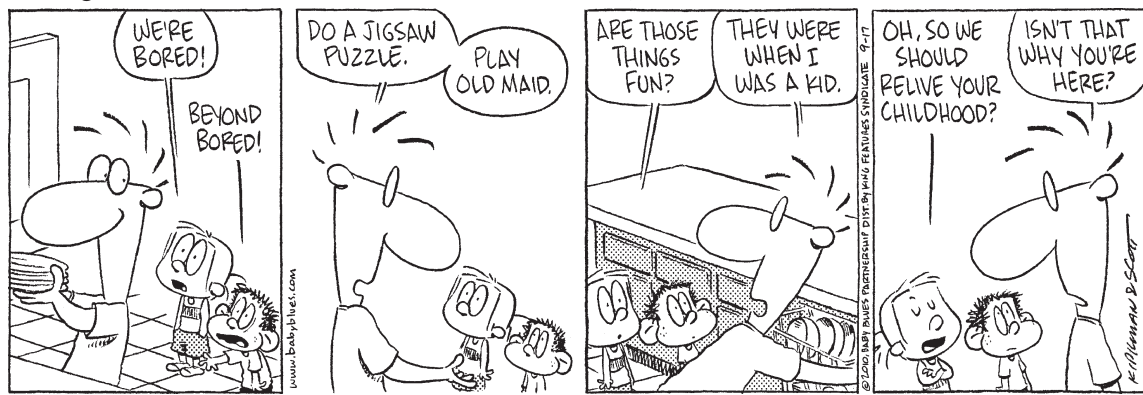
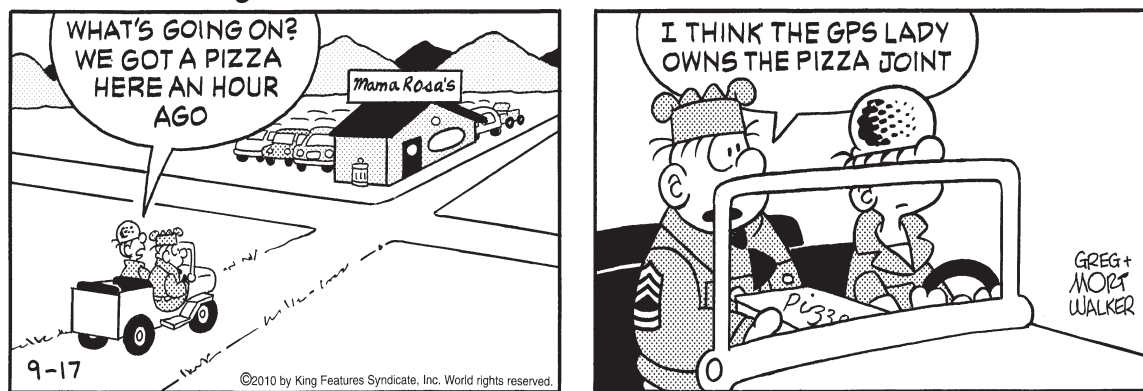


**Baby Blues** • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



**Beetle Bailey** • Mort Walker



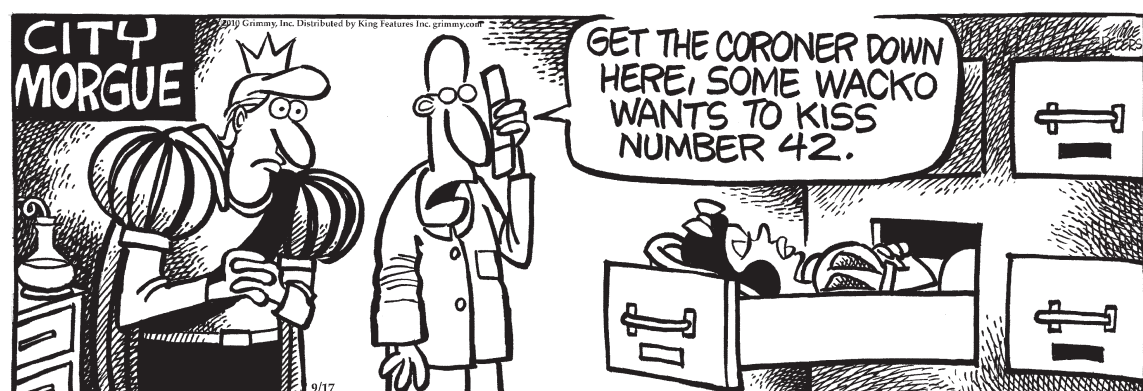
**Blondie** • Chic Young



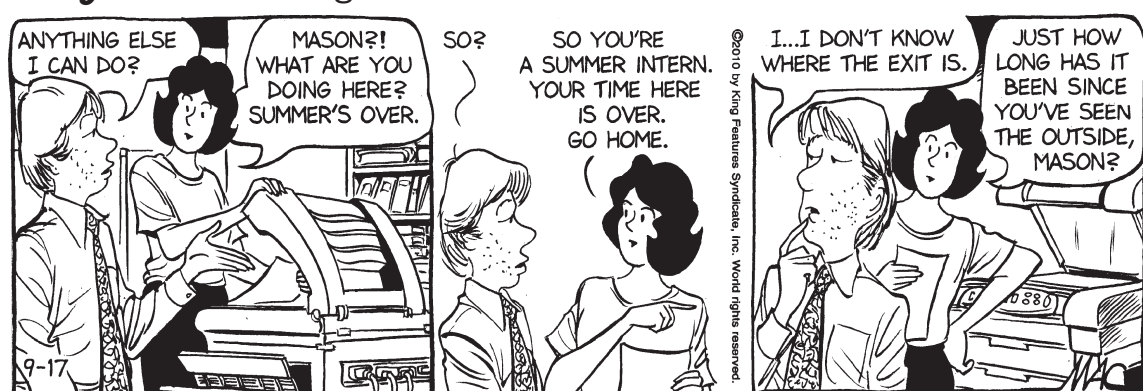
**Hagar the Horrible** • Chris Browne



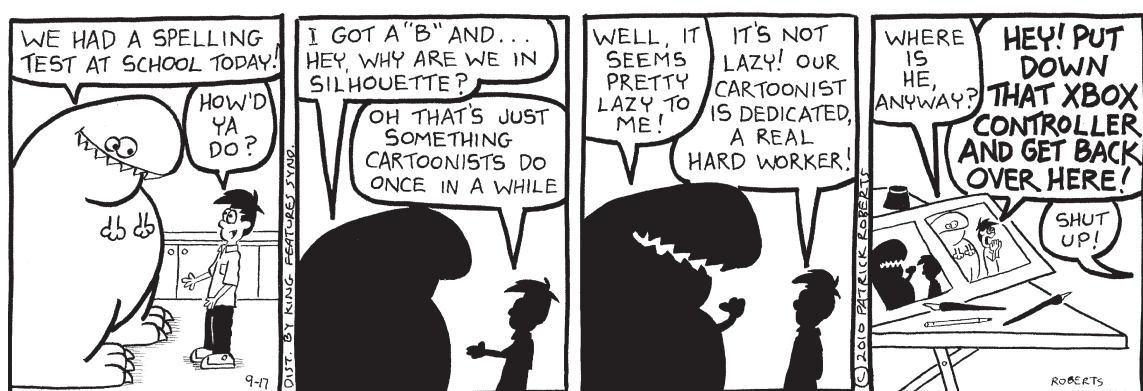
**Mother Goose and Grimm** • Mike Peters



**Sally Forth** • Greg Howard



**Todd the Dinosaur** • Patrick Roberts



**Zits** • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



**Heloise**

• Hints from Heloise

**Pack 'open first' boxes for moving**

Dear Heloise: I recently read some hints about MOVING in your column, and I would like to share my favorite.

This was a suggestion from my mother, who moved many times with three children during my father's military career: Pack several boxes and label them "Open First" in large letters. The boxes include necessary items for your first few days in your new house: towels, soap and toilet paper, simple cooking supplies and snacks, cleaning supplies, pet food and bedding, a telephone and an alarm clock, and a small tool kit. You also can include a few small toys to occupy young children. This hint has saved me a lot of time and money when moving with my large family. — Diana Holloway, Poland, Ohio

An old military moving hint that is still good today! — Heloise

**TRAVEL HINT**

Dear Heloise: To identify your suitcase, paint with fabric paint using stencils of an item. I have fruit (several of one kind) on my black pull-around suitcase on both sides so it is very distinguishable. But any items will work. Quilt designs, cars, boats, toys, you name it. The choices are endless. — Sharon in Warren, Ohio

**EASY MARK**

Dear Heloise: The (Wichita Falls, Texas) Times Record News is our daily paper. Love your column — thanks for continuing it.

I love all the new colors of nail polish. I use black to touch up scrapes, nicks, etc., on the dress-shoe heels that I keep scraping on the curb. White nail polish works great on the little nicks on my range. — Mona in Burkburnett, Texas

**MINIBLIND CLEANING**

Dear Heloise: I found an easy way to clean miniblinds. I bought some suction cups with large hooks built in. I mounted them on the wall of my shower, hung the mini-blind over and did the back. No mess to clean up, as the mess went down the drain. — Wendy in Nebraska

**CUSTOM SWITCH PLATES**

Dear Heloise: When the tiled backsplash was installed in my kitchen, I saw that I'd need a different switch-plate cover. I discovered there are textured aerosol paints in a variety of colors available nowadays. My "new" custom switch-plate cover looks just terrific! — Betty in California

**SAFE DRIVE**

Dear Heloise: I recently completed a round-trip drive between San Antonio and Boston. I became concerned about the number of front-seat passengers who rested their feet on the dashboard.

Please warn your readers against this practice. Should the passenger air bag deploy, bones in legs might be shattered. It is safer to keep your legs on the floor. — Marilyn Gladson, San Antonio

Yes, ma'am! Keep feet off the dashboard! — Heloise

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**Bridge** • Steve Becker

You have the following hand, both sides vulnerable: ♠ K95 ♥ — ♦ AJ87 ♣ AQ10863.  
 1. You bid One Club, and partner responds One Heart. What would you bid now?  
 2. You bid One Club, and partner responds One Spade. What would you bid now?  
 3. Partner bids One Diamond, and you respond Three Clubs. Partner bids Three Diamonds. What would you bid now?  
 4. Partner bids One Spade, and your right-hand opponent bids Two Hearts. What would you bid now?  
 \*\*\*

**Bidding Quiz**

1. Two clubs. This was a promising hand until partner responded one heart; now much of the glamour has disappeared. Being void in a suit can greatly improve the value of a hand, but not when the void is in partner's suit.

The heart response portends potential danger ahead, so your best move at this point is to bid two clubs to indicate a minimum opening. Later bids by partner may restore the original promise of your hand, but until a fit is found you must tread gingerly.

2. Two diamonds. There is some question as to whether your limited high-card values justify this bid (known as a reverse), but there is no better call available. Bidding two diamonds after having opened one club implies not only longer clubs but extra values — and that is exactly what you have after partner responds one spade.

The alternative bids are two spades and three clubs, but they do not represent the hand quite as well as two diamonds do.

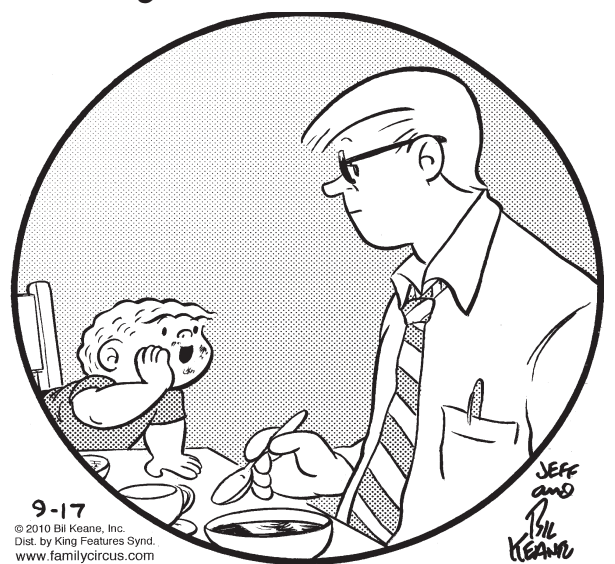
3. Four diamonds. You should have a diamond slam firmly in mind, but it is best to bid only four diamonds at this point to clarify your intentions and to allow partner room to maneuver. Blackwood is not desirable when you are void in a suit, since partner's response would not tell you how far to go if you used it. If partner bids five diamonds over four, you plan to carry on to six.

4. Three clubs. There are two possibilities here. One is to make an immediate cuebid of three hearts to show your void and in that way suggest slam. The other is to bid three clubs, planning to cuebid hearts on the next round.

Of the two, bidding the clubs first would seem to make more sense. One reason is that a direct cuebid might result in permanently suppressing your excellent club suit; another reason is that an immediate cuebid would suggest better spade support than the K-9-x.

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**Family Circus** • Bil Keane



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**Conceptis Sudoku** • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★★ 9/17

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.

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

**Cryptoquip**

FDEUS EQU BQGEERU XFB  
 JDD EQU KSJGYC, EQU  
 FBESJYFGEB ZURUTSFEUC

XMEQ F TMK RFGYZQ RGYZQ.  
 Yesterday's Cryptoquip: POPULAR MUSICAL ABOUT A PROFESSOR GIVING A FEMALE CABDRIVER ELOCUTION LESSONS: "MY FARE LADY."

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: D equals F

**Crossword** • Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**  
 1 Cruise or Hanks  
 4 Cabbage salad border  
 8 MRI predecessor  
 12 "Exodus" hero  
 13 Estate recipient  
 14 Bygone times  
 15 Slender stogie  
 17 Dregs  
 18 Panacea  
 19 "Ulalume" writer  
 21 Unfriendly  
 22 Anderson of "Bay-watch"  
 26 Furtive sort  
 29 Dict. explanation  
 30 Central  
 31 Survey  
 32 Knight's title  
 33 Fourth dimension  
 34 Census datum  
 35 \$ dispenser  
 36 The fifth element

**DOWN**  
 37 Work of fiction, south of the border  
 39 Sgt.  
 40 Pitch  
 41 Female warrior  
 45 Platter  
 48 Horn made famous at the 2010 World Cup  
 50 Shaving cream additive  
 51 — out (supplements)  
 52 Atmosphere  
 53 Indistinct view  
 16 The A in "CAT scan"  
 20 Klutzy one  
 23 Eastern bigwig  
 24 Wheels of fortune?  
 25 Mideast gulf creation  
 26 Bridge  
 27 "Forget it"  
 28 Ht.  
 29 Badly lit  
 32 Famed  
 33 November birthstone  
 35 Chicken-king link  
 36 Baffle  
 38 Bygone anesthetic  
 39 "Bolor" composer  
 42 Ardur  
 43 Hodge-podge  
 44 — a soul (nobody)  
 45 Slight application  
 46 Under the weather  
 47 Old French coin  
 49 Guitar's cousin

**Solution time: 25 mins.**

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

Yesterday's answer 9-17

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		