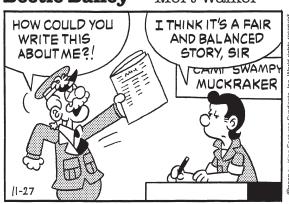
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker





Blondie • Chic Young







Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne





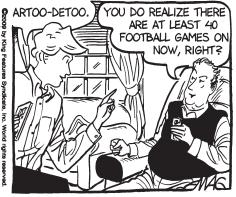


Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



Sally Forth • Greg Howard









Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts







Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



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Heloise

Hints from Heloise

Ballpoint ink a chore to get off

Dear Heloise: How do you get BALLPOINT INK off leather furniture without damaging the furniture? My grandson did a no-no! – A Reader, via e-mail.

Uh-oh! Poor fella! According to our experts at the Drycleaning and Laundry Institute, removing ink from leather furniture is not easy. Stain removers containing dry-cleaning solvent or alcohol might work, but could leave a ring or discolor the leather. You can try a little 70 percent rubbing alcohol on a cotton swab and gently dab at the stain. If you see ink come up, continue. When done, wipe with a damp cloth and let dry. Then use a little leather conditioner on the spot. It is probably best to call a leather-cleaning specialist. By the way, do not use hair spray to try to remove ink from leather. This could make the stain worse. - Heloise

UNDER-THE-SINK STORAGE

Dear Readers: Plastic dishpans or small wastebaskets make great under-the-sink storage organizers for cleaning supplies. You can slide them out when you need something, and they are easy to clean if something spills. - Heloise

COMPACT MIRROR

Dear Heloise: It's a shame to waste anything these days. So, the next time your compact is empty, snap off the mirrored part and decorate. It's a great project for the holidays. Just add some decorations to the mirror. Use as a spare or a Christmas ornament. - Melissa G. Pryor, Pearland, Texas

Something else you can decorate in a seasonal theme is a picture frame. They make great gifts, and you can personalize them, too. - Heloise

AIR FRESHENER

Dear Heloise: I have the greatest idea for both a better household air freshener and a moneysaving hint. Buy those air deodorizers for cars that are sold at auto-parts stores instead of the expensive ones that are plug-ins found at the supermarket. These cost less than \$3 for a package of six (packaged separately, too), and come in all shapes and scents. I put some vanilla ones in my bathrooms, and they are more effective than any other types I've used. They can be kept in the cellophane if found to be too strong, or placed in a drawer or cupboard (keep away from fabric, just in case). – Stacey in Maine

TRAVEL HINT

Dear Heloise: My travel hint: Get trip insurance! If you get a policy that covers lost luggage, be sure to make a list of the contents, and take photos, too, which will help prove any claim if you are unfortunate enough to need it. Make two copies of the list, and leave one at home and keep the other in your carry-on bag or purse. - M.W.,

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Courth

Bridge • Steve Becker

You are South. The bidding has gone:

north	East	South	vvest
1 •	Pass	1 🛧	Pass
2 ♥	Pass	?	
What	would	you bid	now with
		wing hand	
1. ♠ A	.Q84 ♥ I	X84 ♦ J73	♣ K62
2. 🛧 Q	8742 ♥	83 ♦ J54 •	₽ QJ6
3. ♠ K	9653 ♥	7 ♦ QJ82	♣ ŘJ3
4. 🛧 A	J985 ♥ 1	KO63 ♦ 6	♣ A84

Bidding Quiz

1. Three notrump. There is a good chance for a small slam, but you have nothing better to do at the moment than leap to three notrump. Partner clearly has a better-than-average opening hand (17 points or more), since he bid his touching suits in reverse order, risking a nine-trick contract if you had a poor hand and better support for diamonds than hearts. Partner also should have more diamonds than hearts.

It would be very wrong to bid only two notrump, as you'd also do that with a hand containing four or five points less than you actually have.

2. Three diamonds. Holding skimpy values for your initial response, you try to slow partner down by bidding three diamonds. This suggests that your one-spade bid was based on a weak hand, and that you prefer diamonds to hearts. It is tempting to bid two notrump instead, holding a sure club stopper, but you don't have enough points to do that. Partner would surely bid again, expecting two or three more points from you, and you'd probably wind up having bitten off more than you can chew.

3. Four diamonds. Obviously, this hand is far stronger than the previous one, and you can identify those values with a jump-preference of four diamonds. It's true that you're bypassing three notrump, which could be the best contract. But first, there's no assurance that three notrump is safer than five diamonds, and second, the potential for slam should be explored.

Thus, if partner has the A-K of diamonds and two other aces, a slam can probably be made. This possibility certainly should not be ignored.

4. Three clubs. There should be no doubt at all that a small slam in hearts is in the bag; the only real question is whether a grand slam can be bid and made.

Three clubs is 100 percent forcing and has the advantage of compelling partner to reveal more about his hand. It is quite likely that you will wind up asking for aces via Blackwood at your next turn. Regardless of how the bidding develops, though, you should make sure of getting to at least six hearts.

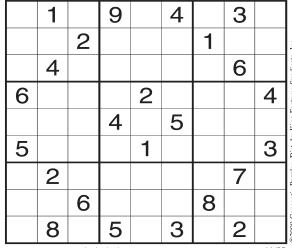
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Family Circus • Bil Keane



"... and hang your jammies right down here."

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green



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.

5	9	7	6	4	2	8	1	3
1	6	2	5	3	8	4	7	9
4	8	3	1	7	9	2	6	5
2	5	9	4	1	6	7	3	8
8	3	1	2	5	7	9	4	6
7	4	6	9	8	3	5	2	1
6	7	4	8	9	1	3	5	2
З	2	8	7	6	5	1	9	4
9	1	5	3	2	4	6	8	7
mint i								1.1.

Cryptoquip

YFIO B WIXAMO CIZA BOCXN

BOT JFRJEA B WXBNIX PMME

BZ AMSIPMTN, YMRDT ZFBZ 🏵

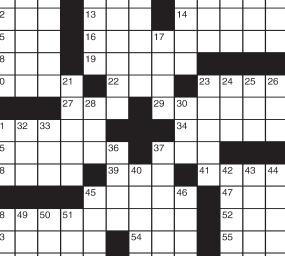
SVAABD SVAAVDI?

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I BELIEVE THE OLD MATHEMATICIAN ONCE INFORMED US THAT HIS FAVORITE QUAFF IS SQUARE-ROOT BEER.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: B equals A

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

4 "Phooey!" used to reliable wine mensely 52 Anderson's need "High—" 6 Certain lodian closer the related group walk stiterary collection 16 Dry red table wine ago Graph line 20 Graph line 20 Graph line 20 Graph group walk ago Graph line 20 Graph line 21 Graph line 22 One side of the Ural 25 Graph line 22 One side of the Ural 26 Anderson arry kin arry salves arry of a Legend-28 Ostrich' kin arry kin arry kin arry cologne cologne cologne slave arry for arry location arry kin arry kin arry kin arry kin arry cologne cologne cologne cologne slave arry slave arry slave arry for arry location arry kin
Mts. 21 Round- Waltons 23 Respon- DOWN tree 42 Mis-
sibility 1 Pageant role behave 27 Father winner's 23 Little 43 Lasso
and son topper hooter part 29 Fairly 44 Islam
recent Solution time: 25 mins. sacred text
dicular, LAP BOOT ILIA 45 Fringe at sea OVA SPOONBILL benefit
34 "Gasoline CELLO MAL 46 Banjo
35 Wicked SNOWBALL SOAR 48 Comica
37 Regret S L I M T A C O B E L L DeLuise 49 Black-
39 Have bills LEAGAVEL bird
45 Pirate ship OPED IKEA TEA Bobbse
punish- [DIE]WIY TIE]EIS TOIRIKI twin
ment site
12 13 14 14



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