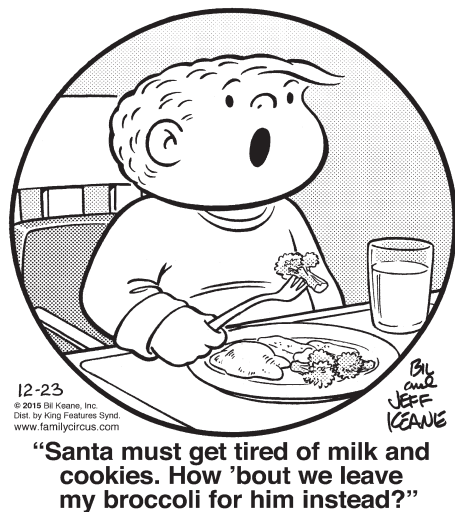


FAMILY CIRCUS | BILL KEANE



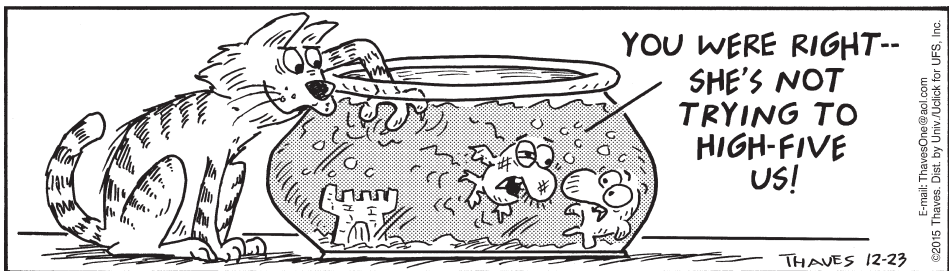
ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



PICKLES | BRIAN CRANE



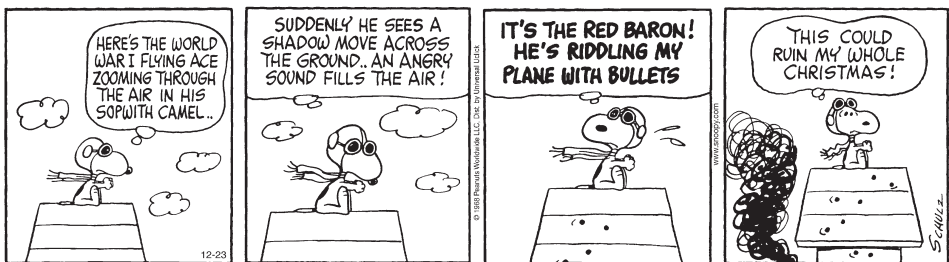
FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



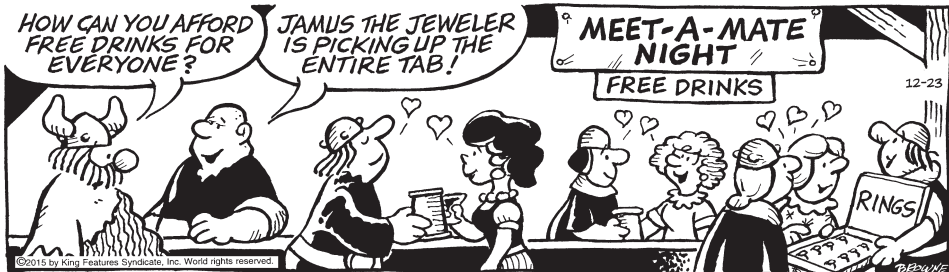
BORN LOSER | ART SAMSON



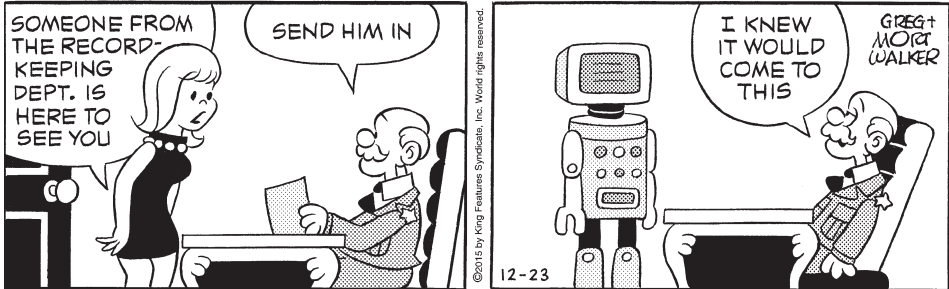
PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE | CHRIS BROWNE



BETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



Wife's Payback For Cheating Husband Isn't Worth The Price

DEAR ABBY: I found out a few months ago that my husband, "Hal," the father of my children, has had affairs with five different women. I left, and we are now being divorced.

I desperately wanted revenge, so I have been secretly seeing Hal's good friend "Ron," whom he "forbade" me from contacting after I told him his infidelity and disrespect gave me permission to act on the attraction I had for Ron. It's just a friends-with-benefits situation and I am having fun, so I don't really consider it to be revenge.

Hal has spent the last five months begging me to forgive him and work on our marriage, but I no longer love him and I certainly don't trust him. I told him I would "work on" forgiving him, so now he calls, says he still loves me and flirts.

The last woman Hal cheated on me with is his current girlfriend. He told me that if I ever want to hook up, I should make sure to use code words when leaving messages because she might see my calls and text messages. He also told me that he is not interested in a longterm relationship with her.

I slept with Hal recently to have leverage. I was contemplating sending her the proof as payback for how she treated me some months back, although I don't want her boyfriend back. I am now questioning if this is the right thing to do. Should I just leave it alone? — **PAYBACK SOMEWHERE IN THE USA**

DEAR PAYBACK: Yes, do it for everyone's sake — including your own. This cycle of revenge is doing no one any good.

DEAR ABBY: Before we had kids, my wife and I would occasionally go out with groups of friends or to social functions, but it was difficult to get her to go home. She always liked closing the place down, and if we left early I felt like I was dragging her away.

For the first five years after our children were born we didn't get out much. My wife is

now starting to go out with friends from work — a mixed group of single and married guys and gals. She has invited me to come along, but sitters are expensive and I'm not friendly with her co-workers. She stays out with them until 3 to 4 a.m. once a month. I think that's ridiculously late when you have a husband and children at home.

When she's not here, I can't sleep and I worry that something is wrong. She rarely calls to check in unless I ask her to. Overall I trust her, but with her drinking heavily and many single guys around, I don't feel comfortable with the situation. I don't know what to do. — **LONELY DAD IN ARIZONA**

DEAR LONELY DAD: I have it on good authority that last call for serving alcohol in Arizona is 2 a.m. Could your wife be drinking so heavily that she needs the time to sober up in order to drive home? If that's the case, she may be a binge drinker, which isn't healthy.

The implications of your letter are serious, so you should sit down with her and have a discussion about the amount she imbibes on her nights out. You shouldn't have to worry about her, so out of respect for your feelings, she should routinely let you know how long she'll be after the bars/clubs close.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

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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 in Capricorn and a Moon in Gemini.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR WEDNESDAY, DEC. 23, 2015:

This year you demonstrate a preference for relating to others on an individual basis rather than in a group. You prefer getting to know those around you better, and you'll maintain fewer but tighter relationships. No matter what your status might be, excitement surrounds you. If you are single, you could meet a very dynamic individual who introduces you to a very different culture. Learn and accept different ways. If you are attached, the two of you get involved in a new interest together. This common thread adds to the dynamic of your bond. GEMINI inspires you to be more versatile.

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)

★★★★ Confusion is likely to surround communication. Confirm meetings, places and times. If you hit a snafu, don't stand on ceremony, as you will succeed only in distancing the other party further away from you. Be as explicit as you possibly can be. Tonight: The life of the party.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★★ You could be a bit uncomfortable with someone at a distance or news that heads your way. You might be in an even more difficult situation than you realize. Say little, and just go with the flow. Be as flexible as you can be right now. Tonight: Meet a friend to share some holiday cheer.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★★ You could be overly tired and trying to deal with a situation that seems to be common in your experience yet one that you are not comfortable with. People seem to want more from you than you are able to give. A power play is a likely result. Tonight: Enjoy the person you are with.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★ Defer to others, as you have much more to gain by listening than by acting. As a result, you will understand someone better. This person can be difficult and controlling. You might want to take a stand with this person. Be careful! Tonight: Accept an offer that might be too good to be true.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

★★★★ Your sense of those around you could

be far more accurate than you might realize. Solutions can be easily found if you just relax. Be willing to revise your schedule if need be. Do not hang on to issues rigidly. Tonight: Stop by at a friend's who is having a get-together.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★★★ You could feel pressured by a family member who has clout, an older friend or perhaps a boss. You probably will opt not to take this person on. A family member might not go along with your plans, as he or she has something else up his or her sleeve. Tonight: Let spontaneity rule.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★★ Be whimsical as well as adventurous. You can expect quite a reaction from others, as you pioneer a path that surprises them. A partner finds your actions to be exciting, but he or she also could become somewhat intimidated. Tonight: Read between the lines, and you can't go wrong.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★★ One-on-one relating evokes a strong response, no matter who the other party might be. You have an unusual intensity about you right now. Others are likely to experience very strong reactions to this side of you. Tonight: Have an awkward conversation. Get it over with.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★★ You could be taken aback by a loved one's sudden versatility. Don't feel threatened; instead, enjoy this odd moment. Don't try to control this person, either. Just go along with the moment, and the results will be a lot better. Tonight: Agree to a friendor loved one's plans.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★★ Pace yourself, and get past a problem. Make an important call and be willing share your feelings. You could be a little insecure, but so is the other party. A natural gawkiness surrounds this interaction. A family member is full of surprises. Tonight: Join friends or family.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

★★★★ Your playfulness emerges when dealing with others. Recognize that they are not in the same headspace as you are. You might be surprised by how others respond to your mood. It is nothing personal, but you might not be able to let it go. Tonight: Enjoy some eggnog.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

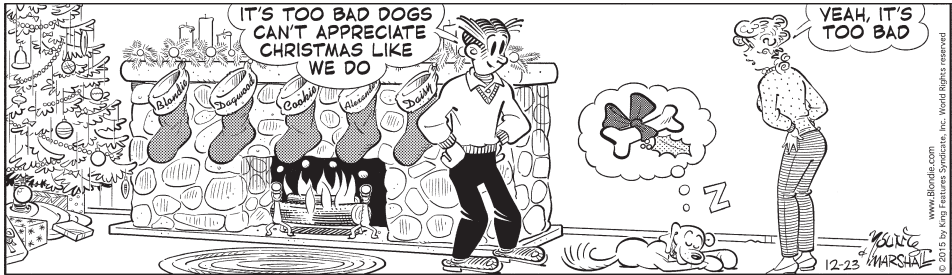
★★★ Pressure builds around the homefront. Someone you live with will let you know what his or her expectations are from you. Clearly, you did not have a clue. How you want to handle this situation could radically change because a conversation. Tonight: Happiest at home.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

