

**Baby Blues** • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



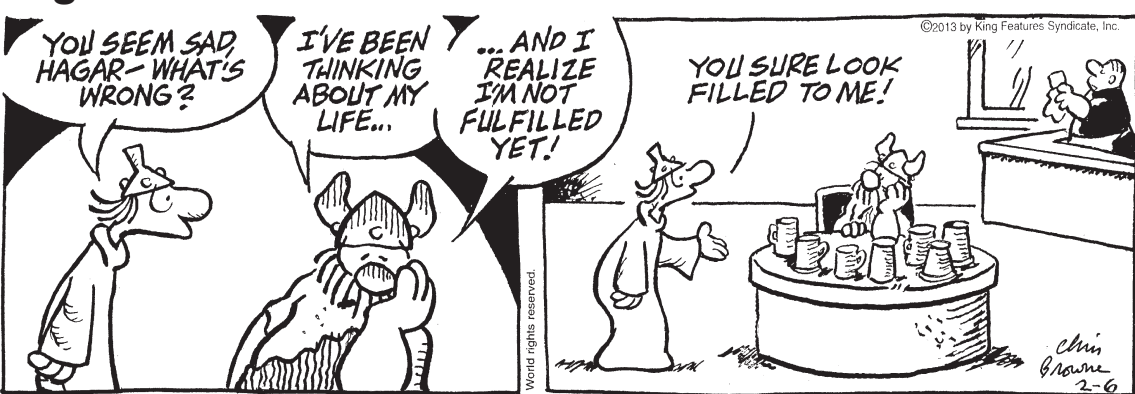
**Beetle Bailey** • Mort Walker



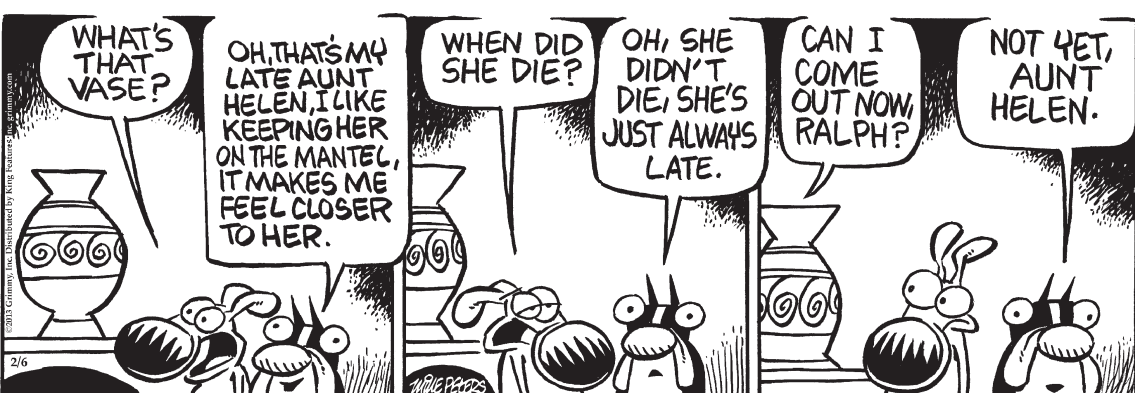
**Blondie** • Chic Young



**Hagar the Horrible** • Chris Browne



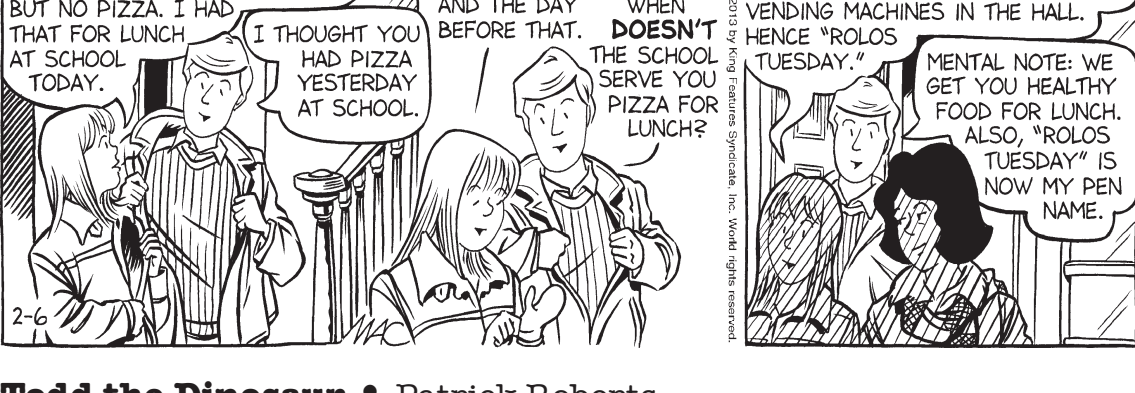
**Mother Goose and Grimm** • Mike Peters



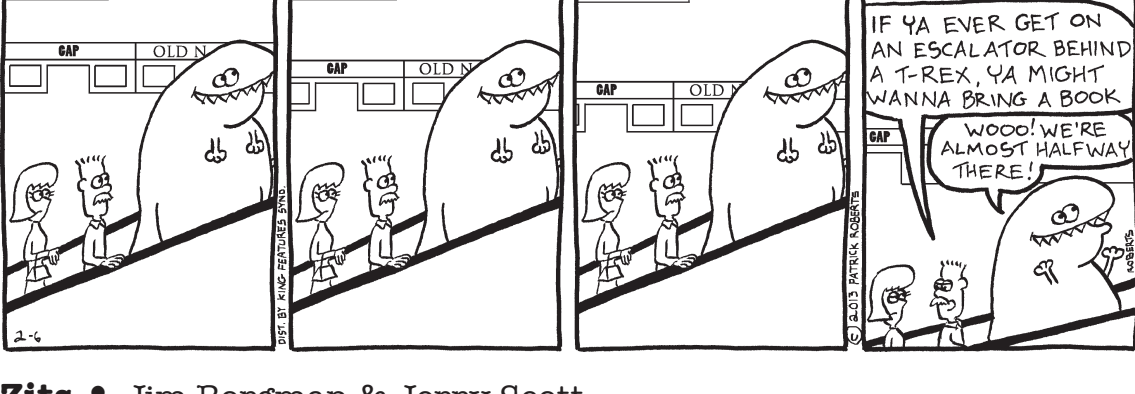
**Sally Forth** • Greg Howard



**Todd the Dinosaur** • Patrick Roberts



**Zits** • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



**Heloise**

• Hints from Heloise

**Fat separator degreases gravy**

Dear Heloise: I bought a fat separator. It looks like a measuring cup with a plastic lid that has perforated holes. How do I use it? – Pam C. in Virginia

After pouring your gravy into the separator, watch as the fat rises to the top and the gravy goes to the bottom. You will be able to see the line separating the two once all the liquid settles.

The lid with the holes is the strainer portion of the separator. Once the gravy has settled, remove the perforated lid and start pouring the gravy. The cup allows you to pour the gravy out, but stop short of pouring when you reach the fat layer.

Separators work because fat is less dense and always rises up, whatever the liquid. Fat separators are designed to separate fat from the gravy/liquid it is in, therefore enabling you to just pour off the desired gravy. – Heloise

SEND A GREAT HINT TO:

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

**WHOLE GRAIN**

Dear Heloise: I have a simple question for you: What is whole grain? – A Reader, via e-mail

According to the Whole Grains Council, a whole grain can be any type of grain (corn, rice, wheat, oat, barley, etc.). What makes the grain "whole" is keeping 100 percent of the original grain seed/kernel as it is found in nature. These can be made into flour or eaten "whole, cracked, split or ground" while still considered "whole" because it has all parts contained within the husk (the bran, germ and endosperm). – Heloise

**FAST FOOD**

Dear Heloise: My husband recently stopped at a fast-food restaurant on the way home from work. He used the drive-thru instead of going inside to order. When he got home, we discovered several items were missing that had been paid for. Of course he went back to the restaurant, but this wasted gas and time.

Since this has happened numerous times, my hint is to always park the car and place your order inside. You can watch the order as it is placed in the bags, or at the very least check it before leaving. Additionally, you will not hold up the drive-thru lane as you check the bags. It takes more effort, but if ordering for several people, it ensures that you get home with everything you wanted, and no one is disappointed. – Lydia P. in Ohio

**COLLECTING RECIPES**

Dear Heloise: I am an avid recipe collector. I have hundreds of recipes. I needed a way to sort them and dispose of the unused ones. I came up with a solution. In 2012, every time I clipped a new recipe, I made a mark with a pink highlighter on the corner of the recipe card. In 2013, I plan to use a green highlighter. If I have not tried a new recipe in a year, it is time to dispose of it. The color-coding allows me to see how old the recipe is and clean out old ones. – Ann M. in San Antonio  
(c)2013 by King Features Syndicate Inc.

**Bridge** • Steve Becker

South dealer.  
North-South vulnerable.  
**NORTH**  
♠ 7 2  
♥ K 10 4  
♦ K J 10  
♣ A 9 8 6 3  
**WEST**  
♠ A 9 5 4  
♥ A 8 7 6 2  
♦ 5 3  
♣ 7 2  
**EAST**  
♥ Q J 10 6  
♦ Q J 9 5 3  
♠ 8  
♣ Q J 10  
**SOUTH**  
♠ K 8 3  
♥ —  
♦ A Q 9 7 6 4 2  
♣ K 5 4

The bidding:  
South West North East  
1 ♦ Pass 2 ♣ Pass  
2 ♠ Pass 3 ♦ Pass  
5 ♦  
Opening lead — three of diamonds.

**Hidden Weapon**

Whenever declarer winds up in a contract where the outcome depends on the location of one or more specific key cards, he should naturally try to find the method of play that offers the greatest chance of success.

Consider this deal where South is in five diamonds and West leads a trump. Declarer sees immediately that if West has the ace of spades, he might lose a club and two spades and go down one. All his thoughts should therefore be centered on trying to prevent this from happening.

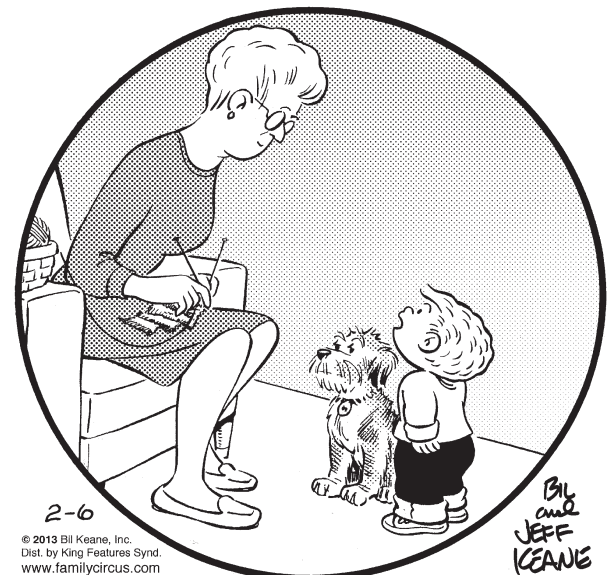
The most obvious solution is to try to establish dummy's clubs for spade discards, but this must be done without allowing East to gain the lead. It might seem that this is impossible in the actual layout, but with a bit of creative thinking, South can find the winning play. He wins the opening trump lead with dummy's ten and returns the king of hearts!

This unusual play turns out to be just what the doctor ordered. After East follows low, declarer discards a low club from his hand. West wins with the ace but cannot stop South from making the contract.

Let's say West leads another trump. Declarer wins with dummy's jack, cashes the K-A of clubs and ruffs a club, establishing dummy's 9-8. South enters dummy with a trump, discards two spades on the two club winners and eventually loses the king of spades to West's ace. South's only losers are a heart and a spade.

Note that declarer cannot make the contract without first disposing of one of his low clubs on dummy's king of hearts. Of course, if East has the ace of hearts and plays it on the king at trick two, South ruffs and can still fall back on a favorable position of either the clubs or the spade ace.  
(c)2013 King Features Syndicate Inc.

**Family Circus** • Bil Keane



**Conceptis Sudoku** • Dave Green

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

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.

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

**Cryptoquip**

QXHU LXH CHMCRH DME'WH

QJLX BWH BRRMQHP LM

IMNH JU QJLX DME, JL'T

"CWHTHUL IMNCBUD BIHCLHP."

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: VERY RARE ALBUM TRACK BY THE MONKEES ABOUT A BASEBALL REPLACEMENT PITCHER: "I'M A RELIEVER."

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: D equals Y

**Crossword** • Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

1 — relief mance  
4 "Conan" network  
7 Easter flower  
8 Baby's ailment  
10 Traffic cone  
11 Moon mission name  
13 Shakespeare's best-known query  
16 "I'll take that as —"  
17 Carolers' tunes  
18 Vast expanse  
19 Coloring agents  
20 For fear that  
21 Corporations  
23 Paper-hanger's need  
25 Scrawny  
26 Dull sound of impact

**DOWN**

27 Performer  
28 Show smug  
30 Pi  
33 TLLC  
36 Abrade  
37 Film  
38 Shocking weapon  
39 State  
40 High deg.  
41 Aviv lead-in  
10 Bake sale org.  
12 Not just plump  
14 Shad additive  
15 Chow down  
19 Parched  
20 "Acid"  
21 Botanist for whom a reddish-purple flower is named  
22 Unbroken  
23 Excellent, in  
24 Self-service diner  
25 Pussy foot?  
26 Carrier  
28 Grind the teeth  
29 Ran easily  
30 Make merry  
31 Barber's concern  
32 Raw rock  
34 Snare  
35 Worked on a loom

Yesterday's answer 2-6

	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			