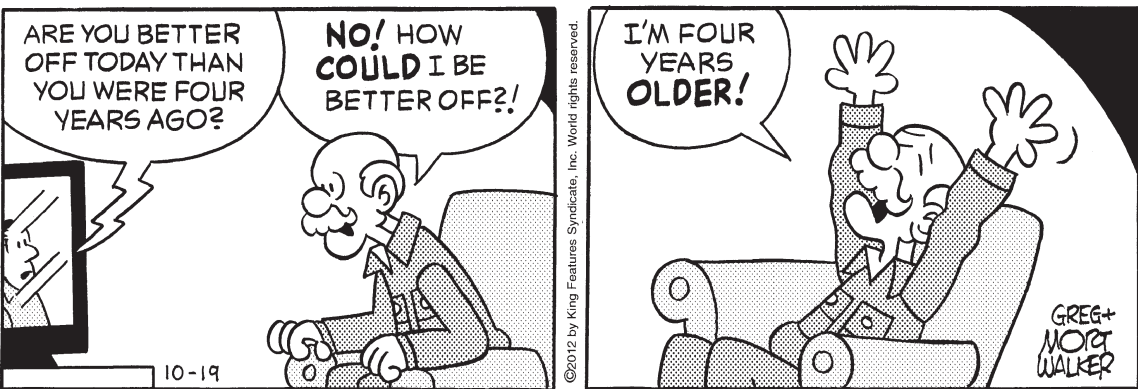


Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



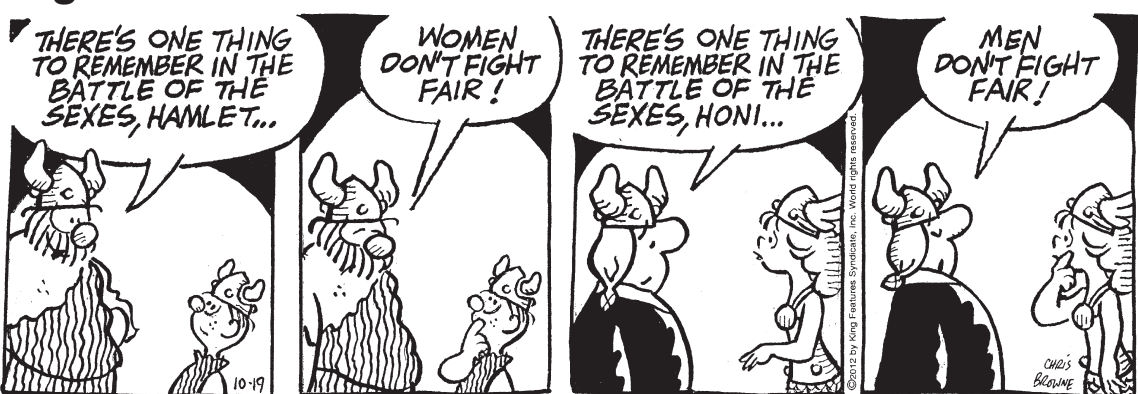
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



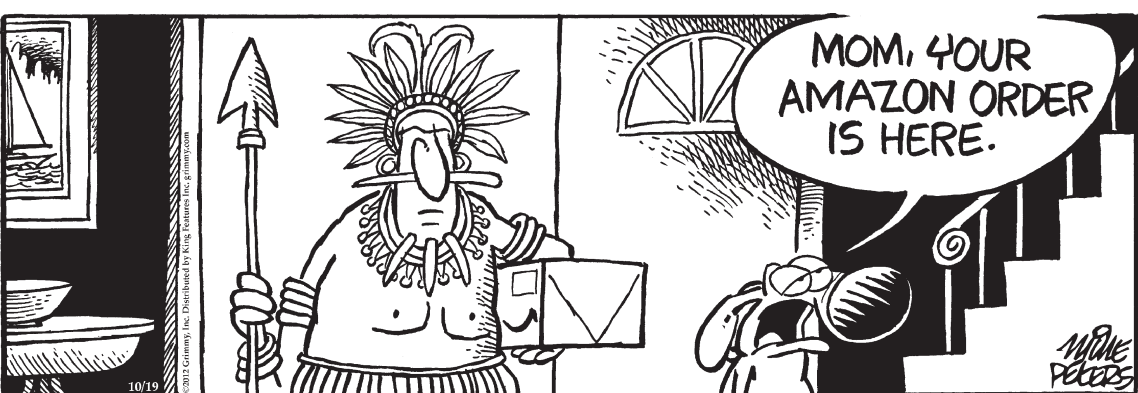
Blondie • Chic Young



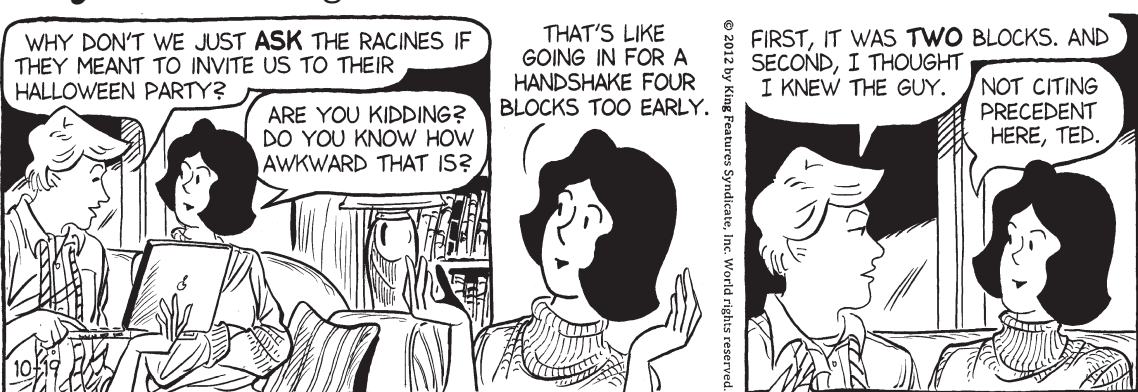
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



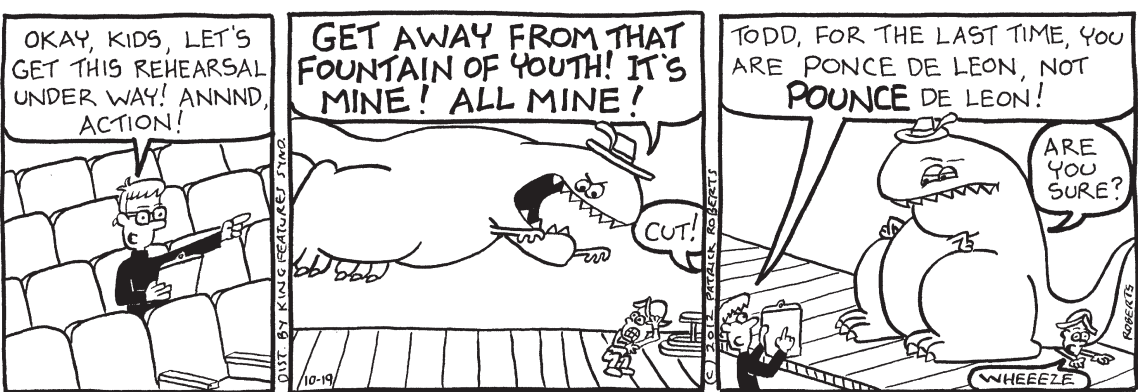
Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



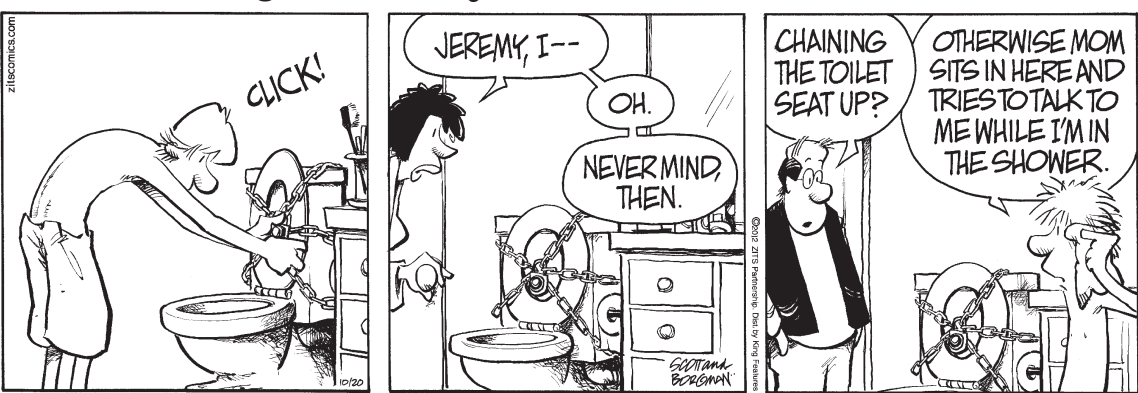
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise
• Hints from Heloise

Adopt new pet, but first prepare

Dear Readers: October is Adopt-a-Shelter-Dog Month. Here are some helpful hints from the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals for bringing home a new pet:

- Buy supplies: Make sure you have the essentials – food and water bowls, toys, collar and leash.
- Decide house rules and responsibilities: Who is going to walk and feed the new family member? Decide general house rules. Will the dog be allowed on furniture, to have people food, etc.?
- Doggie-proof: Do a sweep and check for anything the new addition might chew or ingest.
- Make an appointment with your veterinarian for the pet to have a thorough exam. Find out about the licensing policy where you live.
- Make a plan: Come up with a training plan, and inform the entire household so it is consistent. Are you going to crate-train? What will the reward be for good behavior, etc.?

These helpful hints will make you and your new pet get along much better. – Heloise, and “Woof, woof” from Cabbie

SEND A GREAT HINT TO:

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

TOSSING TROPHIES

Dear Heloise: I would like to get rid of the kids' old trophies. Do you know where I can take them? – Susan in Texas

Here are some suggestions: Try a charity thrift store like the Salvation Army that accepts old trophies. See if there is a teacher who can use them as awards. Or talk to coaches to see if they would like to reuse them. Take the nameplates off first – you can make a wall hanging or place them in a scrapbook, which takes up much less space.

Readers, do you know of places that accept old trophies? Or do you have any creative uses for them? – Heloise

TRAVEL HINT

Dear Heloise: I've read several hints for using a hanging shoe bag to create more storage space in the home. That gave me the idea for taking one on a vacation where four adults shared a cabin with one small bathroom. The shoe bag had 20 pockets, so each adult had plenty of room for his or her toiletries, and we managed to keep the small vanity clutter-free! – Pam in San Antonio

CAREFREE CREDIT

Dear Heloise: There are times when I want to buy something online, but I am nervous, with all the identify theft, about entering my information. You can buy prepaid credit cards at grocery stores, so when I want to buy something online, I use one of those. Then I don't have to worry. – A Concerned Reader in Utah

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Bridge • Steve Becker

You are South, both sides vulnerable. The bidding has been:

South West North East
1♥ 2♣ Dble* Pass
?

*penalty double
What, if anything, would you now bid with each of the following five hands?

- ♠AJ6 ♥KQJ9862 ♦J5 ♣4
- ♠10 ♥AQ943 ♦KQJ7 ♣962
- ♠AQJ6 ♥KQJ82 ♦AJ94 ♣—
- ♠7 ♥QJ964 ♦AKJ85 ♣K7
- ♠AK9 ♥AQJ1043 ♦KJ3 ♣8

Bidding Quiz

1. Two hearts. Partner's double says he expects to beat two clubs two or three tricks, but he is probably counting on you for the three defensive tricks an opening bidder is normally assumed to have. However, since your hand is basically offensive rather than defensive, you should not allow the double to stand.

When you overrule the double by bidding two hearts, partner will know you are subpar from the standpoint of high-card values, but over par from the standpoint of trick-taking potential if hearts are trump.

2. Pass. Although you have a minimum opening bid with only 12 high-card points, you should accept the double. Your three trumps add greatly to your defensive values, since the more trumps you have in conjunction with partner's trump length, the more tricks your side will take.

3. Three clubs. Here you take the double out, not because you think the contract won't be defeated – West will surely not make two clubs doubled – but because game in some denomination is a certainty, and slam is a possibility. The danger is that the penalty you can exact might not compensate for the game or slam you miss. Three clubs guarantees a club void and asks partner to name a new suit or support hearts. If partner next bids three notrump, you will pass.

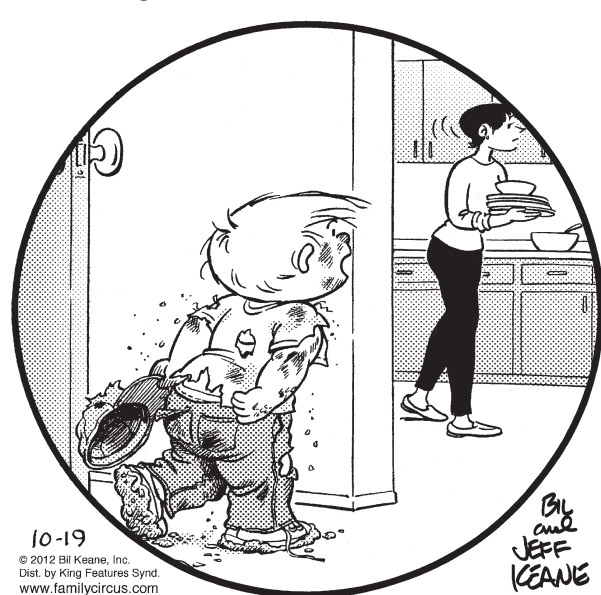
4. Pass. Here you accept the double, despite your as-yet-unexpressed distributional values, largely because your opening bid is normal from the standpoint of high-card values. In addition, your K-x of trumps should prove especially valuable on defense and should help produce a juicy penalty.

5. Three hearts. Game in hearts is very likely, and you indicate this by jumping to three hearts. It is doubtful that the potential penalty would repay you for the game that you can almost certainly score.

In general, you do better by respecting partner's penalty doubles, but you should still treat the double of an overcall as a suggestion, not a command.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



10-19
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“Mommy, are you in a good mood today?”

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★ ★

10/19

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.

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

Difficulty Level ★★ ★

Cryptoquip

Q D L Y J B J D Q L Z W T C B M N

B U D L C Q D M M W Q C Z B T T W M R

V D M F W R W U W Q Y B R R O V O W J

B R B A M D A W M F B T J W M V O Y Z ?

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF RABBITS HAVE TO TRAVEL SOMEWHERE BY PLANE, I IMAGINE THEY WILL HOP FLIGHTS AT HARE-PORTS.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: B equals A

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| ACROSS | DOWN |
| 1 "— la-la!" | 1 Vacationing |
| 4 Blue hue | 2 Man-mouse |
| 8 Docket entry | 3 Retreat |
| 12 Part of TGIF | 4 Stretch, as the neck |
| 13 Sitarist's rendition | 5 Deviates off course |
| 14 Fairy tale preposition | 6 Khan title |
| 15 What old soldiers do | 7 Yea canceler |
| 17 Actress Gilpin | 8 Dome |
| 18 Sea flock | 9 Pinnacle |
| 19 Packaged river | 10 Aching city |
| 20 Missouri of your life? | 11 Oklahoma city |
| 22 One-on-one fight | 16 Work units |
| 24 Moistens in the morn | 19 Flex stupidly |
| 25 Clingy crustacean | 20 Probability |
| 29 Narc's org. | |
| 30 Sightless | |
| 31 Melody | |
| 32 Small telescope | |
| 34 On the briny | |
| 35 July birthstone | |

Solution time: 25 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 10-19

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	