

Wedding attire unraveled

Dear Annie: I recently attended the wedding of a college friend of mine.

In the days preceding the wedding, a buddy of mine asked whether I was going to wear a tuxedo. I told him no, because the invitation said "formal attire." I interpreted "formal" to mean I should wear a suit, whereas "black tie" would have meant men should wear a tux. We asked our respective wives and decided that "formal" meant suit.

The wedding took place during the summer in Southern California. I wore a true-blue suit, blue shirt and light red linen tie. I thought it was perfect for the venue, time of year and location. My buddy wore something comparable.

However, when we showed up in our suits, we were surprised to see that almost everyone else was wearing tuxes.

Business? Business casual? Business cool? Formal? Black tie? Black tie optional? Top-tional? Is there a council of elders who decide what we can wear and when? I am writing to

you to get the definitive ruling on ambiguous attire definitions. Feeling underdressed is the pits.

— *Dressed to Be Stressed*

Dear Dressed: Here's a brief overview of what wedding dress codes mean for men. If the invitation says "white tie," dress to the nines — with a long black jacket with tails, a white bow tie and a white vest.

To a "black tie" wedding, always wear a tuxedo.

If it's "formal," a tuxedo or dark suit and tie will do.

"Semiformal" or "cocktail" denotes a suit and tie.

For a "casual" wedding, go with dress pants and a button-down shirt.

If you're not sure, err on the side of formal. It's less embarrassing to be overdressed than it is to be underdressed.

Dear Annie: This is in response to "Babied Pre-Law Student," who wants to attend law school out of state but is meeting resistance from her parents. What was not very clear was whether the potential law

student is expecting her parents to support the decision no matter what the cost is to them. If her parents are willing and able to pay for in-state tuition and expenses, that is a boon not to be taken lightly. If she wants to go out of state, perhaps her parents could contribute the amount they'd pay if she stayed in state and she could cover the rest.

If this person is truly "an adult and able to make (her) own decisions," shouldn't that include paying her own way? If anyone is still dependent on her parents for all expenses, I am not sure she is truly an adult.

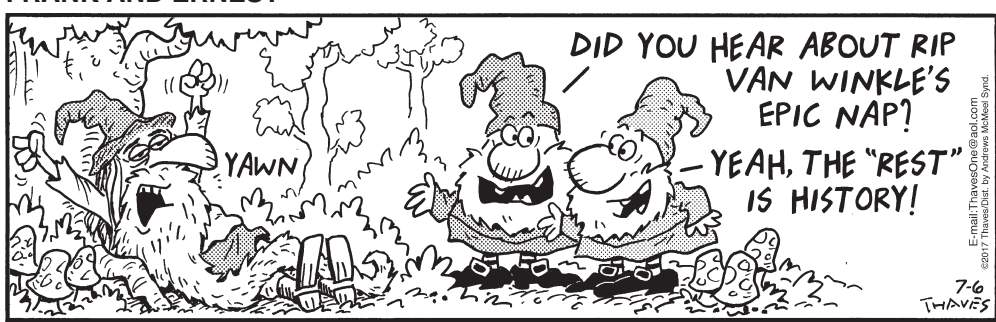
— *Katherine*
Dear Katherine: I feel the same way. Being an adult means being financially independent. I took the letter writer to mean that she'd be taking out loans and paying for law school herself, but I may have been too generous in that assumption. If in fact her parents are putting her through law school, she should absolutely not expect them to foot the bill at whatever the cost. Your suggestion — that her parents contribute an amount equal to in-state tuition and she cover the rest — is a good one.

DEAR ANNIE

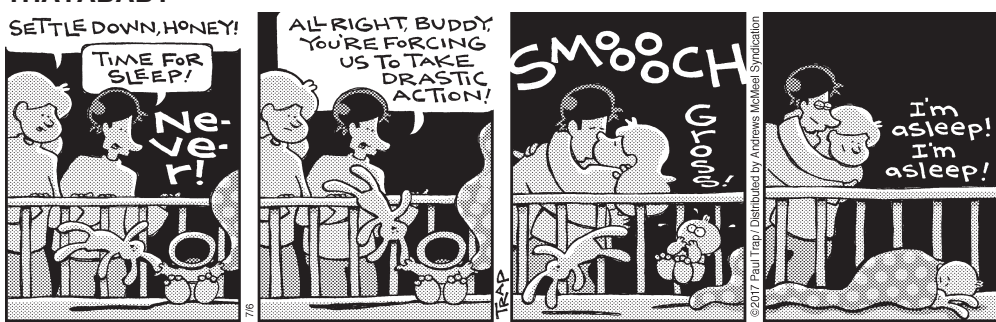


Annie Lane
Creators
Syndicate Inc.

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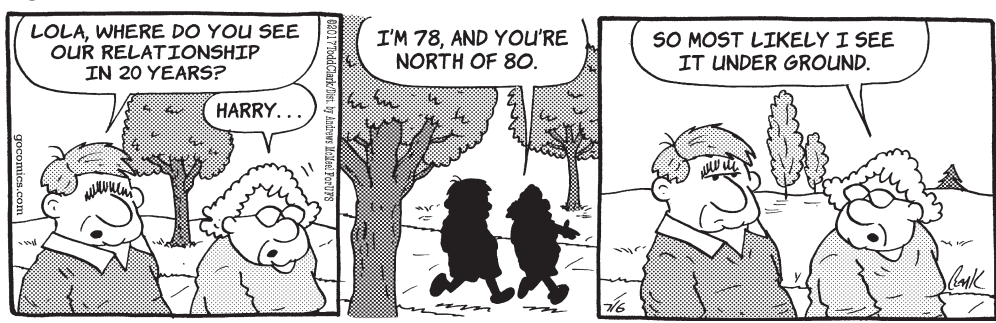
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PHOEBE AND HER UNICORN



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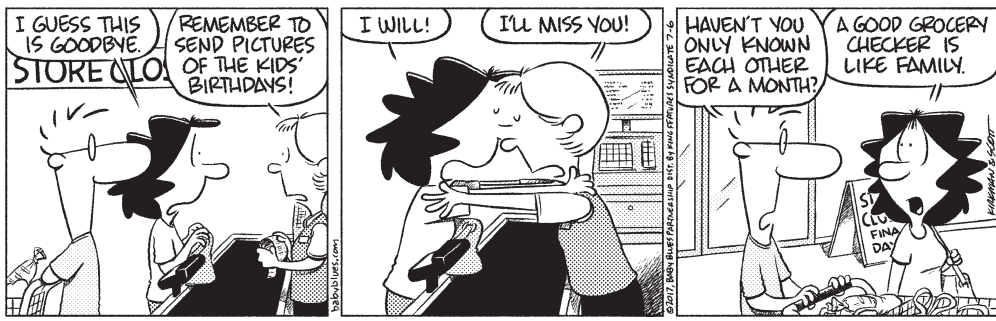
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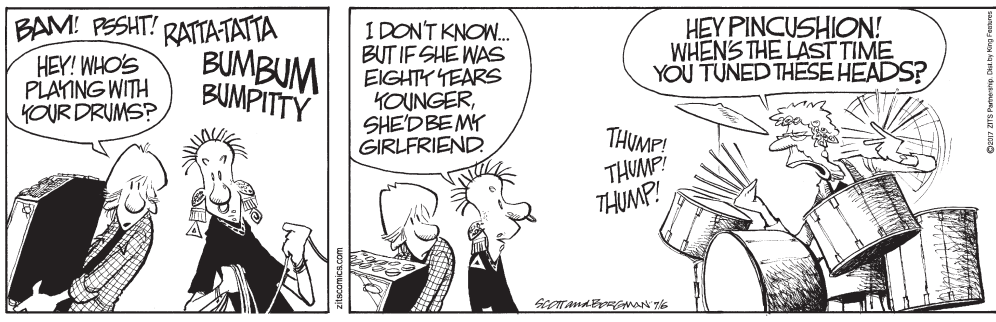
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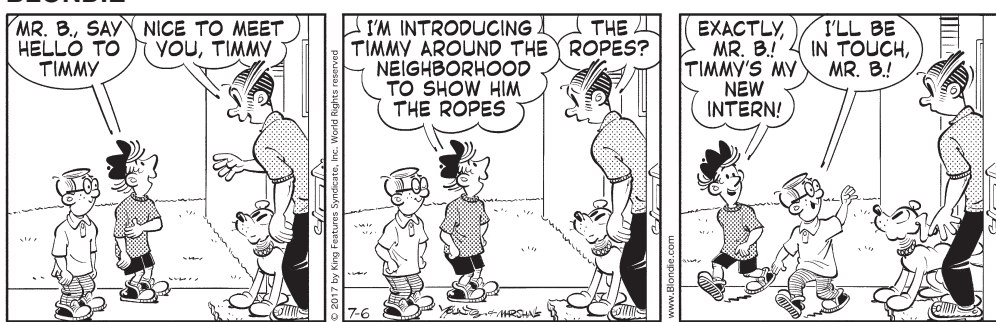
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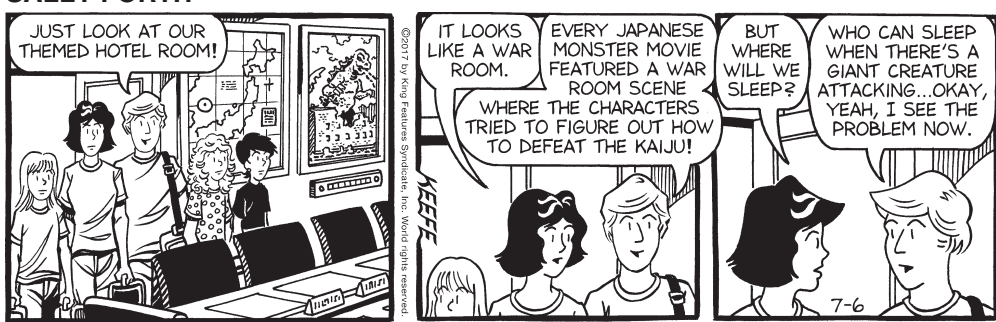
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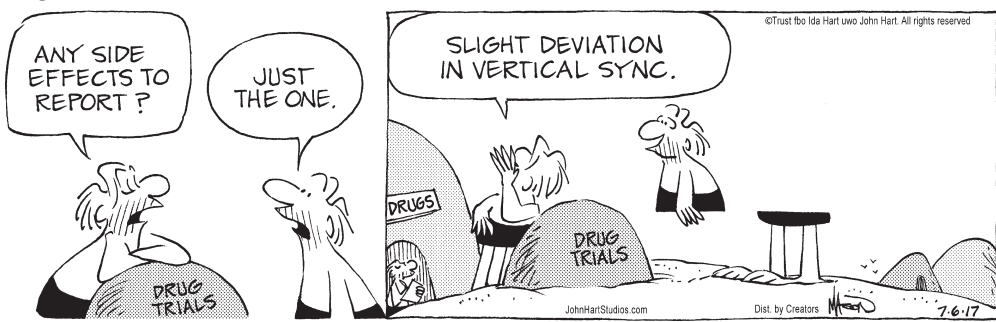
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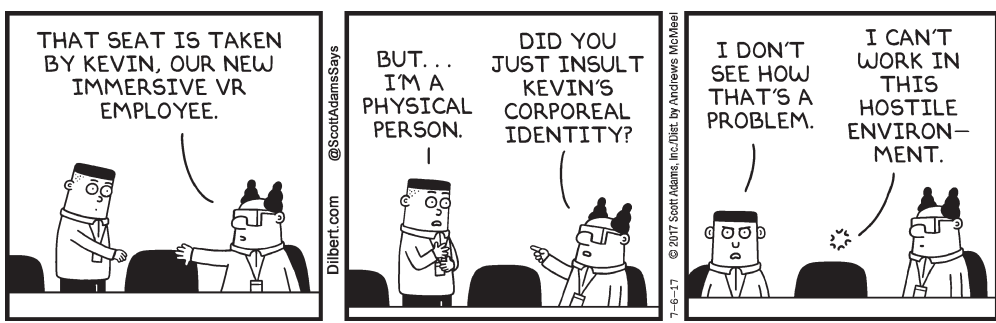
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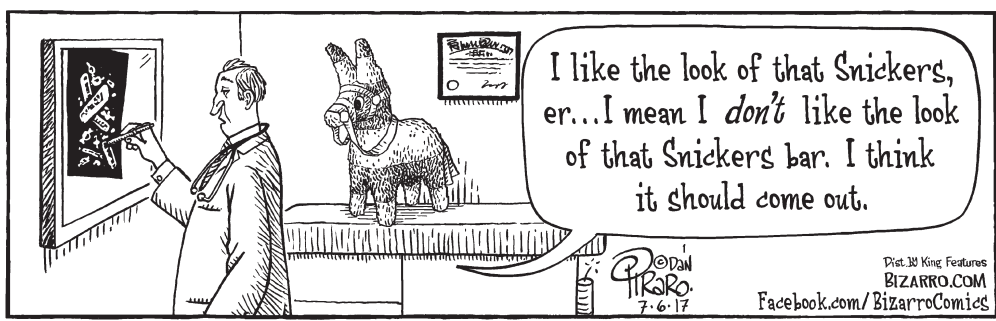
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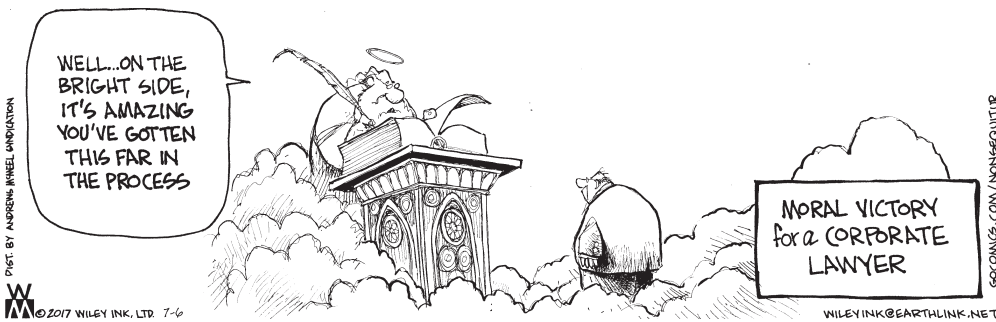
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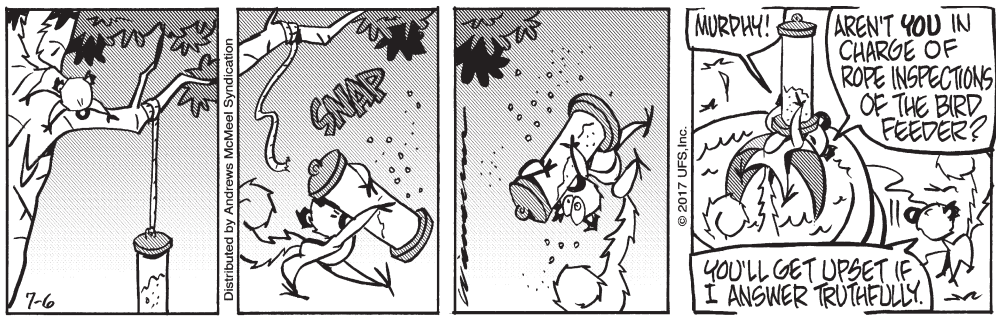
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WIZARD OF ID



ROSE IS ROSE



TOMORROW'S HOROSCOPE

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Today will be all right. In the English-language sense of it, this phrase covers a wide variety of meanings (many of which will apply): "just ok"; "spectacular"; "here's a counter offer"; "agreed"; and "yes."

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You can't see time, although, if you wait long enough, there will be quite a lot of physical evidence that it was here. To experience time more vividly, positively and fully, plant a seed.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). There's someone you want to know better, but you're not sure how you should approach. Better to repel someone by being who you are than attract them by being who you're not.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). A loved one will figure into your work scenario and may be the key that unlocks the next professional level. Even so, ultimately it's your work and your being that will make the situation great for all.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Whom should I know? Many don't ask such questions, out of shyness or a lack of foresight. But you realize that in order to move and shake things, you need to get to know the current movers and shakers.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You've already come far in life with emotional development and maturity beyond your years. With all you'll gain over the next three weeks, you'll rise to yet another level of wisdom.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You're creative. You don't need to have the best things in order to make the best of things. Also, many who already have the best can't see it. You'll help them see it. So, you'll make them a

little jealous, too. It can't be helped.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You'll become so immersed in these adventures that you'll find there is no longer room for the anxiety and fear you once felt. You'll channel your energy into exciting new endeavors.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You enjoy getting quality attention, and you know how to hold and play with that, too. You also cherish your private time. Today you'll prefer to recharge in solitude.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). There's no time to waste in anger. Forgive quickly; forget easily. There is so much fun and play to be had! Tonight sees you laughing until your cheeks hurt.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Just because they ask doesn't mean you have to answer. Why do they want to know? It's not like you're applying for a security clearance or running for office today. You're allowed to be as mysterious as you want to be.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Liking yourself may not be enough today. You've plenty of reasons to be madly, deeply in love. Anyway, what would you do differently in that case? How would you advocate for yourself?

TOMORROW'S BIRTHDAY (July 7). The next three months present games and risk; keep at it and you'll become a master. September brings a lucky break. November shows you inseparable from your team. Together you'll execute an important mission. January shifts the focus to self-improvement, especially in the area of health and lifestyle. Leo and Virgo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 5, 9, 30, 44 and 19.