

Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



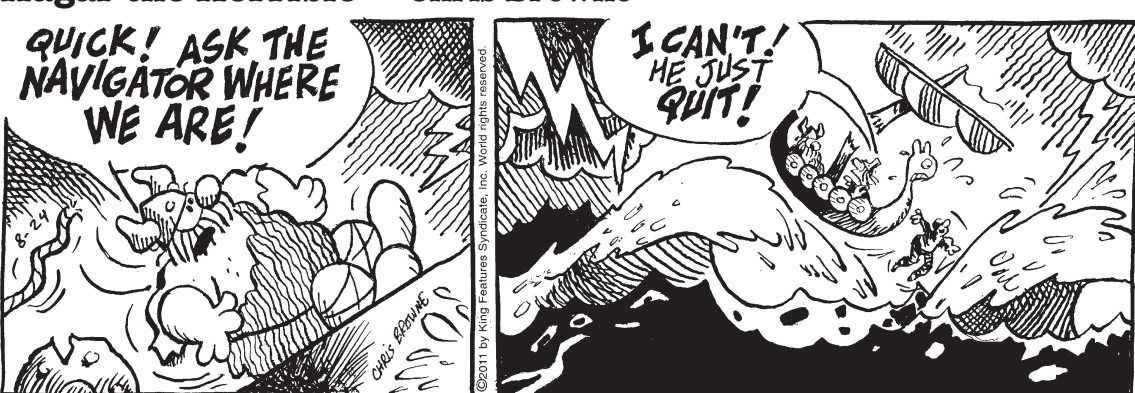
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young



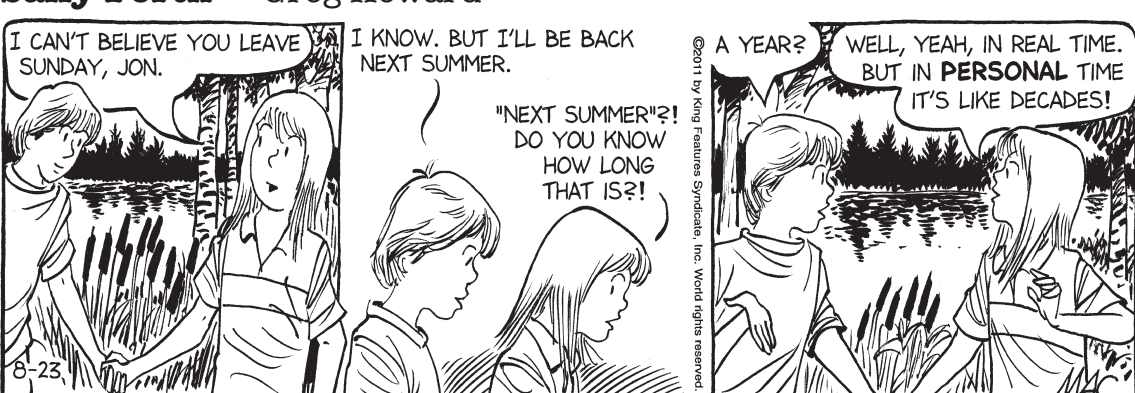
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



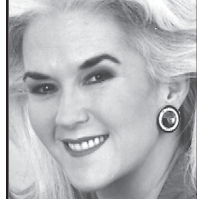
Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise



• Hints from Heloise

Stir sauce with spatula

Dear Heloise: When I am making my HOME-MADE SPAGHETTI SAUCE, I now stir it with a pancake turner (the kind you use in a nonstick frying pan – it won't scratch). I like using this instead of a spoon because it sweeps the whole bottom of the pan and keeps it from burning in some spots. – Phyllis in Florida

Phyllis, my mother (the original Heloise, 1919-1977) taught me to cook spaghetti sauce (and gravy in a skillet) this way. You're right: The spatula scrapes the bottom and sides of the pot in no time flat! – Heloise

SEND A GREAT HINT TO:

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

A SOGGY SITUATION

Dear Heloise: My question is about the way vegetables, etc., become so wet inside a plastic zippered bag or container when stored in the refrigerator. There is such a fast buildup of moisture, which causes the food to go bad. I have wrapped the food in paper towels, but it still happens. Help! – Paula S., Russellville, Ark.

Paula, you are on the right track and not alone in this "mushy" problem! First, DO NOT rinse vegetables until ready to use them, because that moisture will cause quicker deterioration.

When using a container or sealable bag, add paper towels, but replace them when damp.

Also, if storing vegetables directly in the drawer, place a sponge (or a layer of paper towels) in the bottom to absorb the moisture. – Heloise

MARSHMALLOW MAGIC

Dear Heloise: I grabbed some "on sale" supplies for our upcoming camping trip. When I got home, I realized the marshmallows were flat rectangles and wouldn't work on roasting sticks.

I was baking a birthday cake for our granddaughter, so my husband suggested using the marshmallows as the filling. As soon as the cake was cool enough to handle, I put the bottom layer on a cake plate, fit marshmallows on it and then covered it with the top layer. The warm cake softened the marshmallows enough to make them bond with the layers but not melt. After cooling, the cake was easy to frost and cut. Everyone liked the fluffy filling. – Bonnie Bartlett, via email

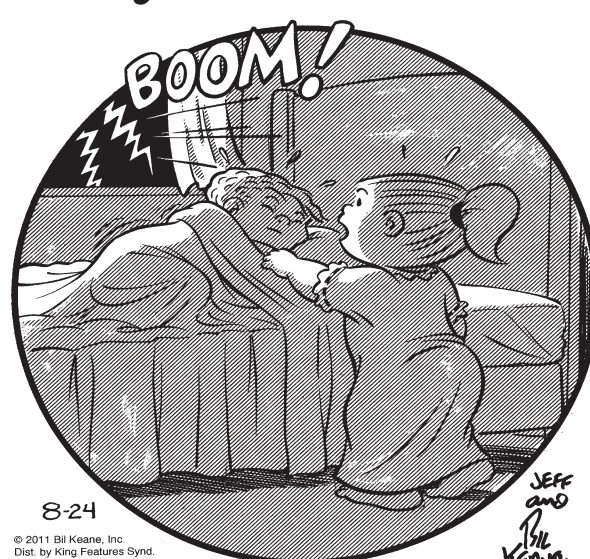
SAVE MONEY

Dear Heloise: A recipe called for small strips of chicken. I could buy chicken with the bone in for less than one-third the price. After cooking and removing chicken from the bone, I not only had chicken to use, but rich broth for other uses.

Also, my family likes many salad dressings. I had five children and would find several bottles of dressings with amounts too small for much use. I saved them and then added a little oil and balsamic or red-wine vinegar to one bottle. I shook it and poured that in the next bottle until all were used. We had some interesting blends, and most were delicious. – Pat Carpenter, Danville, Ky.

(c)2011 by King Features Syndicate Inc.

Family Circus • Bil Keane



8-24
©2011 Bil Keane, Inc. Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc. www.familycircus.com
"The thunderin' will be a lot quieter if you get in bed with Mommy and Daddy."

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★ 8/24

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.

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

The solution to the last Sudoku puzzle is at right.

Cryptoquip

CXTH PRDXH MKA ETQQ T

GHKOJ UAQQ KU UQA-ORBBJF

ZJKZQJ CRHX FKRGM

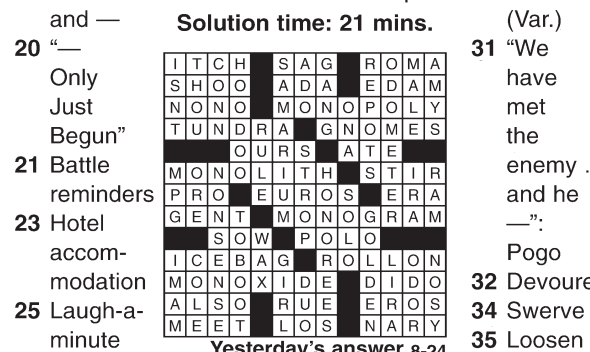
GMPZHKPG? T EKADXM GXKZ.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: MAGAZINE FEATURING MANY PHOTO SPREADS OF MESMERIZINGLY BEAUTIFUL HARBORS: "PORTS ILLUSTRATED."

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Q equals L

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 Choccolate dog, for short
 - 4 Suntan lotion abbr.
 - 7 Earth abbr.
 - 8 Wall art
 - 10 Rock
 - 11 Egyptian underworld god
 - 13 "Monopoly" property
 - 16 High points
 - 17 Glove or DeVito
 - 18 Yea canceler
 - 19 His and —
 - 20 "Only Just Begun" reminders
 - 21 Battle
 - 23 Hotel accommodation
 - 25 Laugh-a-minute
 - 26 King —
 - 27 Blunder
 - 28 Biscotti flavoring
 - 30 Korean auto-maker
 - 33 Jeff Dunham or Terry Fator
 - 36 Impulse carrier
 - 37 Excessive horses
 - 38 Speedy
 - 39 Tosses in
 - 40 "Science Guy" Bill
 - 41 Actress Myrna
 - 2 "— She Sweet?"
 - 3 Bar-tender's need
 - 4 Soap star
 - 5 — to (in on)
 - 6 Bus rider's pay
 - 7 Dance lesson
 - 8 Early periods
 - 9 Common finch
 - 10 "Law & Order: —"
 - 12 Debonair
 - 14 Galley lineup
 - 15 Down's location
 - 19 Chapeau
 - 20 Peruke
 - 21 Temptress
 - 22 Pupil's coat
 - 23 Medicine ocre
 - 24 Not the same
 - 25 Gun the engine
 - 26 Potters' ovens
 - 28 Orderly grouping
 - 29 Mythical weeper
 - 30 Small child (Var.)
 - 31 "We have met the enemy ... and he —"; Pogo
 - 32 Devoured
 - 34 Swerve
 - 35 Loosen



Yesterday's answer 8-24

Bridge • Steve Becker

South dealer. Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ 3 2
♥ A K Q J
♦ A J 4
♣ 6 5 4 3

WEST
♠ K 6
♥ 10 7 3
♦ Q 8 2
♣ 10 8 7 2

EAST
♠ 8 5 4
♥ 9 6 5
♦ K 10 7 5
♣ A K J

SOUTH
♠ A Q J 10 9 7
♥ 8 4 2
♦ 6 3
♣ Q 9

The bidding:
South 2♣ West Pass North 4♠ East 4♠
Opening lead — two of clubs.

A Risk-Free Play
Despite the many uncertainties faced by the defenders during the play, it is nearly always possible for them to reason out the best course of action.

Consider this deal where South wound up in four spades after opening with a weak two-bid. East won the club lead with the king and cashed the ace, felling South's queen. The fate of the contract now rested with East, who had to make the seemingly dangerous return of a diamond to establish the setting trick.

East had no way of knowing whether declarer or his partner held the queen, but it did not take him long to put a low diamond on the table. South took West's queen with dummy's ace and had little choice but to try a spade finesse. When he did, West won the queen with the king and returned a diamond to East's king to set the contract.

If East had opted for the "safe" club return at trick three, declarer would have made the contract. The question that remains, therefore, is whether East's successful diamond shift was a matter of luck or logic.

The fact is that luck did not enter into East's decision. He reasoned that since South was marked with six spades for his weak two-bid and had already followed to two clubs, he could not have more than five red cards. Since these five cards were covered by five high-card winners in dummy, it couldn't cost if South had the queen of diamonds and scored a trick with it. This would merely present declarer with an extra trick he didn't need.

Thus the diamond return could do no harm but might do a great deal of good if West happened to have a trump trick as well as the queen of diamonds. Returning a diamond was therefore neither daring nor reckless, but was absolutely essential under the circumstances.

(c)2011 King Features Syndicate Inc.