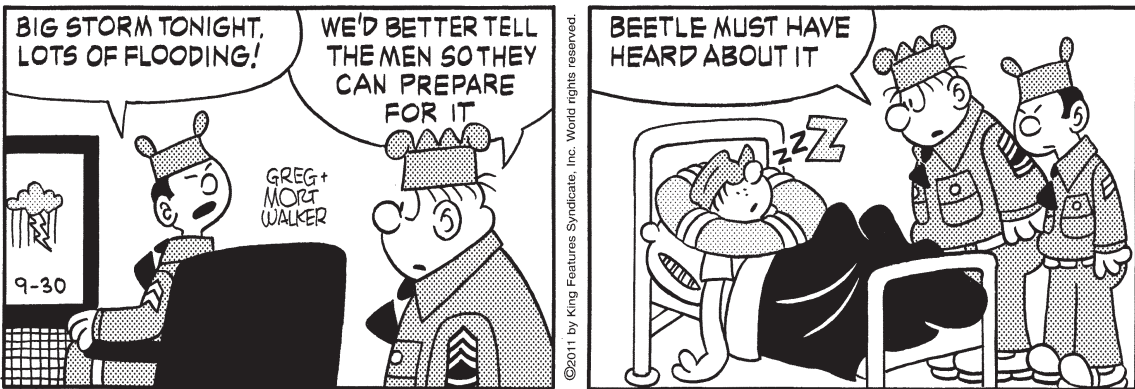


Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



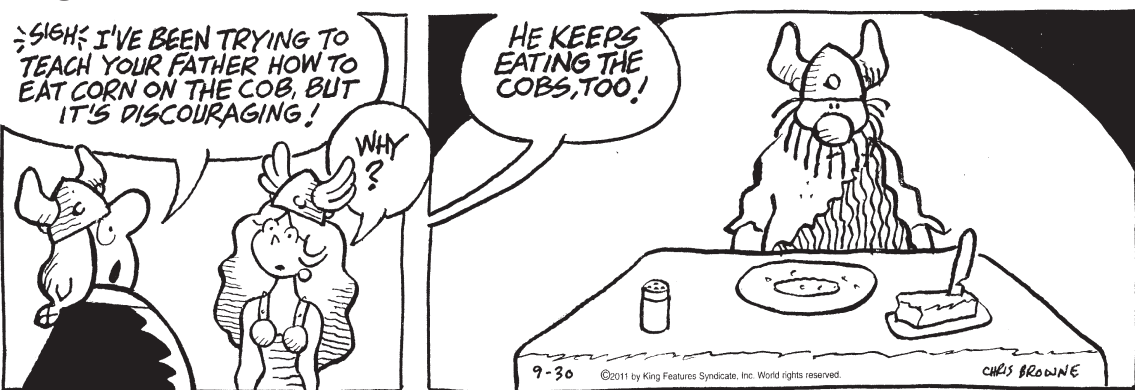
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young



Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



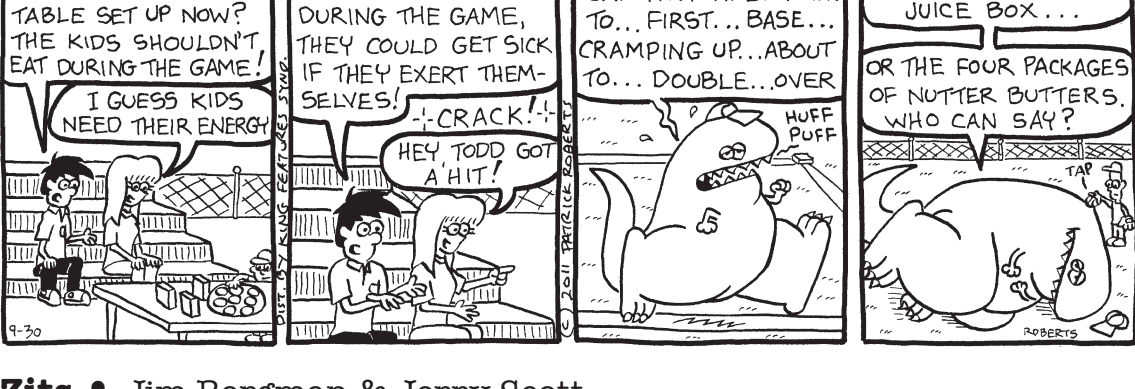
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise

• Hints from Heloise

Get job done with countdown

Dear Heloise: I love your column and read it every day! Thanks for making everyone's life easier! My hint is psychological. When I have to do something repetitive, I COUNT BACKWARD instead of up. I count down when I'm exercising, unloading hay or even doing housework. It seems easier to do that one last thing than doing the 10th sit-up or stacking the 10th bale of hay.

Counting down really makes a job easier for me! Thanks. — Terri Wadsworth, via email

Love it! You are right — it makes whatever you are doing more like a game. — Heloise

SEND A GREAT HINT TO:

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

SAFER PILLOWS

Dear Heloise: Here is something that really helps during and after an illness. This is one that I have never seen you publish: Put your bed pillows in the dryer on high for about 5-10 minutes (Heloise here: 30 minutes is better) to eliminate germs, and spray with disinfectant spray after taking them out. This keeps them from recontaminating a child or others with a sickness. As a mother of six, this really did help! — Peggy, via email

TRAVEL HINT

Dear Heloise: While driving across several states recently with young children, in an effort to get further faster, we stopped at a drive-thru restaurant for lunch one day.

While trying to hand out food from the front seat and telling the kids to put napkins under the food to protect their clothing and the car seats, I had a thought: Next time we go on a car trip, I'll pack an apron for each child. All the food can sit in their laps, and as they eat, the crumbs will be collected in the apron! — Laura in Texas

Good thought, and here's one to consider: Keep a couple of large-size (old) shirts in the car. Have the kids put them on backward, and you have an apron or smock. — Heloise

BOX IT UP

Dear Heloise: I spruced up several boring, old magazine boxes by covering them with outdated road maps. They were a bit tedious and time-consuming to fit so they would be wrinkle-free, but they hold maps, travel brochures, etc., and add lots of pizzazz. Free, except for time! Thanks for your helpful and sometimes amusing tips. — Virginia O., Lincoln, Neb.

PRO PACK

Dear Heloise: When traveling, I leave the pants hangers on the pants and lay the pants in the suitcase, legs outside, alternating right and left sides of the suitcase. Next come buttoned shirts, blouses and suit jackets, not folded, collar first, alternating right and left sides of the suitcase. Underwear, socks, pajamas, etc., are arranged on top. Then shirt, blouse and suit coat bottoms are laid over those items. Finally, the pants' legs are laid over the whole. I always pack hangers when we travel. When I get to the destination, I hang the outer garments. — Marian R., Rapid City, S.D.

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Bridge • Steve Becker

You are South, both sides vulnerable. The bidding has been:
West North East South
1♦ Dble Pass 1♠
Pass 2♣ Pass ?

What would you bid now with each of the following four hands?
1. ♠ J7542 ♥ K6 ♦ 952 ♣ K83
2. ♠ 9853 ♥ 1052 ♦ AQ4 ♣ Q64
3. ♠ A8632 ♥ 94 ♦ 8 ♣ Q7632
4. ♠ 108754 ♥ 863 ♦ Q762 ♣ 10

Bidding Quiz

1. Three clubs. Partner has shown a powerful hand, since he doubled first and then bid his suit, indicating that his hand was too strong for an overcall at his first turn. Typically, partner should have 17 or more points and a fairly strong suit for this sequence.

Partner is, of course, unaware that you have seven points in high cards rather than the two or three (or even zero) you might have had for your one-spade response, and you must apprise him of that fact. Raising two clubs to three gets the message across.

2. Two notrump. The same obligation to disclose your unrevealed values exists here also, but it is far better to suggest the possibility of playing in game at notrump than to raise two clubs to three, which partner might pass on the assumption that an 11-trick game in clubs is out of reach.

True, this is not an overly impressive hand in its own right, but in light of the bidding, game in notrump is probably right around the corner.

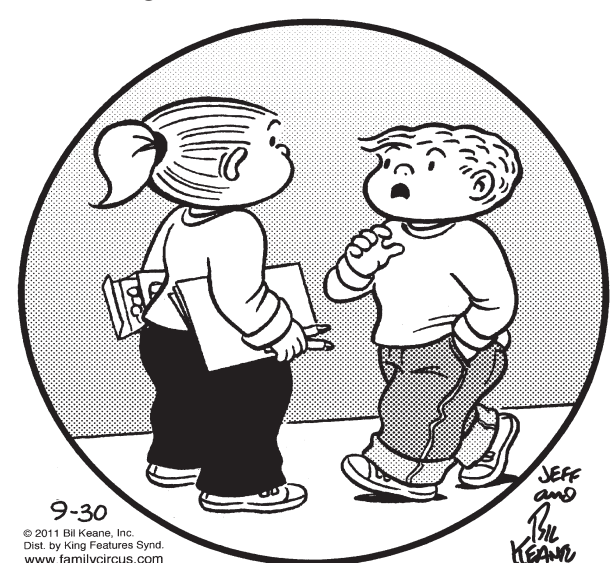
3. Four clubs. Actually, your values are sufficient for a five-club bid, counting the attractive distribution and excellent trump support, but it might turn out that partner has three-card spade support, which he can show at his next turn. This would enable you to play in game at a lower level.

It would be wrong to bid only three clubs, which would not come close to representing the true value of your hand in view of partner's strong bidding to this point.

4. Pass. This is consistent with the theory that when you have a hot potato in your hand, it is best to let go as soon as possible. It is true that, if you now bid two spades and partner passes, you might reach a better contract than two clubs, but there is too much danger that partner might bid again and get you into even more serious trouble. In misfit hands, you should try to stop bidding at the earliest possible opportunity.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



"Mommy says I can't go to kinnergarten till I go to pretty school."

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★ 9/30

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.

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

Cryptoquip

B X I H M I J C W H X O Q J L T G J

E J C H P M L W S A W S Z Q G W S Z P

E W A H O J B B H H , Q H X X S M

R H H L : R L H T P T W E E W P .

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF YOU HAVE A SPRITE THAT YOU GIVE TOTAL SUPPORT TO, I'D SAY THAT'S FENDING FOR ONE'S ELF.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: T equals W

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
1 Vanna's cohort
4 Chance
7 Eucalyptus eater
12 UN workers' agcy.
13 Geological period
14 "The Age of Anxiety" poet
15 Back talk
16 Ice cream type
18 "The Daba Honey-moon"
19 Good, in Guadalajara
20 Effervescence
22 "No seats"
23 Instrument of Marxism?
27 Anger
29 Hot dog
31 Popeye's burger-eating pal
34 City boss
35 Skipped a big wedding
37 Stick out
- DOWN**
23 Preliminary matches
24 Whatever number
25 Carnival city
26 For one place?
28 Catcher's birthstone
30 Ostrich's cousin
31 Infinitesimal
32 Under the weather
33 Off-tattooed word
36 Barbie, e.g.
37 Cassidy or Kerns
40 Prepared
42 Blunt blow
43 Emanations
44 Busybody
45 Computer memory unit
46 Side
48 Eminem's genre
49 Have bills
50 Tuna container
51 Family

Yesterday's answer 9-30

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	