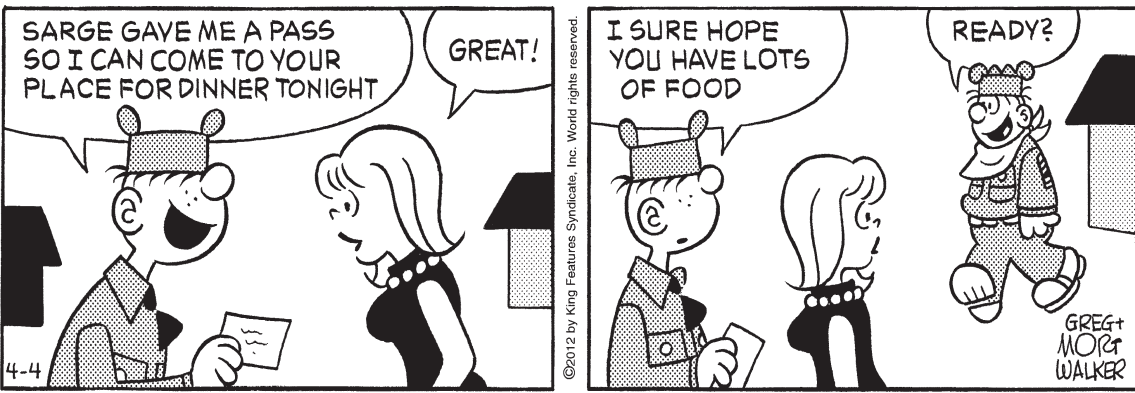


Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



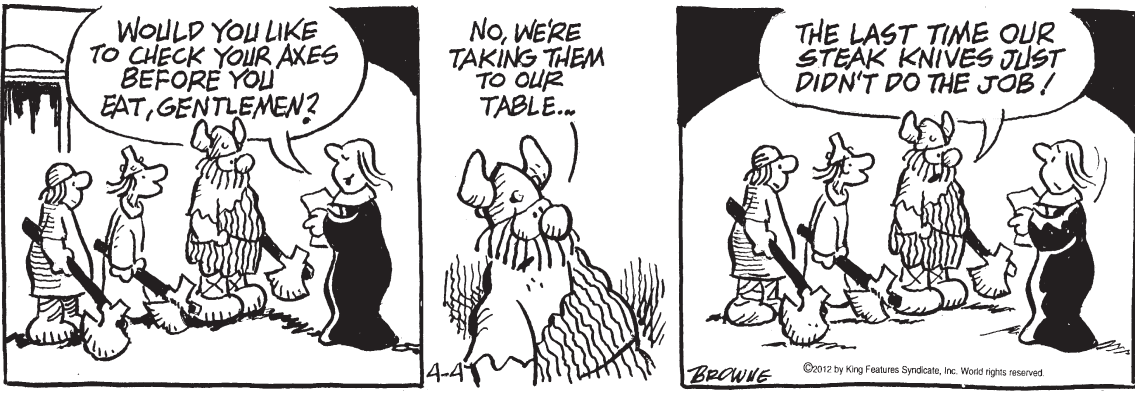
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



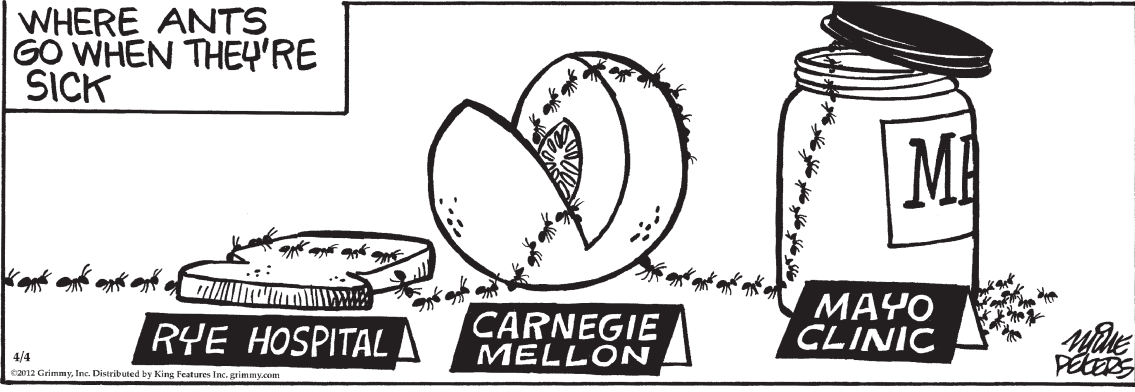
Blondie • Chic Young



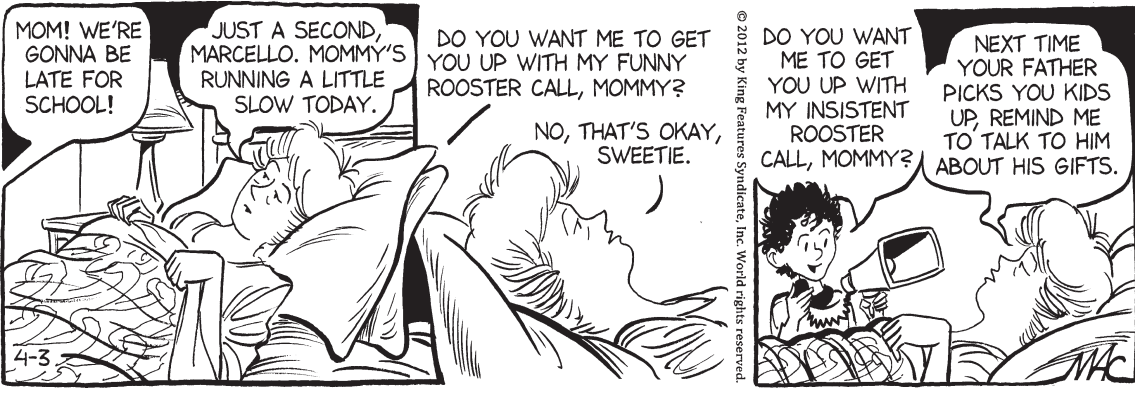
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



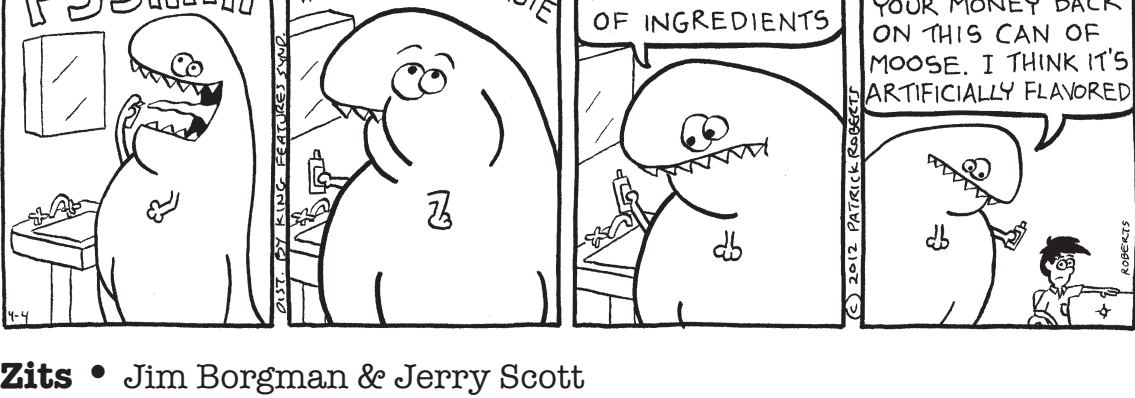
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise

• Hints from Heloise

Hints help in hunt for eggs

Dear Readers: Here are some Heloise helpful hints if you will be hiding eggs for Easter:

- Have each child pick a specific color. When hunting eggs, the children can pick up only their color.
- Try using a muffin pan when dyeing eggs. Each cup has a designated color, and hopefully you won't spill dye versus using individual cups.
- Make sure to refrigerate hard-cooked eggs right after the hunt if you are not going to eat them right away. Note: The safe time frame is one hour in warm weather and two hours at "room" temperature.
- If using plastic eggs, try adding other surprises besides candy, like coins, sweet notes or coupons for rewards.
- Take a count of the number of eggs before you hide them. That way, you know if all have been found! You don't want to run the lawn mower over one later on! — Heloise

SEND A GREAT HINT TO:
Heloise
P.O. Box 795000
San Antonio, TX 78279-5000
Fax: 210-HELOISE
E-mail: Heloise@Heloise.com

ICED LEMON
Dear Heloise: I buy two lemons at a time because they usually are "two-for." I cut them into wedges, freeze on a pie plate and put in a plastic bag.

I can thaw out as much as I want. Microwaving makes them easier to juice. The counter method leaves them firmer to serve at the table. — Norma, via e-mail

COOKING BACON
Dear Heloise: Here is something I really like: To bake bacon, put the strips on a cookie sheet. Turn the oven to 250 degrees and bake to whatever crispness you like. It takes only a few minutes, you don't need to cover it, and it will not splatter in your oven — hence, no cleanup. — V.H. in Plymouth, Ind.

Using the oven to cook bacon is a good way to cook a lot and get the desired crispness. However, you should cook it at a higher temperature (400 degrees for at least 15 minutes) to be sure that it is fully cooked. Once cooked, dry on paper towels and serve or store for later use. — Heloise

ROASTING TURKEY
Dear Heloise: I have a hint for the next time you need to roast turkey. The very first time I roasted a whole turkey, I didn't know I would need (and therefore did not have) a roasting rack. In desperation, I built a rack out of celery stalks to hold the bird up out of the drippings. It worked like a charm and made the drippings especially tasty.

It's so easy to clean up, too! Use a disposable roaster, celery rack and throw the whole mess out along with the carcass. Done and done! — Erin C., Cambridge, Mass.

BANANA HINT
Dear Heloise: Another delicious way to use overripe bananas is to fry them in a little butter and, if you want, drizzle a little fresh lemon juice over them. No sugar needed, as they are super-sweet. — Rosemarie T., Kingsport, Tenn.

Love it! I tested this and even added a sprinkle of cinnamon. Yummy! — Heloise
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Bridge • Steve Becker

South dealer. Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ Q 5 4
♥ J 8 6
♦ K Q 10 7 3
♣ A J

WEST
♠ J 9 2
♥ Q 2
♦ 5 4
♣ 9 7 6 5 3

EAST
♠ 8
♥ A K 10 9 5 3
♦ A J 9 6
♣ 10 4

SOUTH
♠ A K 10 7 6 3
♥ 7 4
♦ 8
♣ K Q 8 2

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♦ Pass 4 ♠ Pass 2 ♥
2 ♣ Pass 4 ♦ Pass 4 ♠ Pass 2 ♥
Opening lead — queen of hearts.

'Tis Better to Receive Than to Give
Assume you're declarer at four spades and West leads the queen and another heart. East wins the second heart with the king and continues with the ace. This presents you with a thorny problem of sorts, since it is virtually certain from the bidding and play that West started with a doubleton heart.

If you ruff the third heart with the ten, you say to yourself, and West is able to overruff with the jack, you are sure to go down. If you decide to ruff with the king instead, you run the risk that West might have started with three trumps to the jack, in which case you will also go down.

But if your thoughts have been running in only these two channels — which card to ruff with — you are not giving yourself a fair shake. The fact is that you should not ruff at all! Instead, you should discard your eight of diamonds.

This discard changes the complexion of the situation completely. In the actual case, you have no trouble taking the rest of the tricks, whatever East plays next.

It is true that East could have defeated the contract had he been smart enough to cash the ace of diamonds before he played the ace of hearts. In that case you would have to go down one regardless of which card you elected to ruff with.

The moral that emerges is clear. If you are given a chance to make a contract that could have been defeated by better defensive play, you should try to take full advantage of your opportunity. You're not expected to reciprocate in kind.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★ 4/4

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.

Cryptoquip

NGZH ZLUJLXM JL UDX
DQWVJUZC, UDX OZLMS EZZUJO
ZOUZCCS HXNGXWUXM Z
MHJV QE VHZCJLX WQCGUJQL

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: SINCE THAT BIG OPERA STAR SINGS NOTABLY DEEP BASS PARTS, WOULD YOU SAY HE HAS A SO-LOW CAREER?

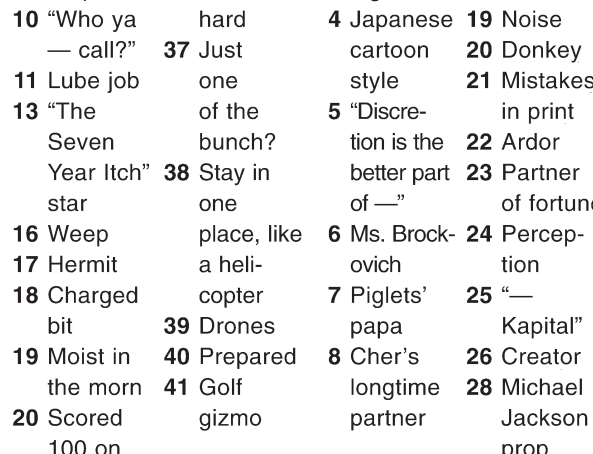
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: U equals T

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 28 Metric segments (Abbr.) 4 "Hail, Caesar!" 7 Shaft of light 8 Trap 10 "Who ya — call?" 11 Lube job 13 "The Seven Year Itch" star 16 Weep 17 Hermit 18 Charged bit 19 Moist in the morn 20 Scored 100 on 21 Spin 23 Arousing suspicion 25 Actress Cannon 26 "A — home is ..."

DOWN 9 Improve 10 Yukon SUV manufacturer 12 Viscous 14 Cry of distress 15 Conclusion 19 Noise cartoon style 21 Mistakes in print 22 Ardor better part of — 23 Partner of fortune 24 Perception 25 " — papa 26 Creator 28 Michael Jackson prop 29 Construction site fastener 30 Disgrace 31 "My bad" 32 Canonized Mlle. 34 Cupid's alias 35 Verifiable

Yesterday's answer 4-4



Solution time: 21 mins.

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