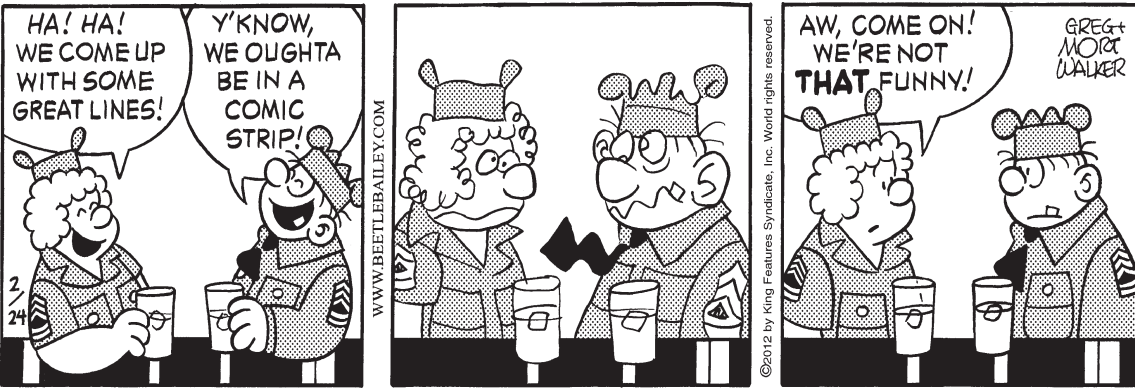


Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



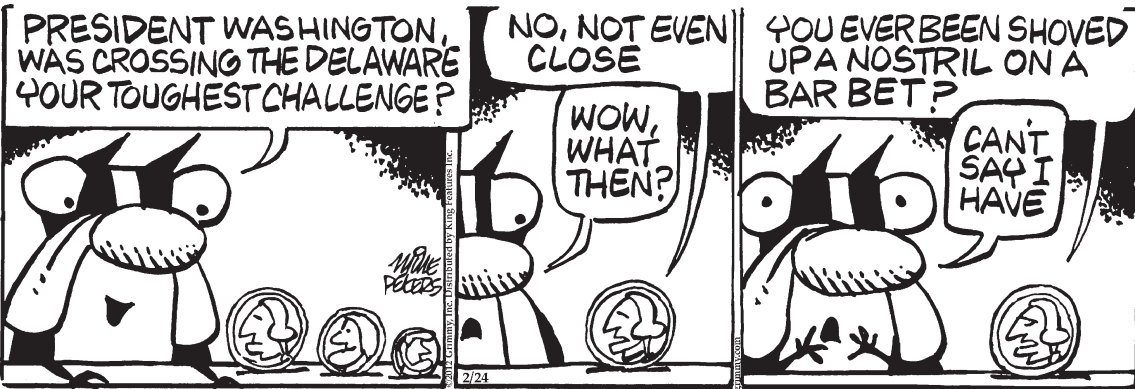
Blondie • Chic Young



Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



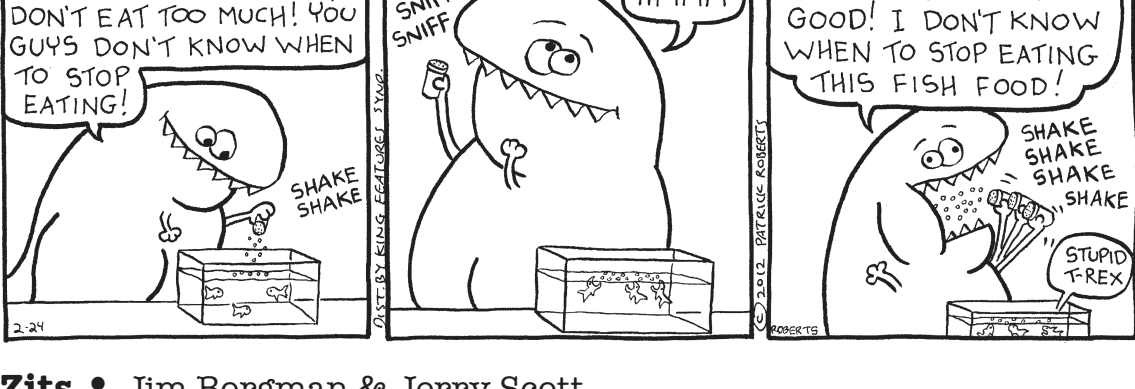
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise

- Hints from Heloise

Take containers to restaurants

Dear Heloise: At a restaurant, instead of asking for the disposable carryout containers for leftovers, we bring a cloth shopping bag with our own reusable ones. They stack better, and the bag is a help.

The owner was delighted and begged us to tell other customers we know. He said, "You have no idea what I spend a month on the throwaways."

Now, when we get home, the food goes right into the refrigerator. It keeps much better and can go in the microwave to reheat.

Do you think he should offer a 2 percent discount to customers who bring their own containers? — Rich A., Roswell, N.M.

Rich, great recycling hint! I'm not sure about a discount, but why not ask? At the minimum, you are doing a "green" hint! — Heloise

SEND A GREAT HINT TO:

Heloise
P.O. Box 795000
San Antonio, TX 78279-5000
Fax: 1-210-HELOISE
E-mail: Heloise@Heloise.com

SHOWER POWER

Dear Heloise: Having two small children and being a little messy myself, I have taught myself an invaluable trick when it comes to stain removal: the "jet" setting on your shower head! The high pressure forces the stain out, which is something your washing machine will never do. And of course, don't forget: The sooner you treat a stain, the better! — Melissa in Kingwood, Texas

LUGGAGE LABELING

Dear Heloise: Almost all luggage ends up on the airport carousel upside-down and wheels first. I believe this is to keep wheels and handles from getting caught on the conveyor. Your luggage will be easy to find if you put your initials on the bottom and the back of your suitcase with a white marker or crayon. — Sterling in California

MONEY-SAVING HINT

Dear Heloise: Save the extra address labels you are sent. Use them to seal frozen-food packages when you use freezer paper. Works great! — Shirley in Struthers, Ohio

TEA-BAG DISPOSAL

Dear Heloise: For me, there is nothing better than a big mug of steaming-hot tea. When we travel by car, I carry a selection of tea bags. At convenience stores, my husband fills his mug with coffee, and I add a tea bag to my mug and fill it with hot water. After a number of unsatisfactory ideas for ways to dispose of the used tea bags, I finally found the answer! I put the hot, wet tea bag on a paper napkin in a plastic container from margarine and put the top on. At the next stop, I just drop the tea bag and napkin into the trash, put in a new napkin, and I'm ready for the next used tea bag. — Carolyn S., Spearfish, S.D.

NEWS FROM HOME

Dear Readers: If you send care packages to kids in college, service members overseas or someone who has moved away from your hometown, wrap the items in the local newspaper. The recipient can read the hometown newspaper and catch up on the news. — Heloise

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Bridge • Steve Becker

You are South, and the bidding has gone:

South
1 ♠
2 ♠
?

North
2 ♦
3 ♣

What would you bid now with each of the following three hands?

1. ♠ AKJ83 ♥ AJ74 ♦ Q96 ♣ 10
2. ♠ KQ952 ♥ AK86 ♦ — ♣ QJ43
3. ♠ AQJ65 ♥ KQ942 ♦ J8 ♣ 4

Bidding Quiz

1. Three diamonds. Your partner has made two forcing bids, so you should assume that he has not only the necessary values for game, but possibly also the values needed for a slam. Even though you have substantially more than your first two bids indicated — you have 15 high-card points and might have had only 12 — the best you can do at this point is to bid three diamonds.

Three diamonds is forcing, because both you and partner have been bidding constructively all along, and the chief purpose of saying only three diamonds at this stage is to allow partner to reveal whether he has a game or a slam in mind. It would be wrong to bid three notrump instead, because that would indicate minimum values for your opening bid. It would also tend to describe 5-4-2-2 distribution rather than 5-4-3-1. Your next move will depend largely on what partner does over three diamonds.

2. Five clubs. A raise to four clubs would suggest that you had only a minimum opening bid and were responding to three clubs merely because partner had forced you to bid again. But you have much more than a minimum once partner mentions clubs, and you can best show this by leaping to five clubs. The jump-raise in this sequence guarantees four trumps and therefore a void in diamonds. After you jump to five clubs, the rest is up to partner.

3. Three hearts. Partner does not know you have five hearts, so you should rebid them to clarify the nature of your hand. You hope partner will either raise hearts or support spades belatedly, in which case you plan to settle for game in the suit of his choice.

If partner next repeats one of his suits, you will show a preference for diamonds, raising four diamonds to five or bidding four diamonds over four clubs. Of course, if partner bids three notrump over three hearts, you will pass.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



"Wait a minute. Doesn't fruit have to be in a pie to be dessert?"

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

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.

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

Cryptoquip

FHMJX B MYAVS AU YBWTBPPQ

OAQW OI XIPPHGM EIXBHPW

AU XJIHY BGXHTW BYAVGE

B YABYHGM WTBFS-UHYI?

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: UPON SPOTTING A BIG REPTILE THRON ON THE HORIZON, THE WEATHER BUREAU ISSUED A LIZARD WARNING.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: U equals F

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS
- 1 Treaties
 - 6 Morsel
 - 9 Curved flight path
 - 12 "I don't give —!"
 - 13 Rhyming tribute
 - 14 Feathery neckwear
 - 15 Comic Sykes
 - 16 Alluring attraction
 - 18 Rough-housing lass
 - 20 Eye layer
 - 21 Swelled head
 - 23 Emcee Sajak
 - 24 Take forcibly
 - 25 It may be a proper subject
 - 27 Oregon's capital
 - 29 Avenue
 - 31 Mis-treated
 - 35 Destroy
 - 37 Tear asunder
- DOWN
- 38 "M*A*S*H" clerk
 - 41 That girl
 - 43 Still Basin
 - 44 Bassin accessory
 - 45 Louvre or Prado
 - 47 Free-runners' sport
 - 49 Fore-heads
 - 52 Upper limb
 - 53 Foreign policy grp.
 - 54 Standard
 - 55 Verily
 - 56 Blond shade
 - 57 Late

- 2 "Caught ya!"
- 3 Shape
- 4 Commotion
- 5 Postage
- 6 Colombia's capital
- 7 Without acting
- 8 Afternoon affair
- 9 Overhead
- 10 Libertines
- 11 200
- 12 200
- 13 200
- 14 200
- 15 200
- 16 200
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- 39 200
- 40 200
- 41 200
- 42 200
- 43 200
- 44 200
- 45 200
- 46 200
- 47 200
- 48 200
- 49 200
- 50 200
- 51 200

Solution time: 25 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 2-24

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				