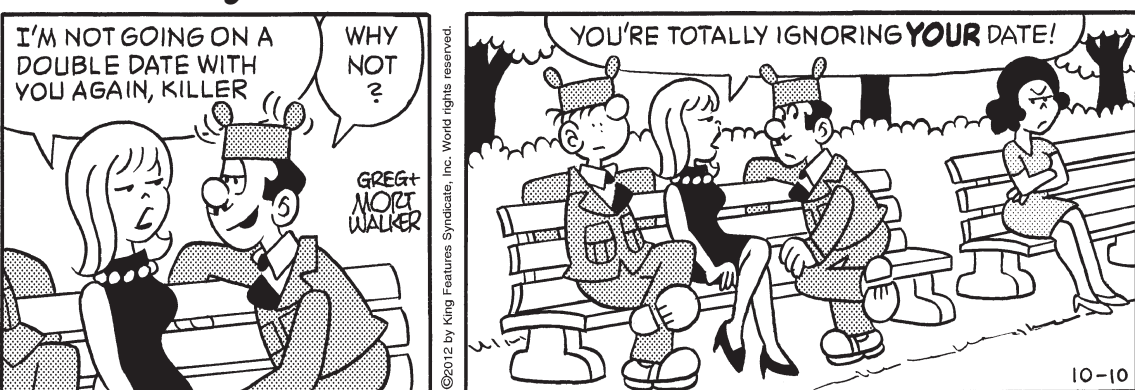


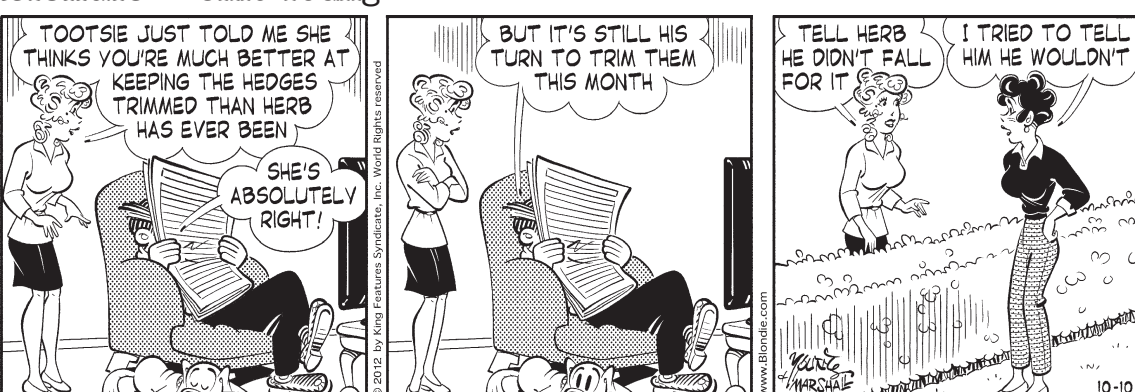
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



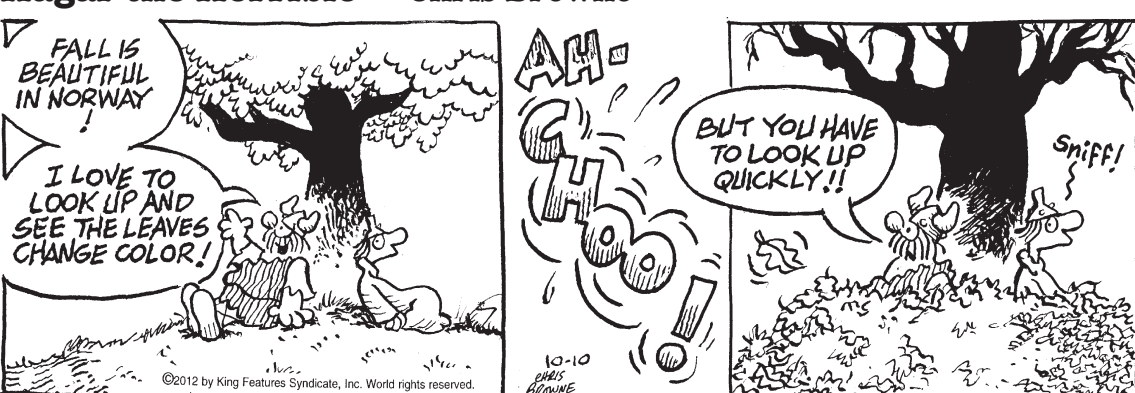
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young



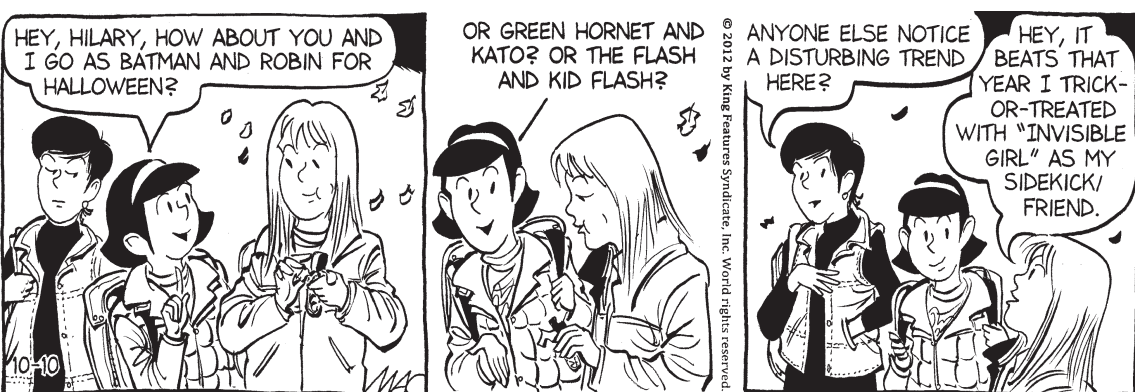
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



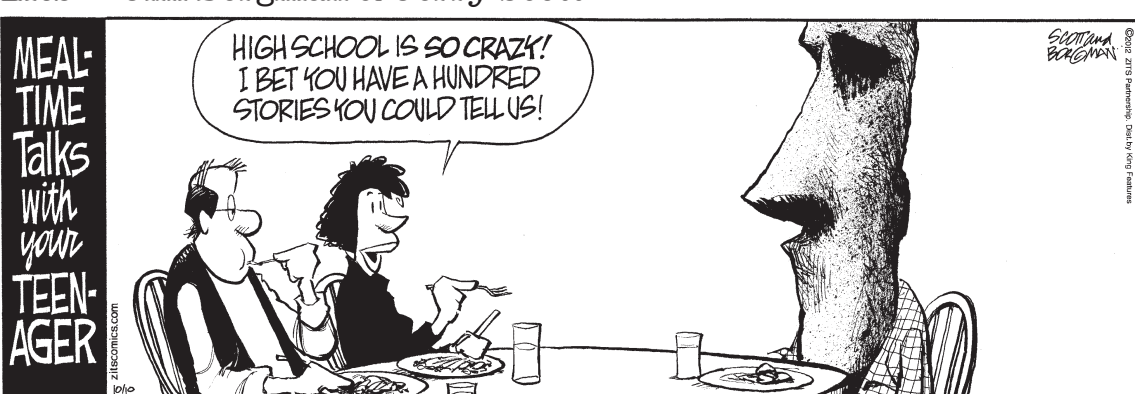
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise



• Hints from Heloise

Chocolate cake holds a surprise

Dear Heloise: I am looking for a cake recipe that I believe has sauerkraut in it. Can you help? — Helen D. in New Jersey

Absolutely! Heloise's Chocolate Sauerkraut "Surprise" Cake is moist and tasty. Just don't tell anyone the "surprise" ingredient until he or she tries it. Gather the following ingredients:

- 1 1/2 cups sugar
- 2/3 cup shortening or butter
- 3 eggs
- 1 1/4 teaspoons vanilla
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 cup cocoa
- 2 1/4 cups flour
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 cup water or beer
- 1/2-2/3 cup sauerkraut, chopped, rinsed and drained

Cream together sugar and shortening. Add eggs and mix well. Next, add vanilla, salt and cocoa. Mix together.

In another bowl, sift together flour, baking soda and baking powder. Alternating, add the dry ingredients and the water or beer, a little at a time, to the other batter.

Fold in the sauerkraut by hand. Bake in a greased and floured pan (13 by 9 inches) or cake pans (for a two-layer cake) for 35 to 45 minutes at 375 F. Frost with your favorite frosting (sour-cream or cream-cheese frosting is my favorite on this cake). This is one of many recipes available in my cake pamphlet. To receive it, send \$3 and a long, self-addressed, stamped (65 cents) envelope to: Heloise/Cakes, P.O. Box 795001, San Antonio, TX 78279-5001. Let cake cool for about 10 minutes on a wire rack BEFORE you take it out of the pan. Enjoy! — Heloise

P.S.: You can use a box cake mix in place of the dry ingredients for a quick recipe.

BROCCOLI HYBRID

Dear Readers: Broccoli is showing up in more and more grocery stores. With long stalks and florets on top that resemble broccoli, it looks like a hybrid of broccoli and asparagus. However, it actually is a natural hybrid of broccoli and Chinese kale.

It's found in many produce sections, and costs a little more than broccoli. With a subtle, sweet flavor and a touch of pepper flavor as well, the entire vegetable can be eaten either raw or cooked your favorite way. It is a vegetable worth trying, available year-round. — Heloise

COOKIE CLUTTER

Dear Heloise: Cookie cutters can look messy floating in drawers, and can pose a safety hazard for kids. A simple way to store them is to stack them on a standing paper-towel holder. It is decorative and adds a cozier feel to a kitchen when sitting out, but can be safely stored away when the kids are around! — Brenda D. in Texas

CORING LETTUCE

Dear Heloise: To take the core out of lettuce, place your hand on top of the head of lettuce, with the core facing down. Bang it on the counter. Take the core, twist it and pull it out. Now you don't have to slice off the core. Just pick off the leaves you don't want. — C.P., via e-mail

Bridge • Steve Becker

East dealer.
East-West vulnerable.

NORTH
♦ K 10 9 5 3
♥ 8 4 2
♦ A 7
♣ J 10 6

WEST
♦ 7 6
♥ A J 10 3
♦ K J 8 5 2
♣ K 4

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

SOUTH
♦ A Q J 4 2
♥ K 9 6 5
♦ 3
♣ A 9 3

The bidding:
East South West North
Pass 1 ♠ 4 ♠ Dble 3 ♠
4 ♦ 4 ♣

Opening lead — five of diamonds.

Alert Defense

Declarer may sometimes be able to disguise his overall plan of play, but on most occasions it should be easy for the defenders to see exactly what he is trying to do.

Assume you're East, defending against four spades, and your partner leads the five of diamonds. Declarer wins with dummy's ace and promptly ruffs a diamond. At this point, you should say to yourself that South appears to be laying the groundwork for an endplay, since there can be no other good reason for him to trump a diamond at trick two.

South then draws two rounds of trumps and leads the jack of clubs from dummy. When you duck, your partner wins with the king and returns the club four. Declarer takes your seven with the nine, cashes the ace of clubs, enters dummy with a trump and returns a low heart.

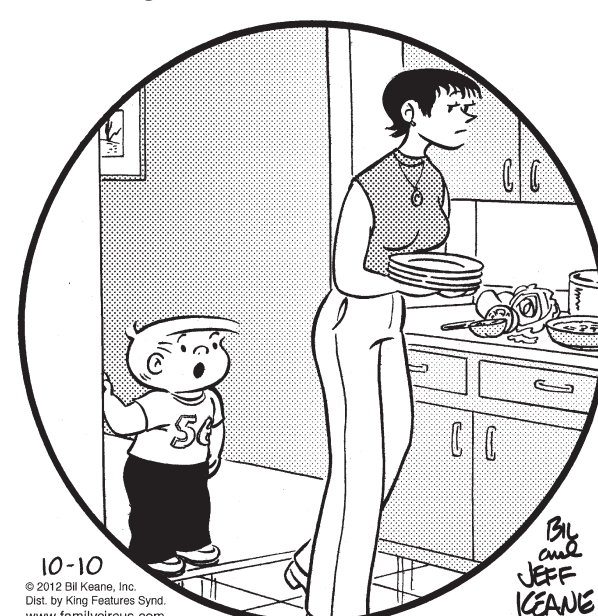
It is not difficult to deduce at this stage what declarer is planning to do. He has clearly gone out of his way to eliminate all the clubs and diamonds from both his own hand and the dummy, and is now obviously hoping to endplay your distinguished partner.

Ordinarily, you would follow low to the heart lead, but under the given circumstances, you should play the queen. If you do, declarer loses three heart tricks and goes down one.

But if you fail to play the queen -- blindly following the general rule of second-hand low -- South is sure to make the contract. He will simply cover your seven with the nine, forcing West to win and return a heart or yield a ruff-and-discard. Either way, South finishes with 10 tricks.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★ 10/10

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.

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

Cryptoquip

VFT VQET SYV LIATV CKVTD

GT CJJ IDYNNTN FHU GHVF

ULAFDYUA. GT GTDT YOJQ

IYEHOS KLOSH CV FHU.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: FLICK CONCERNING A SPECIAL WALKING SURFACE WITH SUPERHERO-LIKE POWERS: "THE FANTASTIC FLOOR."

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: G equals W

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

- | | | |
|-----------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| ACROSS | DOWN | DOWN |
| 1 Like a snail | 40 "Ben-Hur" author | 1 Emulates Simon? |
| 5 Biblical verb | 41 Volition | 2 Cleanser |
| 8 Venomous | 43 Denials | 2 Com- |
| 12 Swearing- | 45 Game | poser |
| 13 Extinct | 47 Put into | Schifrin |
| 14 Actress | 48 In | 3 "Beetle |
| 15 Acolyte | 51 Met | Bailey" |
| 17 Gruesome | 52 G.I. of | 23 "— a real |
| 18 More | 54 Bacterium | nowhere |
| 19 indigent | 55 Hiatus | man" |
| 21 Soar | 56 Tele- | 4 Harbor |
| 22 Croon | 57 One's | dog |
| 23 Possesses | performances | 4 structure |
| 26 Thither | 58 Speech | 5 Early life |
| 28 Scratch- | hesitations | forms |
| and— | 10 Father | 25 Vegas |
| 31 Canyon | (Fr.) | troupe |
| phenomenon | | member |
| 33 Scale | | 7 19th |
| member | | president |
| 35 Great | | 27 — de |
| Lake | | plume |
| 36 Mall | | 29 "A pox on |
| unit | | thee!" |
| 38 Wrong | | 30 A handful |
| (Pref.) | | 32 Folding |
| | | art |
| | | 34 Police |
| | | methods |
| | | 37 Right |
| | | angle |
| | | 39 Composi- |
| | | tion |
| | | 42 Sill |
| | | 44 Un- |
| | | stressed |
| | | vowel |
| | | 45 Luggage |
| | | 46 Sandwich |
| | | cookie |
| | | 48 Last |
| | | write-up |
| | | 49 Campus |
| | | quarters |
| | | 50 Spud's |
| | | buds |
| | | 53 Wrong |
| | | need |

Yesterday's answer 10-10

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
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		