

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



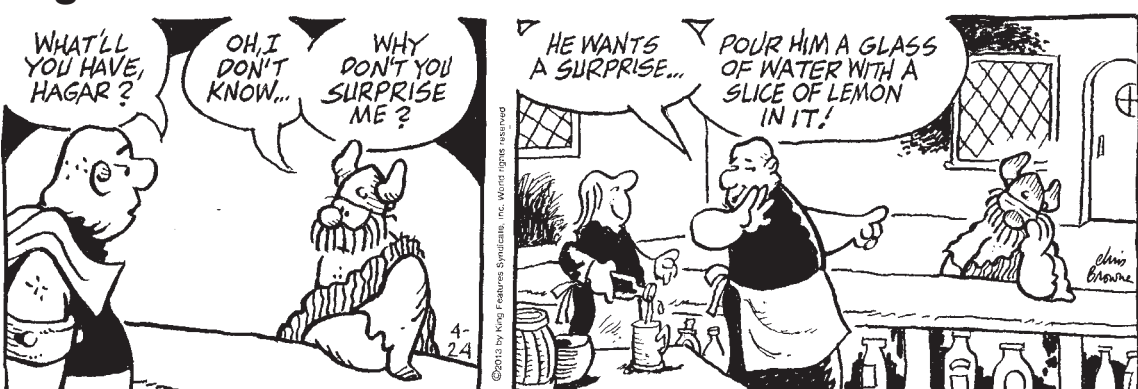
**Beetle Bailey** • Mort Walker



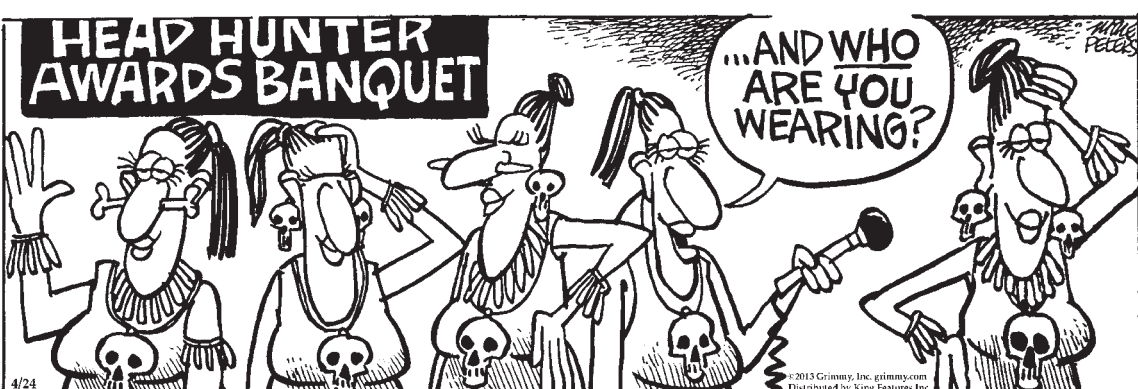
**Blondie** • Chic Young



**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

**Freeze grease until trash day**

Dear Heloise: After cooking greasy foods such as bacon, the grease is poured into a metal can (example: coffee) and placed in the freezer with the original lid.

After the can is full, the lid is taped and the can is placed in the trash bag on pickup day. This solves the issue of a lot of grease in the garbage can until trash day. — Lee G., via e-mail

Lee, this is a good hint indeed, one that also can keep the plumbing lines from becoming clogged. Oils, fats and grease poured down kitchen sinks or toilets (folks, don't do this!) can lead to sewage backups. A blockage or backup can cause flooding and major property damage. — Heloise

SEND A GREAT HINT TO:

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San Antonio, TX 78279-5000  
E-mail: Heloise@Heloise.com

**WHITE PEPPER**

Dear Heloise: What is the difference between white pepper and black pepper? Why use one instead of the other? — Linda W. in Indiana

Black pepper is harvested when the peppercorns are still green or black. It has a stronger smell and more distinct flavor than white pepper.

White pepper comes from fully matured berries that are yellow or red. Once the skin falls off, the white pulp is dried and processed to make white pepper. White pepper can be used in white or light-colored creams and sauces because of its delicate, mild flavor. It also doesn't show up as big, black flakes in a light-colored dish.

There is a big difference in cost between the two, and white pepper costs a lot more! — Heloise

**GARLIC BREAD**

Dear Heloise: When certain breads are on sale, such as French, Italian or sourdough, I buy a couple of extra loaves. I slice the bread, apply butter with garlic salt mixed in to each slice and wrap it in aluminum foil. Now the bread can go straight from the freezer to the oven for heating. Garlic bread ready when needed! — Kim J., via e-mail

**SYRUP SUBSTITUTE**

Dear Heloise: Is there anything that can be substituted for light corn syrup in a recipe? — Judith K. in Pennsylvania

Actually, there is! Try substituting the same amount of honey, molasses or maple syrup. However, since these are sweeter, it may slightly affect the overall flavor. — Heloise

**CHOCOLATE CHIPS**

Dear Heloise: When I use a topping of chocolate chips on a dessert, I wrap the chips in plastic wrap and hit them with my rubber hammer on a wooden cutting board. They break up evenly. — Barbara B. in Illinois

**MAGAZINE HOLDER**

Dear Heloise: I have limited cabinet space in my kitchen, and I am always looking for ways to maximize space. I took an expensive magazine holder (vertical) and placed it in one of my cabinets to hold boxes of plastic wrap and aluminum foil. Having them upright saves space and they are contained. You also could use it for cookbooks or large utensils. — Kay in Wisconsin

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**Bridge** • Steve Becker

East dealer. Both sides vulnerable.  
**NORTH**  
♠ 10 7 2  
♥ K J 10 9 5  
♦ 9 2  
♣ A 6 4  
**WEST**  
♠ K 9 5  
♥ 8 7 2  
♦ J 5 4  
♣ J 9 8 2  
**EAST**  
♠ 8 6 4 3  
♥ A Q 4  
♦ Q 10 8 3  
♣ 10 5  
**SOUTH**  
♠ A Q J  
♥ 6 3  
♦ A K 7 6  
♣ K Q 7 3  
The bidding:  
East South West North  
Pass 1 ♦ Pass 1 ♥  
Pass 2 NT Pass 3 NT  
Opening lead — two of clubs.

**Think Before You Leap**

When dummy is short of entries, it is usually just as apparent to the defenders as it is to the declarer. In such cases, the defenders should try to shape their play so as to take advantage of declarer's limited access to dummy. Consider this deal where faulty defense allowed declarer to make a contract that should have been defeated.

West led a club, and South won East's ten with the king. The obvious suit to attack was hearts, so declarer led a heart to the jack. East won with the queen and returned a club. South took the trick with the queen, forced out the ace of hearts and finished with 10 tricks consisting of two spades, three hearts, two diamonds and three clubs.

East could have prevented South from making even nine tricks. When the heart was led at trick two, he should have allowed dummy's jack to win.

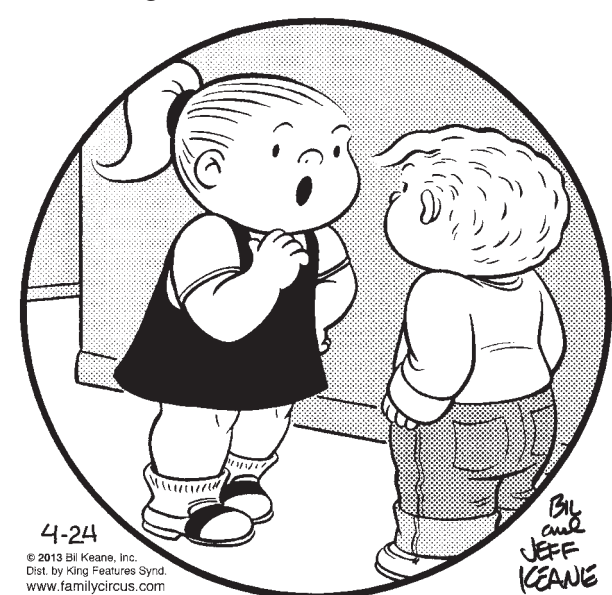
Declarer would most likely take a spade finesse at this point. West wins with the king and returns a club. Regardless of how South continues, he falls one trick short of his contract, scoring only one heart trick instead of three and eight tricks instead of 10.

East should reason that dummy's hearts are likely to be dead if he refuses to win the first heart trick. He can see that if South has only two hearts, he will not be able to establish the suit and then bring it home. West's play of the deuce on the first heart lead, indicating three cards in the suit, should cause East to adjust his defense accordingly.

Usually, the holdup play in notrump is reserved for declarer, but there are many times — and this is one of them — where the defenders can adopt a similar strategy.

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**Family Circus** • Bil Keane



4-24  
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**Conceptis Sudoku** • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★ 4/24

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

**Cryptoquip**

H ' O L E U K W M P U B Z M  
S K J K L S M X B K X E W K Y . K M P A  
U H O K H G U M Y U M N H I A U , H  
C G C M B B Z K L S C J N K H L U H L I .

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I WASN'T SPEAKING ABOUT THAT LARGE, SWAMPY LAKE OUTLET NEAR ME. I MEANT THE BAYOU BY YOU.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: O equals M

**Crossword** • Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

- 1 Temperate
- 5 Owns
- 8 Lovers' quarrel
- 12 Sandwich treat
- 13 Final (Abbr.)
- 14 Small combo
- 15 "Desperate Housewives" actress
- 17 Cincinnati team
- 18 Ingratiate
- 19 Warehouse pile
- 21 Pigpen
- 22 Deck for a 10-count
- 23 Wife of Saturn
- 26 Embrace
- 28 Become one
- 31 Addict
- 33 Shell game item
- 35 "My Heart Will Go On" singer

**DOWN**

- 11 Pitch
- 16 Inauguration recitation
- 20 Ewe's mate
- 23 No longer
- 24 Omega
- 25 Brain's precursor
- 27 Under-stand
- 29 Deity
- 30 Conclude
- 32 Space flight
- 33 Conclusion
- 34 Job for a medical examiner
- 37 Pismire
- 39 Georgia
- 42 Consider
- 44 Coral circle
- 45 Tourney situations
- 46 Derriere
- 48 Vicinity
- 49 Competes
- 50 Corn spikes
- 53 Web address

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER 4-24

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
45	46				42		43		44	
51					52	53				
54					55				56	
57					58				59	