

FAMILY CIRCUS | BIL KEANE



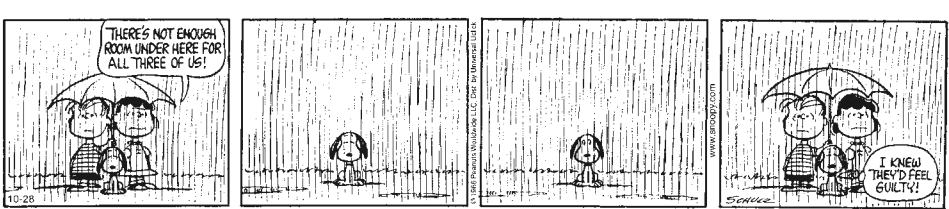
ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



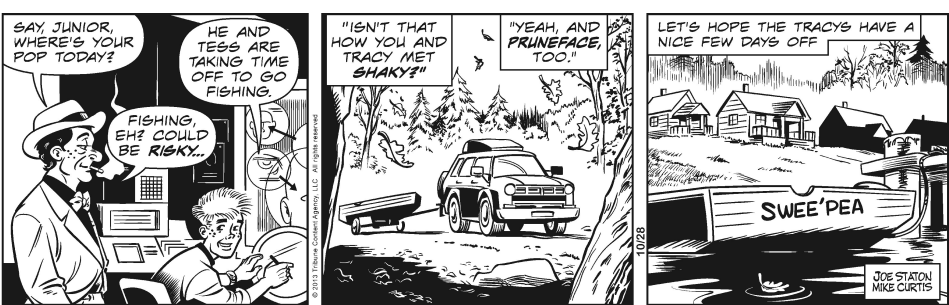
FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



DICK TRACY | JOE STATON AND MIKE CURTIS



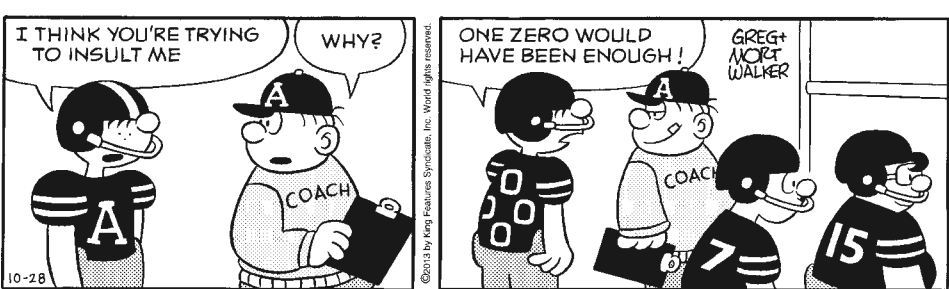
BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



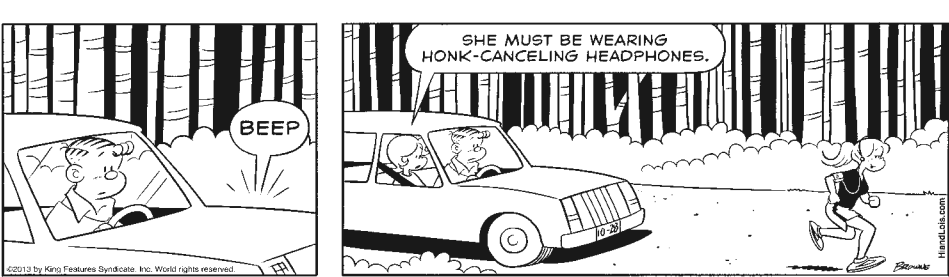
GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



BEETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



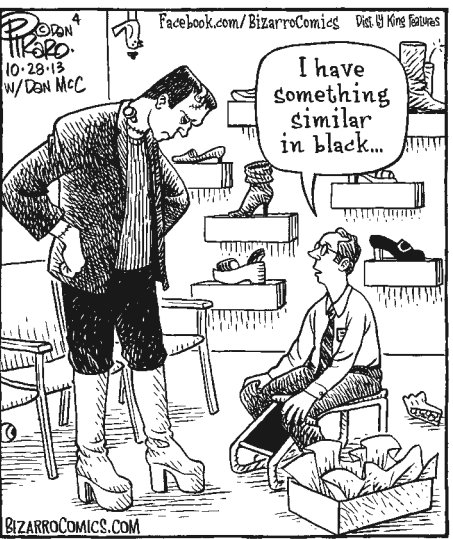
THE BORN LOSER | ART SANSOM



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS



BIZARRO | DAN PIRARO



Girlfriend Living Rent-Free Racks Up Bills Of Resentment

DEAR ABBY: I am divorced, successful, and the father of two teenage girls. I have been seeing my girlfriend, "Stella," for a year and a half. She also has two teenage daughters. When we met, Stella's divorce was becoming final, and her house was near the tail end of a foreclosure. The sheriff removed her from her home a few months later.

I bought a couple of condos and let Stella choose one she wanted to move into. She agreed she would pay the bills and some rent once she settled in.

Two weeks after she moved in, she quit her job. It has been almost a year, and she hasn't gone on one job interview. I pay all her bills now, and I'm getting resentful.

It's not the money (I've got plenty), but I feel she continues to see me only so she can live rent-free. Our communication isn't the greatest, and she gets angry if this topic is brought up. How should I approach her without sounding like a cheapskate? — DON'T WANT TO BE A SUGAR DADDY IN CHICAGO

DEAR SUGAR DADDY: Of course she gets angry! Have you never heard the saying, "The best defense is a strong offense"?

If you want to resolve this, you must be prepared for Stella to react negatively. Start the conversation by saying, "When you moved into my condo, you agreed to pay your own bills and some rent. It's been a year, and you haven't even looked for a job." Then give her a date by which you want her to move out.

Because she has been living there for some time, she may have certain tenant's rights that will have to be respected. It doesn't take a crystal ball to see that you will probably have to evict her — so talk to your attorney before you discuss this with Stella.

DEAR ABBY: I am the mother of a 31-year-old son, "Johann," who is in the Navy. He just posted a picture of himself in his uniform on

Facebook. I am praying it's not his official photo, because he made an incredibly stupid face on it.

He used to do this when he was a child. Even his high school photos look like this. It is embarrassing to me! I could never show it to anyone and proudly say, "This is my son."

Johann is an accomplished young man, a supervisor. But I can't reconcile this picture with the man he is. What can I do? — FREAKED OUT IN GERMANY

DEAR FREAKED OUT: Your son is an adult. If he is making this expression in photographs on purpose, perhaps it's time you asked him why. While it may be a display of immaturity on his part, it could also be that he is uncomfortable in front of a camera. (Many people are. It's referred to as "deer-in-the-headlights" syndrome.)

Explain that you would love to have a picture of him that depicts how he REALLY is, and ask if he would be willing, as a favor to his mother, to sit for a session with a professional photographer when he comes home for a visit. If he isn't, then perhaps he'd be more relaxed posing for a photo that YOU take.

DEAR ABBY: My fiancée, "Tina," and I made a resolution to lose weight for our wedding. Everything has been going great except for one thing. Because men lose weight faster than women, I now weigh less at 6 foot 1 than she does at 5 feet 4.

Tina already has self-esteem issues. I want to look good for our wedding, but not at the cost of my fiancée's hurt feelings. What can I do? — AT A LOSS IN MICHIGAN

DEAR AT A LOSS: Continue being supportive and help Tina to maintain her self-esteem. But her weight issue is her responsibility, not yours. If she becomes frustrated or depressed that she isn't losing quickly enough, suggest she consult her doctor or a registered dietitian about the reason why.

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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 Scorpio and a Moon in Leo if born before 11:45 p.m. (PDT). Afterward, the Moon will be in Virgo.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR MONDAY, OCT. 28, 2013:

This year you develop a very gentle side to your personality that seems irresistible to many people. This quality, combined with your innate magnetism, adds to your ability to draw others toward you. You discover that your plans, ideas and projects naturally seem to gain support. If you are single, you might need a flyswatter to chase some of your many admirers away. Choosing the right person might not be possible with all this activity. If you are attached, your magic helps enhance your bond. Be sure to let your sweetie know how important he or she is to you. LEO is as strong-willed as you are, though you usually come out on top because you endure difficult situations more easily.

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)

★★★★ It might be Monday, but that is not enough of a reason to sit on your creativity. There could be a lot of inconsequential hassles that others need help resolving. Your ability to think outside the box will emerge. They value that quality in you. Tonight: Make it early.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★ If you can spend a little more time at home and on yourself right now, you will find that the benefits outweigh the problems. Sometimes, you need to slow down and relax. Invite a favorite person to join you. What was a task before now becomes fun! Tonight: At home.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★★ You speak your mind loudly and clearly. You might decide that it's time to get past a problem that has been slowing you down. Sometimes just expressing the caring you feel can help clear up a hassle. Tonight: Head home early, while your luck is still hot.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★ Focus on what is important to handle. You could be taken aback by what is going on and by how undisciplined you might be. Realize that you are a creature of extremes. You need to let your moods run their course without reacting to them. Tonight: Start a conversation.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

★★★★ You are in your element during the daytime. Your natural response points you in the

right direction. You will not make a mistake by remaining open to others; in fact, you can only gain! Maintain your normal routine, and play it low-key. Tonight: Speak your mind.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★★★ The daytime hours could be challenging, and they might be causing you a lot of tension despite someone's support and obvious caring. Know that you will feel better as the day ends. Your energy changes as the workday comes to a close. Tonight: Chill out, then decide.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★★ A meeting points to the best path for success. How you say what you need and how you express your need for acknowledgment is very likely to change. Be more forthright at times and a little less charming. Tonight: Get some extra R and R.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★★ You'll assume your normal role as leader of the gang. You handle responsibility well, though it takes its toll on you. Stress needs to be handled quickly right now, as you have a lot of ground to cover. Take a walk or just take a break. Tonight: Join a favorite friend.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★★ You could be excited by an upcoming event or by a visit from someone. This excitement flows into every other part of your life, or so it seems. You might want to revisit your impression of a key matter. In a different mood, everything could change. Tonight: Out late.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★★ Consider getting feedback from others about what they feel is necessary. A brainstorm session easily could evolve. Let a close associate take a lead role in a key matter. You might not realize it, but this person expresses his or her caring by taking action. Tonight: Be creative.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

★★★★ You have the ability to visualize more of what you want from a situation and express it, which could affect your friends. You probably don't realize the impact that you have on others. Start the process of manifesting a desire through sharing more. Tonight: Go with a suggestion.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

★★★★ You see a great deal of sensitivity and understanding emerge as others deal with their daily routines and events. A sense of well-being will be contagious, and it might allow a difficult situation to be resolved. Tonight: Reach for the stars. Nearly anything is possible.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON

