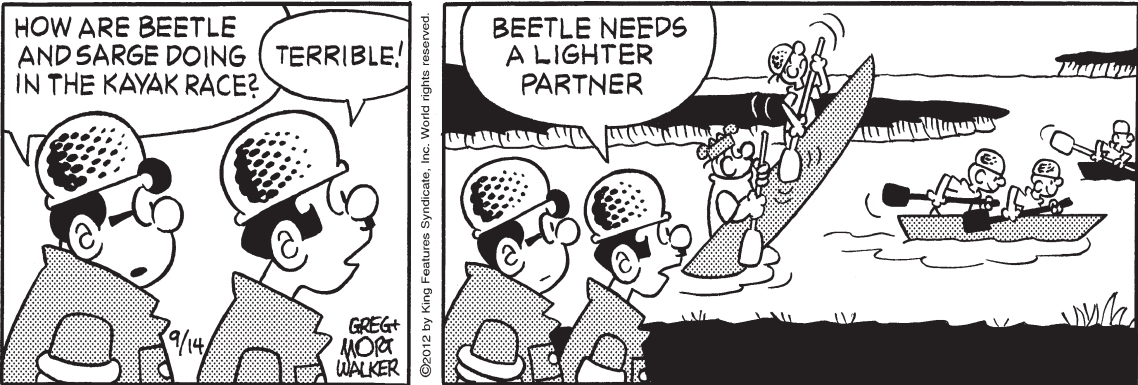


Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



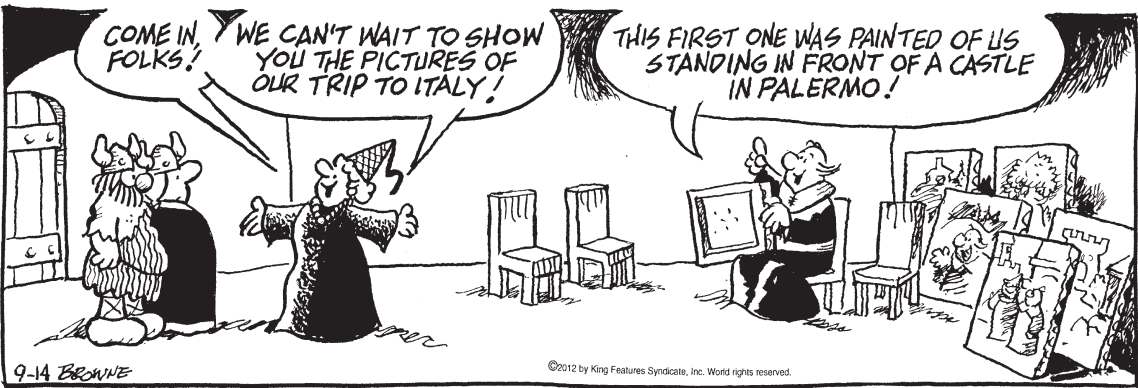
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young



Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



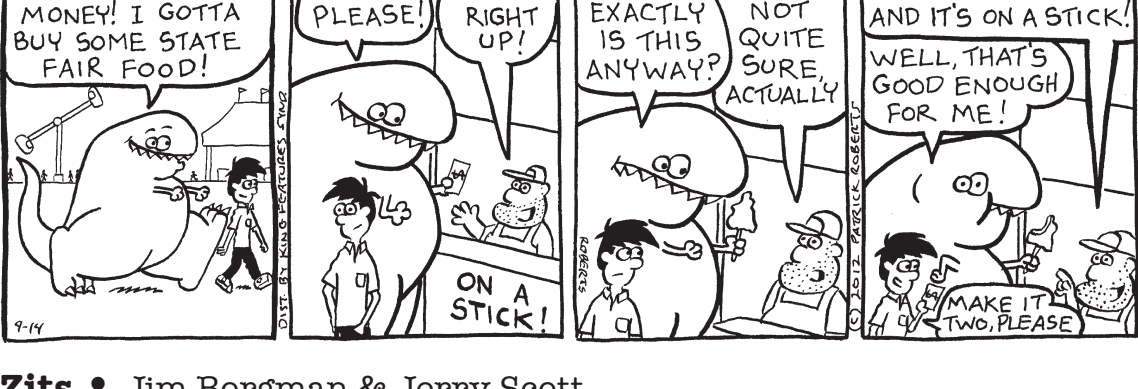
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise

- Hints from Heloise

Smart phone needs smart plan

Dear Readers: Smartphones and tablet computers are almost appendages to many people today. Most people have a limited data plan, and it can be easy to “run over,” which really adds up to big bucks!

Here is what uses the most data on your smartphones and tablets:

- Streaming movies through an Internet-based company.
- Streaming music through an Internet-radio application.
- Games, especially ones that require an Internet connection or that run ads.
- Uploading photos, etc., to social-media sites.

If you want to do these things, wait until you are able to connect to a wireless network. Many places offer free wireless, like restaurants and coffee shops.

If you are continually going over your allotted data, consider limiting your use of the above applications, or change your data plan. – 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

REUSE

Dear Heloise: Whenever I get something in a large cardboard box, I save the box and make it into something fun for my daughter. I have made the boxes into mailboxes for her to practice writing letters and mailing them.

I made one into a car, and we had a “drive-in” movie night in the living room. I decorated it and stapled paper plates to the side to look like tires. We made popcorn, and she sat in her “car” and watched a movie. – Allie in Pennsylvania

TRAVEL HINT

Dear Heloise: Now that we’re retired, we travel more often. I’ve learned two helpful tips:

1. Before loading the car, move the seats back as far as possible. Passengers can then adjust the seats for legroom comfort and reclining during the trip.
2. Some motels and hotels have night lights, but most don’t. Even when I bring my own, there’s often no electrical outlet in the toilet area. I bring battery-powered tea lights, and they provide a nice glow. There’s no need to turn on a bright light. – Paula in Colorado Springs, Colo.

COOKIE CUPS

Dear Heloise: I have found an easy way to make my own cookie bowls that I can serve ice cream or other sweet treats in. Place a muffin pan upside down, spray, form a wad of cookie dough over each “cup,” then bake. Once cooled, the cookie cups come right off, and you can fill them with your favorite dessert. – Wendi in Wisconsin
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Bridge • Steve Becker

1. You are declarer with the West hand at Three Notrump, and North leads the queen of spades. How would you play the hand?

WEST
♦ A 7 5
♥ A 8 6
♦ K Q 4 3 2
♣ A 8

EAST
♦ K 8 4
♥ J 7 5 2
♦ A 10
♣ 10 7 6 3

2. The following hand is a double-dummy problem (all four hands are exposed). You, South, are declarer at Six Diamonds, and West leads the ten of hearts. You win with the king and play the ace of trumps, on which East discards a spade. How would you continue?

NORTH
♦ K 10 4
♥ A K 7
♦ A J 4 3 2
♣ 8 3

WEST
♦ Q 6
♥ 10 9 8 6
♦ K 10 8 7
♣ Q 7 4

EAST
♦ J 9 8 5 3 2
♥ J 5
♦ —
♣ J 9 6 5 2

SOUTH
♦ A 7
♥ Q 4 3 2
♦ Q 9 6 5
♣ A K 10

Test Your Play

1. You need five diamond tricks to make the contract, and there are only two ways to try to meet this goal. The most obvious approach is to cash the A-K-Q and hope the suit divides 3-3. The alternative is to lead a low diamond from your hand and finesse dummy’s ten.

If you cash the A-K-Q, you will be successful about 36 percent of the time, since that is the mathematical probability of a 3-3 division. But if you take the first-round finesse of the ten, you will succeed whenever North was dealt J-x (8 percent), J-x-x (18 percent) or J-x-x-x (16 percent) – a total of 42 percent. A first-round finesse of the ten is therefore better because that approach will make the contract more often.

2. Cash the A-Q of hearts, ruff a heart in dummy, cash the A-K of clubs, ruff a club in dummy and then cash the A-K of spades, producing this three-card ending:

North
♦ 10
♦ J 4

West
♦ K 10 8

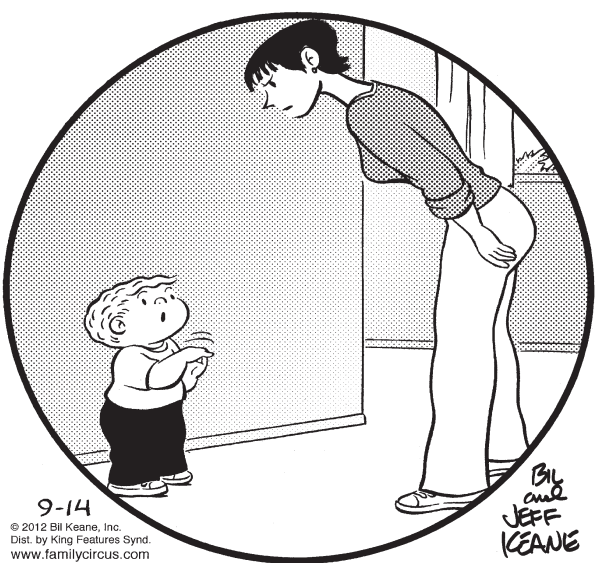
East
Immaterial

South
♦ Q 9 6

Ruff dummy’s ten of spades with the queen of diamonds, and – wonder of wonders – West’s two seemingly sure trump tricks suddenly dwindle to one!

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

9/14

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.

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

9/11

Cryptoquip

E K O A H T R E M X A U T D M K J T

E T Y A H T R L T L L C V Q M F U G B M G E U S

V M L S U G O V A J Q V U T X A L Y

O F M M R O : “ E T G C D M D D A L O . ”

Yesterday’s Cryptoquip: WHEN I AM AT MY WORKPLACE COLLECTING OLD ACCRUED CHECKS, I GUESS I’M PICKING UP THE PAYS.

Today’s Cryptoquip Clue: L equals N

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Apiece
4 Hot tubs
8 Vail gear
12 Expert
13 Ancient Briton
14 Flirtatious look
15 Review
17 Roddick or Rooney
18 Popular logic puzzle
19 Nonstick spray
21 Teensy
22 Unrivaled
26 Tatter
29 Mole, e.g.
30 Oft-chanted letters
31 Revolutionary period?
32 They’re between mis and sols
33 Architect — van der Rohe
34 A Bobbsey twin

DOWN
35 Aviate
36 In one’s cups
37 In-group
39 Ger. neighbor
40 Actress
41 “Doonesbury”
45 Arp’s style
48 Chic shop
50 Tidy
51 Bancroft or Boleyn
52 Salt Lake athlete
53 Actress Jessica
54 No stay-at-home

16 Eiffel’s master-work
20 Whatever amount
23 Witticism
24 Works with
25 Uncomplicated
26 Harmonization
27 Get better
28 Hindu princess
29 Express hotel
32 Sleazy
33 — Vanilli
35 “Fee fi fo —!”
36 Person with a horn?
38 Production number?
39 Lop
42 Blue hue
43 Crazy
44 Profound
45 “CSI” evidence
46 Moray or conger
47 Taxi
49 Yoko of music

Solution time: 25 mins.

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

Yesterday’s answer 9-14

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			