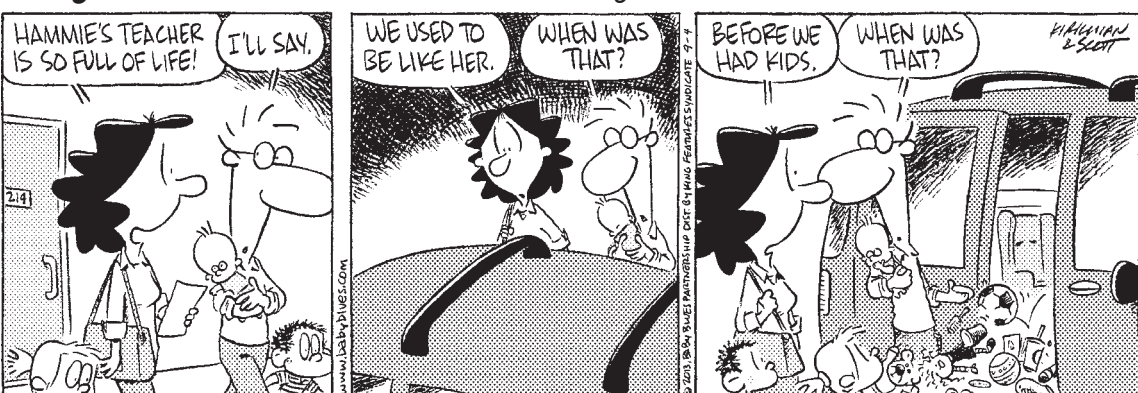
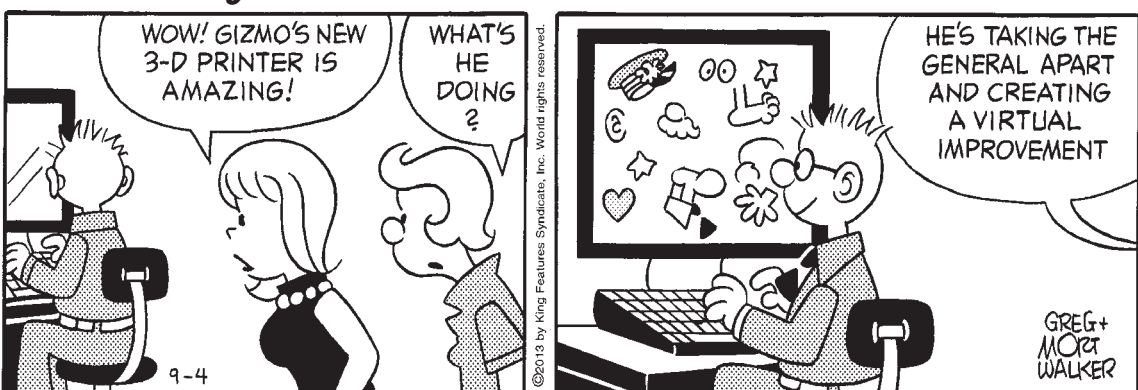


Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



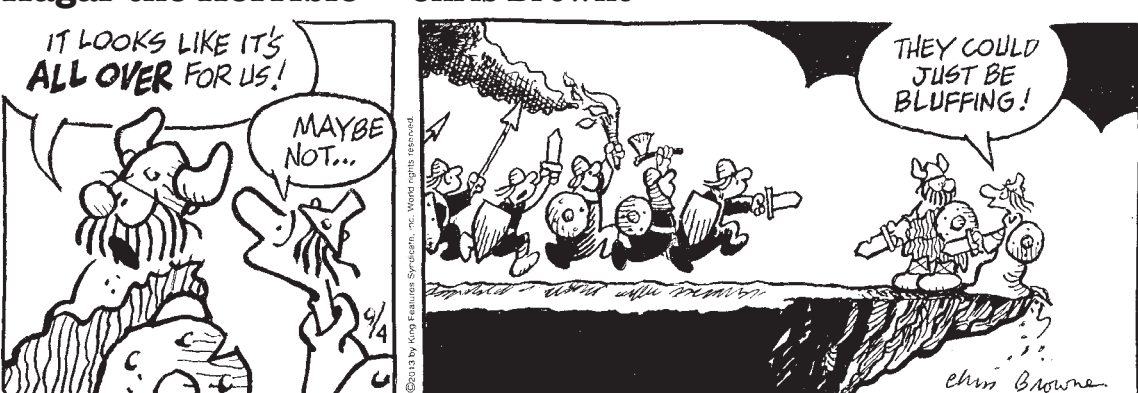
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young



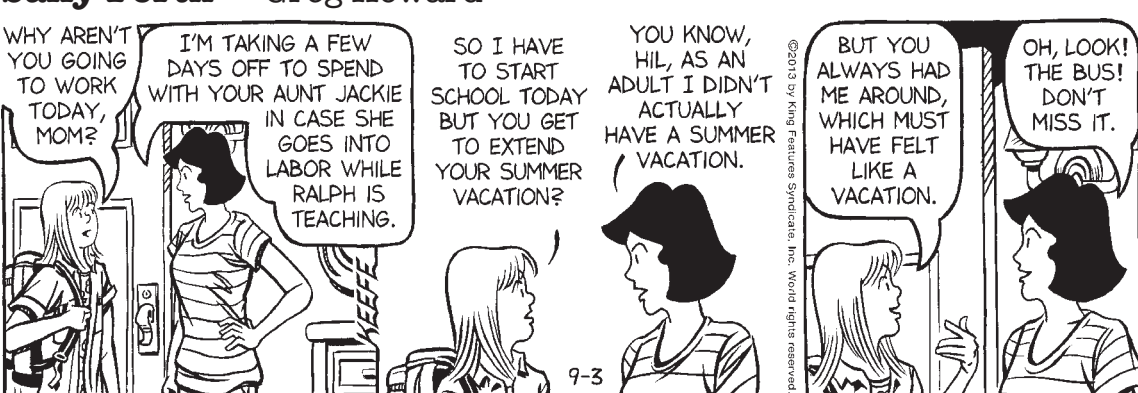
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



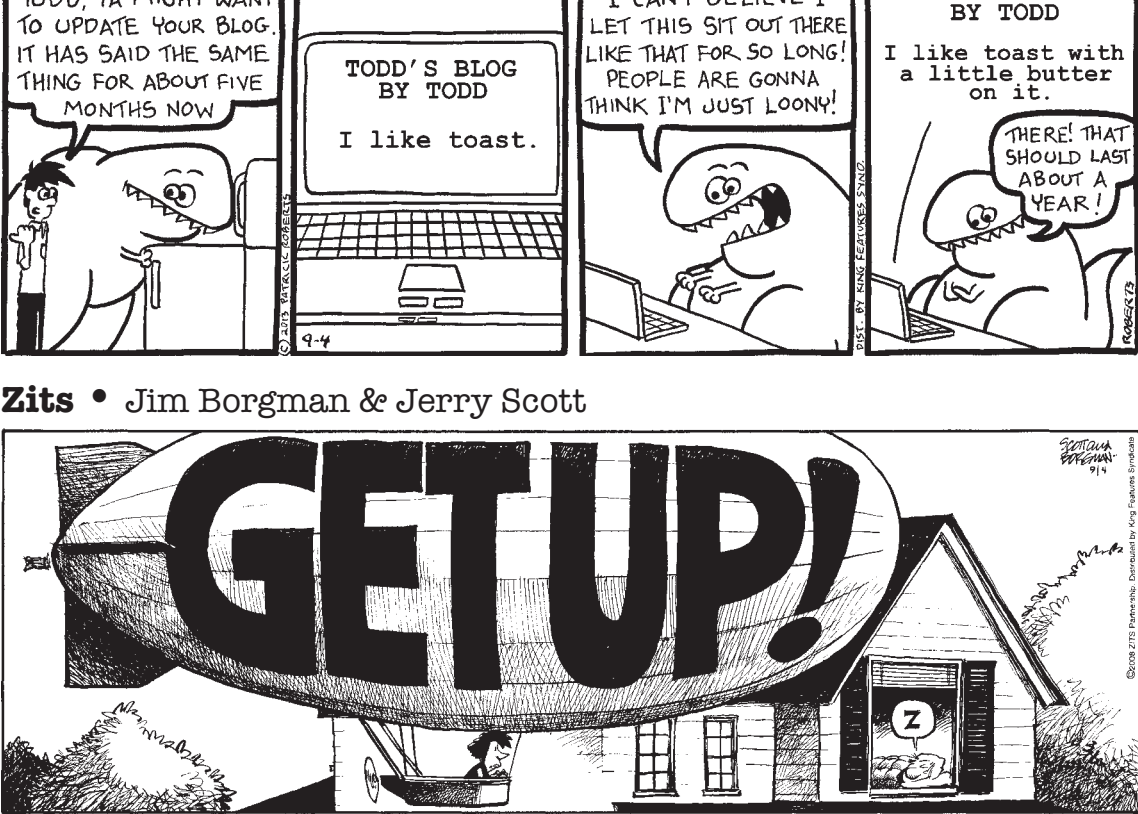
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise

- Hints from Heloise

Scalding milk helps it mix in

Dear Heloise: Why do some instructions call for scalded milk? What is the purpose? Thanks in advance! – Pat W., Harrisonburg, Va.

Very good question, and one I had to think about. Older recipes said to scald milk to kill bacteria and an enzyme that prevented thickening in recipes. Today, most milk is pasteurized, so the bacteria and enzyme are already gone.

Also, scalding milk raises the temperature, which helps dissolve yeast and melt butter when added to bread recipes.

How do you scald milk? Heat the liquid until just below the boiling point, or 180 degrees. After scalding, a recipe typically will state that you let the milk cool to 110 degrees before adding it to the other ingredients. Scalded milk helps make cakes spongy and breads light. – Heloise

SEND A GREAT HINT TO:

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

SEEDING LEMONS

Dear Heloise: Being from the South, we like to serve iced tea and have lemons available, but how do you get rid of the seeds? I tried those little mesh-covered things you can put over a lemon, but it was way too messy. I now take one of those battery lights that you can buy for a couple of dollars. I place it on my counter, turn on the light and, while holding the lemon, shine the light through the rind. I can see the lemon seeds and pluck them out for seedless lemons. Works great! – David S. in Houston

This is one way, or if you cut the lemon into serving slices, use a vegetable peeler and “pick out” the seeds. – Heloise

SIMPLY SAUTE

Dear Heloise: I've just started cooking and want to know what exactly is sauteing? – Judy K. in Pennsylvania

Sauteing is when you cook foods quickly over high heat. You use a small amount of fat or broth. Leave space between food pieces, and place only one layer of food at a time. Both meats and vegetables can be sauteed. You want the same-size beef, fish fillets or chicken breasts.

Try sauteing vegetables like mushrooms, bell peppers and snap peas. Whatever the food, stir it frequently so it browns evenly. – Heloise

P.S.: I even saute Romaine and iceberg lettuces, as well as apple slices!

WARM BUTTER

Dear Heloise: I had a recipe that called for two sticks of butter, room temperature, and as usual, I had forgotten to lay it out beforehand. I had used my hair dryer that morning and knew that it had a “warm” setting – aha! I cut the butter up into small pieces and used the low setting on the dryer. It worked like a charm and didn't melt the butter, but softened it just right for “cream butter and sugar.” – Vonda W., Amarillo, Texas

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Bridge • Steve Becker

North dealer. Neither side vulnerable.
NORTH
♦KQ
♥52
♠A64
♣KJ10863
WEST
♦19652
♥973
♦Q5
♠A74
EAST
♦A3
♥11084
♠110982
♣Q2
SOUTH
♦10874
♥AKQ6
♠K73
♣95

The bidding:
North 1♣ East Pass South 1♥ West Pass
2♣ Pass 2NT Pass
3NT
Opening lead — five of spades.

Sylvia Shines on Defense
Eventually, there came a day when Sylvia could no longer be classed as a dub. We had seen her start from scratch, when she barely knew the meaning of the word “finesse.” We had also watched her follow the bumpy road all beginners must traverse and, just like them, commit mayhem in the bidding and play of many hands.

But what distinguished Sylvia most was that although she committed the same errors newcomers usually make, she also invented a few of her own that had never been seen before. She had a way of turning the simplest problems into highly complex ones, often producing results that were utterly unpredictable.

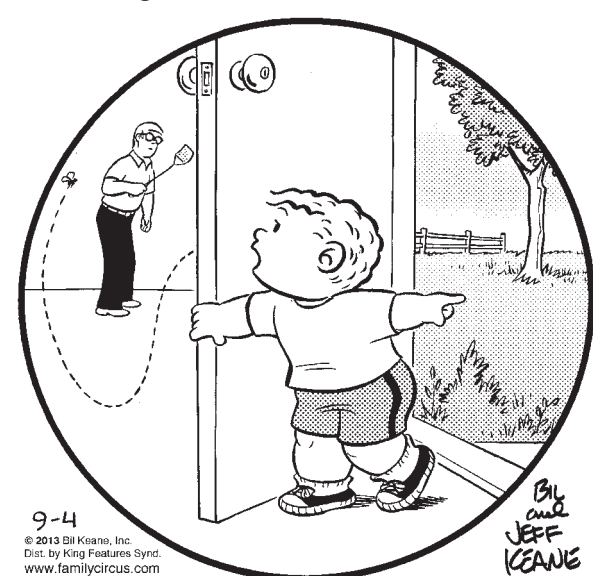
The peculiar aspect of all this was that her deviations from the norm worked out in her favor far more often than anyone would have expected. Furthermore, these aberrations continued even after she had become a fairly experienced player. For example, take this deal where, if you look at all four hands, it seems impossible to stop South from making three notrump. Declarer seems likely to lose two clubs and two spades, but no more. But Sylvia, sitting East, managed to find a way to defeat the contract!

She won the spade lead with the ace and returned a spade to dummy's king. Declarer then crossed to the heart ace and led the nine of clubs, West playing the four, dummy the three and Sylvia the deuce! South then led another club, West producing the seven, dummy the ten and Sylvia the surprise queen. Dummy's clubs were now dead as a doornail, and so was the contract. South won the diamond return, struggled a while and finished down two.

Sylvia was, of course, right not to take the first club, but no one will ever know for sure whether she did it because of her newly found expertise or simply because she was Sylvia.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



9-4
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Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★ 9/04

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.

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

Cryptoquip

FUVZQGU J'X LJPJML ZM

ZNU Z NJLLTFZVY DJSU, J

DUVYBM J DUZOOT IZPU Z

VIJXN BM XT GIBQOSUD.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: THAT FELLOW IS OUT IN A PUBLIC PLACE BEGGING FOR BLUEPRINTS. WOULD YOU SAY HE'S PLAN-HANDLING?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: L equals G

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
1 Horse's gait
5 Indivisible
8 Speech impediment
12 Bellow
13 Irritate
14 Aware of
15 Ballpark figure
17 Couple, to gossipers
18 "Whoop-ee!"
19 Pinch pennies
21 Entrance
24 Height of fashion?
25 Green stone
28 Transcending (Pref.)
30 "Hail, Caesar!"
33 "— had it!"
34 Permissible
35 Can material
36 Apple computer
37 Latin list-ender
38 Vegan's no-no
- DOWN**
1 Deuce
2 Artist
3 Solemn promise
4 Vacuum tube type
5 Eggs
6 Butterfly catcher
7 Former partners
8 French river
9 Hint
10 Goblet feature
11 "— and Circumstance"
16 Cattle call
20 Converse
22 Skip over
23 Summary
- 39** Altar affirmative
41 Andean nation
43 Jog the memory
46 DuPont synthetic
50 Persia, now
51 Utmost
54 Gyro holder
55 Barbie's companion
56 System for servers
57 Crystal gazer
58 Gazer down
59 Take five
- 25** Conrad's "Lord —"
26 Palindromic girl's name
27 Cause great harm
29 Scrabble piece
31 By way of
32 Tolkien tree dweller
34 Rock band, Kings of —
38 Soft sound
40 Mid-eastern money
42 Marseilles monarch
43 Tears
44 Great Lake
45 Nobleman
47 Broadway's Nathan
48 Elevator name
49 Immediately upcoming
52 Meadow
53 Stick with a kick

Yesterday's answer 9-4

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		