

CLOSE TO HOME by John McPherson



'We've had some problems with the chicken tonight, ma'am, so I want to make sure your piece is done enough.'

Grad should be honest during job hunt

**Dear Abby:** I am a recent nursing school graduate. My husband and I have a 1-year-old, and I just found out I'm pregnant again. I'd like to get a job as soon as I can. My question is, should I tell prospective employers I'm pregnant? I don't want to be passed over because of my "condition," but I also don't want to be hired and immediately inform them I'll need time off when the baby comes. Am I obligated to disclose that I'm pregnant? — *A Nurse in Michigan*



JEANNE PHILLIPS  
DEAR ABBY

**Dear Nurse:** I think you have an ethical obligation to inform your prospective employer. However, you are not legally obligated to disclose that you are pregnant. If you were not hired because of your pregnancy, you might have a claim for discrimination.

**Dear Abby:** My wife of 12 years, "Marie," has a serious gambling problem. Every night, she goes straight from work to the casino and stays there at least until 1 a.m. We both

have low-paying jobs, and we can't afford this. Every time I mention it she gets really mad and stalks out of the room. Not only is it an expensive habit, but I hardly ever get to see her anymore. Please help. — *Confused in Washington*

**Dear Confused:** It appears you are married to a gambling addict who is in denial. That's why it's important to separate your finances from hers if you can. A lawyer can help you do that.

There is an organization that might help you called Gam-Anon. It's a 12-step fellowship for husbands, wives, relatives or friends of compulsive gamblers who have been affected by their loved one's problem. Its website is [www.gam-anon.org](http://www.gam-anon.org). Please check it out.

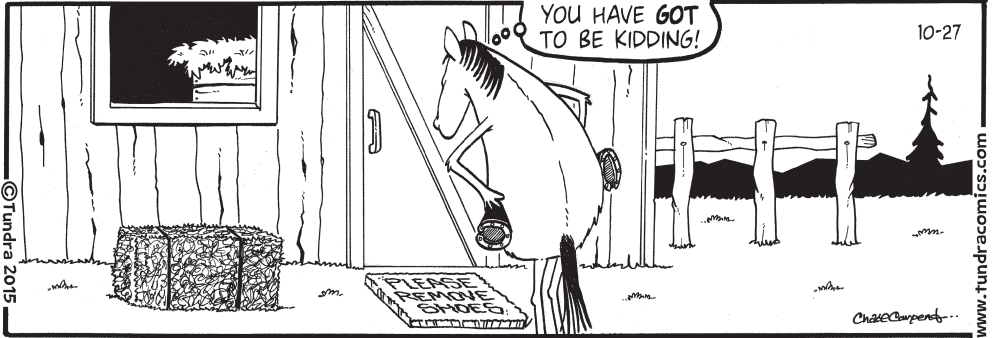
**Dear Abby:** We live in the Pacific Northwest and lately there has been a lot of news about an impending major earthquake due to hit our region. We understand it may not happen for a very long time, but it could also strike soon. We are planning to move to another part of the U.S. for our safety. My employer has an office there, and I can retain my job status and

seniority. The problem we see is, what do we tell people — friends and co-workers — about the reason for this transfer? We don't want to come off as "Chicken Little" for something that may not occur within our lifetimes, but we also don't want to endanger ourselves unnecessarily. Should we just say we are moving for "family reasons" or tell the truth or something else? — *Running Away in Vancouver*

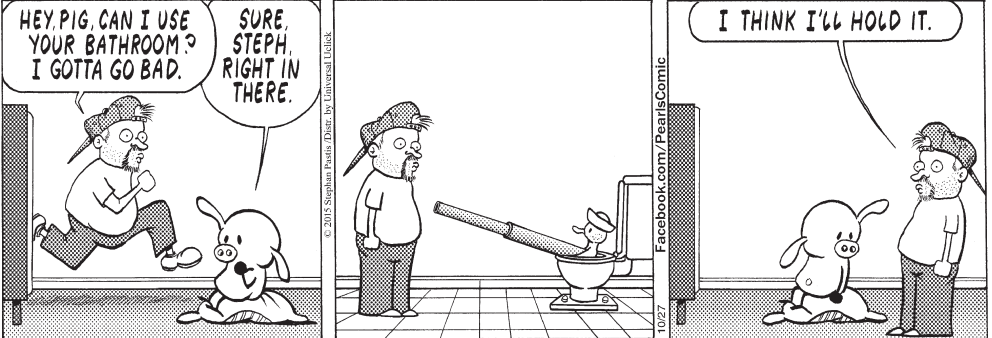
**Dear Running Away:** Living in Southern California, this subject comes up in conversation periodically whenever we have a tremor. Years ago, after one of them, I met a woman who informed me that she and her husband were moving out of state for the same reason you are doing it. (I hope she's enjoying the winters!)

If you are not comfortable informing people that your reason for relocating is fear of an untimely death, I don't think you are required to. It wouldn't be dishonest, however, to say that you are looking for a new adventure. **Write Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.**

TUNDRA by Chad Carpenter



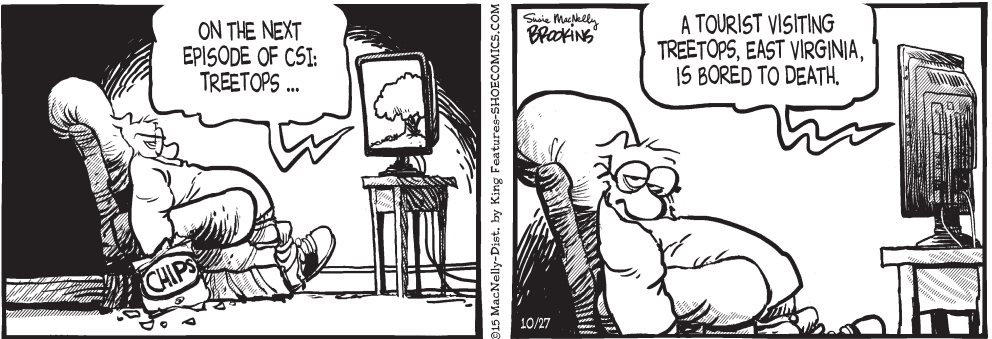
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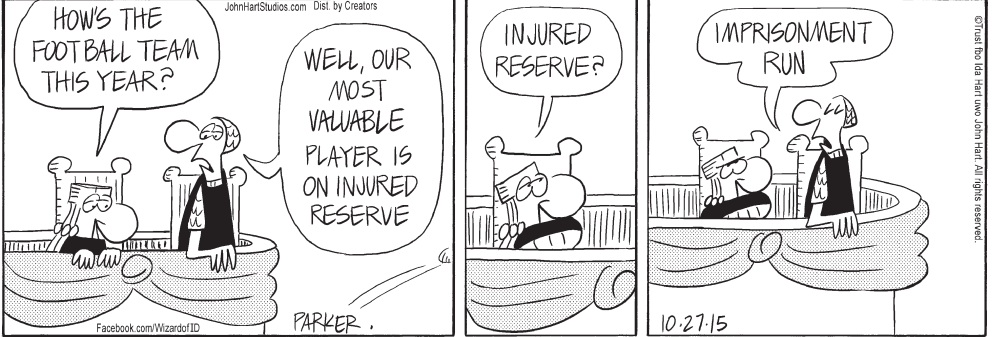
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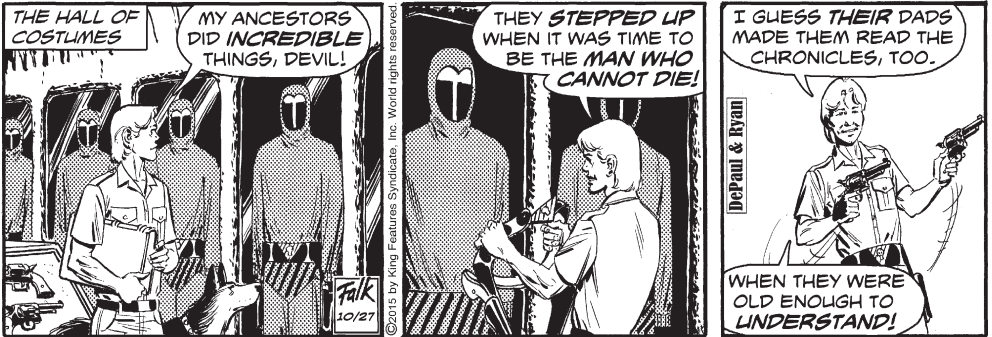
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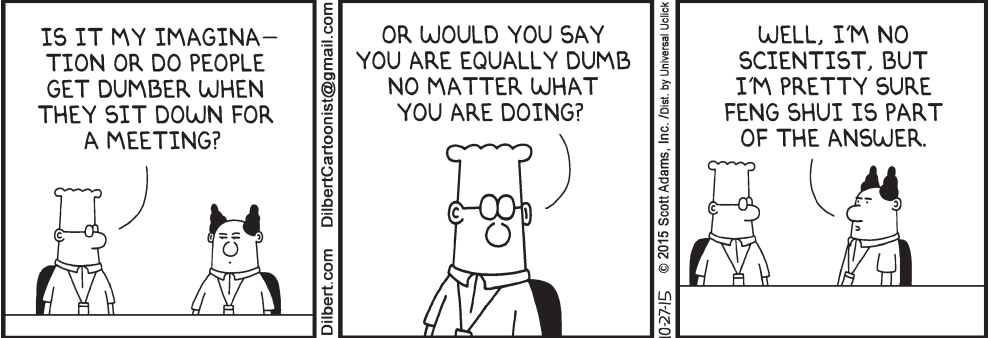
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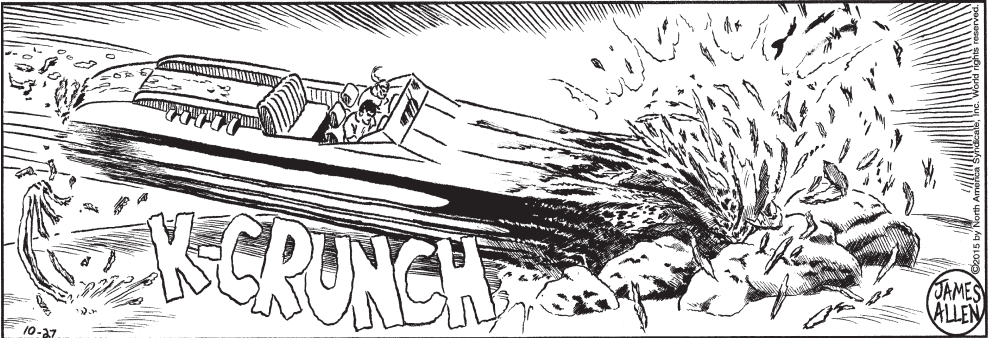
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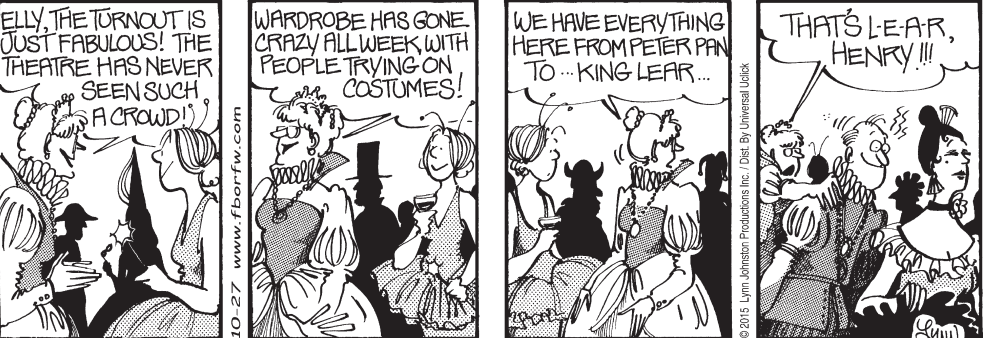
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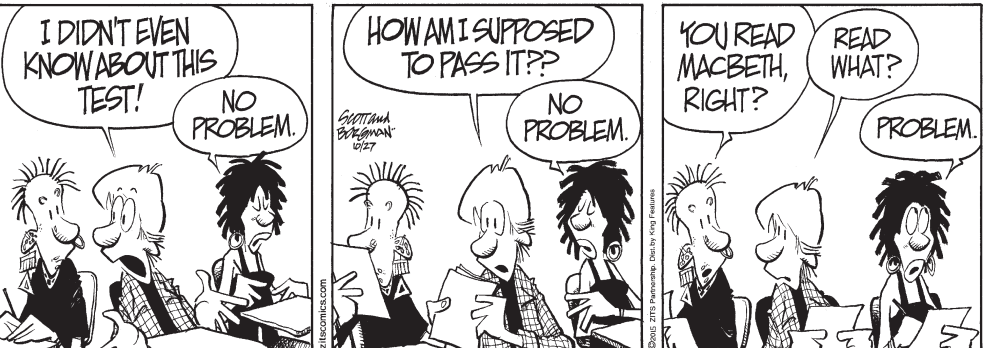
FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE by Lynn Johnston



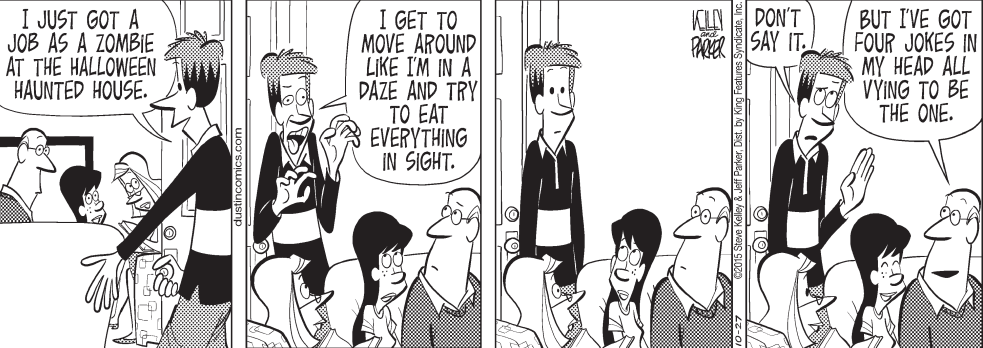
BABY BLUES by Jerry Scott & Rick Kirkman



ZITS by Jerry Scott & Jim Borgman



DUSTIN by Steve Kelley and Jeff Parker



Daily Horoscope

**ARIES (March 21-April 19).** There's a shift happening inside you. Your interest in one subject wanes while your interest in another waxes. Much will be illuminated in the next 48 hours.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20).** It's pointless and stressful to argue with what is. When instead you agree, readily accepting what you can't change, suddenly new, invigorating energy will sweep through your scene.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 21).** The best partnerships might not make your life easier at first. The collaboration might take more work than you expected. But once you figure out how to groove with one another, the results will be brilliant.

**CANCER (June 22-July 22).** Strong emotions make you more willing to lose the familiarity and comforts of the past. This is your admission price to a better future. The progress you desire is worth the sacrifice.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).** There's nothing you fear more today than the possibility of regret. That's why you'll make the bold choice and risk playing the fool. Your motto now: Go big or go home.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).** You'll lead with your principles, practice sportsmanship and maintain high standards for even the seeming-

ly small details of the day. It's becoming easier and easier for you to be extraordinary.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).** Favors are tricky. Small ones work best. Don't accept a favor that requires great effort or expense from another, as it will only cost you dearly in the end.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).** You're getting to know the intricacies of a process. The more you learn the sweeter your experience. This education will help you take things to a whole new level.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).** Don't wait to feel grateful or lucky. Let it happen regardless of external circumstances. The fortunate feeling will come first, and the good fortune will come second.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).** A little more effort, a little more patience — that's what it will take to turn this experiment into a success. You can do this. Breathe deeply; coerce a smile from yourself; go at it again.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).** If you keep letting them make the rules for you, they'll keep doing it. You have more freedom than you are owning. Claim it now. It's the only way to get where you want to go.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).** You'll flex your mental muscles. You're a problem-solving machine today. It will get to the point where you'll think this is so much fun, you'll actually go looking for problems to solve.



HOLIDAY MATHIS