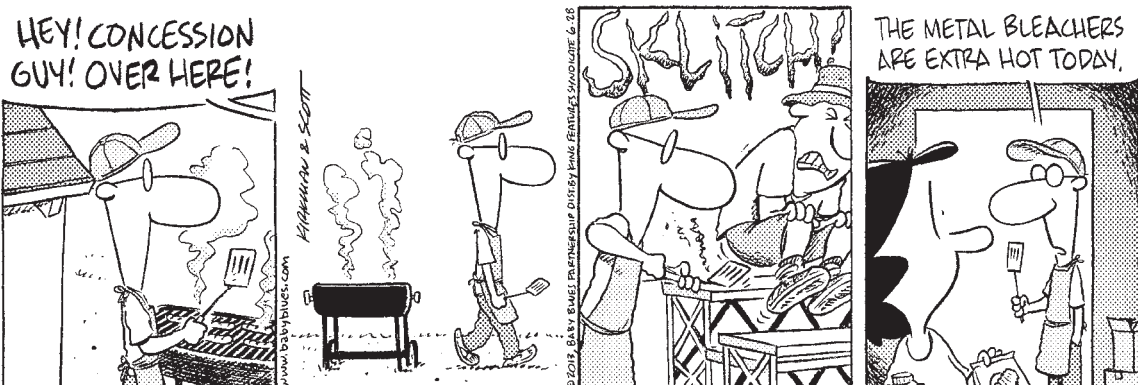
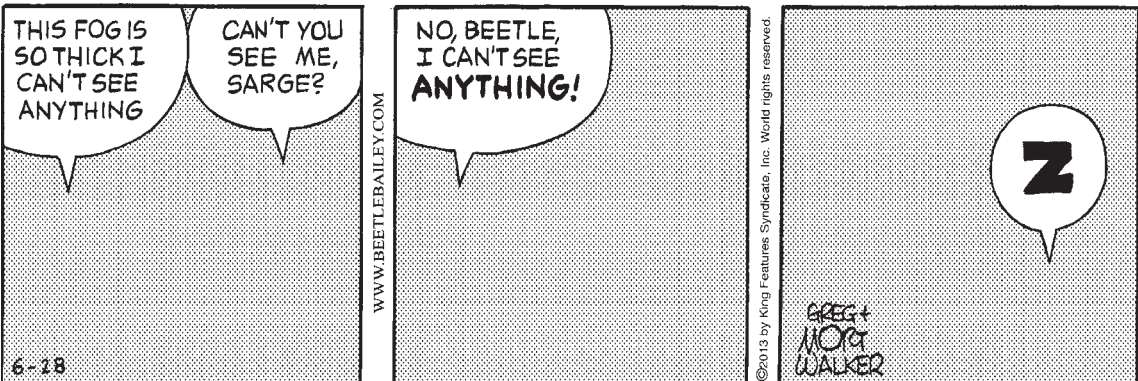


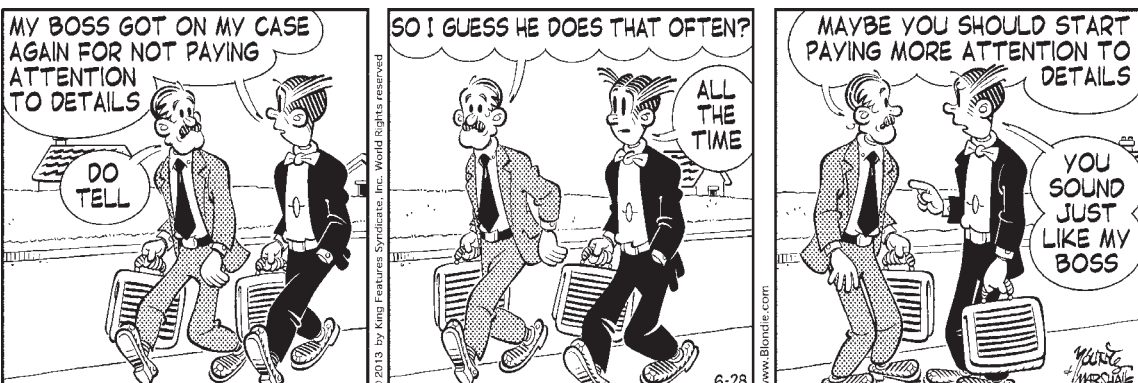
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



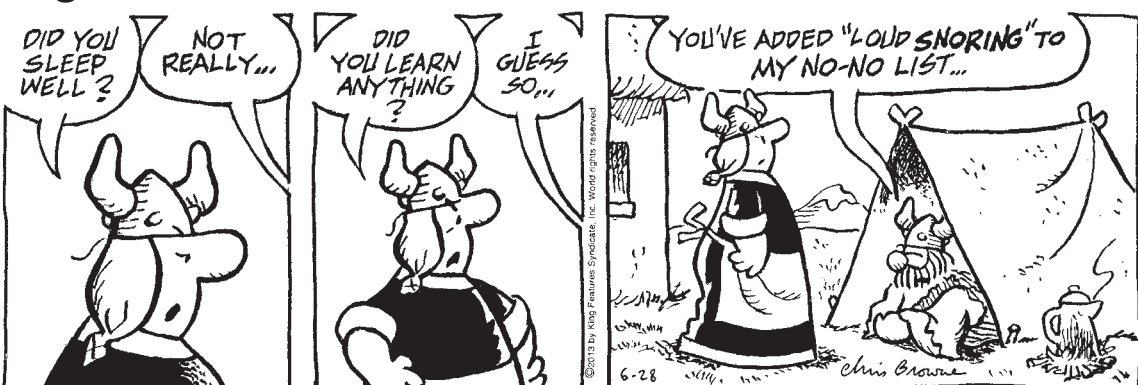
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young



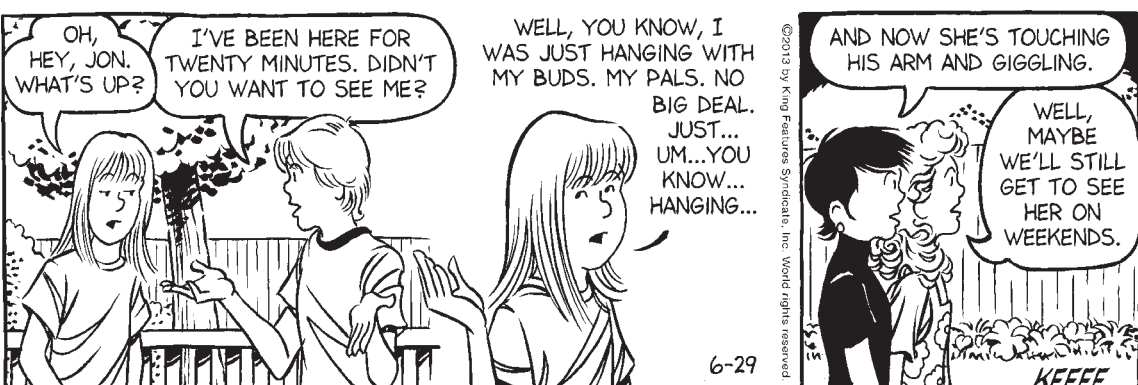
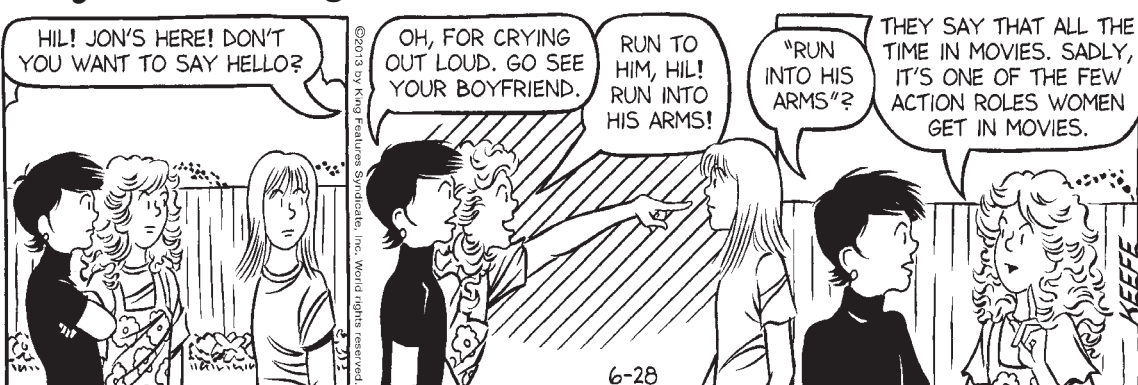
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



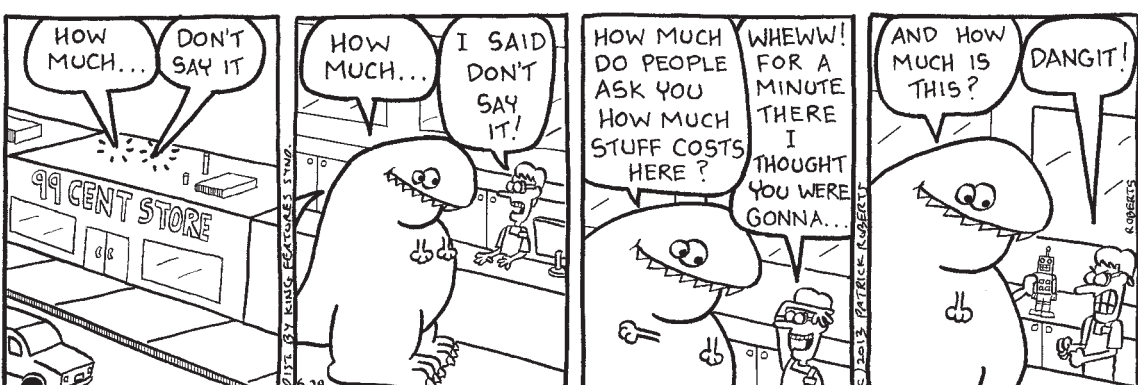
Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



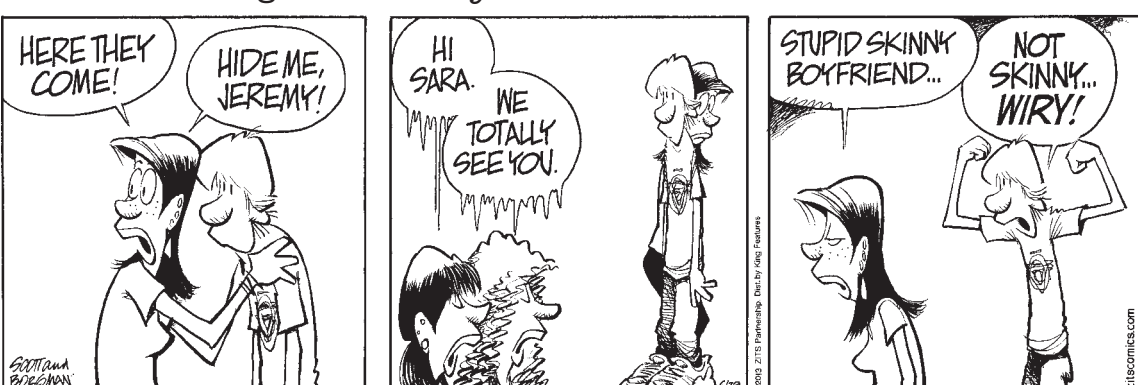
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise

- Hints from Heloise

She can bring seashells home

Dear Heloise: I have a vacation planned to a foreign beach, and I would like to bring home some seashells. Do you know if you are allowed to bring seashells back into the United States? – A Reader in Virginia

Yes, you are, but there are some guidelines. According to U.S. Customs and Border Protection, seashells usually are allowed into the United States, with a few stipulations:

- They must not be from endangered or threatened species.
- They must be completely clear of creatures, sand, soil, etc.
- A traveler may bring only a small amount for personal use.
- Stones and pebbles also are acceptable in small quantities, following the same guidelines.

Here is a hint for cleaning shells. When you get back to the hotel, fill the tub with hot water and add some hair shampoo, which usually is in the room. Soak for a while, and use a clean washcloth or hairbrush to scrub away sand, dirt and grime, then rinse thoroughly.

Know that all of these items must be declared with customs when entering the United States. You should check with authorities at your destination about any regulations they have. Also, be careful: Even if you buy an item in a shop, it does not mean you will be allowed to bring it into the U.S. – Heloise

P.S.: Use the plastic "laundry bag" in your room to put them in, then into your suitcase or carry-on bag.

SUMMER BRIDES

Dear Heloise: My friend told me about a bride who got married in the heat of the summer. She bought spray deodorant (Heloise here: I think you mean antiperspirant, which keeps you from perspiring. A deodorant keeps the perspiration from smelling) and sprayed her entire body before getting dressed. It really worked. She was cool as a cucumber in the high temp of summer. Thought this might work for summer brides. – Corrinne in Universal City, Texas

What a helpful hint! This also works on feet. Just be careful: Some antiperspirants and deodorants may stain the fabric. Want to know what to look for when buying a gown? Or how to take care of it after the wedding? I have put together a pamphlet with all of my favorite bridal hints. To order, send \$3 with a long, self-addressed, stamped (66 cents) envelope to: Heloise/Bridal, P.O. Box 795001, San Antonio, TX 78279-5001. When trying on gowns, have someone take a picture of you in each dress so you can see how you look and how it will photograph. – Heloise

HEALTH HINT

Dear Readers: Here is a friendly reminder when going to doctor's appointments: Be aware that germs are everywhere.

Germs are on the obvious places, but also are on other surfaces like elevator buttons, door handles, pens at the check-in desk, magazines, etc. So always carry hand sanitizer or anti-bacterial wipes with you to the doctor, medical facility or nursing center. Use it, and use it often! – Heloise

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Bridge • Steve Becker

You are South, both sides vulnerable, and the bidding has gone:

West North East South
3♦ Dble Pass ?

What would you bid with each of the following four hands?

1. ♠ 953 ♥ J872 ♦ 843 ♣ Q65
2. ♠ KQ764 ♥ J53 ♦ A9 ♣ 752
3. ♠ 8632 ♥ 94 ♦ QJ108 ♣ Q63
4. ♠ A J854 ♥ KJ52 — ♣ KJ94

Bidding Quiz

1. Three hearts. Partner's double is for take-out, and you therefore respond in your best suit, hearts. To pass in this situation, contending that the hand is too weak to bid, could be catastrophic. Partner wants you to bid, and the only time you can overrule him by passing is when you have considerable strength in the enemy's suit. Here, West might easily make three diamonds doubled, giving his side a game. You'd like to have a better hand and a better suit when you bid three hearts, but this is what you were dealt.

2. Four spades. Here you have excellent values opposite partner's presumed 14 or more points, and you should show them by jumping to four spades. If you were to bid only three spades, there would be no way for partner to know you had such a promising hand when you would make the same bid with a much weaker hand, such as the one in the previous problem.

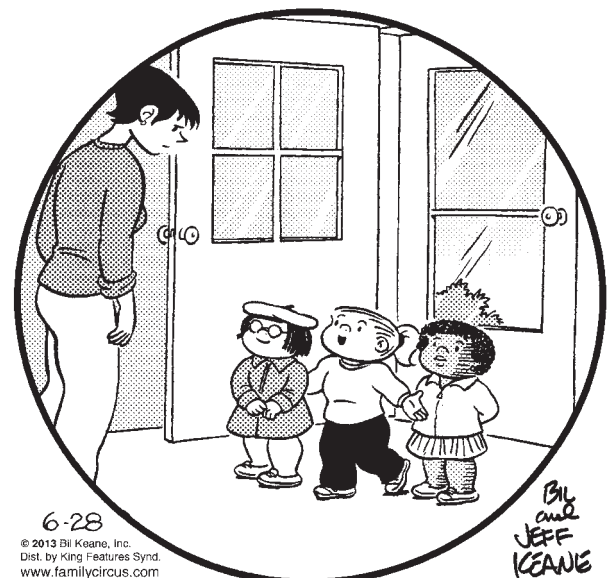
3. Pass. You should feel virtually certain of defeating three diamonds doubled -- you have two defensive tricks, and your partner figures to take at least three -- so the best thing to do is to pass rather than bid either three spades or three notrump. It is true that you are overriding partner's intent, but passing is likely to yield the best result in the great majority of cases.

4. Four diamonds. This is a huge hand to hold opposite a takeout double, and you should immediately start thinking in terms of a slam -- possibly even a grand slam. By cue-bidding West's suit, you achieve the dual purpose of suggesting a slam while at the same time locating the best trump suit.

If partner responds with four hearts, four spades or five clubs, you should raise him to six. If he does anything else, you should go all the way to seven, with full confidence in the outcome.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

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

Cryptoquip

XGZVZOK TBVGD00 QTUD QMOV

JRV XDVVDG DCDJATOODO.

VKDC OMWWDUAC YTWD

ODCYRMG ODD YRGD.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: ARE GROUPS OF SPECIALLY TRAINED FEMALE DEER CARRYING OUT ENEMY RAIDS CALLED COMMAND-DOES?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: D equals E

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| ACROSS | DOWN |
| 1 Doctrine | 1 Mischievous tyke |
| 4 Commotions | 2 Old French coin |
| 8 Mid-May honoree | 3 2001 movie, "—, Inc." |
| 12 Cattle call | 4 Thespian of — |
| 13 "Arrivederci" | 5 Regimen |
| 14 "So be it" | 6 Scull tool |
| 15 Wordplay specialists | 7 "Mayday!" |
| 17 Hindu royal | 8 Leather-neck |
| 18 Locate | 9 Mideast nation |
| 19 Piece of cheese-cake? | 10 Options list |
| 20 Subsequently | 11 Use scissors |
| 22 Reedy | 16 Gush |
| 24 Concoct | 19 Agent |
| 25 Good news for bargain hunters | |
| 29 Bard's "always" | |
| 30 Unrefined | |
| 31 Id counterpart | |
| 32 Ruins | |
| 34 Touch | |
| 35 Cincinnati team | |

Solution time: 25 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 6-28

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	