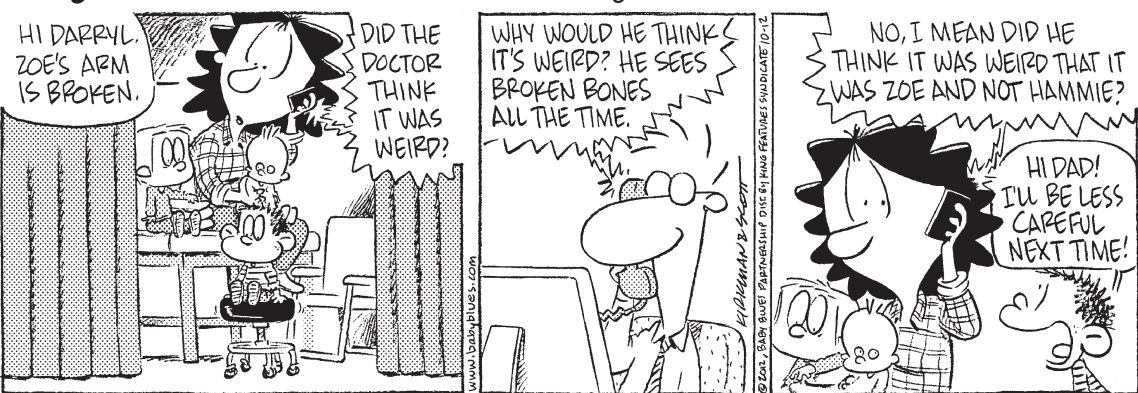
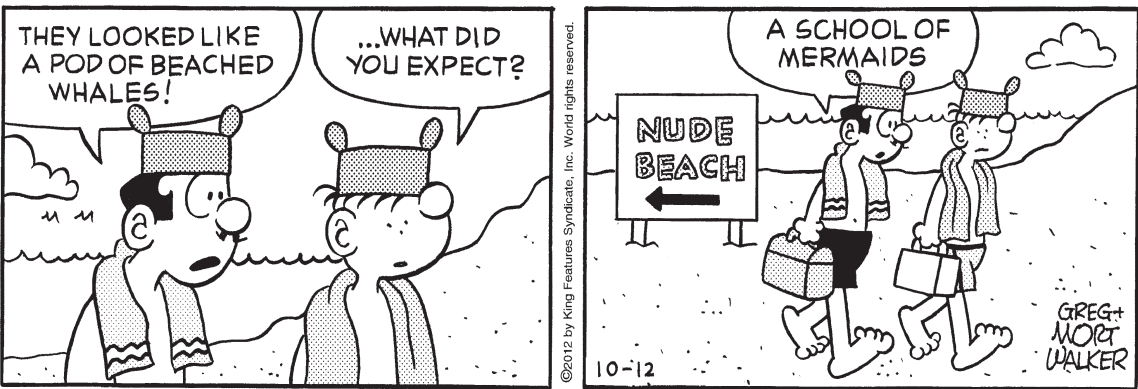


Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



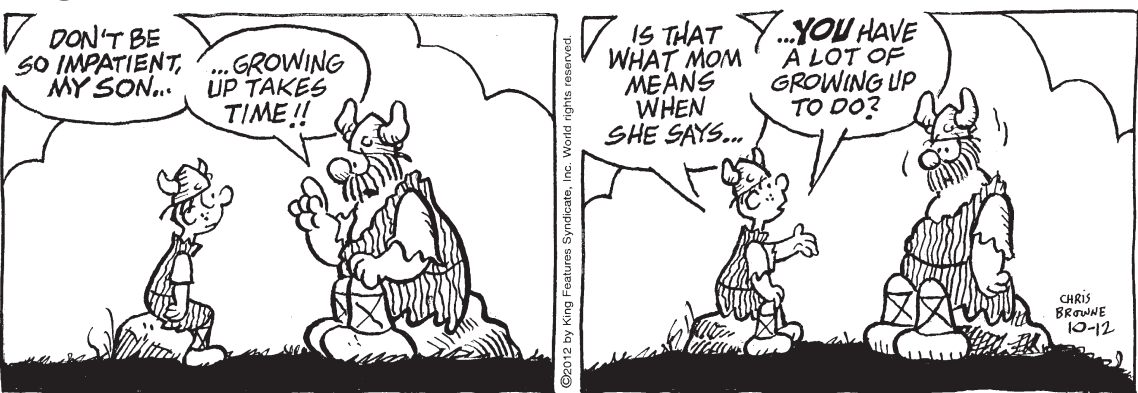
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young



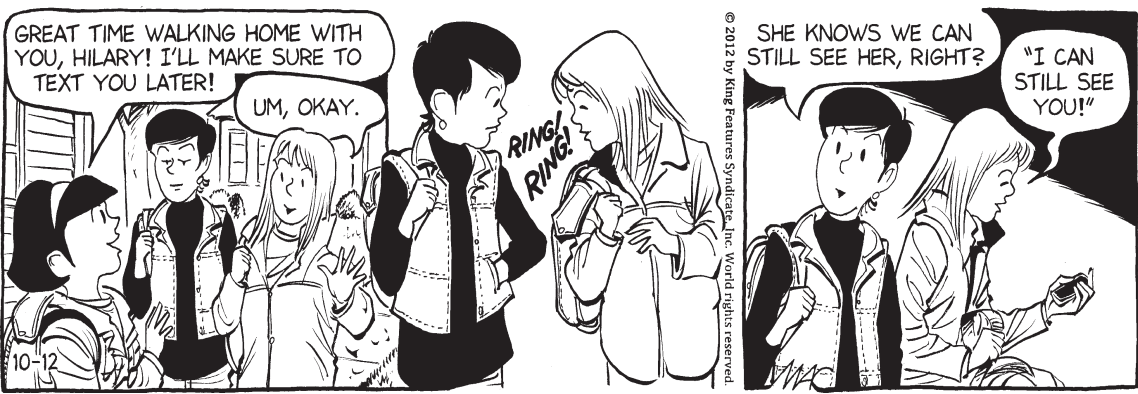
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



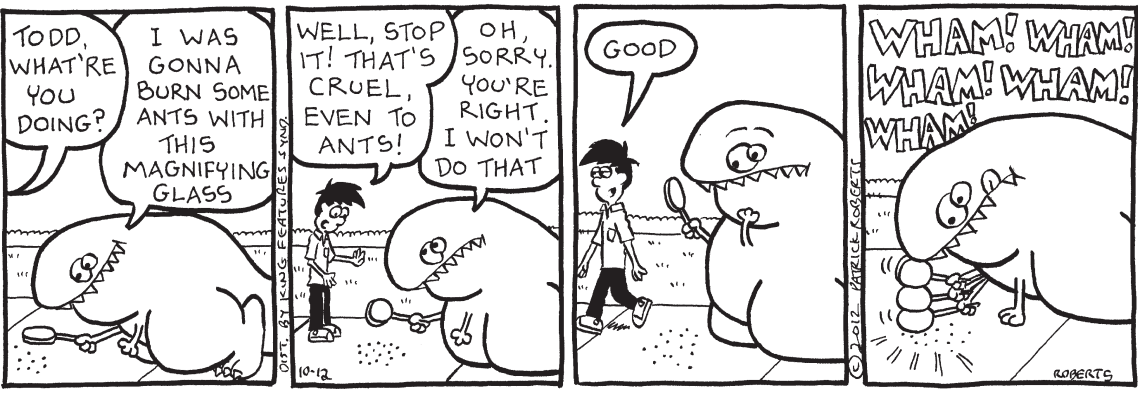
Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



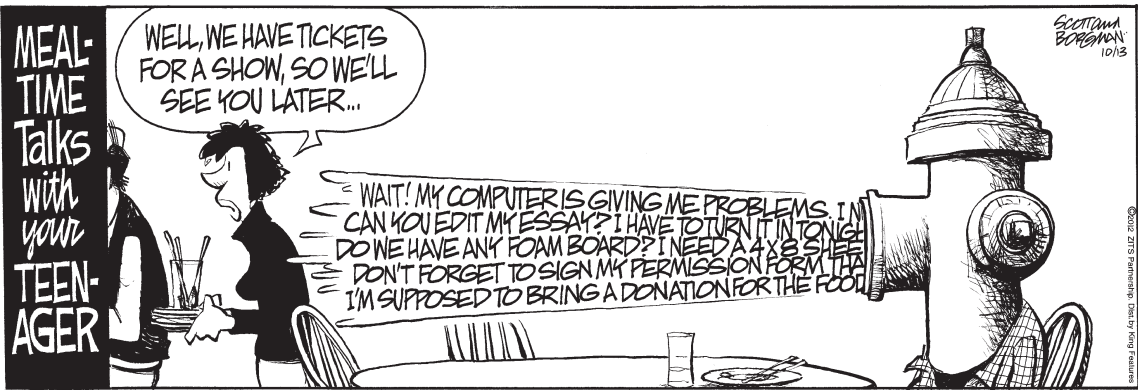
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise

- Hints from Heloise

How do hints make the grade?

Dear Readers: Many of you often write wondering why some hints are chosen and printed in the column and others are not. For a hint to be printed in my column, it must work (yes, I do test them), it must be safe, appeal to most readers and not have been printed recently.

Here's how the week generally breaks down, with each day having a special feature:
 Monday – Sound Off and Fast Facts
 Tuesday – Consumer Connection
 Wednesday – Heloise Kitcheneering and Food-Related Hints
 Thursday – Classic Heloise
 Friday – Travel Hint and Technology.
 Saturday – Gardening, Home Improvement and Pet Pal. Saturdays used to be all-pet-related.

I asked my readers, "Do you want to keep it that way, or spread it throughout the week?" The response was that you wanted them spread out.

Each newspaper may run the column differently. Some run it every day, while others run it only certain days of the week. I would love to see how it appears in your paper. Please send me the column (preferably the whole page) from your newspaper and include your name, address and the name of your paper. I will randomly pick 50 readers to receive a Heloise pamphlet. Can't wait to hear from you! – Heloise

SEND A GREAT HINT TO:

Heloise
 P.O. Box 795000
 San Antonio, TX 78279-5000
 Fax: 1-210-HELOISE
 E-mail: Heloise@Heloise.com

BOOMING BOWL

Dear Heloise: Did you know a glass or ceramic bowl can be used as an amplifier to listen to music on your smartphone? Place the phone in a clean bowl, and instantly you have a speaker. – A Reader in Iowa

TRAVEL HINT

Dear Heloise: My family loves to take road trips. Sometimes the kids get a little antsy, and we often hear "Are we there yet?" I have come up with a way to keep them entertained in the car. Before we leave, I pack "surprises" in plain brown lunch sacks and staple them closed. Surprises can be anything from a new toy to a book or a candy treat. Each sack is then labeled with a time: "10:30," "11:30" and so on. At that time, the kids can open their surprise. They get so excited with anticipation, they forget how long we have been in the car. – A Reader in Alaska

HALLOWEEN

Dear Heloise: For Halloween, my kids are making their own treat buckets. We save ice-cream buckets with handles, wash and decorate with markers, stickers or whatever we find. They can make new ones each year. – Trina, via e-mail

SALT SHAKER

Dear Heloise: I love to eat nuts as a snack. To reduce the salt, I empty them into a sieve and shake over the sink or trash can. The excess salt is shaken off. – Thelma in Nebraska
 Or, you can buy no-salt and mix with salted. – Heloise

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Bridge • Steve Becker

You deal and open One Club with the following hand:

♠ AJ94 ♥ 72 ♦ KJ3 ♣ KQ82

After your partner responds One Diamond, you bid One Spade. What would you do if your partner next bid:

1. One notrump.
2. Two clubs.
3. Three clubs.
4. Three diamonds.
5. Three spades.

Bidding Quiz

1. Pass. Game is out of the question, as you have a minimum opening bid and your partner has indicated minimum values (six to 10 points) by his one-notrump rebid. The only real question, therefore, is whether to play the hand in one notrump or two diamonds.

It would be dangerous to bid two diamonds -- partner might have a weak four-card-suit -- and there is no good reason to risk such a bid when you have a notrump type of hand and partner apparently has one also.

2. Pass. Here again there is practically no chance for game. Partner's two-club bid is a sign-off, so there is no good reason to bid again, especially since he might have only six or seven high-card points. Another way of looking at it is to say to yourself that even though you have a sound opening bid, you have no additional values to declare. Accordingly, you should stop bidding while you still have a chance to make a partscore.

3. Three diamonds. Unless you have an agreement to the contrary, partner's jump-rebid is forcing, and the most descriptive bid you can make now is three diamonds. There is no way to know at this point what the final contract will be; it's up to your partner to make that decision now that you've fully described your hand.

4. Four diamonds. Partner's jump-rebid is forcing (subject to partnership agreement), and all you can do is tell him, as part of the descriptive process, that you have adequate support for his suit. After this bid, where you eventually end up is basically partner's decision.

5. Four spades. Whether partner's jump-raise is forcing to game or merely invitational, you should carry on to game in spades. While you have a bit better than a dead minimum for your previous bids, you certainly don't have enough to make any move toward slam without further encouragement from partner.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



10-12

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"I sure hope this is one of those times we'll always remember."

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

10/12

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.

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

Cryptoquip

JFN LFSON'J DNSPCQV EJ

DAQCFEPOV APNQINSJ. E

JSLLNJA CYAQA ISJC ZA

F ZFTEOENP ZQFTEOFPJ.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: OLD SLOW SONG CONCERNING A VOLCANO RESEARCHER'S UNFORTUNATE ACCIDENT: "WHEN I FALL IN LAVA."

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: J equals S

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

- 1 Poke
- 4 Crazy
- 8 Take a stance?
- 12 Bullring bravo
- 13 Bloodhound's clue
- 14 Basin accessory
- 15 Squid, on a menu
- 17 Rend
- 18 Knapsack
- 19 Biz deg.
- 21 Waste no time
- 22 Ailment
- 26 Actor Burr's role
- 29 Lustrous black
- 30 Pirouette pivot
- 31 Addict
- 32 Turf
- 33 Tittle
- 34 Wire measure
- 35 Lamb's mama
- 36 Pinnacles
- 37 Antipasto ingredient
- 39 Rage
- 40 Conventional
- 41 Shrimp recipe
- 45 "So be it"
- 48 Milky Way et al.
- 50 Stead
- 51 Deadlocked
- 52 Muumuu accessory
- 53 "— have to do"
- 54 Utility bill datum
- 55 Sanctions
- 3 Sash
- 4 Realm
- 5 Saw
- 6 Supporting
- 7 Decorated
- 8 "Loves me (not)"
- 9 Leave unpaid
- 10 Vast expanse
- 11 Blunder
- 16 Detest
- 20 Baseball need
- 23 Fermi's bit
- 24 Shower affection (on)
- 25 Favorable votes
- 26 "— the word"
- 27 One side of the Urals
- 28 Hawk
- 29 Coffee, slangily
- 32 Monkey, at times
- 33 Mountaineering tool
- 35 Flightless bird
- 36 Esoteric
- 38 Cancel
- 39 Archipelago component
- 42 Actor O'Shea
- 43 Quick look
- 44 Fertility goddess
- 45 "The Greatest"
- 46 Cambridge sch.
- 47 Moray, for one
- 49 Ms. Gardner

DOWN

- 1 Athlete
- 2 Jai follower

Solution time: 25 mins.

C	A	R	T	Y	O	U	R	T	A	D		
A	L	O	E	M	E	S	A	O	R	R		
T	O	P	S	E	C	R	E	T	P	E	A	
S	T	E	L	L	A	E	R	N	S	T		
A	M	R	A	D	I	O						
H	A	T	S	F	E	B	O	T	I	S		
A	G	O	L	I	E	G	I	A				
W	E	P	T	A	N	T	C	H	I	P		
H	A	C	K	S	O	R						
O	P	E	R	A		A	V	A	T	A	R	
K	E	A		T	O	P	B	A	N	A	N	A
R	E	V		C	R	E	E	B	O	N		
A	N	Y		H	E	R	D	S	U	N	K	

Yesterday's answer 10-12

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		