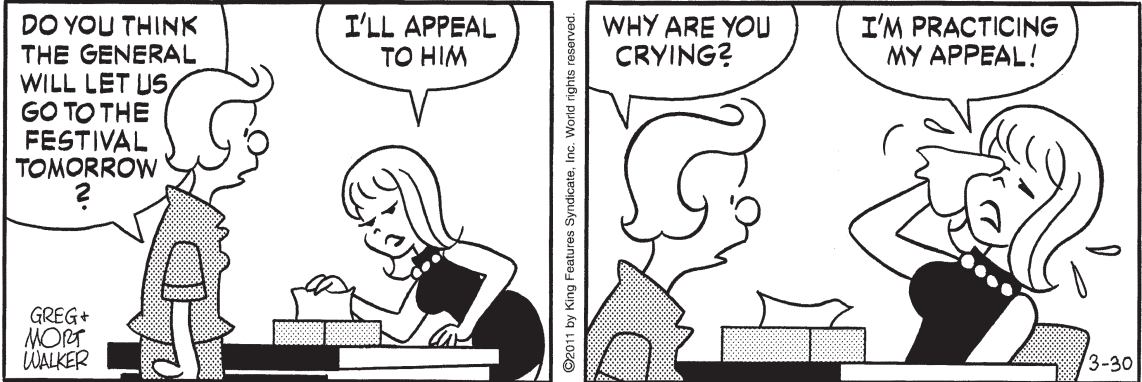


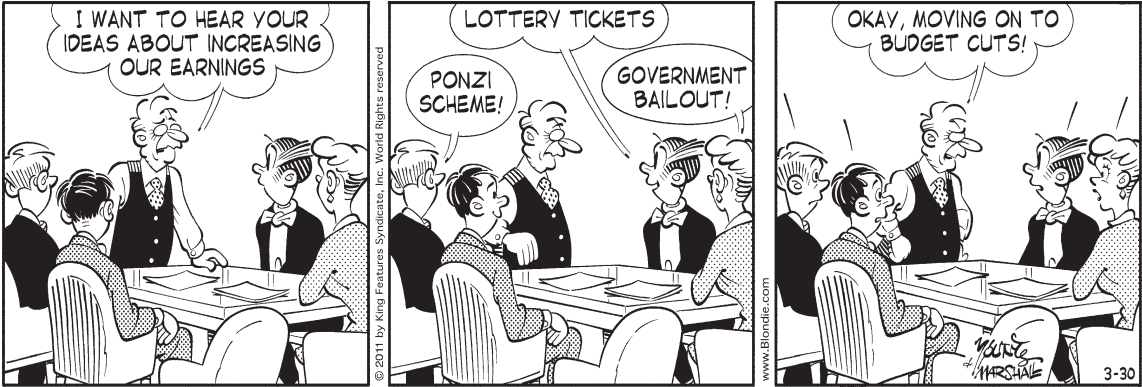
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



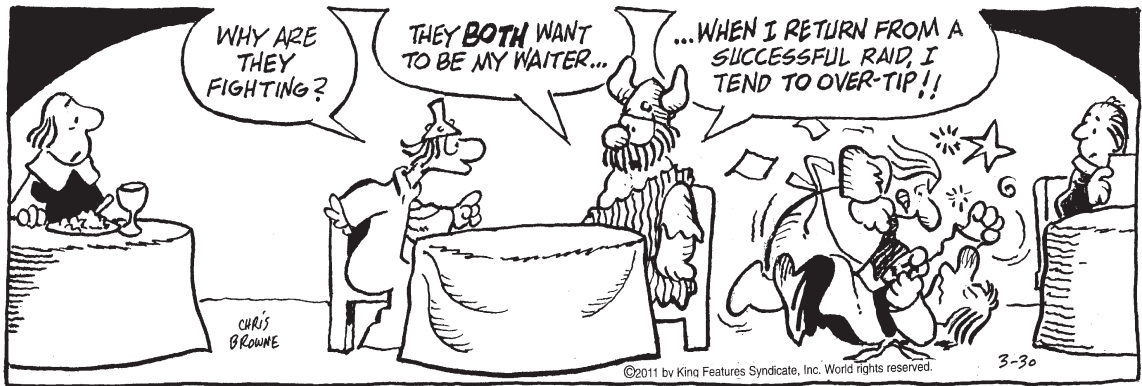
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



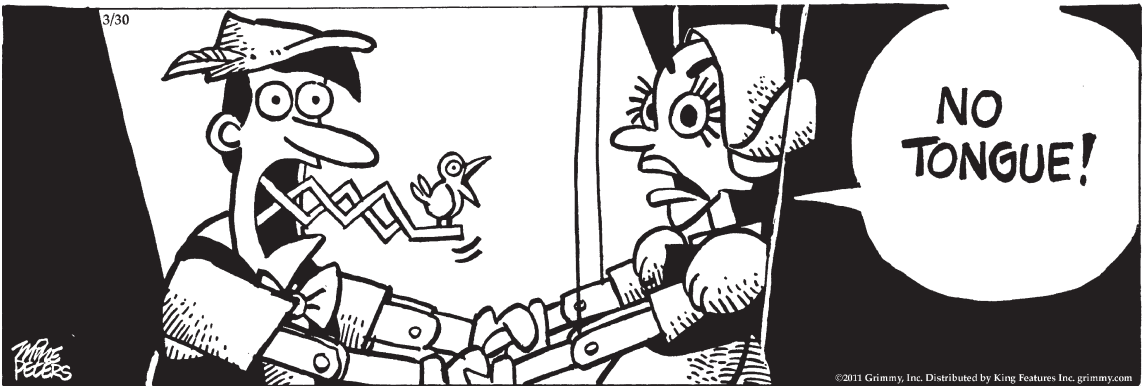
Blondie • Chic Young



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

Tips help tenderize meat

Dear Heloise: Lately, meat (such as London broil and beef roasts) seems to be very TOUGH TO EAT after being broiled or roasted. Powdered tenderizers don't seem to work. Is there any natural way of tenderizing? – Perry W. in Staten Island, N.Y.

Yes, there is, but here's a hint about using powdered tenderizer or different cuts of meat. When you put an enzyme-type tenderizer on thick cuts of meat, you need to pierce deeply using a fork or skewer, let sit for 30 minutes, then cook.

With thinner cuts of meat, sprinkle the tenderizer on, pierce with a fork and COOK RIGHT AWAY. Letting a thin cut of meat sit may not help make it tender.

There are "homemade" tenderizers that you can soak meat in overnight and then cook. Here are a few examples: vinegar (balsamic, apple cider, etc.), wine, lemon juice, buttermilk, yogurt or Italian dressing. Looking for an idea for a main dish? Look no further. Order a copy of my Main Dishes and More pamphlet. To receive, just send \$3 and a long, self-addressed, stamped (61 cents) envelope to: Heloise/Main Dishes, P.O. Box 795001, San Antonio, TX 78279-5001. You will have several main-dish recipes to choose from, like Creole Roast, Barbecued Meat Loaf and One-Pot Chicken, Potatoes and Peas. FYI: When marinating meat, put it, along with the marinade, in a plastic zipper-top bag and place in a cake pan, then put in the fridge. A couple of times a day, reach in and turn the bag. – Heloise

CUPCAKE LINERS

Dear Heloise: We use cupcake papers when making cornbread muffins, and found they stick to the muffin tin. Now we use foil cupcake liners – with the paper insert removed. Peel off the foil and the muffin stays intact. We save the paper inserts for regular cupcakes – two uses out of one. – Lauri in Ohio

Lauri, I tested this making cornbread in the foil cupcake liners, and you are right, they peel right off. Here's something I discovered while doing this: The container label says, "Discard paper separators." So, for readers who may have sticking cupcakes, check the paper liner! – Heloise

TWO COOKING HINTS

Dear Heloise: When you bake cookies and want to store them in a round cookie tin, use a paper coffee filter as the divider between the layers of cookies. The filters are the perfect size.

When cooking, hang a plastic grocery sack on the cabinet doorknob to drop waste into. Have it near where you work, and it makes your work much easier. Cleanup is a snap. – Helen Eagleburger in Springfield, Mo.

GRAPEFRUIT SPOONS

Dear Heloise: Not being able to have grapefruit, which I love, means the spoons for them sat idle until I found a use for them. I use them to clean out squash, the seeds and all. It worked great – so easy. I also use them on potatoes to shell for stuffed and re-baked. – Bonnie Damiano, Sacramento, Calif.

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Bridge • Steve Becker

South dealer. North-South vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ 7 3
♥ 9 6 3
♦ Q 10 4
♣ A Q 9 7 5

WEST
♠ Q 10 8 6 4
♥ 8 4 2
♦ 9 7 5
♣ 4 2

EAST
♠ A J 5
♥ K Q 7 5
♦ J 8 3 2
♣ K 6

SOUTH
♠ K 9 2
♥ A J 10
♦ A K 6
♣ J 10 8 3

The bidding:
South 1 NT West Pass North 2 NT East Pass
3 NT
Opening lead — six of spades.

The Logic of Good Defense

This deal from a team contest illustrates the difference one thoughtful play can make in the outcome of a deal.

The bidding was identical at both tables, and both Wests led their fourth-best spade, the six. At the first table, East won the spade with the ace and returned the jack, declarer holding up the king until the third round. The jack of clubs was then finessed, losing to East's king.

Since East had no spades, he shifted to a low heart. Declarer was taking no chances, though. He rose with the ace and cashed four clubs and three diamonds to finish with exactly nine tricks.

At the second table, East gave far more thought to his play on the opening trick. With eight points in view in the dummy and 14 more in his own hand, only 18 points were missing. Declarer had to have 16 or 17 points for his opening notrump bid and acceptance of North's invitation, so West could hold at most two points, marking South with the king of spades. This in turn meant there was no way the spade suit could be run immediately.

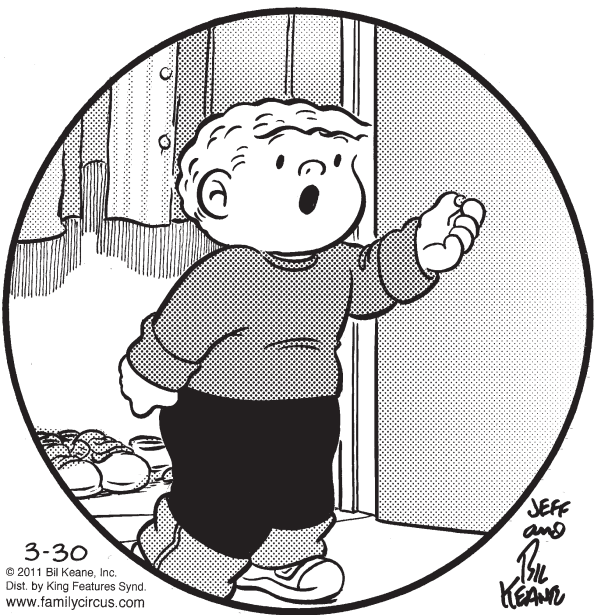
So instead of taking the ace at trick one, East played the jack! This left South awkwardly placed; if he didn't take the king, and West had the ace, the opponents could run the suit.

South therefore won the trick with the king and tried the club finesse. When it lost, East played the ace and another spade to set the contract one trick.

While it's true that declarer could have gotten home had he ducked the jack of spades, he can hardly be faulted for his play, which would have been right on the great majority of deals. But East, unlike his counterpart at the other table, gave South a chance to go wrong, and that made all the difference.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



"This button lost its shirt."

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★ ★

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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.

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

Difficulty Level ★

Cryptoquip

DA MHJLADAZ UCQ SC KLHJSH

JLSDBSDK UCTZHGCTZHB, D

BOGGCBH D QJB ZHSSDAZ J

K C M M J Z H H T O K J S D C A .

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF PEOPLE WANTED TO BUY FASHIONABLE BAGGY CLOTHING, DO YOU THINK THEY WOULD SHOP AT SACKS?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: D equals I

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 NYPD types

5 Scratch

8 Open something

12 Oil cartel

13 Have bills

14 Diamond corner

15 Something one likes

17 Met melody

18 Classify

19 "The Taking of — 1 2 3"

21 D.C. figure

22 — gin fizz

23 English channel?

26 Jewel

28 Scoundrel

31 Wander

33 Fort —, N.J.

35 Tend texts

36 Sleep disorder

38 "Glee" actress

Michele

40 Pouch

41 Com-manded

43 Unburden

45 Carbollic acid

47 Pizza toppings

51 Parliam-mentary title

52 Sports page grid

54 Shrek, for one

55 Raw mineral

56 Director Kazan

57 Autocrat

58 Existed

59 Stalk

2 Piece of work

3 Energizes, with "up"

4 Cone contents

5 Having blotches

6 Shock and —

7 Harvests

8 Orna-mental shell

9 Marines (Sl.)

10 Largest of the seven

11 Paper quantity

16 Kermit, e.g.

20 Wapiti

23 Shape shifter?

24 Conk

25 Australia's capital

27 Wire measure

29 By way of

30 List-ending abbr.

32 Gad about

34 Photo-copies

37 Commo-tion

39 Has a bug

42 Knee counter-part

44 Cuts into cubes

45 Story line

46 Gluttons

48 Chevy hybrid

49 Great Lake

50 Fashion line?

53 — pro nobis

Solution time: 21 mins.

AWL	POPE
CHAP	PHI
TAIL	TIL
STRAP	GAWK
YAM	CHEESE
JAVELIN	ODDLY
ICED	DAB
VENAL	GOMPER
ESTHER	YOU
UTAH	ENTRY
IVAN	PIN
DISC	IRE
ANKH	DEW
CHOU	HULA
DEN	

Yesterday's answer 3-30

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			