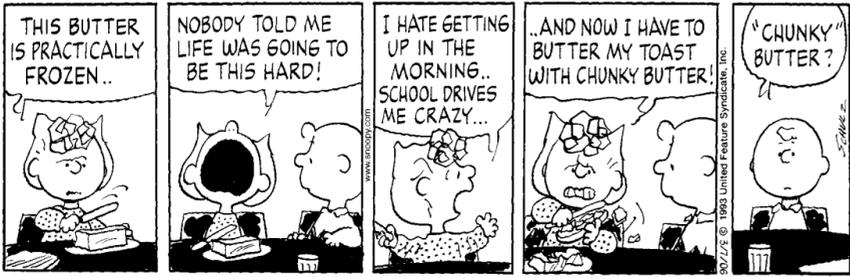


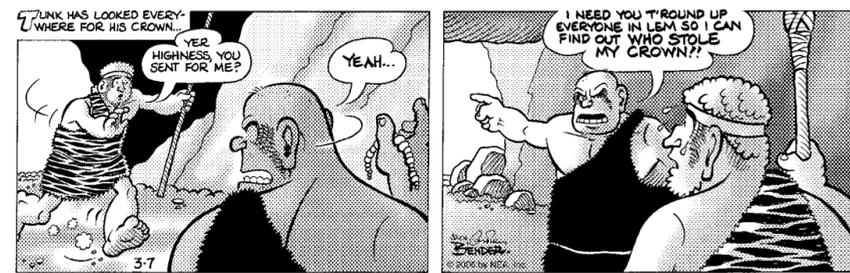
GARFIELD



PEANUTS



ALLEY OOP



SOUP TO NUTS



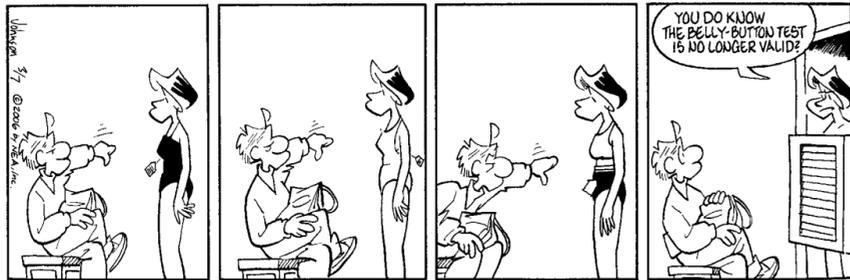
THE BORN LOSER



FRANK AND ERNEST



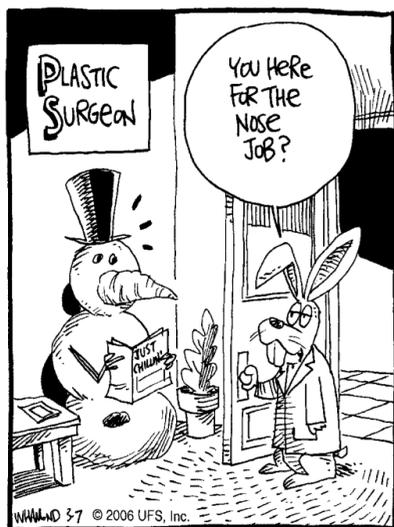
ARLO AND JANIS



DILBERT



REALITY CHECK



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

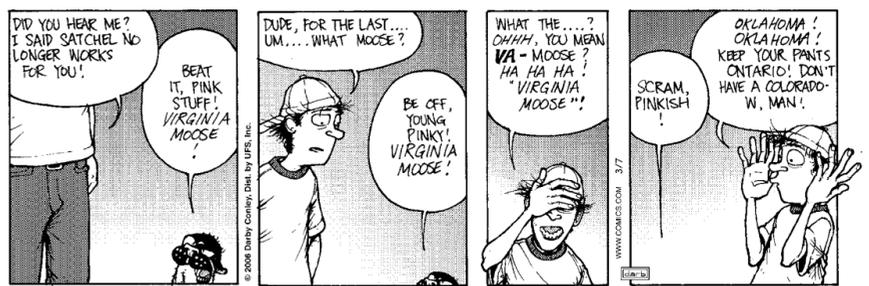


HERMAN



"It doesn't matter what sort of dog you've got, it's guaranteed to keep away burglars."

GET FUZZY



GRAND AVENUE



ASTROGRAPH

Your birthday: March 7, 2006

In the year ahead, conditions are going to make a number of favorable turns for the better in ways that you can put to your advantage. Interestingly, you may now be successful in the very same area where you once met defeat.
PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Critical knowledge that you have learned from past experience will be put to exceptionally good use today. You'll foresee potential pitfalls and be completely prepared to avoid them. Know where to look for romance, and you'll find it.
ARIES (March 21-April 19) A career matter, about which you have been apprehensive and uncertain, will take a turn. Things will transpire in ways that never occurred to you.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Your greatest opportunities and advantages today are likely to come from situations where you have good communication with others. Be a team player.
GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Where your career is concerned, don't sit on opportunities that develop just because there are others involved. Don't take that chance.
CANCER (June 21-July 22) You could receive considerable attention today from a person you didn't think was even aware of your existence. And it may be someone on whom you have an unrequited crush.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Measures can be taken today to

change a situation for the better that has a direct effect upon you, your work and those under your care. All is coming together now, which you'll recognize.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Constructive ideas will come to you today in rapid succession, but only if you surround yourself with positive thinkers who are apt to discuss issues of mutual concern and interest.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Today you may be endowed with the Midas touch, but you need to recognize it first to use it. Be mindful of your gifts, and try to do things that would produce large profits.
SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Should a situation arise today that warrants it, friends and co-workers will turn to you for leadership. Don't hesitate; you'll live up to their expectations.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) As far as general conditions are concerned, this may be a quiet day for you in your eyes, but it isn't likely to be an uneventful one. Good things will happen without your instigation or input.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Friends will be more than willing to take active roles today to help you advance your hopes and wishes. However, before they can do so, it will be up to you to make your needs known.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) If you are determined enough, objectives of real consequence with profitable potential can be achieved today. When things unfold, believe in your abilities and aim for worthy goals.

KidSpot by Dick Rogers. Snow fooling. All of these snowmen resemble each other. But two are enough alike to be snow twins. Which two?
1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6.
ANS: 3 AND 5 ARE TWINS. COUNT THE 'TEETH'.



'Dear Abby' by Pauline Phillips and Jeanne Phillips

Using baby talk with infants delays language skills

DEAR ABBY: I am writing regarding your answer to "Julie in Spring, Texas," who asked you when parents should stop using baby talk with their children. I disagree with you. She said her son had just turned 3. He is still a baby. Many children are still in diapers at that age. Let the mother enjoy her young son while she still has the time.

LINDA T. CLEARWATER, FLA.

DEAR LINDA T.: Intelligent minds may disagree. But according to the mail I received regarding that letter, you are in the minority. I stand by my reply. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: My advice as a pediatrician is to stop baby talk the day the baby is born, that is to say, never start.

Babies learn at a surprisingly early age to assimilate what they hear into their later speech patterns; they learn to "talk" what they hear, and "baby talk" is not the language we want them to use. Yes, talk softly, talk sweetly, sing to your baby, but use the words of proper language.

LEE BERNSTEIN, M.D., LAS VEGAS, NEV.

DEAR ABBY: As a retired public school speech therapist, allow me to respond to "Julie's" question. Language development is one of the most important aspects of a child's life. A child begins to acquire language almost as soon as he starts hearing it.

Vocabulary is not the only component of speech. Inflection, tone, grammar, etc. contribute to a person's ability to communicate effectively. Talking "baby talk" to an infant can delay the process of language development. Vocabulary should be age-appropriate but still within acceptable speech patterns.

LILLIAN A., N. MIAMI BEACH

DEAR ABBY: Research has shown that children who are spoken to as "adults," using complete sentences, not only learn faster, but have a better comprehension of the English language than children whose parents use baby talk. Studies have also shown that children who are read to, even before birth, also develop more rapidly.

JUSTIN F., AMERICAN MILITARY (DEPLOYED)

Dear Abby is written by Pauline Phillips and her daughter Jeanne Phillips. Write to Dear Abby at P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

- ACROSS
1 Snow boot
4 Job application info
7 Harness
11 Emma in "The Avengers"
12 Fall softly
14 Check manuscripts
15 Each
16 Overhanging edge of a roof
17 Heroine of a Verdi opera
18 Dreaming, maybe
20 Take stock of
22 Fabric meas.
23 Plant sci.
24 Convent
27 Dinosaur bone
30 Ponies up
31 Make over
32 Archer's need
34 Previously
35 Ultra
36 Long prison
37 Toward the rudder
39 Expenses
40 Clock
41 Question starter
42 Order of business
45 Stagecoach robber
49 Hangar occupants
50 "Jurassic Park" star
52 Pub order
53 Not for
54 Polio vaccine inventor
55 Upper part
56 Genuine
57 6-pointers
58 Lean-to
DOWN
1 Cocoon dweller
2 Iowa city
3 Sagan or Sandburg
4 Fast
5 Whacks
6 Autumn mo.
7 Baking needs
8 Comics dog
9 Grade-schoolers
10 Timetable info
13 Fictional archeologist
14 Amelia
19 Inspects
21 Mediocre (hyph.)
24 King Kong, for one
25 Silents vamp
26 Parting words
27 Terrarium plant
28 Sacred bird of the Nile
29 Storage place
31 Goes over again
33 Unsold of the NBA
35 Peddle
36 Booty
38 Throat feature
39 Big pieces
41 Universe
42 Partly open
43 Heredity factor
44 Jazzy - James
46 Slat
47 Matty - of the diamond
48 Shed tears
51 Pig out

Answer to Previous Puzzle
VOW POUT ZIG
ABET EYRE OVA
IOTA OLLA NAG
LESSEN HENS
SKY LAB
AGREE EUROPE
FOAL DRAM ROD
ROC FRAU LENO
PYLONS PASSE
ORO KOP
JUGS RESTED
IRA PUMA EASE
NAB ASIF SRTA
XLS HEAT SOAF

PUZZLE ENTHUSIASTS: Get more puzzles in "Random House Crossword MeqaOmibus" Vols. 1 & 2.
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
11 12 13 14
15 16 17
18 19 20 21
22 23
24 25 26 27 28 29
30 31 32 33
34 35 36
37 38 39
40 41
42 43 44 45 46 47 48
49 50 51 52
53 54 55
56 57 58