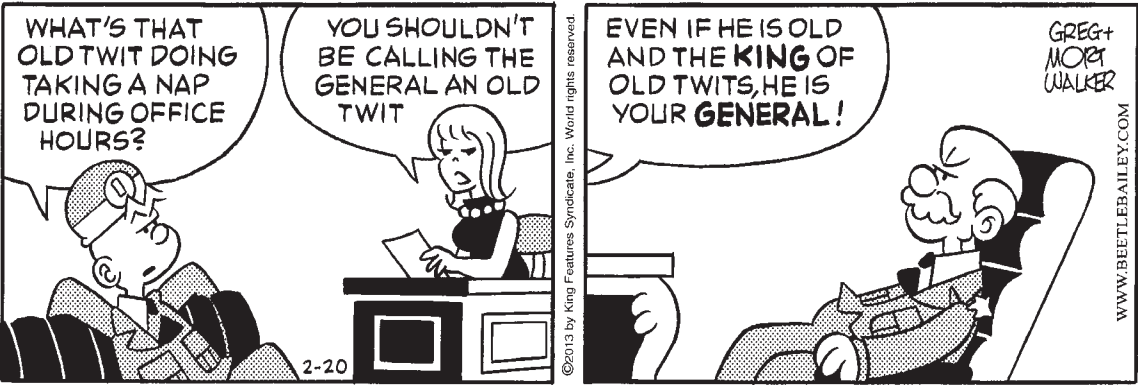


Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young



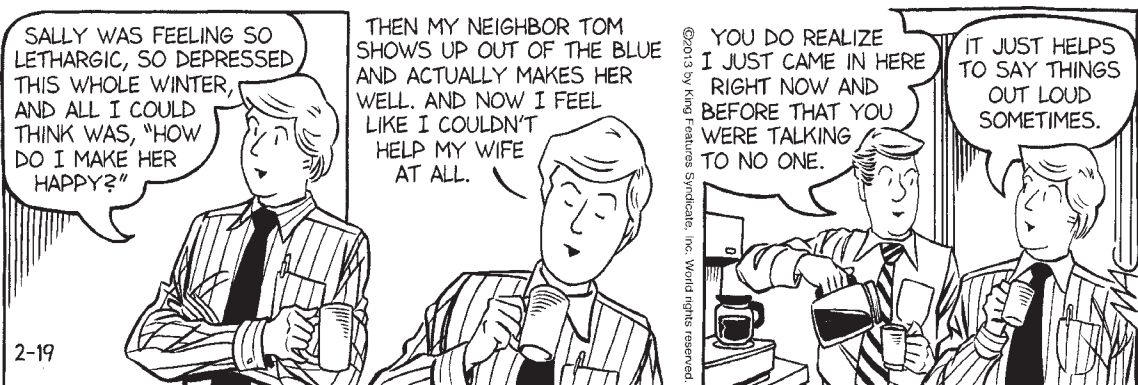
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



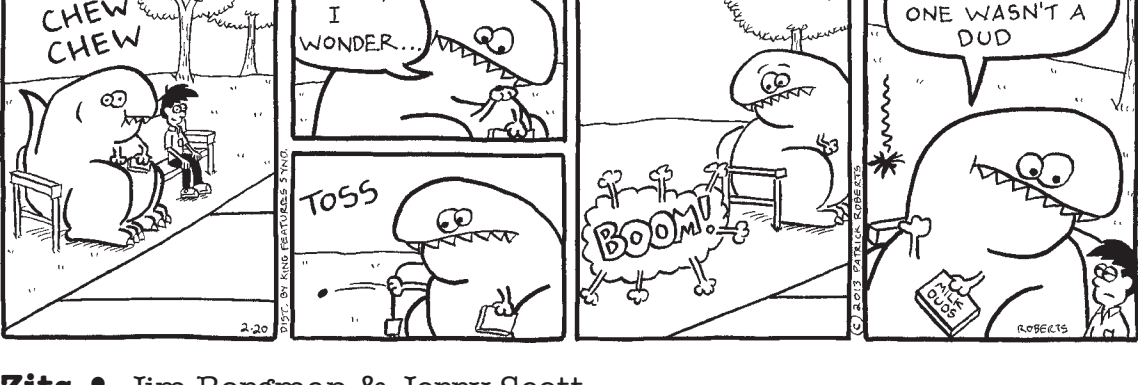
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise

- Hints from Heloise

Living lettuce gets second life

Dear Heloise: With regard to living lettuce (Heloise here: a previous column on the hydroponically grown lettuce that comes in a plastic container), I agree that it is so good. I took it one step further. Once I had used all the leaves, I told my husband that I was going to plant the roots outside with the rest of the lettuce I have grown. He laughed, but I laughed last when it grew again, and we had salad from that plant for a long time. I've had success four of the six times I've tried it! Waste not, want not! – Nancy L. in New Jersey

Wow! You certainly got your money's worth! So, how did that "last laugh" salad taste? Yummy, I hope. – Heloise

P.S.: Visit my website, www.Heloise.com, for links to my Facebook and Twitter pages – hints, fun facts and more! Come see photos and check out what's happening.

WAR CAKE

Dear Heloise: I have often used the recipe for War Cake that was in your column years ago. I have a couple of suggestions: 1) Add candied fruit. 2) Add 1/4 cup of vegetable oil and exchange a portion of the flour for a package of instant pumpkin pudding (Heloise here: This pudding is sold seasonally). The results are amazing. – Nancy in Indiana

Nancy, that's the great thing about recipes – they can be altered! Readers, here is the War Cake recipe. Mix together:

- 2 cups brown sugar
 - 2 cups hot water
 - 2 teaspoons shortening
 - 1/2 cup to 3/4 cup raisins
 - 1 teaspoon salt
 - 1 teaspoon cinnamon
 - 1 teaspoon cloves
- Save for later:
- 3 cups flour
 - 1 teaspoon baking soda dissolved in 2 teaspoons hot water

Preheat your oven to 350 F. Grease a tube-style pan. Take the first seven ingredients and place in a medium to large saucepan. Boil for 5 minutes after the mixture has started to bubble. Take off the stove and cool completely.

After the mixture is cool, add the 3 cups of flour and 1 teaspoon of baking soda that has been dissolved in 2 teaspoons of hot water. Mix well. Place the entire mixture in the greased pan and bake for 1 hour. This recipe and others can be found in my Heloise's Cake Recipes pamphlet. To receive one, send \$3 and a long, self-addressed, stamped (66 cents) envelope to: Heloise/Cakes, P.O. Box 795001, San Antonio, TX 78279-5001. A toothpick inserted into a cake will come out clean when the cake is done cooking. No toothpicks? Use uncooked spaghetti! – Heloise

CEREAL LIMITS

Dear Heloise: Those of us with children have always had the problem of multiple open boxes of cereal. When I put away my groceries, I place the cereal boxes upside down. My household is allowed three open boxes at a time, which are stored right side up. When one is empty, another can be turned right side up and opened. No more multiple boxes of stale cereal. – Janice in Ohio (c)2013 by King Features Syndicate Inc.

Bridge • Steve Becker

South dealer.
North-South vulnerable.
NORTH
♦ A Q 10 6 3
♥ 9 4 2
♦ 9 3
♣ 7 5 2
WEST
♦ K 8
♥ J 7 3
♦ Q 10 8 5 2
♣ K 10 4
EAST
♦ 9 7 5 2
♥ Q 8 6 5
♦ J 6 4
♣ Q 9
SOUTH
♦ J 4
♥ A K 10
♦ A K 7
♣ A J 8 6 3
The bidding:
South 1 ♣
West Pass
North 1 ♠
East Pass
3 NT
Opening lead — five of diamonds.

To Cover or Not to Cover

There is no magic rule that tells a defender when to cover an honor with an honor. The fact is that while it is usually best to cover an honor when declarer seems about to finesse, there are times when it is better not to do so.

Basically, the governing principle is to cover when it is advantageous to do so, and to play low when it is disadvantageous, but this advice is not very helpful because it leaves a great deal to the discretion of the player.

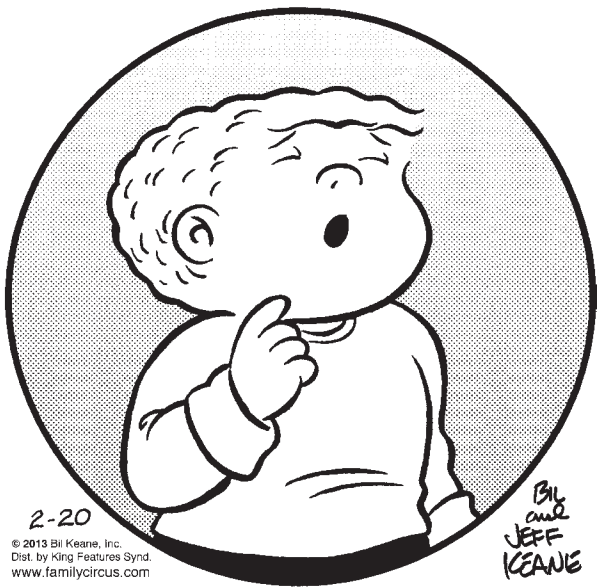
Consider this deal where South wins the diamond lead with the ace and returns the jack of spades. Should West cover with the king or not? Clearly, the answer is yes. First, let's assume West ducks. Declarer wins, leads another spade and makes five spade tricks as well as four notrump.

Now let's suppose West covers the jack and that declarer wins with the ace and continues with the Q-10, hoping for a 3-3 division. When this fails to materialize, South makes only three spade tricks and winds up down one. The outcome is directly traceable to West's covering with the king, which in turn promotes East's nine into a stopper.

West covers because he cannot show a profit by ducking but is sure to gain at least one trick if he covers and East has any four spades.

It should of course be mentioned that if West covers the jack as he should, South has an effective countermeasure available. He simply allows West's king to hold the trick, refusing to stake the outcome solely on a 3-3 division. Allowing the king to hold guards against the more likely 4-2 division and enables declarer to score the four spade tricks he needs to make the contract. (c)2013 King Features Syndicate Inc.

Family Circus • Bil Keane



“Get your ‘God bless you’s’ ready, my nose wants me to sneeze.”

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★

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.

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

Difficulty Level ★

Cryptoquip

GBDJS XR XCKOJ TCPEDJS
ODCTTJF BKEMDPCEPEY
NPDICKD NGSEPEY, P FPF
OCXJ MKSOCS-R SJOJGSMI.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: BECAUSE I PLAN ON EATING MY BREAKFAST WITH A FORK, I WOULD SAY I MADE THE PRONG DECISION.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: F equals D

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 Nitwit
 - 5 High-arc shot
 - 8 Book after the Gospels
 - 12 Rainbow
 - 13 Ram's mate
 - 14 Exceptional
 - 15 Team leaders
 - 17 Skewer
 - 18 Massage
 - 19 However
 - 21 Frog's cousin
 - 24 Business abbr.
 - 25 Rate of speed
 - 28 Part of a Batman costume
 - 30 Height of fashion?
 - 33 "Born in the —"
 - 34 Gem
 - 35 "— Got a Secret"
 - 36 Recipe meas.
 - 37 Addict
 - 38 From the start
- DOWN**
- 39 America's uncle
 - 41 Lascivious
 - 43 Jane Goodall's topic
 - 46 Thesaurus compiler
 - 50 Leak out slowly
 - 51 South American rodent
 - 54 Ready for customers
 - 55 Beerlike beverage
 - 56 Satan's forte
 - 57 Pirate William
 - 58 Gasoline stat
 - 59 Hunt for
 - 60 Any of Rome's seven
 - 22 High pair
 - 23 Wooden pin
 - 25 Deposit
 - 26 Donkey
 - 27 Overturned
 - 29 Existed
 - 31 11-Down's mom
 - 32 Kitten's comment
 - 34 Bound
 - 38 Pueblo structures
 - 40 Fix the Constitution
 - 42 Type of humor
 - 43 Diner employee
 - 44 Arizona tribe
 - 45 Con game
 - 47 Donated
 - 48 A Great Lake
 - 49 Chat
 - 52 Matter-horn, e.g.
 - 53 "— o' My Heart"

Yesterday's answer 2-20

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					34				35	
36					37				38	
		39	40			41	42			
43	44			45			46		47	48
49					51	52	53			
54					55				56	
57					58				59	