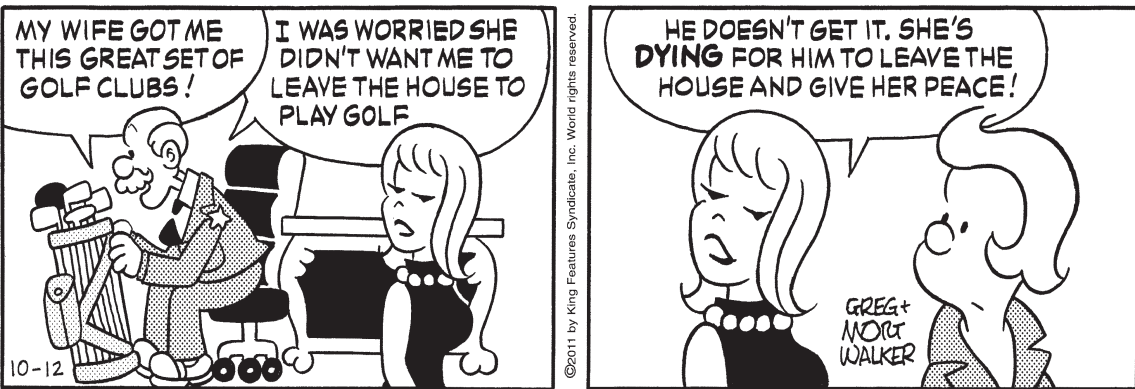


**Baby Blues** • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



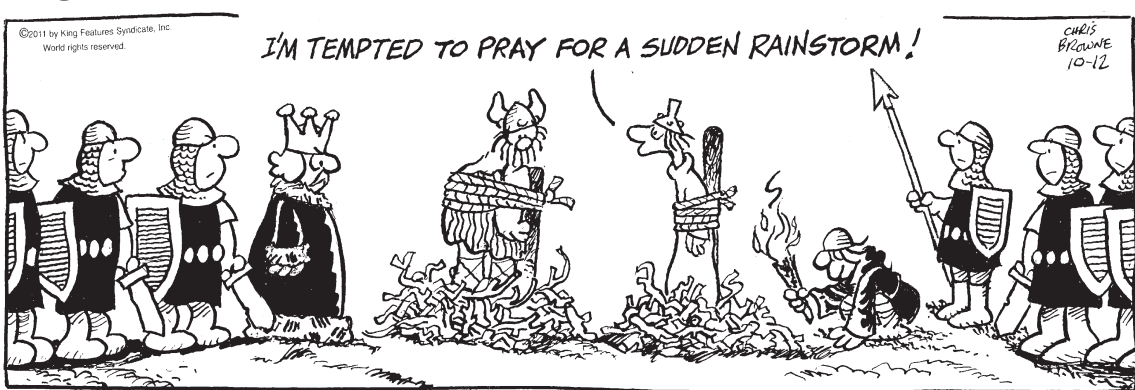
**Beetle Bailey** • Mort Walker



**Blondie** • Chic Young



**Hagar the Horrible** • Chris Browne



**Mother Goose and Grimm** • Mike Peters



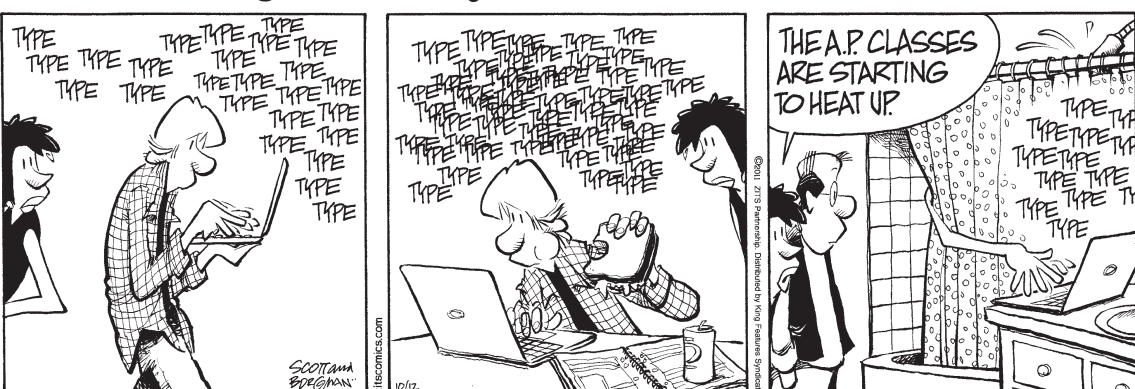
**Sally Forth** • Greg Howard



**Todd the Dinosaur** • Patrick Roberts



**Zits** • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



**Heloise**  
• Hints from Heloise  
**Condensed milk substitute is easy**

Dear Heloise: I was in the middle of making a KEY LIME PIE and realized that the sweetened condensed milk I thought I had was actually evaporated milk. I had used the condensed milk in another recipe weeks earlier. Is it possible to make sweetened condensed milk? — Judy Stewart in Omaha, Neb.

Yes, Judy, it is possible, and it's pretty easy to make sweetened condensed milk. You will need:  
1 cup powdered milk  
1/3 cup boiling water  
2/3 cup granulated sugar  
3 tablespoons butter

Mix all the ingredients in a blender. Start mixing on LOW speed for a minute or two. Increase the speed and continue to blend until smooth, with no obvious sugar granules. You can take a drop or two and rub it between your fingers to feel if there are sugar granules. This will make enough milk to equal a can, but be aware that the consistency will not be what you are used to with the store-bought version.

This is just one of the recipes you can have with my Seasonings, Sauces and Substitutes pamphlet by sending \$5 and a long, stamped (64 cents), self-addressed envelope to: Heloise/SSS, P.O. Box 795001, San Antonio, TX 78279-5001. No bacon on hand? Here's a substitution you can use in a pinch: imitation bacon bits. I've even made a "mock" BLT (bacon, lettuce, tomato) using them. It's not too bad, plus, it's fewer calories! — Heloise

**HANDY PAPER TOWELING**  
Dear Heloise: When I was young, my mother taught me to always put a small piece of paper toweling in jars, mugs, etc., or any containers before they are closed. This way, any moisture and musty smells will be absorbed by the toweling. I use this all the time, and it works just fine. — Frances, Chino Valley, Ariz.

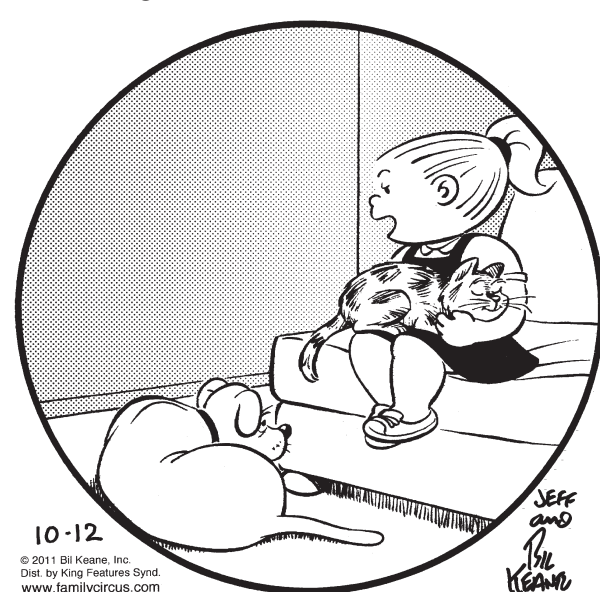
**GREEN HINT**  
Dear Heloise: I read your column every day in the Rapid City (S.D.) Journal and appreciate the hints. I have a hint. I bake a lot of bread for my own use and for friends/neighbors, so I seldom purchase bread.

I ran out of bread bags long ago, even though I washed and rinsed them for my homemade bread. After reuse, including washing, rinsing and drying, small pinholes appear in the store-bought bread bags.

I reuse plastic freezer bags, washing and drying them also. I air-dry the bags overnight on kitchen whisks propped up on the counter. This works well for one or two food bags. — Connie in South Dakota

It's nice to recycle and reuse to save money and help the environment. But please note: Experts stress to NOT wash and reuse plastic bags that have held raw meat, fish or poultry. No matter how well you wash them, if you're using them for another food item, there's a possibility of transferring bacteria. — Heloise  
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**Family Circus** • Bil Keane



**Conceptis Sudoku** • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★ 10/12  
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.

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

**Cryptoquip**

Z W D O L Y N K T P G K Y A  
P N O A U G P V V B Y D V K O Z P Z  
Z W K U K T B T V D O L I V P O Z Z W P Z  
B A S T A S V E W K P U P N D O E U A I .  
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: A WISH SOMEBODY COULD OFFER TO SURGEONS WIELDING GRASPING TOOLS: "MAY THE FORCEPS BE WITH YOU!"  
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Z equals T

**Crossword** • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	40 Lair	DOWN	16 Calendar abbr.
1 Pond film	41 Mid-month	1 Former frosh	20 Period
5 — constrictor	43 Shril bark	2 Hint	23 Lubricant
8 Touch	45 "— Street"	3 Arm	24 To and —
12 Earthen-ware pot	47 Nervous	4 "The Mikado"	27 Siesta
13 Also	51 Geruine (Ger.)	5 Persian trio	29 Raw rock
14 California wine valley	52 Disappeared	5 Inseparable	30 Still, in verse
15 Imposed a penalty	54 Genealogy chart	6 Tossed into the mix	32 Tranquilizes
17 Soon, in verse	55 Storm center	7 Turn of a phrase?	34 Rifle attachment
18 Dive of a sort	56 Sound quality	8 Ostracized	37 Sleep phenom
19 Rickrack	57 Trawler need	9 "Once — a time"	39 Eastern princess
21 Health resort	58 Luke Wilson's brother	10 Piquancy	42 Most common dice roll
22 Actress Diana		11 Piquancy	44 Green pasta sauce
23 Vacationing			45 Collections
26 Can material			46 Beige
28 Western border lake			48 Indian Ocean vessel
31 Eye part			49 Wilder or Hackman
33 Apprehend			50 Paradise
35 Simple			53 Sailor's assent
36 Hermit, e.g.			
38 Standard			

Solution time: 21 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 10-12