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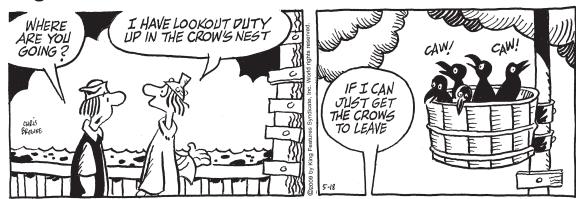
#### **Beetle Bailey** • Mort Walker



#### **Blondie** • Chic Young

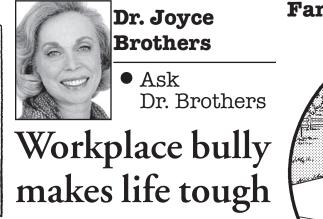


### Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



## Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters





Dear Dr. Brothers: I never imagined that bullying would persist after middle school (OK, high school), but here I am at a new job, and I find myself working alongside a bona fide nasty, mean and cruel bully of the first order! She spends all her spare time ridiculing me, bossing me around (she is not my boss) and making my life miserable. I don't know what to do - could I have a sign on my back left over from high school that says "Kick Me"? - S.F.

Dear S.F.: A Zogby poll says 37 percent of workers are bullied! It's very likely that this bully would pick on someone else if you weren't around to take a beating. But there might just be some truth to the idea that you seem to be an easy target - bullies have a way of identifying the weakest link, or the nicest, most timid person, however you want to characterize yourself. So now you have something going for you. You're upset, annoyed and in a frame of mind to do something about this bullying. That's good! Sometimes the person who routinely gets picked on needs to be motivated to do something, and it sounds like you're just about there.

Why not surprise this woman and confront her, face to face? The boldness you exhibit will catch her off guard. Invite her to lunch and tell her that you know what she's up to, and that you expect her to cease and desist - now. Spell out the fact that you will make trouble for her if she doesn't. And then have a sandwich, thank her for listening and go about your business. I'll bet you win!

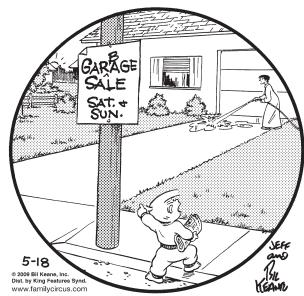
Dear Dr. Brothers: I am drawn to the medical dramas and emergency medicine or medical mystery reality shows on TV. Which would be fine, except that about once a month I break out in hives after watching one of these and become convinced that I have the same symptoms. I am not a hypochondriac – I never go running to the doctor - but I do find myself identifying with the victims in these shows. Can I watch them and still stay healthy? - B.W.

**Dear B.W.**: It sounds as though you really get into these medical shows. Regardless of how accurate these shows are, I believe their big attraction is two-pronged: First, we get to experience the thrills of dramatic action, and second, we always get to turn off the TV and be glad none of that happened to us! But sometimes the last part doesn't work too well.

Instead of experiencing all the horror of the action and the relief of it not being anything to do with us, we get stuck. The reality of it all gets to some people in such a way that they overidentify with what's happening on the screen. If you're actually breaking out in hives, I would say that this might be a little too intense for your psyche. In any case, I think any doctor would prescribe a bit of a vacation from medical dramas and reality shows. Game show, anyone?

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# **Family Circus** • Bil Keane



"Mommy, somebody put a B on your sign during the night!"

#### **Conceptis Sudoku** • Dave Green

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

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.

	<b>`</b>		<u>'</u>							20
	3	5	6	4	2	7	8	1	9	
	7	2	9	3	8	1	5	4	6	. Inc.
	4	8	1	5	9	6	2	7	3	\$2009 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.
	8	9	3	2	1	4	7	6	5	satures S
	1	4	2	7	6	5	3	9	8	r King F
	5	6	7	8	3	9	4	2	1	Dist. by
	2	1	5	9	7	3	6	8	4	Puzzles
	6	7	4	1	5	8	9	3	2	onceptis
	9	3	8	6	4	2	1	5	7	0 600 C
Difficulty Level ★★★★ 5/15										

# Cryptoquip

ISMP Q RQXCMJ MRYWEGMM N M X G V C O W W M H 0 V0 J IEXCOPF ZSMZCETJ, O FTMVV 🎔

SM OV ZETPJMX-YXEHTZJONM.

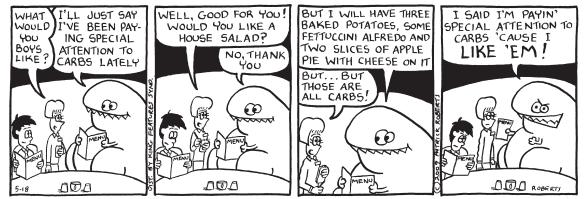
**Yesterday's Cryptoquip:** PEOPLE WHO ARE IN NEW HAVEN HAVE QUITE IMPECCABLE MANNERS. IT MUST BE CONNECTICUT ETIQUETTE.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: V equals S

### Sally Forth • Greg Howard



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



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



# **Bridge** • Steve Becker

_				
	West de Neither WE	side vulne NOF ◆ Q 7 ♥ 4 ◆ A 10 ◆ Q 8 :	<b>RTH</b> 5 4 5 3 2	EAST
	<b>•</b> 9 8			
	- ¥õ1			x 9 8 5 2
	- ∳ð7			<b>X</b> 98
	•4 '	054		76
		SOU		10
		♠ A K		
		▼ K J C		
		◆ J 3	,	
		◆ J S ◆ A K	T 10	
	The 1.14		J 10	
	The bid		East	C
	West	North	East	South
	Pass	Pass	Pass	1 🗭
	Pass	1 🎔	Pass	1 NT
	Pass	2 🗭	Pass	2 🛧
	Pass	4 🎔	Pass	4 🛧
	Opening	z lead — f	our of clu	ıbs.

#### **Famous Hand**

The United States played Japan for the very first time in the 1972 World Bridge Olympiad, 18 H and had much the best of the confrontation. This deal contributed greatly to the outcome.

At the first table, with Bob Hamman and Paul Soloway North-South for the U.S., the bidding 21 A went as shown. The one-club bid was artificial, showing at least 17 points, and the heart response was also artificial, showing at least six points.

One notrump indicated a balanced hand with 18 to 20 points, and two clubs was Stayman, inquiring about major suits. Two spades was natural, and four hearts, a "splinter bid," showed support for spades with a singleton heart. The K-J-7 of hearts lost much of their value when they were known to be facing a singleton, so South signed off at four spades. Soloway made six with an assist from the defense, and the U.S. scored 480 points.

When a Japanese pair were North-South, they 35 A reached six spades on this sequence:

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	Pass	2 NT
Pass	3 [C]	Pass	3 [S]
Pass	4 [C]	Pass	5 [C]
Pass	6 [S]		

Had West (Bobby Wolff) led a heart, the slam undoubtedly would have been made, but he was sufficiently inspired to lead a diamond.

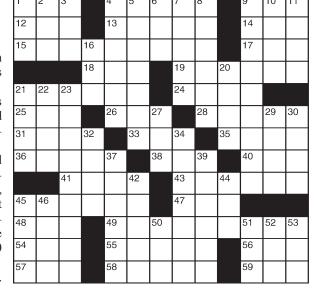
Declarer won with the ace, cashed three spades and five clubs, discarding his diamond loser, and then led dummy's singleton heart toward his K-J-7.

East (Jim Jacoby) smoothly followed low, and South had arrived at the moment of truth. Unfortunately, he played the jack rather than the king, hoping this would force the ace, but when West produced the queen, declarer still had to lose another trick for down one. Had South guessed the heart position, he would have wound up plus 980 instead of minus 50.

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# **Crossword** • Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 1 Amaze- ment, plus	36 Refine metal 38 "Holy cow!"	59 Blunder DOWN 1 Bonfire	20 Black- birds 21 Kennedy and
4 Glistened	<b>40</b> Kimono	residue	Koppel
9 Insulation	sash	2 Personal	22 Grad
material	41 Bad	question	23 James
(Abbr.)	witness	3 Conger,	Brown
12 That girl	43 In the	for one	hit
13 Melodic	thick of	4 Fashions	27 Journal
and	45 Hallux	5 Coyotes'	29 Watch
harmonic	47 Couric's	din	chains
14 Golf ball's	network	6 Yoko of	<b>30</b> Fit of
position	48 Fuss	music	peevish-
15 Tinsel-	<b>49</b> Glenn	7 Judd or	ness
town	Miller	Campbell	32 Narrow
17 Help	classic	8 Firstborn	cut
18 Having	54 Virgo	9 Green-	<b>34</b> Head
a bug	neighbor	house	of the
<b>19</b> Villain,	55 Waste	buy	class?
slangily	conduit	10 Henry —	37 Follower
21 Asian	<b>56</b> Pair	11 Relin-	of
capital	<b>57</b> Pop	quish	Lao-tzu
<b>24</b> "— It	58 Crocodile	16 Back	39 Hearth
Roman-	_	talk	remains
tic?"			42 Actress
25 Sprite	Solution tim	e: 27 mins.	Zellweger
26 Lorne	LASMAS		44 Doctrine
Michaels'	ILL ANT TAU ROO		45 Hairless
brain-	HMM CRO		46 Notion
child,	O O P S A P	RPICS	50 Airline
for short	ELK	PLAQUE	initials
28 Quarrels	ELOPE TARTAR	A S S E T C O T	51 Praiseful
31 Union	A G R A O B		verse
payments	ACU		<b>52</b> "—
33 Obtained	DENTIST AMOURT		Town"
35 Any time	BUGGYE		<b>53</b> "Le
now	Saturday	s answer 5-18	Coq —"
1 2 3	4 5 6	7 8	9 10 11



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