

Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott

6 Things You learn AFTER you have KIDS...

WHAT DID YOU AND MISS BUXLEY DO LAST NIGHT?

NOTHING MUCH, WE WATCHED TV, ATE SNACKS, TALKED...

COME ON, DON'T GIVE US THAT STUFF...

IF YOU DIDN'T DO ANYTHING INTERESTING, MAKE SOMETHING UP!

3. Free time is anything but that.

Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker

WHAT DID YOU AND MISS BUXLEY DO LAST NIGHT?

NOTHING MUCH, WE WATCHED TV, ATE SNACKS, TALKED...

COME ON, DON'T GIVE US THAT STUFF...

IF YOU DIDN'T DO ANYTHING INTERESTING, MAKE SOMETHING UP!

Blondie • Chic Young

KIDS ARE SINGING MEAN SONGS ABOUT MY FRIEND SARA AND ME, MR. B...

WHAT KIND OF MEAN SONGS?

SARA AND ELMO SITTING IN A TREE T-E-X-T-I-N-G

YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING!

IT'S TOUGH BEING A KID THESE DAYS, MR. B.

Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne

I'LL HAVE A BOWL OF VEGETABLE SOUP

YES, SIR!

AND HOLD THE VEGETABLES

I'M NOT FOND OF VEGETABLES!

Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters

RALPH, YOU CAN'T JUST LEAVE ME HERE WHILE YOU GO OUT, YOU NEED ME.

GLENDA, UM...

YOU WON'T ANSWER MY CALLS! YOU CHANGED YOUR NUMBER!

YOU'RE STARTING TO SOUND LIKE THAT CRAZY LADY IN FATAL ATTRACTION

I WON'T BE IGNORED, I WON'T BE IGNORED.

MAYBE I'LL JUST GO OUTSIDE.

Sally Forth • Greg Howard

YOU PLAYED GREAT TODAY, HIL! YOU TOO, FAYE!

BUT DOESN'T IT BOTHER YOU WE'VE LOST EVERY GAME SO FAR?

WHY WOULD IT?

BECAUSE YOU USED TO SCREAM BLOODY MURDER EVERY TIME WE DIDN'T HIT A HOME RUN.

PEOPLE CHANGE, HIL. SO DO THEIR MEDICATIONS.

IT REALLY DOESN'T BOTHER YOU THAT WE'VE LOST EVERY GAME SO FAR, DAD?

LOSING BUILDS CHARACTER, SWEETIE.

BUT WOULDN'T IT BE FUN TO WIN ONCE?

VICTORY COMES FROM TRYING. SATISFACTION COMES FROM EFFORT. JOY COMES FROM TEAMWORK.

IT'S LIKE TRYING TO DEPROGRAM A CULT MEMBER.

THEN MAYBE I SHOULD TALK TO THE CULT LEADER — A.K.A. MOM.

Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts

SNIFF SNIFF HEY, DO YOU SMELL THAT? STOP THE CAR!!

SORRY. THERE WERE TWO AND A HALF FRENCH FRIES IN THE REAR FLOORBOARD. AHH, 1999! THAT WAS A GREAT VINTAGE!

BLECH

Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott

MOM! WHY DO YOU HAVE TO TELL ME EVERY SINGLE DETAIL OF EVERY SINGLE THOUGHT ON EVERY SINGLE SUBJECT IN YOUR MIND?

I'M NOT.

BELIEVE ME, YOU'RE ONLY GETTING THE BULLET POINTS.

O'HARE, ATLANTA AND HEATHROW ALL IN ONE SKULL.

YUP. LOTTA TRAFFIC UP THERE.

Heloise

Hints from Heloise

Bootleg beans back for summer

Dear Heloise: Can you please print your BAKED-BEAN RECIPE? I used to have it, but I have lost it. Thanks! — Anna V., via e-mail

You will love this tasty Heloise's Bootleg Beans recipe. This is a great recipe, especially with the cookout and barbecue season right around the corner. So here it is. Enjoy! You will need:

- 3 strips bacon, fried and diced
- 1 small chopped onion
- 1 can pork and beans in tomato sauce
- 1 tablespoon brown sugar
- 2 to 3 tablespoons ketchup

Fry the bacon until crisp, then cook the chopped onion in the bacon grease until it is brown. Pour off most of the grease and add the beans, brown sugar and ketchup. Stir well, cover and simmer slowly for a few minutes. You also can bake this dish in a 300-degree oven for about an hour.

This dish goes well with any kind of barbecue, as well as hamburgers and hot dogs. — Heloise

WASHING DISHES

Dear Heloise: I am a single person and have so few dishes that I don't want to use the amount of soap and water needed to run the dishwasher. I find it convenient to keep dish soap in a small dispenser bottle at the sink to use for just a few dishes. I keep a small drainer for clean dishes. This saves the use of a huge amount of water. — Virginia Pannkoek, Prescott, Ariz.

PICKLED GREEN BEANS

Dear Heloise: A great way to make pickled green beans is to put them in the juice that is left in a sweet-pickle jar. Just put in a can's worth of green beans, leave them for a couple of days and you will have delicious pickled beans. It's great, and you can use the juice again if you want. — A.K., Vienna, Ohio

This does make a tasty treat. You also can add canned beets, sliced carrots and celery. Be sure to drain the canned vegetables before putting them in the pickle juice.

I also sometimes add fresh sliced carrots to a jar of marinated garden veggies, and in a few days they are ready to eat. — Heloise

COLORS SUGAR

Dear Readers: Did you know that you can make colored sugar by putting 1 cup of granulated sugar into a glass bowl or measuring cup and adding a few drops of food coloring? Stir and stir to mix the color in. If you want a darker color, add another drop of food coloring. After the sugar has dried, store it in a shaker bottle to use for decorating cookies or cakes. — Heloise

SPILLED JUICE

Dear Heloise: I was having trouble getting some sticky spilled juice cleaned up in my refrigerator. The wet rags and paper towels just smeared the mess around. I put wet towels in the microwave for a couple of seconds, and they removed the spill easily. — Candace Rutherford, Montgomery, Ala.

Family Circus • Bil Keane

5-20

© 2009 Bil Keane, Inc. Dist. by King Features Synd. www.familycircus.com

"Here comes a customer, Mommy! Are we open for business?"

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★ ★

5/20

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

Difficulty Level ★

Cryptoquip

ISMP Q RQXCMJ MRYWEGMM

OV NMXG V COWWMH QJ

IEXCOPF ZSMZCETJ, O FTMVV

SM OV ZETPJMXYXEHTZJONM.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN A MARKET EMPLOYEE IS VERY SKILLED AT WORKING CHECKOUT, I GUESS HE IS COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: V equals S

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Bottle-nose kin

5 Winter ailment

8 Reed instrument

12 LummoX

13 — relief

14 Industrial region of Germany

15 Household arachnid

17 Actress Argento

18 Old photo shade

19 Copies

21 Skin abnormality

24 Vast expanse

25 North American peninsula, for short

28 Persia, now

30 Prized possession

33 Ostrich's cousin

34 Pizza dough

35 Ms. Thurman

36 USO audience

37 For fear that

38 Call a halt to

39 Skater Babilonia

41 Racetrack "helper"

43 Not digital, as a watch

46 Expire, as a subscription

50 Mongolian desert

51 U.S. area where industry once thrived

54 Tel —

55 Cleo's slayer

56 Slender

57 Assess

58 Chesapeake, e.g.

59 Exile isle

DOWN

1 Auto-maker

2 Libertine

3 Point

4 Theseus' land

5 Grp. that caught Dillinger

6 Long. crosser

7 Second-hand

8 Speechify

9 Work really hard (for)

10 Columbus is there

11 History chapters

16 Has permission

20 "Money — everything"

22 Paddock

23 Have faith in

25 Plead

26 Parisian pal

27 Very slightly

29 Regarding

31 Comic Phillips

32 Chart

34 Advertising

38 Not wobbly

40 Breathing

42 Last (Abbr.)

43 Culture medium

44 PBS science show

45 Snatch

47 Rind

48 Thick chunk

49 Sicilian spouter

52 — Today

53 Agent

Solution time: 21 mins.

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | W | E | | S | H | O | N | E | | P | V | C |
| S | H | E | | T | O | N | A | L | | L | I | E |
| H | O | L | L | E | Y | W | O | O | D | | A | I |
| | | | I | L | L | | M | E | A | N | I | E |
| T | A | I | P | E | I | | I | S | N | T | | |
| E | L | F | | S | N | L | | T | I | F | F | S |
| D | U | E | S | | G | O | T | | S | O | O | N |
| S | M | E | L | T | | G | E | E | | O | B | I |
| | | L | T | A | | R | A | M | I | D | S | T |
| B | I | G | T | O | E | | C | B | S | | | |
| A | D | O | | I | N | T | H | E | M | O | O | D |
| L | E | O | | S | E | W | E | R | | D | U | O |
| D | A | D | | T | E | A | R | S | | E | R | R |

Yesterday's answer 5-20