

Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott

WHEN YOU SAY:

THEY MUST HEAR:

BE PATIENT. I'M ALMOST FINISHED HERE.

I'LL FINISH FASTER IF YOU INTERRUPT ME EVERY TWO SECONDS.

Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker

GROWLLL!

WHAT'S THAT BEAR SO MAD ABOUT?

I THINK I KNOW

SHE WANTS US TO INCLUDE HER CUBS IN THE CHOW LINE

GREG + MORT WALKER

Blondie • Chic Young

BOSS, DID YOU GET MY LATEST EMAIL ABOUT A RAISE?

I SURE DID. BUMSTEAD! WHY DON'T I WRITE DOWN A NUMBER FOR YOU?

THREE, BOSS? WHAT DOES THREE MEAN?

THAT'S HOW MANY MINUTES IT SHOULD TAKE YOU TO CLEAN OUT YOUR DESK

HUSTLING BACK TO WORK NOW, BOSS

ALWAYS HAPPY TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS, MY BOY

Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne

HELGA, I'M BORED!

WHY DON'T YOU COME HERE AND HELP WITH THIS HOUSEWORK?

OH..

I'M NOT THAT BORED!

Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters

THIS SAYS MARY WORTH GOT A SPEEDING TICKET AND SHE'S BEING INTERROGATED BY DICK TRACY.

WHY DO YOU THINK SHE ACTS THAT WAY?

OH... I GUESS IT'S JUST BASIC INSTINCT

STOP SITTING LIKE THAT

UH-OH, YOU KNOW HER WEAKNESS FOR MEN IN SERIOUS STRIPS

Sally Forth • Greg Howard

NO, GUYS! I'M STAYING. YOU'RE BEING... WELL... LET GO...

WHY... YOU CAN STILL GO HOME! JUST NOT BACK TO WORK.

WHEN'S OUR RETIREMENT PARTY?

MAYBE WE SHOULD JUST GET THE CHECK.

I CAN'T BELIEVE THEY FIRED US. THIS MUST COME AS A REAL SHOCK TO YOU, SAL.

YOU'RE REALLY GOING TO MISS US, AREN'T YOU?

UM, Y'KNOW...

Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts

I'M HOME! AND I BRUNG A NOTE FROM MY TEACHER

OH, JUST GREAT

LET'S SEE... IT APPEARS YOUR TEACHER THINKS YOU SHOULD SKIP TWO GRADES

WOW! YOU MEAN SHE THINKS I SHOULD SKIP FROM THE SECOND TO THE FOURTH GRADE?

NO, SHE THINKS YOU SHOULD SKIP FROM THE SECOND GRADE BACK TO KINDERGARTEN

CRUD

Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott

ZOOTTAT

YES, I'M SURE THAT I'LL ALWAYS LOVE SOUR GUMMY BEARS.

WHY?

Heloise

Hints from Heloise

Hints help find a rental house

Dear Heloise: I have a few hints for people who are looking for a HOME TO RENT. There are so many out there, and it's hard to know which one is the best fit.

- Some landlords take care of the lawn for you, and some don't. If you don't have a lawn mower or other yard equipment, you will want to take this into account.
- Furnished or unfurnished? Your landlord may not have the capability to take away and store a washer, dryer or refrigerator that is already in the house. If you have one, this may be a problem.
- Have pets? It might be best to find a house that doesn't have carpeting. Dogs can put some wear and tear on certain types of carpet, and you may end up having to pay for it to be replaced.
- Is an alarm system important to you for security? Be sure to factor this into your decision.
- How much can you afford? Be sure to consider whether utilities are included. – Erin in Indiana

Good advice all around! – Heloise

REPURPOSING OLD TIE RACK

Dear Heloise: I repurposed a wooden necktie rack. It has 22 wooden pegs and a small hook at each end of the rack. The rack is attached to the wall in our dressing room. My casual, everyday-style necklaces hang neatly and safely out of the way but are easy to get to. The “fancy” jewelry still goes in the jewelry case. I wear my necklaces more when I don't have to hunt for them. – Mary, via email

QUILTER'S STORAGE

Dear Heloise: As a new quilter, I felt like I was spending a small fortune to get started: new sewing machine (mine was 30 years old), fabric, notions, patterns, classes, etc. The best tip I got came from the first class I attended. Rather than spending money on a nice plastic box to contain completed blocks before piecing, I purchased a new, unused pizza box from our local pizzeria for 25 cents! – Debbie, via email

TRAVEL HINT

Dear Heloise: Our family takes a vacation at least once a year, and here is one of my favorite, easy-to-do travel hints. I take along plenty of anti-germ gel. I use it when we get into our motel/hotel room for door handles, toilet flusher, light switches, etc., to eliminate any germs that may have survived.

I also pack several plastic grocery bags for bathing suits, towels or shoes that may not be completely dry when we are ready to leave. At the next stop, I do a load of laundry to prevent moldy clothes. – Samantha S., via email

QUICK BIB

Dear Heloise: In taking care of an elderly lady who needed a bib, I cut a hole just large enough to fit over her head in the middle of an old towel. – B.G. in San Antonio

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Bridge • Steve Becker

You are West, and the bidding has gone:

South: 1♥ 6♥

West: Pass

North: 3♥

East: Pass

North: ♦K 4 2 ♦A J 6 3 ♦Q 7 ♦K 10 5 2

West: ♠Q J 10 7 ♠8 7 4 ♠J 9 5 2 ♠9 8

You lead the queen of spades, won by South with the ace. Declarer cashes the ace of diamonds, plays a low trump to dummy's jack — to which East follows with the nine — and then trumps the queen of diamonds. Declarer next cashes the K-Q of trumps, East discarding two diamonds, and then plays the king and another spade, East and South following suit to both spades. You win the spade with the ten. What would you lead now?

Test Your Defensive Play

A simple count of the three suits declarer has played thus far tells you that he started with precisely three spades, five hearts and one diamond. His other four cards must therefore be clubs. Although you can't be sure precisely which clubs South has, you can assume from the bidding that he must have the ace.

Having gotten this far, you place South with the A-Q-x-x, A-J-x-x or A-x-x-x of clubs. In the first and third cases, it doesn't matter whether you lead a club or give declarer a ruff-and-discard by returning a spade or a diamond. Declarer makes the slam in the first instance and doesn't in the third, regardless of what you do.

This leaves you with the remaining possibility — that declarer might have A-J-x-x, in which case his hand originally looked like:

[S] A 9 3 [H] K Q 10 5 2 [D] A [C] A J 7 4

It is only after you take the time to visualize declarer's possible club holdings that you find the correct play. After winning the spade with the ten, you continue with the jack of spades (or a diamond).

This allows South to ruff in one hand and discard a club from the other, but he must then guess which way to take the two-way club finesse after he ruffs. He might guess right and he might guess wrong, but that is much better than handing him the contract by returning a club after winning the spade.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane

4-22

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"You guys don't have to spell things, just go ahead and talk words. We're not really listening."

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

4/22

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.

Cryptoquip

H RYEUMKUIHC HJMWG GHAULS
IHEY MT GULZ, TWEEZ RYG
EMKYLGX DUSNG JY IHCCYK

"S M M K D M W X Y A Y Y R U L S ."
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: INSTANT COFFEE PRODUCT THAT PEOPLE IN THE ARMED FORCES MIGHT PURCHASE: SOLDIERS' FOLGERS.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: M equals O

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Copy, for short

6 Aviv

9 Halloween time (Abbr.)

12 Group character

13 Lemieux milieu

14 Pi follower

15 Period of mourning (Var.)

16 Ripa companion

18 Not staccato

20 Staffer

21 Picnic intruder

23 "Xanadu" band

24 Say

25 Abound

27 Rental contract

29 "West Side Story" actress

31 Absolute truth

35 Martin's partner

37 Yon folks

38 Squads

41 Morning moisture

43 Rage

44 Sicilian spouter

45 "Virtue is its own —"

47 Barnum's first name

49 Robber

52 Slithery fish

53 Performance

54 Put an end to

55 Prior to

56 Ball-bearing item

57 Impetuous

DOWN

1 Scale notes

2 Biblical verb suffix

3 Magic potion

4 Wander

5 Orange variety

6 Walk quietly

7 Reverberate

8 Floral neckwear

9 Trip around the world?

10 Berate

11 Copier need

17 Updated

19 Let dispenser

21 \$

22 Traditionalist's foe

24 Gls' entertainers

26 "Call Me Madam" star

28 Nixon's veep

30 Figs.

32 Ancient Greek sculptor

33 Always, in verse

34 Old soap ingredient

36 "Fideles"

38 Conical dwelling

39 Old anesthetic

40 Doddering, maybe

42 Keep an eye on

45 "The Amazing —"

46 Comical Caroline

48 Chow down

50 Superlative ending

51 Tina of "30 Rock"

Solution time: 25 mins.

Yesterdays answer 4-22

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
			35			36			37	
38	39	40			41		42		43	
44				45				46		
47				48			49		50	51
52				53			54			
55				56			57			