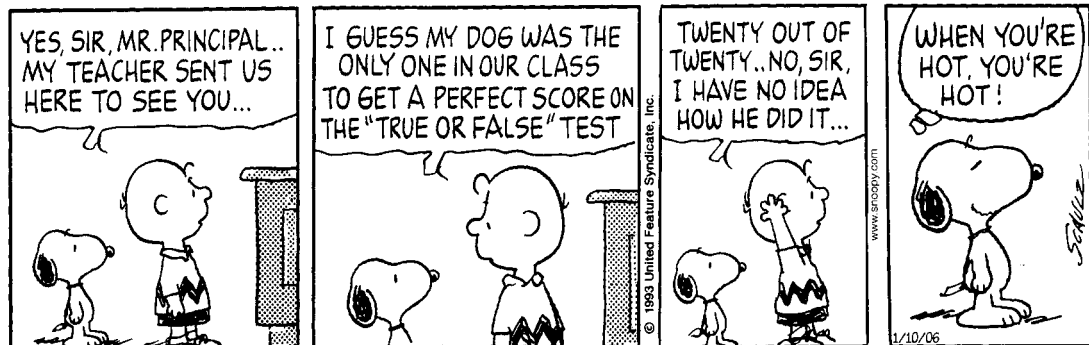


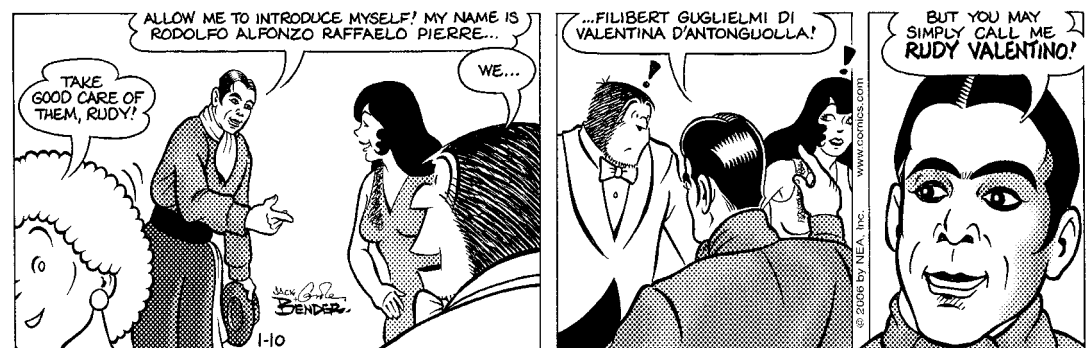
**GARFIELD**



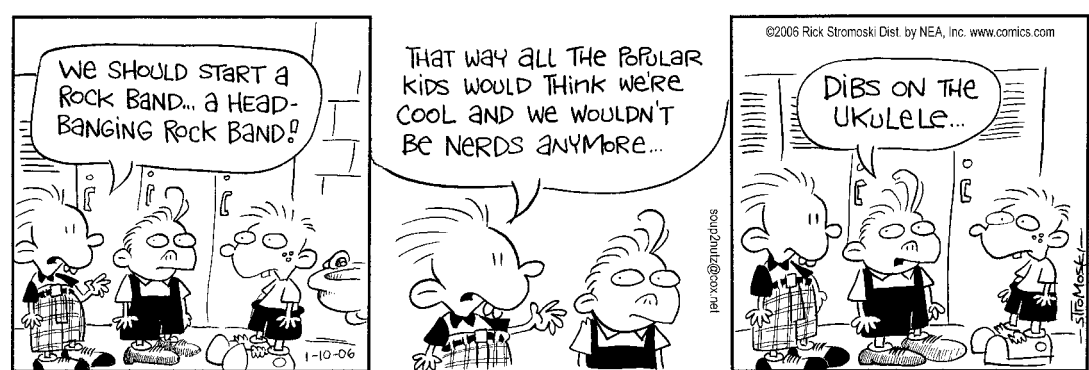
**PEANUTS**



**ALLEY OOP**



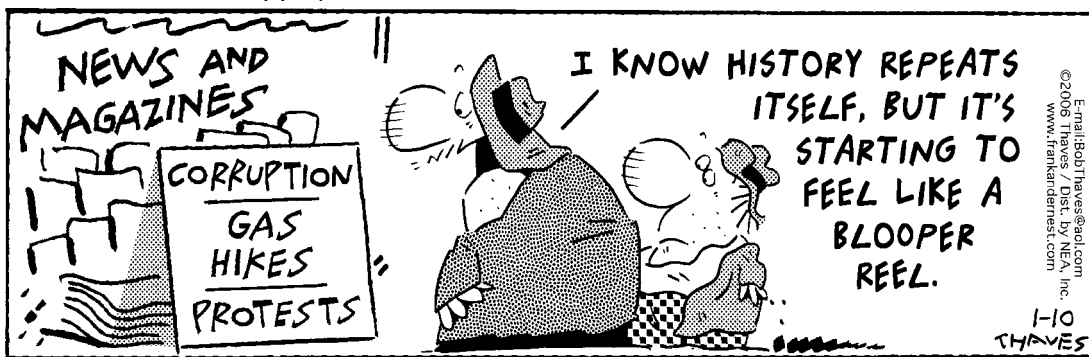
**SOUP TO NUTS**



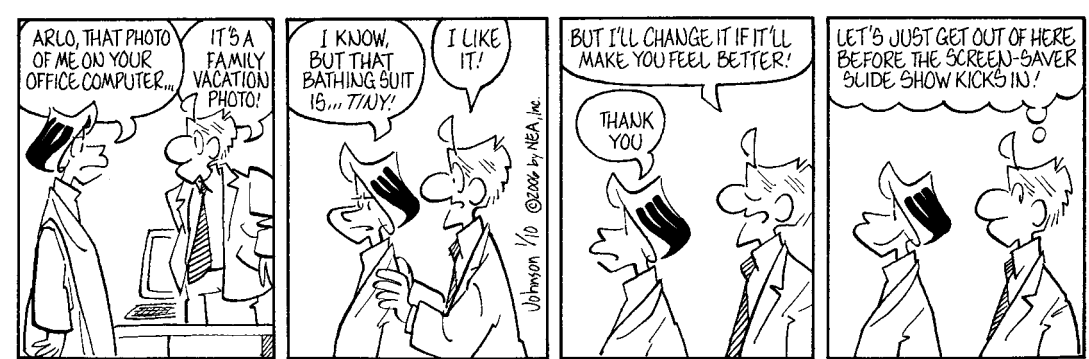
**THE BORN LOSER**



**FRANK AND ERNEST**



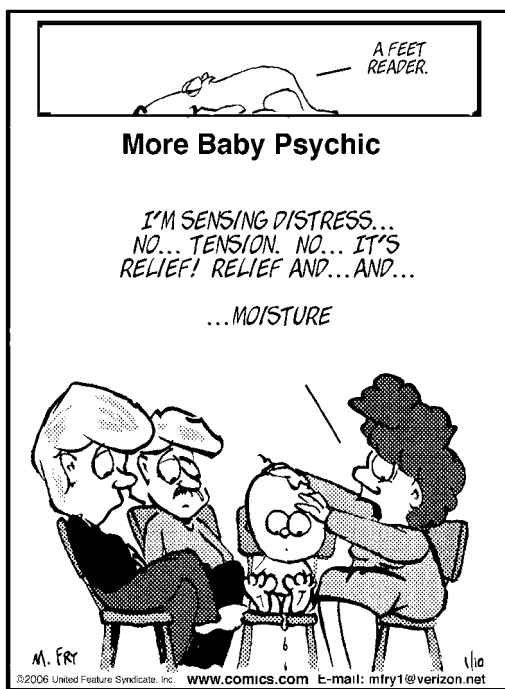
**ARLO AND JANIS**



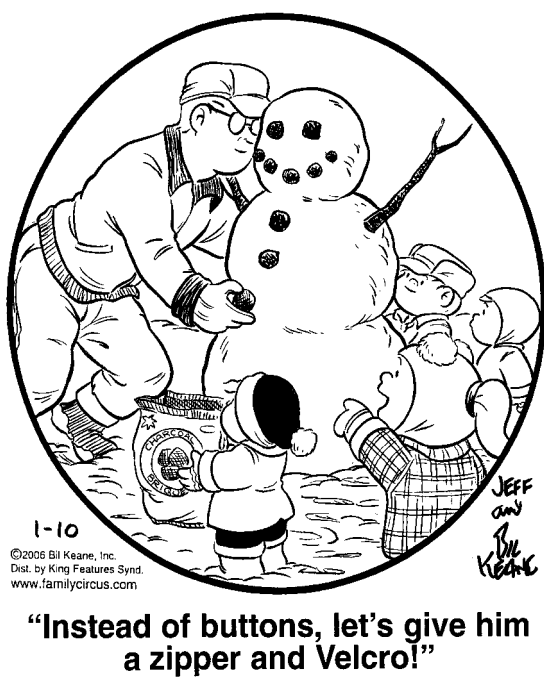
**DILBERT**



**COMMITTED**



**THE FAMILY CIRCUS**



**HERMAN**



**GET FUZZY**



**GRAND AVENUE**



**ASTROGRAPH**

**Your birthday: Tuesday, Jan. 10, 2006**

Good things could happen for you in the year ahead through people you get to know on a friendly basis. Do everything within your power to promote sociability with those who could help further your interests.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)**

Be careful about being drawn into an investment situation today with an individual who has no track record of ever being in the winner's circle. Chances are things won't go very well.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19)**

Today, you could get a brief burst of productivity only to have it quickly dissipate if something fun comes along. Remain resolved rather than risk causing problems for yourself later on.

**PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20)**

Poor scheduling could waste precious time today that would otherwise be devoted to performing a number of meaningful endeavors. Try to organize your hours better.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19)**

When friends and associates treat you in a generous fashion today, be sure to show a willingness to reciprocate in some manner. You'll be talked about later if they think you're a taker.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)**

It's important to exercise self-discipline today when it comes to handling your resources. If bills need to be paid, take care of them first before you put out any funds for frivolous expenditures.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)**

Your intentions may be good today,

but you could be too easily distracted to see your ideas through to a satisfactory conclusion. Put your mind on the task at hand and not on diversions.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22)**

If you purchase something today and later learn you've paid far more than the going price, don't be afraid to take it back and either get your money back or haggle for a lower price.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)**

There is nothing wrong with placating others today as long as it isn't detrimental to your own best interests. Strive to be fair and considerate, but don't be foolish about it either.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)**

Be careful as to whom you select to team up with today or you could end up with someone who is either lazy or ill prepared to handle his share of the load. Go it alone if need be.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)**

A social gathering may not be the best forum for promoting a business deal today. When you need to talk shop, find a quiet corner, keep it serious and leave the idle chitchat out of it.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)**

Don't walk away too quickly if things do not come as easy for you today as you'd like, especially where your major goals are concerned. You can succeed, but only if you go all out.

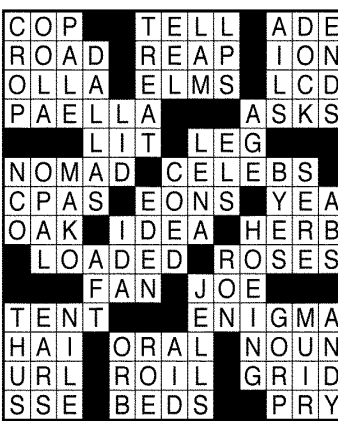
**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)**

Even if you believe a little white lie could make your story sound better today, tell it like it is. Once you depart from the truth, it'll be difficult to get back on track and make your points.

**CROSSWORD PUZZLE**

- ACROSS**
- 1 Toast spread
  - 4 Easy as —
  - 7 Lhasa monk
  - 11 Buckeye campus
  - 12 Seafood choice
  - 14 Where to hear Farsi
  - 15 City rtes.
  - 16 Third power, in math
  - 17 Wren's abode
  - 18 Makes like a snake
  - 20 Villa
  - 22 Bonfire remains
  - 23 Lawyer's charge
  - 24 Asana practitioners
  - 27 Handles with ease
  - 30 Water or tel.
  - 31 Ducks' haunt
  - 32 Paris thirst-quencher
  - 34 Rights movement word
  - 35 Wannabe prince
  - 36 Paper products
  - 37 Like some orders
  - 39 Arm bones
  - 40 Boot liner
  - 41 252 calories
  - 42 Modernized
  - 45 Brunch favorite
  - 49 All excited
  - 50 Non-flying bird
  - 52 Zoologist's eggs
  - 53 District
  - 54 Farm animals
  - 55 Valuable stone
  - 56 Latin I verb
  - 57 Sonic-boom maker, once
  - 58 Birthday no.
- DOWN**
- 1 Banter
  - 2 — spumante
  - 3 Touse
  - 4 Means of entering
  - 5 Graze past
  - 6 Urban transport
  - 7 Beam above the door
  - 8 Geometry problem
  - 9 Yacht basin sight
  - 10 Penny —
  - 13 Complaining
  - 19 Iceboat feature
  - 21 Tournament rank
  - 24 Brynner of "Westworld"
  - 25 Elevator pioneer
  - 26 Sarcastic remark
  - 27 Planks
  - 28 Faculty head
  - 29 Epic
  - 31 Come before
  - 33 — Nimitz
  - 35 Egggy dessert
  - 36 Crayola choice
  - 38 Orbit extreme
  - 39 Farthest
  - 41 Portends
  - 42 Tear down
  - 43 Self-images
  - 44 Puts on, as clothing
  - 46 Sluggish
  - 47 Unceasingly
  - 48 Berets
  - 51 Cries of pain

**Answer to Previous Puzzle**



'Dear Abby' by Pauline Phillips and Jeanne Phillips

**Woman content to be childless resents questions**

**DEAR ABBY:** I am a female who is almost 38 years old. Most of my adult life has been spent in school, working or traveling. It is only in the past two years that I have met someone and settled down somewhat, although we are not married. Neither of us feels a giant void in our relationship or our lives that needs to be filled by a baby. In the past year or so, several of my co-workers and other people I barely know keep asking, "When are you going to have a baby?" I think they are extremely rude and intrusive, and I resent the simple-minded assumption that just because a person has a uterus and ovaries she must make a baby. How should I respond to these questions?

**CHILDLESS AND HAPPY IN TEXAS**

**DEAR CHILDLESS AND HAPPY:** There are several ways to handle questions that are nobody's business. One is to deflect the question by asking another: "Why do you ask?" Alternatively, if you really want the person to back down, you can reply, "If it were any of your business, you'd already know the answer to that question. Please don't ask me again." **DEAR ABBY:** My mother was diagnosed with colorectal cancer that spread to her liver. The doctors now say there's nothing more they can do.

I recently moved back with my parents so I can help Dad with Mother's care. I'm 23 and glad I can take time off and spend quality time with them. My concern is my father rarely speaks about Mother's illness. I have tried discussing how I feel with friends, but most of the time they stop me because it's hard for them to hear. My feelings are becoming overwhelming, and I need to let them out. Can you help me?

**— OVERWHELMED IN ARIZONA**

**DEAR OVERWHELMED:** It is important that both you and your father find an outlet to talk about your feelings. Although it may be painful, and probably tearful, tears can be healing. The American Cancer Society has programs for people with cancer and their families, including excellent support groups. You do not have to go through this difficult time alone, so please don't wait to make contact. Find a program in your area by visiting [www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org).

**KidSpot™** by Dick Rogers  
**THE KUIZ KIDS** Keat and Kate

Meet our relatives  
 Match each family member to the one it describes

1. Our grandfather's daughter  
 2. Our father's brother  
 3. Our mother's father's wife  
 4. Our father's sister's son  
 5. Our cousin's father's wife  
 6. Our grandmother's son

Our father  
 Our aunt  
 Our grandma  
 Our uncle  
 Our mother  
 Our cousin

ANS: 1. MOTHER, 2. UNCLE, 3. GRANDMOTHER, 4. COUSIN, 5. AUNT, 6. FATHER.