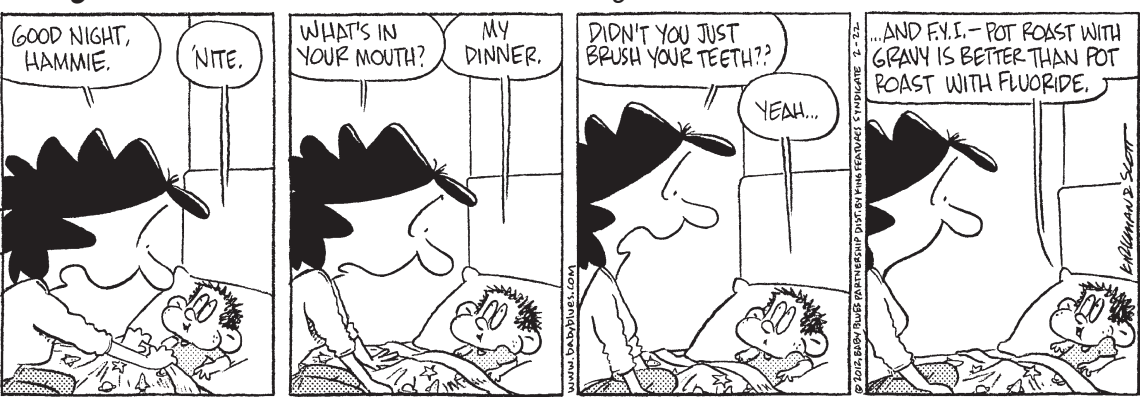
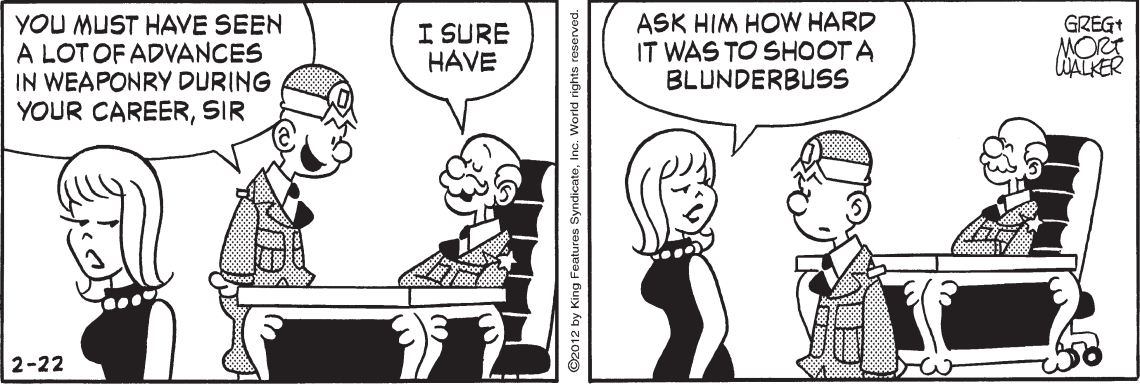


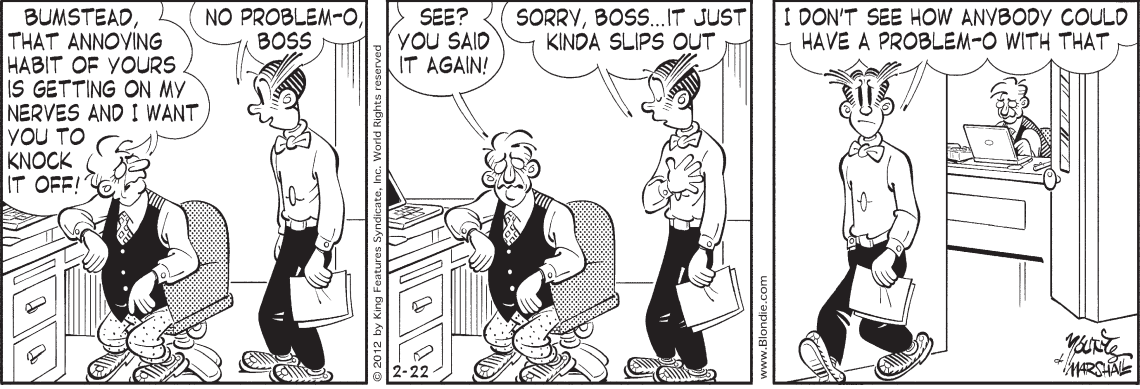
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young



Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



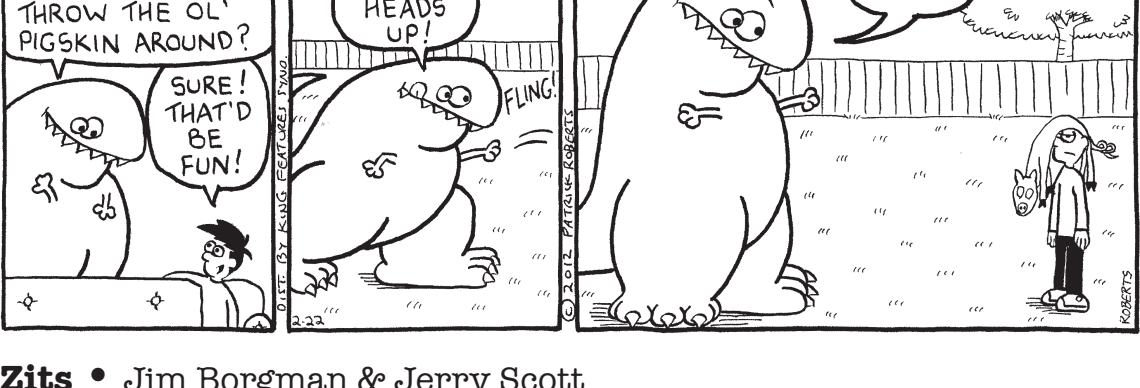
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise

- Hints from Heloise

Different kinds of tomato sauces have varied uses

Dear Heloise: What are the differences among tomato sauce, puree and paste, and what is the best use for each? – Rhonda M., El Paso, Texas

Tomato sauce has a smooth, uniform texture and mild flavor. It's typically added to meals like spaghetti and lasagna, or soups, chili and stews.

Tomato puree usually has a chunkier texture than tomato sauce, so it is used in dishes where a strong tomato flavor is desired, like meatloaf.

Tomato paste generally is thinned with wine, broth or water. Just a small amount added to soups, chili and stews gives tomato flavor while helping to thicken the stock.

Experiment with all types for tomato flavor in your recipes! – Heloise

P.S.: When these items are on sale, I stock up and buy several cans to have on hand for a quick soup.

BAY LEAF PLANT

Dear Heloise: I purchased a bay leaf plant about 16 years ago from my local nursery. It was about 5 inches tall, and now is over 5 feet tall. I keep it in the house through the winter. In the spring, when I'm sure the temps will not drop below 50 degrees at night, I put it on my back deck.

I have not had to purchase bay leaves for at least 10 years. Every fall, I trim the plant back, let the leaves dry and then store in a jar. It's been a fun plant to grow, and it has become a great conversation piece. – Suzanne, Omaha, Neb.

CHOPSTICK USE

Dear Heloise: If you choose to use chopsticks at dinner in a Chinese restaurant, bring them back home instead of leaving them to be thrown out. They come in handy as stakes for indoor plants. – Christine R., via email

You know one of my tricks! I'm sure there are plenty of other uses for chopsticks. Readers, please send your favorite chopstick hint to: Heloise/Chopstick, Box 795000, San Antonio, Texas, 78279-5000; e-mail (please put "Chopstick" in the subject line) to Heloise@Heloise.com; or fax to 210-HELOISE (435-6473). We look forward to hearing from you! – Heloise

FLOUR HINT

Dear Heloise: Is there a way to turn regular flour into self-rising flour? – Tina D., Orlando, Fla.

There sure is, and it is simple! Just mix 1 cup all-purpose flour with 1 1/2 teaspoons baking powder and 1/2 teaspoon table salt. This will be equal to 1 cup of self-rising flour. – Heloise

STRAWS WHEN SICK

Dear Heloise: I have a hint for when small children (or even adults) are sick. I keep a package of plastic straws in the house. When anyone is ill, we use straws (then throw them away) to keep illness down. Also, we put everything that has been touched in the dishwasher. It seems to really make a difference in length of illness and spreading germs. – Linda D., Fort Wayne, Ind.

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Bridge • Steve Becker

North dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.

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

WEST
♠ K Q J 10 5
♥ 9 4
♦ 7 3
♣ 7 6 4 2

EAST
♠ 9 2
♥ J 10 6 3
♦ K 8 4
♣ K 10 9 3

SOUTH
♠ A 6
♥ 8 7 2
♦ 10 9 6 5 2
♣ A 8 5

The bidding:
North East South West
1♥ Pass 1NT Pass
2NT Pass 3NT
Opening lead — king of spades.

Vigilance – the Price of Victory

The secret of good card play is the ability to read how the unseen cards are divided. Once you know the location of the missing cards, your task is much easier to accomplish.

If you're a defender, your knowledge of declarer's hand comes first and foremost from the bidding. Declarer is certain to have described his hand to at least some extent, and any further information you require will ordinarily come from either your partner's plays or declarer's plays.

For example, suppose you're East on this deal and your partner leads the king of spades, which wins, and then the ten of spades, taken by South with the ace. At this point, you should have an excellent idea of what declarer's hand looks like. You should also know that he will be unable to avoid going down one if you defend correctly.

It is not difficult to pinpoint South's values. He has no high cards in spades except the ace, and he is also sure to have the ace of clubs, based on his bids of one and three notrump, as there is nothing else left for him to have. So when South leads a diamond at trick three and finesses the jack, you should win with the king and return the king of clubs!

This play knocks South out of the box. Whatever he does, he ends up with only eight tricks – assuming you defend correctly thereafter. But if you fail to pay attention to the bidding, or to the significance of the plays to the first two tricks, you might not shift to the king of clubs at trick four. And if you return any other card – a heart, a diamond or a low club – declarer easily makes the contract.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



“Were George Washington’s brothers the Uncles of our Country?”

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

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.

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

Cryptoquip

MJIC H NFQI-FC CHCCE AIBU

VDIUUIV IQIDE YWDCFCA,

WCI MWGNV HUUGYI UJI

RGBU WC HG RHFD HRRHDIN.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: GAME IN WHICH TWO PLAYERS ARE TRYING TO LOCATE AND DESTROY EACH OTHERS' LAMBS: "BATTLESHEEP"

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: C equals N

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 Snake's tooth
 - 5 Billboards
 - 8 Song's ending
 - 12 Waikiki winding
 - 13 Floral garland
 - 14 Parol
 - 15 Going around the Earth
 - 17 Fit of peevishness
 - 18 Rigatoni, e.g.
 - 19 Greek underworld goddess
 - 21 — and crafts
 - 24 — de plume
 - 25 Heath
 - 28 Re planes
 - 30 Sprite
 - 33 Bobby of hockey
 - 34 Oust
 - 35 Keanu, in "The Matrix"
 - 36 Cribbage scorer
 - 37 Give as an example
- DOWN**
- 1 Dud
 - 2 Emanation
 - 3 Arrests
 - 4 Elvis' instrument
 - 5 "The Greatest"
 - 6 Lair
 - 7 Sound of relief
 - 8 Lake herring
 - 9 Decoration
 - 10 —
 - 11 Initial chip
 - 16 Pitch bird?
 - 20 Certain compound
 - 22 Urban transport walls
 - 23 Dividing
 - 25 Swab the deck
 - 26 Raw rock
 - 27 Arrange systemically
 - 29 Spool of land
 - 31 Grazing chain
 - 32 Watch
 - 33 Reverb-ate
 - 34 Lady of Spain
 - 40 Item in the plus column
 - 42 " — la la!"
 - 43 Greet the villain
 - 44 Slightly
 - 45 Sulk
 - 47 "American —"
 - 48 Pop flavor
 - 49 Former spouses
 - 52 Rule, for short
 - 53 It's game?

Solution time: 21 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 2-22

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				59			