

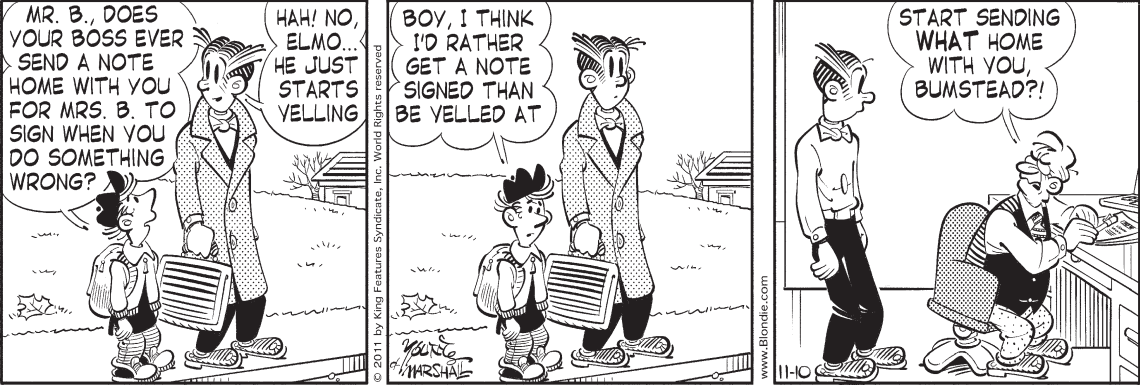
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



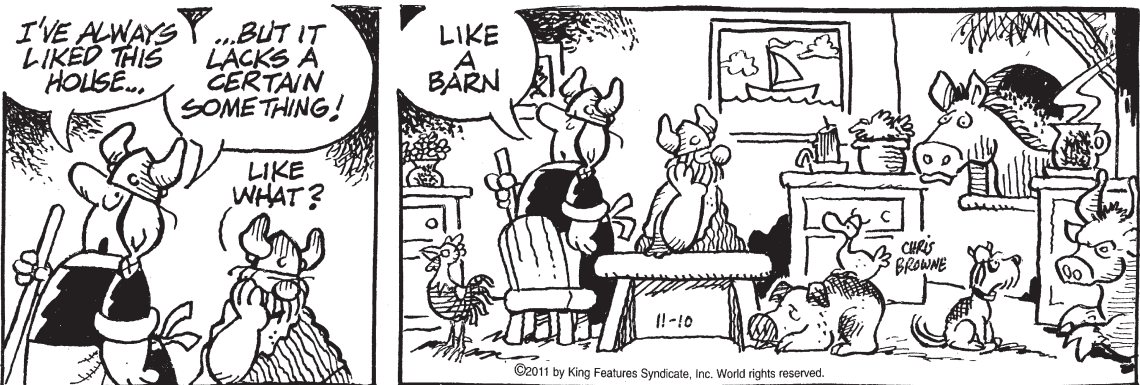
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



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



Dr. Joyce Brothers

• Ask Dr. Brothers

He's adjusting to staying home

Dear Dr. Brothers: I have three kids, and for five years I'd been a stay-at-home mom. I just went back to work because my husband got laid off, and now he's taking care of the kids. The change has been hard on both of us, but he's taking it worse than I am. I'm afraid he feels less of a man now that he's not the breadwinner. I know it's hard, but how can I get him to understand that he's still an important part of the family? - B.R.

Dear B.R.: This kind of double blow to the ego - first being laid off and then not being able to go back to providing for his family - is a huge hurdle for anyone, so the best thing to do now might be to give your husband time to heal. Talk to him about how he's feeling, and let him know you still need him for being a father to your children. Without him, yes, maybe you'd have money to get by with only your job, but you'd have no one to raise your family. That job can be the most important one of all, and your husband will be able to see this once he's healed from being laid off.

You can help your husband to still feel worthwhile and useful, and one thing that's important is to turn over to him some control of the household you had before you went back to work. Give him space to figure out how best to work the system of your household, rather than trying to force him into doing things your way. Even if he seems to be floundering, letting him figure out his own methods can be gratifying once he gets things under control. Let him know his worth as a father, husband and man is not determined by the money he makes or the job he does, but by the person he is. You love him for that, and with your support he'll be his confident self in no time.

Dear Dr. Brothers: My daughter is a staunch feminist. She's had boyfriends throughout the years, but no one serious, and I'm afraid her liberal views of women's rights are scaring off potential husbands. She's a smart and lovely girl, but I think she makes it harder when she so stubbornly holds on to these opinions. What can I do to convince her she'll never find a husband if she doesn't tone down her feminist views? - A.M.

Dear A.M.: Actually, you might have the wrong idea about how feminist views relate to romance. Your daughter's romantic woes likely aren't due to her opinion of women's rights; research has shown the opposite in most women. A study in the journal *Sex Roles* shows feminism might actually improve relationships. While popular opinion dictates that feminists are against romantic love, actually that is not the case. In this study, men who identified their female partners as having feminist views were more likely to be happy in relationships and report greater sexual satisfaction.

Rather than stigmatizing your daughter's viewpoints, why not have an honest discussion with her about her love life? It may be you're missing something as to why she's never had a serious relationship - or it may be you've discouraged potential partners with your judgment of your daughter. Rather than judging your daughter's beliefs, keep an open mind and let her figure out her romantic relationships for herself. After all, her feminism might even help her in the long run.

Bridge • Steve Becker

East dealer. Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
 ♠ A K 3
 ♥ K 8 4
 ♦ A 6 5
 ♣ J 7 6 2

WEST
 ♠ Q 6 2
 ♥ 6
 ♦ K 10 8 4 2
 ♣ 10 9 5 4

EAST
 ♠ J 9 7 4
 ♥ Q 7 3
 ♦ Q J 9
 ♣ A K 8

SOUTH
 ♠ 10 8 5
 ♥ A J 10 9 5 2
 ♦ 7 3
 ♣ Q 3

The bidding:
 East 1♣ South 2♥ West 3♣ North 4♥
 Opening lead - ten of clubs.

It All Adds Up

Information provided by the opposing bidding often points the way to the winning line of play. Sometimes, though, it is necessary to dig very deeply for the vital clues needed to get home safely.

Consider this deal where South reached four hearts on the bidding shown and West led the ten of clubs. East won with the king and shifted to the queen of diamonds, taken by dummy's ace.

Declarer then cashed the K-A of hearts. When West showed out, South had to go down one, losing two clubs, a diamond and a heart. Dummy's jack of clubs later provided a discard for South's losing spade.

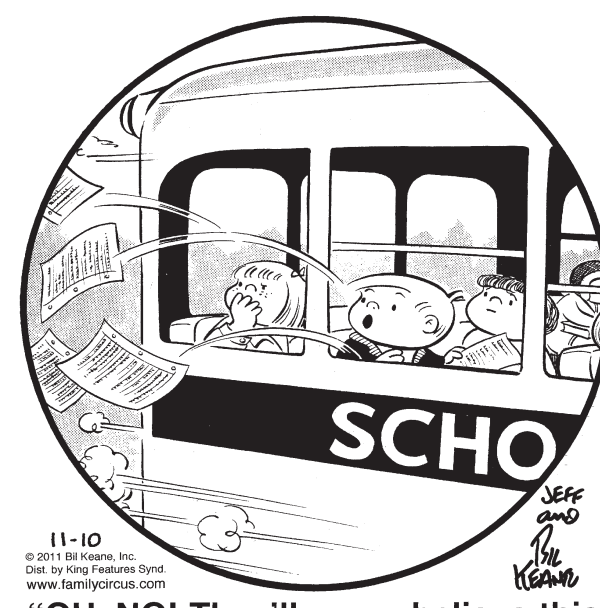
Declarer's play of the K-A of hearts was in keeping with standard procedure when holding nine cards of a suit missing the queen, but it was clearly wrong on this occasion. South had enough information from the bidding to know that East was virtually certain to hold the Q-x-x of hearts!

First, it was certainly reasonable to assume that West had four clubs for his raise to three clubs. This meant that East's one-club opening was based on a three-card suit.

If this was true, it was impossible for East to hold only two hearts, since that would leave him with eight cards in spades and diamonds. If he held five cards in either suit, he would have opened the bidding in that suit, while if he was 4-4 in spades and diamonds, he would have opened with one diamond (or, possibly, one spade).

East's hand pattern was therefore very likely to be 4-3-3-3, making the second-round heart finesse mandatory.

Family Circus • Bil Keane



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"OH, NO! They'll never believe this excuse."

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★ 11/10

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.

Cryptoquip

KRUPU LQJSRIJKP KRNK X
 TQYU KQ SQFTU TNKU XI
 KRU UYUIXIS EQJTL FU
 EQIPXLUCUL IXSRK ECJTTUCP.
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF YOU SET OUT TO DESTROY STOREFRONTS WITH A HATCHET, I GUESS YOU'RE GOING WINDOW CHOPPING.
 Today's Cryptoquip Clue: F equals B

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

- | | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| ACROSS | DOWN | 23 | — |
| 1 Hardly hirsute | 36 "Charac- ters Welcome" | 1 Employer | 24 Major |
| 5 Teeny bit | 37 Prob- ability | 2 Touch | 24 Alastair who played Scrooge |
| 9 Frat-party item | 38 Pop | 3 Tradition- al tales | 4 Protect |
| 12 Reed instru- ment | 40 Hairstyle | 5 Biblical prophet | 25 Today, in Tijuana |
| 13 Unembel- lished | 41 Boston news- paper | 6 Afternoon social | 26 Motor- boat feature |
| 14 A Gabor sister | 43 Plant of the mint family | 7 Bobby of hockey | 27 So |
| 15 Prop in a Gidget movie | 47 Grazing area | 8 Hero's reward | 29 Massa- chusetts cape |
| 17 Shriill bark | 48 Pub target | 9 QWERTY, for one | 30 Opposite of 21- |
| 18 Takes the helm | 52 Notion | 10 Satanic | 21- Across |
| 19 Saunter | 53 Pleased | 11 Stare stupidly | 35 Center |
| 21 Opposite of 30- Down | 54 Conclu- sion | 16 Chum | 37 Study of |
| 22 Crooner Iglesias | 55 Under the influence | 20 Wire measure | eggs |
| 24 Not barefoot | 56 Longings | 22 Beam supporting a ceiling | 39 Made over |
| 27 Ander- son's "High —" | | | 40 Slight touch |
| 28 Frilly | | | 41 Jane Lynch's show |
| 31 Debtor's letters | | | 42 Tilt |
| 32 Towel designation | | | 43 Remain |
| 33 Fish eggs | | | 44 Crooner Jerry |
| 34 Legend | | | 45 Persia, now |
| | | | 46 Tosses in |
| | | | 49 Big bother |
| | | | 50 Agt. |

Solution time: 25 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 11-10

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
47					48	49	50			
51					52				53	
54					55				56	