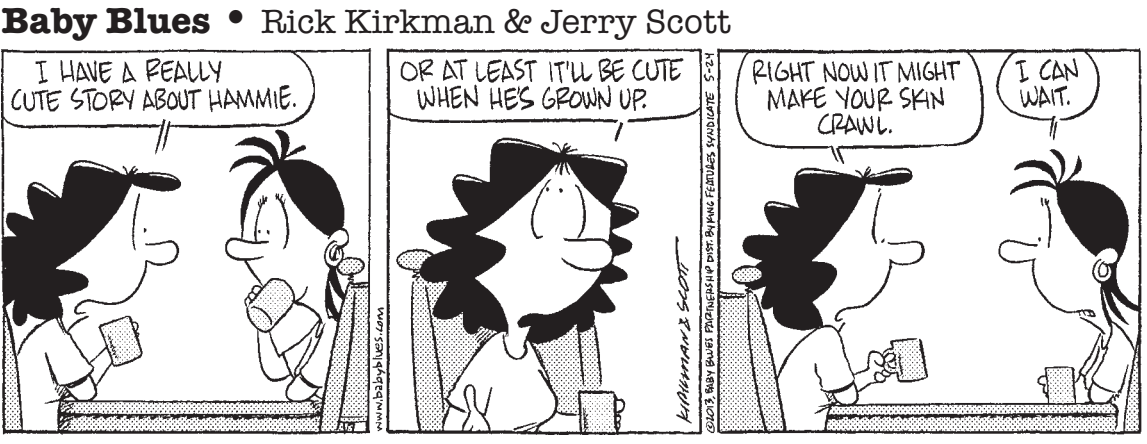
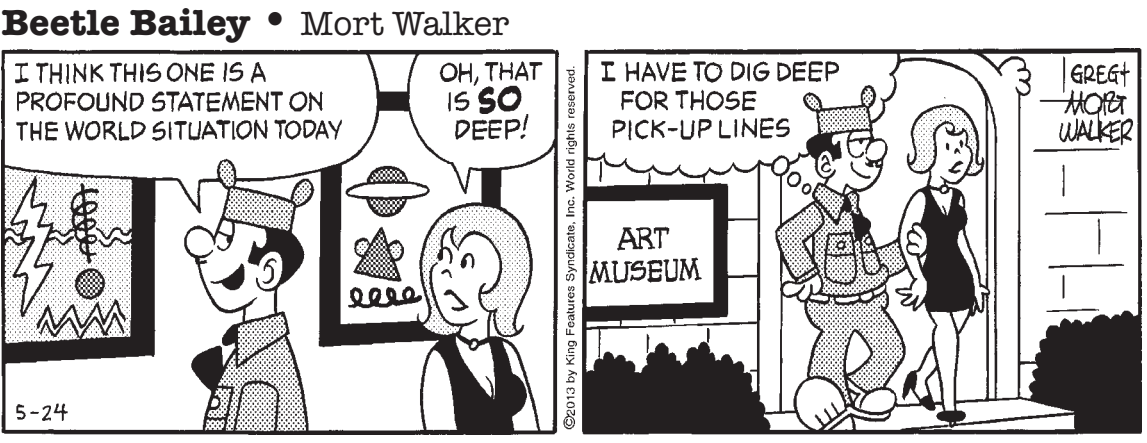
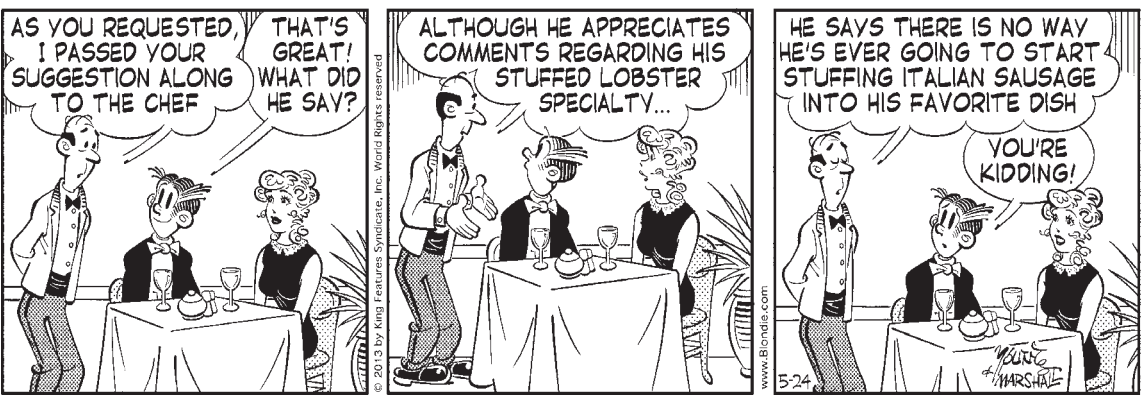
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



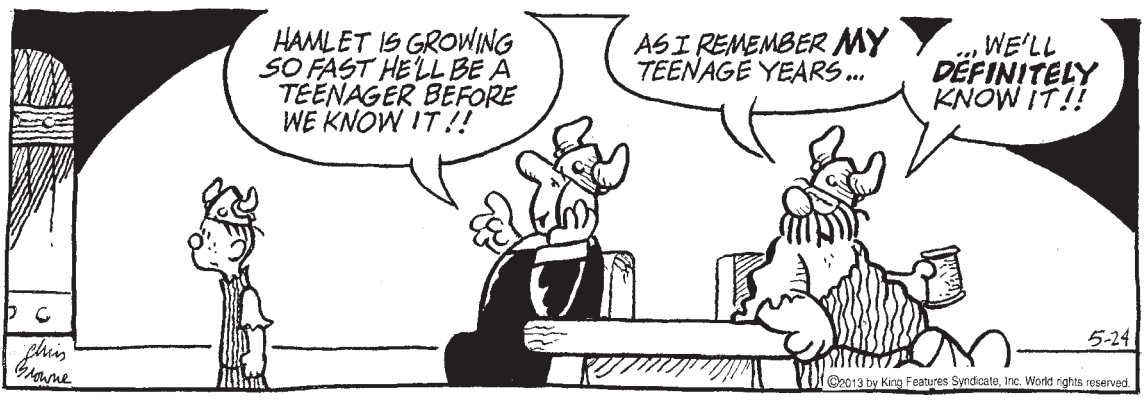
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young

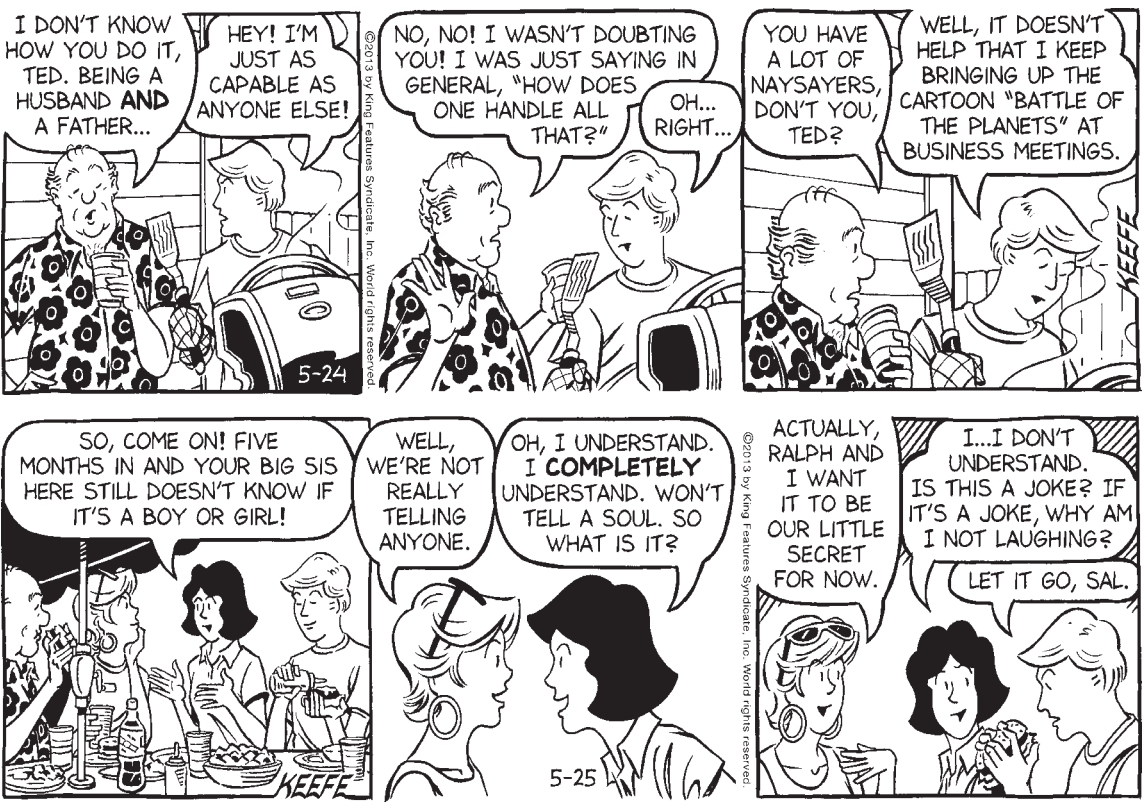


Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne

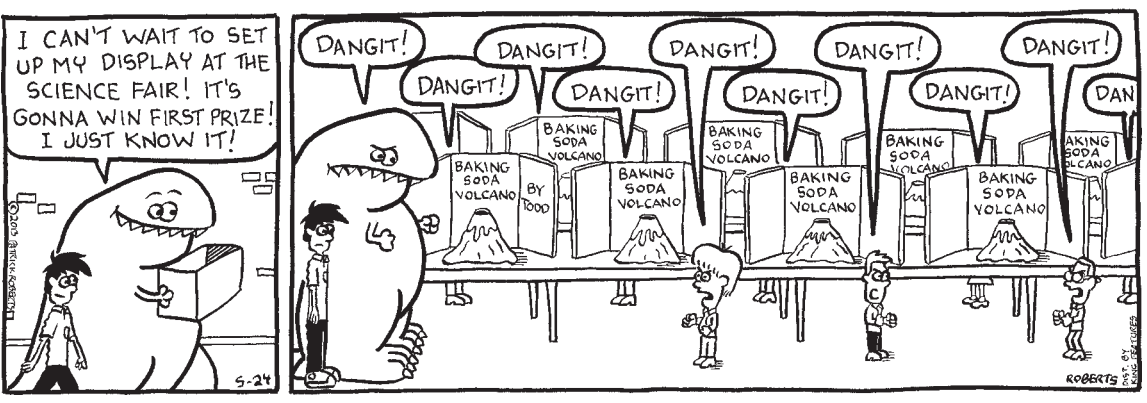


Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters

Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott

Heloise

• Hints from Heloise

Mammogram is important

Dear Readers: Women should have a mammogram. Talk with your gynecologist or doctor about at what age you should start getting one. When you go for the exam, here are some hints from the American Cancer Society on what to do that day:

• Have the dates of your previous mammograms and locations where they were done (if going to a different facility).

* Don't wear deodorant, perfume or dusting powder. Some ingredients can interfere with the mammogram and show up as white spots.

• You will be asked to undress from the waist up, so dress accordingly.

• Tell the facility of any symptoms you may be having and if you have breast implants.

Try to schedule your mammograms around the same time every year so you don't forget. How about your birthday (a gift to yourself for good health), the beginning of spring or something as simple as "May can be mammogram month"? – Heloise

P.S.: A personal note to women who should have a mammogram and for whatever reason haven't: Please go! Five minutes (or less) is all it takes!

SEND A GREAT HINT TO:

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

ANOTHER CARABINER IDEA

Dear Heloise: Here is another hint about carabiners. We were worried about our new dog getting away when getting her in and out of the car. We asked ourselves, "What would Heloise do?" The answer is a carabiner attached to the leash and the headrest post. Having a good grip of the leash before we release the carabiner gives us peace of mind. – Cathy R., Omaha, Neb.

It can be tricky, especially if you have a big dog! Woof, woof. – Heloise

TRAVEL HINT

Dear Heloise: My family and I go on many road trips, and with a family of four, the laundry really piles up. If we are staying at a hotel or motel that has laundry facilities, I have started doing a few loads while there. It saves me a lot of time by not having to do so many loads when we get home. – Felicia in Utah

SCREEN CLEANING

Dear Heloise: What's the cheapest and best product to use for computer and TV-screen cleaning that won't harm the surface? – A Reader, via e-mail

The easiest and best way is with a clean, dry microfiber cloth. Gently dust your computer and TV screen. Delicate screens, like LCD and plasma, can be damaged by getting them wet, so to be safe, never spray or use window or household cleaners on a screen. If you have stubborn spots or fingerprints, use a wipe designed to clean electronic screens. You don't want to risk ruining your expensive computer or television. – Heloise

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Bridge • Steve Becker

You are South, and the bidding has gone:

South	West	North	East
1 ♦	Pass	2 ♦	Pass
?			

What would you bid now with each of the following four hands?

1. ♠ Q94 ♥ AK ♦ KJ632 ♣ AQ8
2. ♠ AQ87 ♥ 5 ♦ AJ74 ♣ KJ65
3. ♠ AJ ♥ 93 ♦ KQ7652 ♣ AK4
4. ♠ 10 ♥ A7 ♦ AKQ54 ♣ KQJ92

* * *

Bidding Quiz

1. Three notrump. Partner's raise indicates six to 10 points, so there is good reason to think you can make nine tricks in notrump even if partner is on the lower end of that range. It would be wrong to bid only two notrump, which partner might pass.

2. Pass. There are only two bids worth considering – pass or two spades – and good arguments can be made for or against either of them. Favoring the pass is the probability that you can't make 11 tricks in diamonds, since partner gave you only a single raise and you have barely more than a minimum opening bid. It is also unlikely that you can make 10 tricks with spades as trumps, since partner failed to bid one spade initially, denying four or more cards in that suit.

On the other side there is the argument that a two-spade bid (forcing) would probably keep the opponents quiet, while a pass would invite your left-hand opponent to "balance" with two hearts.

3. Three clubs. You might have a game in either notrump or diamonds, and you can best explore both possibilities by bidding three clubs – even though you have only three cards in the suit. You hope that partner, with stoppers in the major suits, will say three notrump or make some other constructive bid.

4. Four notrump. A diamond slam is certainly a distinct possibility, and by far the best approach is to use Blackwood to check for aces. If partner indicates one ace by responding five diamonds, you should go on to six. If he has the club ace, you will almost surely make 12 tricks; if he has the spade ace instead, you should still have a reasonably good chance for the slam. This is because your partner might have the king of hearts, or because West might not find the killing heart lead.

Although it's possible that the slam might not make, you should have better than a 50-50 chance for 12 tricks if partner has an ace.

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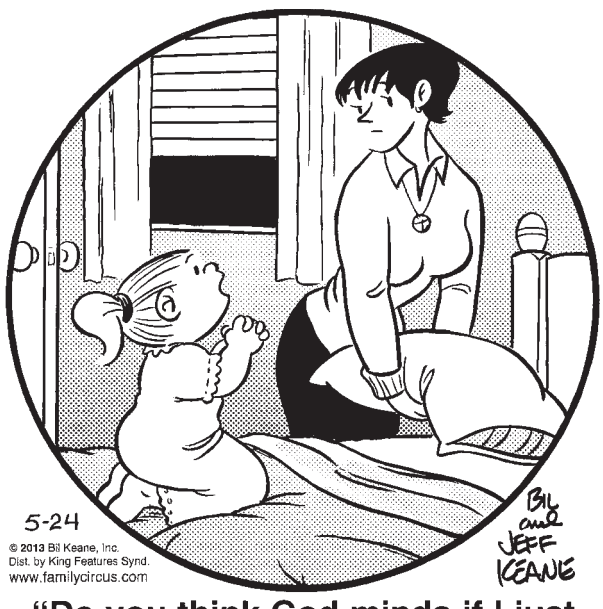
Family Circus • Bil Keane



"Do you think God minds if I just rerun last night's prayer?"

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 5/24

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.

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

Difficulty Level ★★★ 5/23

Cryptoquip

LPV HKPM KWLBH K JLBXF WMKBHJ IYL CRDRHD K DMQHMH LS QRMGD: "DXLI IYRHM KXV HYM DMCMX IYKGSD."

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: THOSE TWO BABIES HAVE PERMANENTLY SUTURED CLOTH SAMPLES. THEY MUST'VE BEEN SWATCHED AT BIRTH.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: D equals S

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Dallas cager, briefly
4 Frat party supply
8 Prejudice
12 Expert
13 Sicilian spouter
14 St. Louis landmark
15 Flogged
17 Tardy
18 Vigorous
19 Puncturing tool
21 Fa neighbor
22 Pulverized
26 Pitch
29 Irritate
30 Foreman opponent
31 Check
32 Calendar pgs.
33 Pageant winner's address
34 Scepter topper
35 Fido's foot
36 Insertion mark
37 Ran
39 Scull tool
40 Mentalist Geller
41 Eaves dropper?
45 Deserve
48 Played in water
50 United nations
51 Twistable treat
52 Singer DiFranco
53 "Little Women" woman
54 Agrees silently
55 Banned bug killer

DOWN
1 Numbers course
2 Liniment target
3 Couturier Wang
4 Give
5 — alcohol
6 Compass pt.
7 He loved Aida
8 Poolroom supply
9 A Gershwin brother
10 Performance
11 The girl
16 Insurance fraud factor
20 Tussaud's medium
23 Barber's concern
24 Otherwise
25 Mi. or km
26 Walked hard (on)
27 Juno's counterpart
28 Barbecue entree
29 Promise
32 Midwestern capital
33 Breaker of Ruth's record
35 Apiece
36 Chocolate sources
38 Intuitive feeling
39 Lubricated
42 African nation
43 Give temporarily
44 Fix manuscripts
45 Recede
46 Heady quaff
47 Deteriorate
49 Paid athlete

Solution time: 25 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 5-24

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		