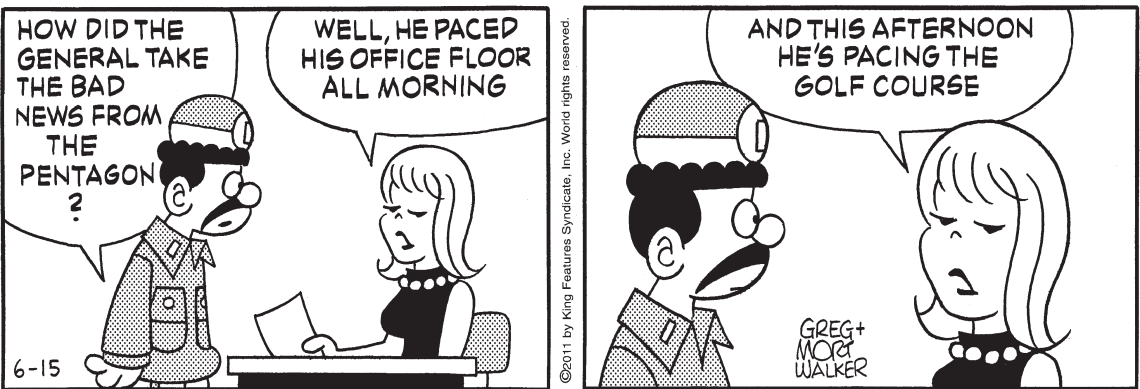


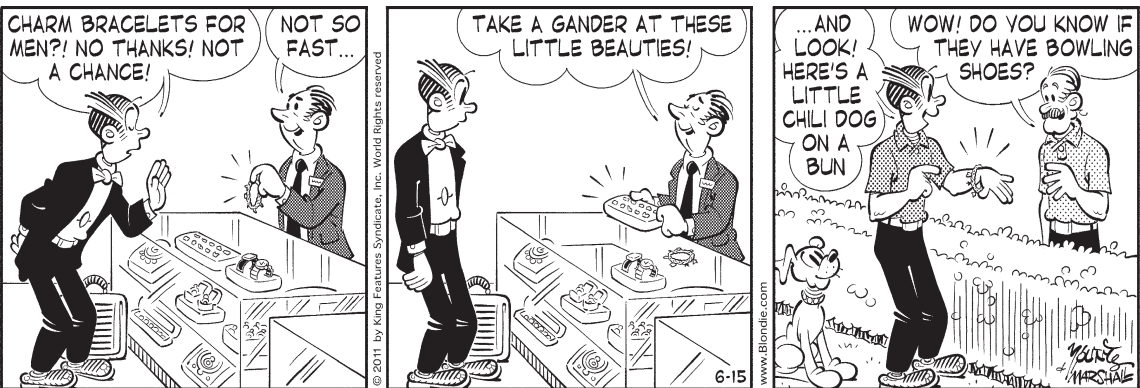
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



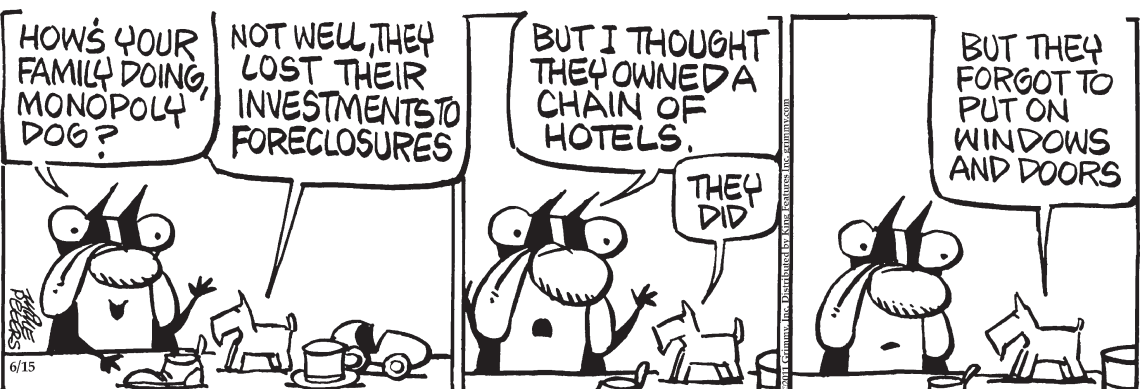
Blondie • Chic Young



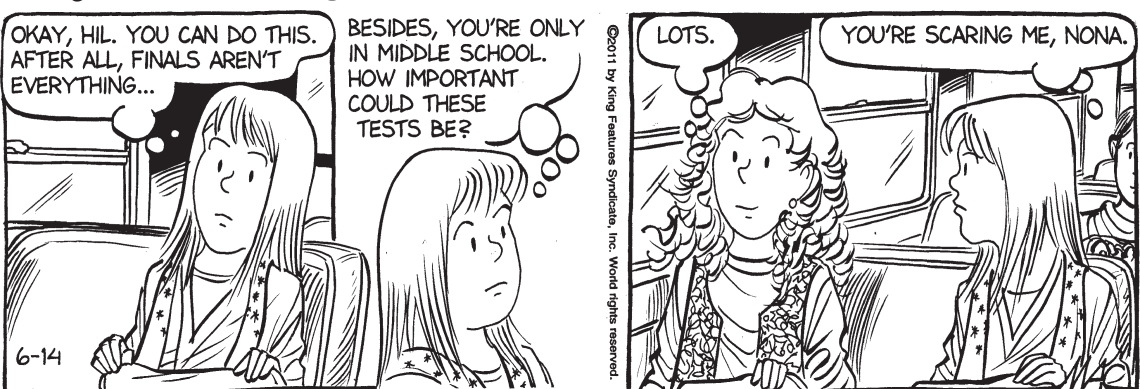
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



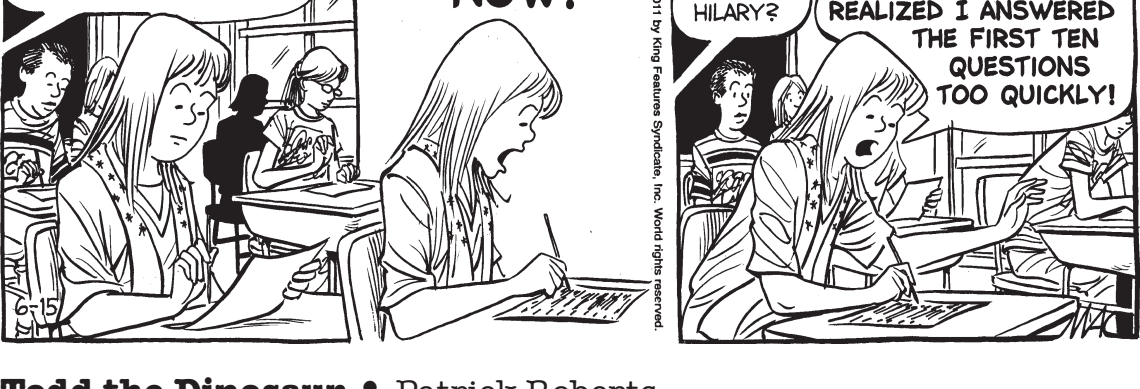
Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



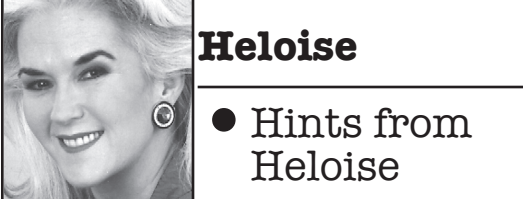
Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise



Dishwasher has detergent change

Dear Heloise: I have used a DISHWASHER for many years and have always used the same powdered detergent. Recently, the dishes had a white film on them after being washed in my dishwasher. I contacted the water department — no change there. I called the company that makes the detergent I've always used and was told it no longer uses phosphates in the powdered form. It suggested switching to the gel and making sure to use the hottest water. The gel works great. No more white film. — J.B. in California

J.B., I can't tell you how many people have been experiencing this. Some states have banned phosphates from being used in dishwasher detergent. We called a leading detergent manufacturer, which suggested using the condensed detergent packs instead of the regular gel or powder formula.

To remove the film on the glasses and dishes, place a bowl with 2 cups of vinegar on the bottom rack of the dishwasher and run it without detergent. Or heat up some vinegar until hot, but not boiling, and soak the glasses. If this does not work, then they may be permanently etched, and sorry, nothing will remove the etching. You'll find this hint and many more in my vinegar pamphlet that you can have by mailing \$5, along with a long, self-addressed, stamped (64 cents) envelope, to: Heloise/Vinegar, P.O. Box 795001, San Antonio, TX 78279-5001. To kill unwanted grass in between sidewalks, spray or pour a bit of full-strength vinegar directly onto the grass. — Heloise

CEREAL STORAGE

Dear Heloise: The letter from the reader about using gallon-size plastic bags for cereal storage was great!

But I didn't like the idea of putting the label and nutritional info inside the bag, since the boxes of cereal can be sprayed with chemicals in the warehouses to prevent bug infestations.

I place cereal in plastic containers and then tape on the outside of the containers the label information. This is a recycling hint, as the plastic bag will be saved from the landfill, and you can use the plastic container over and over again. — Gretchen Mertz, Fleetwood, Pa.

APPLES

Dear Readers: It's often cheaper to buy things in bulk, but what if you don't use all of the product? Apples are a good example. Peel, core or slice the apples. Sprinkle some lemon juice on them to keep them from turning brown. Place the cut apples into a freezer container or plastic freezer zipper bags. You can measure them in specific amounts for baking. — Heloise

BROWN SUGAR

Dear Heloise: When you open a new box of brown sugar, put it into a glass jar. Add half a slice of bread and close the lid.

The brown sugar will stay soft for a very long time. Even if the bread dries out, it will still keep the brown sugar soft. — D. Bergmeister in Pollock Pines, Calif.

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Bridge • Steve Becker

North dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.
NORTH
♦ Q 9
♥ Q 10 6
♦ A K Q 7 6
♣ 9 3 2

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

EAST
♠ 8 3
♥ K J 9
♦ J 9 3 2
♣ K 7 6 4

SOUTH
♦ A K J 10 7 5
♥ A 7 5 2
♦ 5 4
♣ A

The bidding:
North East South West
1♦ Pass 2♠ Pass
3♦ Pass 3♠ Pass
4♠ Pass 6♠ Pass

Opening lead — queen of clubs.

Seeking the Percentage Play

If one method of play offers a 55 percent chance for the contract, and another method offers a 65 percent chance, declarer should certainly opt for the latter approach.

This principle arises in almost every deal in bridge and is the backbone of good dummy play. The difficulty in applying the principle is, first, that declarer may be unaware that an alternative method of play exists and, second, even if he is aware, that he may not know which play offers the better chance of success.

Consider this deal where South wins the club lead, plays three rounds of trumps and cashes the A-K-Q of diamonds, hoping for a 3-3 division. When this does not materialize, he ruffs a diamond and plays the ace and another heart toward dummy's Q-10. As the cards lie, he finishes down one.

This is somewhat unlucky, since South had about a 75 percent chance of making the slam by adopting this approach.

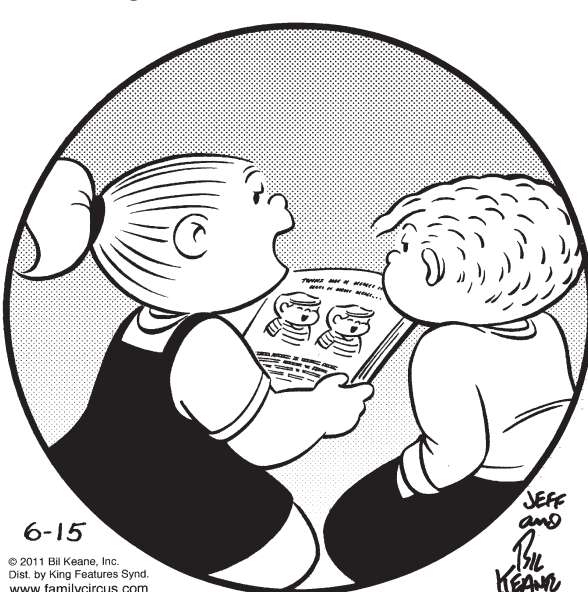
Now let's examine a different line of play, which might easily be overlooked. After drawing trumps, declarer leads a diamond at trick five and plays low from dummy!

This guarantees 12 tricks -- six spades, a heart, four diamonds and a club -- if the diamonds are divided 3-3 or 4-2, failing only when the suit splits 5-1 or 6-0.

In deciding which of the two lines of play to adopt, it is obviously helpful for declarer to know how often the diamonds can be expected to divide 3-3 or 4-2. The combined probability is 84 percent, so deliberately conceding a diamond trick is the better method of play.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



6-15
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"God creates twins whenever he makes a face he really likes."

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★ 6/15

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.

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

Cryptoquip

RTQX G LQBZGYX LCWQ

YXFQXZCB EQKZ FQBJ USYKZJ

CFQB HCIQZTYXU, Y RCSKW

HGJ TQ RGH BQ-ICBHQ-ESK.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I HAD LOTS OF FUN UNLOADING THE CANNON, PERHAPS BECAUSE I GOT SUCH A BIG CHARGE OUT OF IT.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: T equals H

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 Rebuff a masher
 - 5 Tavern
 - 8 Large-mouth fish
 - 12 Green land
 - 13 Expert
 - 14 Aware of
 - 15 Precede in time
 - 17 Ollie's partner
 - 18 Fashion
 - 19 Eye surgery tools
 - 21 Holly-wood clashers
 - 24 Has the skill
 - 25 Open a bit
 - 28 Impetuous
 - 30 Promptly
 - 33 Solo of "Star Wars"
 - 34 "Inferno" writer
 - 35 Shock and —
 - 36 Pismire
 - 37 Sax range
 - 38 Region

- DOWN**
- 39 Right angle
 - 41 Duel tool
 - 43 Tilted typeface
 - 46 More ironic
 - 50 Haycock or Moreno
 - 51 Eland for one
 - 54 The same, in a bibliography
 - 55 Regret
 - 56 Pressing need?
 - 57 Antitoxins
 - 58 CSI evidence
 - 59 Egg container?
 - 16 B.A., e.g. and the Black
 - 20 Liniment target
 - 22 Exam format
 - 23 Health, in Le Havre
 - 25 "Eureka!"
 - 26 One of the Brady bunch
 - 27 Aardvark
 - 29 Halt
 - 31 Hooter
 - 32 Drench
 - 34 "Persist-tence of Memory" artist
 - 38 European capital
 - 40 Camel's cousin
 - 42 Ram's fan?
 - 43 Colored eye part
 - 44 Ocean motion
 - 45 Jack or queen
 - 47 Bygone times
 - 48 Long narrative poem
 - 49 Land-lord's due
 - 52 Sister
 - 53 Afternoon gathering

Yesterday's answer 6-15

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		