

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



**Beetle Bailey** • Mort Walker



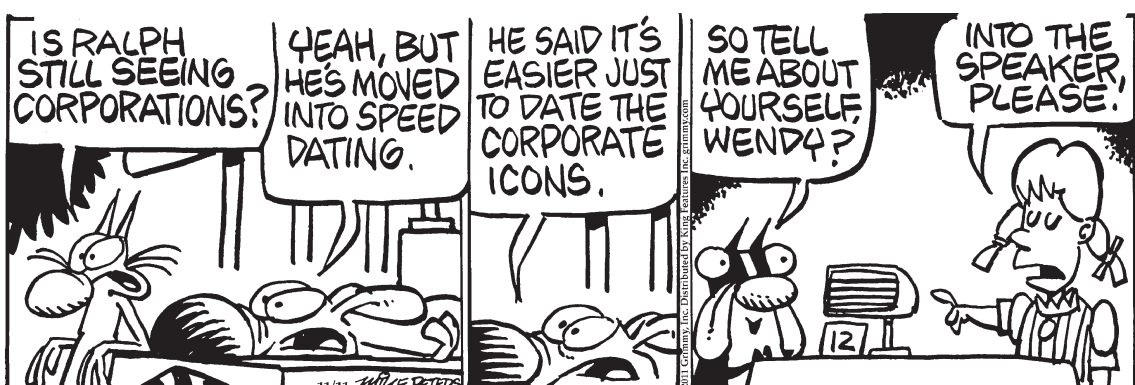
**Blondie** • Chic Young



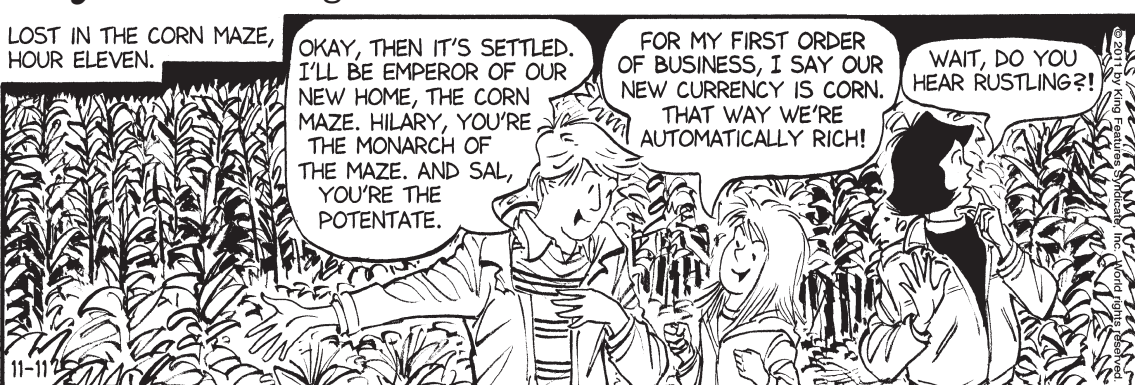
**Hagar the Horrible** • Chris Browne



**Mother Goose and Grimm** • Mike Peters



**Sally Forth** • Greg Howard



**Todd the Dinosaur** • Patrick Roberts



**Zits** • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



**Family Circus** • Bil Keane



**Heloise**



• Hints from Heloise

**Checklist helps to pack suitcase**

Dear Heloise: I always keep a list of THINGS TO PACK in my suitcase. It's easy to forget things like chargers, swimsuits, etc. I also keep all chargers in a special pouch so they are easy to find and keep together.

I check things off the list as I pack, and recheck them off for the return so I don't leave anything behind. After returning, I put a new copy of the list in the suitcase for my next trip. It saves some stress. — Netter N., Camarillo, Calif.

**VINEGAR TO THE RESCUE**

Hi, Heloise: One day while doing a load of laundry, I decided to try plain white vinegar in the bleach receptacle of my front-load washer to see if it would help cut down on the funky odors a front-loading machine can harbor. It helped eliminate odors in clothes and kept odors at bay in the washer, too.

I still have to air it out occasionally, but it never smells as bad as it used to. I use the vinegar every time I wash a load. — Laura A., via e-mail

Laura, vinegar is a great cleaner and odor-buster, and your hint is a new use for an old favorite that has a jillion handy uses! I have compiled a pamphlet containing my money-saving favorite uses for vinegar. If you would like to receive one, send \$5, along with a long, self-addressed, stamped (64 cents) envelope, to: Heloise/Vinegar, Box 795001, San Antonio, Texas, 78279-5001. Vinegar also is fine for freshening the toilet bowl. Leave five minutes, scrub and flush. — Heloise

**LEMON USES**

Dear Heloise: I do not waste a bit of a lemon. If a recipe calls for the zest, that is one use. I squeeze the juice from the entire lemon and freeze it in measured amounts ranging from 1 teaspoon to 1/3 cup. Once frozen, I remove the lemon juice from the containers used to freeze it (ice-cube trays or small bowls) and put the cubes into a freezer bag.

What is left of the lemon I cut into small pieces and freeze in a plastic bag. When my sink disposal needs freshening, I put a piece into the disposal and run it. — Linda C., via email

**GPS SAFETY**

Dear Heloise: On your GPS for your vehicle, it asks you to enter your HOME address. I put a local gas station's address here. That way, if my car is stolen, the thief doesn't have my address and my garage-door opener to gain access to my home. — Roxanne C., Uniontown, Pa.

**HOSPITAL HINT**

Dear Heloise: Recently, my husband was hospitalized for three days, and his glasses were lost while he was there. The nurses tried their best to locate them, but all their efforts were for naught.

Here is my suggestion: Bring an older pair of glasses instead of your best pair! — Mabel in Paradise, Texas

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**Bridge** • Steve Becker

Your right-hand opponent, the dealer, opens with Three Hearts, neither side vulnerable. What action (if any) would you take with each of the following five hands?

- ♠AJ7 ♥10 ♦KQJ984 ♣AK6
- ♠A9 ♥KQ74 ♦KJ ♣AK987
- ♠8 ♥J63 ♦AJ4 ♣AQ8542
- ♠AKJ10762 ♥3 ♦AJ6 ♣K7
- ♠AK854 ♥— ♦AQJ3 ♣KQ95

**Bidding Quiz**

1. Double. Your hand is a little too good for an overall of four diamonds. True, partner would read four diamonds as indicating a strong hand, but he wouldn't expect quite this much. Substitute the duce of clubs for the king and you'd have an average four-diamond bid.

The double is primarily for takeout. It indicates considerable all-around strength and asks partner to bid his best (usually longest) suit. Partner will occasionally pass, converting your intended take-out double to a penalty double when he thinks that's his best option. If partner responds with three spades or four clubs, you plan to bid four diamonds next, thereby identifying a hand too strong for an immediate four-diamond overall.

2. Three notrump. This means what it says -- that you want to play at game in notrump. You're not asking partner to name a suit, and he should do so only when he has good reason to think that a suit contract would be better. It is dangerous to double, because there's no chance partner will pass, and his suit response might take you past three notrump.

3. Pass. There's little to be gained and possibly much to be lost by bidding at this point. To overall with four clubs would be courting disaster, since your left-hand opponent might have a strong hand and good clubs. If partner can't compete after you pass, there's probably not much of a future for your side.

4. Four spades. When you are confronted with a pre-emptive bid, whatever you do often carries some element of risk. Here, partner needs very little for you to make a game in spades, so you should bid it. Of course, the next player might be able to double you successfully, but this risk is more than offset by the possibility of missing game if you bid only three spades.

5. Four hearts. This is the kind of hand you should have to make an immediate cuebid in the opponent's suit. You should assume that game is likely in whatever suit your partner names. Furthermore, a slam is not out of the question.

Of course, since partner is forced to bid and might have a very poor hand, you should pass any minimum response. The important thing is to tell partner that you have a huge hand and are willing to contract for game at the four- or five-level.

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**Conceptis Sudoku** • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★ ★

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.

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

**Cryptoquip**

VEXMVXU NK DENSE GHF  
 DHFBJ XITXSV OXRUMB  
 XRNB JXXJO VH EMTTK  
 ONLFBVMKXHFOBG: VEX  
 ONK - M - T B X I.  
**Yesterday's Cryptoquip:** THESE DOUGHNUTS THAT I LOVE TO GOBBLE LATE IN THE EVENING COULD BE CONSIDERED NIGHT CRULLERS.  
 Today's Cryptoquip Clue: N equals I

**Crossword** • Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 First name of 7-Down
  - 4 Baseball stats
  - 8 Crock-Pot contents
  - 12 Unclose, poetically
  - 13 Not procrastinating
  - 14 "National Treasure" star
  - 15 A-ha's megahit
  - 17 Desire
  - 18 "2001: A Space Odyssey" author
  - 19 Symbol of intrigue
  - 21 Corn spike
  - 22 Online gamer's icon
  - 26 Gee follower
  - 29 Underwear with underwire
  - 30 Inseparable
  - 31 Castle protection
- DOWN**
- 16 Upright rival
  - 20 Actress Longoria
  - 23 Go sight-seeing
  - 24 Initial stake
  - 25 What-ever's left over
  - 26 Andy's pal
  - 27 "The Music Man" setting
  - 28 Body powder
  - 29 Tarzan's son
  - 32 Santa's guide
  - 33 Egypt's capital
  - 35 Jewel
  - 36 Alter
  - 38 Take it easy
  - 39 Lead the meeting
  - 42 Picnic invaders
  - 43 Filth
  - 44 Alluring
  - 45 — Mahal
  - 46 Singer DiFranco
  - 47 Hostel
  - 49 Historic time

Solution time: 25 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 11-11

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		