

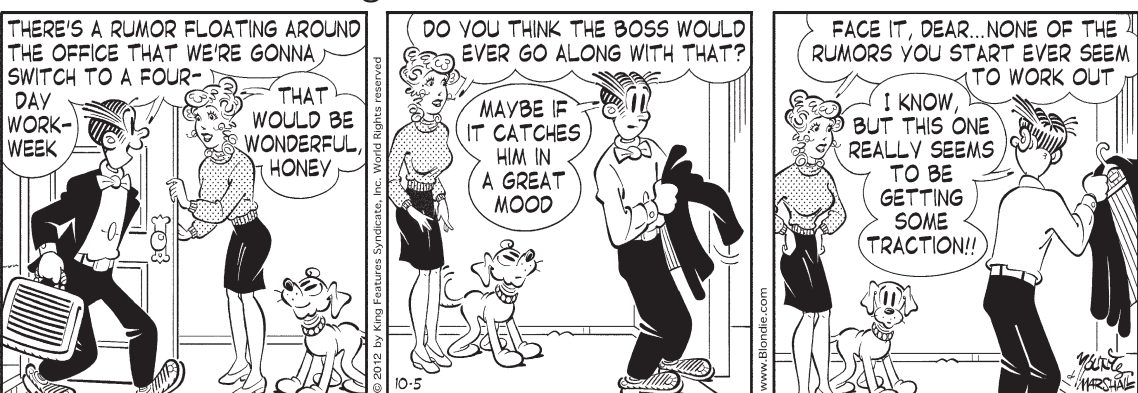
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



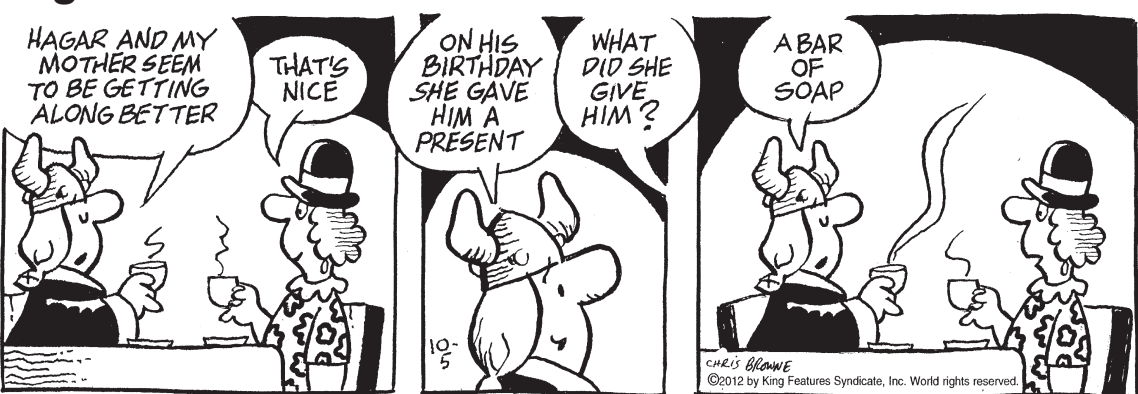
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young



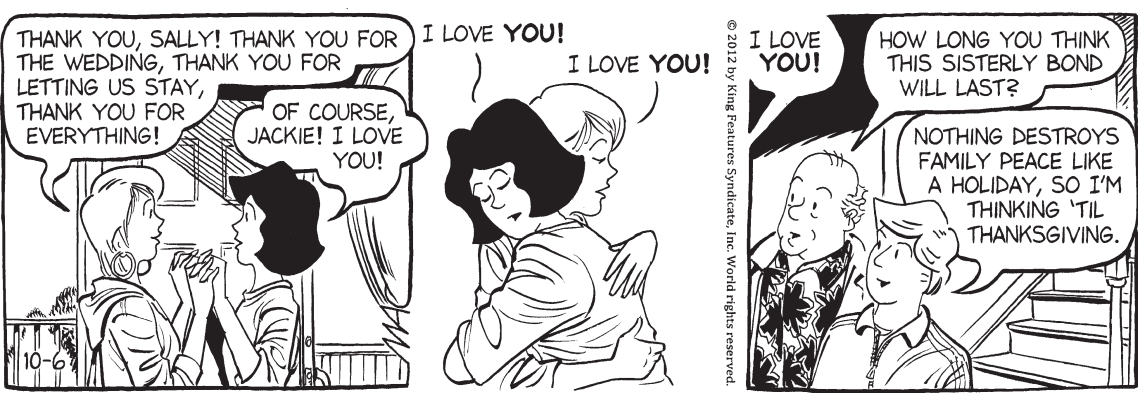
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



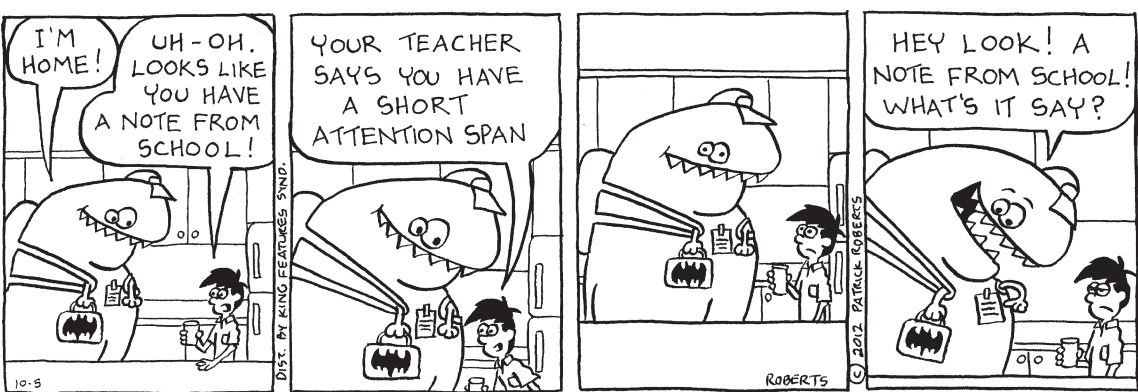
Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



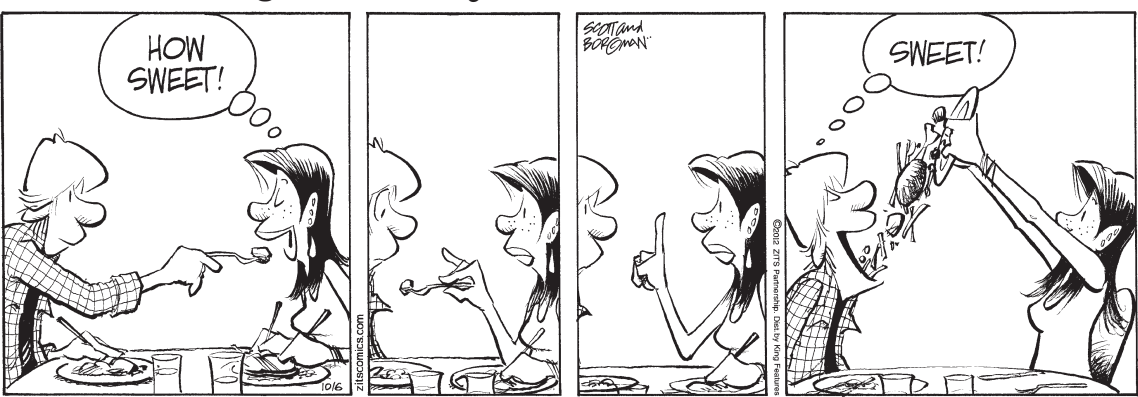
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise

- Hints from Heloise

Weeds bite dust with vinegar hits

Dear Heloise: When there are weeds in the cracks of our driveway, I use vinegar to kill them. The next day, they are drying up, and eventually, no more weeds. It works great. — Lorena S., Plymouth, Ind.

Lorena, this is a cheap, Earth-friendly way to keep weeds not only out of the driveway, but from between cracks in the sidewalk or stepping-stones. Just pour or spray full-strength vinegar on any unwanted weeds around your home. This is one of many cost-saving hints in my vinegar pamphlet. Want to know even more? Order my pamphlet by sending \$5 and a long, self-addressed, stamped (65 cents) envelope to: Heloise/Vinegar, P.O. Box 795001, San Antonio, TX 78279-5001. Did you know that vinegar can help stop the itch of some insect bites? Simply soak a cotton ball in vinegar and dab it on the bite. — Heloise

CHANGING COVERS

Dear Heloise: I love my smartphone and the different covers I can use. It can get quite expensive to constantly change the cover. I found a way without the cost. I bought a clear cover and cut scrapbook paper to fit inside it. Now I can easily change it out to reflect my mood or outfit. It works well with photos, too. Just be careful not to cover any ports or the camera! Love your column. — Wendi, via e-mail

WRAPPING LARGE GIFTS

Dear Heloise: I discovered a good way to wrap gifts, especially children's, after I was frustrated at not being able to find wrapping paper with my grandson's favorite cartoon character.

I bought a tablecloth for a couple of dollars and was able to wrap several large gifts and even re-decorate a gift bag. My grandson was so excited to see his favorite cartoon character on several of his gifts.

Also, if it is plastic, it won't tear while transporting gifts. — Ivana, via e-mail

RECIPE HOLDER

Dear Heloise: I had trouble keeping a recipe book or even a copy of a page from a recipe book handy so that I could easily read it and put the recipe together. At my annual girl's lunch, I mentioned my dilemma, and my friend Laura came up with the best solution ever!

She suggested that I get one of the skirt or pants hangers from the closet. Use one that is nice and sturdy, whose clips are strong and tight. Then put the hanger over a knob on an upper cabinet and attach the book or page to it! Oh my gosh — it worked fabulously! — Marlene R., via e-mail

TRAVEL HINT

Dear Heloise: I save the wire hangers from the dry cleaners and take them with me when I travel. Most hotels provide only a couple of hangers, and between my wife and me, we usually need more than that. There is no stress, either, if they get left behind. — Tim in Oregon

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Bridge • Steve Becker

1. You are West, and the bidding has gone:

South	West	North	East
1 NT	Pass	2 NT	Pass
3 NT			

NORTH

- ♦ 7 3
- ♥ K Q J
- ♣ Q J 10 8
- ♠ 7 6 4 2

WEST

- ♦ Q 9 8 6 2
- ♥ 9 2
- ♣ K 7
- ♠ A Q 8 3

You lead the six of spades, and declarer wins partner's ten with the jack. South leads a heart to dummy's jack and returns the queen of diamonds, which you win with the king. How would you continue?

2. You are declarer with the West hand at Six Notrump, and North leads the ten of hearts. How would you play the hand?

WEST

- ♦ A 7 4 2
- ♥ K J 3
- ♣ A K 4
- ♠ K 9 5

EAST

- ♦ K 6
- ♥ A Q 4
- ♣ Q 10 2
- ♠ A 10 8 7 6

Test Your Play

1. From the play thus far, it is clear that South's opening notrump bid (15 to 17 points) included the ace of hearts, ace of diamonds and A-K-J of spades (your partner cannot have the ace or king of spades, given his play at trick one). It follows that South cannot have the king of clubs, which would give him 19 points.

You should therefore shift to the club three at this point, confident that partner will win with the king. If partner has another club to return, you will defeat the contract.

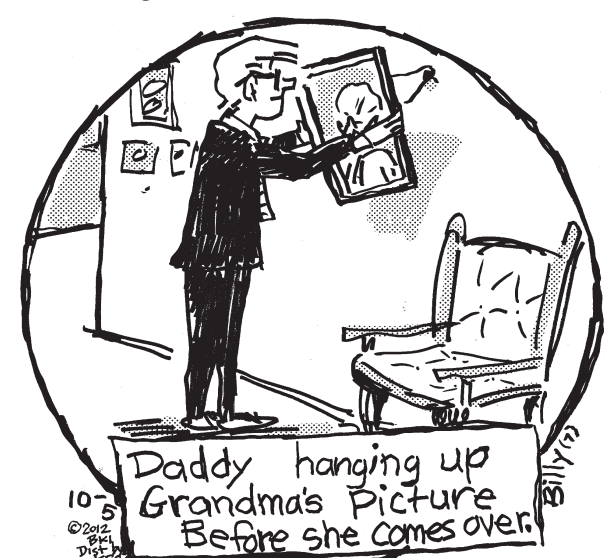
If you fail to lead a club and instead woodenly return a spade, declarer will score three spade tricks, three diamond tricks and at least three hearts to make the contract.

2. The only problem is how to handle the clubs to give yourself the maximum chance for four tricks in the suit. Best is to win the heart in dummy, lead the club six and play low if South plays low. (If the six wins, continue with the seven.) If the six loses to North's jack or queen, win any return and play the king of clubs. The slam becomes certain if North follows suit to the king.

The only time this line of play fails is when North has been dealt the singleton jack or queen. If you alternatively attacked the clubs by first cashing the king or ace, you would go down if the next player was either void of clubs or held a low singleton. These cases outnumber those where North started with a singleton honor.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



Guest cartoonist Billy (age 7) continues his week of observations.

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

10/05

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.

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

Cryptoquip

L CQFMHQC BEFMC CQAFZLTH

YD OFH'I EBSS B YLSV

BZBD, EMC XFTXSMOVO CQBC

ZBI B NBA-NVCXQVO LOVB.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: SINCE ACTRESS JANE REALLY ENJOYS MELTED CHEESE DISHES SO MUCH, IS FONDA FOND OF FONDUE?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: S equals L

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 37 Infamous 57 Bad 11 Neuter

1 Coincide 17 Hockey

6 Orbiter 19 Potato,

until 2001 21 "Platoon"

9 Massachusetts 22 Winter

43 "Family 3 Some

Guy" 44 Actress 26 Prefix for

45 Faux 28 Rage

5 Perfum-

ery 30 PC

47 Improves 32 Money-

49 Poisons compound

52 One little 6 Rita of

insect ... "West Side

6 Rita of 33 Expert

Story" 34 Chi

7 Notion 36 Analyzes

8 Ump 38 "Git!"

9 Panama 39 Gladia-

or Suez 40 Massa-

10 "Turandot" or 42 Char-

"Tosca" 43 Torial

venue

44 Massa-

45 Portent

46 Den

48 Bat stat

50 Swelled

head

51 D.C.

honorific

Yesterday's answer 10-5

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12					13			14		
15					16			17		
21	22			23				24		
25				26				27		
29				30				31		
				32				33		
				34				35		
				36				37		
38	39	40						41		
				42				43		
44				45				46		
47				48				49		50
52				53				54		51
55				56				57		