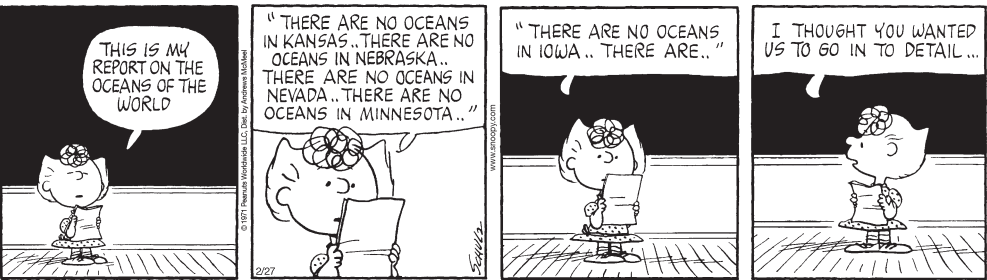


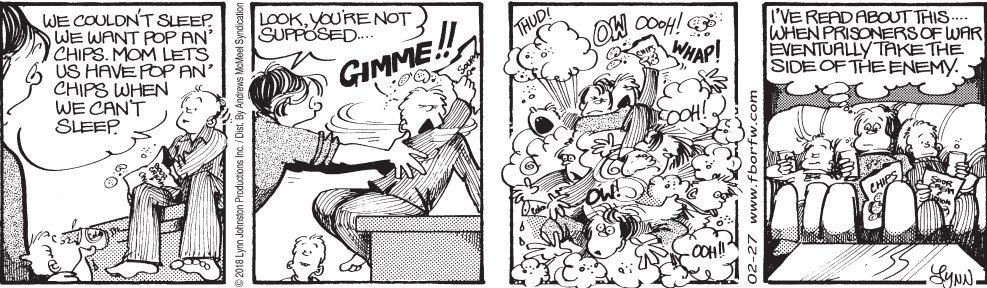
PEANUTS

BY CHARLES M. SCHULZ



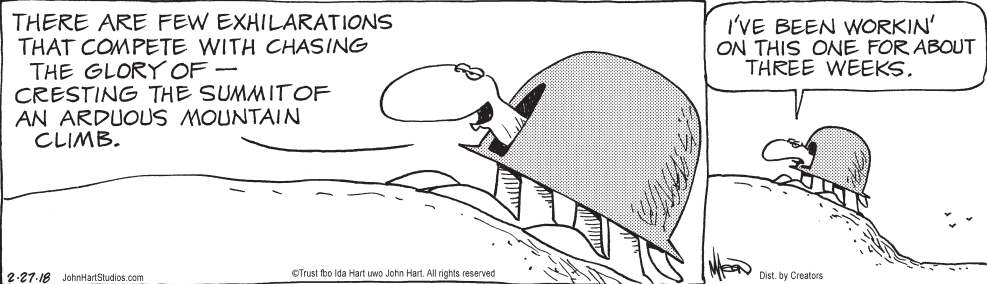
FOR BETTER OR WORSE

BY LYNN JOHNSTON



B.C.

BY JOHNNY HART



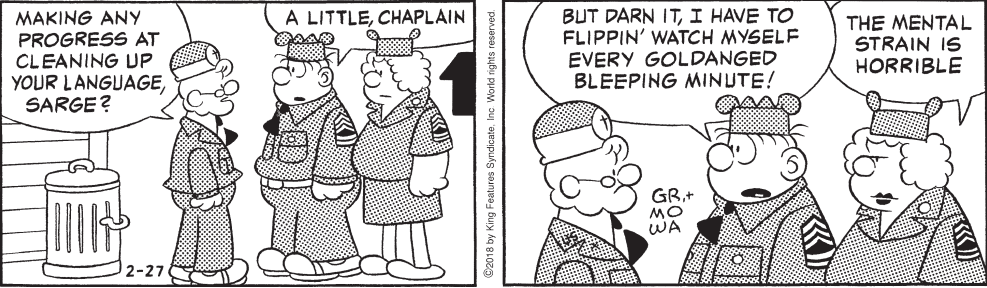
PICKLES

BY BRIAN CRANE



BEETLE BAILEY

BY MORT WALKER



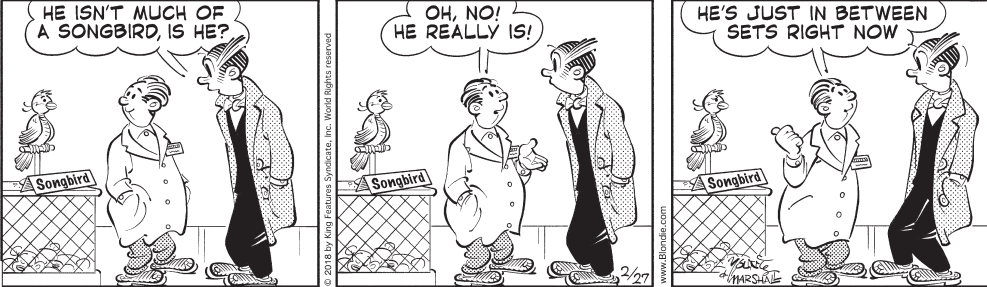
GARFIELD

BY JIM DAVIS



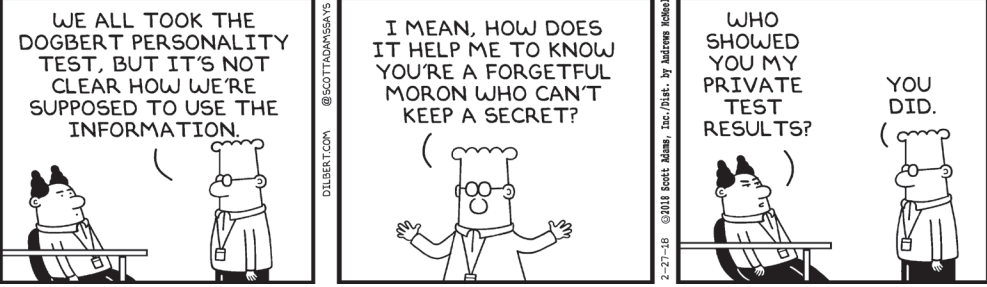
BLONDIE

BY DEAN YOUNG AND STAN DRAKE



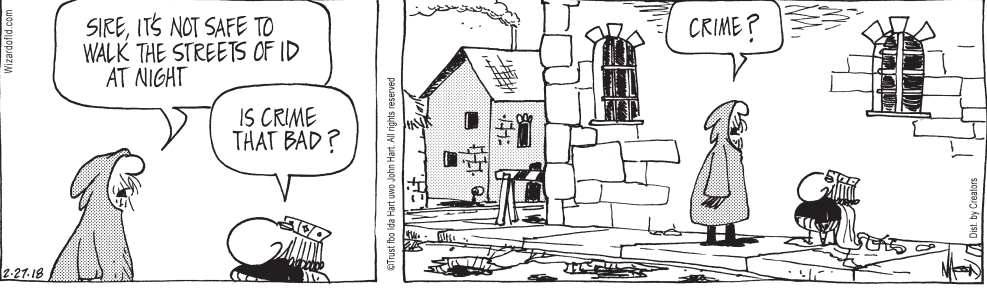
DILBERT

BY SCOTT ADAMS



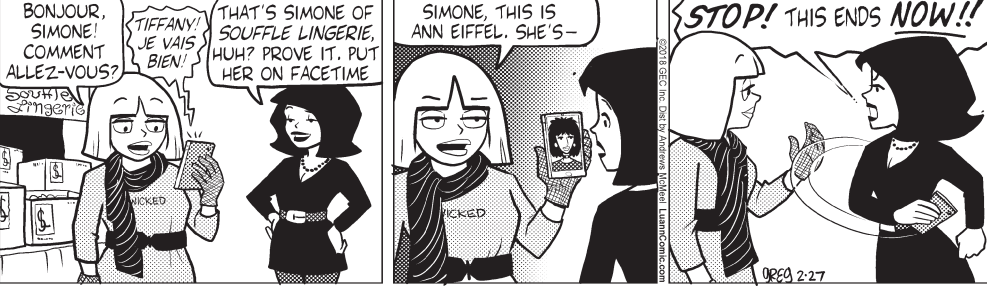
THE WIZARD OF ID

BY BRANT PARKER AND JOHNNY HART



LUANN

BY GREG EVANS



ZITS

BY JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



DEAR ABBY

Wife's desire for motherhood grows stronger as years pass

Dear Abby: My husband and I are 15 years apart in age. We have been together for six years, married a year and a half. He is my entire world, my best friend and soul mate.

When we first met, he told me he didn't think he wanted another child (he has a daughter). I learned to accept it if I wanted to be with him. I had to be OK with being a stepmom and not having a child of my own.

Fast-forward: It's six years later. His daughter (now 14) no longer comes around. (The ex-wife discouraged any relationship between my stepdaughter and me.) I'm finding it harder and harder to cope with the fact that I don't have a child of my own. When I bring this up to my husband, he tells me, "I told you in the beginning I didn't think I wanted another child."

How do I deal with this? It's breaking my heart because she is not around anymore and I don't feel like a mom of any sort. — **Longing To Be A Mom**

Dear Longing: Tell your husband that in the beginning when he told you he didn't think he wanted another child, you agreed because you thought you could accept it, but that as time has gone by, you no longer can. Then tell him you feel an important part of being a woman is being a mother. If he refuses to relent, then as much as you may love him, you may be married to the wrong man, and you will have to move on if you need to follow your biological imperative.

Dear Abby: Can you please educate your readers about supermarket etiquette? Every time I buy groceries, I encounter people who



JEANNE PHILLIPS
Advice

push or park their carts in the middle of the aisle with no consideration for other shoppers. I also see them blindly blast through intersections in the aisles and barely avoid colliding with each other.

A few weeks ago, I said to a gentleman, "Pardon me, may I go around you? Thank you." He responded that I was the first person who had ever said that to him! I'm surprised there aren't more cases of road rage in supermarkets.

My suggestion: Why don't we follow basic traffic rules in the supermarket? For example, stay to the right unless you are passing. Yield at intersections to the shopper on the right, etc. Abby, what do you think? Also, what's your take on big kids riding in the grocery carts? — **Disgusted Shopper In Illinois**

Dear Disgusted: What you describe happens when folks fail to consider how their behavior affects others. When someone blocks the aisle with a grocery cart, the logical way to deal with it is to say, "Excuse me, please," which alerts the "offender" that there are others in the store besides him or her.

Your suggestion that shoppers observe basic traffic rules is a good one — particularly when it involves observing the speed limit. Charging through the intersections of the aisles could cause an accident in which another shopper is harmed.

As to "big kids" riding in shopping carts, as long as they aren't bothering other shoppers and the store doesn't care, I mind my own business and don't judge.

DAYS GONE BY

100 Years Ago
From the East Oregonian
Feb. 26-27, 1918

The "sugar slacker" is the latest discovery. Peeved because the Hoover regulations have banished the sugar bowl from the table of the restaurant and limited the individual sugar ration to so many lumps or spoonfuls, the "sugar slacker" is carrying sugar to the restaurants in his pocket. So, a least, one eating house proprietor declares, and states that it is surprising to find that some of these slackers are very representative people. Also some of the grocers have discovered that there are not a few of their patrons who are peeved because the food regulations require them to purchase so many pounds of wheat substitute with every sack of flour. There have been so many complaints that the grocers are wondering if the average housewife appreciates the reason of the Hoover order and if there isn't some way of bringing home emphatically the necessity of sacrifice in every home.

50 Years Ago
From the East Oregonian

Feb. 26-27, 1968

A car caused \$600 damage to the Hudson Oil Co. service station on the Walla Walla highway near Milton-Freewater Thursday night. Police picked up William C. Cross, Milton-Freewater, in connection with the hit-and-run incident. They found tire tracks that indicated someone had "squirreled around" the station with one or more cars.

25 Years Ago
From the East Oregonian
Feb. 26-27, 1993

Irrigators in the Westland and Teel districts near Stanfield have agreed to give up 6,479 acre feet of water stored at McKay Reservoir to help migrating salmon and steelhead that return each year to the Umatilla River. In exchange, irrigators expect the Confederated Tribes — the lead agency in Umatilla River fish restoration projects — to support action necessary to allow the districts to continue delivering water to cropland outside district boundaries. Westland, in violation of federal water regulations, has been delivering irrigation water outside its boundary for nearly 50 years.

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

On Feb. 27, 1968, at the conclusion of a CBS News special report on the Vietnam War, Walter Cronkite delivered a commentary in which he said that the conflict appeared "mired in stalemate." Former teen singing idol Frankie Lymon, known for such songs as "Why Do Fools Fall in Love" and "Goody Goody," was found dead of a drug overdose in New York at age 25.

On this date:
In 1700, English explorer William Dampier became the first known European visitor to the island of New Britain in the Southwest Pacific.

In 1801, the District of Columbia was placed under the jurisdiction of Congress.

In 1911, inventor Charles F. Kettering demonstrated his electric automobile starter in Detroit by starting a Cadillac's motor with just the press of a switch, instead of hand-cranking.

In 1922, the Supreme Court, in *Leser v. Garnett*, unanimously upheld the 19th Amendment to the Constitution, which guaranteed the right of women to vote.

In 1933, Germany's parliament building, the Reichstag, was gutted by fire; Chancellor Adolf Hitler, blaming the Communists, used the fire to justify suspending civil liberties.

In 1943, during World War II, Norwegian commandos launched a successful raid to sabotage a German-operated heavy water plant in Norway. An explosion inside a coal mine near Bearcreek, Montana, killed 74 miners and one rescue worker. The U.S. government, responding to a copper shortage, began circulating one-cent coins made of steel plated with zinc (the steel pennies proved unpopular, since they were easily mistaken for dimes).

In 1951, the 22nd Amendment to the Constitution, limiting a president to two terms of office, was ratified.

In 1960, the U.S. Olympic hockey team defeated the Soviets, 3-2, at the Winter Games in Squaw Valley, California. (The U.S. team went on to win the gold medal.)

In 1973, members of the American Indian Movement

occupied the hamlet of Wounded Knee in South Dakota, the site of the 1890 massacre of Sioux men, women and children. (The occupation lasted until the following May.)

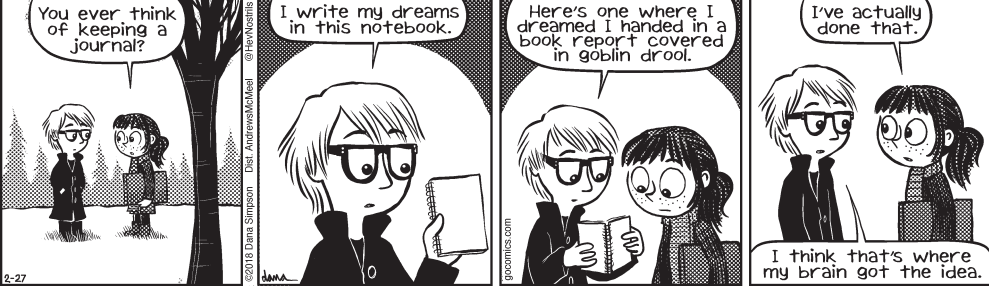
In 1991, Operation Desert Storm came to a conclusion as President George H.W. Bush declared that "Kuwait is liberated, Iraq's army is defeated," and announced that the allies would suspend combat operations at midnight, Eastern time.

Today's Birthdays:
Consumer advocate Ralph Nader is 84. Opera singer Mirella Freni is 83. Rock singer-musician Neal Schon (Journey) is 64. Rock musician Adrian Smith (Iron Maiden) is 61. Basketball Hall of Famer James Worthy is 57. Country-rock musician Shonna Tucker is 40. Chelsea Clinton is 38. Singer Josh Groban is 37.

Thought for Today: "There is no inevitability in history except as men make it." — *Felix Frankfurter, U.S. Supreme Court Justice (1882-1965).*

PHOEBE AND HER UNICORN

BY DANA SIMPSON



BIG NATE

BY LINCOLN PEIRCE

