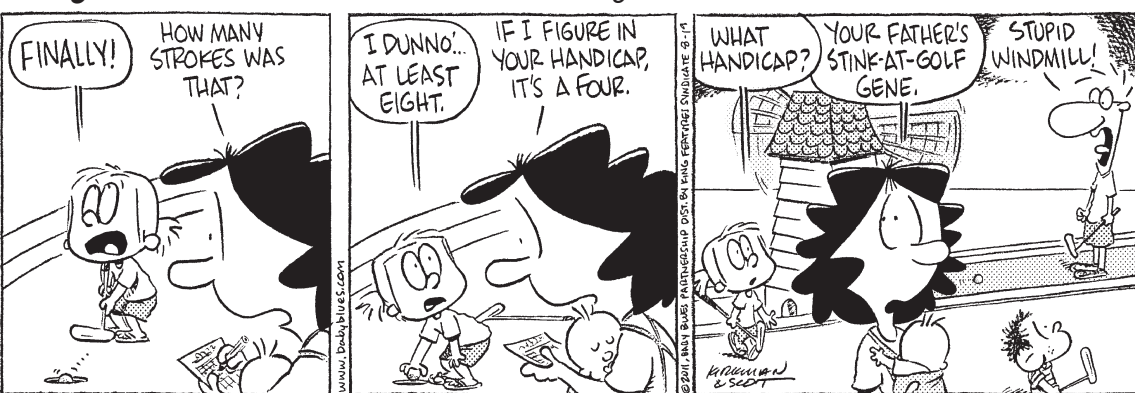


Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



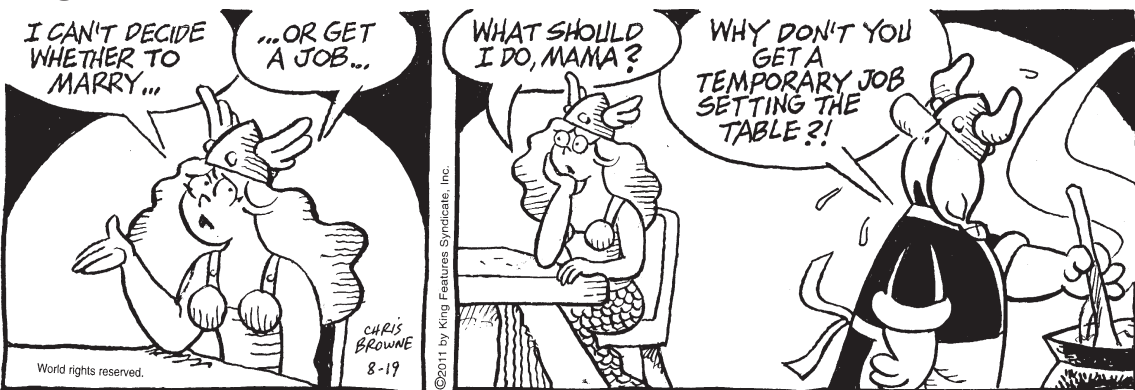
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young



Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



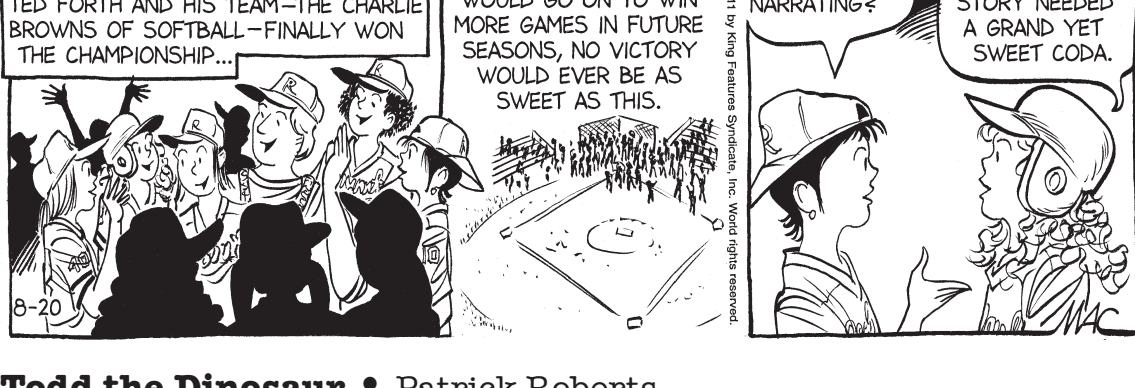
Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



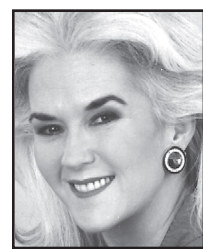
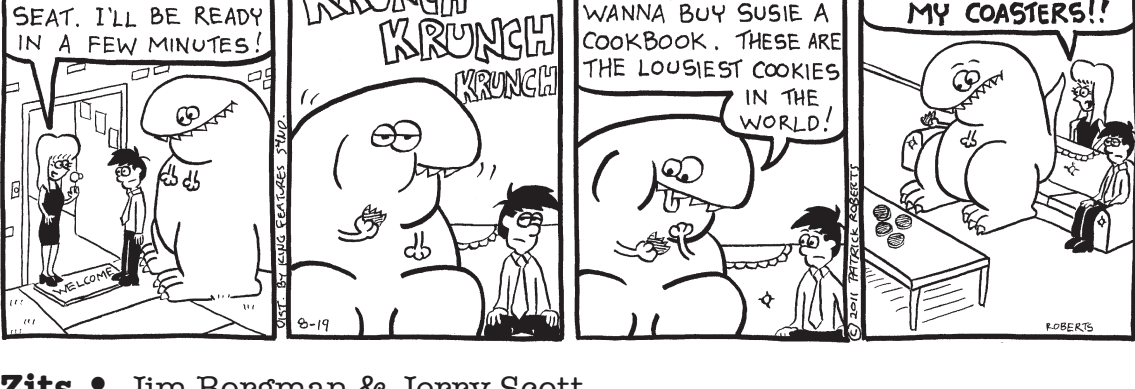
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise

- Hints from Heloise

Flying food may get checked

Dear Readers: Traveling on an AIRPLANE with food or gifts can be a challenge for travelers and security screeners! The general rule, according to the Transportation Security Administration, or TSA (www.TSA.gov), is that liquids, aerosol cans and gel items over 3.4 ounces should be put in your checked bag.

Carrying gifts on the plane? Don't wrap them! They may have to be unwrapped to be checked. You don't want TSA workers to unwrap the gift! When in doubt, you can check with the airline or TSA. — Heloise

P.S.: I carry an EMPTY water bottle in my bag and fill it once I'm through security.

SEND A GREAT HINT TO:

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

FLAG PRESERVER

Dear Heloise: I live in Texas, and we get a lot of wind. After having several American flags fray after a short time, I decided to try something else. Now when I buy a new flag, I sew one or two backstitching rows around the outer perimeter of the flag before it is ever flown.

Since I began this method of preservation, my flags begin to fade before they ever fray. They last much, much longer. I just want to share this tidbit in hopes that I may not see so many ragged flags flying. The flag deserves to be treated with respect, and it hurts me to see them flying in tatters. — Eraikay, Greenville, Texas

Outdoor flags can take a beating, so this is a good hint to help them last longer. — Heloise

TOOTHBRUSH HELPER

Dear Heloise: While traveling throughout Texas this summer, I thought of this handy way to make a toothbrush holder at a hotel that only had paper cups. Turn the cup upside down and cut two small x's (1/2-inch long — think of a lid from a fast-food restaurant) with a pocketknife on the bottom about 1 inch apart. You can then insert your toothbrush. — Sherri S., Ozark, Ark.

STAY-COOL BUCKLE

Dear Heloise: Finally, after years of trying to buckle hot steel that's been exposed to the summer sun in my car, it occurred to me to simply tuck the "clicker" piece of the seatbelt between the seat and backrest when I am getting out.

It's so simple, I feel like slapping myself for not thinking of it sooner! I never have to search, and it's never heated! — Becky, Texarkana, Texas

EASY-FIND GARDEN TOOLS

Dear Heloise: Attach yellow "caution" plastic tape to the handles of hand garden tools. This makes them easy to locate while you are working. — Alice H., via email

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Bridge • Steve Becker

You are South and the bidding has gone:

North	East	South	West
1 ♦	Pass	1 ♥	Pass
1 NT	Pass	?	

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

- ♠ K95 ♥ AK763 ♦ Q8 ♣ J62
- ♠ 72 ♥ AQJ84 ♦ Q963 ♣ KJ
- ♠ KJ5 ♥ QJ753 ♦ 72 ♣ K64
- ♠ KJ96 ♥ Q632 ♦ 10 ♣ AK95
- ♠ 843 ♥ Q9542 ♦ 5 ♣ AJ84

Bidding Quiz

1. Three notrump. Basically, this is an application of the principle that an opening bid facing an opening bid means game. It would be wrong to bid only two notrump, inviting a game, as partner might pass. There may be a temptation to rebid your hearts, but since two hearts would be a sign-off and three hearts invitational, as most now play it, three notrump is best.

2. Three diamonds. Here you can't tell whether the best contract lies in hearts, diamonds or notrump, so you jump to three diamonds (forcing), compelling partner to make the choice. You plan to bid four hearts if he bids three hearts, five diamonds if he bids four diamonds, and to pass if he bids three notrump.

3. Pass. There is little chance for a game, as your partner's notrump rebid should indicate 13 or 14 high-card points, and might be as little as 12. Two hearts could turn out to be a better contract, but one notrump will prove safer in the long run.

4. Three notrump. Hands with 4-4-4-1 distribution usually play better in a suit, but here there's not much chance of finding a better contract than notrump. Partner has at most three hearts, since he failed to raise your suit, so game in hearts is pretty much out of the question. He is also not likely to hold four spades, since he would have bid that suit rather than one notrump at his second turn. As game must be reached, three notrump is the only reasonable choice.

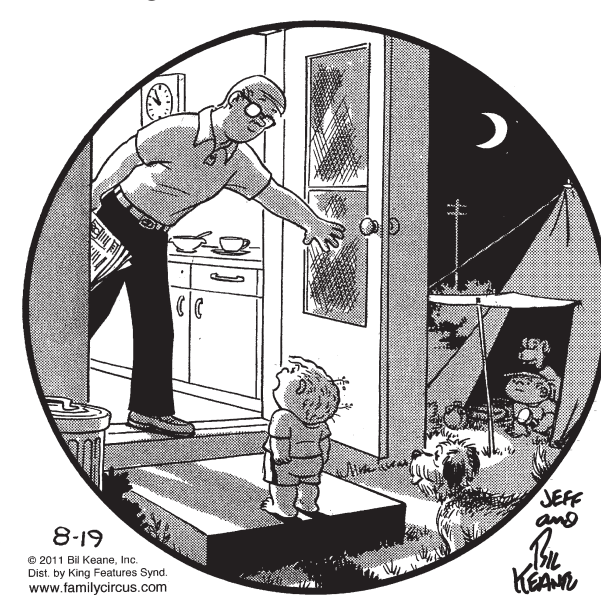
5. Two clubs. With only seven high-card points and 5-4-3-1 distribution, a suit contract on the two-level will probably prove better than one notrump. Notrump is usually more dangerous than a suit contract when the high-card values are about evenly divided between the two sides.

Note that two clubs is not forcing, even though responder is naming a new suit. This is because partner limited his values by rebidding one notrump. With game-going strength and the same distribution, you would have to jump to three clubs to compel a rebid by partner.

Partner is expected either to pass two clubs or bid two hearts, depending on which of the two suits he prefers.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



8-19
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"NOW how many hours till it's mornin'?"

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★ 8/19

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.

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

Cryptoquip

H U T R W S W W J R S W O W

R F O Q O C R C G E V M U P O J H T Q F V V

T F H T B H U W E O T F G J . C O W P V V M

U P J H T F R W O T T H B T O Z W .

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I LIKE TO BELIEVE THAT PEOPLE PLANNING TO BE SAILORS HAVE TO TAKE ANCHOR MANAGEMENT CLASSES.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: T equals O

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

- | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------|---------------------|----------------|------------------------|--------------------|------------|----------------------------|----------------|-------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------------------|--------------------|------------------|-------------|----------------|-------------------------|--------|---------------|---------|-------------------------|-----------------|----------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|-----------|----------------|
| ACROSS | 1 West of Hollywood | 4 Hebrew month | 8 Unrestrained revelry | 12 Puncturing tool | 13 Broad | 15 "Lost in Space" surname | 17 Touch | 18 Pastor, e.g. | 19 Mess up | 21 Switch positions | 22 Holmes companion | 26 Adhere | 29 Toast topping | 30 — out a living | 31 Gentlewoman | 32 Scale member | 33 Merchandise (Suff.) | 34 Whatever number | 35 "See ya" | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| DOWN | 1 Playwright | 2 Off base | 3 North Sea feeder | 4 Store canopy | 5 Platters | 6 Commotion | 7 Subscription | 8 Jersey city extension | 8 Dizzying designs | 9 Chest part | 10 Wildebeest | 11 Nevertheless | 16 O. Henry's specialty | 20 Aries | 23 Close up tightly | 24 Gumbo ingredient | 25 Can't do without | 26 Family place | 27 Bowler's work | 28 Pastoral | 29 Average guy | 32 Link between neurons | 33 H2O | 35 Jazz style | 36 Plot | 38 Harness-race vehicle | 39 Moving about | 42 Wight, e.g. | 43 Give temporarily | 44 No ifs, —, or buts | 45 Driving stat | 46 "— the fields we go" | 47 Meadow | 49 Clay, today |

Solution time: 25 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 8-19

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		42	43	44
50						51			52		
53						54				55	