

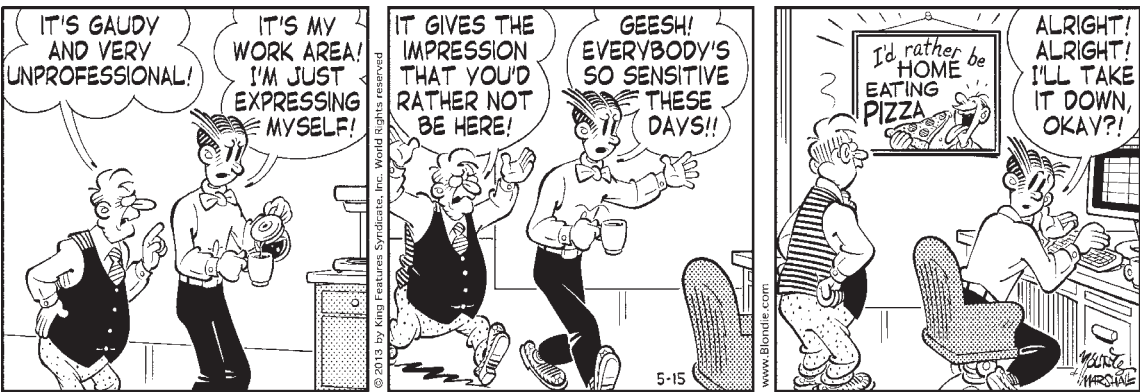
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



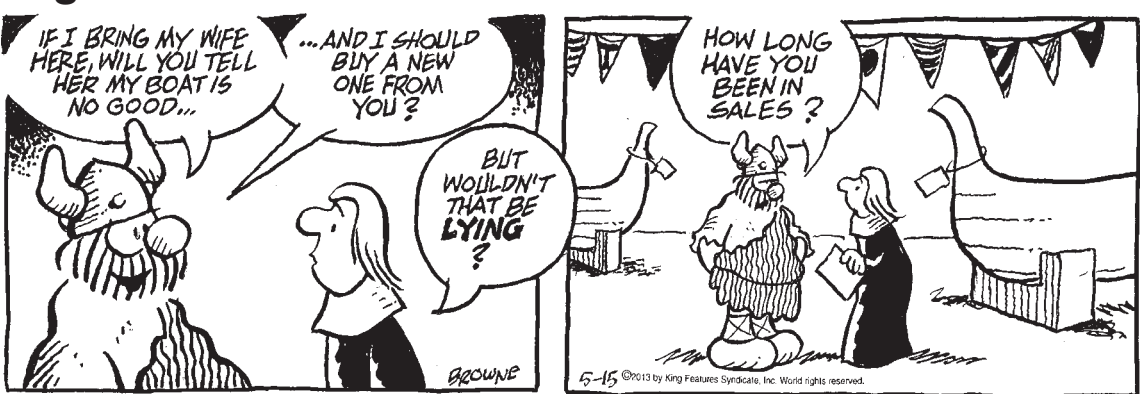
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



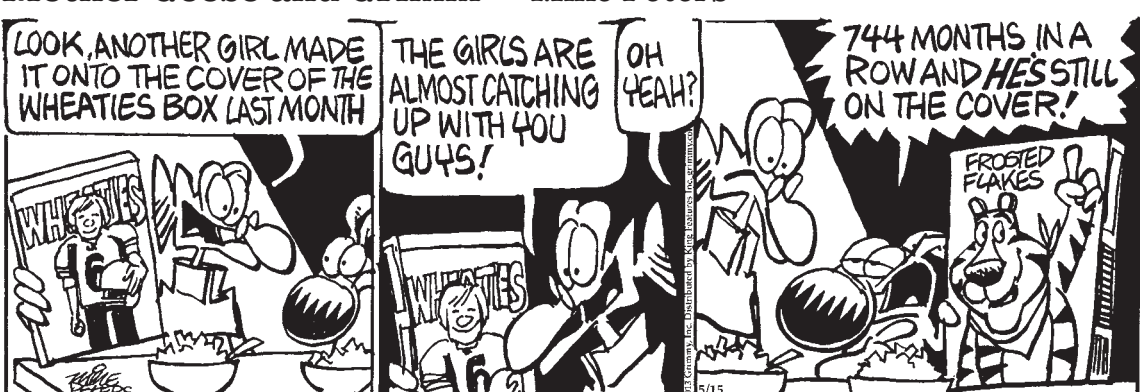
Blondie • Chic Young



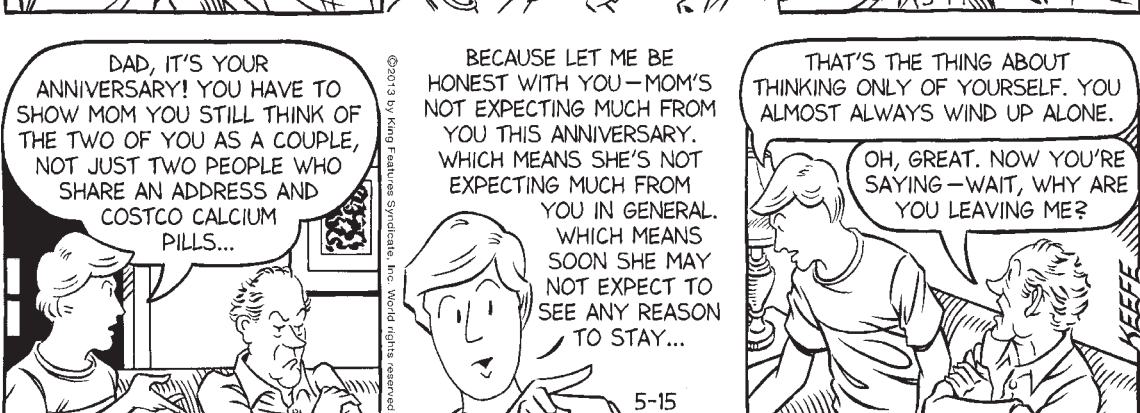
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise
• Hints from Heloise

Wide wrap just too much

Dear Readers: Here is this week's sound off, about plastic wrap:
"Do you suppose you could suggest that manufacturers of clear plastic wrap produce a box of a narrower size? Normally it comes 12 inches wide. But sometimes I have just a bit left over, and I have to unwrap a 12-inch-wide strip. A thinner size would save plastic." - H.M., via e-mail
Happy to print your suggestion to the manufacturers. You could cut the plastic to make it a smaller size. To be honest, though, the very small amount wasted really is not much plastic. Why not save what's left for next time? - Heloise
SEND A GREAT HINT TO:

Heloise
P.O. Box 795000
San Antonio, TX 78279-5000
E-mail: Heloise(at)Heloise.com

FAST FACTS
Dear Readers: Other uses for gripping shelf liner:
• Place under a cutting board.
• Use to help open jars.
• Place in a tub as a bathmat when bathing a dog.
• Use as a place mat for children.
• Under a pet's food and water dishes. - Heloise

BETTER BINDING
Dear Heloise: Our daughter wanted to give her father an oversized paperback book that he would enjoy. His left arm is paralyzed due to a stroke. Knowing he was unable to hold the book open, she took it to a copy center, which "shaved" a small amount from the binding and turned the book into a spiral-bound book for less than \$4.
My husband now can easily turn the pages and hold the book with one hand. This method would not work for hard-bound books, but there are paperback books on just about any subject. - Beverly H., Fillmore, Calif.

FABRIC-SOFTENER DISPENSER
Dear Heloise: How do I clean the fabric-softener dispenser in my washing machine? - Cindy, via e-mail

This is a common question, Cindy - that dispenser can get pretty gunky. But it's relatively simple to clean. Pour really hot water into the dispenser and let it sit for a while. Then take a small brush, like a bottle brush, and scrub it clean. Rinse the dispenser with warm water.

To prevent the problem, fill the dispenser partially with water before adding the fabric softener. - Heloise

TOOTHBRUSH HOLDER
Dear Heloise: I had some extra toothbrush holders, the round kind with holes on top. I took fresh flowers (silk would work, too) and placed them in the holder. It made a cute little flower arrangement.

Because of the size, they fit nicely into areas without much space - the bathroom sink, a nightstand, etc. Toothbrush holders come in so many colors, it is easy to find one to match your decor! - Julie in Dayton, Ohio

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Bridge • Steve Becker

East dealer.
East-West vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ A K 7
♥ 9 2
♦ J 10 9
♣ J 9 7 6 3
EAST
♠ Q 9 5 2
♥ Q J 6
♦ A 4 2
♣ Q 10 8
SOUTH
♠ 8 6 3
♥ A 7 4
♦ K Q 8 3
♣ A K 4
The bidding:
East South West North
Pass 1 NT Pass 3 NT
Opening lead five of hearts.

Do Something!
In many hands, the best procedure for the defenders is simply to stand pat and do nothing that might give declarer a trick he is not entitled to. This is called passive defense.

In other hands, the defenders cannot afford to bide their time, since doing so will ultimately allow declarer to make the contract. In these cases, the defense must attack, even though there might be no absolute certainty of success.

Let's say you're West, defending against three notrump. You lead a heart to East's jack, which declarer ducks, and East continues with the queen, which South ducks again.

At this point, you should overtake the queen with the king, not just because you have the K-10-8-3 and can afford to, but because it would be futile to allow partner to win and play still another heart. You know you have no entry card to your hearts and that it can't help your side to continue the suit and force out the ace.

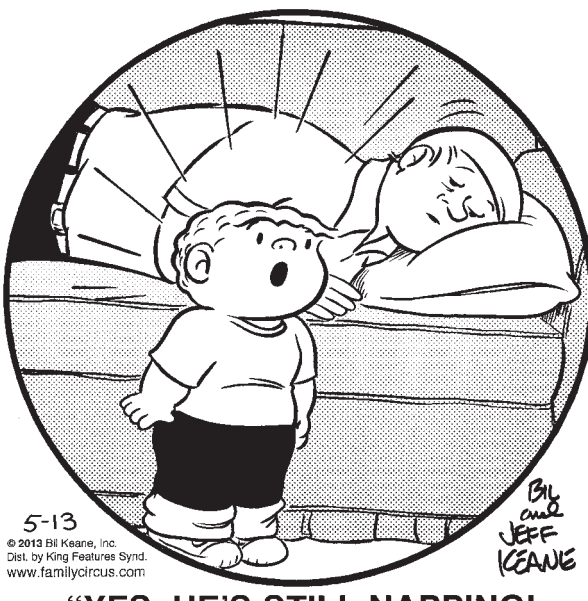
Instead, you shift to the jack of spades at trick three. This play can't do any harm and might do some good. True, your partner is unlikely to have the queen, considering South's opening notrump bid, but it is certainly possible. The bottom line is that a spade shift offers more promise than a heart continuation.

As it happens, you hit pay dirt. Declarer wins and plays the A-K of clubs, hoping the queen will fall. When it doesn't, he leads another club. East wins with the queen and returns a low spade, and declarer ends up with only seven tricks, losing two hearts, two spades, a club and a diamond.

With a thoughtless heart continuation by East or West at trick three, however, South would make three notrump.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★ 5/15

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

NOBXJQHE H.E. NOBEJTBRZ
LPQ LVE ZQ CBIQFB YVFQHE
YQO BUZOBFB XBZQJRM QY
CJKE: OJIPVOT RJUJRM.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: YOU MAY ADD GLITTER TO A CRACK-FILLING COMPOUND IF YOU FEEL LIKE MAKING YOUR SPACKLE SPARKLE.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Q equals O

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Uncate-gorized (Abbr.)
5 Web address
8 Portent
12 Malefi-cence
13 Menag-erie
14 Scruff
15 Reading material
17 Matures
18 World-weariness
19 Salty solutions
21 Fix, in a way
24 Raw rock
25 Knighted woman
28 Nuisance
30 Kennedy or Koppel
33 Carte lead-in
34 Newton or Stern
35 Anger
36 Gasoline stat
37 Dilbert's workplace
38 Check bar codes
39 Born

DOWN
1 Viral
2 Terrible guy?
3 Auto-graph
4 Contract section
5 Sub-machine
6 Reagan or Howard
7 Leopold's co-defendant
8 Broad-casting
9 Attractive venue
10 Duel tool
11 Loch - Monster
16 Speed along
20 Campus mil. org.
22 Church section
23 Leaven-ing agent
25 Water barrier
26 Jungfrau, for one
27 Missis-sippi bloom
29 Munro pseudo-ny
31 Historic period
32 Hide-away
34 Concept TV show
40 Put up
42 Scratch
43 On
44 Fence opening
45 Urban pall
47 Maestro Klemper-er
48 Go no farther
49 Congers, e.g.
52 Whatever number
53 Jewel

Yesterday's answer 5-15

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				56		
57				58				59		