Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



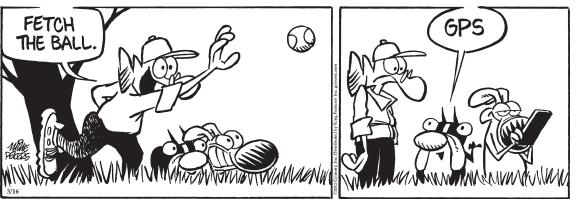
Blondie • Chic Young



Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



Heloise Hints from Heloise Power strip hits the road

Dear Heloise: Traveling today with so many rechargeable things - phones, cameras, e-book readers, computers, etc. - I always bring a power strip along. We were in Israel, and one evening my roommate and I had two phones, a camera, an e-book reader and my computer plugged into one power strip. Also, take it in your carry-on.

Our phones needed to be charged, and there were only two plugs in the area of the airport we were in. We asked permission to plug in the power strip, and several people could charge their phones at one time. - Judy F., Baton Rouge, La.

SEND A GREAT HINT TO:

Heloise

P.O. Box 795000 San Antonio, TX 78279-5000 E-mail: Heloise@Heloise.com **SOAP-BAR STORAGE**

Dear Heloise: I like to buy our favorite brand of bath soap when it's on sale. I then put a stillwrapped bar in each dresser drawer so our clothes keep that shower-fresh scent. - Madge in Florida

SAFETY HINT

Dear Heloise: Here is a safety hint: When backing out of a parking spot, turn on your four-way flashers. (It's usually a button on the dash with a red triangle.) That way, others will know that you intend to back out. This has saved me several times from parking-lot mishaps. - Michael B., Prescott Lakes, Ariz.

LIPSTICK

Dear Heloise: My favorite lipstick has been discontinued, and I have seven used tubes. Is there any way the lipstick left at the bottom of the tubes can be consolidated into usable lipsticks? Please advise. Your column provides many useful ideas to me. - Joyce in Houston

Joyce, yes, I can help you to be able to use that favorite shade. With a lip brush, you can get out many more applications.

Or, a small spatula and a plastic pillbox to the rescue! Carefully scoop the lipstick out of the bottom of the tube with a small, plastic spatula. Scrape it into a plastic pillbox or contact-lens holder, then use a lip brush to apply. - Heloise

REUSING PAPER TOWELS

Dear Heloise: I save damp but clean paper towels to use again. They are advertised as being reusable, so I really do reuse them. I let the towstove or blotting up yucky spills. Saves money in a green way. – Jo, via e-mail

PET FEEDING

Dear Heloise: I want to tell you how we broke our dog Maggie from eating table scraps. We put a smear of canned dog food on our plate after we finish eating. We put the plate down in her eating area, and she thinks that is what we had for dinner. When she saw that was all she was going to get, she started eating her dry kibble. Worked for us! – Arda in Oklahoma

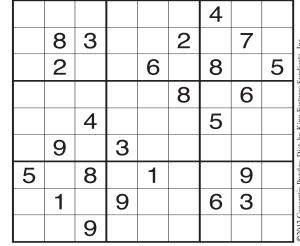
(c)2012 by King Features Syndicate Inc.





"I think this has too much 'mac' and not enough 'roni."

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green



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.

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Cryptoquip



Today's Cryptoquip Clue: P equals S



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Bridge • Steve Becker

You	are Sout	h, and the	bidding
has go	ne:		
North	East	South	West
1 ♦	Pass	2 🕈	Pass
2 ♦	Pass	?	
Wha	t would	you bid n	ow with
each of	f the follo	wing five h	ands?
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		3 ♦ 10 ♣ K.	
3. 🛧	AK6 🛡 85	54 🔶 Q9 🐥 A	40872
4. 🛧	O8 ♥ AJ •	🜢 962 🕈 KJ	8652
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		* * *	

Bidding Quiz

1. Four diamonds. There is certainly at least a game somewhere, as you have values well beyond a minimum opening bid opposite partner's opening bid. Indeed, it might even be possible to make a slam despite partner's minimum rebid.

Ordinarily, minor-suit games are to be avoided, since it is usually easier to make nine tricks in notrump than 11 tricks in a minor. However, a notrump contract here looks much more dangerous than a suit contract, so a jump-raise of partner's diamonds (forcing) is therefore best. The double raise also leaves room for partner to use Blackwood or make a cuebid in hearts if he is interested in a slam. If he actually does bid four hearts next, you should take a stab at six diamonds.

2. Pass. In view of partner's minimum rebid, game is now unlikely. Trying to improve matters by bidding again might easily result in making them worse. Partner will probably make no more than eight or nine tricks in diamonds, so there is no good reason to bid again.

3. Two spades. It is unusual to bid a three-card suit, but there is no better way of inducing partner to bid notrump if he has a heart stopper. If he does not bid notrump at his next turn, you will have to settle for game in diamonds.

4. Three diamonds. You can't very well give up without making at least a mild game try, even though partner made the weakest possible rebid. He might pass three diamonds, but even so it is better to offer him a shot at game in case he has a maximum (around 15 points) for his two-diamond rebid.

Two notrump rather than three diamonds is an alternative possibility, but it would be a bit more dangerous.

5. Three notrump. Here you have ideal notrump distribution and strength in the unbid suits, so you have no real choice other than to bid three notrump. It would be wrong to bid only two notrump, which is not forcing in this sequence. If you did, you might find yourself left at the post.

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Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 1 Reggae relative 4 Toss in 7 Heathen 12 Fix a skirt, maybe			 38 Tournament situations 39 Cinnabar, e.g. 41 Note from the boss 			.r, m	 DOWN 1 Puppeteer Lewis 2 Skewered entree 3 Ritzy fiddle 					 23 Part of Vietnam 24 Knock 25 Wilde- beest 26 Feedbag tidbit 				
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