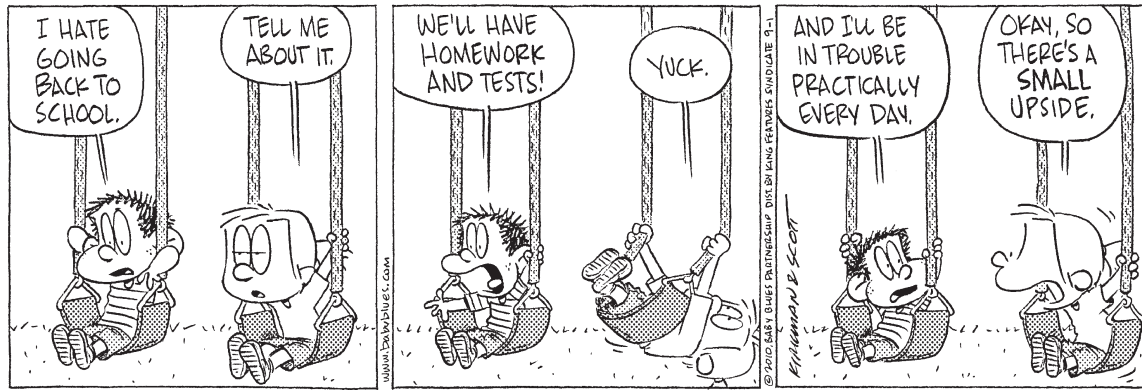
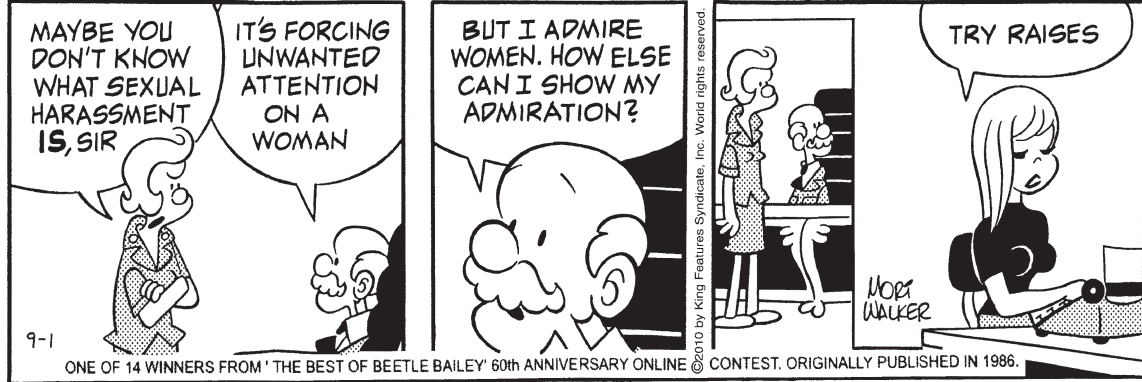


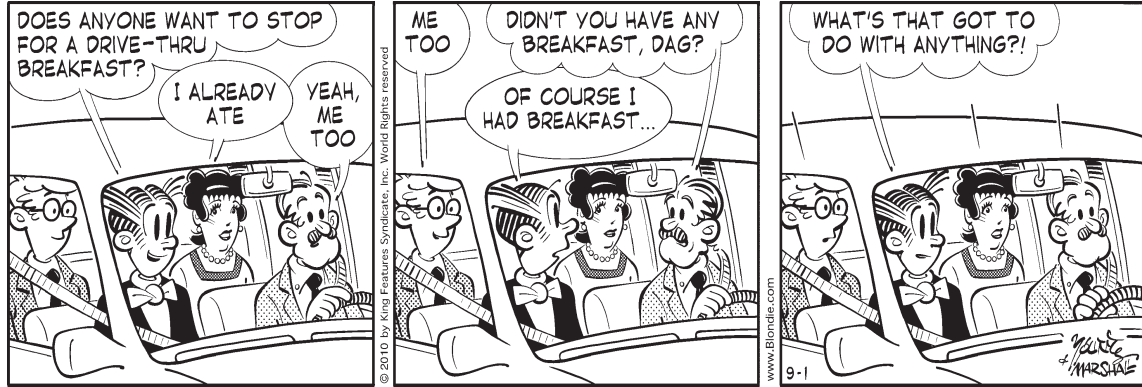
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



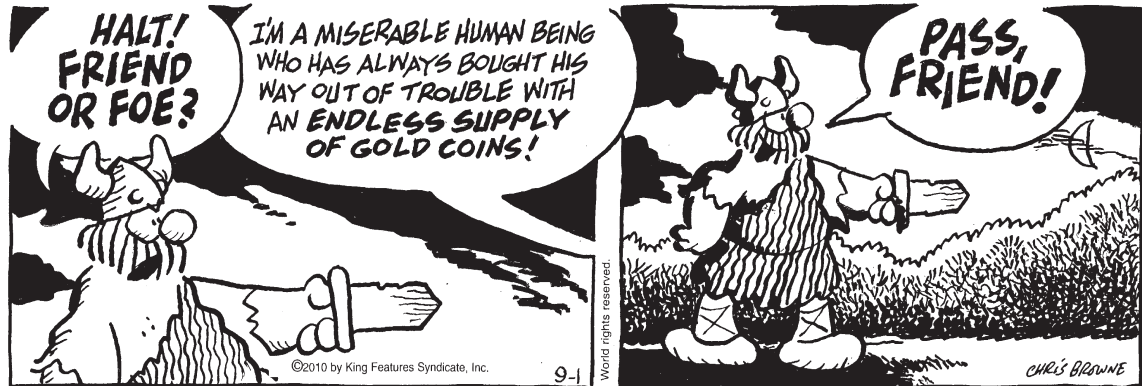
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young



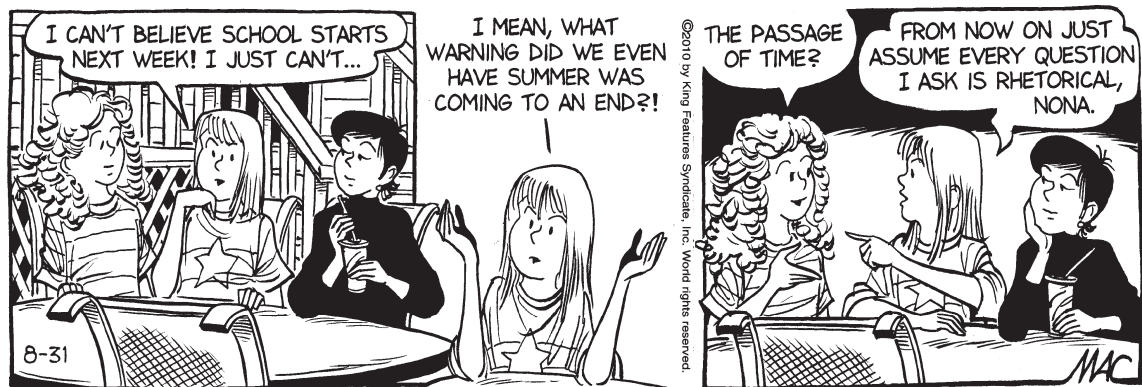
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



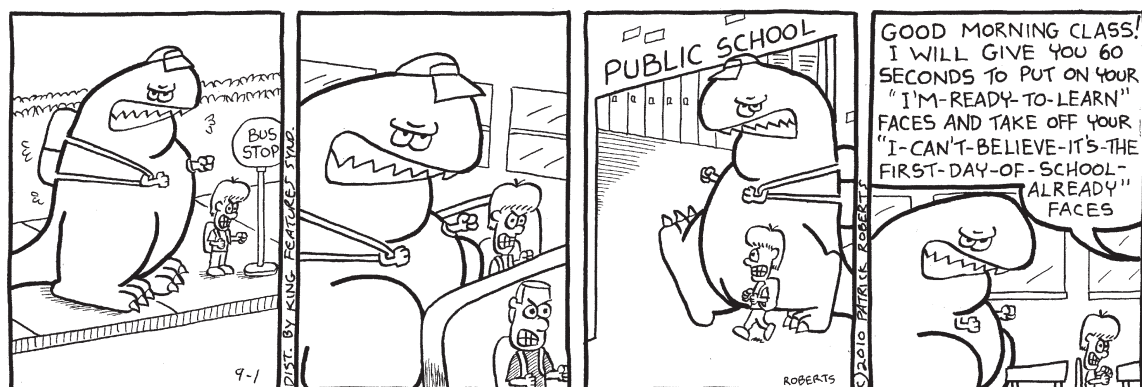
Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



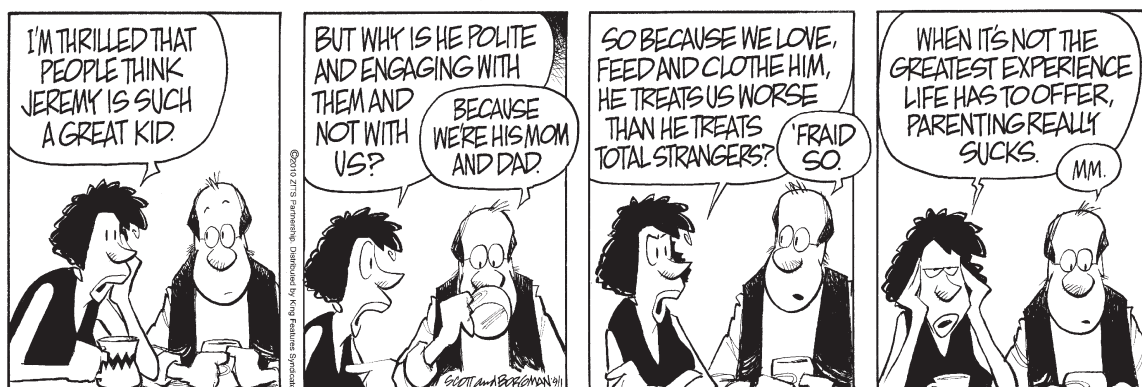
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise

• Hints from Heloise

Leftovers get wrap for sure

Dear Heloise: When putting LEFTOVERS in the refrigerator, I line my storage containers with plastic wrap, sandwich bags or other storage bags. I can then mark on the bag or plastic wrap the date the contents were prepared. If they are not used in a reasonable amount of time, I simply dispose of the contents, bag/plastic wrap and all! I haven't had to throw away a storage container due to tomato/grease stains or unpleasant smells for a long time. Cleanup is a breeze, and my family can tell immediately if something is a little past its consumption date. Keeping a permanent marker in the drawer with the bags and plastic wrap is a big help. — Rita Bierley, Cheney, Wash.

Rita, love your hint! No one likes tossing plasticware, even the disposable ones, especially with the tough economic times and everyone trying to be GREEN. Thanks for sharing! — Heloise

SEND A GREAT HINT TO:

Heloise
P.O. Box 795000
San Antonio, TX 78279-5000
Fax: 210-HELOISE
E-mail: Heloise(at)Heloise.com
PICNIC SANDWICHES

Dear Heloise: As I was preparing sandwiches for our picnic at a concert in the park, I had an idea. My husband prefers sandwiches without mayonnaise, and I like them with mayonnaise. To identify those with, I snipped a tiny corner off the sandwich. When I took the sandwiches out, there was no question which was his and which was mine. — Liz Dilibert, Somis, Calif.

'HERB' IS THE WORD

Dear Heloise: My best hint is to treat certain vegetables and herbs as you would cut flowers. Trim the ends of parsley, asparagus, etc., and put in water. Wilted herbs are revived. — Helen in Fort Worth, Texas

Helen, how right you are! Herbs can be stored in the fridge in a glass jar or coffee cup with about an inch of water. Cover the herbs loosely with a plastic bag, and change the water daily. The herbs should last one week in the fridge. — Heloise

STEMMING STRAWBERRIES

Dear Heloise: You printed how to remove strawberry stems by using a grapefruit spoon. I have another way that works really well — use a straw. Poke it into the strawberry from the bottom and push it up the center to the stem. It takes out the stem very easily, along with the center pulp. — Pat E., Lincoln, Calif.

Good hint, and here is another one, from Rebecca, via e-mail. She says: "Another way to enjoy strawberries — I freeze them and use them as ice cubes year-round. They add a touch of flavor to beverages and do not dilute the beverage as they melt. Plus, you can eat them and get the healthful benefits."

EASY VEGGIE SOUP

Dear Heloise: Have loved your column for years, and want to share one of my favorite helpful hints with you. When making vegetable soup, I use a bag of cole slaw veggie mix. It's so easy, with all the cabbage and carrots already cut up. — Pat Looftjer, Omaha, Neb.

Bridge • Steve Becker

South dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ J 10 8 6 3
♥ J 6 5
♦ K J 10
♣ A J

WEST
♠ K
♥ 3 2
♦ Q 6 4
♣ 9 8 7 5 4 3 2

EAST
♠ —
♥ A K Q 10 9 4
♦ 9 7 5 2
♣ K Q 6

SOUTH
♠ A Q 9 7 5 4 2
♥ 8 7
♦ A 8 3
♣ 10

The bidding:
South 1♠ Pass North 3♠ East 4♥

Opening lead — three of hearts.

Solution to a Quandary

Many apparent guessing situations can be resolved by avoiding them altogether. Take this case where South went down one in a contract he should have made. East took the first two tricks with the Q-K of hearts and continued with the ace. When declarer ruffed with the nine, West overruffed with the king and shifted to a club. South won with the ace and, having already lost three tricks, had to guess which way to take the two-way diamond finesse.

Unfortunately, he decided that East, who had bid four hearts all by himself, was more likely to have the queen of diamonds than West. Accordingly, he eventually cashed dummy's king of diamonds and then let the jack ride to go down one. South was certainly unlucky to find West with both the king of spades and queen of diamonds. Even so, he should have made his contract. In playing as he did, he relied more on a probability than a certainty.

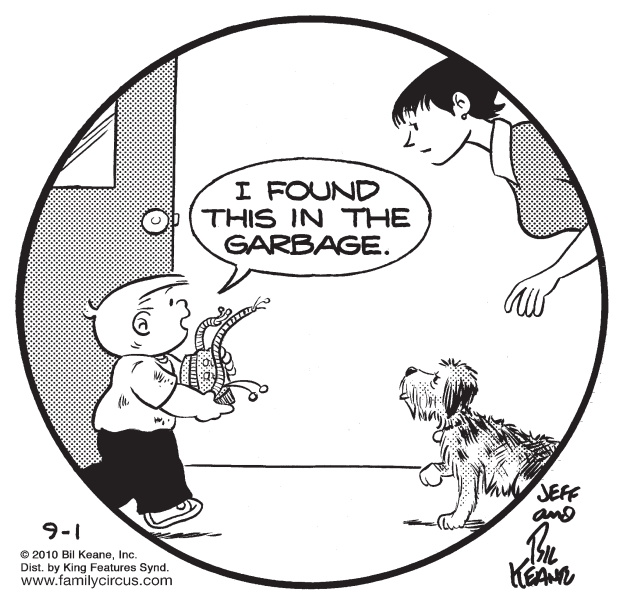
Instead, declarer should ruff the heart lead with the ace (!) at trick three, intentionally conceding a trump trick to the enemy without making any effort to avoid it.

Next he leads a club to the ace, ruffs dummy's jack of clubs, then exits with a trump, not caring one iota which defender has the king of trumps or which suit that player returns.

The defender who wins the king of trumps must either lead a diamond, eliminating the guess in that suit, or another suit, handing declarer a ruff-and-discard. Either way, the contract is home.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



"I can't believe somebody threw whatever it is away."

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★ 9/01

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.

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

Cryptoquip

CE OXRDXSD MVVNODO RZ

JXL XE HDMYCSL CUO KMCQ

MHH XYDQ UKD ENQSCUNQD,

C'HH VQZ "ZXN OKDJ CU!"

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN A "STAR WARS" GURU REALLY CRAVES A DESSERT OF ICE CREAM, MIGHT HE VISIT A YODA FOUNTAIN?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: H equals L

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 Boom times
 - 4 Punch
 - 8 Other-wise
 - 12 Greek cross
 - 13 Spicy cuisine
 - 14 Torilla
 - 15 Gorilla
 - 16 Put some of the blame on
 - 18 Eye shade?
 - 20 Indivisible
 - 21 Undo a dele
 - 24 Unpaid bills
 - 28 Begg
 - 32 — gin fizz
 - 33 Frequent soccer score
 - 34 Peter and the Wolfe?
 - 36 — budget
 - 37 Tom-tom,
 - 39 Understood
 - 41 Refuge
 - 43 Tool storage building
- DOWN**
- 44 Vast expanse
 - 46 Comman-deer
 - 50 Tool
 - 55 Shad product
 - 56 Crumbly cheese
 - 57 Mediocre
 - 58 Throttle
 - 59 Vacillate
 - 60 "My bad"
 - 61 Type squares
 - 1 Hexagonal state
 - 2 Heming-way sobriquet
 - 3 Canal zone
 - 7 Narc's measure
 - 8 Hosts
 - 9 Meadow
 - 10 Collection
 - 11 Manage, with "out"
 - 17 Third party abbr.
 - 19 Immi-grant's study (Abbr.)
 - 22 "... — saw Elba"
 - 23 Contractual provisions
 - 25 United nations
 - 26 Author Morrison
 - 27 Member-ship
 - 28 —
 - European
 - 29 Actress Sorvino
 - 30 Asset
 - 31 Former frosh
 - 35 Detectives
 - 38 Lose
 - 40 Egos' counter-parts
 - 42 Get a glimpse of
 - 45 Early pulpit
 - 47 Incite
 - 48 Wander
 - 49 Cribbage scorers
 - 50 Conditions
 - 51 Kitten's comment org.
 - 53 "Xanadu" band, for short
 - 54 Siesta



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	
56				57						58	
59					60					61	