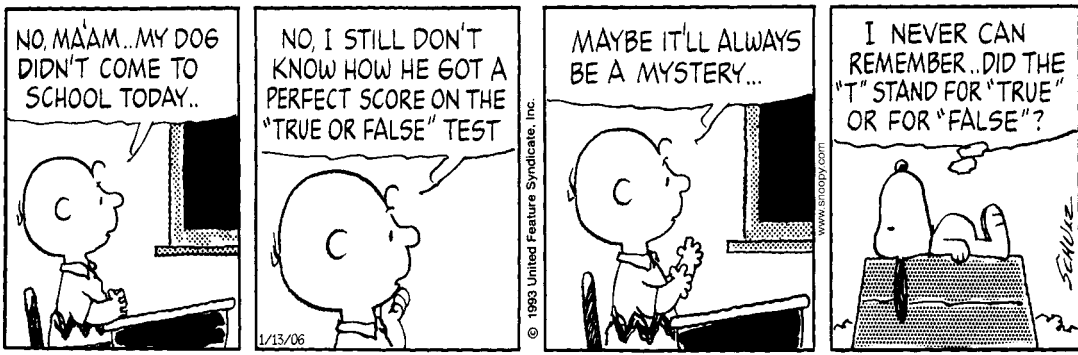


GARFIELD



PEANUTS



ALLEY OOP



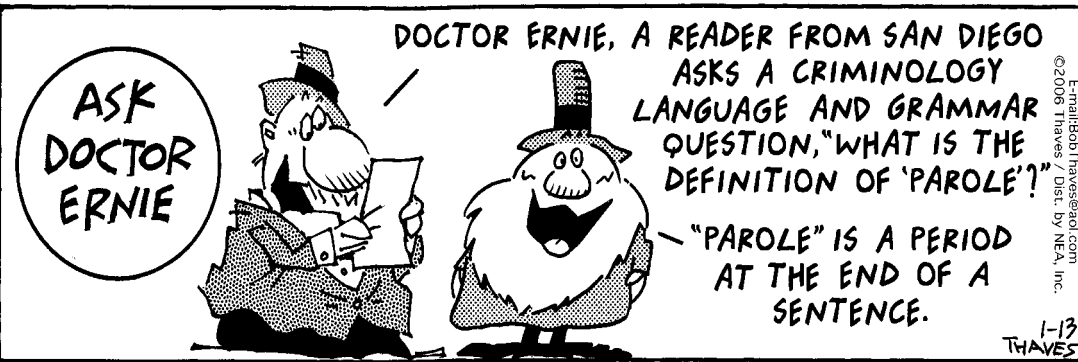
SOUP TO NUTS



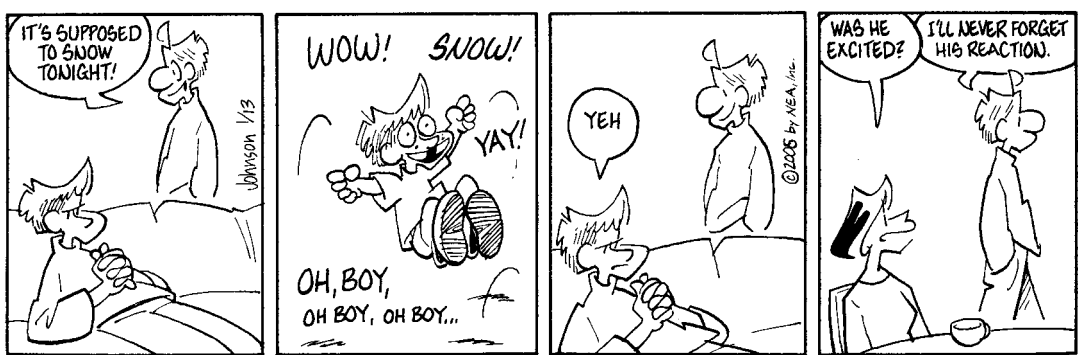
THE BORN LOSER



FRANK AND ERNEST



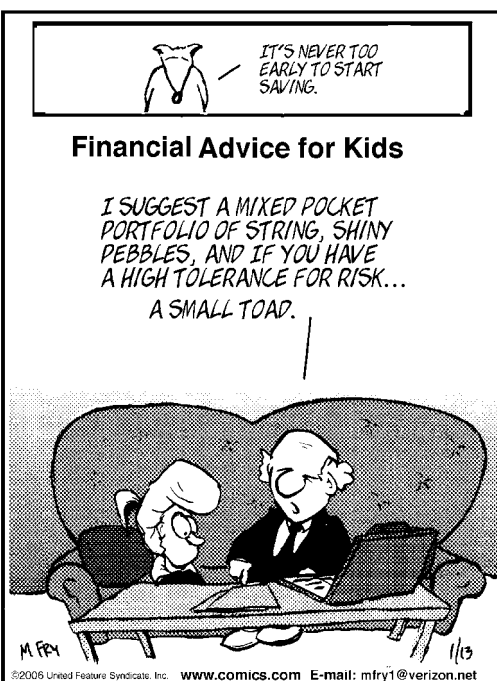
ARLO AND JANIS



DILBERT



COMMITTED



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

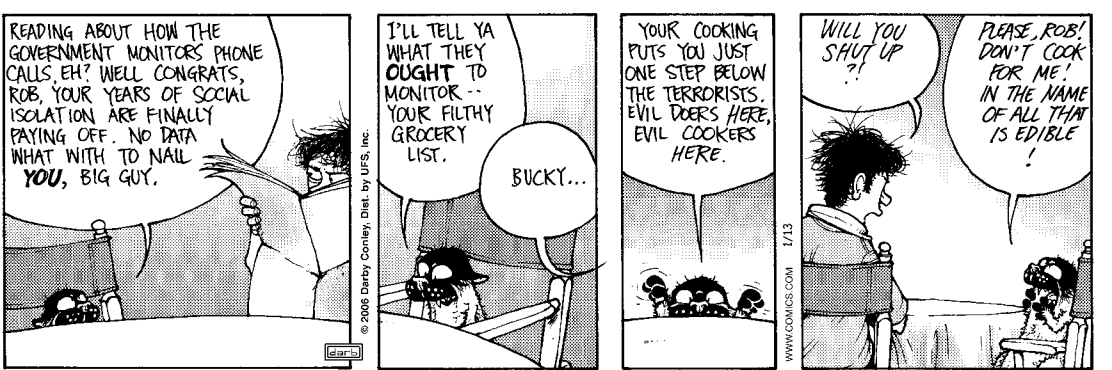


HERMAN

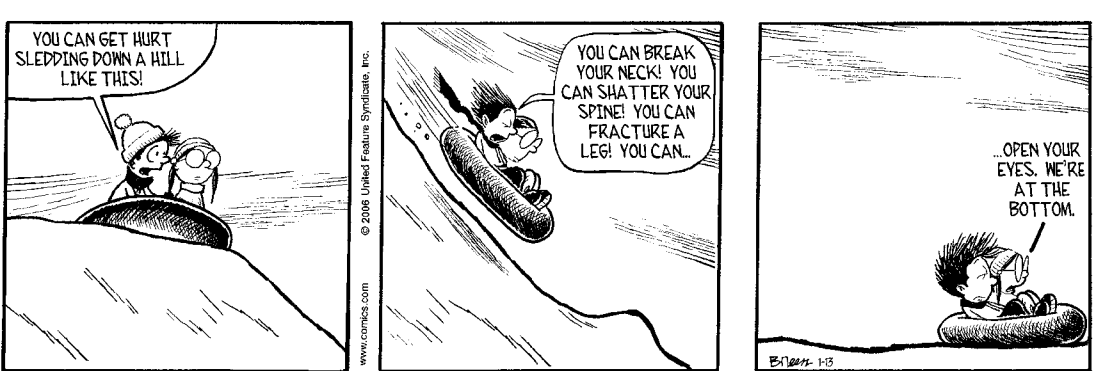


KidSpot by Dick Rogers THE PUZZLER Uh-oh! Today is Friday the 13th. If you're superstitious, you might believe that today is unlucky. Let's see how much luck you have with this Friday-the-13th puzzle. What is the fear of the number 13 called? Use the clues to find out. CLUES: The name must contain a T. The name must contain an S. The name must have more than 14 letters. BATHOPHOBIA TRISKAIDEKAPHOBIA CLAUSTROPHOBIA AILUROPHOBIA

GET FUZZY



GRAND AVENUE



ASTROGRAPH

Your birthday: Friday, Jan. 13, 2006 In the year ahead, you will begin to figure out ways to breathe life into activities which you were considering writing off. What didn't work before will work now. CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) You might not be able to accomplish what you want to do at first today, but once you realize that you need to look at the big plan, you'll turn your efforts toward winning. AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) If you first set an industrious example today, it will encourage those who labor at your side to be more productive as well. Collectively, you'll all get what you want by joining forces. PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) The key to success today is to commit your mind totally to the activity in which you're involved. Even if you thought it was a tedious task, it somehow will become fun and easy to do. ARIES (March 21-April 19) Everything should finally begin to fall into place today pertaining to an important matter you didn't think would ever get on track. Wrap it up now while everything is going your way. TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Do not worry today about things that may never happen. Instead, adopt a positive attitude, visualizing victory, while doing what needs to be done and everything will come out just fine. GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Conditions look extremely favorable for

you today where your material interests are concerned. In fact, you could be lucky at increasing both your earnings and adding to your holdings. CANCER (June 21-July 22) Enterprises, projects or social activities that you organize and personally take care of can be advanced in an extremely beneficial manner today. Get things moving without waiting on others. LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Something is stirring behind the scenes today that could turn out to be materially fortunate for you. It may be in an area where you never had luck previously, but you'll win out big time now. VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Talk to your friends today about your problems and chances are one or more will have a solution for you that you hadn't thought of. The advice they give you could be extremely beneficial. LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Even if things don't look too good early on today concerning your career, keep working toward what you know to be smart. SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Fresh ambitions may be awakened in you today for something that was going quite badly. Begin to outline your new program and get moving on it, because it'll turn out to be all that you want. SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Strive to be both protective and ethical in your commercial dealings today because the more you give to the other guy, even the ones who are greedy, the more you will get back in return.



'Dear Abby' by Pauline Phillips and Jeanne Phillips

Big fish in little pond will soon swim in ocean

DEAR ABBY: I am a 12-year-old girl in the sixth grade. At my school, the sixth-, seventh- and eighth-graders all have classes together. Lately, I've noticed the eighth-graders seem to think they are better than sixth-graders. They make a point of letting us know that they are bigger, cooler and more grown-up than we are. How do I handle them? — ANNOYED IN ASHLAND, ORE.

DEAR ANNOYED: My advice is to bide your time. Two catch-phrases come to mind. They are, "Big fish in a small pond," and "Time wounds all heels."

Next fall, those snobbish eighth-graders will be headed for high school. No longer will they be the most grown-up students in school. On the contrary, they will be insignificant minnows in a much larger pool.

Remember that when you're in the eighth grade and interacting with students in the lower grades. It's a lesson in humility.

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I were married in a small, intimate ceremony in 2004. We were living in a condominium complex and had become close friends with one of our neighbors and her boyfriend, so we invited them to our wedding.

Afterward, I opened their card. It read: "We are happy to share your day with you, but we are strapped for money right now and can't afford a gift at this time. As soon as we're back on our feet, we'll make sure you get your wedding gift."

We are now invited to their wedding. We never received a gift from them. These neighbors have a history of being cheap, so it's not the first time.

My husband and I are at odds. I think we should attend the wedding and buy them a nice gift. He says we should just give them a card with no gift. Or should we simply not attend at all?

— MIFFED IN MONTANA DEAR MIFFED: The rule of etiquette is: When someone attends a wedding, a gift is in order.

Your former neighbors broke that rule, and it has affected the relationship. Please don't stoop to retaliation.

The real question is whether you plan to attend or send your regrets, and only you can answer that.

Write to Dear Abby at P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

- ACROSS 1 Zoom on runners 4 Feeling low 8 Room around 11 — fu 12 Hayworth of old movies 13 Cassius Clay 14 Golf club item 15 Portent 16 Throw slowly 17 Like mariachi 19 Dots in the sea 21 Winery cask 22 Traveler's guide 23 Ocean crosser 26 Igneous rock 29 Name in Beatles history 30 Erupt 32 Light in a tube 34 Musicians' stints 36 Proficiency 38 Is, to Fritz 39 Casual wear (hyph.) 41 Grind one's teeth 43 Debtor's note 44 "Norma —" 45 Large antelope 48 Went biking 52 Jowly canine 53 Orchid-like blossom 55 Masking — 56 Flightless bird 57 Bumper mishap 58 Sultan's cousin 59 Smit's monitor 60 Yellowstone sight 61 Peacock network DOWN 1 You bet! 2 Kentucky fort 3 Catch fire 4 Pun feedback 5 Sketch 6 Sporty truck 7 Obsessions 8 Impudence 9 Healing succulent 10 Claims 11 Ms. Novak 18 Strays 20 Reach across 22 Gulleets 23 Captain's journal 24 J in JFK 25 Egg drinks 26 Scored more 27 Darth's daughter 28 Chuck 31 Amazon source 33 Highest degree 35 Leg part 37 I say! 40 Element 53 compound 42 Spruce up 44 Takes 10 45 Sword 46 Wad 47 Water, to Pedro 48 — Floyd 49 Gentle one 50 Grand in scope 51 Van — Waals force 54 Islam or Zen (abbr.)

