# Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott







#### **Blondie •** Chic Young







# **Hagar the Horrible** • Chris Browne



#### **Mother Goose and Grimm** • Mike Peters

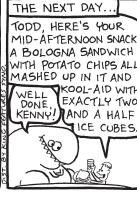


# Sally Forth • Greg Howard



## **Todd the Dinosaur** • Patrick Roberts







I DON'T

KNOW!

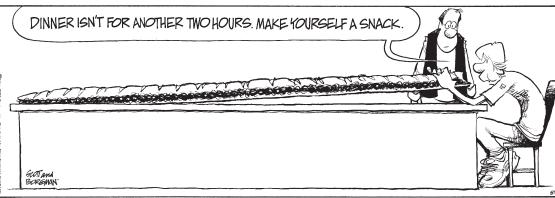
# **Zits** • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott













# Dr. Joyce **Brothers**

Ask Dr. Brothers

# Jealous sister hits baby brother

**Dear Dr. Brothers:** I have a problem with my little girl. She is 3 years old and is jealous of her 4-month-old brother. She went through the whole big-sister thing, but it wore off and now she is smacking him in his stroller at least once a day when she thinks I'm not looking. I don't know whether to smack her back or say I'll take him back to the hospital. – N.L.

Dear N.L.: I'm sure you know neither of your potential solutions would be appropriate, so let's think of something that will leave you, your daughter and your son better able to cope. It's always part of the family's dream to have siblings who are loving, kind and helpful to one another and I'm not saying that can't happen as they mature. But for now, you have a little girl frustrated by the attention her brother gets and unhappy he can't play with her - so he doesn't seem to be much of a bargain, at the moment.

I think the best way to turn this around is to make it clear she may not ever hurt her brother in any way, and that there will be consequences - timeout or another nonviolent, immediate, consistent response. Ask her to tell you why she wants to hit the baby, and deal with her answers - she thinks he is bad or stupid or his crying is annoying - whatever they are. Try to enlist her help in caring for him and in understanding that he doesn't have all the abilities she has yet. If you can turn her into a helper, a lot of her frustration will dissolve. But make sure the help is the fun stuff – you do the dirty work.

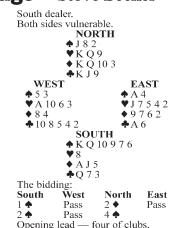
Dear Dr. Brothers: My younger sister and I are close and I try to look out for her, as she is a senior living alone. She had a knee injury with a lot of pain, and I had some pain pills left over from some dentistry, and she asked me if she could try a couple. I gave her some and she is asking for more. She doesn't have a doctor, but I don't want to be it! Could she be getting addicted? What do I do? - H.S.

**Dear H.S.:** The first thing to do is realize that sharing prescription pills is illegal – and you are putting both your sister and yourself at risk by letting her have your leftovers. I know you mean well and are trying to help. You should tell her you can't provide her with any more pills, but would take her to a clinic. It is doubtful she would be addicted to your pills if you have given her only a few, but the fact is they were not prescribed for her and perhaps your sister might be psychologically susceptible to drug dependency.

off to the doctor? Spending some time with her and having conversations about whatever is on her mind would be helpful. It is lonely being by yourself, and she might have a lot of things she'd share if you devoted some time to her. See if you can identify several friends of hers or a routine that includes socializing, activities and things she can look forward to once she has healed. This will lead her toward pill-free success in the future.

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# **Bridge** • Steve Becker



## It Takes Two to Tango

Bridge is a partnership game that reaches its highest level when two players operate on precisely the same wavelength during the bidding or play to achieve their optimum result.

Take this case where East-West collaborated perfectly to defeat four spades. West led the four of clubs to East's ace, and East then had to decide the best course for the defense.

He reasoned that South was almost certain to hold a long, strong spade suit and at least one of the red aces for his opening bid. Even if West held a red ace, this left the defense with only three potential winners, all of them aces. Another trick would have to be found for the contract to be defeated.

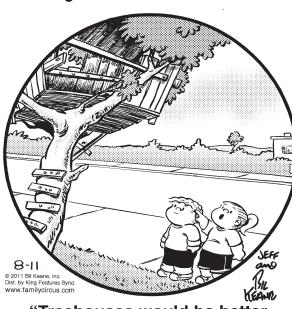
East concluded that his best chance lay in trying to obtain a club ruff, a plan that required South to hold at least three clubs. Accordingly, East returned the six of clubs at trick two. South in the meantime did his best to disguise his actual holding by following with the seven to the first club lead and the queen to the second. It was now West's turn to do his part for the

cause, and he came through with flying colors. Following his partner's defense, which strongly suggested that he had started with a doubleton club, West dropped the ten on the queen, applying an unusual extension of the suit-preference signal. In this instance, he was transmitting the message that he held an entry in the higher-ranking side suit, hearts. (Had he held the ace of diamonds instead, he would have played the deuce on the second club.) After overtaking the queen of clubs with the

king, declarer led the jack of spades from dummy, trying to look like a man taking a finesse against the queen, but East didn't take the bait. He rose with the ace and led a heart to his partner's ace, and the ensuing club ruff put the final touch on a well-defended hand.

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# Family Circus • Bil Keane



"Treehouses would be better if they weren't up in trees."

#### Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green



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

31 Wilde-

beest

36 Stylish

38 Astrolo-

ger's

chart

appli-

ances

goers'

ride

for

29-Down

42 Prom-

name in

**41** Big

7 Homeless 37 Triumph

drudgery

6 Insep-

arable

child

8 Religious

## Cryptoquip

BAFYMPQ WMURNW

BOEJFRUMFCYW JFWMFYX

Now, what can you do besides carting her FYSC UECOM LPYPAUMPQ

SFXOAPW: APLPAPYRP ECCNW. Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF YOU GO OUT, BUT FORGET TO APPLY ANY DEODORANT, COULD YOU BE CAUGHT OFF RIGHT GUARD?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: C equals O

# **Crossword** • Eugene Sheffer

	, <b></b> .	agono biic	,1101
ACROSS	38 Variety	<b>57</b> Ram's	11 Butter
1 Nitwit	of Indian	mate	squares
5 Scatter	OX	58 Masti-	<b>19</b> Alterna-
seed	39 Swiss	cate	tively
8 At the	canton		21 "So that's
peak	<b>40</b> Past	DOWN	your
of	42 Mourn	1 Show-	game,
12 Grand	45 Doctors	room	eh?"
tale	<b>49</b> Eye	sample	24 Moment
13 Literary	part	2 Oil	<b>25</b> Earl
collec-	50 Singer	acronym	Grey, e.g.
tion	DiFranco	3 Eat in	26 Light up
14 Actor	52 Slanted	style	28 Zero
LaBeouf	lettering	4 Eyepiece	29 Poison
15 Options	(Abbr.)	5 Place	ivy aid
list	<b>53</b> "A —	of	30 Gist

home

lander's is ... memento 54 Barbie's 17 Sword companhandle ion 18 Spotted 55 Farm

20 Raids 22 Branch 23 Easter entree 24 Blend together

cat

16 Main-

27 Arriving 32 Conger, e.g 33 Actress Long 34 Sister

35 "Tobacco Road" author

fraction retreat **56** Act 9 Vitamin the B1 10 Unctuous robot Solution time: 25 mins.

43 Bedouin 44 Snatch 46 Target 47 Concern 48 Passel Yesterday's answer 8-11

51 Just out 17 45 50 54 55