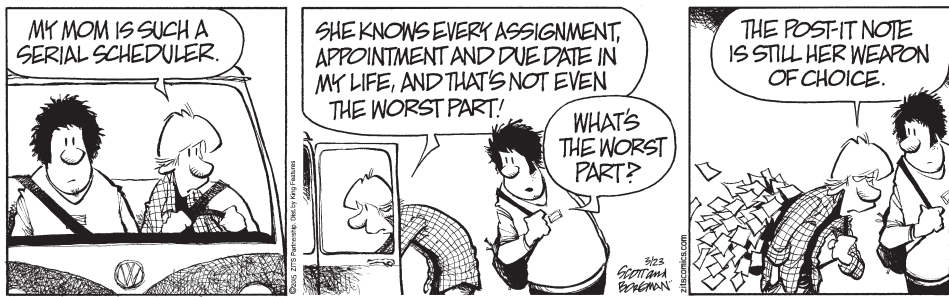


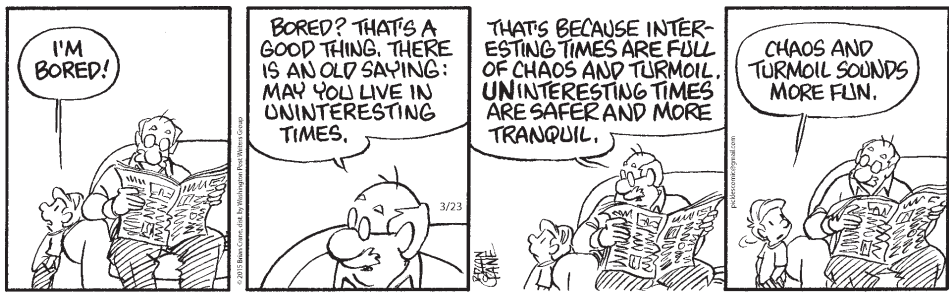
FAMILY CIRCUS | BILL KEANE



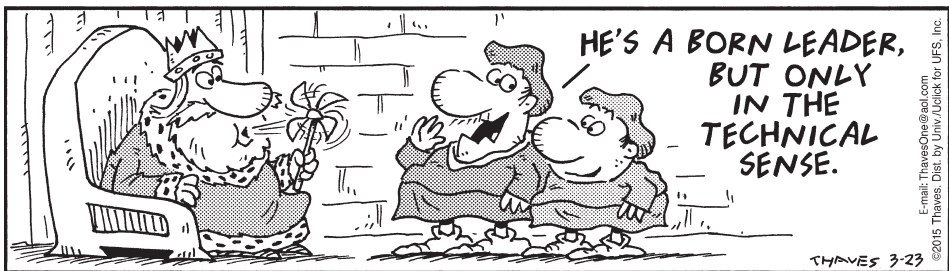
ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



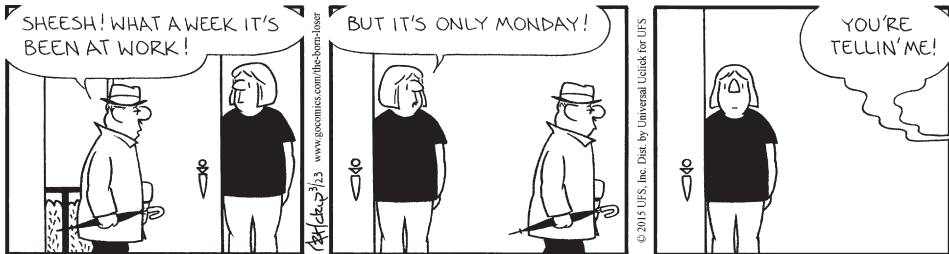
PICKLES | BRIAN CRANE



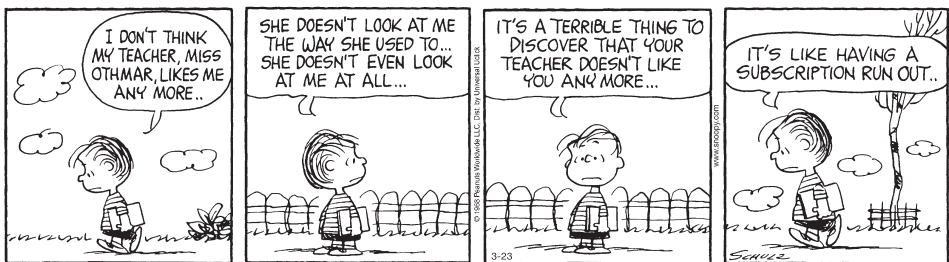
FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



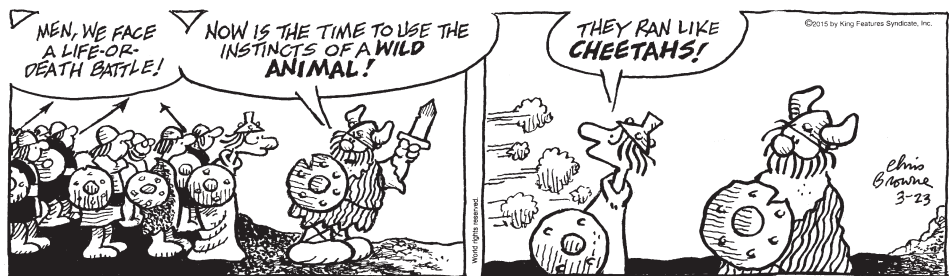
BORN LOSER | ART SAMSON



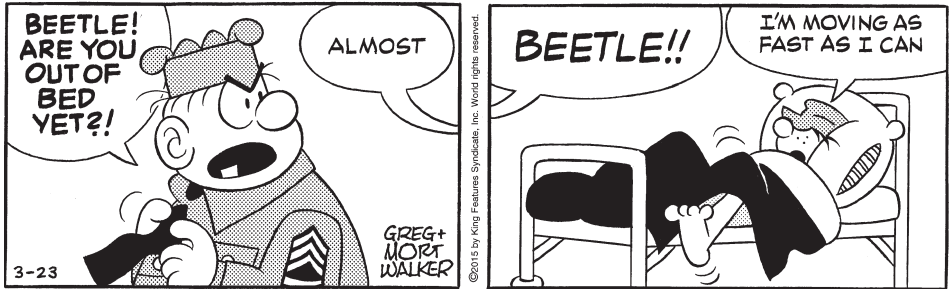
PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



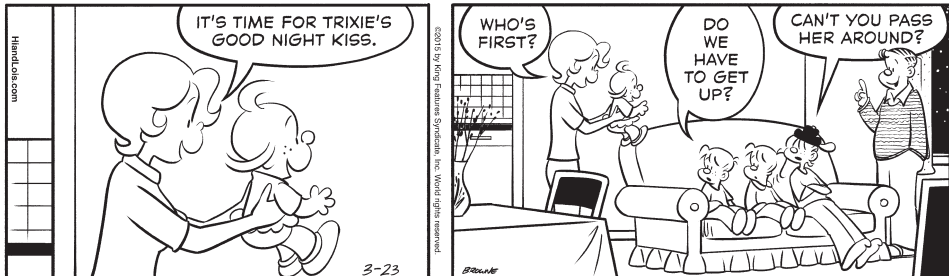
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE | CHRIS BROWNE



BETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



Man Stays On The Sidelines When Family Talks Sports

DEAR ABBY: My family is big on sports and discusses them at every gathering, big or small. I played sports growing up, but I don't care to follow them in my adult life like the rest of my family does. Sometimes I'm left out of conversations because of my lack of knowledge on the current stats, etc. I have always refrained from speaking about the things I'm passionate about because of lack of interest from them.

My good friend said maybe I'm considered less of a man by my brothers and my dad because of my apathy about sports. I served eight years in the Army, with four deployments in Iraq and Afghanistan, and was wounded twice. Not a man?

This issue may seem childish, but it is something that affects me to this day. Do you have any suggestions? — SITTING ON THE SIDELINES

DEAR SITTING: Yes. Stop listening to the armchair analysis of that "friend." When sports enthusiasts spout statistics, what they really want is someone to listen and appreciate their acumen.

It's sad that you haven't been able to let your father and brothers know about the things that interest you, but has it occurred to you perhaps you should have spoken up more about your passions? Not everyone is the same; not everyone is interested in the same things. It doesn't mean that anyone is more or less "manly" than someone else. You're a military vet, so stop measuring yourself by anyone else's yardstick because it isn't fair to you or to your family.

DEAR ABBY: I just married a wonderful man. "Derrick" is loving, considerate, helpful, smart, hard-working, and he wants to spend time with me as often as possible.

This is my second marriage. I have five kids ages 11 to 15, work full-time and try to fit in regular exercise. When my kids are with

their dad, Derrick is home every minute I'm there and we do a lot together — hiking, biking, running, movies, dining or just hanging out. He leaves for work after I do and comes home before I arrive.

My issue is, if I want any time alone, I have to leave the house. I used to have alone time before I met him, but now it's very rare. Abby, I need a little time for myself once in a while. I am very independent and don't need a companion every minute of every day. I'm becoming unhappy and depressed because I have no privacy.

I have told Derrick what I need, but how do I realistically get him out of the house so I can have some time to myself? He has a lot of friends, but he wants to spend his time with me. He isn't controlling or weird or jealous, but I'm feeling smothered. — NEEDS SPACE IN



DEAR ABBY
Jeanne Phillips

NEVADA

DEAR NEEDS: Suggest Derrick schedule some regular dates with his male friends — a golf game, card game, some other sporting event, etc. He might enjoy that, and it will give you the breathing room you need.

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.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen 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 in Aries and a Moon in Taurus.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR MONDAY, MARCH 23, 2015:

This year you have a new kind of energy that emanates from your creativity. You will discipline your imagination and become much more detail-oriented and efficient. The combination of these qualities will point you toward success. If you are single, you are likely to find your sweetie before winter 2015. Trust that this person will appear on his or her own. If you are attached, this year could be one of the most romantic years of your life. TAURUS often serves as an anchor for you, especially when you lose your focus.

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)

★★★★ You will decide to share your thoughts with friends and loved ones whose opinions you care about. What could seem strange to you is that others simply are continuing on different paths, and they might not even hear you. Tonight: Be the master of your domain.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★★ All eyes look to you for advice about important issues. No matter what your status might be, you'll have several admirers who can't seem to get enough of you. Follow your intuition, and focus on the long term when making decisions. Tonight: Decide who and what.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★ Know when you need to pull back. Timing will be important. When you are less assertive, others will step up to the plate, and you will learn a lot more about the people who surround you in your day-to-day life. Tonight: Practice your vanishing act.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★★ You can count on your supporters, especially as you will be focused on achieving certain results. You could be overwhelmed by everything that you want to clear out. Defer to a close friend or loved one if you're feeling confused. Tonight: At a favorite spot.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

★★★★ Your positive approach will affect how events turn out. Brainstorm with others who might

have similar concerns. Touch base with someone whom you care a lot about. Recognize that a problematic situation could be the result of you not being realistic. Tonight: Out late.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★★★ Take an overview of a particular aspect of your life. You will see things from a totally different perspective. Understand that someone who cares a lot about you could be somewhat secretive about who he or she really is. Tonight: Take in new vistas.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★★ You could have a different perspective from most of your associates. Relate to each individual in your life directly, and everyone will feel more appreciated as a result. You might be waffling over a decision you are about to make. Tonight: Make the most of the night.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★★ Defer to someone whom you would like to get to know better. Encourage this person to come out of his or her shell, and ask questions. On some level, you might seem like opposites, but your bottom lines will be similar. Tonight: Listen to others' suggestions.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★★ You will be more direct than you have been in a while. Consider taking a vacation, especially if you have not been on one in years. Planning it could be just as fun as experiencing it. Be careful with a family member who could be distorting the truth. Tonight: Do for you.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★★ Your creativity will surge. The thought of spring and romance is likely to make your heart soar. Consider what you expect from a relationship at this point in your life. Put yourself in the right place to meet Mr. or Ms. Right. Tonight: Be open to spontaneity.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

★★★★ Stay close to home, as you will be happiest there. Be aware that a friend might have a different idea of what you should do and likely will want to change your plans. Stand your ground and do what you want. Tonight: Make the most of the moment.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

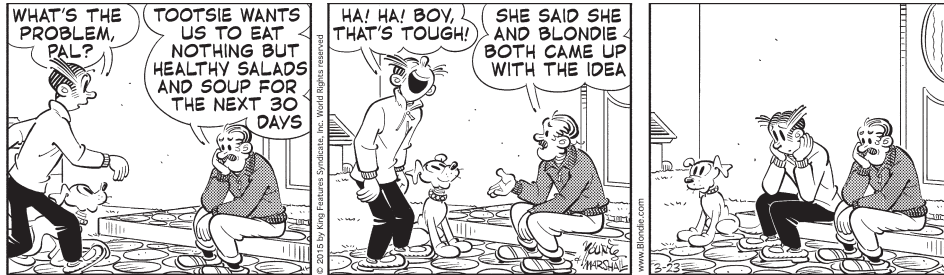
★★★★ Speak your mind. You are capable of conducting successful negotiations. Tap into your imagination, but be aware that you could be wearing rose-colored glasses and perhaps might not be as realistic as you need to be. Tonight: Meet a pal at a mutually favored spot.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

