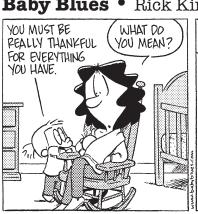
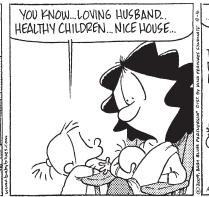
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott







Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker





Blondie • Chic Young







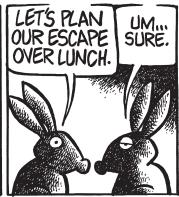
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



(



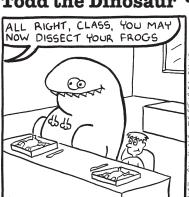


Sally Forth • Greg Howard





Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts







Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott

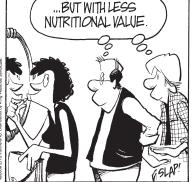












Dr. Joyce Brothers

AskDr. Brothers

Intern's mom calls employer

Dear Dr. Brothers: I run a small non-profit company in a college town. I have always had a large number of students who want to come in and work as an intern during the summers, which has worked out very well. But last week I had a call from the mother of one boy, asking for a job for him! I was so astounded that I'm afraid I didn't have the presence of mind to tell her to have him call me himself. (Not that I would hire her son.) Can you shed any light on why a mom would do this? – T.H.

Dear T.H.: I can see that if self-confidence, initiative and maturity are part of your job description for interns your applicant would haven fallen short the minute his "helpful" mother picked up the phone. So-called helicopter parents all over have been unable to bow out gracefully after supervising their children's every move for years, and have taken to horning in on job interviews. But employers such as yourself are not buying it, and in many cases these parents have actually ruined any chance their kids had to get a job.

It's really too bad that parents have taken it upon themselves to act this way. It keeps the students or graduates in a perpetual state of dependency. But until they step up to the plate, these applicants will never be able to present themselves as adults who are ready for work, and that's a shame. If this happens again, you will be doing the applicants a favor if you tell the parent straight out that such a call is not appropriate, and that the only way you consider anyone is to have the request come directly from him or her. Should you give these momma's boys a chance? Maybe so ... especially if Mom is playing phone tag with you behind their innocent backs.

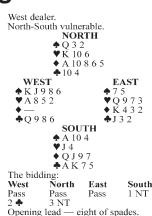
Dear Dr. Brothers: I have been planning a move across the country, forced by my husband's job problems. While I've always loved trying new places, now we have two little kids, and I find myself dreading the whole relocation thing. I don't want to have to try to research communities and preschools, or any of it. I am lying awake at night in a panic. I don't want to tell my husband, because he has enough problems. Help! – C.S.

Dear C.S.: It is perfectly normal to be scared to death, or just a bit nervous, before a big move across the country. Since you have moved around quite a bit already and haven't experienced this before, I understand how it is worrisome to you. Are you becoming a wimp? Or just less flexible? You probably don't realize how much stress there is behind a long-distance move.

I think the key to all this is your changed status of being a mother. Now you are responsible for the happiness of your children as well as your husband and yourself, or so you think. That's a big burden, but it is one all mothers feel when they are about to uproot children and take them into the unknown. Know that your kids will adjust very quickly and, taking their cue from you, will think of the move as one big adventure.

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Bridge • Steve Becker



Famous Hand

This deal occurred in the match between Italy and the United States in the 1984 World Team Olympiad. When the U.S. held the North-South cards, the bidding went as shown.

The Italian West chose to pass as dealer but, after South opened one notrump, overcalled with two clubs, indicating length in both major suits. North then went directly to three notrump, ending the auction.

West led a spade, won by South with the ten, and declarer (Paul Soloway) had to decide what to do next. Although attempting a diamond finesse seems the obvious thing to do, Soloway instead led the four of hearts at trick two. He realized that on the bidding a diamond finesse was likely to fail, and that if it did, a spade return would almost surely defeat the contract by allowing East-West to eventually score three spades, a diamond and a heart.

Soloway's reasoning was certainly sound, and the heart play left the Italians with no chance whatever of stopping the contract. After West followed low, declarer went up with the king, led a club to his ace and then lost the queen of diamonds to East's king. The best the defenders could do was to cash three hearts, after which South had nine tricks consisting of two spades, a heart, four diamonds and two clubs for plus 600. It could be argued that Soloway was very lucky

to find the hearts divided 4-4. But on a probabilities basis, West was more likely to have been dealt only four hearts rather than five. Furthermore, if West had five hearts in addition to five spades and the diamond finesse lost, the contract couldn't be made.

When the Italian North-South pair played the

same hand, they stopped at three diamonds, making three, for a score of 110 points, so the U.S. gained 490 points -- 10 IMPs -- on the deal.

points -- 10 IMPs -- on the deal. (c)2009 King Features Syndicate Inc.

Family Circus • Bil Keane



"How much do chickens get paid per egg?"

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

				8		7		4
	4		1		9	3	8	2
	9	2						6
	5		9					1
	6			7			2	
2					6		2 5	
2						8	7	
5 9	2	8	3		7		4	
9		3		1				
Difficulty Level ★ 4/00						4/06		

ifficulty 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

9	2	1	3	8	4	7	6	5
4	7	5	1	9	6	8	3	2
8	3	6	2	7	5	9	1	4
6	5	9	7	1	2	4	8	3
7	4	8	5	6	3	2	9	1
3	1	2	8	4	9	6	5	7
5	8	4	6	3	7	1	2	9
1	9	3	4	2	8	5	7	6
2	6	7	9	5	1	3	4	8
Difficulty Level ★★★ 4/0							4/03	

Cryptoquip

Sudoku puzzle is at right.

Dear C.S.: It is perfectly normal to be scared ZPCAU NX OQNU LUAQY PZC'S

TUYX BRCAX MPIU XQGYZ,

BQMIZ AQGML ZRX P ORTU

RC PCBUYPQY PCSUYPQY.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: AFTER PLACING A COUPLE OF COCKTAILS ON HIS ROOF, THE GUY HAD TO CRY "DRINKS ARE ON THE HOUSE!"

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: C equals N

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 1 Q-tip tip 5 Silent 8 Cold War	37 Skier's slowing maneu- ver 39 Greek	56 Type units 57 Land- lord's due	10 United nations 11 Sulk 17 Kid's query
weapon,	conso-	DOWN	19 Actress
for short	nant	1 Bridge	Jessica
12 Easter	41 Growl	coup	22 Adhere
flower	42 Aft	2 Drunkard	24 "No
13 Rage 14 — con-	45 Stuck, sort of	3 Choir voice	seats"
tendere	49 Anne	4 Local	sign 25 Pinch
15 Initial	Murray	ordi-	26 Nuance
stake	classic	nance	27 Ancient
16 White	51 Christ-	(Var.)	Spartan
bloom	mas	5 Gets	king
18 "Bread"	52 Cattle	the info	29 "O Sole
20 From	53 U.S.	wrong	"
what	spy	6 Grecian	30 Church
place	org.	vessel	seat
21 Actor	54 And	7 Cat call?	33 Graceful
Baldwin	others	8 Certainly	bird
23 Ever-	(Lat.)	9 County of	36 Masti-
green	55 Raced	England	cated
type			38 Orison
24 Grow	Solution tim		40 Sphere
uncon-			42 Requests
trollably	DRJEKYL		43 Quick cu
28 Moist	S N I V E L I L L	UFO	44 Pleasant
31 Body of water	I L L S P A C Y F	DRRUTH HEY SEA	46 Burlap fiber
(Abbr.)	LUSTBE	DLESS	47 "Two
32 The	ERATUX DRPHIL	G I R T H	and a
	S 1 1 L	5 5 5	aa

Saturday's answer 4-6

Half Men"

role

50 Edge

48 Dissolve

Ram

hood

35 Oil cartel

34 False-