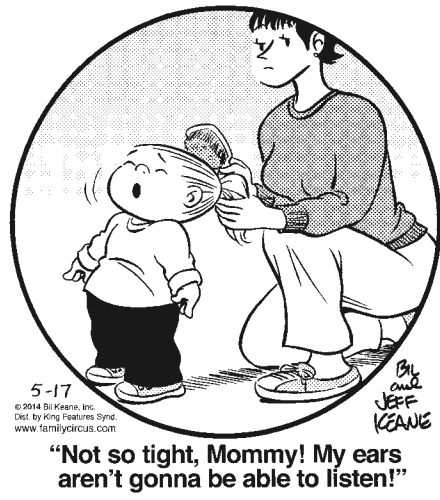
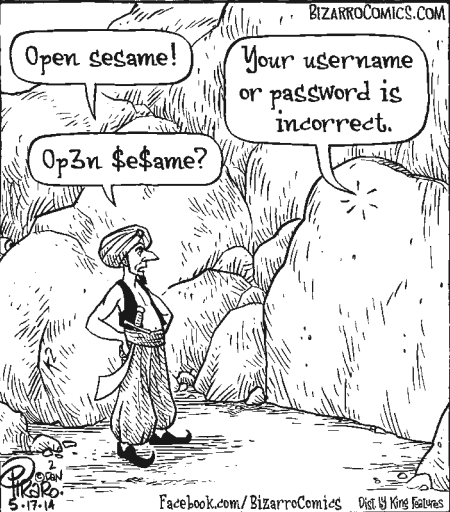


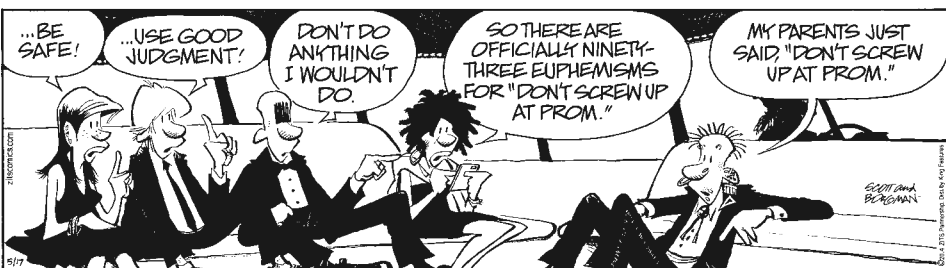
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BIZARRO | DAN PIRARO



ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



PICKLES | BRIAN CRANE



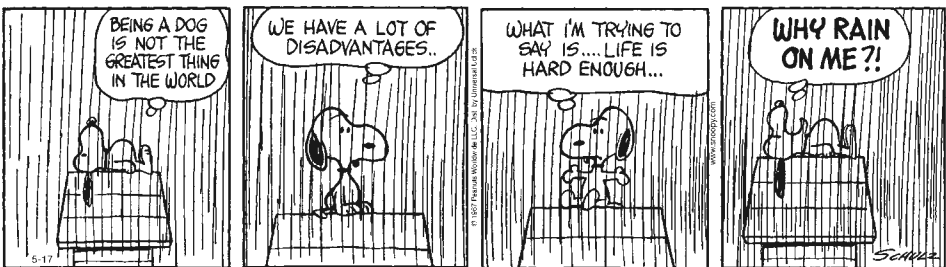
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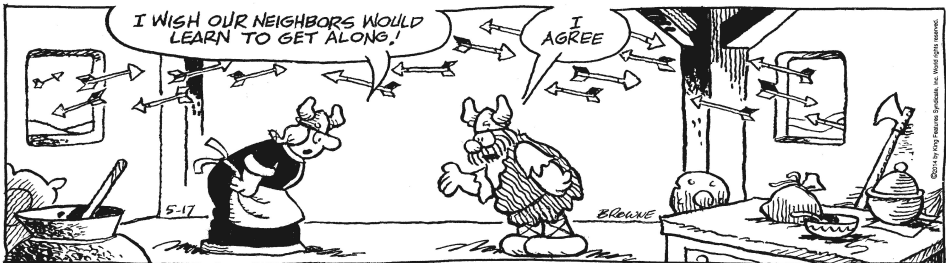
THE BORN LOSER | ART SANSOM



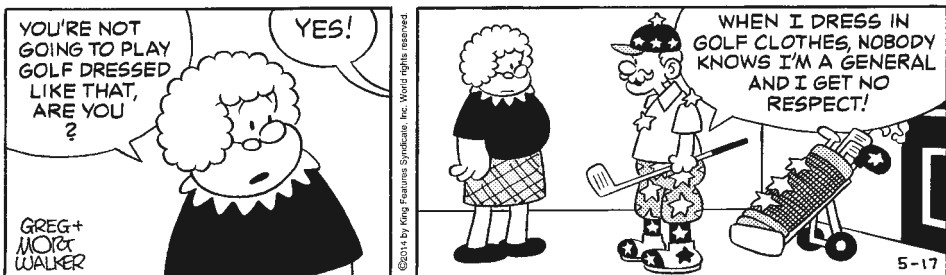
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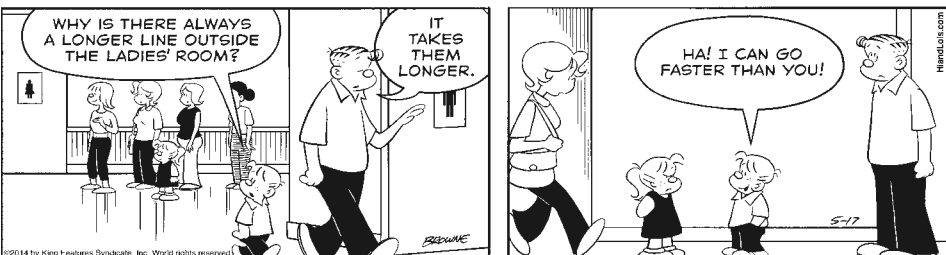
HÄGAR THE HORRIBLE | CHRIS BROWNE



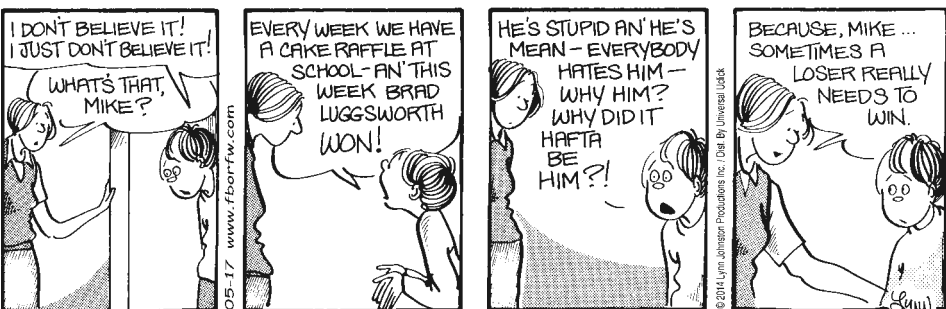
BEETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



## Being Boy's Second Choice Diminishes Prom's Excitement

DEAR ABBY: I was invited to my first prom yesterday. The boy is a senior and the son of a friend of my mom's.

We have a lot in common. We have been friends for years and compete against each other in academics. The problem is, he asked a close friend of mine to go to the prom last week, and he did it right in front of me.

My friends, including the girl who said no, keep telling me he really does like me, even though I was apparently his second choice. The trouble is, I already said yes and I don't want to go back on my word. How do I keep myself from feeling like a consolation prize? — SECOND BEST

DEAR S.B.: The boy who asked you to the prom wants to have a good time. As you said, you are friendly and have a lot in common. Please don't let the fact that he asked your friend first get in your way. It's not a contest for anyone's affection; it's only a dance.

DEAR ABBY: I met an amazing lady. She's beautiful, sexy, charming, attentive, classy, smart and conservative. In short, she is almost everything a good man would ask for in a woman except for one thing — she's a tad clingy, and in some instances, it is annoying. I'm the type of guy who loves my space. She seems to respect it, but gets a little down when I decline an offer to spend time. To avoid hurting or offending her, I sometimes just do whatever will make her happy, although it feels like a chore. Don't get me wrong, I'm physically and mentally attracted to her, but I'm not sure about the emotional part.

The more I feel I'm forcing myself to spend time with her, the more I lose interest. I know this is cliché, but I honestly feel that it's not her, it's me. Am I just not ready to settle down? — LIKES MY SPACE

DEAR LIKES: That's what it sounds like to me. And that's what you should tell the lady, because someone with all the wonderful quali-

ties you attribute to her won't be alone and heartbroken for long. In fact, if she knew that you feel you must "force" yourself to be with her, your relationship would already be history.

DEAR ABBY: In June of last year I fractured my kneecap. I was employed at the time and asked my daughter to fill in for me while I recuperated. Not only did she walk away from the job, she has yet to visit or even call me to see how I am doing.

I can't imagine anyone being so cold and distant. It hurts me to this day. How can I get past this hurt and disappointment? — STILL HURTING IN PALM DESERT

DEAR STILL HURTING: I can't imagine anyone being so cold and distant — not to mention irresponsible — unless there were unresolved issues between the two of you before you hurt your knee, or your daughter has emotional problems.

How do you get past something as painful as this wake-up call has been? The first option would be to try to understand what has caused your daughter to act the way she has. Another would be to fill your days with enough activities that you don't have time to dwell on it.

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](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Good advice for everyone — teens to seniors — is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger 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 Taurus and a Moon in Sagittarius if born before 4:12 a.m. (PDT). Afterward, the Moon will be in Capricorn.

#### HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR SATURDAY, MAY 17, 2014:

This year you tend to look at the big picture more. Some of you will opt to grow intellectually by going back to school or by traveling. Your imagination is the key to achieving your desires. You will need to share some of your wilder ideas with a friend to see how feasible they are. If you are single, you could meet someone from a different culture. This person might not be the right person for you, but he or she will help you see life from a different perspective. If you are attached, the two of you will plan a special trip. You will want to share more and be together more. CAPRICORN is practical.

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 might feel as if you must handle a responsibility. If you really want to enjoy your weekend, you will make this a priority. An older person will play a significant role in your plans. Be smart, and don't put this person on the back burner. Tonight: Avoid a quarrel.

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

★★★★ Dare to reach past your limitations. You could feel inspired by a conversation with someone close to you. Be careful, as you might be more accident-prone than usual today. Your perception on a specific matter will change as the day goes on. Tonight: Check out a new place.

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

★★★★ Deal with a partner or loved one directly. A conversation might stop and start at different times today, and at some point, it even might escalate to fighting. A new beginning becomes possible, but only after you step out of your comfort zone. Tonight: Togetherness works.

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

★★★★ You might want to try a new approach or have a lighter discussion. Try not to blame your sweetie or someone else for your own problems. It is your interaction that could change at any moment. Try to walk in another's footsteps. Tonight: Say "yes" to an offer.

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

★★★★ You might want to accept an invitation

to go to a baseball game, or perhaps you would prefer to actively participate in racquetball or softball. You could be inspired by a partner to walk a new path and interact on a new level. Trust that you can adapt. Tonight: Relax a little.

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

★★★★ You could become childlike when interacting with a loved one. This person will delight in seeing you like this, and in some sense it might provoke his or her inner child to emerge. Use some self-discipline when it comes to spending. Tonight: Have a good time.

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

★★★ A disconnect is likely between you and a family member. You might want to understand what triggers both of you. Wait until you get off the warpath before starting this conversation -- that is, if you want a successful result. Tonight: Most comfortable at home.

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

★★★★ Keep communication flowing. You are capable of making excellent choices by yourself, but what about when it comes to deciding on a group consensus? Surround yourself with like-minded people, and you will successfully find a solution. Tonight: Hang out with family.

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

★★★★ You make a difference to others because of your energy and spirit, yet today it could be about your dubious good sense about money. Others want you to encourage them to take a risk. Friends surround you, and they want you to join in on a happening. Tonight: Be wise.

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

★★★★ Act the way you want to feel, and you might be surprised at how easily you can manifest this mood. Bring others together for a fun get-together, as your friends naturally seem to gravitate to you. Tonight: You intrigue someone because of how you are changing.

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

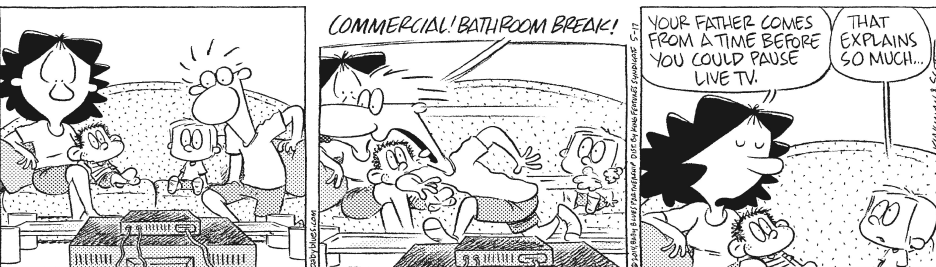
★★ Recognize that you can't be on top of your game every single day. In fact, it would be appropriate to take a step back and do less. You also might opt to go shopping. Be careful when handling money. Stay within your budget. Tonight: Not to be found.

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

★★★★ Zero in on what you want, and invite the right people along. Others seem to be resourceful and full of ideas. You will be much happier and relaxed if you are with those who care about and support you. A loved one could be feisty right now. Tonight: Throw a party!

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

