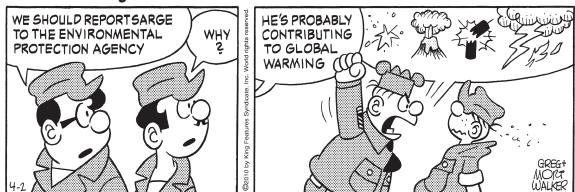
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young









YOU NEED A LOT OF WORK, DO YOU KNOW THAT ?

Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters





Dear Heloise: I thought the reader letter about WASHING MACHINES was interesting. She said her repairman told her to always use liquid detergent to avoid buildup. My repairman told me to NEVER use liquid detergent because it clogs up the inside of the hoses. I said, "What, it has high cholesterol?" He laughed and said that was a good description. He recommended that I always use powdered detergent. Any ideas on which answer is the correct one? – Amy K., via e-mail

Amy, our friends at the Soap and Detergent Association say whichever form of detergent you prefer is OK. The cleaning advice given to the reader by her repairman was good. Once a month, run the washer, empty, with hot water, and this should dissolve any detergent buildup.

Other interesting detergent facts: In the United States, liquid detergents outsell powders. Liquids are effective on greasy stains and make good pretreaters for tough stains, while powdered detergent is better for lifting out ground-in dirt and clay, which makes it ideal for kids' clothes.

Also, some people tend to use more detergent than needed, especially liquids. The measuring caps are difficult to read, and some feel the more suds, the better, but that's not the case!

If you use powdered detergent, add it per the directions while the washer is filling with water so the powder can dissolve, then add the clothes. And don't overfill the washer. The clothes must be able to move around and be rinsed well. More clothes means not-so-clean clothes! - Heloise

TOWELS FOR PRIVACY

Dear Heloise: When moving into our new house, it would be a long time before we could get curtains, and we needed a way to close off some of the windows for privacy.

The problem was solved when I bought a selection of bath and beach towels and cafe curtain rods with clips. After putting up the rods, I stitched down a few inches on the top of each towel to make a stiff "header," and measured and marked the distance between clips with a laundry marker. Within a short time, we had "drapes." -Virginia Welch, Hampton, Conn.

SAVE A STAMP

Dear Heloise: If you make a mistake and ruin a perfectly good postage stamp, don't worry. Put the envelope in the microwave for six to eight and ready for the new envelope. - Stacy in Bumpass, Va.

Stacy, we decided to give your hint a try, and OEYW, ANBJP vep, it worked perfectly. One note, though: We microwaved it for eight seconds, and when it came out, it was a little hot to the touch. So be careful. - Heloise

TRAVEL HINT

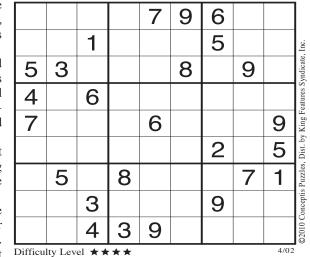
Dear Heloise: When staying at a hotel/motel, if there is a refrigerator, put the plastic ice bucket inside, and the ice will last longer. This saves trips to the ice machine. - Leland, Palm Beach, Fla.

Family Circus • Bil Keane



"You're the oldest, so that makes you responsible."

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green



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.

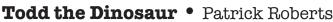
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Difficulty Level ***									

Cryptoquip

ZQVEBXQ H EL CNCEJJO DNWP seconds, and it will peel right off. Good as new, ND CKHX DHWQ QLZYNHPQYO O N B X E O 🔿 H'L VYQAQJ-KQEYCQP? Yesterday's Cryptoquip: A POPULAR SEVENTIES TUNE DESCRIBING THE LEAF OF A TREE OUGHT TO BE CALLED "YOU'RE SO VEINY." Today's Cryptoquip Clue: O equals Y

Sally Forth • Greg Howard







Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Bridge • Steve Becker

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

South	West	North	East
1 🗭	Pass	1 🖤	Pass
1 🔶	Pass	1 NT	Pass
?			

What would vou bid now with each of the following five hands? 1. ♠ AQ82 ♥ A6 ♦ J2 ♣ K10743 2. ♠ KQ92 ♥ Q3 ♦ A6 ♣ AQ532 3. ♠ KJ84 ♥ 5 ♦ A7 ♣ AKQ653 4. ♠ AQJ75 ♥ 8 ♦ 4 ♣ KQ8743 5. ♠ KJ96 ♥ KQ7 ♦ 4 ♣ ÂKJ98

Bidding Quiz

1. Pass. Partner usually has six to 10 points and a balanced hand in this sequence. Game prospects are therefore poor, so the only remaining issue is to select the best partscore contract. There is no good reason to think that a suit contract will fare better than notrump, so you should pass.

2. Two notrump. If partner is in the upper half of his range, you can probably make game. At the same time, it is important to recognize that partner might have only six or seven points. This possibility is catered to by bidding only two notrump, which shows about 17 or 18 points and leaves the final decision to partner.

3. Three notrump. It would be wrong to bid three clubs, which would merely urge partner to bid again without forcing him to do so. You should be unwilling to run the risk of partner's passing when you hold a hand so promising for game.

4. Two spades. Partner has no way of knowing that your previous spade bid was based on a fivecard suit. It would be normal for him to assume a holding of four spades and anywhere from three to six clubs.

The two-spade rebid guarantees five spades, since there would be no point in rebidding an unsupported four-card suit. Furthermore, it implies that you have either five or six clubs, since you would not have opened one club with five spades and three or four clubs.

5. Three hearts. This is a picture bid that describes your distribution and high-card values at the same time. Since you have bid three suits, your diamond shortness is clearly indicated, and your extra high-card values are identified by bidding three hearts instead of two.

Change the queen of hearts to the deuce and you would have a proper two-heart bid. The distributional picture would remain the same, but the high-card content would be lower.

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(c)2010 King Features Syndicate Inc.

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

Crossword • Eugene Sneller													
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