

FAMILY CIRCUS | BIL KEANE



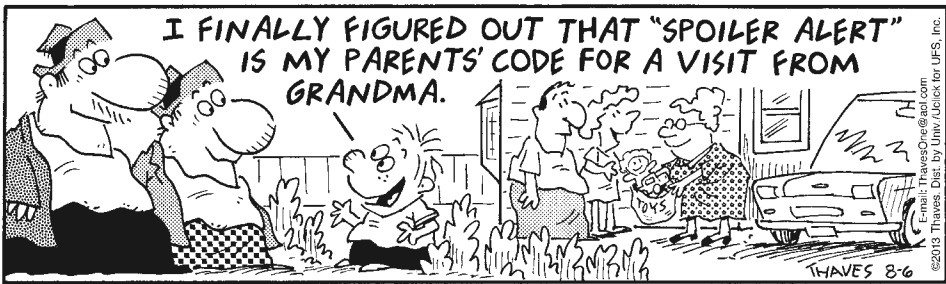
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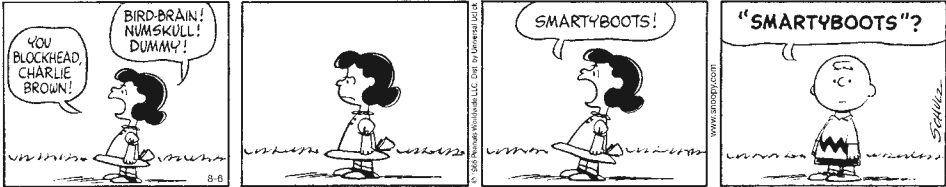
ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



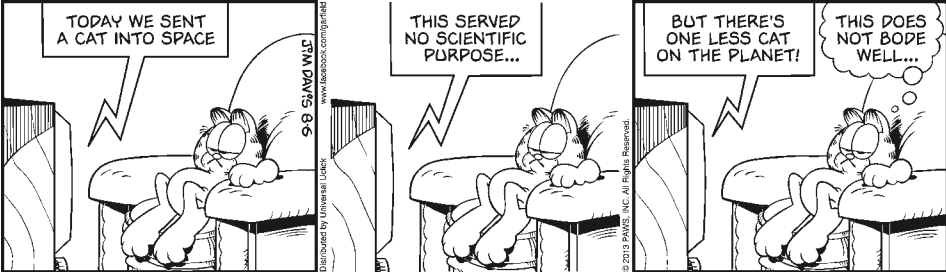
DICK TRACY | JOE STATON AND MIKE CURTIS



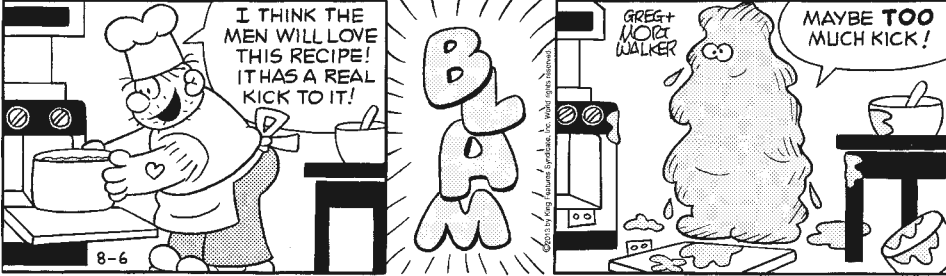
BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



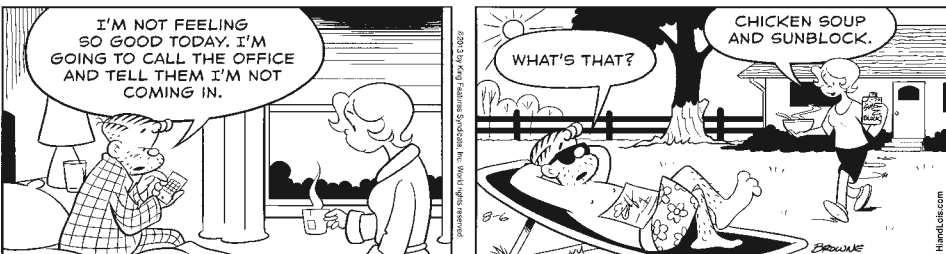
GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



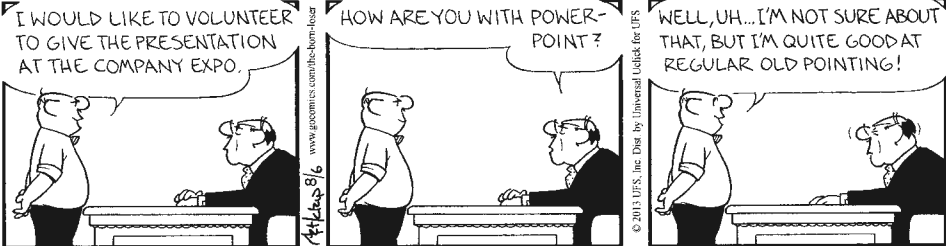
BEETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



THE BORN LOSER | ART SANSOM



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS



## Help Is Plentiful For Military Veterans Going Back To School

DEAR ABBY: This letter is for "Torn in Milford, Conn." (May 16). I returned to college after 20 years of active duty and know firsthand how difficult the transition can be. Most universities have a veterans' service office where he might be able to connect with students with similar backgrounds and experiences to his. There should also be chapters of the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars where he can meet others.

I was fortunate that the university I attended (at age 45) had a dorm floor specifically for "non-traditional" students like me. In classes, I was able to make friends because my unique experiences enabled me to connect to the material in ways younger students could not, and by sharing those connections, people got to know me. Starting over — starting something new — is always difficult, but no education is ever wasted.

If he does want to explore a career in security, "Torn" should take a part-time job while attending school to help cover expenses; universities always need highly skilled employees, and university towns are filled with venues that require such skills. That being said, a diploma will get him further in his future. — NONTRADITIONAL STUDENT, EKALAKA, MONT.

DEAR NONTRADITIONAL STUDENT: Thank you for sharing your personal experience. Your support and encouragement for "Torn" to complete his college education was endorsed by many other vets and college professors, who find vets to be great students:

DEAR ABBY: I'm concerned that there may be more going on with "Torn" than just that he/she doesn't fit in with peers in school. Being a combat vet and feeling disconnected from peers or having a desire to return to what they knew before (security

work) is a sign of PTSD. Missing work is often "code" for survivor's guilt. ("If I could go back and make it right, perhaps my buddy would be here, or I would be with my buddy.")

There are services available for vets suffering from PTSD if they recognize the need to reach out for them. Also, if this vet is using his/her educational benefits, then the chances of there being a training plan to help in readjustment is likely. — VET WHO MADE IT THROUGH

DEAR ABBY: I am a longtime college professor. Many bright students, young and old, have similar complaints. "Torn," you sound like a great student, as many vets are. Try evening classes. They're usually available to any enrolled student and are the same courses taught in day sections. Students enrolled in these classes are mostly working adults who are more dedicated.

See if your college has online courses, so you won't have to deal with the students in person, although you may have to take part in online discussions. Check out your college's career services office and find a part-time job. This will give you a different peer group, plus give you some experience in your field. Your college's veterans' office may also have helpful resources for you.

I hope these ideas will help your college experience to be more pleasant and productive. — DR. M. IN OKLAHOMA CITY

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

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### JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

EDITOR'S NOTE: Bigar's Stars is based on the degree of your sun at birth. The sign name is simply a label astrologers put on a set of degrees for convenience. For best results, readers should refer to the dates following each sign.

A baby born today has a Sun and Moon in Leo all day.

#### HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR TUESDAY, AUG. 6, 2013:

This year you open up to many new possibilities. In some sense, you will experience a new beginning in a chosen area of your life. You also will successfully instrument a life change. You respond to others with a great deal of creativity. If you are single, you'll want to get to know someone better who stimulates your imagination. Together, you could live out wonderful adventures. If you are attached, as a couple, you'll revise your dreams and goals, as both of you have changed considerably. You will benefit from private time together. Another LIBRA could get quite competitive with you.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

#### ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 19)

HHHH Tap into your imagination in order to get past problems. Some of your suggestions might seem wild to those you deal with on a daily basis, but their validity comes out when tested. A key person might be taken back by your actions. Tonight: Where people are having fun.

#### TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★ You might be caught up in your thoughts about a personal matter. Relax, and open up conversation with a friend who has your best interests in mind. The two of you seem to accomplish more together than apart. Tonight: With any luck, you'll get a new beginning.

#### GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★★ You might be busy fielding calls. As you start to open up more, you'll get great feedback. A friend supports you in this venture. Do not compromise the integrity of a concept. You'll get a new beginning, perhaps with a special relationship. Tonight: Catch up on a pal's news.

#### CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★ You could become overly enthusiastic and find yourself spending a little too freely. You know there is no way around the situation. You suddenly might discover that the damages are much greater than you expected. Tonight: Really look at your budget, then make decisions.

#### LEO (JULY 23- AUG. 22)

★★★ Reach out to a partner or friend. When you brainstorm about a problem, not only will the problem be eliminated, but you also could come

up with some other great ideas. You'll feel the kinetic energy in the air. Be willing to commit to a new beginning. Tonight: All smiles.

#### VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★★★★ You could be questioning a partner's choices, especially as this person seems so vague and confused. You might not be able to take a logical approach, as he or she won't be able to think that way about this situation. Think outside the box. Tonight: Keep your own counsel.

#### LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★★ Emphasize what you want, as opposed to what you think you can get. You might be confused about the outcome of a situation. Whether it involves work or your personal life, you can be sure that you're not seeing the matter as clearly as you'd like. Tonight: On your game.

#### SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★★ You have an extraordinary imagination that takes you to new heights. Your ability to understand others helps you when accepting a lead role. Others feel as if you understand them and have their best interests in mind; therefore, they defer to you. Tonight: A force to behold.

#### SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★ You might want to follow through on a key project where confusion is not an issue. If you reach out to key advisers, you will come up with an inspired plan. You could feel as if you have a new beginning with this idea. Tonight: Get an opinion from several friends before you act.

#### CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★★ You seem to know what will happen next and why. Lighten up and worry less. You can handle whatever comes down your path; be anxious simply will not help. Work with a partner and decide to clear up a problem. Tonight: A resolution or decision made right now will stick.

#### AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

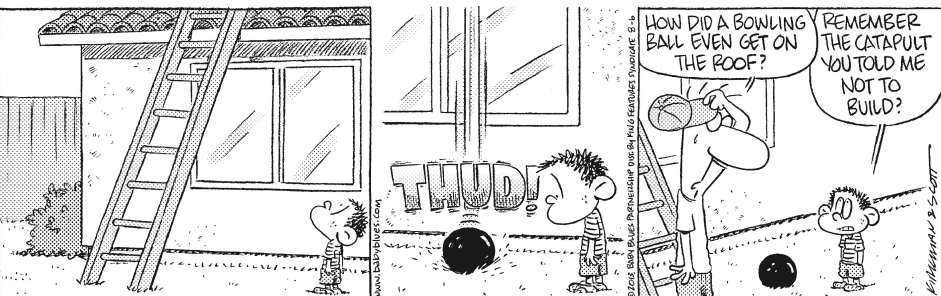
★★★★ You might want to see a situation from someone else's eyes, and you can be sure that this person will want you to see it through your eyes as well. Try out his or her vision and see if it works for you. A new perspective can change results. Tonight: Go along with a friend's plans.

#### PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

★★★★ Your mind might be jumbled, which makes it hard to stay focused on one topic. Do not push yourself too hard. Make a point to jot down some of your unusual ideas that might be worth exploring and testing out. This process might free up your mind some. Tonight: Stay mellow.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON

