

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



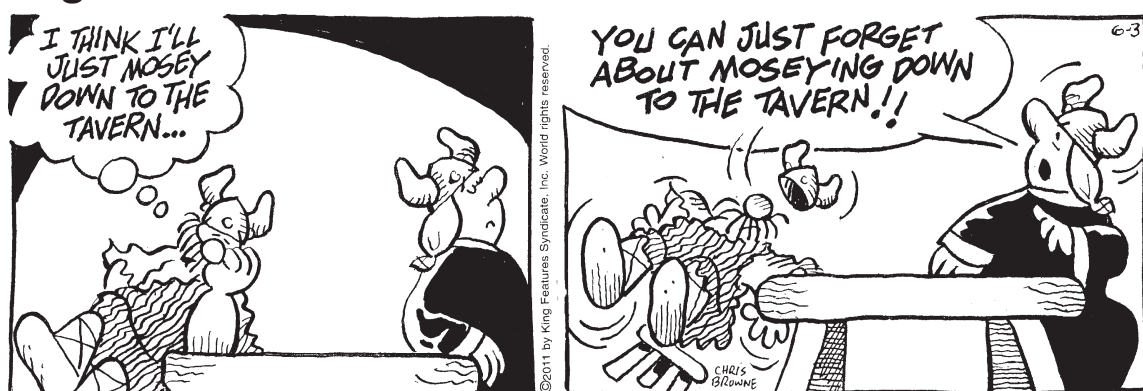
**Beetle Bailey** • Mort Walker



**Blondie** • Chic Young



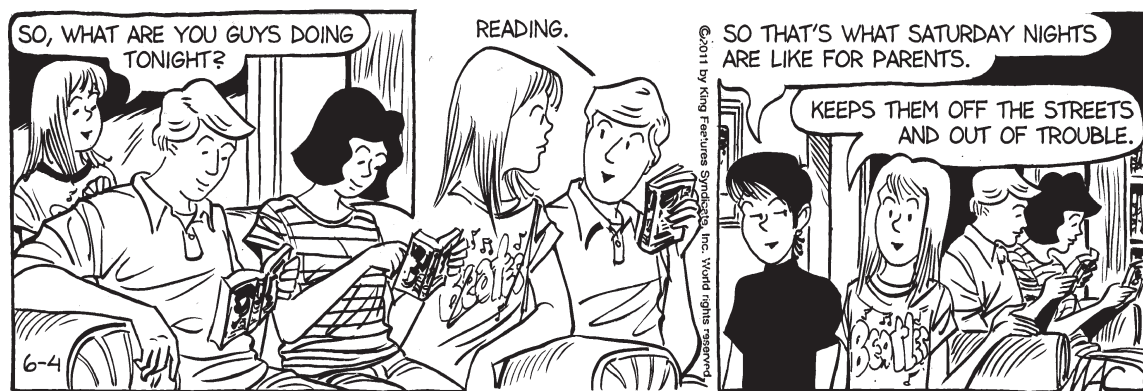
**Hagar the Horrible** • Chris Browne



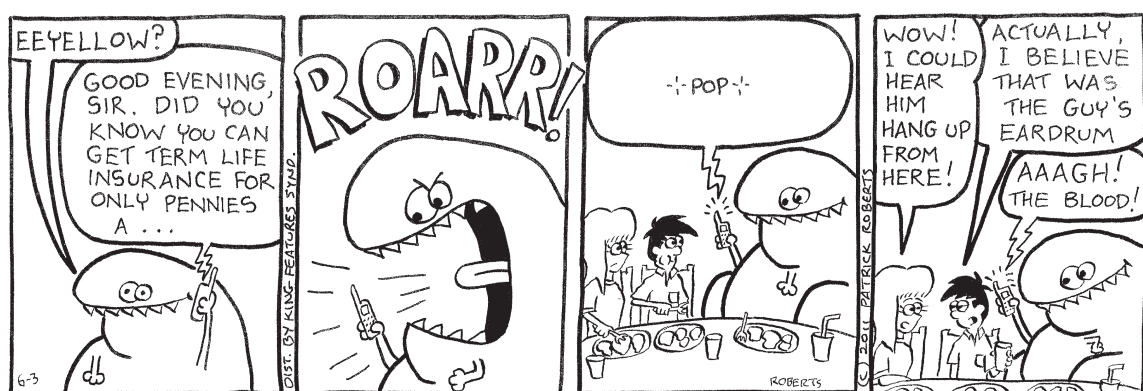
**Mother Goose and Grimm** • Mike Peters



**Sally Forth** • Greg Howard



**Todd the Dinosaur** • Patrick Roberts



**Zits** • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



**Heloise**

- Hints from Heloise

**Get medicine before storm hits**

Dear Heloise: With the start of HURRICANE SEASON, I wanted to remind readers of something important to have on hand in case of a hurricane: allergy medications! After Hurricane Ike hit Houston in 2008, all of the downed trees and wind-stirred vegetation made my daughter's allergies go crazy, resulting in asthma. Since she usually only has fall allergies, I didn't have the proper medications and an inhaler on hand. Pharmacies were closed for days, so it made for a scary situation that could have been easily avoided with a little planning. — Elizabeth B., Houston

Elizabeth, thank you! It's something I never would have thought of. — Heloise

**SEND A GREAT HINT TO:**  
Heloise  
P.O. Box 795000  
San Antonio, TX 78279-5000  
Email: Heloise(at)Heloise.com

**DRYER CAUTION**  
Dear Heloise: I had to pass this on: I have a dryer about 15 years old and thought it was on its last leg. It would not dry sometimes. The heat was not as hot as it should have been.

At times, I had to run a load twice, and it still was damp. So, I was prepared to buy a new one. We were told to remove the back panel (this may be difficult, so it would be best to have a professional do this task — Heloise) to see if lint had built up on the inside. What a shock — I could not believe the amount of lint.

I always cleaned the lint filter after a couple of loads, and it was piped to go outside, and that also was cleaned. It was not a matter of not being cleaned — this just happens over time.

We were told this should be done every couple of years. Now it is working great, as good as new. This saved us from putting out money on a new dryer. — Sandy Boro, Plattsburgh, Neb.

**TRAVEL HINT**  
Dear Heloise: When packing for a trip, I couldn't find the small, plastic bag that attaches inside my luggage. I use this bag toiletries and consider it extra protection against leaks.

I put my toiletry kit in the plastic zipper bag that had contained new sheets. The kit fit with some room to spare, and I did not worry about leaks in my luggage. — Thomas S., via email

**PUBLIC LAUNDRY FOLLOW-UP**  
Dear Heloise: I recently saw your column about public laundry facilities. Here are a couple of hints from the laundry's side:

- If you are going to the bank, please get change for your laundry. If several people come in with \$20s, I have to close down and run to the bank for smaller bills.
  - If the washer or dryer is done, please hang up your cellphone and remove your clothes. Other people might be waiting, or it may be closing time. — Doloris Stolle, Mansfield, Ohio
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**Bridge** • Steve Becker

**1. You are declarer** with the West hand at Five Clubs. North leads the ten of diamonds. How would you play the hand?

**WEST**  
♠ A J 10  
♥ 6 2  
♦ A K 7  
♣ A K 10 8 3

**EAST**  
♠ 6 4 2  
♥ A Q  
♦ Q 5 3  
♣ Q J 7 5 4

**2. You are declarer** with the West hand at Three Notrump. North leads the six of hearts, and, when you follow low from dummy, South plays the nine. How would you play the hand?

**WEST**  
♠ A  
♥ A 8  
♦ K Q J 3  
♣ A J 6 5 4 2

**EAST**  
♠ Q J 10 7  
♥ 10 5 4 3  
♦ A 6 4 2  
♣ 8

**Test Your Play**  
1. Win the diamond, draw trumps, cash two more diamonds and play the A-Q of hearts! This guarantees the contract regardless of how the missing cards are divided. The player who wins the heart must return a spade or yield a ruff-and-discard, which would hand you your game then and there.

If the spade return comes from North, you lose only one spade trick. If the spade return comes from South, you finesse the ten and again lose only one spade trick, since North is endplayed after he wins the trick.

The heart finesse should not be attempted. Taking the finesse would cost you the contract if South had the king of hearts and North the K-Q of spades. There is no reason to jeopardize the contract when there is a way of assuring 11 tricks beyond the shadow of a doubt.

2. North can't have the K-Q-J of hearts, since he would have led the king instead of the six initially. South therefore has a heart honor, which in turn means that by winning the first trick, you can stop the hearts from being run if the suit is divided 5-2.

The type of hand you are trying to guard against is one where North has:

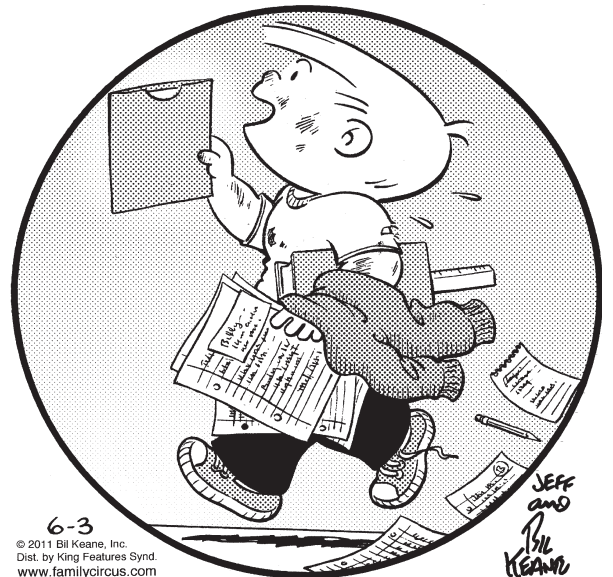
- ♦ K x x
- ♥ K Q 7 6 2
- ♠ x x x
- ♣ O x

If you ducked South's nine of hearts, he would continue the suit, and you'd go down at least one. But if you win the nine with the ace and the diamonds are divided 3-2, you can assure nine tricks by cashing the K-Q of diamonds and ace of spades, leading the diamond jack to dummy's ace and returning the queen of spades.

When North takes the king, he can't run his hearts, since South's now-singleton jack is blocking the suit. Whatever he returns, you can eventually lead your three of diamonds to dummy's six and cash dummy's spades to score nine tricks.

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**Family Circus** • Bil Keane



6-3  
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**Conceptis Sudoku** • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★★ 6/03

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.

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

**Cryptoquip**

JEMVP BSP BAD NDBLMC

JBZFPMBJ LHP MDA FLBEMY

HPYZILHC, KEYSB CDZ VLII

BSLB L NZFFEMY HDKLMVP?  
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF YOU'RE READING SOME NOVEL FOR THE FIRST TIME, WOULD YOU SAY THAT'S TURNING OVER A NEW LEAF?  
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: B equals T

**Crossword** • Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**  
1 Pale invader  
4 Cornfield  
8 Send forth  
12 Comedian  
13 "That hurts!"  
14 Disarray  
15 Annual celebration  
17 Entangling weapon  
18 Genealogy chart  
19 Not so high  
20 Pale  
22 Null and —  
24 Optimistic  
25 Pretend to sing, maybe  
29 Larry's pal  
30 Raise a price at auction  
31 Water (Fr.)  
32 Laws  
34 Pierce  
35 Reverberate

**DOWN**  
2 Parisian pal  
3 Arm of the Atlantic  
4 Actor  
5 Discourteous  
6 Goose, in Guadalajara  
7 "What for?"  
8 Earl Grey, for one  
9 Catcall?  
10 Capri, e.g.  
11 Despot  
16 Deuce  
19 Speech impediment  
20 Weaponry

**Solution time: 25 mins.**

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

Yesterday's answer 6-3

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12										
15			16						17	
			18					19		
20	21					22	23			
24				25				26	27	28
29						30			31	
32									34	
						35				
37	38	39						40		
41										
46						47			48	
49										51