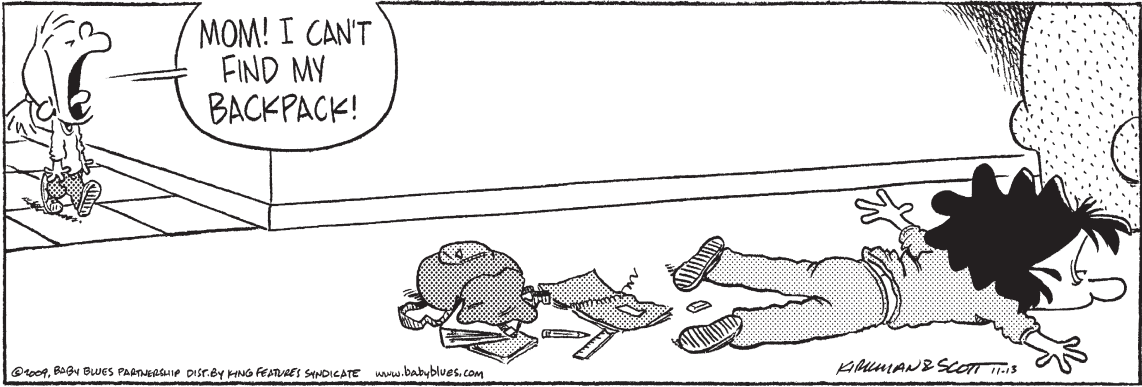
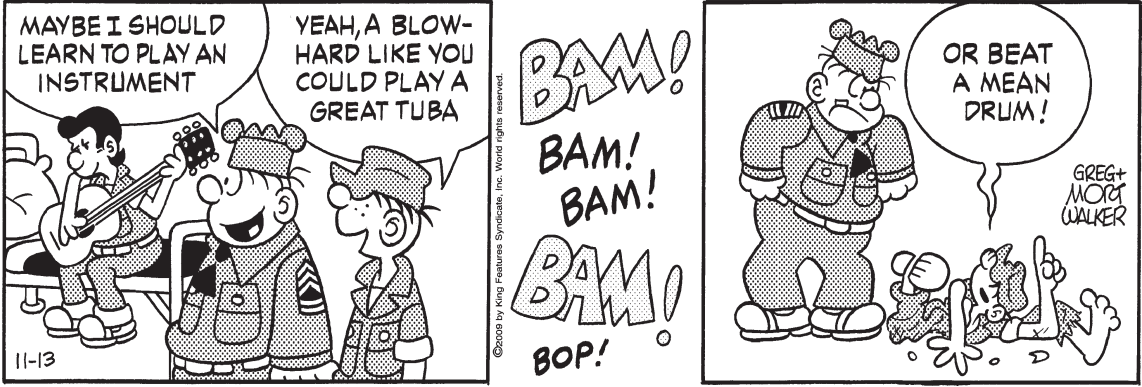


Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



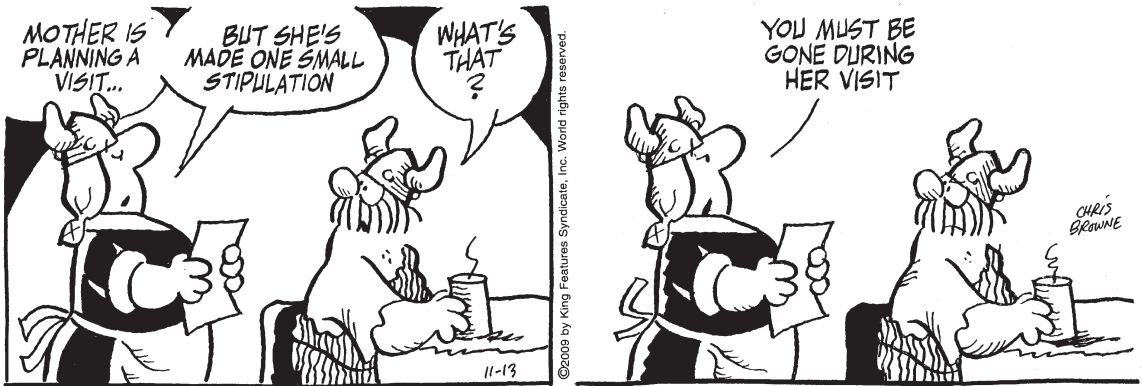
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young



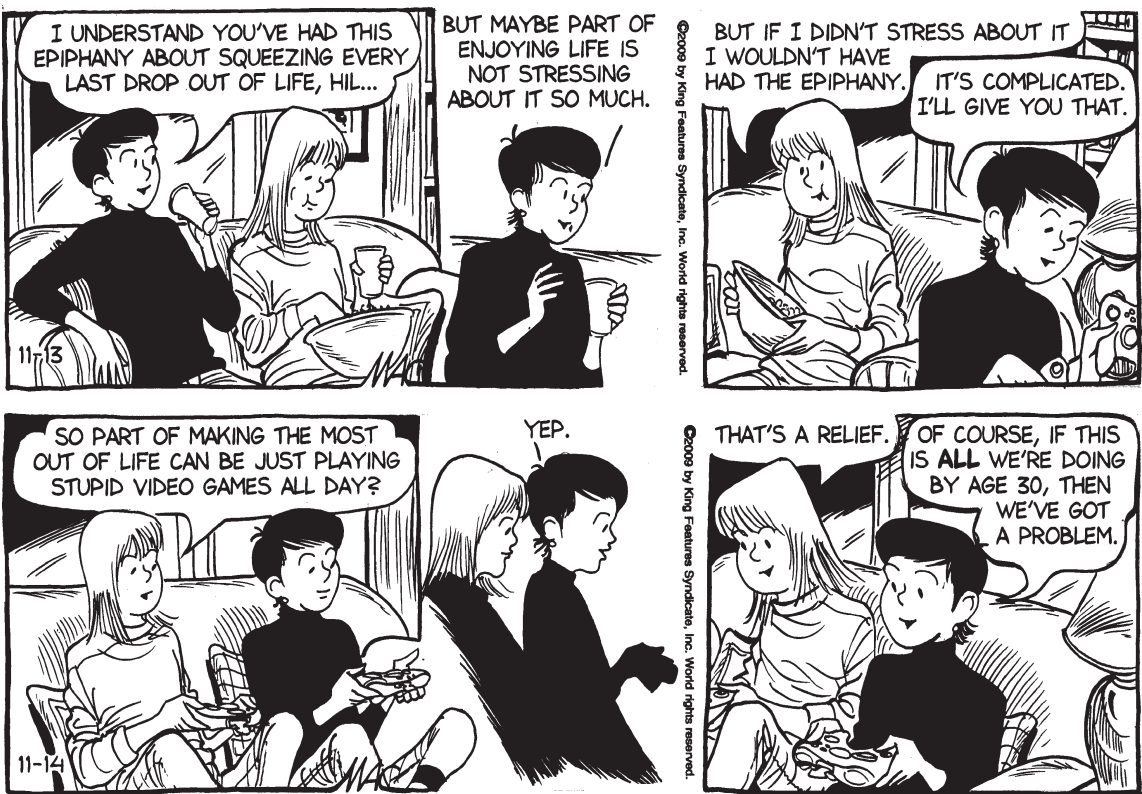
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise

- Hints from Heloise

Sidewalk sketch not permanent

Dear Heloise: I usually let my young children draw on the concrete sidewalk outside our house with sidewalk chalk. Well, the other day, without me knowing, they grabbed a bunch of PERMANENT MARKERS instead of chalk without my permission and drew on the sidewalk! Can you help? The homeowners association is having a fit! – Melissa H., San Antonio

Melissa, you're in luck! We printed the answer to your problem in my Good Housekeeping "Ask Heloise" column last year, and here it is:

First step: Wet the stain, then apply enough powdered or liquid dishwasher detergent (both of which contain bleach, as well as deep-cleaning agents) to cover. Scrub with a utility brush; let sit for 20 minutes or so; rinse or hose off. You might need to repeat. While cleaning, keep pets and kids away from the area. – Heloise

EASY REACH

Dear Heloise: Hang a corkboard with a notepad and pen or pencil in your laundry room for laundry notes (i.e., "hang all jeans," "don't put in dryer"). Also holds a list for the store – jot down products as you run out. – Vianne, via e-mail

HOME SICK

Dear Heloise: When my daughter was sick, I put a turntable on the nightstand next to her bed. It held medicines, tissues, water, alarm clock, remote control – anything she needed was within reach. – Amanda R., Colorado Springs, Colo.

SHOE ORGANIZATION

Dear Heloise: Keep shoes organized and your closet neater (if you have the space) by using the original shoe boxes. Store them on a shelf (stack upward for more storage) with a quick description written on the end facing you, or tape a picture of the shoes to the end of the box. Now, they are easy to find! – Ruth S., via fax

REFRIGERATOR STORAGE

Dear Readers: If you are planning to store a refrigerator or freezer for a short time, you MUST clean it thoroughly first. Then place fresh coffee grounds, baking soda or charcoal in a couple of old, clean socks and put them inside each compartment. This will help neutralize any stale odors while the unit is closed up. – Heloise

MUSTY VACUUM

Dear Heloise: Here is how I eliminated that musty, dusty smell from my vacuum cleaner: I added several whole cloves to the bag. It works great! – Linda Lou, Minneapolis

Linda, you also can put your favorite perfume on cotton balls and add them to the vacuum. The house will smell delicious! – Heloise

BOXED TISSUE

Dear Heloise: I keep a box of tissues on my sink vanity, and any spilled water would make it a soggy tissue mess. I turned the box upside down and put a pushpin in each corner. Now it has little feet that will keep it away from spills. Problem solved! – Bailey Jeanette in Texas

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Bridge • Steve Becker

1. You are declarer with the West hand at Seven Clubs, and North leads the jack of hearts. How would you play the hand?

West  
♠ A K 9 7  
♥ K 5  
♦ 10  
♣ A Q 10 9 4 3

East  
♠ J 10 8  
♥ A 6 3  
♦ A Q J 9  
♣ K J 5

2. You are declarer with the West hand at Four Spades. North leads the K-Q of diamonds and then the jack, which you ruff. You play the A-K of trumps, both opponents following suit. How would you continue?

West  
♠ K Q J 9 4  
♥ K 5  
♦ K J  
♣ Q 9 3 2

East  
♠ A 10 8 3  
♥ A 7  
♦ 10 6 2  
♣ A J 5 4

\*\*\*

Test Your Play

1. Win the heart lead with the king, draw all the missing trumps and cash the A-K of spades, hoping to catch the singleton or doubleton queen. If the queen does not fall, lead the ten of diamonds to the ace and return the queen from dummy, planning to discard a spade if South follows low. The overall chance of success with this method of play is about 60 percent.

If you were to stake the outcome strictly on either a finesse in spades or diamonds, you would have little more than a 50 percent chance for the grand slam.

Note that it is far better to play South for the king of diamonds than North. This is because you can trap South's hypothetical king regardless of how many diamonds he was dealt, while if you finessed successfully against North by overtaking the ten of diamonds with the jack, you could not catch his king (by cashing the ace and ruffing a diamond) if he started with more than three diamonds. With eight diamonds in the opposing hands, the chance of felling the king in this way is significantly against the odds.

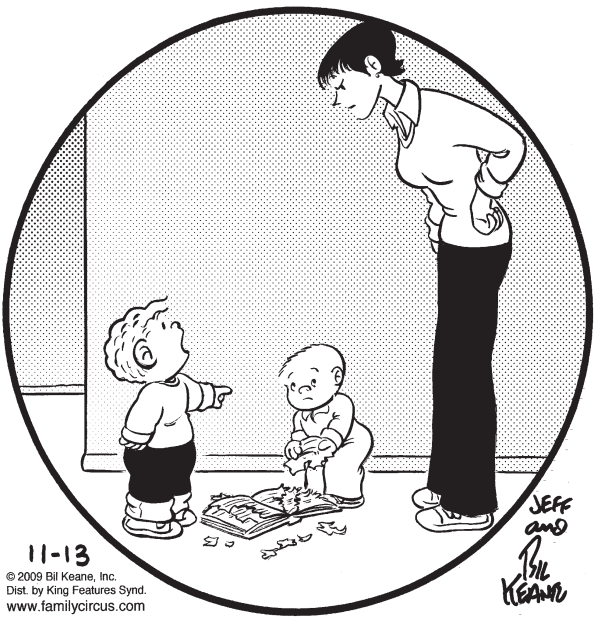
2. The only danger is the possibility of losing two club tricks. This can't happen if the adverse clubs are divided 3-2, so all your thoughts should be concentrated on dealing with a possible 4-1 or 5-0 club division.

To assure the contract, cash the A-K of hearts and lead a low club to dummy's jack. If South wins with the king, he must return a club or yield a ruff-and-discard. Either way, you're sure to score the rest of the tricks.

If dummy's jack wins the first club trick, you should next return a low club from dummy toward your remaining Q-9-3! If South shows out on the trick, you can play any club from your hand to assure the contract. North wins but is endplayed. If South follows suit on the second club lead, you are equally sure of losing no more than one club trick.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

11/13

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

Cryptoquip

TUJM PD MUF DCDMFL NVQ

VEFQSIJCPZK HSDMPX VZ

J X F Q M J P Z E V T F S ? M U F

H Q V X F D D V N F - S J L P Z J M P V Z .

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: THAT ARROGANT GUY WHO WAS WORKING ON ALL THOSE WATERTIGHT SEALS HAD SUCH A CAULK-Y ATTITUDE!

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: D equals S

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 1 Counselors' org. 4 Coral structure 8 Low range 12 Operate 13 Command to Rover 14 October birthstone 15 Owing 17 Hinge (on) 18 St. Francis' home 19 Mine cargo 21 Payable 22 Very popular 26 Incites 29 April payment 30 Spoonbender Geller 31 Earl Grey's family? 32 Clear the tables 33 Pleased 34 Blackbird 35 Send quickly

36 100 percent 37 Frank 39 — carte 40 "That tastes awful!" 41 Midnight rider 45 United nations 48 Bent over, as a page corner 50 Hawk-eye's home 51 Touch 52 Showbiz job 53 Air for a pair 54 Conks out 55 Inseparable base?

DOWN 1 Carreras solo 2 Burger joint 3 Picnic invaders 4 Macaque variety 5 Inducing goose-bumps 6 Preceding 7 Felt hats 8 Suffering ennui 9 Mimic 10 "My gal" of song 11 Crafty 16 Stashes 20 Mardi Gras VIP 23 Naval base? 24 Exam format 25 Neat 26 Hexagonal state 27 Former attorney general 28 Pace 29 Monkey suit 32 Tigris capital 33 Tropical fruit used for jelly 35 Visibility hindrance 36 Armadas 38 Theater ticket 39 Fight verbally 42 Therefore 43 Halter attachment 44 Advantage 45 "The Price Is Right" guess 46 "Skip to My —" 47 Have a bill 49 Japanese sash

Solution time: 25 mins.

Yesterdays answer 11-13

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	