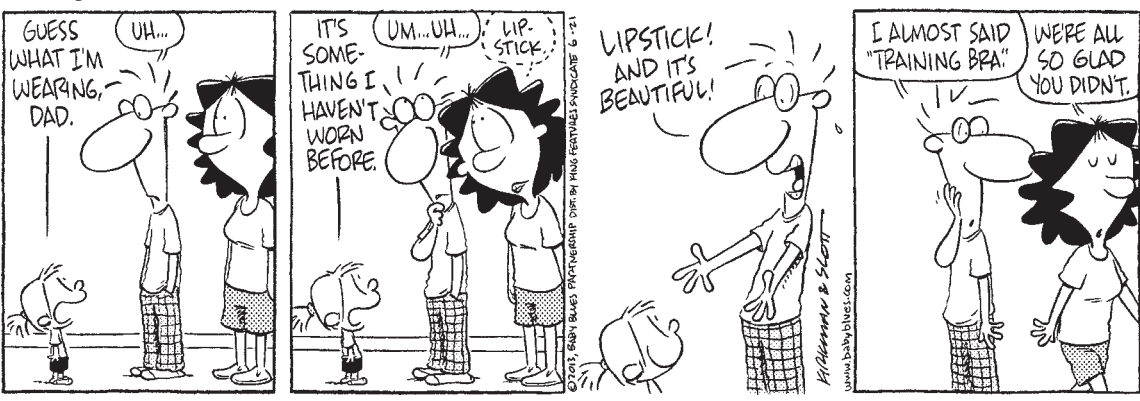
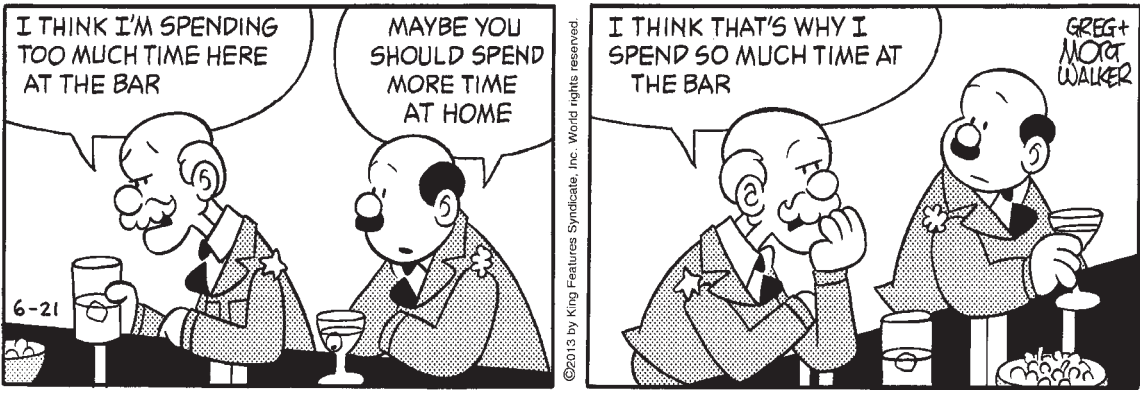


Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



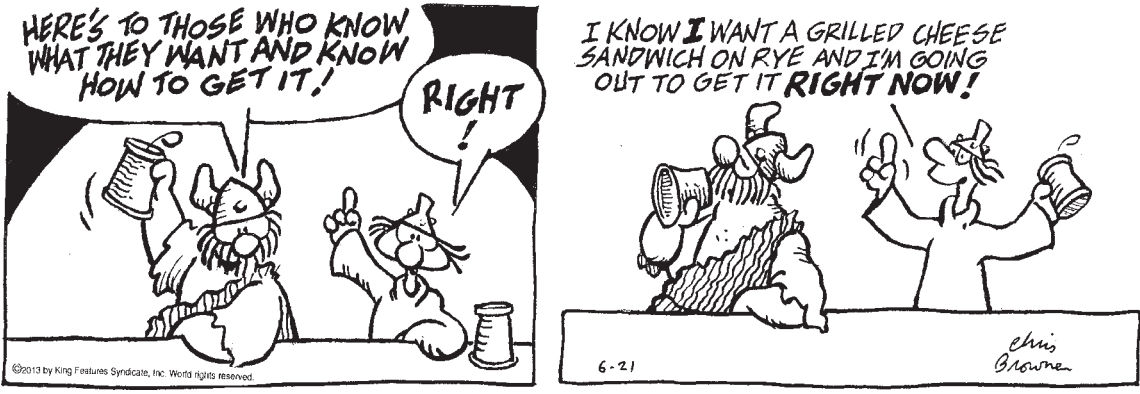
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young



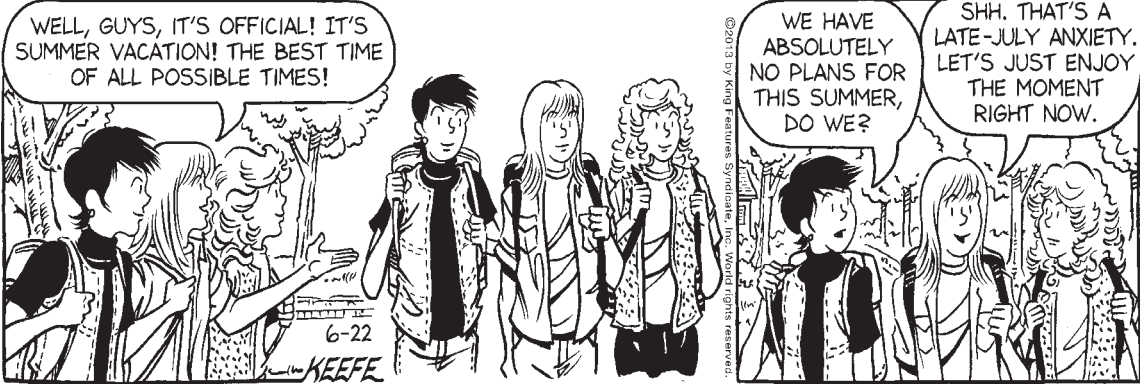
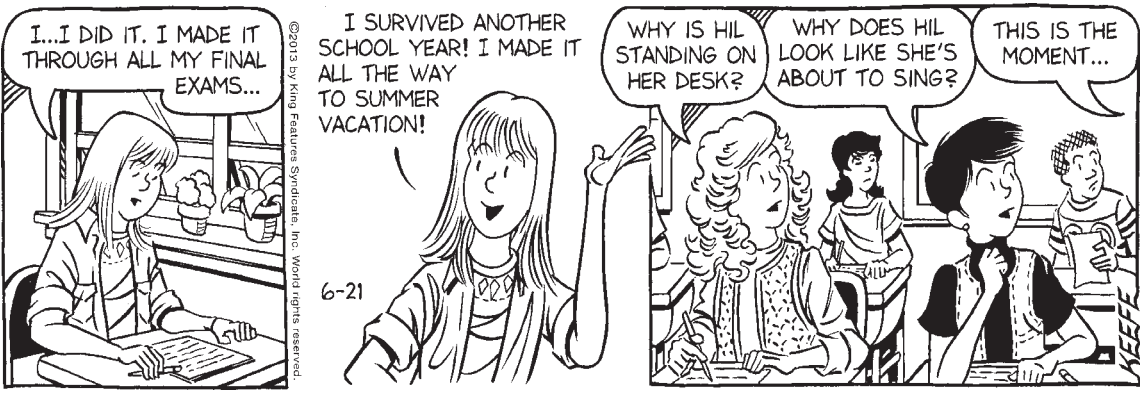
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



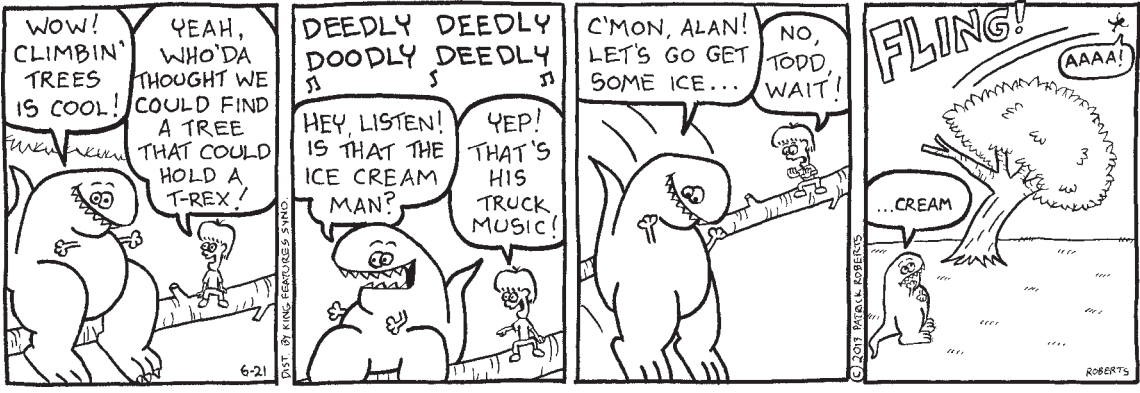
Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



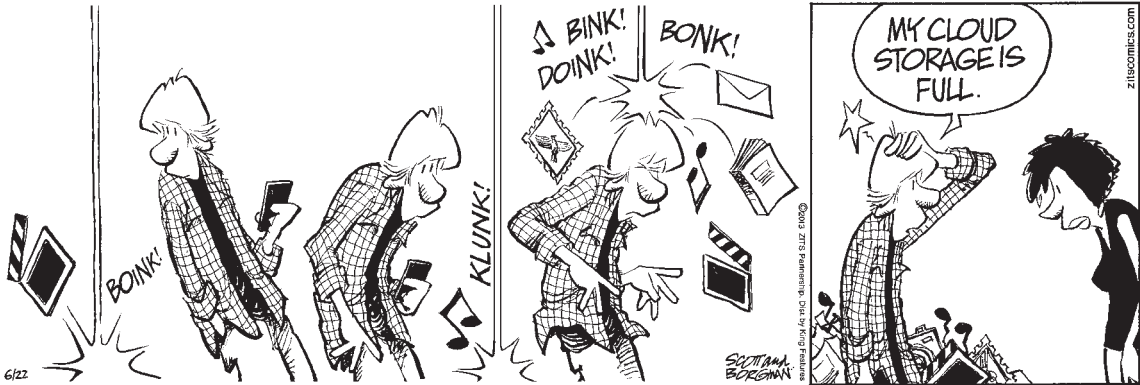
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise

• Hints from Heloise

Keep up search for that lost pet

Dear Readers: Pets are important members of our families. So when one gets lost, it can be a traumatic experience for everyone, including the pet. Here are hints to help reunite you and your pet as quickly as possible:

- Call animal shelters, veterinary clinics (in your area) and animal-control centers. Give them a description so they can be on the lookout. Better yet, see if you can e-mail or fax a photo. Visit animal-control centers often, even daily.
- Create a lost-pet sign and post everywhere. Your neighborhood, veterinary clinics, animal shelters, pet-supply stores, gas stations, restaurants – anywhere that will allow you to post a sign. Check local regulations on posting signs on city telephone poles and lampposts.
- Check your newspaper. Most will run lost-pet ads at no charge.
- Talk to your neighbors. Let them know your pet is missing. The more eyes that are watching, the sooner your pet can be found.
- Use the Internet. There are many lost-pet websites.
- Most important: Don't give up. It may be months, but you still could be reunited. – Heloise

SEND A GREAT HINT TO:
Heloise
P.O. Box 795000
San Antonio, TX 78279-5000
E-mail: Heloise@Heloise.com

TRAVEL HINT

Dear Heloise: I pack a small, plastic, empty spray bottle in my suitcase when I travel. When I get to my hotel, I fill it with water. If any of my clothes have wrinkles, I spray them lightly and then use the hair dryer on them to remove the wrinkles. – Kenny in Oklahoma

Good travel (and at home) "green" hint. It certainly saves water, since you don't have to run the shower in the bathroom to create steam to "un-wrinkle" clothes! – Heloise

A CLEAN DECK

Dear Heloise: Since it is summer and we will be using our deck more, could you please reprint your hint on how to clean a deck? – Nicole in Tennessee

I would be happy to reprint it! Mix 1 cup liquid laundry detergent (the regular kind) and 1 gallon hot water. Apply to the deck with a soft-bristled brush or push broom and allow to sit for 10 to 15 minutes. Repeat if necessary. Some stains may need a little extra scrubbing.

If your deck is made of composite material, check with the manufacturer, just to be safe, for specific cleaning instructions. – Heloise

CELLPHONE CHARGER

Dear Heloise: My cellphone charger only connects to my phone one way. I'm constantly trying to plug it in, only to realize that it's turned the wrong way. I decorated the side that should be facing up and now just look for that side. No more struggling. – Kinzy, via e-mail

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Bridge • Steve Becker

1. You are declarer with the West hand at Six Diamonds, and North leads a trump, South following suit. How would you play the hand?

- WEST**
♦ A
♥ A Q
♦ A K 9 8 6 4 3
♣ 7 6 2
- EAST**
♠ Q 7 4 2
♥ J 5
♦ Q J 10
♣ A K J 3

2. You are declarer with the West hand at Three Notrump, and North leads the three of clubs. South wins with the ace and returns the jack to your king. How would you play the hand?

- WEST**
♦ K Q J 2
♥ A Q 9
♦ A K Q
♣ K Q 9
- EAST**
♠ 5 3
♥ J 7
♦ J 10 9 8 6 3
♣ 8 6 5

Test Your Play

1. There are many ways to make the slam if the opposing cards are divided favorably – for example, by a successful heart or club finesse; by ruffing two of dummy's spades in the hope of dropping the king; or by finding a singleton or doubleton queen of clubs.

However, to capitalize fully on all of these chances, you should play the hand in this order: Win the diamond, cash the ace of spades and cross to dummy with a trump. Ruff a spade, lead a club to the king and ruff another spade. If the king of spades has not appeared, cross to the ace of clubs and lead the queen of spades.

If South discards or follows low, you can assure the slam by discarding your last club. North wins with the king but is helpless. Whatever he returns, you are sure to acquire your 12th trick.

If South covers the queen of spades with the king, ruff it and lead a club toward dummy's J-3. If North follows suit, you are home; if he shows out, you still have the heart finesse to fall back on.

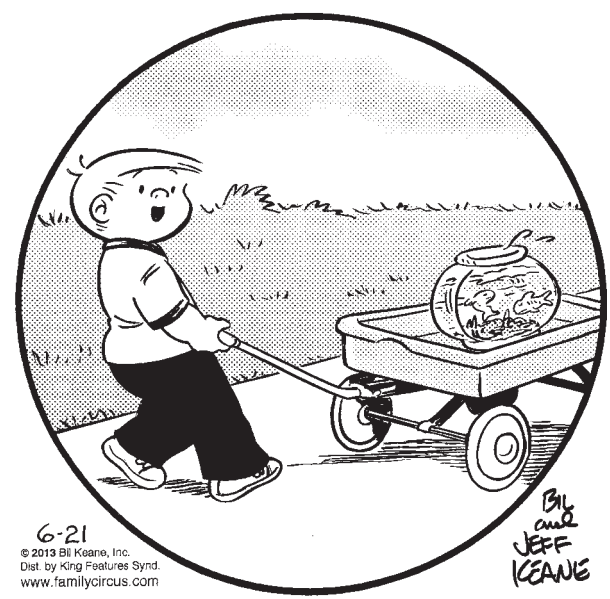
All told, your chance of making the slam by this sequence of plays is better than 95 percent.

2. Cash the A-K-Q of diamonds and then play the queen of hearts. This assures the contract regardless of how the opposing cards are divided. Thus, if the queen of hearts loses to the king, dummy's jack of hearts becomes an entry that will enable you to score six diamonds, two clubs and a heart for nine tricks.

If the defenders allow the queen of hearts to hold (in order to deny you an entry to dummy's diamonds), you counter by shifting to the king of spades and forcing out the ace. This also yields nine tricks consisting of two spades, two hearts, three diamonds and two clubs.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



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Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

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.

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

Cryptoquip

Y B B X N K N A B Q Y W B F T O .

B X N K F R R E Y T P N G C Y P O

R A F B X Q D A E F T Z N T R B X Y B J B

E Y R B J C N B F K D W Z A N G F E P .

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: BOUNCY TUNE ABOUT A CASUAL COTTON SHIRT THAT CAN BE WORN BY A PAIR OF PEOPLE: "TEE FOR TWO."

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Y equals A

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
1 Witticism
4 Out of danger
8 "Price Is Right" guesses
12 Exist
13 Vacation
14 Traditional tales
15 Scout festival
17 Black gem
18 Woolly beast
19 Kanga's kid
21 Firmament
22 Cavort
26 Wander off
29 Potent stick
30 Inventor Whitney
31 Implement
32 "Gosh!"
33 Small combo
34 In times past
35 Support system?
36 Dud on wheels
- DOWN**
1 Naked
2 Exam subject
3 Sub for a
4 Thickset
5 Impressive grouping
6 "A pox on thee!"
7 Ornate centerpiece
8 Become a flower
9 Tiny bit
10 Parch
11 Gender-bearing item
20 Feedbag morsel
23 Highway shoulder
24 Hodge-podge
25 MGM mascot
26 Impale
27 Frat party garb
28 Leeway
29 Afternoon social
32 Julius Marx
33 Beat
35 Halloween cry
36 11th Greek letter
38 Product of one's labor?
39 Ship of the desert
42 Rewrite
43 Carousel, e.g.
44 Relaxation
45 Crafty
46 Chart format
47 Dos Passos trilogy
49 Have a bug

Solution time: 25 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 6-21

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		