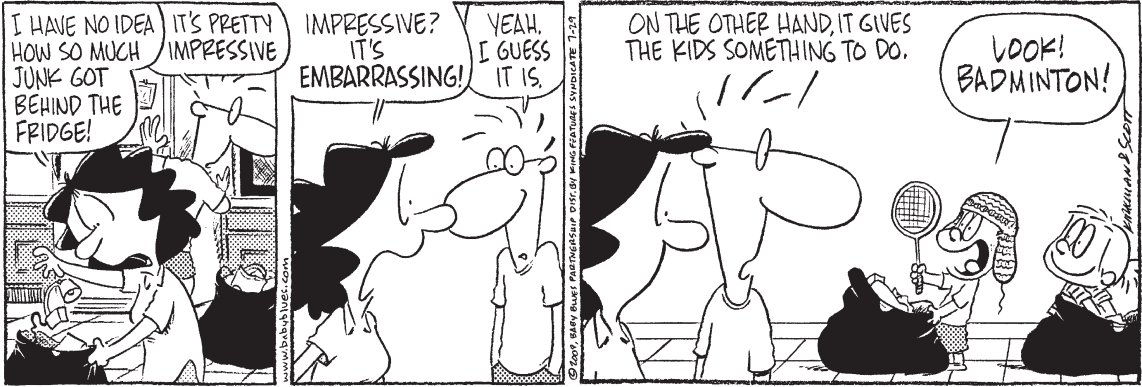
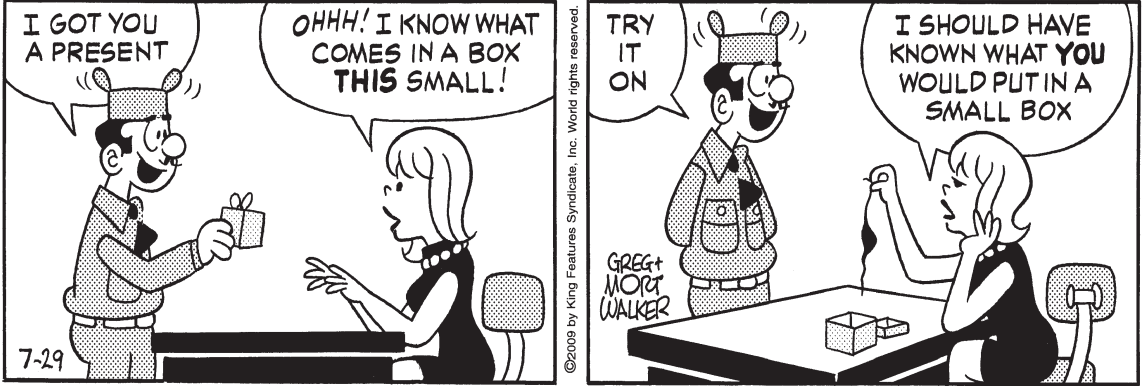


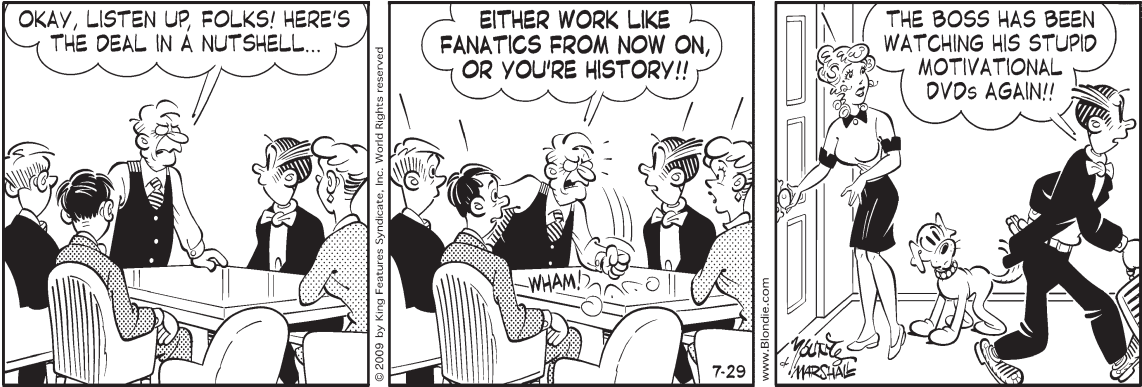
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



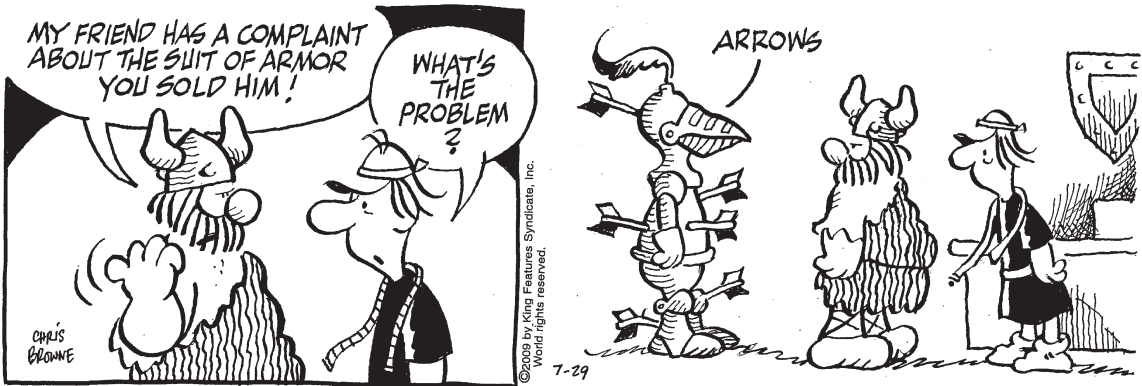
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



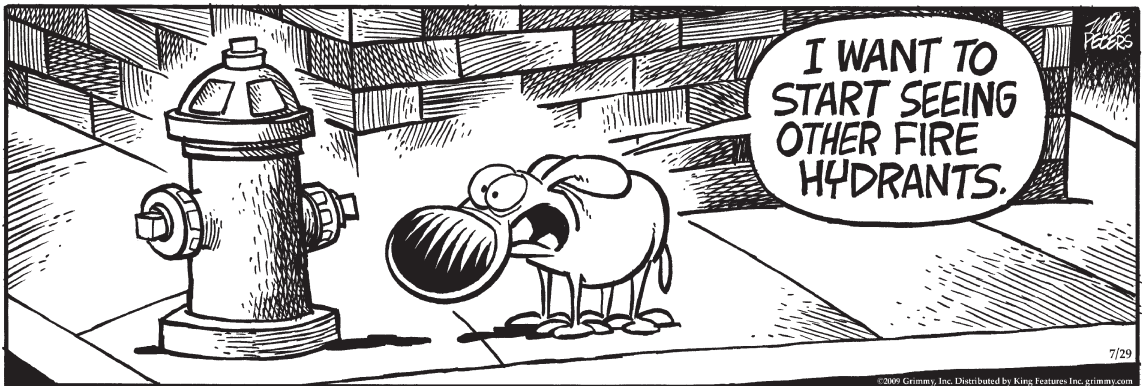
Blondie • Chic Young



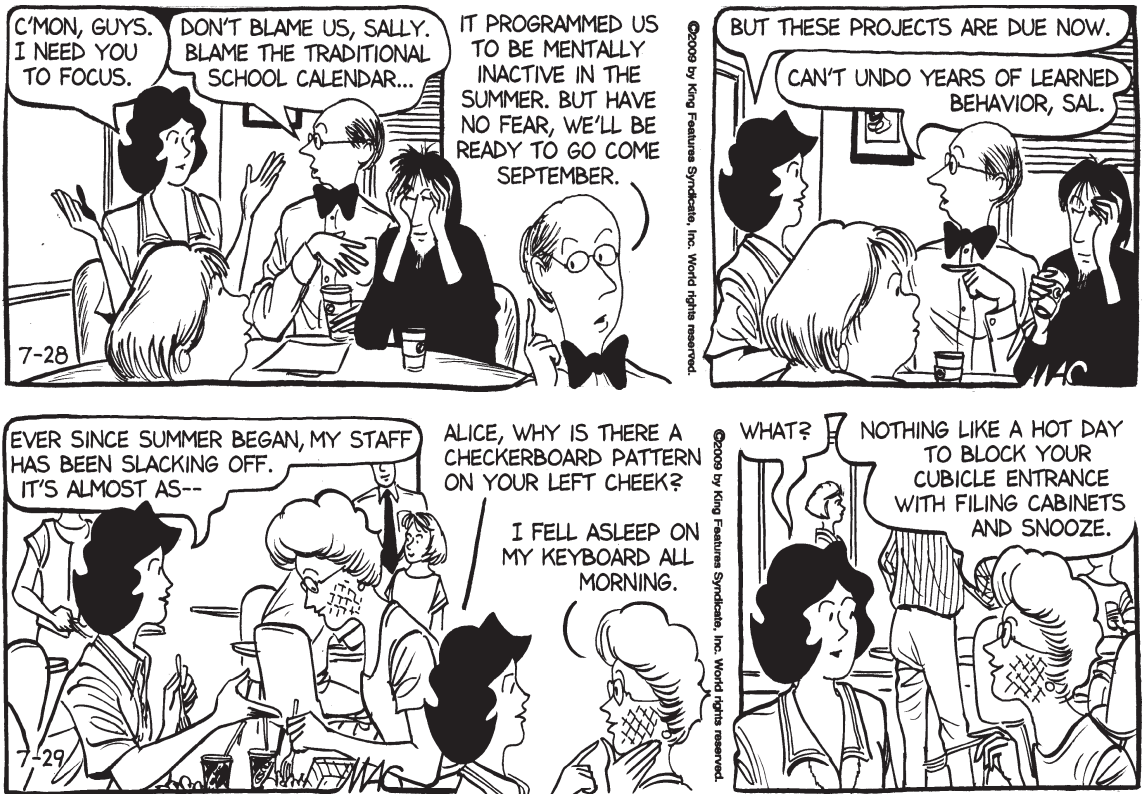
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



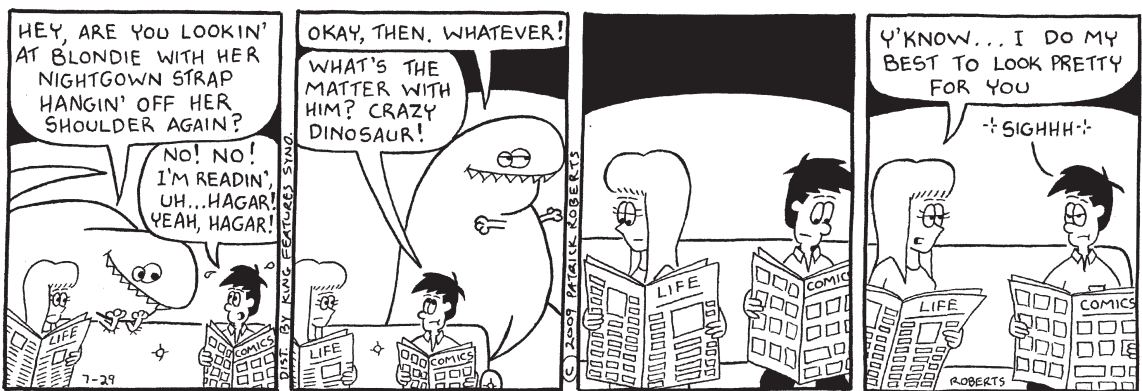
Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise

- Hints from Heloise

'Tis the season of salt substitute

Dear Heloise: My father wanted me to inquire about a previous article you had on a NO-SALT SEASONING SALT. Can you please reprint it? Thank you. – Jennifer, via e-mail

This often-asked-for salt substitute is flavorful and will help you cut back on salt and still be able to enjoy tasty foods. Note: It uses onion and garlic powders, not salts.

- 5 teaspoons onion powder
- 1 tablespoon garlic powder
- 1 tablespoon paprika
- 1 tablespoon dry mustard
- 1 teaspoon thyme
- 1/2 teaspoon white pepper (can use black)
- 1/2 teaspoon celery seeds

Mix the ingredients and store in a tightly covered, labeled container in a cool, dry place. Don't store this or any spices above the stove. They'll lose their zip. To make other mixes like Heloise's Seasoned Salt, Pumpkin Pie Spice or Spicy Salt-less Seasoning, send \$3 and a long, self-addressed, stamped (61 cents) envelope to: Heloise/SSS, Box 795001, San Antonio, TX 78279-5001. You will receive the four-page Heloise's Seasonings, Sauces and Substitutes pamphlet. Need a small amount of milk and there's none in the fridge? Don't fret. In a pinch, you can use coffee creamer that has been mixed with water. – Heloise

FRESH PEACHES

Dear Heloise: I recently purchased fresh peaches from my local orchard. I also got a hint that kept the peaches fresh for a week on my counter. I was told when storing peaches to not let them touch each other. When I got the peaches home, I placed them in a flat basket and surrounded each with a piece of paper towel. They remained juicy and were not bruised. I also was told not to refrigerate them unless they were very ripe.

I have been married 44 years, and I am still learning new hints. – Judy M., Mantua, Ohio

Farm-fresh peaches are a true delight! Eat them as soon as possible to savor the flavor. – Heloise

CLEAN GLASSWARE

Dear Heloise: I have some favorite drinking glasses my son sent me when he was overseas serving our country. They had become very foggy and ugly-looking. I couldn't seem to get them clean, and nobody wanted to use them, since they weren't very appealing.

Then I thought about good ol' vinegar, your and my favorite cleaner! So, I heated some plain household vinegar and used a nylon-net scrubbie, and scrubbed and scrubbed the glasses until they were clean! Then I washed and dried them, and they were sparkling! Give it a try – you won't believe it! – Brittany, via e-mail

MICROWAVE HEATING

Dear Heloise: When heating soup or anything in a bowl in a microwave, take a paper towel and wet the corners before placing it over the bowl to prevent it from dropping into the soup. – William D., Houston

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Bridge • Steve Becker

North dealer. Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
♦ 8 7 5
♥ A 9 2
♦ Q 8 4
♠ A K 8 2

WEST
♦ J 10 9 3
♥ 7 5
♦ A 6 3
♠ J 9 5 4

EAST
♦ K Q 2
♥ 6 4
♦ K 10 9 7 2
♠ Q 7 3

SOUTH
♦ A 6 4
♥ K Q J 10 8 3
♦ J 5
♠ 10 6

The bidding:
North 1♦ East 1♥ South 1♥ West Pass
1 NT Pass 4♥
Opening lead – ace of diamonds.

Topsy-Turvy

There are times when signals can have the reverse of their usual meaning. All it takes to decipher them is an alert partner and some straight-forward logic. For example, take this deal where West led the ace of diamonds against four hearts. East couldn't tell whether West had led from A-x, in which case he wanted the suit continued in order to give West a ruff, or whether West had led from A-x-x, in which case East would prefer a spade shift before dummy's queen of diamonds became established as a trick.

Quite correctly, though, East requested a continuation of the suit by playing the ten, on which South contributed the five.

West now donned his thinking cap. He realized that declarer had the jack of diamonds and that a diamond continuation could easily prove costly. He knew this because East would have signaled with the jack had he held the K-J-10, so East's play of the ten denied possession of the jack.

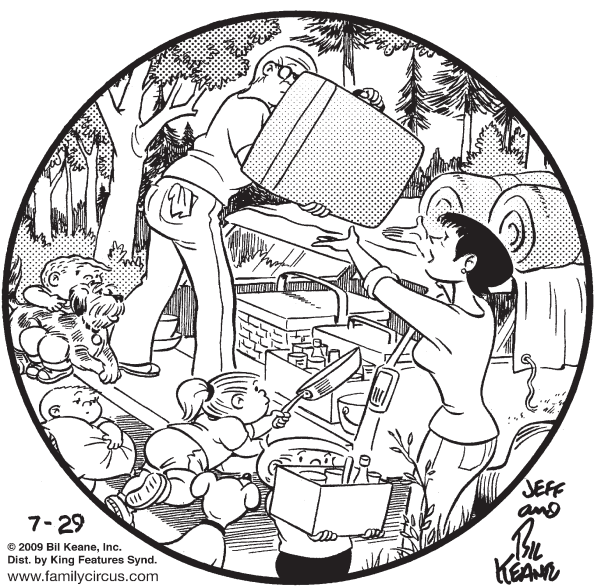
Accordingly, West switched to the spade jack, East playing the two and South the four. Ordinarily, the meaning of the deuce would be to stop playing the suit, but here East felt he couldn't spare a higher card.

When declarer ducked, West continued with the three, knowing full well that East had started with precisely the K-Q-2 and South the A-6-4. East could not have the K-Q-6-2, since he would have signaled with the six with that holding. Furthermore, West's lead of the three – his fourth-best spade – simultaneously told East that declarer had exactly three spades.

The effect of all these informative signals was that South eventually lost two spades and two diamonds to go down one. Had West unthinkingly led a second diamond at trick two in obedience to East's ten play, or had he discontinued spades after East's deuce play, declarer would have made the contract easily.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



"I'll take that. It's our first-aid equipment!"

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

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

Cryptoquip

S I L N Q F T Q H J S H X ' L

I S A N S V H R B F B G Z V Y N T K Q W Q

B S J Q H Q K , G V Y Z S X T N A R B B

S N F W S L N S H Q A T W S L N S H Q .

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I USED TO REALLY WANT TO BECOME A CHAMPION POKER PLAYER, BUT I RECKON IT WASN'T IN THE CARDS.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: G equals Y

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 1 Shell-game need 4 Whale group 7 Family 8 Less believable, as an excuse 10 With eyes wide open 11 Islands near Portugal 13 Government official 16 Links prop 17 Search 18 Cattle call? 19 Perry Mason portrayal 20 Ponce de — 21 Enticed 23 Clever 25 Spanish appetizer

26 De-bag the cat? 27 Perch 28 Baby's ailment 30 Commotion 33 Tina Turner hit 36 Injure 37 Doha's country 38 Knock — 39 Fairy tale preposition 40 Screw up 41 Always, in verse

DOWN 1 West Point 2 "My Name Is —" 3 It's nothing new 4 Stares old-style 5 Lifeless, old-style 6 TV mogul Griffin 7 Finger-print, often 8 "Star Wars" weapon 9 Hole-shaping tool 10 Suitable 12 Beezer 14 It gets in the whey 15 Heavy weight 19 Underwear with underwire 20 Science workshop 21 Dens 22 Increase 23 Lost traction 24 Rhesus monkey 25 1/6 fl. oz. 26 Run, as colors 28 Supply the food 29 Different 30 Thespian 31 Campus bigwig 32 Bobby of hockey 34 Barn-roof attachment 35 Scruff

Solution time: 21 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 7-29

