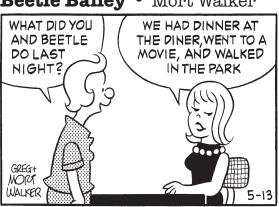
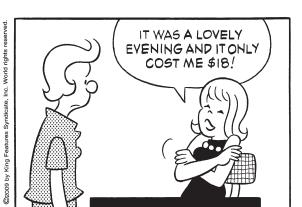
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker





Blondie • Chic Young







Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters

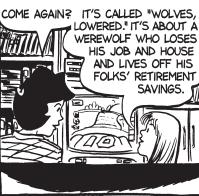


Sally Forth • Greg Howard

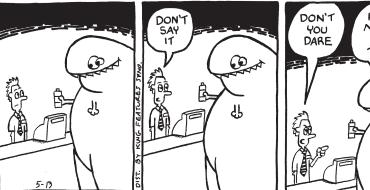








Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts

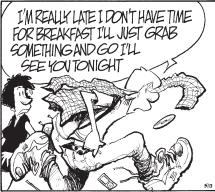








Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



7 comics CFP 5-13-09.indd







Heloise

Hints from Heloise

Remember this soup recipe?

Dear Heloise: I read your column every day and have gotten many good hints as well as favorite recipes. Am I correct in thinking you once printed a recipe for a SOUP MIX using packaged dry milk, herbs and spices, and perhaps cornstarch? I loved making and eating this soup, and now I have definitely lost the recipe. I would appreciate a reprint - if you could. Thank you. - A Faithful Reader in Billings, Mont.

You have a really good memory. You remembered most all of the ingredients. This does make a base for cream soup. You can change the type of soup by adding a main ingredient like mushrooms or chicken. Here's the recipe:

- 1 cup nonfat dried milk powder
- 1 tablespoon dried onion flakes
- 2 tablespoons cornstarch
- 2 tablespoons chicken bouillon powder 1/2 teaspoon dried basil, crushed
- 1/2 teaspoon dried thyme, crushed
- 1/4 teaspoon black pepper

Mix all the ingredients and store in an airtight container. Makes 4 to 6 cups, depending on serv-

When you're ready to make the soup, put 2 cups water and the soup mix in a large saucepan and cook over medium heat, stirring constantly until thick. Add the main ingredient of your choice and cook until done. If the soup is too thick, add more water. Season to taste. Enjoy! - Heloise

HELOISE SUBSTITUTE

Dear Readers: If your recipe calls for liquor and you don't have any on hand, here are a few substitutes you can use:

- 1 or 2 tablespoons of alcohol in a recipe usually can be omitted. If it calls for more than 2 tablespoons of alcohol, another liquid substitute is needed, or else the recipe may be too dry. Use chicken broth for white wine in savory recipes.
- A fruity or dessert recipe substitute can be apple, pineapple or orange juice.
- Nonalcoholic beer and wine may be used. • A few drops of rum or brandy extract can be
- added to enough water to equal the amount of alcohol called for in the recipe. - Heloise

HANDY HASH BROWNS

Dear Heloise: I've discovered a quick way to water and microwave for about five minutes or until tender. In the meantime, I saute onions and garlic until tender. Then I drain potatoes and brown them with the onions. - Joyce, Vienna, W.Va.

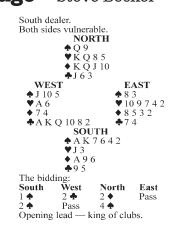
PEANUT-BUTTER COOKIES

Dear Heloise: Peanut-butter cookies are the favorite at our house! I always used a fork to press down the dough into a crisscross pattern and then sprinkled the flattened cookies with sugar.

I found that a potato masher works better! I slightly wet the masher, dip it in granulated sugar and then press down the cookie dough. The sugar is left on the dough, and they are ready for the oven. It works great, and the cookies turn out delicious! - Brenda Graboski, New Braunfels, Texas

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Bridge • Steve Becker



A Low Blow

Anyone can take tricks with aces and kings; the real challenge in bridge lies in taking tricks with the lower-ranking soldiers of the game.

Consider this deal where declarer reached four spades on the bidding shown. West started with the K-Q-A of clubs, South ruffing the third club as East discarded a heart. Declarer drew trumps, lost a heart to the ace and made 10 tricks without even breathing hard.

The outcome seems normal, but the fact is that declarer should have gone down one. Better defense would have stopped the contract.

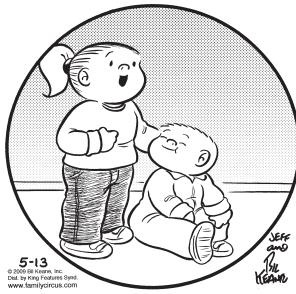
West can deduce, after seeing dummy at trick one, that South has the A-K of spades and the ace of diamonds for his opening bid. He also can deduce, after the queen of clubs wins at trick two, that the only chance for the defense lies in developing a trump trick for his side that does not exist naturally.

With this in view, West should lead a low club at trick three, instead of continuing with the ace. As it happens, East is able to ruff dummy's jack of clubs with the eight of spades, after which South must go down one, whatever he does. Declarer's best play is to overruff, hoping the remaining trumps are divided 2-2, but when West turns up with the J-10-x, a trump trick must be lost.

Note that West does not lead the K-A and a low club, as East might make the mistake of ruffing low, thinking South has the queen of clubs. Instead, West leads the K-Q of clubs to show that he has the ace, then continues with a low club in order to emphasize the importance to East of ruffing with his highest trump.

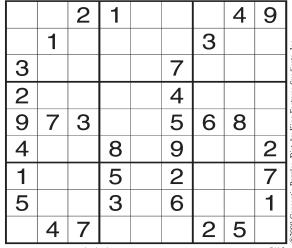
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Family Circus • Bil Keane



"I'm glad we have PJ! It's nice to have a little kid around."

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★★★

This is a logic-based number placement puzzle. The goal is to enter a num-

ber, 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

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9 2 5 4 8 6 1 7 3

7 3 1 5 9 2 8 4 6

4 6 8 7 1 3 2 5 9

Cryptoquip

Sudoku puzzle is at right.

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H M M N

WMK UJREF BSW FELW VLSX 👁

S BFXJNJZR XLBLUVHSZYL.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN FASHION MAVEN COCO WAS RIDING SOME WAVES, I GUESS YOU COULD SAY SHE WAS CHANEL-SURFING.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: W equals Y

50 Means of 7 Love not 28 Reveal

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

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Yesterday's answer 5-13

54 Stick

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