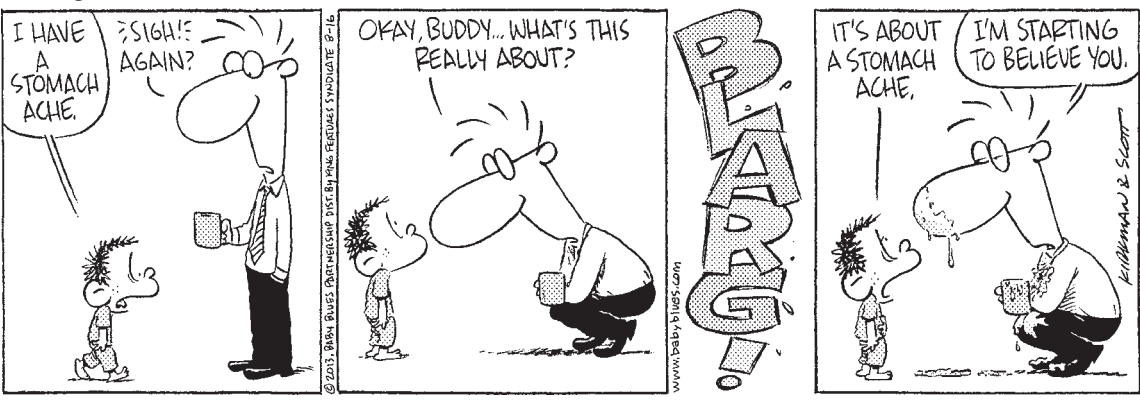
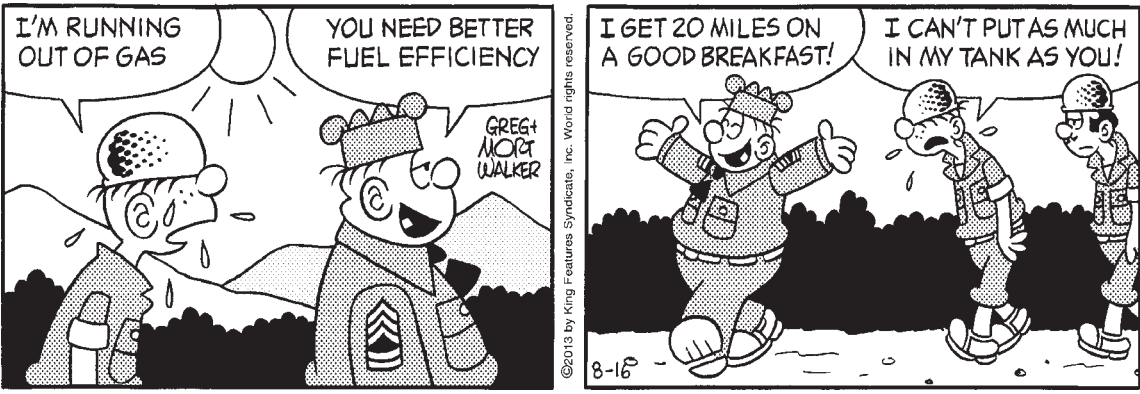


**Baby Blues** • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



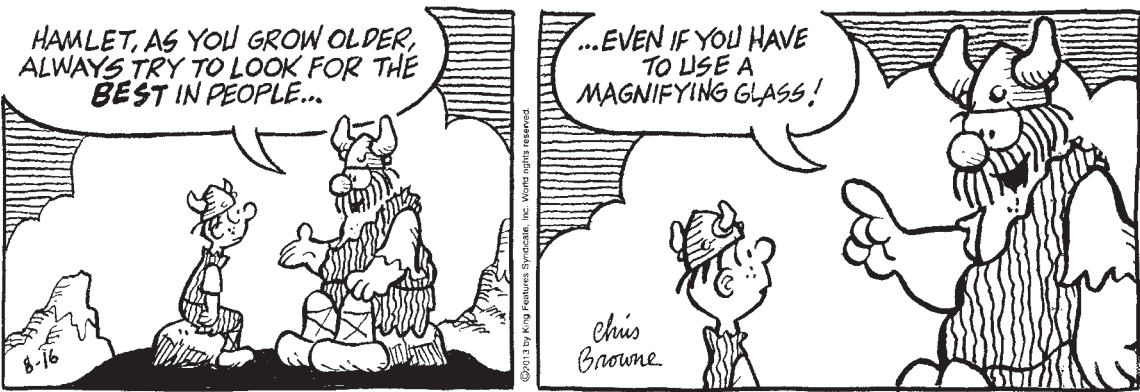
**Beetle Bailey** • Mort Walker



**Blondie** • Chic Young



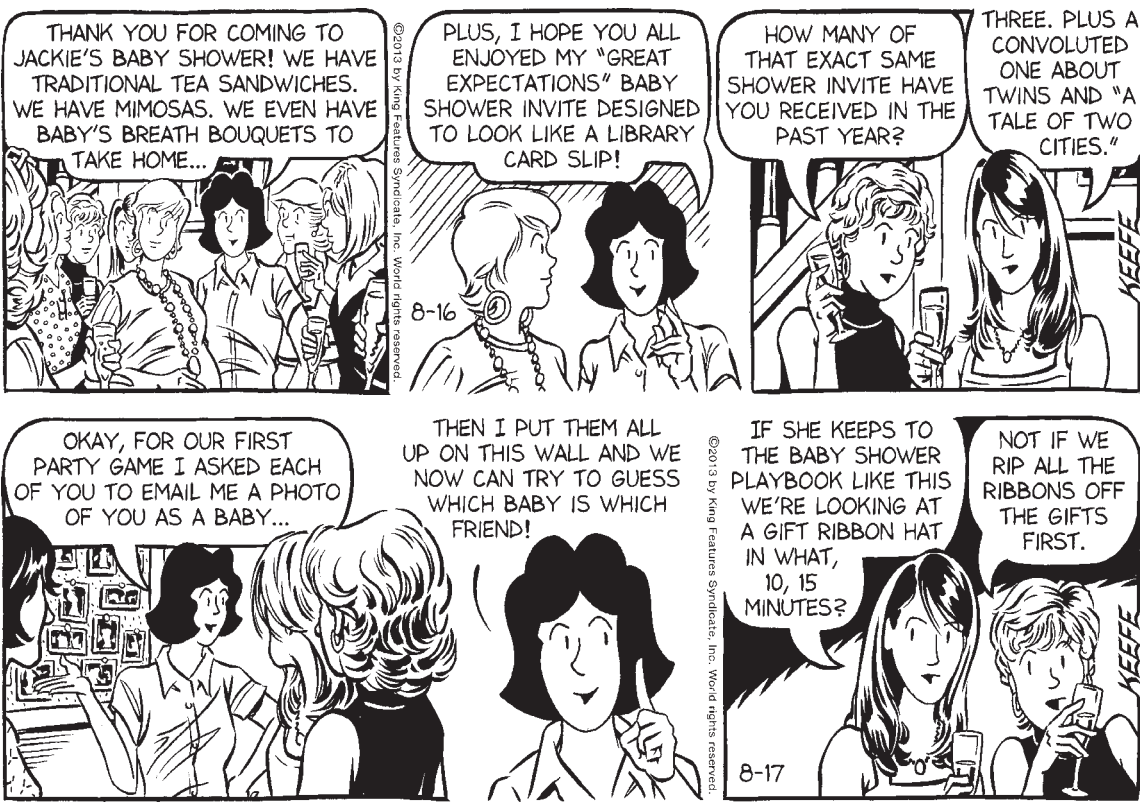
**Hagar the Horrible** • Chris Browne



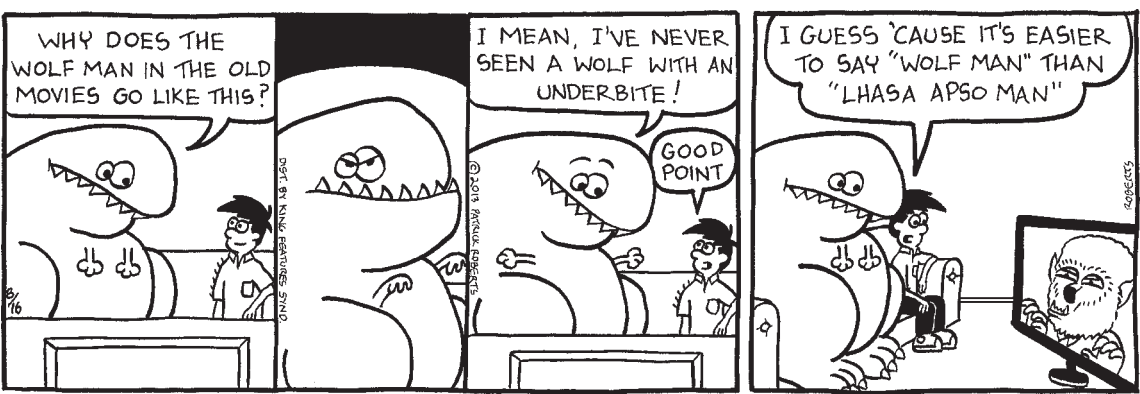
**Mother Goose and Grimm** • Mike Peters



**Sally Forth** • Greg Howard



**Todd the Dinosaur** • Patrick Roberts



**Zits** • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



**Heloise**

- Hints from Heloise

**Blind dog needs help navigating**

Dear Heloise: My dog recently went blind, and our family had some adjusting to do. I wanted to share a few hints with you and your readers that might help someone else who's going through this.

We talk to our dog a lot more now. We want him to know that we are in the room and that he isn't alone. Always make sure you talk to pets before touching them so you don't scare them when they aren't expecting it.

Leave the furniture where it is. He has learned where the furniture is and can move around it. If you change the location of a piece of furniture, pets could lose their way and bump into it.

When he first went blind and was learning his way, we padded the sharp corners on coffee tables, etc. They sell furniture pads for childproofing that work very well for pets, too.

We placed a mat under his food and water bowls. If he feels the mat, he knows he is close to the bowl and isn't searching for it and spilling food and water.

Hope this helps! - Linda in Vermont

When our previous mini schnauzer, Savvi, went blind due to diabetes, I put some of my perfume on a cotton ball and dabbed it around her doggie door to help her find it. She managed very well after a few days. However, when the carpet was cleaned, her "scent trail" was gone! So we walked several times through the house, and she was right at home finding her way. - Heloise

SEND A GREAT HINT TO:

Heloise  
P.O. Box 795000  
San Antonio, TX 78279-5000  
Fax: 1-210-HELOISE  
E-mail: Heloise@Heloise.com

**TRAVEL HINT**

Dear Heloise: My dentist gives me a little goody bag when I go for my cleaning: a toothbrush, dental floss and a little tube of toothpaste. I save these and take them with me when I travel. - M.B. in Texas

**MILK-CHOCOLATE MEDICINE**

Dear Heloise: I read your column in the Omaha (Neb.) World-Herald about a reader who gave the idea for mixing her daughter's medicine with yogurt to get her to take it. I had a pharmacist who recommended that I use chocolate syrup with my girls. She said to take a little before and a little after the medicine. Since it is so thick, it coats the tongue and helps to get the medicine down. - Jenny R., Omaha, Neb.

**TABLECLOTH FOLDS**

Dear Heloise: I cover my tables with vinyl tablecloths, but I would like to know how to get them to lie flat. After they are folded for storage, they will not lie flat. Is there any way to remove those deep folds? - Linda in Oshkosh, Wis.

If they are cloth-backed, you can try ironing them on a low setting. Or drape them over the shower rod, turn on the hot water and let them steam for a little while. Instead of folding them, why not hang them somewhere or keep them on the table under each other so they don't get the deep folds? - Heloise

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**Bridge** • Steve Becker

You are South in each of the following three hands. What would you bid at the point where the question mark appears?

1. ♠ Q62 ♥ 95 ♦ AK83 ♣ KJ74

South West North East  
1 ♦ Pass 1 ♥ 1 ♠  
?

2. ♠ KQ1083 ♥ KQ95 ♦ K4 ♣ A2

North East South West  
1 ♦ Pass 2 ♠ Pass  
3 ♦ Pass 3 ♥ Pass  
4 ♣ Pass ?

3. ♠ AQJ95 ♥ K6 ♦ AQ84 ♣ J2

South West North East  
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♣ Pass  
2 ♥ Pass 2 ♥ Pass  
?

\*\*\*

**Bidding Quiz**

1. Pass. Partner's one-heart bid is 100 percent forcing, but you are not obliged to bid after East intervenes with one spade. At this stage there is no way for you to know whether partner's response was based on six, 10 or even more high-card points, nor can you tell what kind of distribution he has.

When East enters the auction with one spade, you are presented with an opportunity to tell partner, by passing, that you have no clear-cut action at this point. Partner has another bid coming after East's overall, so there is no chance of his being left at the post with a good hand.

2. Four notrump. Partner obviously has a one-track mind - he likes diamonds. He probably has seven of them to the A-Q-J or something similar, and your best bid under the circumstances is to find out how many aces he has.

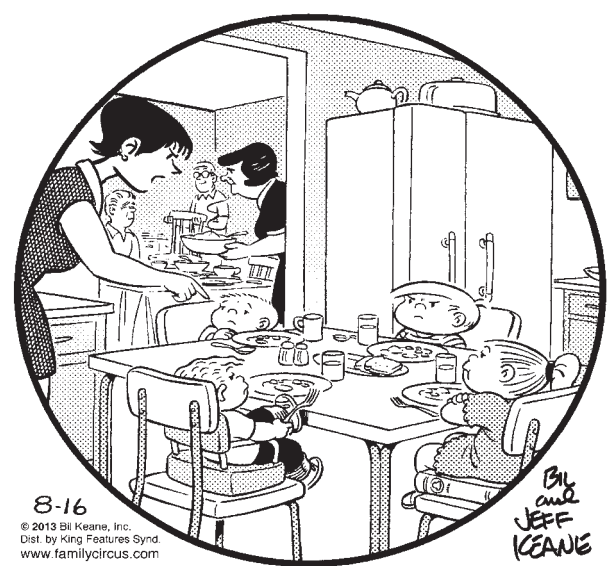
Accordingly, you bid four notrump (Blackwood). You plan to pass if partner responds five diamonds, showing one ace; to bid six diamonds if he responds five hearts, showing two aces; and to bid seven diamonds if he responds five spades, showing three aces, even though there is a small risk that the grand slam might fail.

3. Three notrump. It would be wrong to bid only two notrump, since your first two bids could have been based on only 13 or 14 points. Since you have 17 points and have not yet shown your extra values, you should identify them now by jumping to three notrump.

A two-spade bid would be incorrect on two counts as it would understate your high-card values and would also fail to describe your relatively balanced distribution.

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**Family Circus** • Bil Keane



8-16  
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**Conceptis Sudoku** • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★ 8/16

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.

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

**Cryptoquip**

PI YXHKZ NYCPLYXO IHVLN

GPOZPX HXY'N JHIIYY

IPEOYV, P GHMEC JDEE

OZDO NMIIPJPYXO KVHMXCN.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: THAT CAFE WORKER COOKING STEW REALLY CAN'T WAIT TO FINISH. HE'S ALWAYS WATCHING THE CROCK.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: I equals F

**Crossword** • Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

- Gullible one
- Karenina
- Army transport
- "— Little Teapot"
- Network on the telly, with "The"
- Dunkable treat
- Got water everywhere
- Wound from a flogging
- Bank named on a credit card
- Hooter
- Wildest
- Pulverized
- Dangerous weather
- Mex
- Historic time
- Perjurer
- Big star
- Biblical verb

**DOWN**

- Señor's emphatic assent
- Pumps up the volume
- Chums
- Away
- Indira Gandhi's father
- Once called
- Tummy features
- Before
- Moray, e.g.
- Cauldron
- Boring device
- Tussaud's medium
- Get better

**24** Formerly, formerly

**25** Information

**26** Coaster

**27** Old Italian money

**28** Dumbo's "wings"

**29** Monkey suit

**32** Tranquilized

**33** Gets wind of

**35** What couch potatoes do

**36** Makes lean

**38** Eye shade

**39** Analyze grammatically

**42** Throat-clearing sound

**43** Vast

**44** Nervous

**45** Jostle

**46** Hearty brew

**47** Elmo's orange friend

**49** Dinner for Dobbin

**Solution time: 25 mins.**

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

Yesterday's answer 8-16

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	