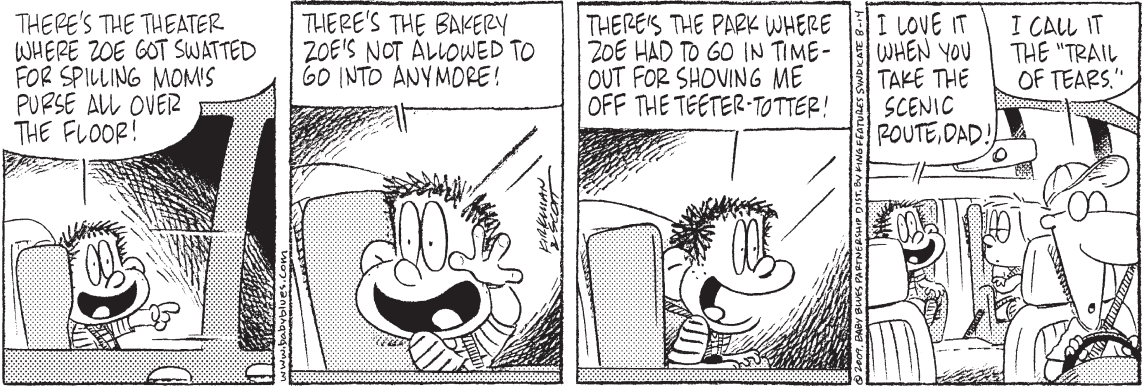


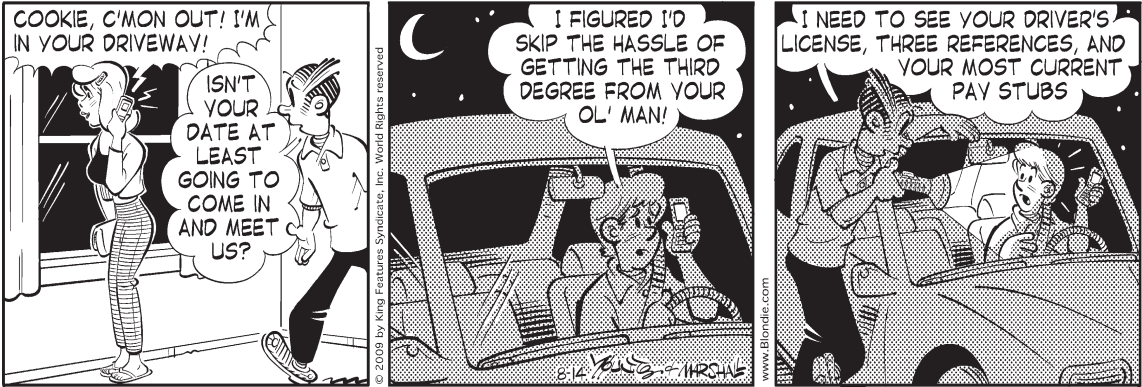
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



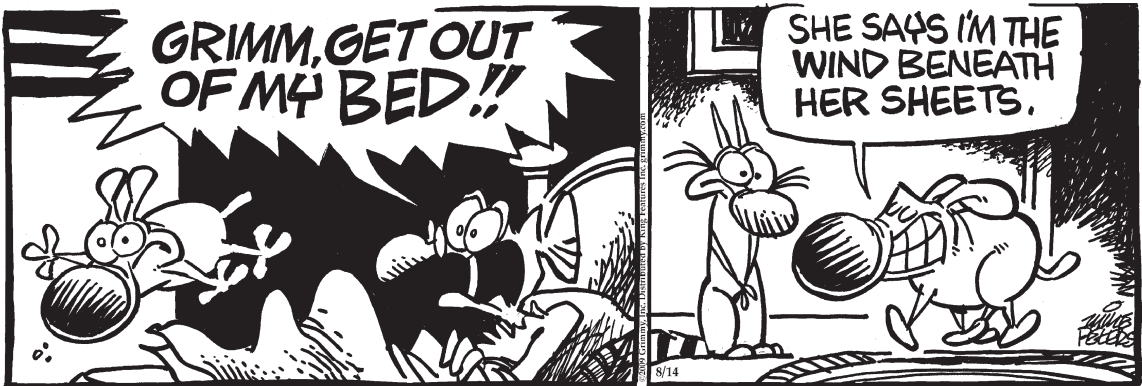
Blondie • Chic Young



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 a brush with disposal

Dear Heloise: I read a hint about using a toilet-bowl brush (a brand-new one! – Heloise) to CLEAN THE GARBAGE DISPOSAL. I purchased an inexpensive cylindrical brush immediately. The disposal odor had really bothered me! I just wanted to see if the brush would fit, so without further ado, I tried it, and a lot of nasty brown stuff came out, all over me, the sink, etc. Then I read the instructions, and after cleaning myself and the sink, I followed the instructions exactly, and now I have a sweet-smelling garbage disposal. Thank you so much. – Sheila Dwyer, Fort Wayne, Ind.

You are welcome! This really does clean the disposal. For those who might have missed the hint, here’s how you do it safely:

- Start by running hot water into the sink.
- Rub a few drops of dishwashing detergent on the brush.
- Brush up, down and around to loosen food bits stuck under the rubber gasket. DO NOT pull the brush out suddenly toward your face!
- Rinse well and repeat as necessary.
- Pour some baking soda down the drain and let it sit until you use the sink next time.

– Heloise

TRAVEL HINT

Dear Heloise: When we travel, I always pack two small, inexpensive plastic bottles of hand soap with pump dispensers. When we get to our destination, I place one in the bathroom and one in the kitchen. No more messy counters. – Velma Stafford, Mount Holly, N.C.

WEEDKILLER

Dear Heloise: We have weeds in the cracks of our sidewalk. What household solution do you use to kill them? I enjoy your hints. -- Audrey W., via e-mail

This is a great time of year for getting after those pesky weeds. Try this: Sprinkle regular table salt into the crevices and wait for it to kill those weeds. Don’t get the salt on any other plants, as it will kill them as well. – Heloise

HAIR-SPRAY DEPOSITS

Dear Heloise: I read a letter in your column in which the writer couldn’t get hair-spray deposits off a painted chest. I’ve found that hair shampoo will remove hair spray from our bathroom door, combs and brushes. I guess if shampoo will take it off your hair, it will take hair spray off anything! I just put a little cheap shampoo on a wet cloth and scrub the surface of the door with it until the spray comes off. I get another clean, wet cloth and wipe the door until the shampoo lather is gone. – Cheryl Birdwell, Lorenzo, Texas

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Bridge • Steve Becker

You are South, both sides vulnerable. The bidding has been:

East	South	West	North
1 ♥	Pass	2 ♥	Pass
Pass	?		

What would you do now with each of the following four hands?

- ♠ KQ4 ♥ 9852 ♦ A93 ♣ QJ4
- ♠ J10763 ♥ 743 ♦ K9 ♣ AQ5
- ♠ Q862 ♥ 8 ♦ K974 ♣ AJ63
- ♠ AK5 ♥ KQ74 ♦ 5 ♣ 108632

Bidding Quiz

1. Double. In most deals, you can tell a lot about your partner’s hand simply by listening to the opponents’ bidding and looking at your own hand. In this case, for example, you know that partner is short in hearts, since you have four of them and both East and West have bid the suit. You also know that partner has some high-card values; otherwise, the opponents would not have stopped at two hearts.

So rather than give up at this point, you should double for takeout, knowing you are on relatively firm ground. The chances are that partner has a five-card suit, as well as a smattering of high cards. It would be wrong to pass and let the opponents make their partscore when there is an excellent chance your side can make one of your own.

2. Two spades. When you are in the balancing seat – that is, when the auction would be over if you passed – you sometimes have to make a bid that in another situation would be considered dangerous. With this hand, for example, it would be more dangerous to overcall East’s opening heart bid with one spade than to overcall West’s two-heart bid with two spades.

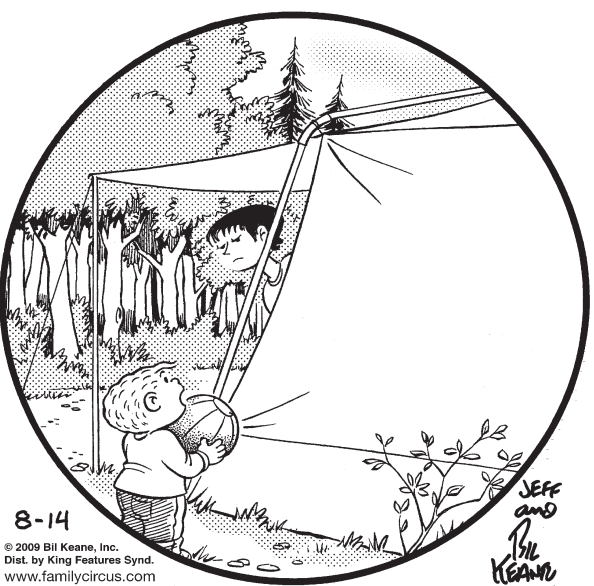
The reason – now that the opponents have stopped bidding at the two-level – is that you know partner has some high-card values and relatively few hearts. This increases the chance of his having spade support or some other long suit. You have to battle for partscores when the opponents have shown limited values.

3. Double. It’s best to compete here also, though you have only 10 points. The slight risk is worthwhile because you can’t afford to let the opponents waltz off with a partscore when there’s a reasonable prospect of your side making one. Partscores have much greater value than is generally realized, and letting the opponents steal them from you means a loss of roughly 300 points each time it happens.

4. Pass. Of course, there’s a limit to how far you can go when you’re in the balancing seat. Balancing has to be sensible – you must have a modicum of safety. It would be dangerous to double with this hand, since partner might respond in diamonds, and equally dangerous to overcall in clubs with such a shabby suit. The pass might easily work out best since, given your heart holding, there’s a reasonable chance that two hearts can be defeated.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



“I guess tents aren’t very good for throwing balls against.”

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

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.

Cryptoquip

H K N J U D X Q R L U D U N R
U I J U D B H R U I N P H R H R W Q R W,
R N D D Q L Z D N Z E X, L Q C O M B T N B
P N E U T H P N K H X X C D U P N R?
Yesterday’s Cryptoquip: WHEN MY BROKEN ARM HAD BEEN SET AT THE HOSPITAL, I DECIDED I’D LIKE TO THROW A CAST PARTY.
Today’s Cryptoquip Clue: K equals F

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Fry lightly

6 Meadow

9 Toper’s interruption

12 More detailed map

13 Rowing need

14 Fuss and feathers

15 Pacific island nation

16 He played Nero in “Quo Vadis”

18 Zealous

20 Onetime Clinton rival

21 4 qts.

23 Early bird?

24 Jack

25 They give a hoot

27 Bowling alley

29 Cactus also called mescal

31 “Swann’s Way” writer

DOWN

1 Clerical error?

2 Ivanovic of tennis

3 Pretty much

4 Virgin Islands, for ex.

5 Chopin piece

6 Waiting area

7 Right on the map

8 Illustrations

9 Vietnam city

10 Pedestal occupants

11 Break a Command-ment

17 “Likewise”

19 Heron’s cousin

21 Bush league? (Abbr.)

22 Shock partner

24 The girl

26 Lead-tin alloy used for joining

28 Lance

30 Leaves in hot water?

32 Vain

33 Crafty

34 Pirouette

36 Sort of dive

38 Grown-up nit

39 “Ghosts” playwright

40 Many are proper subjects

42 Vestige

45 Actress

46 H, H, H

48 Cushion

50 Salt Lake tribe member

51 Corral

Solution time: 25 mins.

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