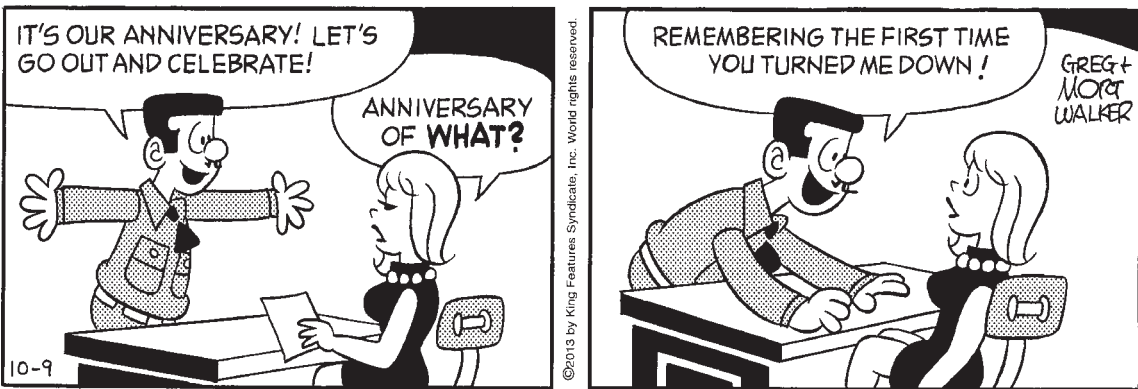


**Baby Blues** • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



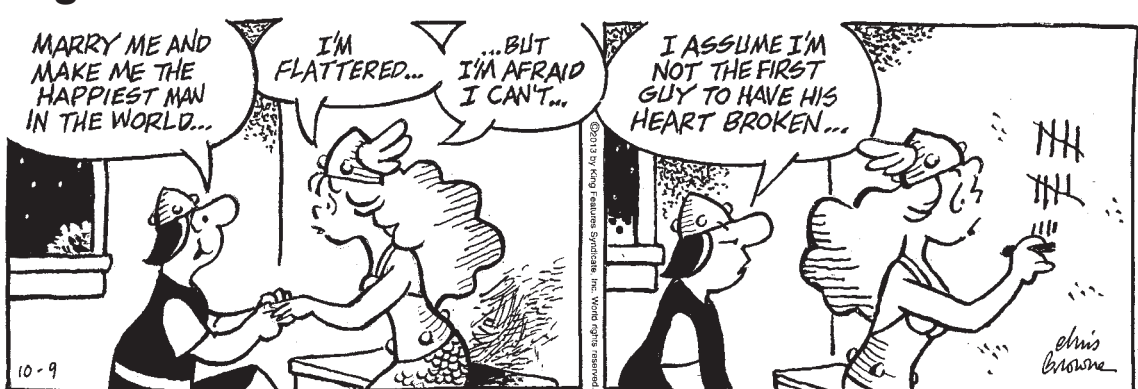
**Beetle Bailey** • Mort Walker



**Blondie** • Chic Young



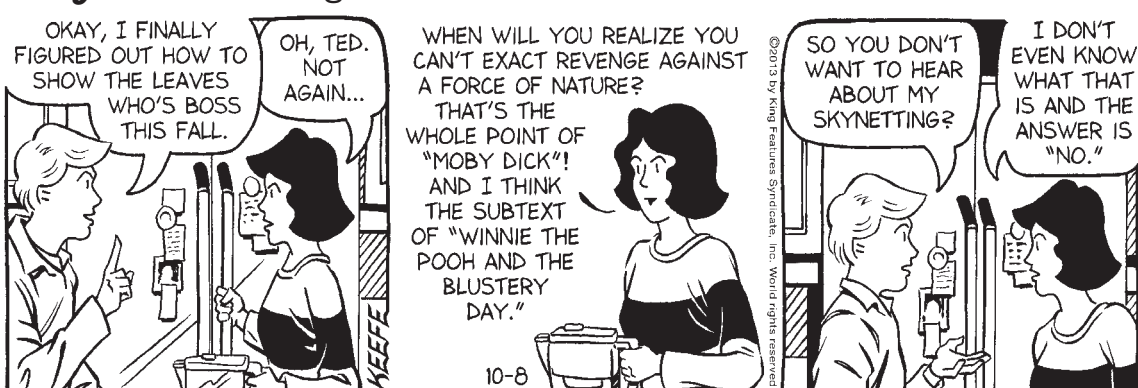
**Hagar the Horrible** • Chris Browne



**Mother Goose and Grimm** • Mike Peters



**Sally Forth** • Greg Howard



**Todd the Dinosaur** • Patrick Roberts



**Zits** • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



**Heloise**

• Hints from Heloise

**Blue parmesan makes him sad**

Dear Heloise: One cannot purchase small amounts of freshly ground parmesan cheese in most supermarkets. We don't use much, and by the time we've gotten halfway through, we see blue spots in the Parmesan, which we discard. Any suggestions? — John Campbell, via email

Yes, and it's very simple: Buy a small block of cheese and grate it yourself. The shelf life for fresh-ground Parmesan is about two weeks (after opening). Be prepared to use it within this time. Once grated, store it in an airtight glass or plastic container in the refrigerator.

When buying a wedge/whole piece of Parmesan, wrap the cheese in wax or brown paper, followed by plastic wrap around the outside. The cheese will be able to breathe, but will remain airtight. — Heloise

**BEAN DIP**

Dear Heloise: I could have cried when I realized I'd thrown away my copy of your recipe for refried bean dip. Please reprint it for me. — Cora J. in Texas

Cora, don't cry! Hard to believe this recipe was first printed in 1971 by my mother (the original Heloise, 1919-1977), but it is just as good today! Gather these ingredients:

- 2 cups of pinto beans, cooked or canned (drained and rinsed)
- 2 slices of very crisp bacon
- A pinch of garlic
- A pinch of chili powder

Place all the ingredients in a blender. Blend until the mixture is smooth, or leave slightly chunky. Refrigerate until cool.

I add a couple of drops of hot sauce at times, but you can add chopped jalapeños, green olives or any other extra to make it your own. All recipes can be changed to fit one's personal taste. Some of my favorite recipes that you can add your own ingredients to, such as my Olive Nut Dip and Taco Casserole, are available in my Heloise's All-Time Favorite Recipes pamphlet, which you can order by sending \$5 and a long, self-addressed, stamped (66 cents) envelope to: Heloise/Recipes, P.O. Box 795001, San Antonio, TX 78279-5001. Keep a selection of different canned beans in the pantry for making dips and adding to soups, stews or casseroles. — Heloise

**COOKING SAFETY**

Dear Readers: Here is a reminder hint when cooking: Make sure to turn all pot handles to the inside on the stovetop, where little hands, or adults, can't hit them. Small hands or an accidental hip bump can cause serious injury.

Also, don't wear long sleeves that hang loose and can get caught on anything on the stove. Make it a point to change before you start cooking, especially if you just got home from work. — Heloise

**NO-DRIP BATTER**

Dear Heloise: After years of putting up with batter dripping down the sides of my waffle irons, I found an elegant but simple solution. After pouring in the batter, leave the lid open for 30 seconds. Voilà! No more overflowing batter. — Jack G. in Middlesex, N.Y.

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**Bridge** • Steve Becker

North dealer.  
North-South vulnerable.  
**NORTH**  
♦ A K 10  
♥ J 8 5  
♠ 7 6 3  
♣ K Q J 8

**WEST**  
♦ 9 7 5 4  
♥ K 7 4 3  
♠ 9 4  
♣ 10 5 2

**EAST**  
♦ J 6  
♥ A 9 2  
♠ A K 10 8 5  
♣ 9 6 3

**SOUTH**  
♦ Q 8 3 2  
♥ Q 10 6  
♠ Q J 2  
♣ A 7 4

The bidding:  
**North** 1♦ East 1♦ South 1♠ West Pass  
2♠ Pass 2NT Pass  
3NT  
Opening lead — nine of diamonds.

**Think Before You Act**

One of the gratifying aspects of bridge is that careless or thoughtless play does not often go unpunished. Perpetrators usually pay for their indiscretions.

Consider this case where South reached three notrump on the bidding shown. East won the diamond lead with the king, cashed the ace and returned a diamond, West discarding a club.

Declarer now cashed his four club winners, hoping to induce a spade discard from one or both opponents. But both defenders hung on to their spades, discarding hearts when they ran out of clubs.

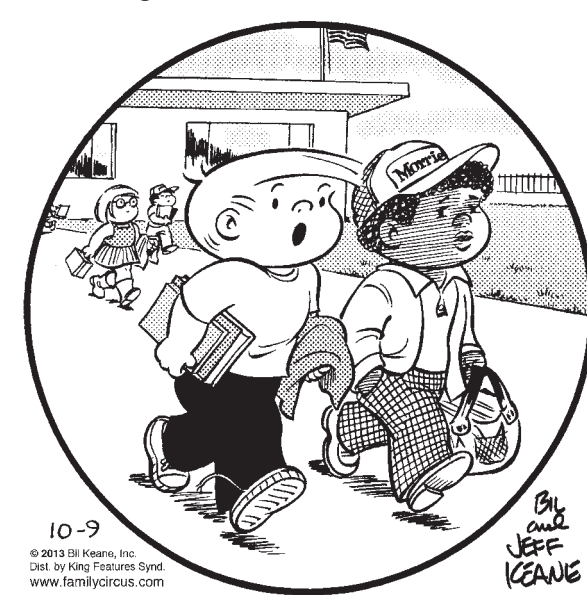
When declarer next played the A-K of spades, East's jack fell, but South was in no position to enjoy this windfall. If he cashed dummy's ten, he could not get to his hand to collect the queen, while if he overtook the ten with the queen, West's nine would become the high spade.

South's downfall can be attributed directly to his misguided attempt to induce a defensive error by cashing his clubs immediately. In so doing, he gave up a perfectly legitimate chance to score four spade tricks if either opponent started with the singleton or doubleton jack of spades — about an 18 percent possibility. This, combined with the 36 percent chance of a 3-3 spade division, would have given him better than a 50 percent chance of making the contract.

Had South simply cashed the A-K of spades while he still had the ace of clubs in his hand, he would have had no difficulty collecting the nine tricks he started with.

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**Family Circus** • Bil Keane



10-9

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"I think I'd like to be homeschooled. I'm tired of being school-schooled."

**Conceptis Sudoku** • Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

10/09

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.

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

**Cryptoquip**

Y K S X H O Q H G Z A G Y Y G U E J

K Y H S E J Z E I Y F N I B Y H O

O E U G N, K Y I B B E Y H Q H ' Y

B J E A G A F N K S - X E S Y I F - G A F H

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: CABLE CHANNEL WITH MANY PROGRAMS ABOUT HOOKING UP AUTOMOBILE STEREO SYSTEMS: CAR-TUNE NETWORK.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Y equals S

**Crossword** • Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS** 38 Sphere 58 Butterfly catcher 10 Pressing need?

1 Not single-sex 40 Precursor to Windows 59 Transgressions 11 Sawbucks

5 English channel? 41 Brand with an alligator logo 2 Bivouac 16 Abound

8 Send forth logo 1 Bohemian 43 Pismire 45 Sunbather's recliner 4 Going out, like a fire 27 Court

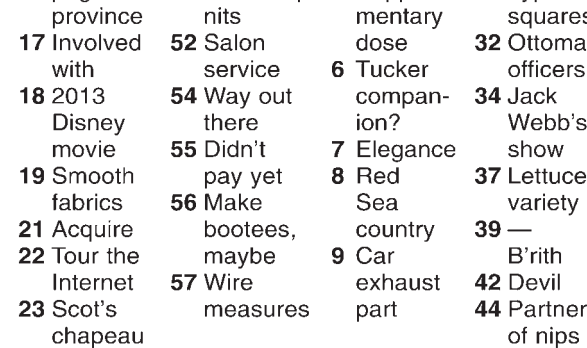
12 Lubricate 13 Exceptional 47 Surgical dressings 15 Winnie-peg's province 51 Grown-up nits 52 Salon service 6 Tucker companion? 34 Jack Webb's show

17 Involved with 18 2013 Disney movie 19 Smooth fabrics 21 Acquire 22 Tour the Internet 23 Scott's chapeau 26 Kitten's comment 28 Crystallized rock 31 Serb or Croat 33 Scepter 35 Astringent 36 Wide-spread fear

55 Didn't pay yet maybe 57 Wire measures 7 Elegance 8 Red Sea country 9 Car exhaust part 37 Lettuce variety 39 — B'rith 42 Devil 44 Partners of nips 45 Untalkative sort 46 Stereo setup 48 Pueblo tribe 49 Burnett of CNN 50 Collections 53 Astonishment

DOWN 20 Summer mo. 23 Recipe abbr. 24 Carte lead-in 25 Crazed 27 Court 29 Pair 30 Type squares 32 Ottoman officers 34 Jack Webb's show 37 Lettuce variety 39 — B'rith 42 Devil 44 Partners of nips 45 Untalkative sort 46 Stereo setup 48 Pueblo tribe 49 Burnett of CNN 50 Collections 53 Astonishment

Yesterday's answer 10-9



Yesterday's answer 10-9

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
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		