



WHY DO PAPENTS WANT TO MAKE EVERY GAME BORING AND EVERY-THING THAT'S BORING INTO A GAME?



Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker

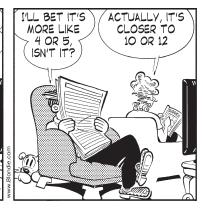




Blondie • Chic Young

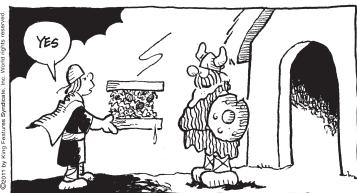






Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne





Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



Sally Forth • Greg Howard









Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts









Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



7 comics CFP 4-1-11.indd 1







OR, YOU COULD

Heloise

Hints from Heloise

Plan ahead before calling

Dear Heloise: Please help sales representatives. I am a sales representative for a major hotel and speak on the phone daily with GUESTS WANTING TO MAKE RESERVATIONS. They do not realize that I have a "quota" of calls to make every hour.

Before picking up the phone to make a reservation, please know the following information:

- 1. The name of the hotel, including city and
- 2. The dates when you will be arriving and de-
- 3. The number of people in your room.
- 4. If you are attending a meeting or a convention, please know the name, and ask for any corporate rate or other discount.
- 5. Please don't call when your children are in the room yelling or you are holding an infant.
- 6. Please do not eat food while you are trying to make a reservation. 7. Above all – PLEASE have your credit card

ready. Don't put me on hold to go out in the garage or search through your house looking for We are here to help our guests, and we don't

like to rush through the reservations, but if you aren't prepared, it makes our job a lot more difficult and stressful. Thank you for your help. – A Reader, via e-mail Good hints, and helpful to both parties! Read-

ers, please be prepared, and it will make the experience better. - Heloise

P.S.: When you get a representative who does a good job or goes that extra mile, ask to speak to a supervisor to give a compliment. I always try to do this, and it's amazing how few people do.

STORING RECEIPTS

Dear Heloise: I always put my original receipt (for appliances – Heloise) in the accompanying owners manual on the opening page. I staple it, then put it in my home-appliances file, where I can find it for the serial number, new parts, where to send it for repair, etc. - Judy A. in Indianapo-

Judy, this is a good hint. Here's a Heloise Update: Many receipts are printed on heat-sensitive paper, and the printing may fade over time, so make a copy, just to be safe. - Heloise

CLEAN SHOWER

Dear Heloise: My shower head is fixed (no CKQMSCUPPZW hand-held extension). It has been a huge frustration to deliver rinsing water to the tiles and glass that I have scrubbed. The solution: an outdoor garden/yard pump sprayer purchased at a homeand-garden retail outlet for around \$12. Simply fill the receptacle with water, pump the handle to create spray pressure and spray away. - Patti in Ingram, Texas

HAIRBRUSH CLEANING

Dear Heloise: The very best way to clean any brush is to use an old toothbrush. A few swipes with the toothbrush, and all the hair is out – and it's easy to pull it off the toothbrush. – D.M.A. in North Carolina

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Bridge • Steve Becker

1. You are declarer with the West hand at Six Diamonds, and North leads the jack of spades (either a singleton or a doubleton). How would you play the hand? WEST **EAST**

♠ A K 6 5	♠ 10 4 3
♥ A 8	♥ Q J 2
◆ A Q 10 9 8 5	2 ♦ K J
♣ — `	♣A 10 8 5 2
2. You are dec	larer with the Wes
hand at Three N	lotrump, and North
	n of spades. How
would you play t	he hand?
WEST	EAST
♠ A 9 7	A 2

Test Your Play 1. The best method of play – almost certain

to succeed – is to win the spade, cash the ace of hearts, lead a trump to dummy's jack, discard the eight of hearts on the ace of clubs and play the queen of hearts from dummy.

If South covers with the king, ruff it and return to dummy with a trump to discard one of your spade losers on the jack of hearts. All you can then lose is one spade.

If South plays low on the queen of hearts, discard a spade. If the queen wins, you have 12 sure tricks; if it loses to North's king, you will probably still make 12 tricks by later discarding another spade on dummy's jack of hearts.

2. You can't be sure of the contract, but there is a best way to proceed. Nine tricks are obviously yours for the taking if the clubs are divided 3-2. So to give yourself an added chance – if they split 4-1 (or 5-0) – start by ducking two rounds of spades, discarding two hearts from dummy. Win the third spade with the ace and lead a low club to the queen, followed by a low club back to the

If both opponents follow suit, you're home free, but if either of them shows out, you next play a low diamond to dummy's jack. If North was dealt the doubleton or tripleton queen, you can still make the contract.

Note that if you start the clubs in the more usual way by playing the ace and another club, and you run into a 4-1 division, it becomes impossible to score five diamond tricks regardless of how the opposing diamonds are divided. This is because if you are forced to start the diamonds from dummy, the suit automatically blocks, and you can't take more than three diamond tricks no matter how you proceed.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



"Is this a REAL snow or just an April Fool's snow?"

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

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

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

3 6 1 2 7 5 4 9 8

2 9 4 1 8 6 7 3 5

8 5 7 3 9 4 6 2 1

Cryptoquip

Sudoku puzzle is at right.

NGMN MIWYP RME YCYMPPT

TZAS CKZANC NQMRC. GQ

MPIMTC SEZHSC NGQ SEUHSC. Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHAT POTENTIAL SHAPE MIGHT IT LOOK LIKE AFTER A FEW CARS RAM INTO EACH OTHER? A WRECK-TANGLE.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: P equals L

54 Month

16 London

39 Kentucky

town

42 "Zounds!"

43 Sandwich

spread

44 Out of the

storm

45 Scuttle

46 Stick

college

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

33 Acute

ACROSS

1	I Male	34	Census		after		news-
	cat		stat		Shevat		paper
4	1 Potter's	35	Aviate	55	Fawn's	20	Coquett-
	oven	36	Hospital		mama		ish .
8	3 Zeus' wife		employ-			23	Layer
12	2 "— Little		ee .	DC	NWN		Greek
	Teapot"	37	Not	1	Gratuities		war god
13	3 Sandwich		svelte		Melville	25	Highway
	cookie	39	Founda-		novel		division
14	1 Exam		tion	3	Sports-	26	Daytime
	format	40	Drone		caster		drama
15	5 Museum	41	Derma-		Albert	27	Therefore
	head?		tologist's	4	Seoul	28	Swerve
17	7 Scruff		case		man	29	Crucial
18	3 Commu-	45	Session	5	Angry	32	Puget
	nist		with	6	Island		Sound
	council		a shrink		gar-		capital
19	Environ-	48	Part of		land	33	Spread-
	mentally		Iberia		Tablet		ing
	friendly	50	Approxi-	8	Esteem		plant
21	I Daisy —		mately	9	Historic	35	Winter
22	2 Doorway	51	Concept		time		bug
26	6 Most like-	52	Nay	10	Knock	36	Sweet
	ly dice		canceler	11	Brewery		drink
	throw	53	Sketch		product	38	Pitch

throw 53 Sketch product 29 Jewelry Solution time: 25 mins. store chain that "every kiss begins with" Gershwin loads

30 A 31 Tramcar **32** U.K. reference Yesterday's answer 4-1

figure? **47** Can. neighbor 49 Peculiar 16

