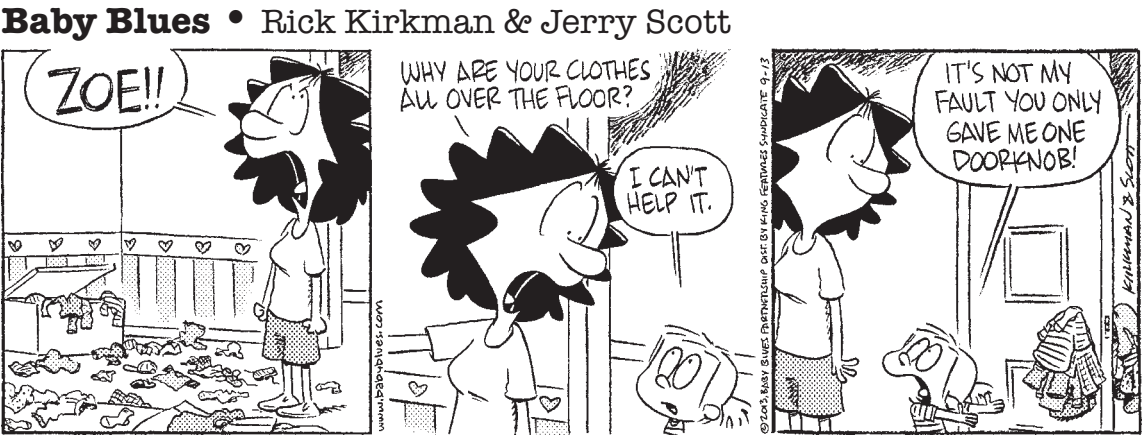
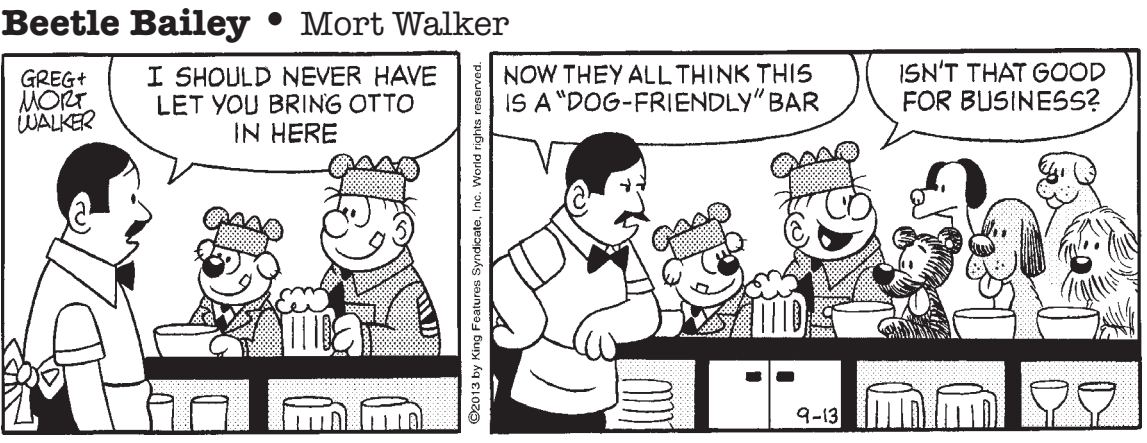
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott

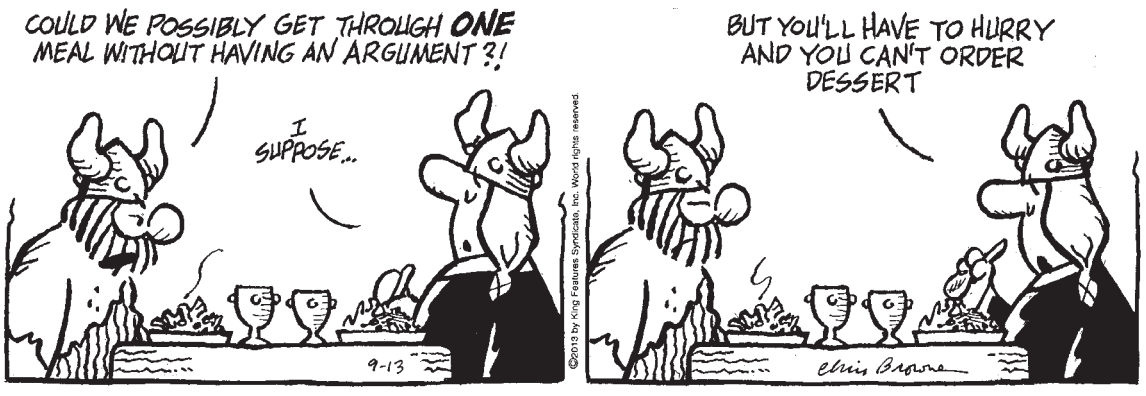


Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker

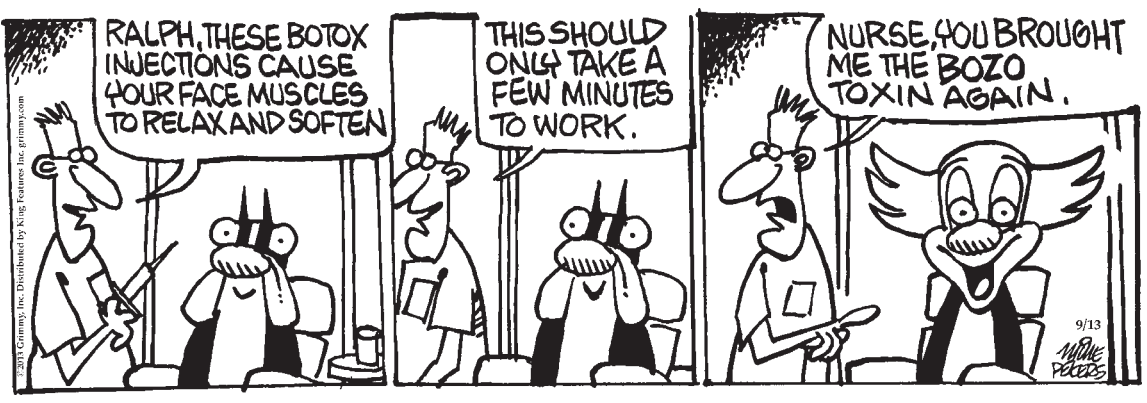


Blondie • Chic Young

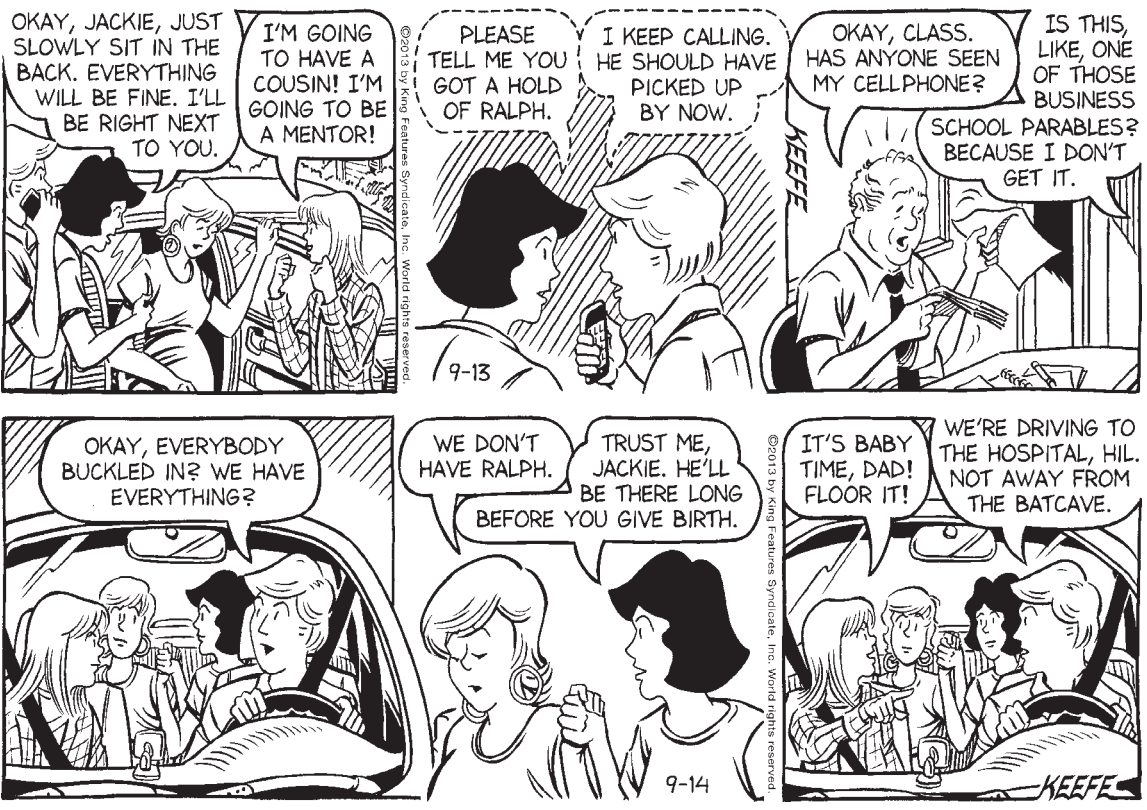
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts

Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott

Heloise

• Hints from Heloise

Scent of home helps find pets

Dear Heloise: After reading your column about how to find a lost pet, I just had to send an idea that has successfully been implemented in our area several times.

Leave an article of clothing with your scent in an area where your pet was last seen. Check the area several times a day to see if your dog is sitting there – with the scent of his or her owner. – Ellen D., Bow, N.H.

Good advice! Also, if your pet must be hospitalized or spend the night away, the same hint works! I send a T-shirt or bath towel with Cabbie. – Heloise

CLEAN CHALKBOARD

Dear Heloise: Help! My son accidentally wrote with crayon on his chalkboard. How can I remove it? – Wendy in Alabama

Don't stress, Wendy, help is here! Sprinkle a damp (water only) sponge with some baking soda and scrub the chalkboard. It might take a little elbow grease, but this should remove the crayon marks. While you are at it, give the entire chalkboard a scrub, and it will look brand-new. Rinse and wipe dry. For other uses for baking soda, order my Baking Soda Hints and Recipes pamphlet by sending $5 and a long, self-addressed, stamped (66 cents) envelope to: Heloise/Baking Soda, P.O. Box 795001, San Antonio, TX 78279-5001. Baking soda makes a great nonabrasive cleaner. Sprinkle a damp sponge with it and go to town on stainless steel, kitchen sink and stovetops. – Heloise

TRAVEL HINT

Dear Heloise: For those who travel a lot on business: I carry a little blue cloth bag that came with a bottle of liquor. Put keys, wallet and other valuables in the bag, and place it in your briefcase prior to the airport screening process. When you get to a convenient location, just empty the bag. You'll never leave anything behind or lose it. – A Reader, Omaha, Neb.

HEAVY-DUTY HAIR

Dear Heloise: I have very thick hair and was having a hard time keeping it secure in a ponytail. If I use two rubber bands when I put my hair up, it helps keep it up. A simple hint, but it has helped me a lot. I don't have to spend a ton of time redoing my hair several times a day. – R.K. in Rhode Island

COTTON COMFORT

Dear Heloise: Sometimes when I am wearing dresses, I feel like I need a little extra support or coverage underneath. I bought a couple of cotton bike shorts at the store in different colors. I can easily slip them on underneath a dress. It gives me support while still allowing me to breathe. – Joyce in Illinois

(c)2013 by King Features Syndicate Inc.

Bridge • Steve Becker

1. You are declarer with the West hand at Four Hearts. North leads the A-K-Q of diamonds, South following suit, and shifts to the ten of clubs. You cover with the queen and win South's king with the ace. How would you continue?

West	East
♠K 3	♠A Q 10 7 4
♥Q J 10 4 2	♥A K 8
♦J 9 2	♦7 5 4
♣A 7 6	♣Q 3

2. You are declarer with the West hand at Five Diamonds, and North leads a trump. South takes the ace and returns a trump, North following suit. How would you continue?

West	East
♠A J 10	♠9 5 2
♥K 4	♥A J 6 5 3
♦K J 10 8 7 6	♦Q 9 2
♣A K	♣J 10

* * *

Test Your Play

1. If you were to draw trumps now, the outcome would depend entirely upon winning four spade tricks instead of the three that are in plain view. The probability of finding the spades divided 3-3, or either opponent with the singleton or doubleton jack, is only slightly better than 50 percent.

You can add significantly to your chances by first cashing the A-Q of hearts. If both opponents follow suit, you next play the K-A of spades, then ruff a low spade with a high trump. Now a heart to the king allows you to discard two clubs on the Q-10 of spades, making the contract whether the opposing spades are divided 3-3 or 4-2.

Of course, if the trumps turn out to be divided 4-1 or 5-0, you should finish drawing them at once and stake the outcome on a favorable spade division.

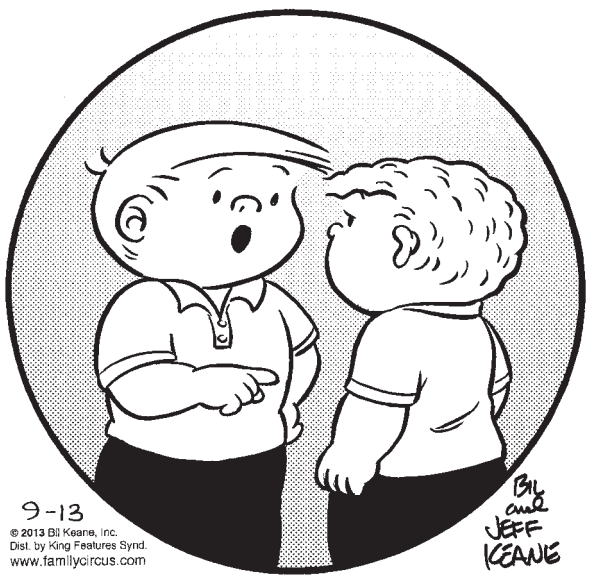
2. This is one of those cases where making the contract is certain regardless of how the opponents' cards are divided. All you need to do is to prepare for the possibility that North might have the king and queen of spades, and that one opponent might have four or more hearts headed by the queen.

You start by cashing the A-K of clubs and K-A of hearts. Next you lead a spade from dummy, planning to play the jack if South follows low. (If South produces the queen or king of spades instead, your worries are over, since you can win with the ace and concede a spade trick.)

Let's assume the jack of spades loses to the king or queen. In that case, North would hand you the contract if he returned either a spade or a club. If he leads a heart instead, he cannot do so without establishing at least one heart trick in dummy, on which you can deposit your other spade loser.

(c)2013 King Features Syndicate Inc.

Family Circus • Bil Keane



"Bet I can outgrow my new shirt before you can outgrow yours."

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 9/13

©2013 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

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

Difficulty Level ★★★ 9/12

©2013 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Cryptoquip

BZDW HZPH SXHNDA JDNNIB NDUHXADK RUPANDHH I'ZPAP. YH BPR XRXPNNC IWNC P SXWUZ IJ AZDHH-IAYU.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: VERY FAMOUS BROADWAY CLASSIC ABOUT A BEAGLE WHO LOVES BELTING OUT TUNES: "THE HOUND OF MUSIC."

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: N equals L

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Tourney freebie
4 Moist
8 Scoop holder
12 Corn spike
13 Winged
14 Its symbol is Pb
15 Romantic situation, in many soaps
17 Planets
18 "— Fideles"
19 Drunkard
21 That girl
22 Globe, e.g.
26 London newspaper
29 Lustrous black
30 Scott Joplin melody
31 Mars' counterpart
32 Blue
33 Golden Rule word
34 Skillet
35 Soar
36 Eye layers
37 Non-hipster
39 Wildebeest
40 Coloring agent
41 On an angle
45 Locate
48 Defense headquarters
50 It's all wound up
51 Therefore
52 Started
53 Bouillon unit
54 Grate
55 Type measures

DOWN
1 Greek consonant
2 Play area
3 Great Lake
4 The Count of Monte Cristo
5 Rags-to-riches author
6 — de mer
7 Ironed
8 Fabric
9 "— the ramparts ..."
10 Apprehend
11 Mag. staffers
16 Fire residue
20 Make up your mind
23 Sea eagle
24 — -tat-tat
25 Hollywood clashers
26 Reveille's opposite
27 Modern Mesopotamia
28 Carte
29 Johnny's successor
32 Unexpected hit
33 Palate dangler
35 Use 34-Across
36 Remove the cork
38 Confuse
39 "West Side Story" factions
42 Lecherous look
43 Verse
44 Tackles' teammates
45 TV monitor?
46 Debtor's letters
47 Pen point
49 Historic time

Solution time: 25 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 9-13

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		