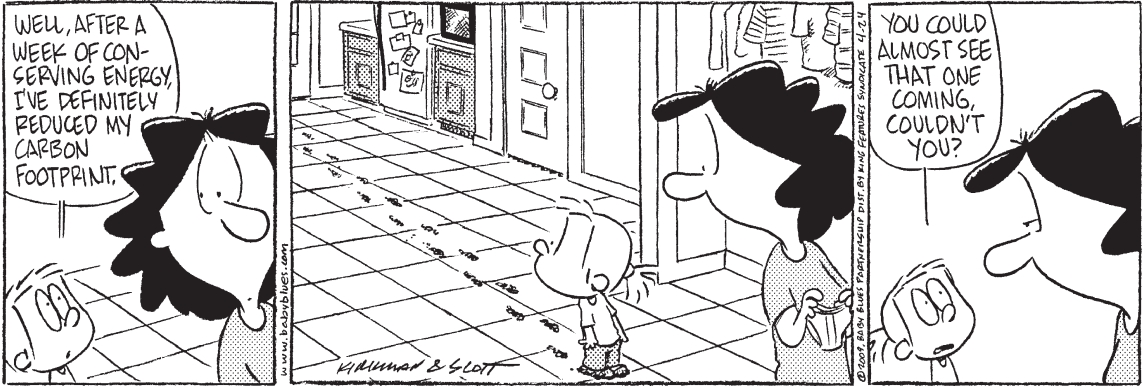
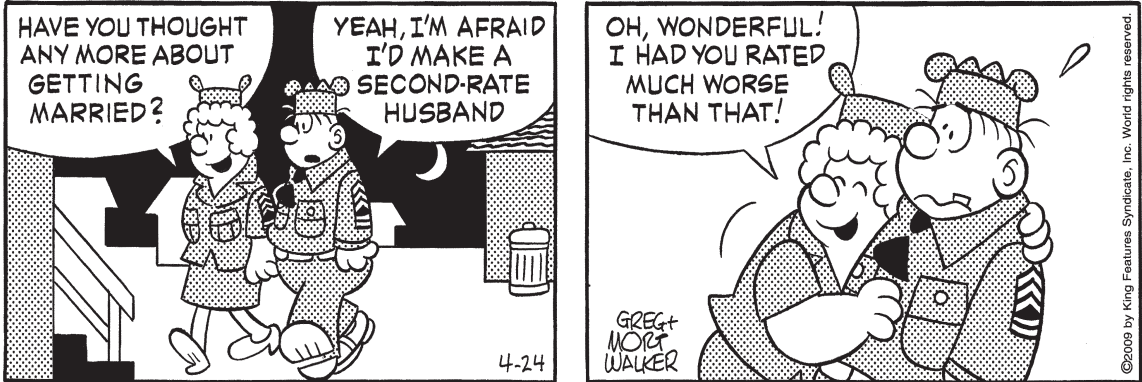


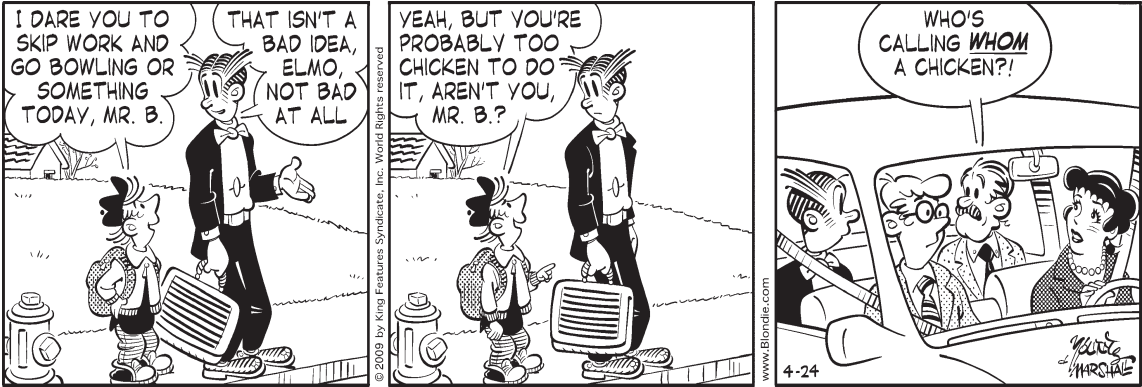
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



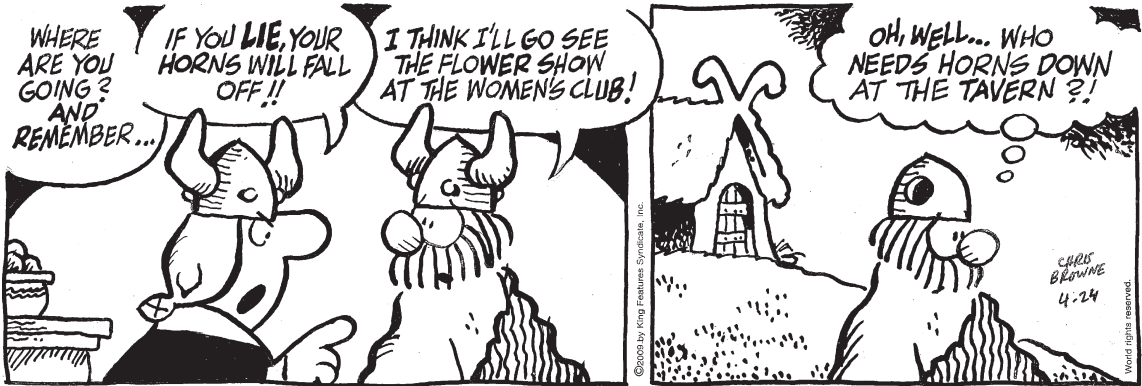
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young



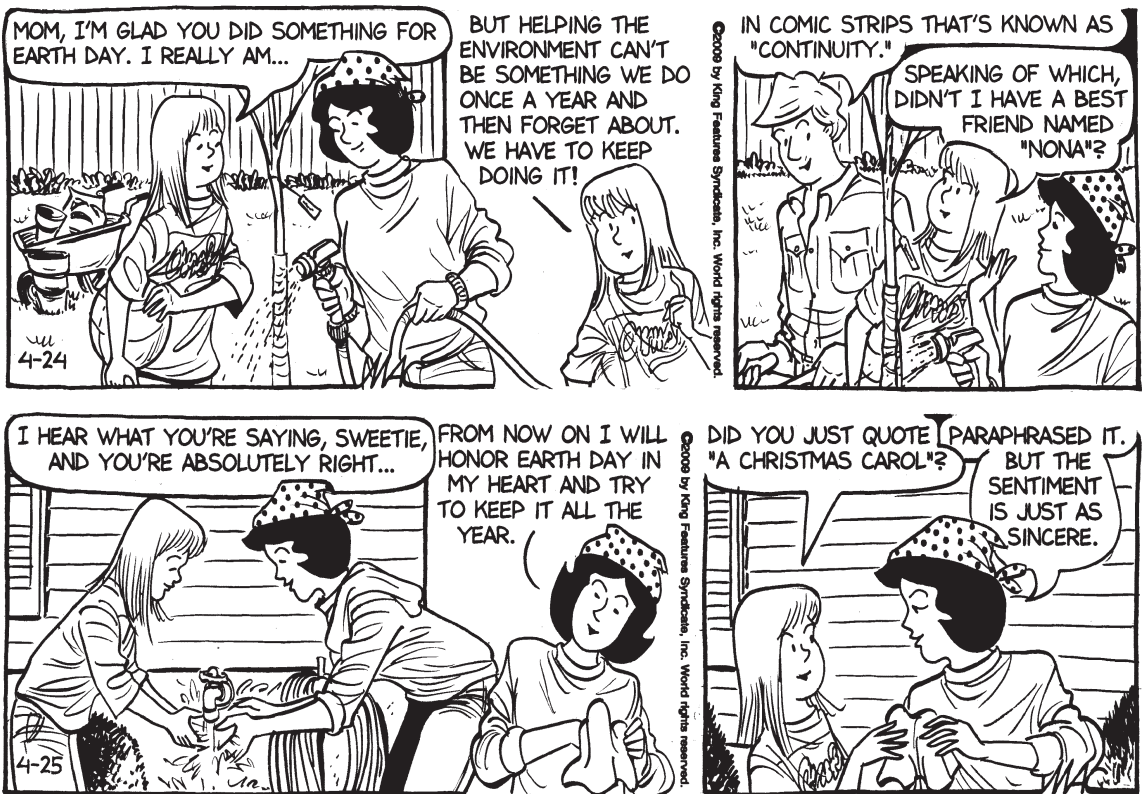
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise

- Hints from Heloise

Vinegar helps clean stains in toilet bowls

Dear Heloise: I have a dark stain inside the TOILET BOWL at the waterline. Any hints on removing it once and for all? – Barbara, Houston

It could be mold or mildew that forms, especially in humid conditions like Houston! One hint: Pour several cups of full-strength white or apple-cider vinegar into the bowl. Let stand for five to 10 minutes, then scrub and flush. Still there? Remove the water from the bowl (turn off the water valve to the tank and flush until the bowl is empty). Place toilet paper around the bowl, saturate with vinegar and let soak for a while, rewetting several times. Then, scrub with a plastic brush – do not use anything that will scratch.

If the stain remains, you may need to use a commercial toilet-bowl cleaner. Some have warnings to use only on white fixtures, since they can etch the colored ones. Be sure to read the labels carefully. – Heloise

P.S.: Scrub the toilet daily, or as often as possible (just brush, you don't need a cleaning agent), to help prevent buildup. It takes less than 30 seconds.

SPARKLING-CLEAN BATHROOM

Dear Heloise: My bathroom stays sparkling clean because I clean it daily, and it's easy. At night when I take a bubble bath, I lay a clean washcloth by the tub to wash the surface and fixtures. After I finish my nightly routine, that same washcloth is used to clean the vanity top. The next day, after I have done my morning routine and put on my makeup, I use a microfiber cloth to clean the vanity, fixtures and mirrors. It only takes a few minutes, and my bathroom is always clean and fresh. – Barbarann Mills, Manvel, Texas

TRAVEL HINT

Dear Heloise: To quickly identify my "same as everybody else's" black luggage during air travel, I applied 1-inch-wide duct tape to my luggage in my own unique pattern. It was easily spotted on the carousel. – Norma Bolinger, Gentry, Ark.

CHANGING A BABY

Dear Heloise: I just wanted to say, I love your column. I read it in The Peterborough Examiner in Canada.

As a mother of three, I am always trying to save time. One helpful hint is when I am changing the baby, she often tries to toss and turn and pull at the changing-pad cover. I use a pillowcase on the changing pad and sometimes throw an old burp pad on top. Instead of changing the pillowcase, I would launder the old burp pad (or old receiving blanket). – Page, Peterborough, Ontario, Canada (c)2009 by King Features Syndicate Inc.

Bridge • Steve Becker

Your partner opens One Diamond, and the next player doubles. Both sides are vulnerable. What action would you take with each of the following four hands? 1. ♠KJ863 ♥AQ97 ♦Q5 ♣84 2. ♠K74 ♥Q64 ♦873 ♣QJ62 3. ♠52 ♥KJ873 ♦A9642 ♣7 4. ♠KJ96 ♥Q852 ♦J ♣9863

Bidding Quiz

1. Redouble. Action over a takeout double usually takes one of three forms. A pass normally indicates a poor hand, or one where there is no particularly good reason to bid; bidding a new suit shows a hand between five and nine high-card points where it seems desirable to mention the suit; a redouble announces a hand containing at least 10 high-card points.

The redouble says nothing about the distributional nature of the responder's hand. The redoubler may or may not have support for opener's suit. One possibility is that the best result may be achieved by doubling the opponents when they remove the redouble to another contract.

For this reason, the opening bidder usually passes at his next turn to allow the redoubler the opportunity to double whatever suit the opponents name. In the given case, you plan to double either one heart or one spade at your next turn, and to bid two spades (forcing) if the opposition bids clubs.

2. One notrump. Unless you apprise partner of your high-card strength and balanced distribution at this point, it may become awkward later on for you to enter the bidding conveniently. One notrump informs partner that you have scattered values so that he may continue to compete as his hand dictates. The notrump bid over the double shows six to nine high-card points.

3. One heart. Counting distribution, your hand is surely worth 10 points, but distributional points are not included in a redouble. As regards which suit to bid, it is much more advisable to bid hearts now and show your diamond support later, since you would prefer to end up in hearts if partner can support that suit.

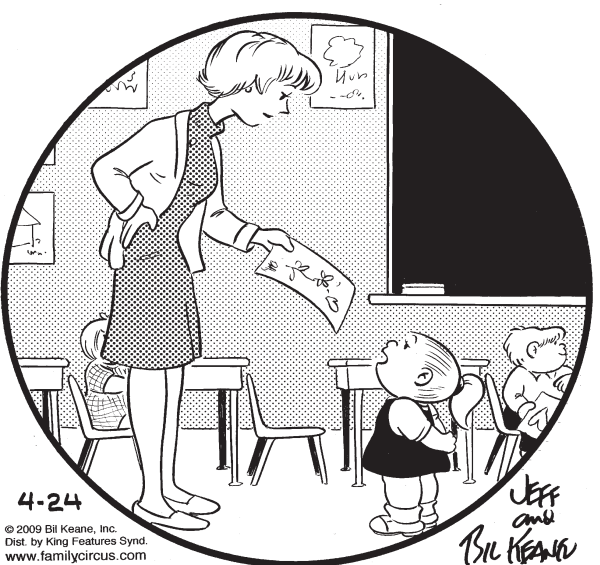
Then too, given your shortness in the black suits, the bidding is likely to become very spirited, and your side will be better placed if you get your heart suit in now before supporting diamonds later (if partner does not support hearts).

4. Pass. There is no need to panic because of your singleton diamond. The odds are great that the next player will respond to his partner's double by bidding a suit or one notrump. Even if he passes instead, expecting to defeat one diamond doubled, your partner still has a chance to rescue himself if he is unhappy with that contract.

A one-notrump bid would be incorrect, as it would serve to rescue the opposition, who are likely to wind up playing in one of your four-card suits.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

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

Cryptoquip

WS TQZJ SYW VDS ISYBJ

LZQW WDG KGCW CSILBQLG

CDSG TSE KXKQGC, VG

CWXEWGJ X KSSWGG ISZWGCW.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: MOVIE IN WHICH A GROUP DEVELOPS ALMOST A DOZEN NEW MOISTURIZING CREAMS: "LOTIONS ELEVEN."

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: W equals T

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	43 Squid squirt	2 Corn spike	22 Islander's strings
1 Transfer	44 Mysterious character	3 Animal	24 Calendar abbr.
6 Decorate Easter eggs	45 Disinclined to brag	4 Winglike	26 Thingie
9 Stannum	47 Sparkle	5 Hammerstein's contribution	28 Amalgamated
12 Not just prompt	49 Theme	6 Senility	30 Exist
13 "Alley —"	52 Einstein's birthplace	7 Long, mournful wail	32 Not one to see it through
14 Pindaric piece	53 \$ dispenser	8 Beside (Pref.)	33 Grecian vessel
15 Pipe type	54 Met show	9 Carried	34 Wapiti
16 Chirp	55 Storm center	10 Perfect	36 Tempestuous
18 Clan-related	56 Kid's question	11 Square	38 Battle verbally
20 Peruse	57 Vestige	17 Catastrophic	39 In a boring way
21 However		19 Authoritative text	40 "Pokemon" genre
23 Smoke, for short		21 Merit-badge org.	42 Showroom samples
24 With fervor			45 Part of SMU (Abbr.)
25 Twist out of shape			46 Erstwhile frosh
27 Confuse			48 Spotted, to Twenty
29 "Rabbit ears"			50 Rage
31 Unparalleled			51 Craze
35 Frock			
37 Ringlet			
38 Proverb			
41 Turner or Williams			

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				

Yesterday's answer 4-24