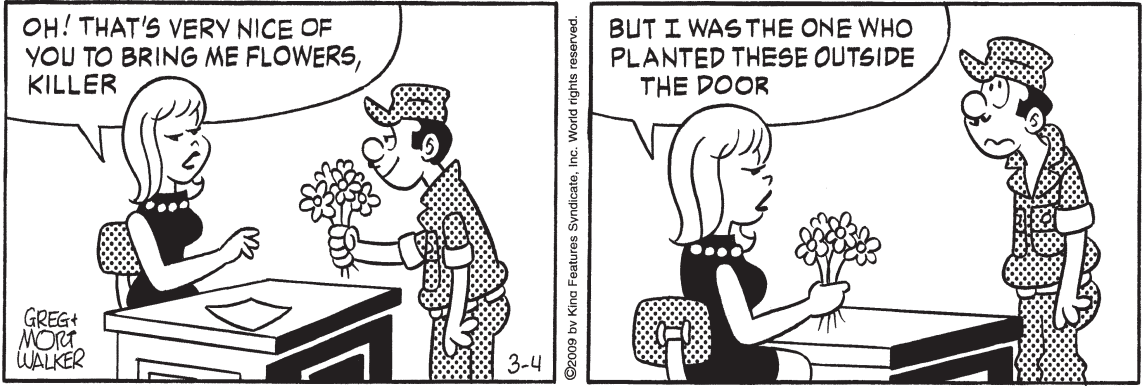


Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young



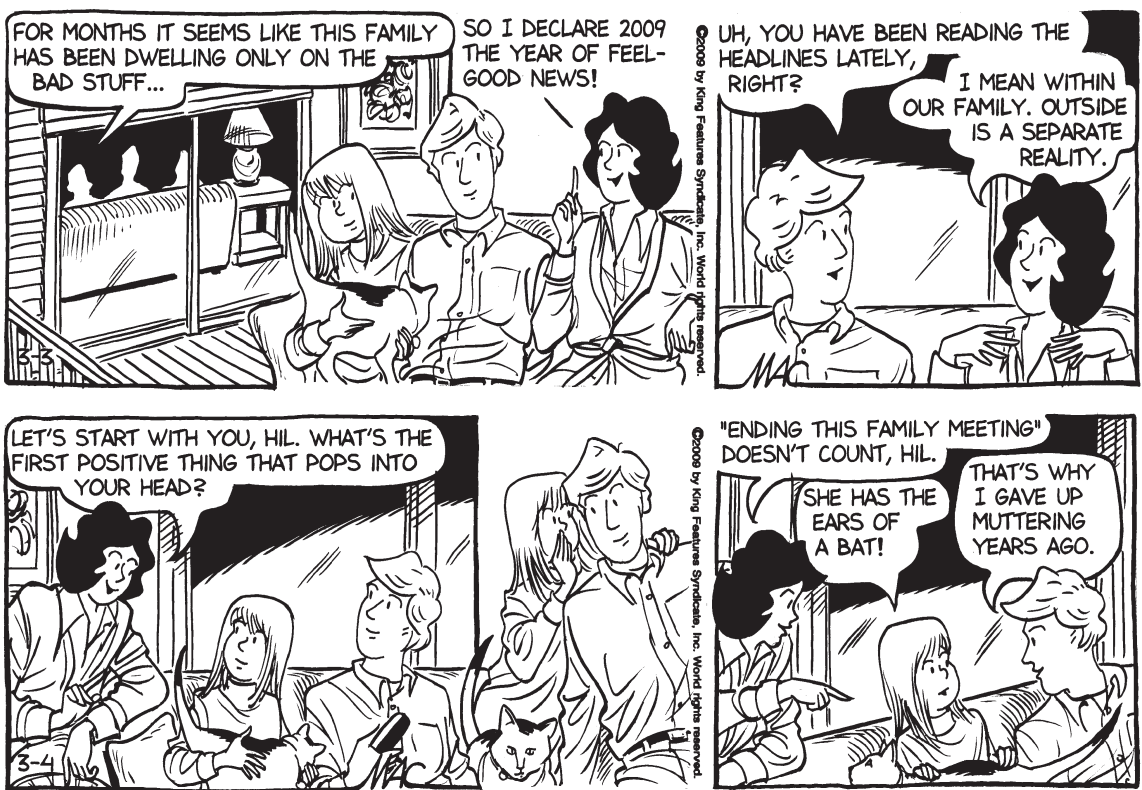
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



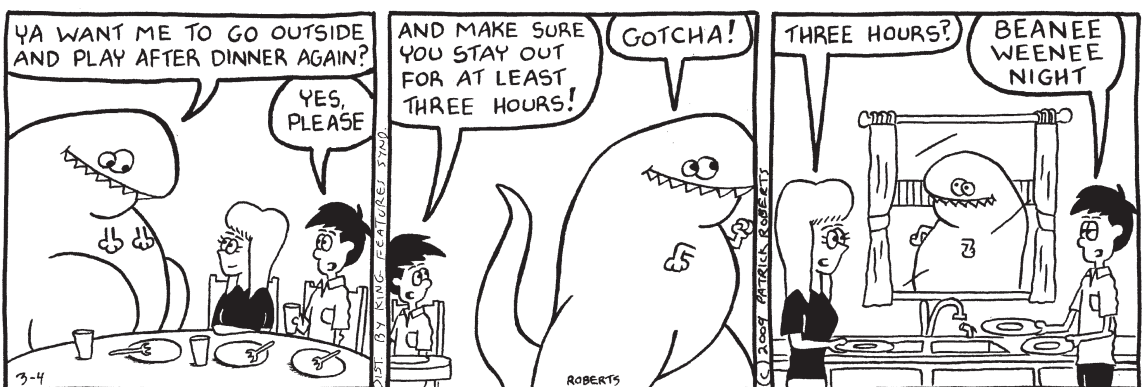
Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise

- Hints from Heloise

Here’s new mix for cottage cheese

Dear Heloise: A great food for children to make, by themselves, is YOGURT MIXED INTO COTTAGE CHEESE. Even the youngest in a family can choose his or her flavor and stir it together. – Skeeter Gurzick, Omaha, Neb.

Skeeter, your tasty hint isn’t just for kids – I love to mix it up, too! Low- or no-fat cottage cheese and some strawberry, peach or coffee yogurt is a very tasty and healthy treat. – Heloise

FREEZER ORGANIZATION

Dear Heloise: I have found a way to reach all the packages of food in my deep freezer and sort older packages from those recently purchased.

I bought two polyester mesh pop-open hampers in different colors. Sitting side by side on the freezer bottom, I can lift them by the handles to see the contents, check dates, etc. They can be cleaned easily and folded for storage, and they are very inexpensive.

Also, I use wire racks in my refrigerator’s freezer to store small bags of chopped onion, bell pepper and partially used bags of frozen vegetables. Now, boxed items are stacked underneath, where they can be seen and easily reached, and I’m not wondering if a package of frozen meat will fall on my feet! – Linda Brewer of Huntsville, Ala.

HOT COCOA

Dear Heloise: How can I get your recipe for hot cocoa? I used to make it for my children years ago, and my daughter told me that no hot cocoa tastes as good as that did, and she would like to make it for her children. Could you help me, please? – Kathryn Jenkins, via e-mail

Of course I can, and I enjoy knowing that one of my recipes is being passed from one generation to the next. To make it you’ll need:

- 2 cups of powdered milk
- Dash of salt
- 1/4 cup of cocoa
- 1 cup of powdered sugar

Combine ingredients well and put in a pretty container. Label it with the following directions: Put approximately 4 tablespoons into a cup and fill with 8 ounces of boiling water. Add more of the mix to taste. Stir. For a creamier version, also add about 1/3 cup of powdered nondairy creamer and/or 1 tablespoon of malted-milk powder. You can find this delicious recipe and a lot more money-saving, delicious flavored coffee and tea recipes in my Heloise’s Flavored Coffees and Teas pamphlet, which you can have by sending \$4 and a long, self-addressed, stamped (59 cents) envelope to: Heloise/CT, P.O. Box 795001, San Antonio, TX 78279-5001. FYI: If you want to try something different in your cocoa, add a dash of cinnamon, nutmeg, allspice or even peppermint to the mix to zing it up a little. – Heloise

RECIPE COLLECTION

Dear Heloise: After years of collecting recipes on paper, I now type the recipe, save it to the appropriate computer folder – chicken, pork, beef, vegetables, pie, candy, etc. – and periodically copy them onto a CD. This has saved me a lot of time. – Linda Pittman, via e-mail

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Bridge • Steve Becker

North dealer.
East-West vulnerable.

NORTH
♦K 8
♥Q J 2
♠A 10 7 6 3
♣J 5 4

WEST
♦Q 9 7 3
♥9 6
♦K 2
♠A K 10 8 3

EAST
♦A J 6 4
♥8 7 5 4
♦—
♣Q 9 7 6 2

SOUTH
♦10 5 2
♥A K 10 3
♦Q J 9 8 5 4
♣—

The bidding:
North Pass
3♦
5♦

East Pass
4♣
4♦

South 1♦
4♦

West 2♣
Pass

Opening lead — king of clubs.

Triumph of Mind Over Matter

Bridge is basically a game of probabilities, with most of the key decisions based on the chance that one set of circumstances is more likely to exist than another.

However, probabilities should not always be followed blindly. Other factors frequently enter into the overall calculations, and one of the most important is that the aim of the game is to win.

For example, consider the accompanying deal where declarer is trying to make five diamonds. Since he will go down only if he loses two spades and a diamond, all his thoughts should be directed toward trying to prevent this from happening.

After ruffing the club lead, South leads the queen of diamonds, to which West follows with the deuce. Ordinarily, declarer would play dummy’s ace, because the percentages slightly favor a 1-1 division when two cards are missing.

But in the present case, South should finesse the queen. Why? Because if he does, he is certain to make the contract, while if he doesn’t, he may – and in the actual deal will – go down one when West later gains the lead with the king of trumps and leads a spade through dummy’s king.

Conversely, if the diamond finesse loses to East’s king, which is certainly a good possibility, the wound is not mortal, as there is nothing East can then do to stop the contract.

For example, let’s say he returns a club. Declarer ruffs and cashes his four high hearts, discarding a spade from dummy. As a result, his only losers prove to be a diamond and a spade.

In this case, the trump finesse, though it may run against the probabilities, serves a far more important purpose: It assures the contract.

Tomorrow: Upping the percentages.
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Family Circus • Bil Keane



“Don’t you remember what it looks like?”

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★ ★

3/04

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.

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

Difficulty Level ★

Cryptoquip

AEQT Y URTUQH WTYD NH

VYOYHNNT RW WZHYTUQ-

MNNLRTU, R WJDDNWQ FNJ VRUEZ

OYMM RZ Y LNNLF ONNLRQ.

Yesterday’s Cryptoquip: CATCHY SONG ABOUT A CASINO WORKER MOVING FROM LAS VEGAS TO NEW YORK: “SHUFFLE OFF TO BUFFALO.”

Today’s Cryptoquip Clue: N equals O

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Glaswegian
5 Denny Crane’s field
8 — Alto, Calif.
12 Canyon phenomenon
13 “A Chorus Line” song
14 Privy to
15 Miscellaneous written passages
17 Simple
18 Indy’s hat
19 Whirlpool
21 Zilch
22 Apiece
23 Docs’ org.
26 Conger, for one
28 Wails like a banshee
31 Offspring, often
33 Vast expanse
35 Filthy material

36 Eucalyptus eater
38 Last (Abbr.)
40 Whatever amount
41 Upper-case
43 In medias
45 “Wuthering Heights” writer
47 Alibi
51 Carry on
52 “Fiddler on the Roof” village
54 Staffer
55 Young chap
56 Approach

57 Pleased
58 Bond, e.g.
59 Skin art, for short

11 Cameo stone
16 One of HOMES
20 Erstwhile acorn
23 Request
24 Cow’s comment
25 Big snake
27 Roman money
29 Sister
30 Pigpen
32 On an angle
34 “So soon?”
35 Spots
36 Pismire
37 Suitable
39 Libretto
42 Easter stickers
44 Bloodhound’s clue
45 Put your feat in your mouth
46 Bar
48 Eye layer
49 Old card game
50 “I’m all —”
53 Siesta

DOWN

1 Emblem on Canada’s flag
2 Dermatologist’s case
3 Roe source
4 Wise lawgiver
5 Spots
6 Pismire
7 Use a loom
8 Stabs
9 Curse
10 Mislay

Solution time: 21 mins.

OFF ABC BULB
POLO BAH OREO
EWER ANI UNIT
CLEAN GLEN
NIP INTOTO
GARGLED SYRUP
AGEE GUM HEBE
BRACE DEFUSED
SAMOAN WAN
UTAH STARK
AMEN SUM EVEN
SORT AGE RIDE
SWAY LEG DOE

Yesterday’s answer 3-4

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			