

Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



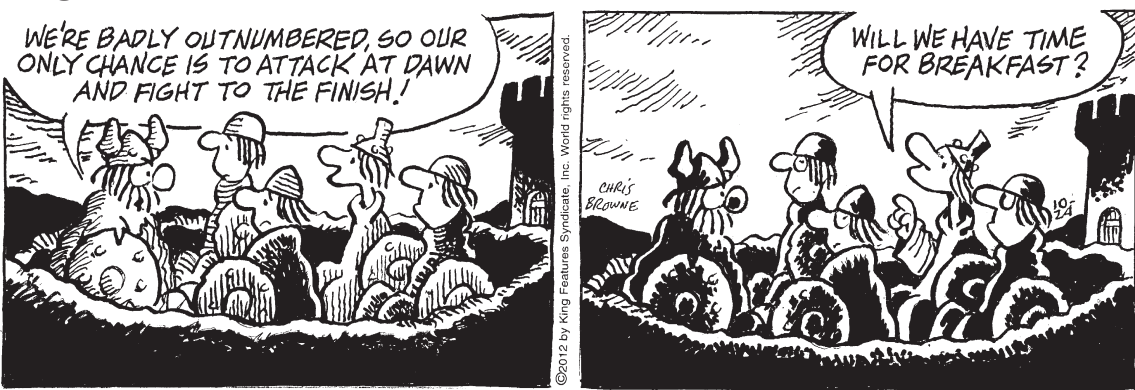
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



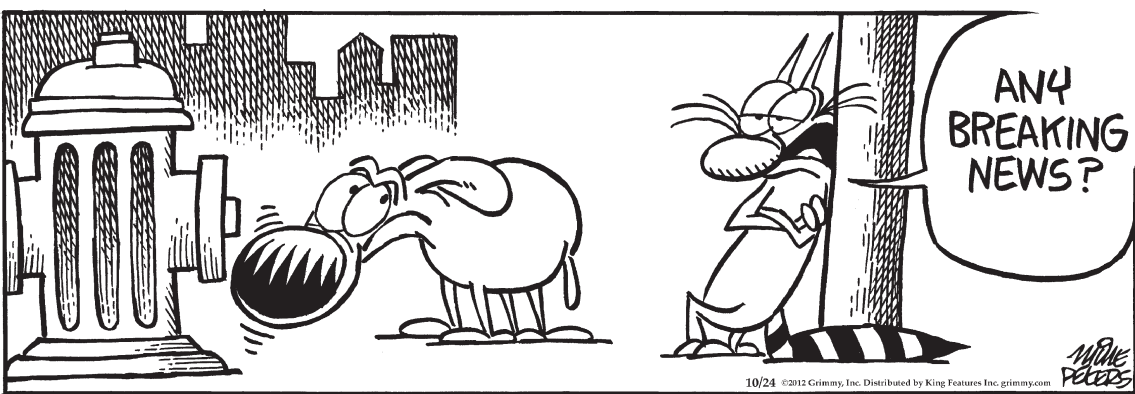
Blondie • Chic Young



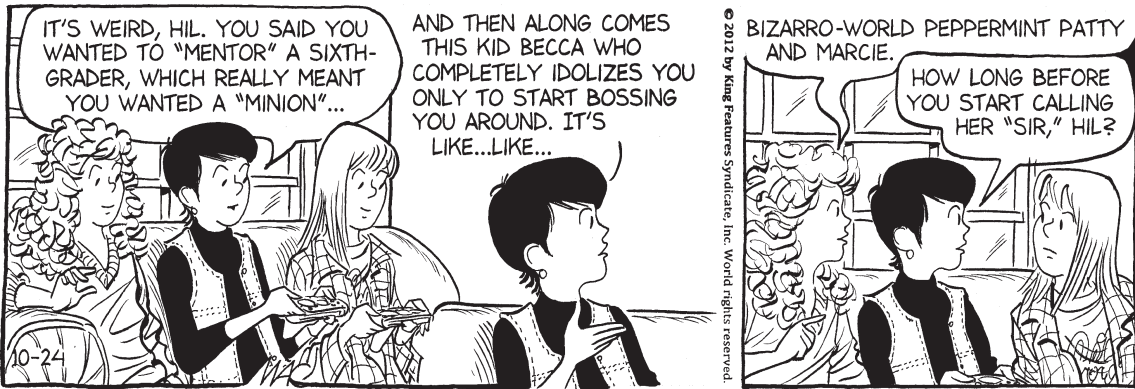
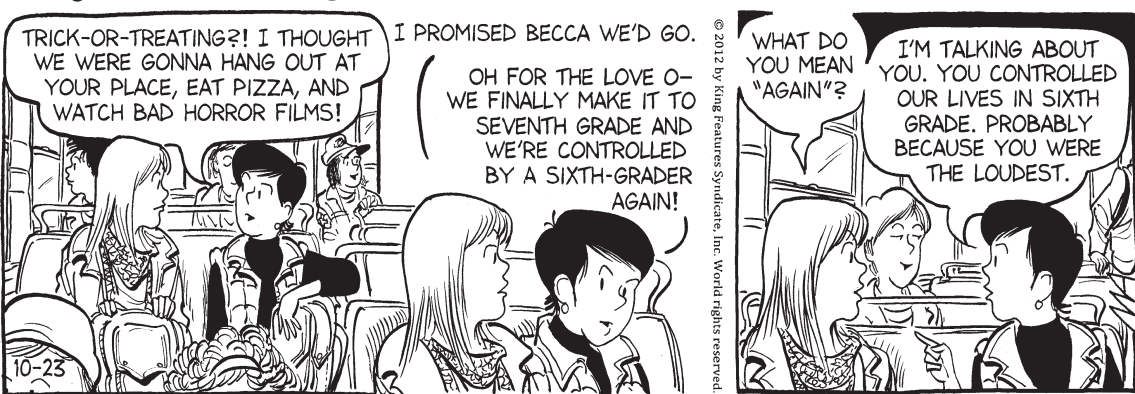
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



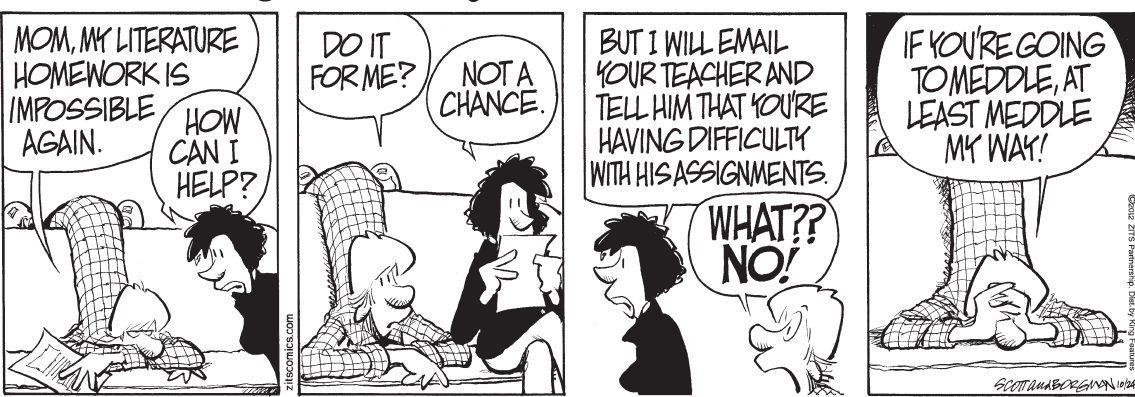
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise



• Hints from Heloise

Think allergies in buying treats

Dear Heloise: I always buy my favorite candy at Halloween just in case I have to eat some myself. I noticed that most of the candy was made with peanuts, and I thought of my granddaughter who is allergic to all nuts.

I make it a point to buy some candy that does not have nuts and put it in a different bowl. When trick-or-treaters come to the door, I first ask if anyone has an allergy to nuts. If I hear a "yes," then that goblin receives candy out of the special bowl. — B.G. in Colorado

With so many people having peanut allergies, how thoughtful to consider those with allergies when purchasing Halloween treats. Just remember, even if a candy does not contain nuts, it may be made in a factory that processes nuts, which can be just as dangerous to eat. Be sure to read the package. — Heloise

SEND A GREAT HINT TO:

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COOL CUCUMBERS

Dear Readers: Few things are more satisfying than a crisp, fresh cucumber, but did you know that this refreshing fruit is actually a member of the gourd family? Here are just a few of the tasty uses for this unique squash:

- Pickles
- Relish
- Soup
- Asian salads
- Salsa
- Topping off a dish
- English sandwiches.

With so many quick-and-easy uses, could anything be cooler than a cucumber? — Heloise

SILICONE-PAN REUSE

Dear Heloise: I have bought and used many silicone pans. After several years, they may become stained, sticky or burned. To reuse a round or square pan, take a pair of sharp scissors and carefully cut around the bottom edge, leaving you with a silicone mat. Round ones can be used as trivets, or simply a mat to set things on that would otherwise scratch a wooden surface or table. The square pan bottoms can be cut into four squares for use as "mug rugs" (coasters). And the fluted, round cake pans can be cut, starting at the center cone, into bands that last longer than rubber bands. Or, simply cut off the cone part and use as a funnel. — Sara in Decatur, Ind.

BREAKFAST CEREAL

Dear Heloise: Drizzle a little honey on dry cereal. It really doesn't change the taste very drastically. The honey adheres to the cereal, holds it together and is near impossible to shake off the spoon. Add a couple of drops of vanilla to the bowl, and it also enhances the milk. I think moms might want to use this hint for their little ones, but others will love it, too! — K.P., Amarillo, Texas

Bridge • Steve Becker

East dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ K 6 2
♥ 9 8 5
♦ A K 10
♣ 9 7 4 2
WEST
♠ 8
♥ J 6 2
♦ 8 7 5 4 3
♣ 10 6 5 3
EAST
♠ Q J 10 9 4 3
♥ A
♦ Q J 9
♣ K Q J
SOUTH
♠ A 7 5
♥ K Q 10 7 4 3
♦ 6 2
♣ A 8

The bidding:
East 1♠ South 2♥ West Pass North 3♥
Opening lead — eight of spades.

God Save the King!

Declarer frequently has a choice of whether to win a trick in his own hand or in dummy. Obviously, no uniform rule can be applied to these situations — the right play depends strictly on the circumstances.

Consider the present case, where West led a spade that South could win in either hand. His potential losers were a spade, a club and either one or two hearts. It was clear that he could hold himself to one trump loser by leading trumps from dummy toward his K-Q-10, since the bidding had marked East with the ace.

So declarer took the opening spade lead with dummy's king in order to lead a trump, taken by East with the ace. But when East now returned the queen of spades, South was in trouble. He played the ace, trumped by West, and declarer later lost a club and a spade and went down one.

South was certainly right in thinking that the first trump lead should come from dummy. But since it was almost certain from the bidding that East had six spades and West only one, declarer should have chosen his entries more carefully.

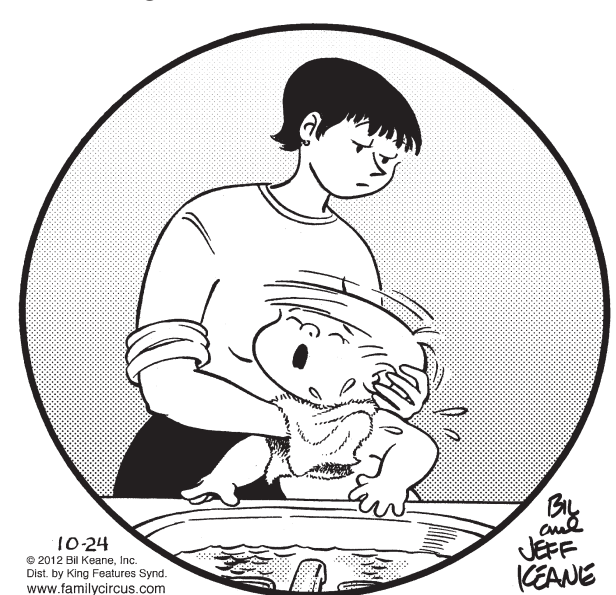
To protect against a 6-1 spade division, South should have won the spade lead in his hand, led a diamond to dummy's king and then led a trump. East would win and return a spade, but this would no longer pose a threat.

West could ruff, but in that case dummy would play low, and South would lose only a heart, a club and a spade ruff. And if West did not ruff the spade return, dummy's king would win, and South's only losers would be a spade, a heart and a club.

Declarer's choice of where to take the first trick made all the difference between winning and losing the contract.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



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Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★ 10/24

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.

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

Cryptoquip

DMT CJMTIL XAGAO TCA

EOALSN EROLC AKEACCSGAID,

RC NJRN EMTIL FA

AKNOAZAID LAFN-OSZAXNRI.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN ACTOR DANSON REVEALS SOMETHING THAT'S SECRET, I IMAGINE YOU COULD CALL IT A TED GIVEAWAY.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: T equals U

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Tavern
4 Tosses in
8 Slays,
"Sopranos" style
12 Altar
affirma-
52 Bafflers
56 Other-
wise
13 Voice
in an
iPhone
14 Law office
aide, for
short
15 "Sinker"
17 Caspian
feeder
18 Teut.
19 Financial
rescue
21 Decapitate
24 Fish eggs
25 Greek
vowel
26 Coffee
holder
28 Family
member
32 Tatters
34 Physique
36 Grabbed
37 Astronaut
John
39 Speck
41 Work with
42 Wet
wriggler

DOWN
44 Persis-
tent
46 Bug
50 To be
degree
51 Smell
57 Throw
58 "To be
or — ..."
59 Start a
garden
60 —
Stanley
Gardner
61 Wilde-
beest
3 Fiber
4 Religious
retreat
5 Cacophony
6 Defeat
soundly
7 Shan-
kar's
instru-
ment
8 Rich
9 Gambling
game
10 Herr's
wife
11 Shaker
contents
16 "Golly!"
20 Debtor's
letters
21 Ice
mass
22 List-
ending
abbr.

23 Fix the
sound-
track
27 Deity
29 Cold
symptom
30 Misplace
31 Stretches
(out)
33 Showed
disdain
35 Two, in
Tijuana
38 Butterfly
catcher
40 Feels
pins and
needles
43 Work-
shop
machine
45 Ordinal
suffix
46 Troubles
47 Not
working
48 American
Beauty,
e.g.
49 Rain hard
53 Web
address
54 A billion
years
55 Disco
fan on
"The
Simpsons"



Yesterday's answer 10-25

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
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				60					61	