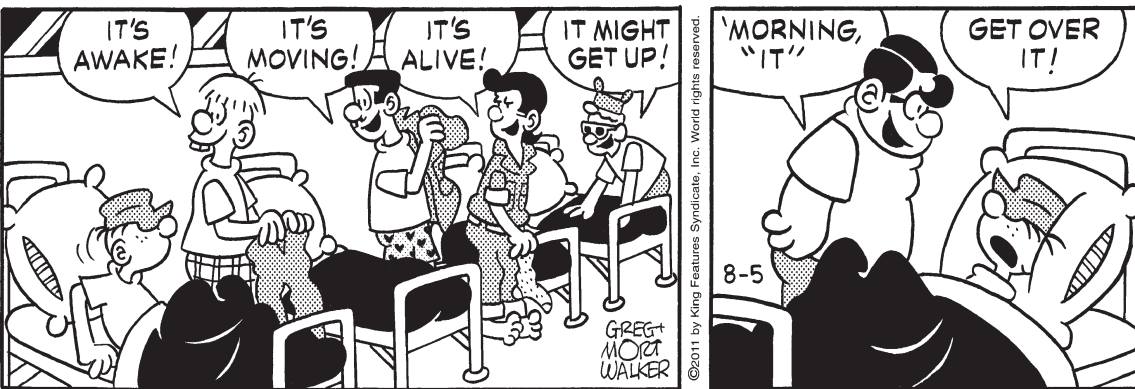


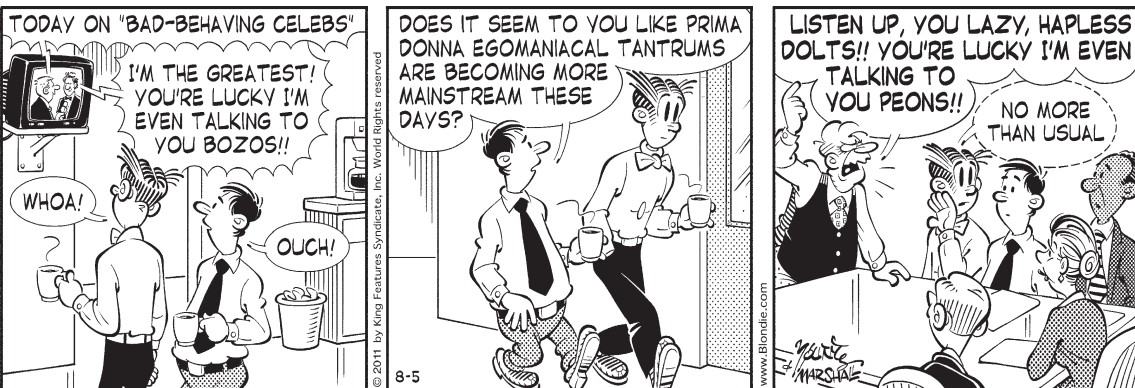
**Baby Blues** • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



**Beetle Bailey** • Mort Walker



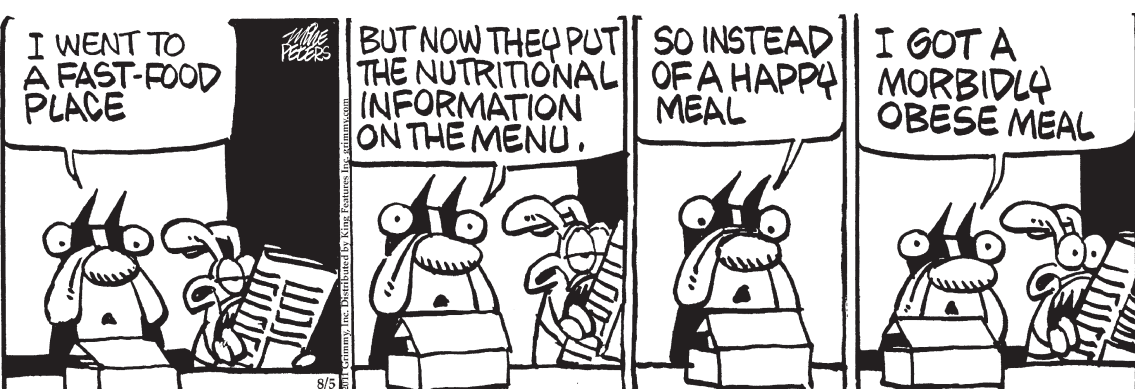
**Blondie** • Chic Young



**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

**TV armoire takes on new life**

Dear Readers: A recent column about what to do with old TV ARMOIRES really brought in the mail! Many armoires are of good quality, real wood with beautiful glass and etched doors. But there are a lot for sale.

Here are just a few hints:  
• Sherril Gerard of Santa Ana, Calif., says: "We changed the doors and shelf, adjusted the TV shelf to the proper height and put the whole unit along one wall in my spare bedroom (kids have their own home now). It became a wonderful sewing-room unit - all fabrics, books and projects are there."

• Gail Leggat, via email, says: "When I got married, my father-in-law sliced the cabinet from right to left to leave a 20- to 24-inch-deep cabinet, which he gutted, then fitted with shelves and a new back. It has housed my good china ever since."

• A Reader, via email, says: "I moved my large, open oak cabinet into my home office. It holds my computer tower, two printers, scanner, computer supplies and books. The shredder sits in one of the bottom speaker slots."

• Christy Fellows of Omaha, Neb., says: "I decided to use my armoire in my daughter's bedroom. I am going to put a rod in the top for some hanging clothes, and the shelves underneath will work great for shoes, underwear and folded clothes."

• Carol, via email, says: "Since our old TV was working fine and we had no room for it, we gave it and the cabinet to a single mom we knew. It was a win-win situation!"

• Beverly Steed of Fort Myers, Fla., says: "My mother moved in with us, and she was in need of some space for supplies. We put our old TV cabinet in her room. Now on either side, she has doors that open for storage, and shelves for her radio, CDs and books. It looks beautiful, like it was made for this. She loves it!"

• Liz of Maui, Hawaii, says: "I was in need of more space in my kitchen - which was built without a pantry - and was able to find a wooden entertainment cabinet cheap on the Internet. A few shelves inside turned it into the perfect pantry!"

There you have it, and I'm sure there are more, so please continue to write. - Heloise

**SEND A GREAT HINT TO:**

Heloise  
P.O. Box 795000  
San Antonio, TX 78279-5000  
Fax: 1-210-HELOISE  
Email: Heloise(at)Heloise.com

**TRAVEL HINT**

Dear Heloise: When traveling with post or small dangling earrings, put them in a spare contact case in with your makeup. Works great, and you won't lose them. - Andrea Terry, via email

**RUBBER CAR MAT**

Dear Heloise: I have been using an old rubber car mat to throw my dirty dish towels on in the laundry room instead of on the floor. The moisture doesn't ruin the floor, and the mat catches any nasty drips or food. I just take it outside, hose it off and sit it in the sun to dry. - Alisa Niethammer, via email

**Bridge** • Steve Becker

1. You are declarer with the West hand at Seven Diamonds, and North leads the jack of hearts. How would you play the hand?

- |                    |              |
|--------------------|--------------|
| <b>WEST</b>        | <b>EAST</b>  |
| ♠ A                | ♠ K Q 10 9 8 |
| ♥ —                | ♥ A Q 8 2    |
| ♦ A K Q J 10 9 8 7 | ♦ —          |
| ♣ A K 10 8         | ♣ J 9 4 3    |

2. You are declarer with the West hand at Three Notrump, and North leads the three of spades. How would you play the hand?

- |                |                 |
|----------------|-----------------|
| <b>WEST</b>    | <b>EAST</b>     |
| ♠ A 8          | ♠ K 4           |
| ♥ A 9 6 2      | ♥ 8 5 3         |
| ♦ K            | ♦ A Q 9 7 6 4 2 |
| ♣ A J 10 9 8 7 | ♣ 2             |

**Test Your Play**

1. Win the heart with the ace and discard the ace of spades on it! Then play the K-Q of spades, discarding two clubs. There is a 93 percent chance of the opposing spades dividing either 4-3 or 5-2, which is all you need for this line of play to succeed.

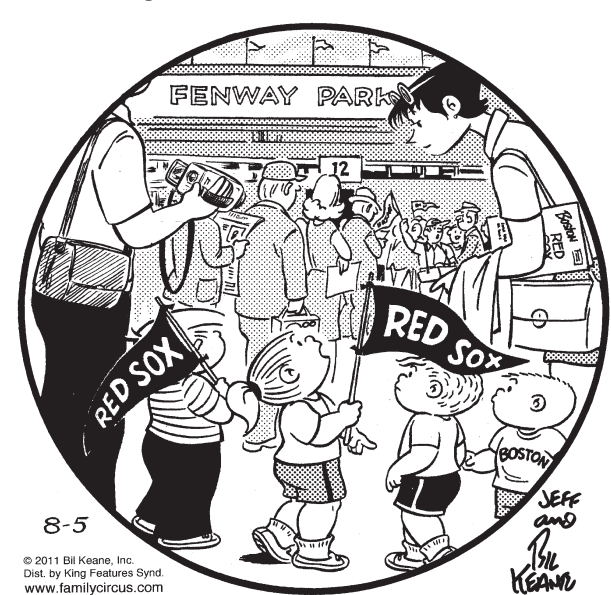
It would be wrong to play the ace of hearts at trick one and discard a club, leaving you to rely on either a successful club finesse or on the hope that cashing the A-K of clubs at some later stage would drop the queen. At best this would give you about a 50 percent chance for the contract.

2. It would be a mistake to win the spade lead with the ace, cash the king of diamonds, then cross to dummy's king of spades in the hope of finding the missing diamonds divided 3-2. This would amount to staking the outcome solely on a favorable diamond division. While it is true that the diamonds are likely to be divided 3-2, there is no need to put all your eggs in this one basket.

A better method of play is to win with the ace of spades, lead the king of diamonds and overtake it with dummy's ace! Then cash the queen of diamonds to see whether both defenders follow suit. If they do, you can play a third diamond, thereby assuring 10 tricks (two spades, a heart, six diamonds and a club).

If the diamonds turn out to be divided 4-1, lead a club from dummy at trick four, planning to finesse if South follows low. This gives you a chance to establish your club suit and make four notrump if South has any of the following club holdings: the singleton king or queen; the doubleton K-Q, K-x or Q-x; the tripleton K-Q-x; or all four low clubs.

**Family Circus** • Bil Keane



"We're wearin' WHITE socks, Mommy! Is that okay?"

**Conceptis Sudoku** • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★★ 8/05

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

**Cryptoquip**

IGKX ZET XE CEXNKQ GYOK

Y LYJIMEX HEQ Y GEUUZ, M

JTLLEJK ZET'OK HYCKX

ETD EH HKQOEQ IMDG MD.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: RISQUE COMING-OF-AGE FLICK ABOUT A TEEN WHO STARTS UP A LIQUOR COMPANY: "WHISKEY BUSINESS."

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: X equals N

**Crossword** • Eugene Sheffer

- |                      |                |            |              |
|----------------------|----------------|------------|--------------|
| <b>ACROSS</b>        | 38 Pairs       | 2 Wicker   | 24 "King"    |
| 1 Slithery           | 39 Auto-mobile | willow     | Cole         |
| 4 Visibility         | 41 Misplace    | 3 Farewell | 25 Make      |
| 7 Violinist's stroke | 45 Reserved    | 4 Points   | up your      |
| 12 1960s             | 47 Last        | of         | mind         |
| hallucino-           | (Abbr.)        | conver-    | 26 Spelling  |
| gen                  | 48 Florida     | gence      | contest      |
| 52 Greek             | peninsula      | 5 Delphic  | 28 Marry     |
| cross                | 6 Bottled      | prophet    | 30 "The      |
| 14 Roman             | spirit         | 7 Gro-     | View"        |
| wrestling            | 31 Perform-    | tesque     | mance        |
| measures             | 8 Opposite     | of "post-" | 33 Yoko of   |
| 15 Midafter-         | 9 Wager        | music      | 36 Teen's    |
| noon hour            | 10 Autumn      | mo.        | woe          |
| 16 Venetian          | 11 Court       | 37 Obscure | 40 Buenos    |
| painter              | 17 Baldwin     | of "30     | 42 Surpass   |
| 18 Society           | Rock"          | 21 Small   | 43 Done in   |
| page                 | 23 Genuflect   | 44 Chopin  | piece        |
| word                 | 45 Micro-      | wave,      | e.g.         |
| 19 With              | 46 "Born       | Free"      | lioness      |
| unfriendli-          | 48 Trigon-     | omy-       | etry         |
| ness                 | abbr.          | 49 Rd.     | 50 Eccentric |
| 20 Snare,            | 51 "The        | Greatest"  |              |
| e.g.                 |                |            |              |
| 22 Shelter           |                |            |              |
| 23 Door              |                |            |              |
| opener               |                |            |              |
| 27 Ram's             |                |            |              |
| ma'am                |                |            |              |
| 29 Appetizer         |                |            |              |
| 31 Got up            |                |            |              |
| 34 Ms. Midler        |                |            |              |
| 35 Stephen           |                |            |              |
| Harper is            |                |            |              |
| its P.M.             |                |            |              |
| 37 Expert            |                |            |              |

**Solution time: 25 mins.**

ABS	WHAT	SLIM		
DOT	HUGE	CODA		
STRAIGHT	LIEU			
OWN	ARSENAL			
VALLEY	AIR			
AIL	SAW	PASTE		
IDES	MID	STOP		
NERVY	GAT	RUE		
EEL	DEMURE			
MISLAYS	RAG			
ABET	STRENGTH			
SIRE	OOPS	LEO		
TSAR	LAMA	END		

Yesterday's answer 8-5

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		