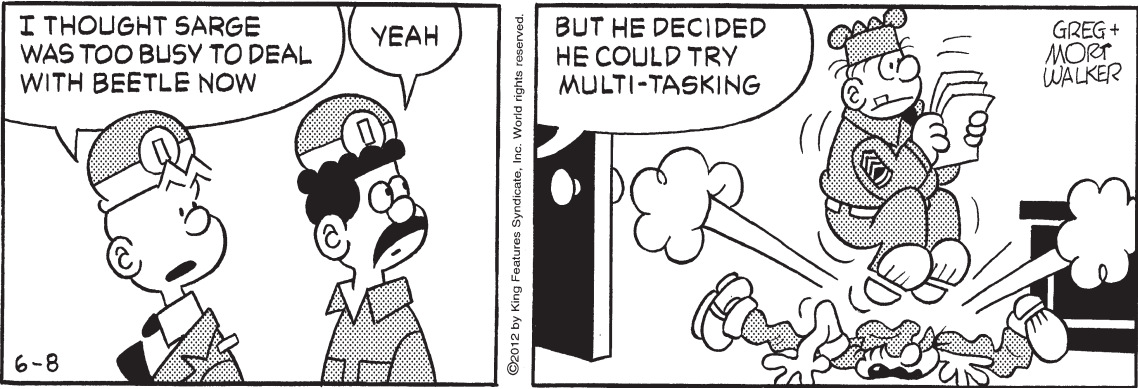


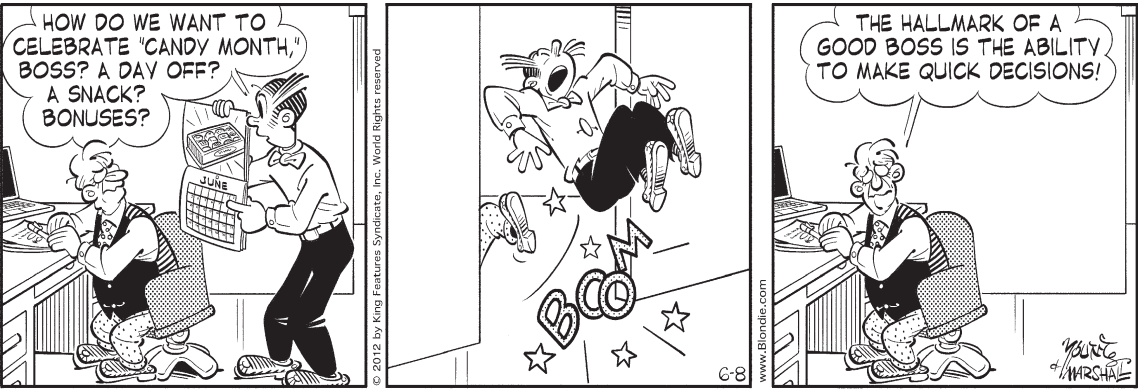
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young



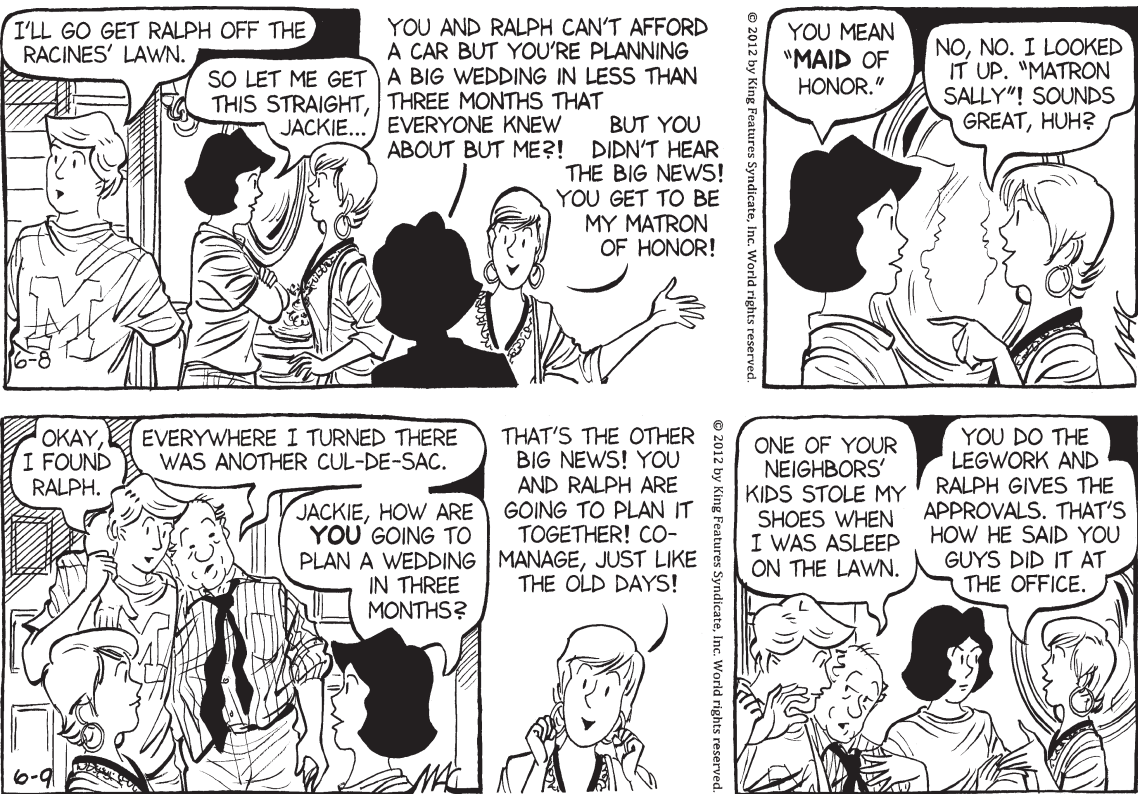
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise

- Hints from Heloise

Rubber yellows linoleum floor

Dear Heloise: I have a linoleum floor, and I notice that under the throw rugs, the floor is turning yellow.

Is there any way to get the yellow out? I have tried bleach, but it does not work. Thank you. – Irene, via e-mail

Sorry to say, there is no magic hint to “remove” the yellow stain. The yellowing is caused by a chemical reaction between the rubber backing on the rug and the linoleum. Flooring experts suggest not using rubber-backed rugs on linoleum floors because of this. Try looking for rugs without the rubber backing. Also, watch what else you put on linoleum. Rubber feet and wheels from things like bar stools and rolling carts can stain as well. – 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](mailto:Heloise@Heloise.com)

EXTRA CHARACTERS

Dear Readers: When typing a text message or email on most smartphones, there’s a way to get the accent marks you need. When typing, hold down the letter you need, and a pop-up bubble will appear with all the special characters.

Don’t have a smartphone? You can still get accents and special characters by scrolling through. Keep pushing the button with the designated letter. If you keep going, you will get to the letters with the accents. – Heloise

TRAVEL HINT

Dear Heloise: When an unaccompanied child is flying to visit relatives, stick a large piece of decorative adhesive shelf liner on the outside of the child’s luggage. Give the child a piece of that same contact paper to hand to the relative, or email the relative a photo of the contact paper. The relative can identify the child’s luggage much easier by matching the decorative contact paper. – Becky in South Dakota

KEY RINGS

Dear Readers: Have you ever been to an event where they were giving away plastic fluorescent (glow-in-the-dark) key rings to advertise their business or venture?

Usually these are just thrown in a junk drawer. If you have a closet or other room with a pull string for a light, attach one of these to the string. Finding it in the dark is a breeze, and you are reusing the key ring. – Heloise

EASY PIZZA

Dear Heloise: I enjoy making homemade pizza, but I hate to buy all the ingredients I like and that others want on their portion. I found that if you go through a salad bar at a larger grocery store, you usually can find everything you want on a pizza.

You can buy just the amount you want, and it comes already cut into the right sizes. – Pat from the Midwest

(c)2012 by King Features Syndicate Inc.

Bridge • Steve Becker

**Partner bids One Spade**, and the next player passes, both sides vulnerable. What would you bid with each of the following five hands?

1. ♠ J84 ♥ KJ6 ♦ AJ92 ♣ KQ9
2. ♠ A65 ♥ 84 ♦ AJ872 ♣ 643
3. ♠ 10 ♥ QJ762 ♦ AKJ93 ♣ Q5
4. ♠ 9852 ♥ 93 ♦ K8 ♣ AQ743
5. ♠ Q87543 ♥ 93 ♦ 10 ♣ KJ94 ♣ 82

Bidding Quiz

1. Two notrump. Unless you and your partner have agreed to some other meaning for two notrump in this situation, this bid shows 13 to 15 points, a balanced distribution and stoppers in the unbid suits.

Of course, the bid does not irrevocably commit your side to notrump. If partner does anything but raise to three notrump, you will next show your three-card spade support.

2. Two spades. This shows six to 10 points and trump support, which is precisely what you have. It is better to avoid a two-diamond response, because if partner next bid two spades, you’d have a difficult choice between passing and bidding three spades. By raising spades directly, you place the decision on how far to go exactly where it belongs – in partner’s lap.

3. Two hearts. This is in keeping with the principle of first mentioning the higher-ranking of two five-card suits, regardless of the high-card content of the two suits. Bidding diamonds first and hearts next would indicate fewer hearts than diamonds and could result in your winding up in the wrong contract.

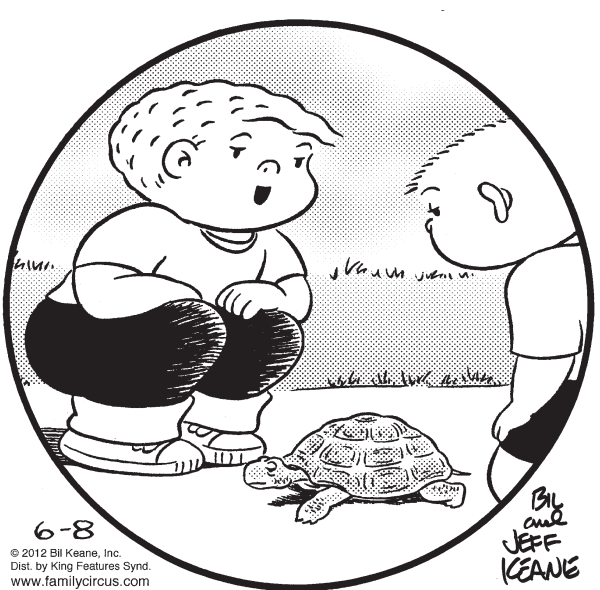
4. Two clubs. Here you’re too good to raise to two spades, since with your trump fit and two doubletons, your hand is worth about 11 points.

In-between hands such as this are best described by bidding a side suit first and then raising partner’s suit at your next turn. If you happen to play “limit” raises, an immediate jump to three spades, indicating 11-12 points with spade support, is also acceptable.

5. Four spades. The immediate jump to four serves two purposes. First, you should have a good chance for game, even though you don’t have many high-card points. Second, and equally important, is the bid’s pre-emptive value. Given your dearth of high-card points and your six-card trump support, there is a substantial danger that the opponents can make a game or find a good sacrifice in hearts or clubs. If all goes well, your four-spade bid might be just high enough to block them out.

(c)2012 King Features Syndicate Inc.

Family Circus • Bil Keane



Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

Cryptoquip

K R V T W R F R F P V R V - F W E X S

K X J F C H B X S W F W W E , V P N N H L

N J X , C H J T H J M F T P M M X S P X

P B J N N H L P V P M C K R K .

Yesterday’s Cryptoquip: ISLAND COUNTRY  
WHOSE CITIZENS ALWAYS HAVE A CONTINUOUS  
FLOW OF FRESH FERVOR: NEW ZEAL-LAND.

Today’s Cryptoquip clue: F equals D

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

- |  |                                      |  |   |
|--|--------------------------------------|--|---|
| <b>ACROSS</b>                                  | <b>38</b> Physique                   | <b>2</b> Of hearing                      | <b>23</b> Second president              |
| <b>1</b> Existed                               | <b>39</b> Rhyming tribute            | <b>3</b> Lewis who worked with Lamb Chop | <b>24</b> Hollywood trickery, for short |
| <b>4</b> Rx watch-dog org.                     | <b>41</b> Rescue band                | <b>4</b> Watch chains                    | <b>25</b> Moray, e.g.                   |
| <b>7</b> Type measures                         | <b>45</b> Rushmore or Suribachi say? | <b>5</b> Curtains                        | <b>26</b> Parched                       |
| <b>12</b> “Wha’d’ja say?”                      | <b>47</b> — de mer                   | <b>6</b> Fervor                          | <b>28</b> Afternoon affair              |
| <b>13</b> Bobby of hockey                      | <b>48</b> “Day After Day”            | <b>7</b> Analgesic target                | <b>30</b> Oklahoma city                 |
| <b>14</b> Battery terminal                     | <b>52</b> Antiquated                 | <b>8</b> Hostel                          | <b>31</b> Recede                        |
| <b>15</b> 401(k) alternative                   | <b>53</b> Civil War victors          | <b>9</b> Barracks bed                    | <b>32</b> “7 Faces of Dr. —”            |
| <b>16</b> Net game                             | <b>54</b> Rage                       | <b>10</b> Too much trouble               | <b>33</b> Toss in                       |
| <b>18</b> Distant                              | <b>55</b> Fish eggs                  | <b>11</b> Yen fraction                   | <b>36</b> Apollo’s destination          |
| <b>19</b> Soup eater’s need                    | <b>56</b> Ship’s rear                | <b>17</b> Biblical kingdom               | <b>37</b> Groups of species             |
| <b>20</b> Buy, fix and resell quickly          | <b>57</b> Aye canceler               | <b>21</b> Concise and substantive        | <b>40</b> Started dining                |
| <b>22</b> Baseball stat                        | <b>58</b> Mess up                    |  | <b>42</b> Dino sang about it            |
| <b>23</b> Scored 100 on                        |                                      |  | <b>43</b> It’s mostly discretion        |
| <b>27</b> “Monty Python” opener                |                                      |  | <b>44</b> Presbyter                     |
| <b>29</b> Wisconsin, the — State               |                                      |  | <b>45</b> Lake Wobegon’s st.            |
| <b>31</b> Cheer up                             |                                      |  | <b>46</b> Low card                      |
| <b>34</b> Quotidian                            |                                      |  | <b>48</b> Clear the tables              |
| <b>35</b> “Saturday Night Fever” director John |                                      |  | <b>49</b> Pismire                       |
| <b>37</b> Group of whales                      |                                      |  | <b>50</b> Conk out                      |
|  |                                      |  | <b>51</b> “What —?”                     |

Yesterday’s answer 6-8

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		