

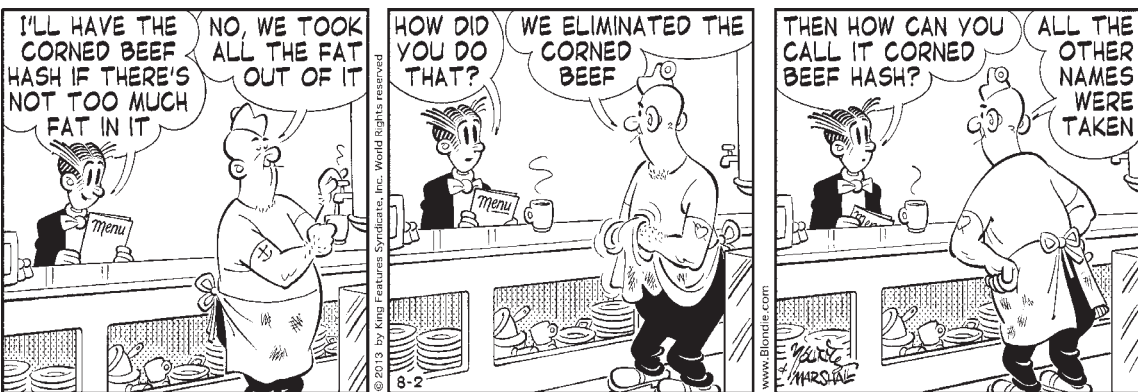
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young



Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



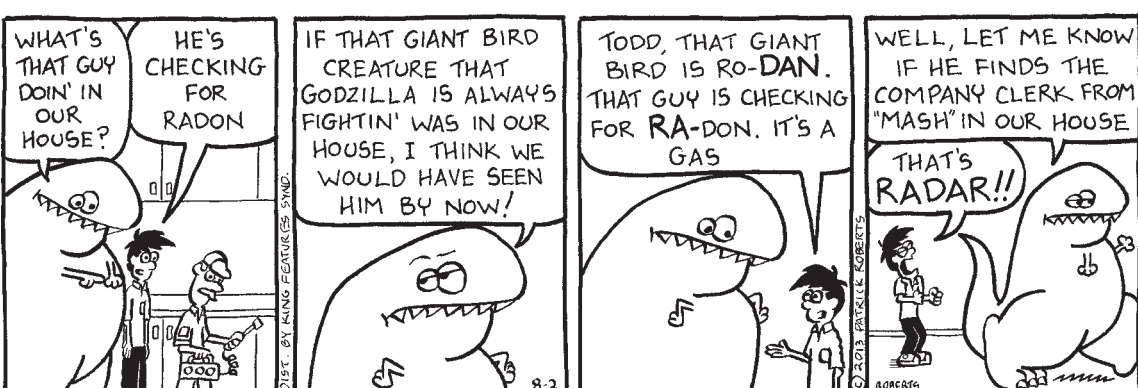
Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise

- Hints from Heloise

No keys allowed in X-rayed shoes

Dear Heloise: A reader from Hawaii advised putting keys and change into shoes at the airport X-ray. Please advise your readers not to do this. One of the basic Transportation Security Administration rules is that nothing should be placed inside, under or on top of shoes as they go through the X-ray. This could either obstruct the view or make it seem as if the shoes have been tampered with.

While on the subject, please remind your readers of the other rules:

- Do not bring liquids over 3.4 ounces into the screening queue (unless it is medicine or necessary for babies).
- Take large electronic items out of the carry-on and place each one in a separate bin.
- Have your ID and security document in your hand, ready to go, as you enter.
- End phone calls prior to entering the screening process.
- Do not stop on the other side of the X-ray to reassemble your belongings.

If everyone would become more familiar with the rules prior to traveling and follow these hints, the lines would move much faster. — A Reader, via e-mail

Thank you for your hints! After contacting the Transportation Security Administration, an employee said that it is not against the rules to place items like keys and change in your shoes while they go through X-ray. But it is recommended that you place keys and change in a separate bin, like you stated, so that it doesn't cause anomalies on the X-ray and require you to go through extra screening. — Heloise

SEND A GREAT HINT TO:

Heloise
P.O. Box 795000
San Antonio, TX 78279-5000
E-mail: Heloise(at)Heloise.com

KEEPING COOL

Dear Heloise: Here's a simple, inexpensive way to help keep your basement cool during the summer. Buy white foam poster boards (available at office-supply stores). Set them on the inside window ledge, propped against the windows that get direct sunlight. They block the heat from the sun, while letting in enough light to see by. They can easily be taken down and put back up as desired. A big help during the hot, hot summer! — Gail M., Washington, D.C.

DE-CLUTTER

Dear Heloise: I am always trying to de-clutter. I have too much stuff and not enough space. When I am watching television or a movie, I will take a drawer or box and go through it. I throw away what I don't want, make a donation pile and keep what I really need. I don't get overwhelmed trying to do too much at once, but the house stays clean and organized. — Liz in Alabama

Have you been peeking in my den? I lay out a newspaper, dump a drawer, go through it, then roll it up with the "toss" items and put it in the trash. — Heloise

(c)2013 by King Features Syndicate Inc.

Bridge • Steve Becker

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

West
♠ A 10
♥ A J 9 6 2
♦ A K
♣ A K 7 3

East
♠ J 8 3
♥ K 10 7 4
♦ 5
♣ Q 10 6 4 2

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

West
♠ 8 5 4 3
♥ 6 4
♦ A 3
♣ 8 6 5 3 2

East
♠ A Q 7
♥ A K Q 7 3
♦ 8 5
♣ A K Q

Test Your Play

1. You are sure to make the contract — even if you lose a trump trick — provided the clubs are divided 2-2 or 3-1, since you can eventually discard your spade loser on dummy's fifth club. The same is true if the clubs are divided 4-0 and North has all four of them, since in that case you can overcome his jack with a finesse and thus get home safely.

The only real danger, therefore, is that South has the J-9-8-5 of clubs, so you should plan the play on that basis. Once you consign four clubs to South and none to North, it follows that North is far more likely to be longer in trumps than South.

Accordingly, at trick two you should play the ace of hearts, planning to continue with a heart and finesse the ten. This method of play makes it extremely unlikely that the slam will fail.

2. Let's assume you duck the diamond queen and North continues with the six to South's king. You win with the ace, and the question is whether it is better to lead a spade to the queen at trick three or cash the A-K-Q of hearts in the hope that the opposing hearts are divided 3-3.

There is no doubt that, percentage-wise, the better play is to rely on the spade finesse rather than a 3-3 heart division. In the long run, North will deal the king of spades 50 percent of the time, while the hearts will divide evenly only 36 percent of the time, so the spade finesse is clearly superior.

It is only fair to add that in situations like this, the right play sometimes turns out to be wrong, and the wrong play sometimes succeeds. Even so, over the long haul, it is much better to go with the odds.

(c)2013 King Features Syndicate Inc.

Family Circus • Bil Keane



Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★ ★

8/02

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.

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

Cryptoquip

KEMHKO WEDMWNJH IUC NWO

YUCKV CHBLAKED NALWVNW

EW N CHV-ACUYW JHFNK:

KNWV UI DUBBHC-FLWFO.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN PARCHED FOLKS ARE SWEATING OVER STOVES MAKING FOOD, I'D HAVE TO CALL THEM HOT PREPPERS.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: W equals N

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 Prepared
 - 4 Performance to the future?
 - 7 Volleyball venue
 - 12 Bar supply
 - 13 Comedian Margaret
 - 14 Loosen a deadbolt
 - 15 "Platoon" locale
 - 16 Fonzie's sitcom
 - 18 Kreskin's claim
 - 19 Inventor Howe
 - 20 Genius
 - 22 Old French coin
 - 23 Feudal estate
 - 27 Dine
 - 29 Pantry
 - 31 Synagogue VIP
 - 34 Studio 54, e.g.
 - 35 Exaggerate
 - 37 Barracks bed
 - 38 Second letter

- 39 Chum
- 41 Ardor
- 45 Pack to the future?
- 47 Spring period
- 48 Teen crush
- 52 Bruins legend
- 53 Commandeer
- 54 Tex- —
- 55 Sock feature
- 56 Forbidden
- 57 Illustrations
- 58 Type measures
- 3 Beats
- 4 Rue the run
- 5 Alpine abode
- 6 Subject purchases
- 8 Conclusion
- 9 "The — Daba Honey-moon"
- 10 Low island
- 11 Day fragments (Abbr.)
- 17 McCartney or Newman
- 21 Marty in "Madagascar," e.g.
- 23 Mondale nickname
- 24 Egos' counterparts
- 25 Common Mkt.
- 26 To and —
- 28 Succor
- 30 Big bother
- 31 Filch
- 32 "Hail!"
- 33 Wager
- 36 October birthstone
- 37 Shamrock, for one
- 40 Scent
- 42 Overact
- 43 "Hammer-in" Hank
- 44 Muses' music-makers
- 45 Glitch in print
- 46 Libretto
- 48 Place
- 49 Dos Passos trilogy
- 50 Tavern
- 51 Paid player

Yesterdays answer 8-2

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		