

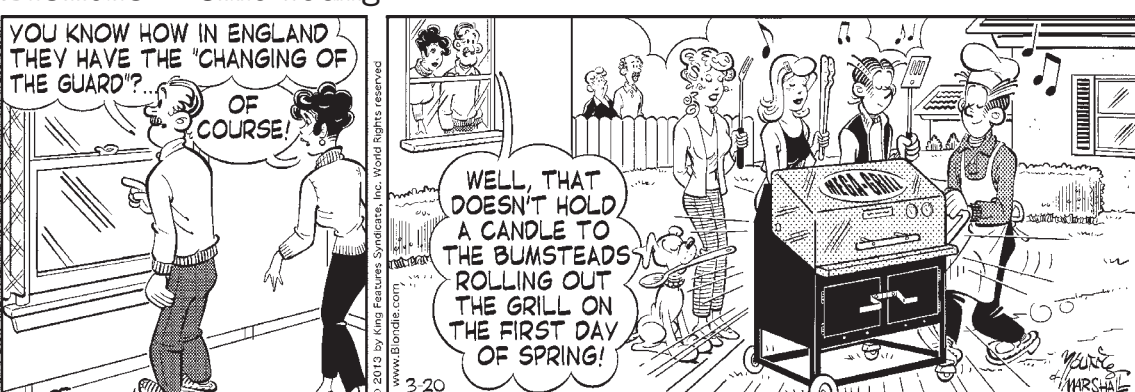
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



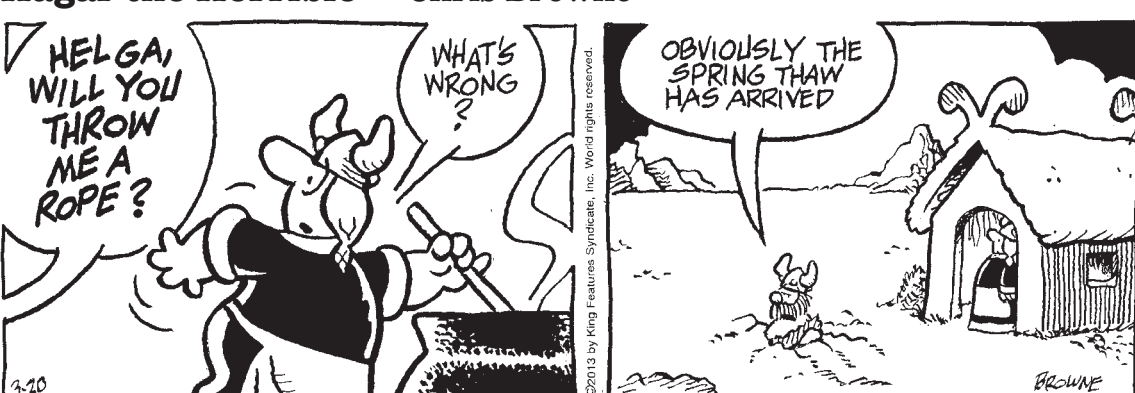
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young



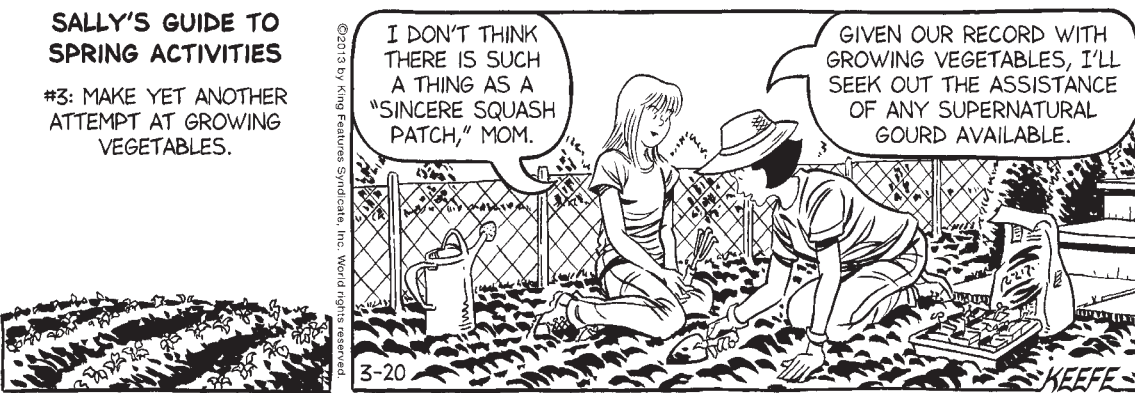
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



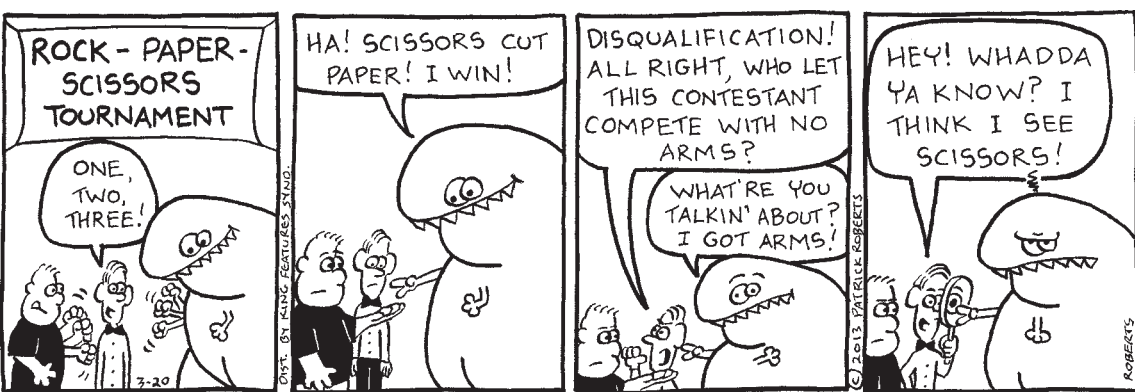
Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



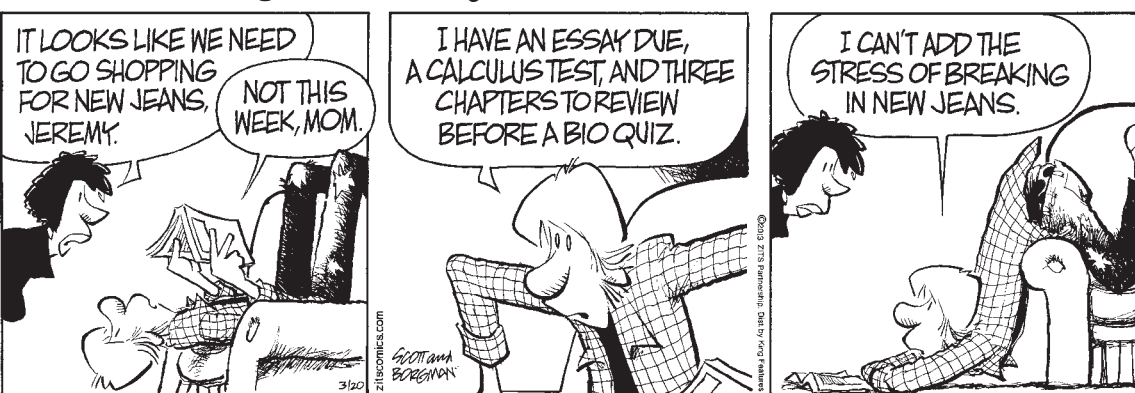
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise



Hearty soup calls for helper

Dear Heloise: Winter seems to call for a hearty soup. I use orzo, quick barley or mini gnocchi to thicken soups. They are a nice change from adding instant potatoes. – Mary in New Mexico

Mary, thanks for the hint! Your suggestions are perfect as a quick substitute rather than the old standbys! By adding any of the ingredients you listed, you can control the amount of liquid in the soup and make it heartier. Soups make such great economical meals, which is why I collected my favorite soup recipes and put them in my Heloise's Spectacular Soups pamphlet. To receive one, you just need to send \$5 and a long, self-addressed, stamped (66 cents) envelope to: Heloise/Soup, P.O. Box 795001, San Antonio, TX 78279-5001. To save money, instead of using meat (as a protein) in soup, replace with beans, dried peas or lentils. Open a can of beans, rinse well with water, drain and add to the pot. – Heloise

BREADCRUMBS

Dear Heloise: I hear a lot about panko breadcrumbs and notice them more often in the stores. How are they used in cooking? – Betty S., via e-mail

Panko breadcrumbs can be used just like ordinary breadcrumbs. Add to meatloaf, crab cakes or meatballs as a binding agent, or use as a topping on your favorite casseroles or soup. Finally, of course, use to coat foods like chicken or fish.

Panko (Japanese for "breadcrumbs") is made from special bread that has no crust. Because of the delicate texture, they are very crisp, and are lighter than ordinary breadcrumbs. Most panko is unseasoned, so you can add your own spices and flavors to what you are cooking. Go ahead and give them a try! – Heloise

FRIED DRESSING

Dear Heloise: There wasn't enough space in my oven, and my slow cooker did not work when I was making turkey dressing.

Guests were arriving, and I came up with this hint: I took my frying pan out and sprayed it with oil. I placed the homemade dressing in the pan, turning it often while frying until it was nice and brown. Guests said the dressing was delicious, and nobody knew the difference. – Patsy W. in Colorado

BUTTERMILK SUBSTITUTE

Dear Readers: No buttermilk in the refrigerator and you need it now? Before you run to the store, look in your kitchen for vinegar or lemon juice and whole milk. Place 1 tablespoon of vinegar or lemon juice in a liquid measuring cup, and add whole milk to the 1-cup line. Let this sit at least five minutes to "curdle," then stir and ta-da – buttermilk. – Heloise

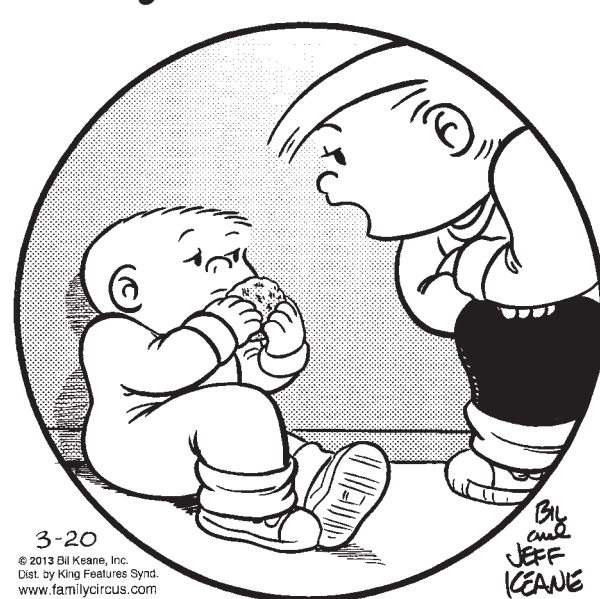
P.S.: In a pinch, you can even use 1/2 cup milk with 1/2 cup yogurt.

NO SPLIT

Dear Heloise: Before I open a bag of chips or a snack, I put a strip of tape around the top of the bag. It keeps the bag from splitting down the side. – Mike R. in Oregon

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

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.

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

Cryptoquip

E I W E A W H C A ' Z I D H A
 Y C Q B B E K N F A Z E H Q M A Z J A
 H K K Z A N Q J N C A Z . Q ' M A
 F A M A O Z A A F Z D Y I W F
 A A O Q A W A O Q A .

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHAT COULD A PERSON CALL THE VEGETATION ENVELOPING THE OLD WHEAT STOREHOUSE? GRANARY GREENERY.

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Gauch's weapon

5 Big Apple abbr.

8 Silenced "Hey!"

12 "Once — a Mattress"

13 Debtor's letters

14 Duel tool

15 Delphinium

17 Rotate

18 Dismal

19 Snow White's pals

21 Put on the line

24 Everything

25 Pop flavor

28 Frogs' hangout

30 Make up your mind

33 Kinsman, for short

34 Drops from the payroll

35 Letter after 31-Down

36 Moment

37 From the start

DOWN

38 Read cursorily

39 Barbie's companion

41 Teensy bit

43 Go directly downhill

46 Pacific porch

50 Desirous look

51 Rash

54 Sandwich treat

55 Sphere

56 Reclined

57 Marries

58 Bill

59 Pronto, in the ER

1 October stone

3 Traditional tales

4 Turkey's capital

5 Pinch

6 Second person

7 Cottage cheese label word

8 Corolla component

9 Morgan of "Super Size Me"

10 Lowly laborer

11 Sawbucks

16 Half a Vail pair

20 Bankrolls

22 Rotate

23 "M*A*S*H" locale

25 Letterman's network

26 Raw rock

27 Big name in aircraft

29 Mr. Gingrich

31 Letter before 35-Across

32 Allen or Conway

34 Enthusiasts

38 T-shirt sizes

40 Continental money

42 Time-worn

43 Decelerate

44 Wrap in a waxy cloth

45 Attempt

47 Tidy

48 One side of the Urals

49 "It Romantic?"

52 Historic period

53 Recede

Yesterday's answer 3-20

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
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		