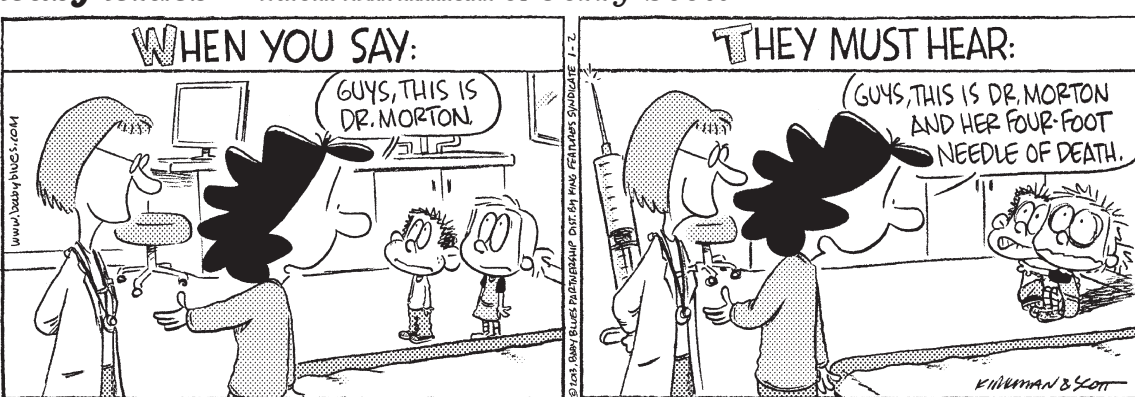
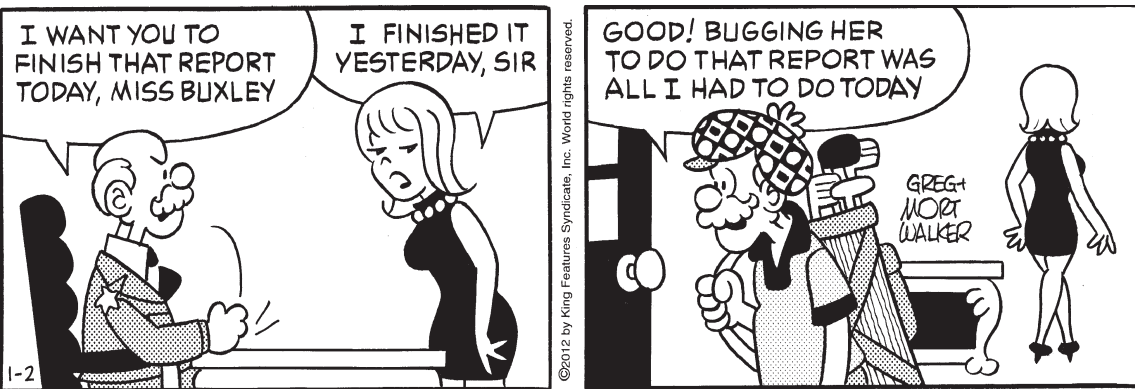


Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young



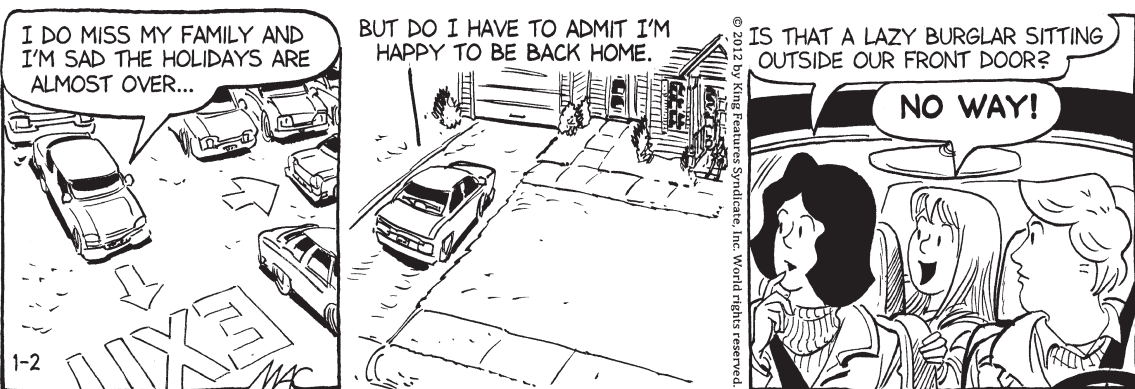
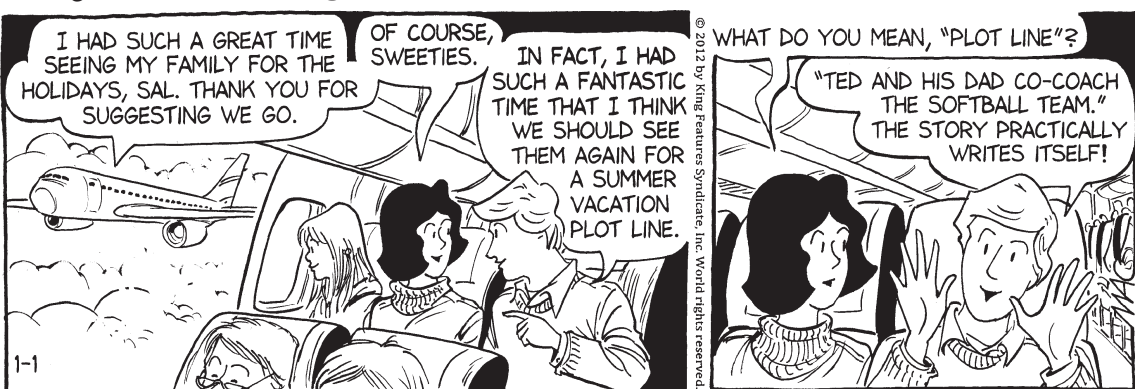
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



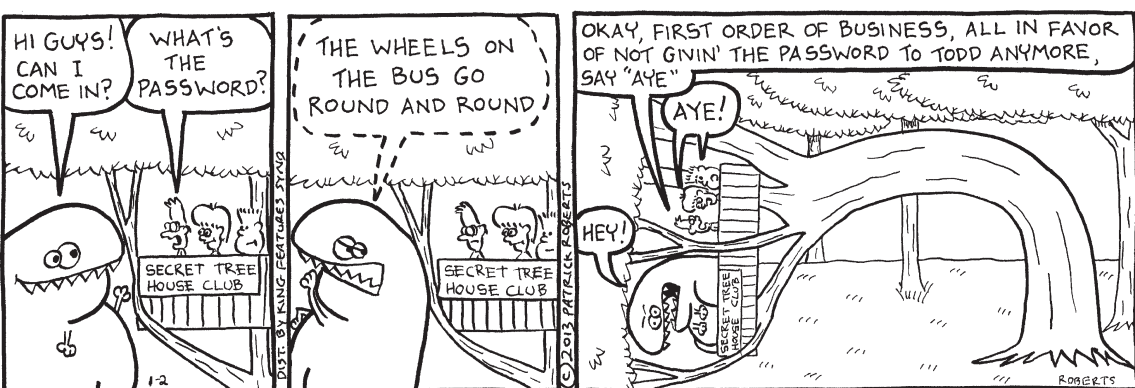
Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



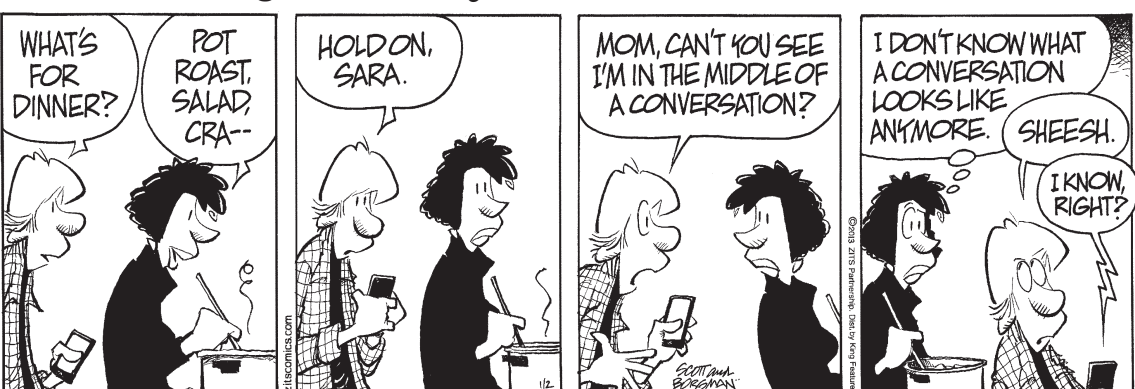
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise

- Hints from Heloise

Leftover rice twice as nice

Dear Heloise: I live alone and cook for myself. I often have leftover cooked rice in the freezer or refrigerator. I usually open a can of soup for lunch. Depending on the type of soup, I stir a couple of tablespoons into the soup before I put it on the stove. I've also added leftover whole-kernel corn for flavor and a bit of crunch. — Perry C., Winchester, Va.

This is one of the many reasons why I love soup so much! It is a quick-and-easy meal to fix, and you can add leftovers to enhance the soup and save money, too, since you aren't throwing away spoiled food. For some delicious and low-cost soup recipes, order my Heloise's Spectacular Soups pamphlet. To receive one, send \$5, along with a long, self-addressed, stamped (65 cents) envelope, to: Heloise/Soups, P.O. Box 795001, San Antonio, TX 78279-5001. Is your favorite condensed canned soup semisolid when you open it? Next time, shake the can first. Open one end and put a small puncture in the opposite end while holding over the pot. The soup slides right out! — Heloise

CHEESE MARKERS

Dear Readers: I have discovered that cheese markers are not just for labeling cheese (I have ceramic markers in the shape of mice with names of cheese on them). When entertaining or having a potluck dinner, I label dishes by name, and also list the ingredients for friends who are vegetarian, may be on a diet or are allergic to certain ingredients. There are cheese markers that you can write on with crayon or special pen and just wash off. — Heloise

WHIPPING CREAM

Dear Heloise: When you purchase whipping cream and don't use it all, whip it like you would for whipped cream (adding sugar and vanilla). Then, drop by spoonfuls into mounds on a cookie sheet covered with wax paper and freeze. When they are frozen, transfer the mounds into a covered freezer container. Use them whenever you want a mound of whipped cream. — Joy H., via e-mail

BAKING COOKIES

Dear Heloise: I bake a lot of cookies. Many recipes require the dough to be rolled to a specific size, and forming it into a pinwheel, etc., I always struggled getting the dough to the correct size. A couple of years ago, I placed a strip of 1-inch painter's tape on my kitchen countertop, measured to the correct size. The green or blue tape shows through the wax paper and makes it a breeze to roll out the correct size. — Lola S. in Iowa

HINT OF ONION

Dear Heloise: When preparing potato cakes or potato salad, I place my chopped onion into the blender and press the "liquefy" button. Now it's easy to lose the onion through the potato mixture. You get the flavor, but never have to bite into pieces of onion. — Marie K. in Pennsylvania

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Bridge • Steve Becker

South dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.
NORTH
♦ A
♥ 8 7
♦ A J 8 6 3
♣ Q J 10 8 4
WEST
♦ 10 8 7 4
♥ A J 9 6 3
♦ K 5 4
♣ K
EAST
♦ Q 9 6 5 3 2
♥ Q 5 2
♦ 10 7
♣ 7 3
SOUTH
♦ K J
♥ K 10 4
♦ Q 9 2
♣ A 9 6 5 2

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♣ Pass 1 ♦ Pass
1 NT Pass 3 ♣ Pass
3 NT
Opening lead — six of hearts.

It Can't Hurt to Try

Declarer does not base his plays solely on mathematical probabilities. He also relies on other factors, one of which is that the defenders will sometimes involuntarily help him out in a difficult situation.

Consider this case where West leads a heart against South's three-notrump contract. Declarer takes East's queen with the king and realizes that three notrump is in great danger.

He sees he must quickly score either five diamond tricks or five club tricks; if not, the contract is likely to fail. He also sees that five club tricks are easier to make than five diamond tricks. This is because he has an even chance of finding East with the king of clubs, but much less chance of scoring five diamond tricks with both the king and 10 missing.

However, declarer should not make the mistake of putting all his eggs in the club basket by leading a spade to the ace and attempting the club finesse. Instead, South should lead the queen of diamonds at trick two. He does not plan to finesse if West follows low. But West, who cannot read declarer's mind, covers the queen with the king, taken by dummy's ace.

This helpful development does not change South's view that the club suit is a more likely source of five tricks than the diamond suit. But because it costs nothing to try, he cashes dummy's jack of diamonds at trick three, reasoning that either defender might have been dealt the doubleton ten (about a 27 percent chance).

Luckily, East's ten of diamonds falls on the jack, giving South nine sure tricks. So he cashes three more diamonds and dummy's ace of spades, then leads the queen of clubs from dummy. East follows low, and declarer, planning to settle for his contract, puts up the ace and unexpectedly winds up scoring all 13 tricks.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



1-2
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Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★ 1/02

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.

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

Cryptoquip

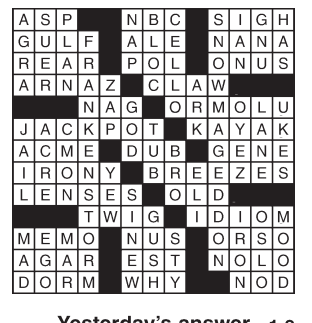
U W U J C C F M D S M V G
J M J B U H U Y M J Y W I L U J
E X I C O F C V Y D , I L X I ' J B O Y A X A V G
A C H X M J C U I ' J E X G I Y Y J C C S G .

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: PERENNIALY POPULAR COMIC STRIP BOY WHOSE BODY HAD GREAT MUSCULAR STRENGTH: CHARLIE BRAWN.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: I equals T

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

- | | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|
| ACROSS | DOWN | 20 Card game for two |
| 1 "Mamma Mia!" group | 38 Tatter Danson | 1 Swiss peaks |
| 5 Apprehend time | 41 A long time | 2 Animated Betty |
| 8 Colorful fish | 43 Bugging device | 23 Lawyers' org. |
| 12 Clay-rich soil | 45 Tranquil end | 24 Scale member |
| 13 Blunder | 47 Pencil | 25 Edwin Land's company |
| 14 Portrayal | 51 Impulse carrier | 27 Rowing need |
| 15 Democrat or Republican | 52 Multiple marriage | 29 — out a living |
| 17 Radiate | 54 Expectorate | 30 Primary color |
| 18 Faucet | 55 Ailing | 32 Purplish naturally |
| 19 Arouse | 56 Malaria symptom | 34 Knee-cap pattern? |
| 21 Fireworks reaction | 57 Pop | 37 Longing |
| 22 Delany or Carvey | 58 Oklahoma city | 39 Indiana city |
| 23 Venomous viper | 59 Untouchable Eliot | 42 Brownish tone |
| 26 Zodiac cat | | 44 Heathen |
| 28 Passenger | | 45 Back talk |
| 31 Prosperous time | | 46 World's fair |
| 33 Knock | | 48 Wise one |
| 35 Pepsi competitor | | 49 Ostriches' kin |
| | | 50 Deli loaves |
| | | 53 On in years |



Yesterday's answer 1-2

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13				14		
15			16					17		
18						19	20			
23	24	25		26		27		28		29
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				59		