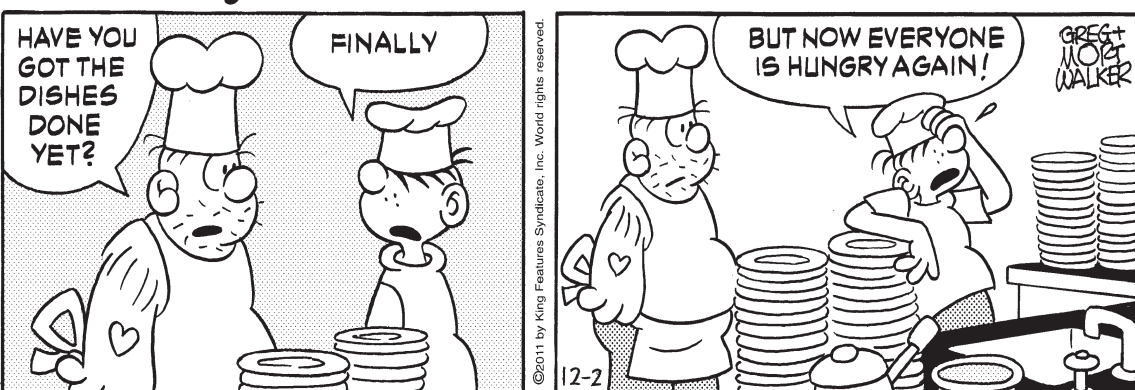


Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



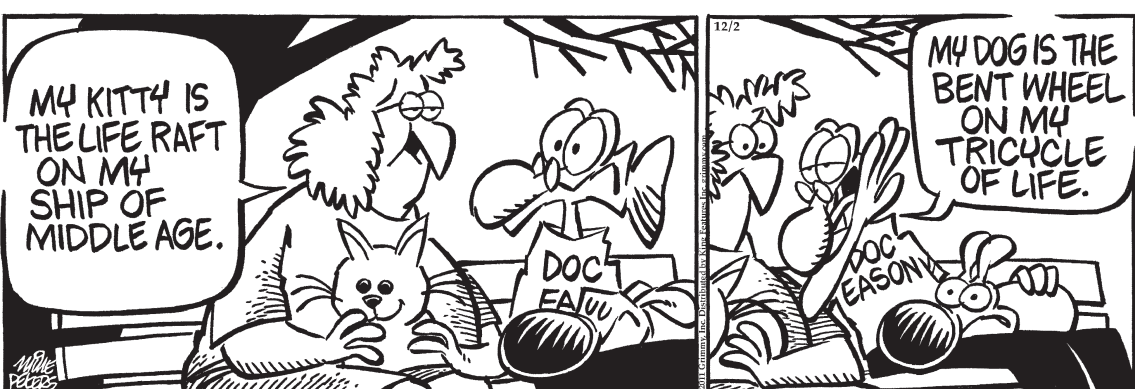
Blondie • Chic Young



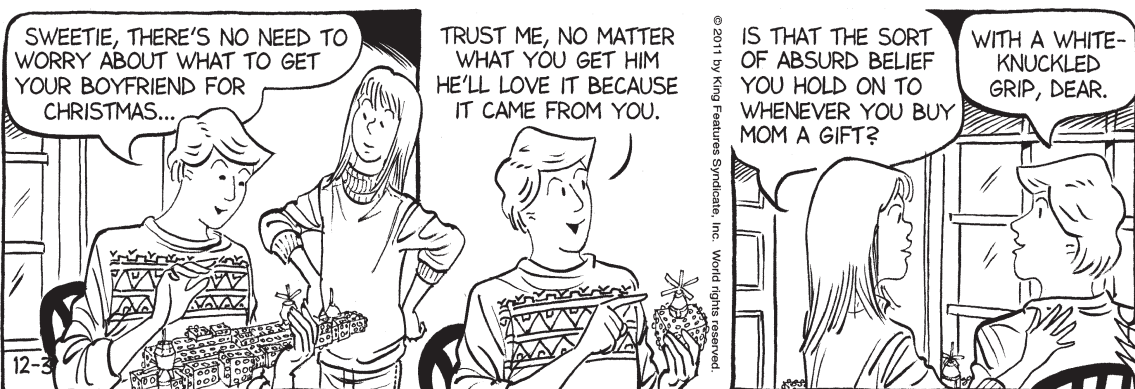
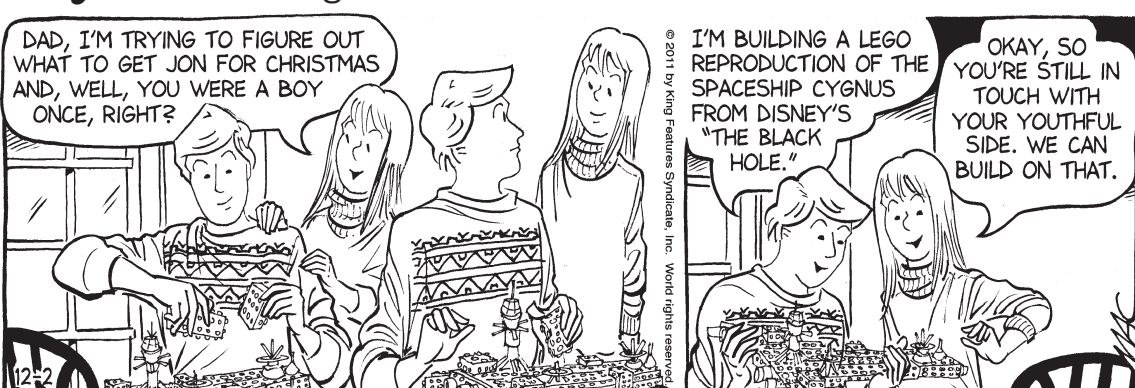
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise



• Hints from Heloise

Hints smooth airport security

Dear Readers: Taking a TRIP BY AIR for fun, or during the upcoming holiday season? If you have not flown in a while, here is a question for you: What kind of identification is acceptable at the security line? There are several good choices, according to the Transportation Security Administration (www.tsa.gov). Here are some, but not ALL, of the options:

- Driver's license or state photo identification card
- U.S. passport
- U.S. military ID
- Native American tribal photo ID
- Foreign-government-issued passport
- Permanent-resident card.

Also, did you know that if you don't have an ID, it doesn't necessarily mean you won't be able to fly? If you can provide the TSA some information, it might be able to verify your identity through publicly available computer sites. This is not really a good choice, as it's going to probably take extra time. Please be prepared when you travel and expect to go through TSA security. — Heloise

SEND A GREAT HINT TO:

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

SHARED SAVINGS

Dear Heloise: I send all my many unwanted coupons to a home for women and children. Most all are used by the women and some shelter workers, too. Thank you. — A Reader, Ontario, Canada

Wonderful! Heloise Central checked with a women's shelter here in San Antonio, and it was very receptive to this hint! Coupons for everyday household and personal grooming items are a great idea. — Heloise

P.S.: While you are at it, if you have hotel amenities such as shampoo, lotion and mouthwash, pass these along, too.

CLEAN FEET

Dear Heloise: This is not a topic that's ever touched on. With a back problem and getting a little older, to reach my feet to wash them, especially the soles, can be difficult.

Using a dedicated dish wand not only holds the soap and gives them a good scrubbing, but the sponge tip is replaceable. This also is great fun for the little ones. — Holly K., Fort Worth, Texas

FREEZER FINDER

Dear Heloise: I heard this hint the other day. A friend got so tired of trying to find what she was looking for in the freezer that she went to the dollar store and bought a lot of those plastic dollar shoe boxes. She came home and labeled each shoe box: "Pork" and the date, "Chicken" and the date, and "Beef" and the date. They stack great, and no more trying to see what is what.

I am going to redo my freezer and stack the boxes. I have a terrible time finding what I am looking for! — D.J. in Ohio

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Bridge • Steve Becker

You are the dealer and bid One Club. Partner responds One Heart. What would you bid now with each of the following four hands?

1. ♠ AJ ♥ AQ73 ♦ J8 ♣ AQJ62
2. ♠ A984 ♥ — ♦ AJ6 ♣ AK9754
3. ♠ AKJ2 ♥ 96 ♦ AQ ♣ AQ832
4. ♠ 10 ♥ K95 ♦ AQ83 ♣ AK876

Bidding Quiz

1. Four hearts. You should not risk losing a game by raising to only three hearts, an encouraging but nonforcing bid that shows about 16 to 18 points. You'd feel pretty silly if partner passed, since even if he has only six points he will probably make four hearts.

By raising to four hearts, you indicate about 20 points, which in turn shows interest in slam. Note that this sequence, where the opener leaps to game in responder's suit, is altogether different from that where a player opens the bidding with one of a major and responder raises directly to four. In the latter case, the responder's jump to game is pre-emptive rather than forward-going.

2. One spade. Partner's heart response adds nothing to the value of your hand. Had partner responded in diamonds or spades, the outlook would have been much more promising. The heart response warns of a possible misfit, and until a suit fit is discovered, you should tread very gingerly. A rebid of three clubs (16 to 18 points) over one heart might result in missing a game in spades; two clubs would run the same risk while severely understating your values.

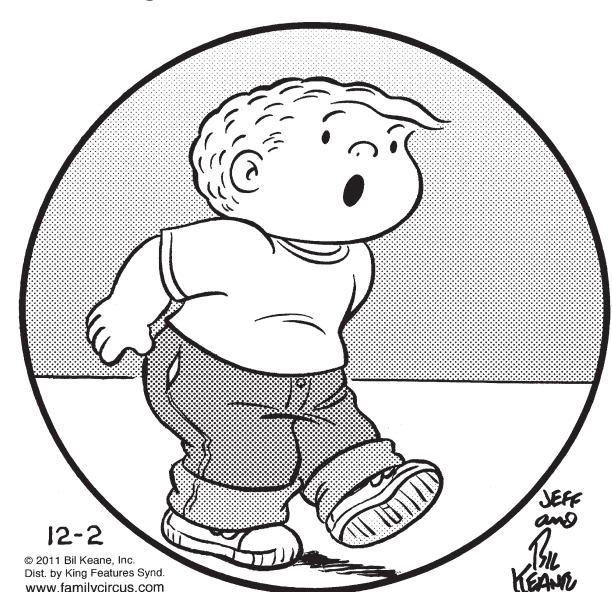
3. Two spades. Here you have adequate high-card strength for a leap to three notrump, showing at least 20 points. However, the hand might play better in spades at either game or slam, so it is wiser to show your spades en route. Partner is required to respond to the jump-shift, even with minimum values for his first response.

4. Two diamonds. Bidding one club first and following up with two diamonds constitutes a "reverse." Reverses show hands that contain at least 17 points, including distributional features. They also guarantee holding greater length in the first suit mentioned.

Here, after bidding two diamonds, you plan to support hearts on the next round and in that way identify your 1-3-4-5 distribution. This projected series of bids is more desirable than any other sequence because your hand is too good for a simple raise to two hearts, and you lack the four-card trump support needed for a jump-raise to three hearts.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



12-2
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Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★ 12/02

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

Cryptoquip

HV C FNALSDZ GCM CL

NVVHFHCW LCSHNLWC ZCDM,

KNAWM ZNA FCWW SGCS

SGY WCKL NV SGY WCLM?

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: SINCE ONLY TOP MILITARY LEADERS ARE GRANTED ENTRY INTO THIS PLACE, IS THAT GENERAL ADMISSION?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: V equals F

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 Recordings
 - 6 Big bother
 - 9 Scale notes
 - 12 Sudden gush
 - 13 Rawls or Reed
 - 14 Exist
 - 15 Places in the heart
 - 16 Range of understanding
 - 18 Basement
 - 20 Sea eagle
 - 21 Handle
 - 23 Fond du —, Wis.
 - 24 The staff of life
 - 25 Auctioneer's cry
 - 27 Foundation
 - 29 Claim
 - 31 "Rug"
 - 35 Hay machine
 - 37 Wrestling style
 - 38 Separated
- DOWN**
- 41 Angry
 - 43 Scoot
 - 44 Japanese rice wine (Var.)
 - 45 Former Secretary of State
 - 47 Chase
 - 49 Crosses
 - 52 UN workers grp.
 - 53 Retainer
 - 54 Wedding VIP
 - 55 Has the skills
 - 56 Peculiar
 - 57 Busybody
 - 17th-century composer
 - 4 Great Lake
 - 5 Play for time
 - 6 Andean beast
 - 7 Gloomy
 - 8 Lord's Prayer
 - 9 Word with savoir or laissez
 - 10 Sports venue
 - 11 Emulated
 - 1 Airport org.
 - 2 Suitable
 - 21 "Born in the —"
 - 22 The Sun
 - 24 Resume, for short
 - 26 Scattered fragments
 - 28 Malt shop item
 - 30 Roscoe
 - 32 Steal
 - 33 Ostrich's kin
 - 34 A billion years
 - 36 Over-acted
 - 38 Jellied entree
 - 39 TV cook
 - 40 Ohio city
 - 42 Bowler
 - 45 Multi-colored
 - 46 Traditional tales
 - 48 Venusian vessel?
 - 50 Potent pesticide
 - 51 Vast expanse

Solution time: 25 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 12-2

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		