. The middle section was for details needed in transit: the moving company, lodging reservations, etc.

I've kept the same notebook and used it for a couple of moves since then. When it came time to shut off utilities at the first place I moved to, the information was still there, and that became the "from" section for the next move.

It is important that everyone helping you know what the notebook looks like so that it does not get packed.

Early on, clear one shelf in a kitchen cupboard, linen closet, etc., and use it for things that must NOT be packed, like current medications, maps, notebook, cellphone chargers, keys or garage-door openers to be left behind.

Moving is stressful, but keeping the most essential information in one place can help your peace of mind. — Peg Wherry, Bozeman, Mont.

GARDENING TOOLS

Dear Heloise: When working in my flower gardens, sometimes the tools are too big to get between dense plants. I found the perfect solution — a pronged spaghetti scoop. It's just right!

Fits easily between and around all plants. — Jean Milici, Torrington, Conn.

DRAWER LINERS

Dear Heloise: In kitchen drawers for utensils and small household gadgets, I use plastic place mats as liners. If they are too large, I trim the transparent border. One side has a textured, nondecorative surface, which prevents it from slipping. The place mats are easy to clean, too. — Margarette Mattern, Temple, Texas

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Bridge • Steve Becker

You are South, and the bidding has gone:

North East South West
1 ♦ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 NT Pass ?

What would you bid now with each of the following four hands?

- ♠ AQ95 ♥ AQ7 ♦ K4 ♣ 9843
- ♠ Q983 ♥ J2 ♦ Q5 ♣ J9643
- ♠ KQ1064 ♥ Q97 ♦ 5 ♣ AQ62
- ♠ KQ854 ♥ AQJ72 ♦ J4 ♣ 8

Bidding Quiz

1. Six notrump. Bidding is a highly specialized language where players agree in advance that certain bids in certain circumstances have certain specific meanings. The vocabulary of bidding is very limited — the four suits, the numbers one through seven, the words "notrump," "double," "redouble" and "pass" — and yet, proper use of these 15 terms can perform wonders.

In the present case, it is reasonable to assume that partner has a balanced hand of 18 or 19 points for his two-notrump bid. He presumably wouldn't have jumped to two notrump with less, because he knows that your one-spade response might have been based on only six points. Added to your 15 points, this gives your side the requisite 33 points needed to make six notrump a very sound contract.

2. Pass. You are not required to continue bidding over two notrump, so the safest thing to do is pass. It might be that a partscore in clubs is a safer contract, but partner can't pass if you bid three clubs, leaving two notrump as the only realistic alternative.

3. Three clubs. Slam is certainly a possibility, but the best slam is apt to lie in a suit rather than in notrump. Three clubs asks partner to show three-card spade support, if he has it, or to raise clubs if he has four cards in that suit. If he does support one of your suits, you can try for slam by bidding four notrump (Blackwood) next. If partner bids three notrump over three clubs, indicating lack of interest in either of your suits, you should pass.

4. Three hearts. Here, too, there is a strong possibility of slam, but first you should find out if partner can freely support either of your suits. If he does by bidding three spades or four hearts, you should check for aces via Blackwood next. If partner retreats to three notrump over three hearts, you can try for slam by leaping to five hearts (invitational to six) at your next turn. Partner should pass five hearts with something like [S] Jx [H] Kxx [D] AKQx [C] KQxx, but should carry on to six with [S] J10 [H] Kxx [D] AKxx [C] AKxx.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★★ 5/27

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.

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

Cryptoquip

RLRAKDV TLWQT ZHVQR

DCLAH D CAEMKQEM ULLK

UVLW D ZLAHSFDZH DZQDE

QZKDEY: "HSF CLVEFL KLZFY."

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN SOMEONE IS AWARE THAT A MACHINE HAS TOOTHED GEARS, I'D CHARACTERIZE HIM AS COG-NIZANT.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: R equals P

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- Intimidate
 - Support
 - Harbor structure
 - Altar constellation
 - Ladd or Alda
 - Desire
 - Violin virtuoso
 - Cash-drawer contents
 - Solemn promise
 - Youngster
 - Dress in
 - Sesame paste
 - Internet-related
 - Apiece
 - Cacophony
 - Clarinet insert
 - Chum
 - Daniel Craig role
 -
 - Matter-horn, for one
 - Pass along
- DOWN**
- One of the
 - Dogpatch creator
 - Exam format
 - Carry on
 - Maine city mentioned in "King of the Road"
 - Extraterrestrial
 - Paint container
 - Plied needles
 - "— the Raven, ..."
 - Coffee vessel
 - Time of your life?
 - "Of course"
 - Put in
 - Scully prop
 - "American —"
 - 1492 ship
 - Race place
 - Grouch
 - Bigfoot's cousin
 - Neb
 - Young seal
 - One of Santa's team
 - Dugout furniture
 - Black-bird
 - Save
 - Resort island near Majorca
 - Summarize
 - Stash
 - Tackles' teammates
 - Mental acuity
 - Mesozoic, e.g.
 - Pitch
 - 9mm sub-machine gun
 - Cable channel

Solution time: 25 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 5-27

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		
45	46	47				48	49				
50						51				52	
53						54					55