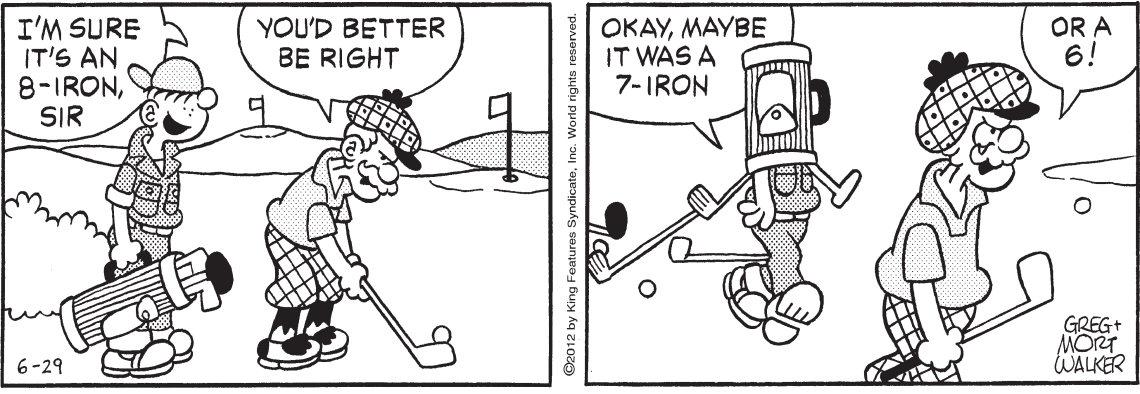


Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



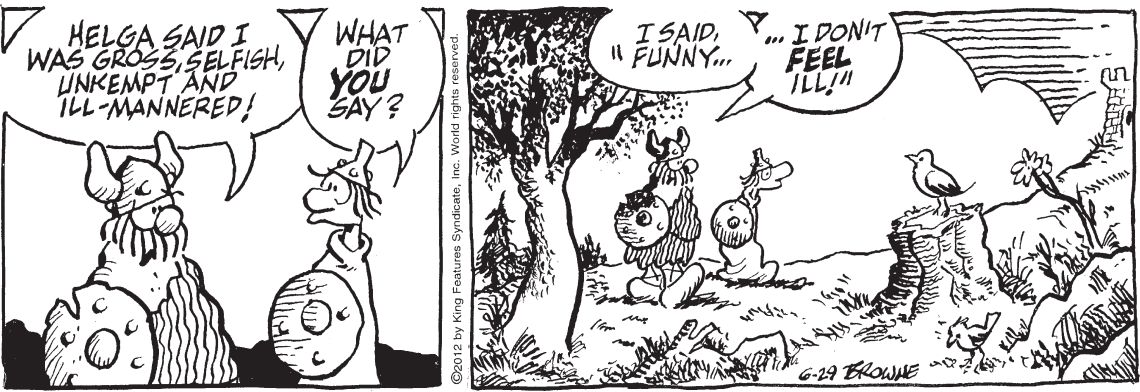
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



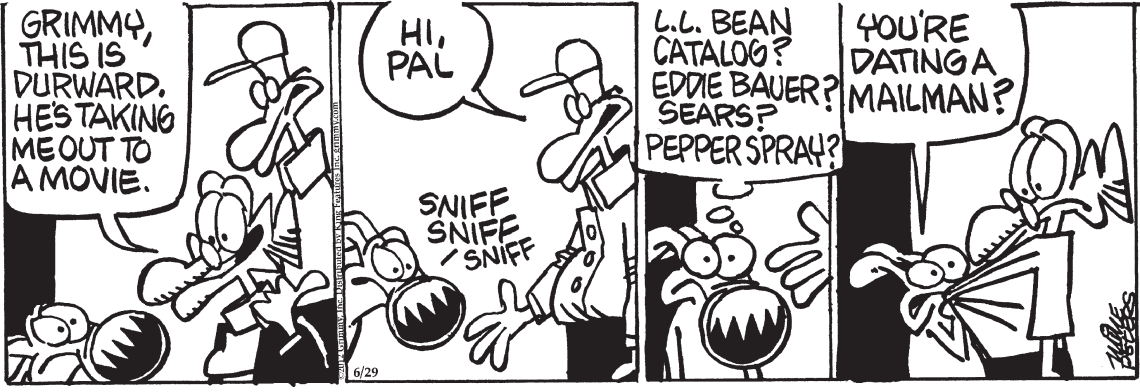
Blondie • Chic Young



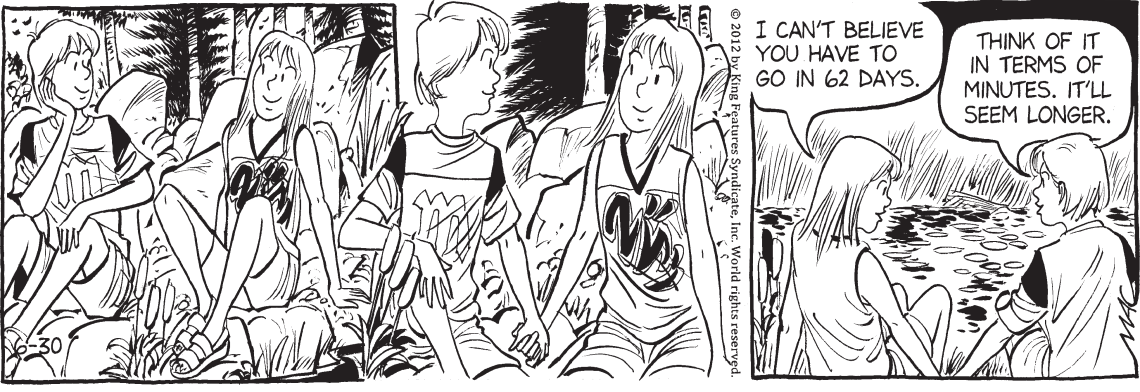
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise
• Hints from Heloise
Use manners with cellphones

Dear Readers: What's with people who have poor cellphone manners? Here are some hints to make you (and hopefully those around you) aware of your surroundings:

- Lower your voice and watch your language. People can hear everything you are saying.
- If your phone must be on in a business meeting or restaurant, put it on "vibrate" or "silent."
- Do not text while in class, at a meeting or driving (which is illegal in most states)!
- If you are in a meeting or at lunch and must answer the phone, excuse yourself and step away.

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

SAFETY HINT
Dear Heloise: Now that we can print out airline boarding passes at home, I always print extras to stick into my luggage, especially the pieces I'm checking. If the luggage gets lost, the boarding pass in one of the outside pockets will let handlers know what the destination was supposed to be. So far, I haven't lost any luggage, but you never know! — Adrienne C. in Virginia

A good precaution. Also, be sure that each piece has a luggage tag (or two) on the outside, and always check the destination tag that the airline puts on at the airport. — Heloise

CLEAN CANISTER
Dear Heloise: I have a set of canisters for my kitchen that are terra cotta on the outside, like flowerpots. They have grease spots on the outside. I have tried everything I know to get the grease out. I've tried the dishwasher and soaking in vinegar and bleach. Can you recommend anything else I can try? I hate to get rid of them, because I do love them! — Jenny, via e-mail

What an icky situation! Try using a little dish soap (one that cuts grease), warm water and a hard-bristle scrub brush to get the spots out. Scrub and let sit for 30 minutes or so. Make sure to rinse them well to remove soap residue. If you can't get spots out, try the next best thing: disguise them! You can do this in several ways. Try painting on decorations, use those new rub-on transfers or mosaic them. Hope this helps your beloved set of canisters. — Heloise

OLD PHONE DIRECTORY
Dear Heloise: When my new phone directory arrives, I put the old one under the front seat of my car and toss the one that's two years old. They don't change much in one year's time. Since the majority of drivers have a cellphone, this ensures they never have to leave the safety of their car to call for auto service, a tow truck, etc. Also, most phone books include local maps and other information. — Annette S., Davie, Fla.
Great idea! Just be sure to put it under the passenger seat, not the driver's side. — Heloise
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Bridge • Steve Becker

You open One Heart, and partner responds One Notrump. What would you bid now with each of the following four hands?

- ♠ A82 ♥ AJ953 ♦ KQ5 ♣ KJ
- ♠ 4 ♥ AKJ9653 ♦ K6 ♣ KQ8
- ♠ AKJ ♥ AKJ32 ♦ K107 ♣ 84
- ♠ KJ ♥ AK8543 ♦ 10 ♣ AK62

Bidding Quiz

- Two notrump. Partner's one-notrump response indicates six to 10 points, and denies holding four or more spades or support for hearts. Since you can't tell exactly how many points he has, the best you can do is to invite him to go on to game in notrump by raising to two notrump. With six or seven points, partner will pass; with eight to 10 points, he will bid three notrump. Partner will know that you have 16 or more points for your two-notrump bid, since with 15 or less you would pass.
- Four hearts. The only real problem is whether to bid three hearts (invitational) or four hearts. Most experts would bid four, realizing that while there was no absolute certainty of making 10 tricks in hearts, it would be the winning bid in the long run.

It is the trick-taking power of your hand -- not the high-card point count -- that is the decisive factor here. You have eight probable winners, and it is not overly optimistic to expect partner to provide the wherewithal to help you make two more.

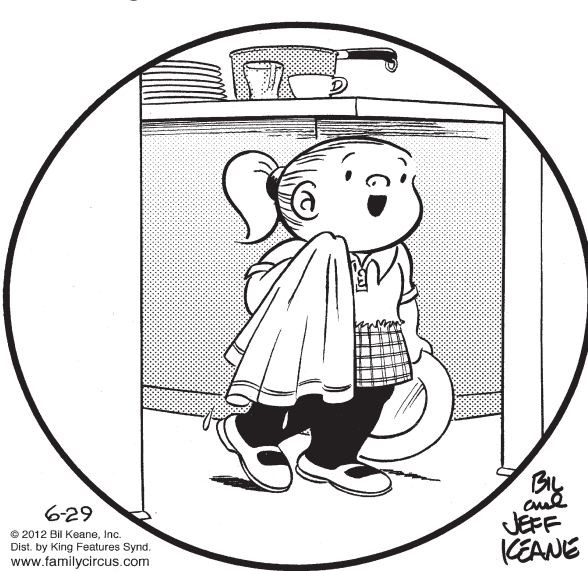
- Three notrump. A natural concern about your weakness in clubs should not stop you from bidding game. There is an implied likelihood that partner has club length because he lacks spade or heart length. You can't be certain that he will make three notrump, but it would be overly pessimistic to bid only two notrump when you know that the combined hands contain at least 25 points.

- Three clubs. You should assume your side has a game somewhere, and to make sure you get there, you should jump-shift to three clubs, which is 100 percent forcing. You should not risk a three-heart bid, which would be invitational but not forcing.

It might bother you to bid three clubs when you have such a strong preference for hearts, but you do it for two reasons. One is to make certain that partner bids again; the other is that five (or possibly even six) clubs might turn out to be a better contract than four hearts. This could occur if, say, partner had a singleton heart and four or more clubs.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



"We've decided Billy will wash, I'll dry, and Jeffy will pick up the pieces."

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

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.

Cryptoquip

XP BHGVCHUN YIS VSICZV
XGOQXBHVSU BYIOVTHIRB
RH CV QVZVIBVU, RMVS MV
BMHWZU BOQXST PIZZ TWNB.
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: HOLE DUG BY A WILD CRITTER FOR SCOUTING OUT THE UNDERGROUND VICINITY: BURROW OF INVESTIGATION.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: V equals E

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

- Alamos Springs org.
- Incite
- Sternward Lump
- Beatle or apostle
- Render immobile
- Do in
- Met melody
- Carillon components
- "Rocky Horror" heroine
- Duel tool
- Early birds?
- Protective walls
- Earlier than
- Goof
- Pinch
- Sunshades
- State with certainty
- "— and the Tramp"

DOWN

- Son-gun link
- Alien
- Dark
- High-protein bean
- Wood-shaping tool
- Doctor's due
- Maintenance
- Bar
- Sea flier
- Right angles
- War god
- Tolerate
- Military vehicle
- Taj Mahal city
- Not merely
- Arguments in favor
- Incite
- Academy Awards prop
- Layer
- Agile
- Birthright
- Bruce Wayne's butler
- A long time
- Disinclined
- Name for a Dalmatian
- "Forget it"
- Emanation
- Gator's cousin
- Omega preceder
- Don't just sit there
- Sort
- Easter purchase

Solution time: 25 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 6-29

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		