

Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



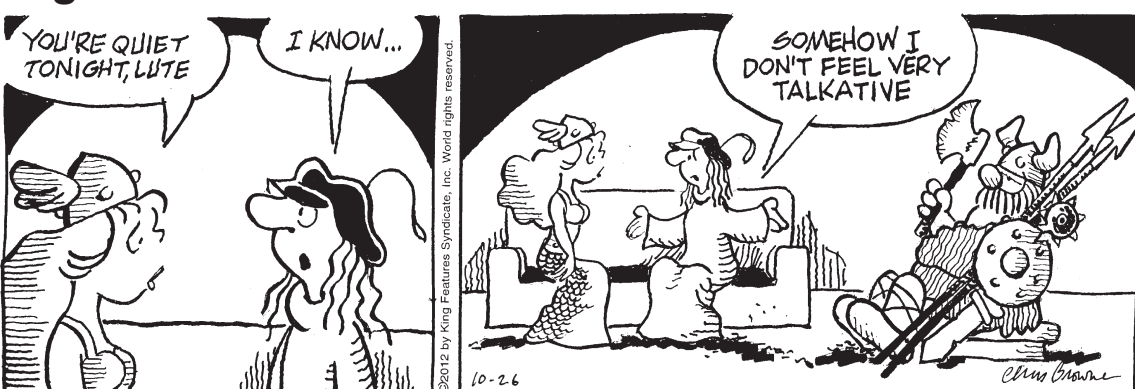
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young



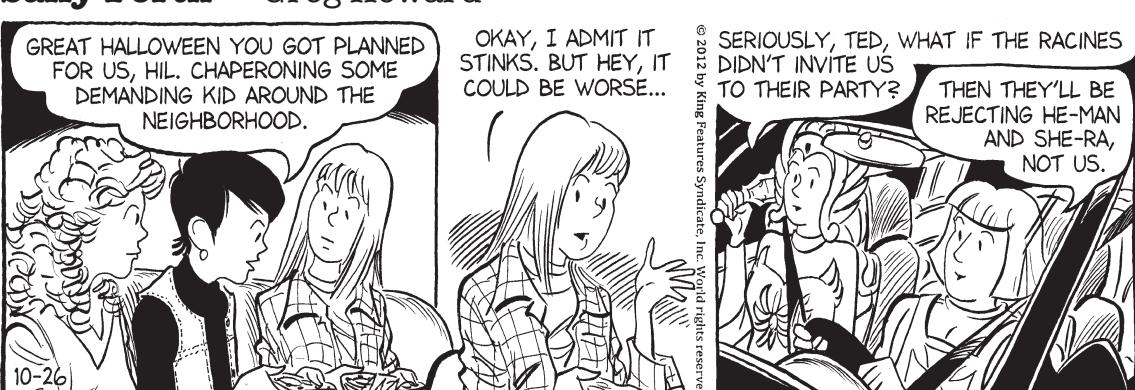
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



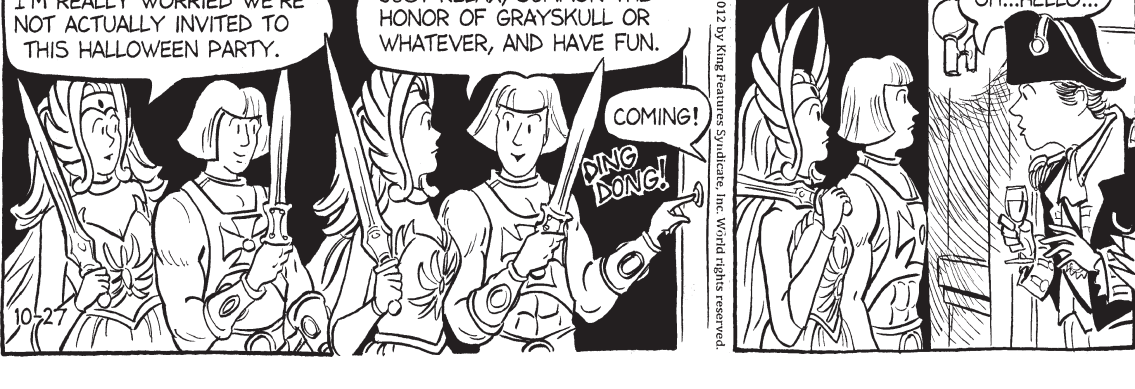
Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise



• Hints from Heloise

Clean up fast from Halloween

Dear Readers: Halloween is coming soon, and with it come neighborhood pranks. Here are some helpful hints on what to do if you are a target:

- Toilet-papered trees: The most important aspect is getting to the paper right away. If it rains, the wet paper can be nearly impossible to remove. Use the handle of a broom, mop, rake, etc., to reach into the tree and knock down or grab streamers. If there are small pieces high up in the tree, the wind eventually will knock them down, and you can clean them up as they fall.
- Egg on car: If you see egg on your car: get to it immediately. The yolk, white and shell can cause damage to a car's finish. Just grab the garden hose and rinse off. Stubborn bits and pieces can be removed by the high pressure of a car-wash.
- Shaving cream: How to clean it up will depend on where it was sprayed. Usually a garden hose will do the trick. Some surfaces may need scrubbing and then a good rinse with the garden hose. — Heloise

SEND A GREAT HINT TO:
Heloise
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San Antonio, TX 78279-5000
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E-mail: Heloise@Heloise.com

TRAVEL HINT
Dear Heloise: When traveling, I always stop to purchase postcards with beautiful pictures of the locale. I take them home and use them when scrapbooking about the trip. I take a lot of pictures myself, but often the postcards have pictures I couldn't have gotten myself, and add that little extra something special. — Katy in Washington

SILL SWIPING
Dear Heloise: I need some info on an inexpensive way to clean windowsills besides using a clunky vacuum. Thank you. — Robyn, via e-mail

Robyn, one of my favorites is a damp (water only) microfiber cloth. If that isn't enough, try using one of the white, all-purpose, abrasive foam sponges you find at grocery stores. — Heloise

EVERYTHING IN ITS PLACE
Dear Heloise: Thank you for giving us all a place to exchange ideas to ease our lives. Something that has helped me throughout the years is keeping items right where they'll be used: Keep hot pads on top of the microwave to put under hot dishes. Keep restaurant coupons in the car. Have a big, attractive basket by the door for children to use for caps and mittens. Always know where a hand towel is in the kitchen by "threading" it through a heavy rubber band, then slipping it over a cabinet knob near the sink. — Vangie in Ohio

Bridge • Steve Becker

1. You are declarer with the West hand at Four Spades, and North leads the queen of diamonds. How would you play the hand?

WEST
♠ A K J 7 3
♥ 8 4 2
♦ 8 5
♣ A K 9

EAST
♠ Q 10 8 6 2
♥ A Q 10 5
♦ K 3
♣ 7 4

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

WEST
♠ A J 9 6
♥ J 9 3
♦ A 9 7
♣ A K 8

EAST
♠ Q 10 5
♥ A 6 4
♦ K 5 4 3
♣ Q 9 2

Test Your Play
1. Superficially, it might seem to make no difference whether you cover the diamond with the king or not. But to make sure of the contract, you should duck the queen.

It is certainly reasonable to assume that South has the ace, and once this is granted, the contract is cold if you let North's queen hold the first trick. The problem with the king play is that South will win with the ace and return a diamond, allowing North to shift to a heart. If it then turns out that South has both the king and jack of hearts, you will eventually lose two hearts and two diamonds and go down one.

But if you duck the first diamond, you are safe against any attack. If North continues the suit, you win any return by South, play the A-K of clubs and ruff a club in dummy, draw trumps and then lead a heart to the ten. Even if South wins with the jack, you score the rest of the tricks against any return.

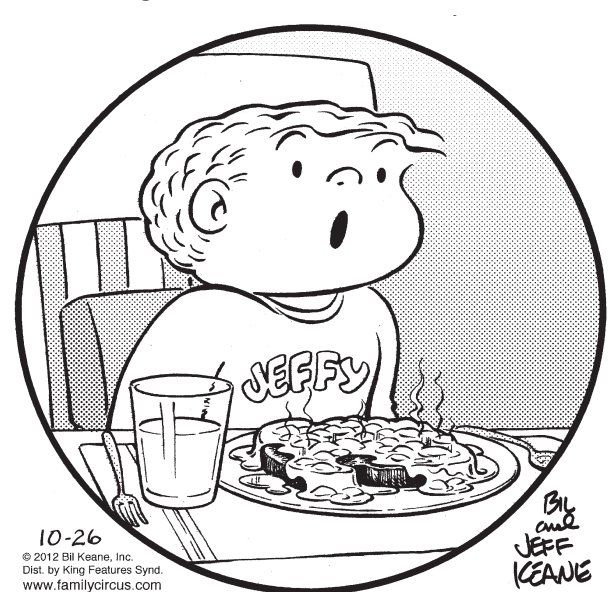
Alternatively, if North shifts to a heart at trick two, you rise with the ace, draw trumps, play the A-K and ruff a club, then lead the king of diamonds. South wins with the ace, but whatever he returns you are home, losing only two diamonds and a heart.

2. The only threat to the contract is if North has the king of spades and more than four hearts, since with any other distribution you can't lose more than four tricks after trying the spade finesse. You start by assuming that North's seven is his fourth-best heart, which means he may have led from K-Q-8-7-x, K-10-8-7-x or Q-10-8-7-x. (With K-Q-10-7-x, he presumably would have led the king.)

The best way of dealing with these three possibilities is to go up with the ace at trick one. This approach fails in the first case, but succeeds in the other two cases (even if the spade finesse loses) by blocking the defenders' hearts whenever South started with K-x or Q-x. Ducking the opening heart lead in these two cases would allow South to win and return a heart, unblocking the suit and defeating the contract if North has the king of spades.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



10-26
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Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★ 10/26

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.

Cryptoquip

KGUUDYL EJLYKRA PAJ PYU
NLJPL ZJ AYHO LJZYIQX POYN
EGURQOU YLB ZOLBJLU:
DHYL ZAO ZOYKYIQO.
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF ALL OF A REPUBLIC'S RESIDENTS BECAME BAKERS, YOU MIGHT SAY THEY'D MAKE A DOUGH-NATION.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: P equals W

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 One of the kin
4 Genie's home
8 Green or Rogen
12 Noshed
13 Blood-hound's clue
14 Temptation
15 Cribbage scorer
16 Un-escorted
17 Belligerent deity
18 Insignificant sum
21 Still
22 Last letter
23 Pollster's find
26 Moment
27 Moo goo gai pan
30 Deception
31 Solidify
32 Marathon fraction
33 Mel of Coopers-town
34 "Family Guy" airer
35 Annie's dog

36 Bother-ation
37 Erstwhile acorn
38 Universe explanation
45 Vicinity
46 Greek vowel
47 Court
48 Inmates
49 Watchful one
50 Drag along
51 Dandling site
52 Whodunit writer
53 Vast expanse

3 Genesis maker
4 Hung lazily
5 Take as one's own
6 Stereo forerunner
7 Tavern snack
8 Chalk-board
9 Continental coin
10 Almond or pecan
11 Pianist
12 Dame Myra
19 Bobcat kin
20 Early nuclear org.

24 Deterioration
25 Dine on license
26 Driver's datum
27 Triumph
28 Bygone
29 Crucial
31 Treasure seekers in a
1985 movie
32 Create Rx
34 watchdog grp.
35 About 30 percent of Africa
36 Lower in rank
37 Playful water critter
38 Endorse
39 Press
40 Heredity unit
41 "The Third of May 1808" painter
42 They give a hoot
43 Libertine
44 Relaxing practice

DOWN
1 Fools
2 Thing

Solution time: 27 mins.

PRO CAB MAVEN
SAP ONO ALIKE
ADE DOWN SIZED
LIN ADIOS
MOSS EEN SERA
HAI RS PAS UPKEEP
UPDI KE OAT
GROG TAR SUCH
BUNCO DUO
DOWNRIGHT DRY
ADOBE LIT ELL
HENCE EDO RYE

Yesterday's answer 10-27

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12			13					14		
15			16					17		
18		19					20			
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		