

b i g **NATE**

FROM THE TOP



NEW YORK
TIMES
BEST-SELLER

by LINCOLN PEIRCE

**big
NATE**

Other *Big Nate* Books

Big Nate: In a Class by Himself

Big Nate Strikes Again

b i g
NATE
FROM THE TOP
by LINCOLN PEIRCE

*Andrews McMeel
Publishing, LLC*
Kansas City • Sydney • London

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www.andrewsmcmeel.com

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Big Nate can be viewed on the Internet at
www.comics.com/big_nate

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**To JDP,
the original Big Nate**



ME? NO, I WON'T!
WHAT MAKES YOU
SAY THAT?











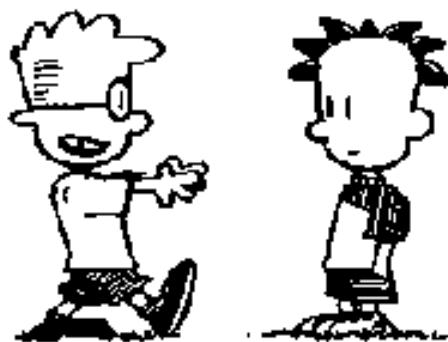






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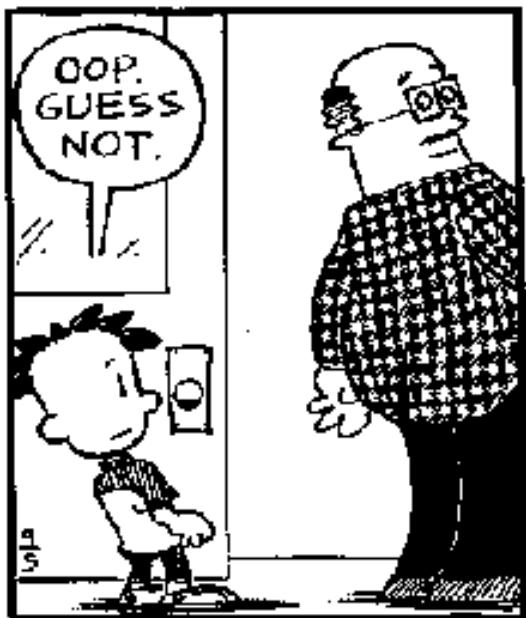
LAST DAY OF SUMMER
VACATION! WHAT
SHOULD WE DO?



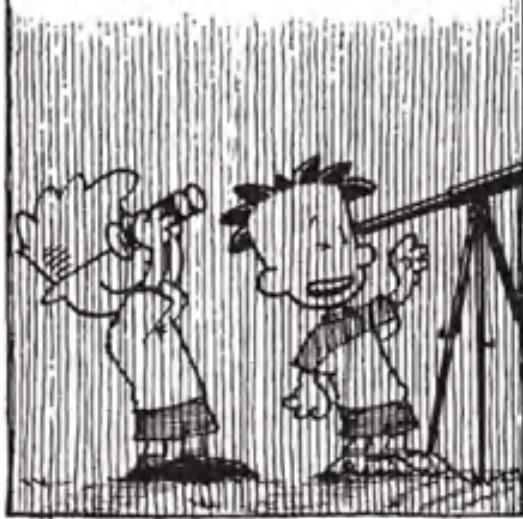
I DON'T KNOW, BUT
DOWN THE ROAD THE
WEATHER GODS OWE
US BIG TIME.



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Do you recall that night in June
You watched the comet fly?



And can you picture,
In your mind,
That ballgame in July?



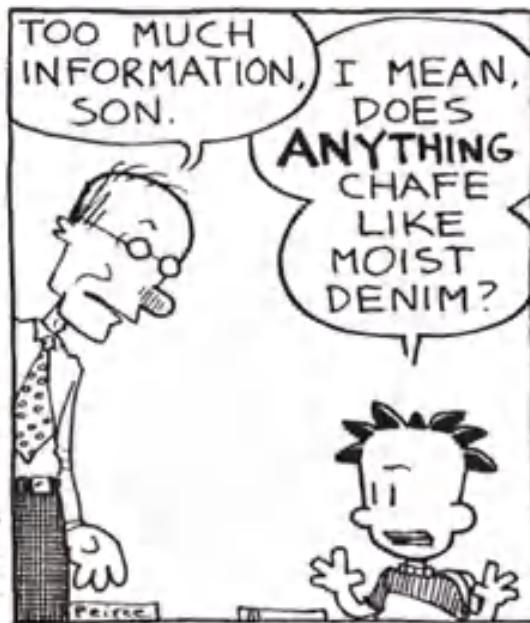
Do you remember mini-golf,
And all those putts you missed?



Then how could you forget about
Your summer reading list?

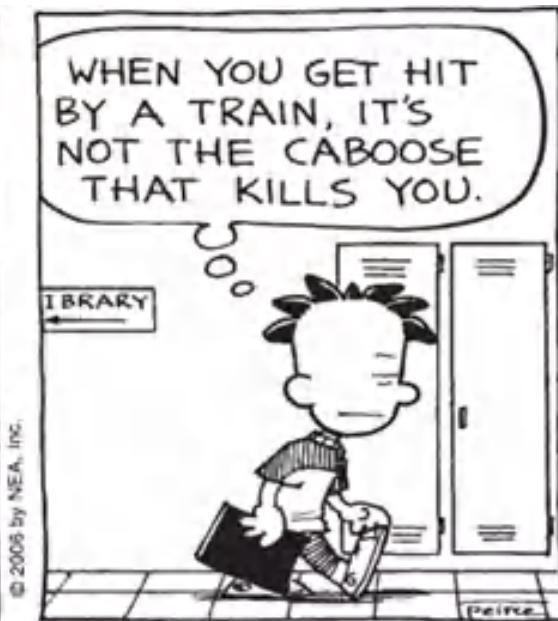
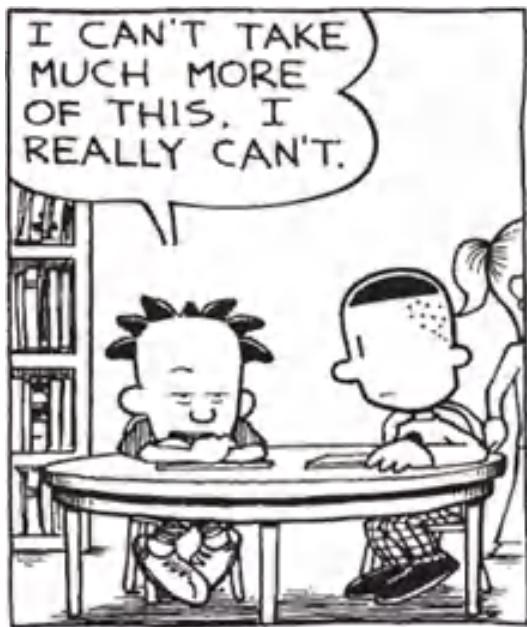


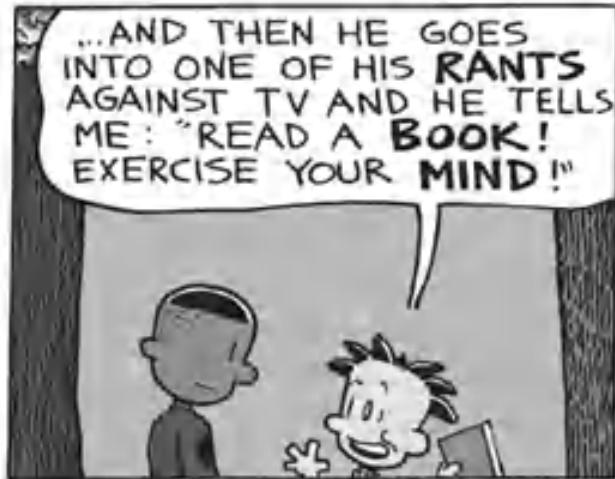




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Feifei

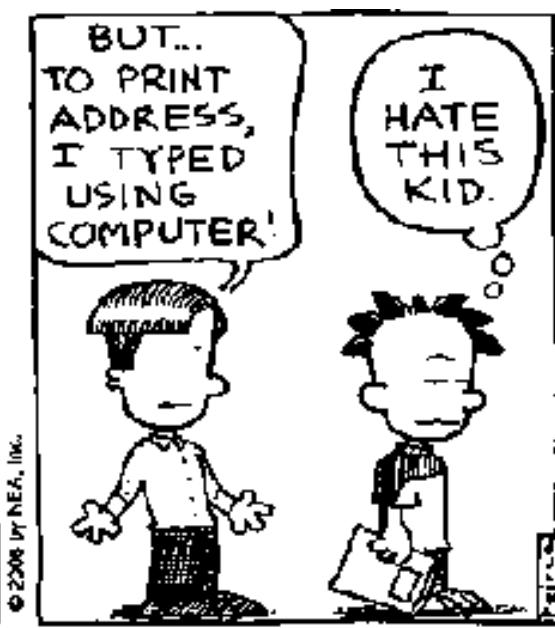
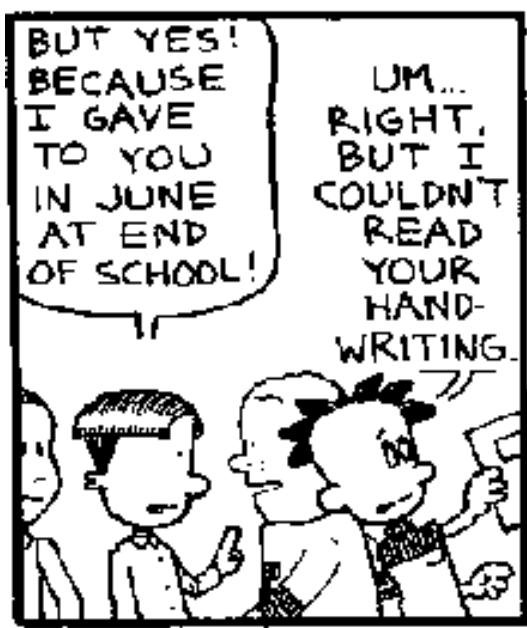
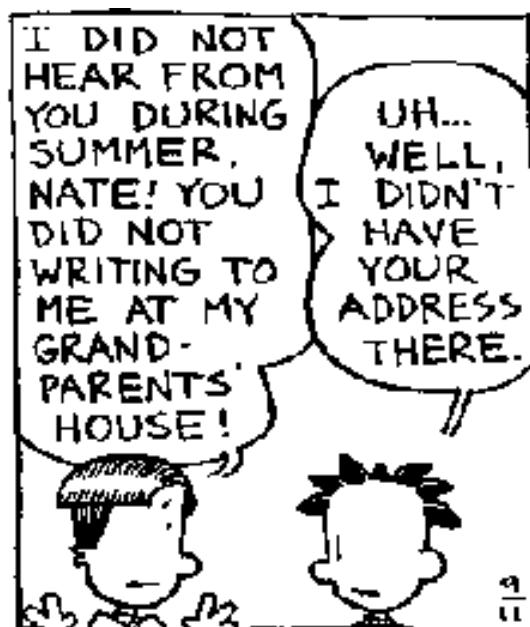
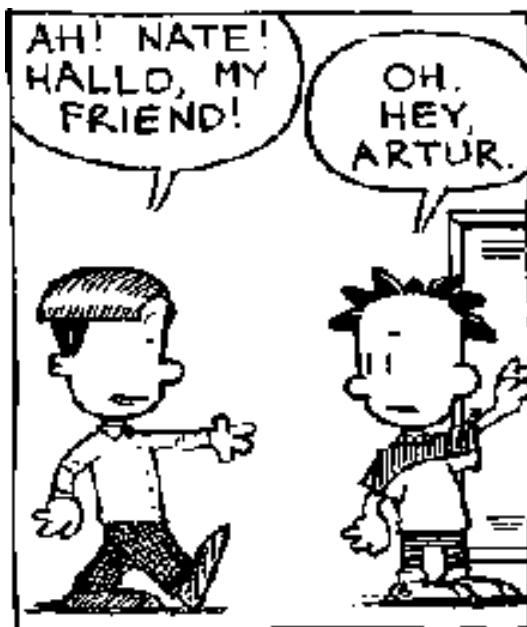




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NATE. HERE I BROUGHT TO YOU SOUVENIR FROM MY TRIP TO BELARUS.

WOW, A SNOW GLOBE! I COLLECT THESE!



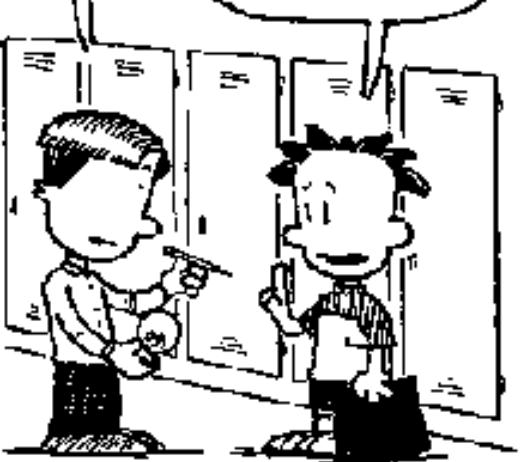
YES, AND ON BOTTOM SAYS IT "BELARUS". SO YOU KNOW IS REALLY FROM THERE!

WOW... UH... HERE, I GOT A SOUVENIR FOR YOU TOO, ARTUR..



AH.

A PENCIL!



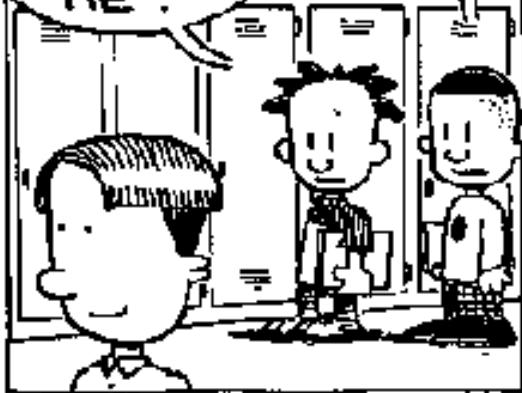
SO YOU WERE TO VISITING SOMEWHERE CALLED "TICONDEROGA"?

RIGHT. NICE TOWN.

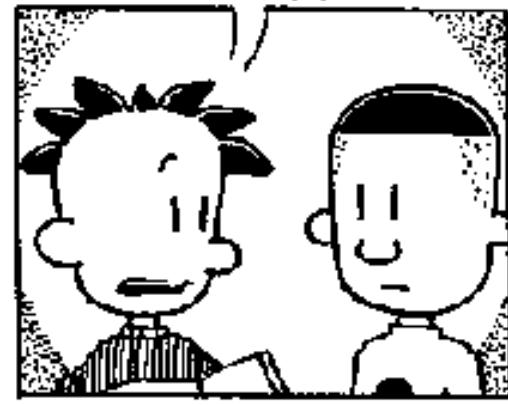


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I DON'T GET IT. WHY IS HE'S A NICE KID, THAT'S WHY!
ARTUR ALWAYS SO NICE TO ME?



BUT WHY WASTE YOUR TIME BEING NICE TO SOMEONE WHO CAN'T STAND YOU? WHAT'S UP WITH THAT?

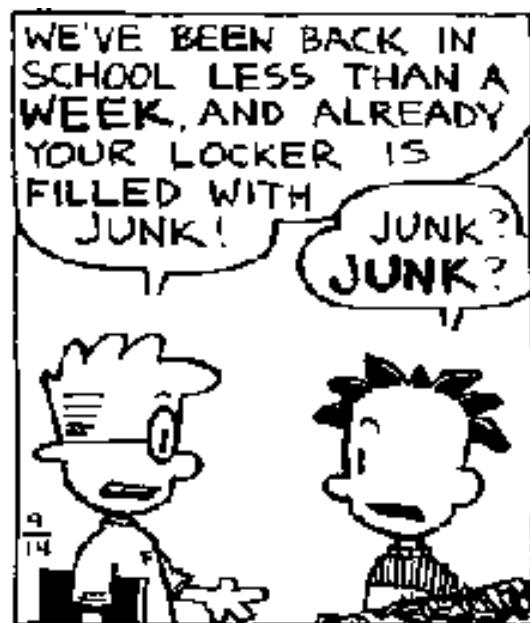


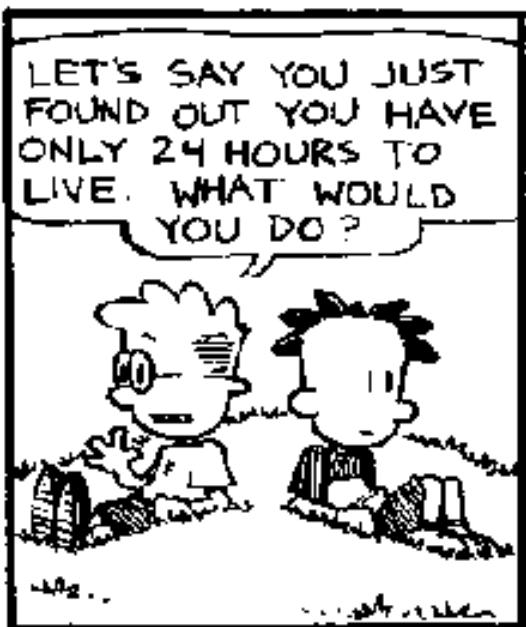
WELL, SOME PEOPLE...
OOP! HOLD ON!

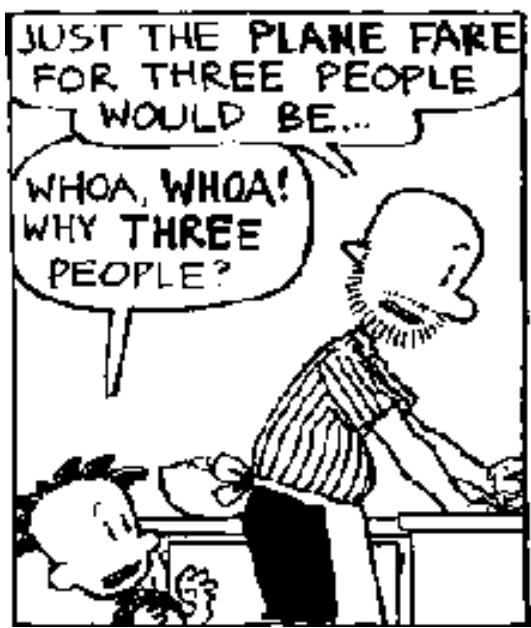


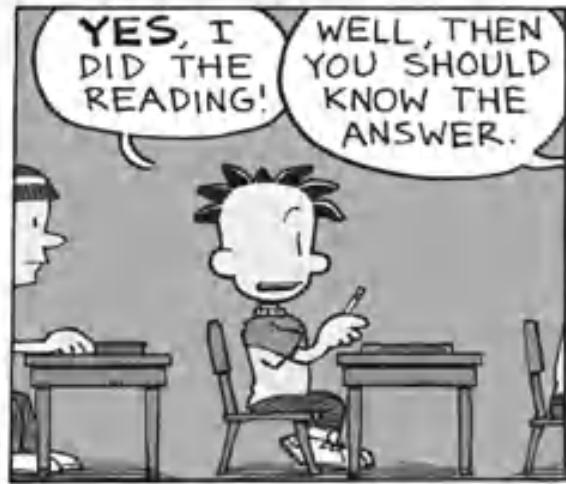
JENNY, M'LADY!
SOME PEOPLE ARE JUST KIND OF CLUELESS.











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BUT YOU DIDN'T TELL
US YOU WERE GOING
TO **ASK** US ABOUT IT!



SO YOU ONLY PAY
ATTENTION TO THE
READING IF YOU
KNOW I'M GOING
TO **ASK** YOU
ABOUT IT?



UH... KOFF!!
NOT!! OF
COURSE NOT
IS WHAT
I... UH...
MEANT
TO... SAY...



YOU KNOW, THERE'S
SUCH A THING
AS BEING
TOO
HONEST.



PRINCIPAL

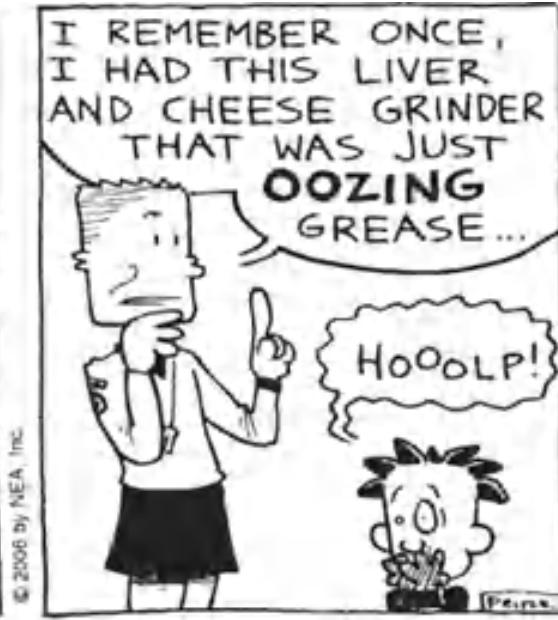
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I'LL NEED LOTS OF
ENERGY FOR THE
GAME, SO I'M EATING
A TWELVE-PACK OF
"POWER BARS"!



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Pearce







A goalie, or a "keeper",
(As we keepers like to say),
Is the most important person
On the soccer field of play.



He must make acrobatic saves,
The most athletic kind!



He must be fearless,
Quick, alert, and . . .



Okay, never mind.

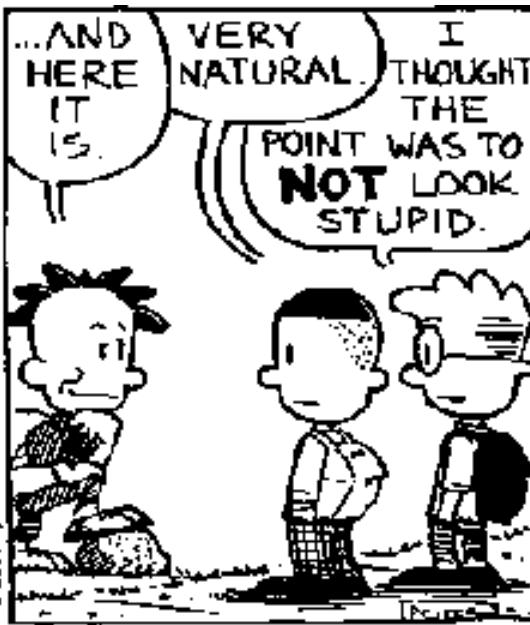
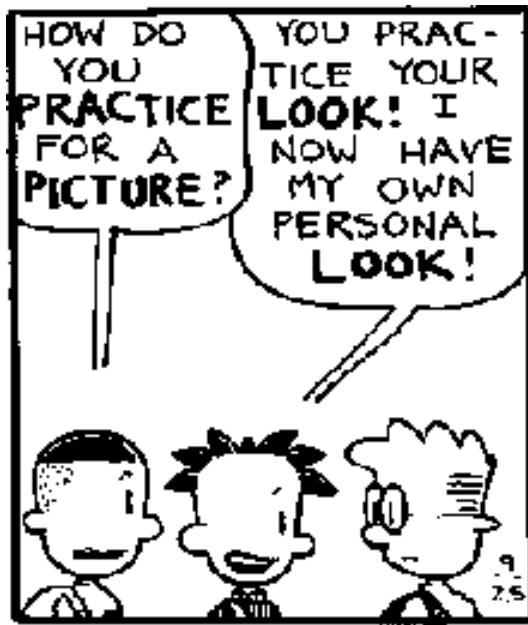




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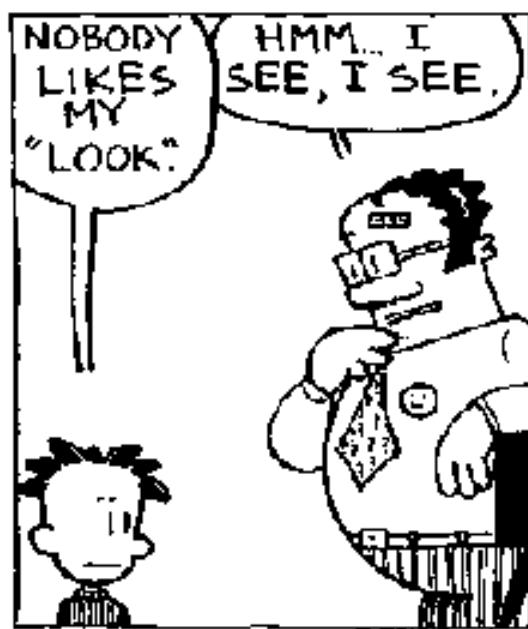


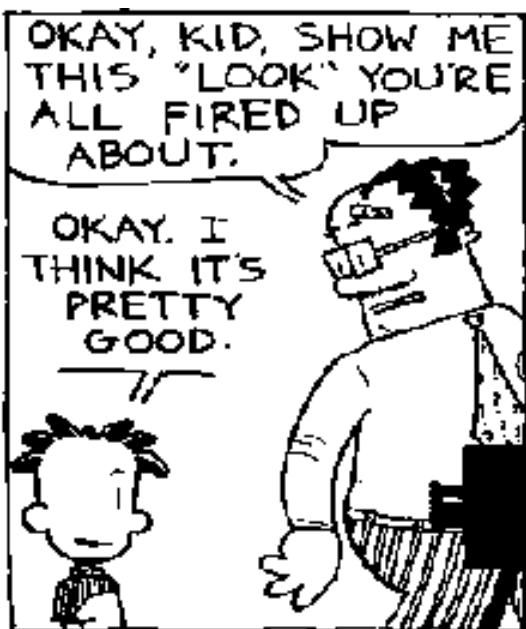
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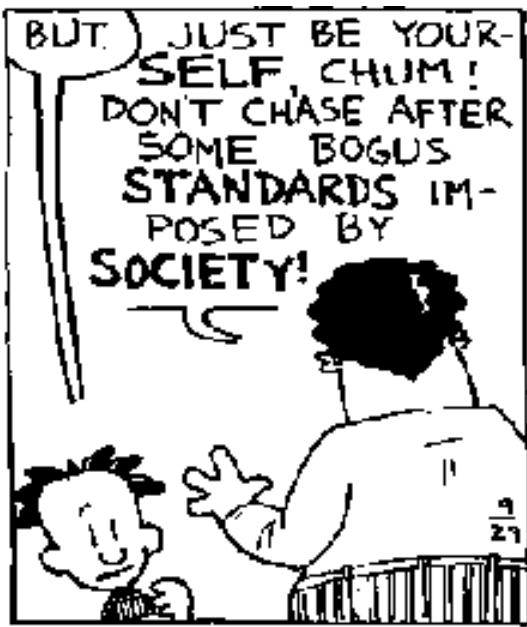
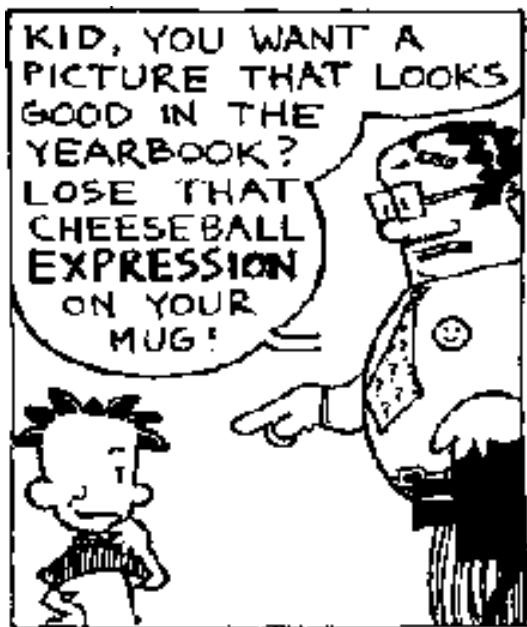


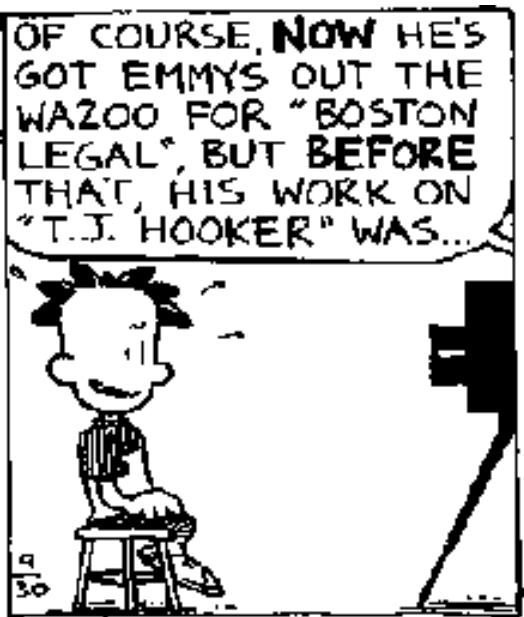


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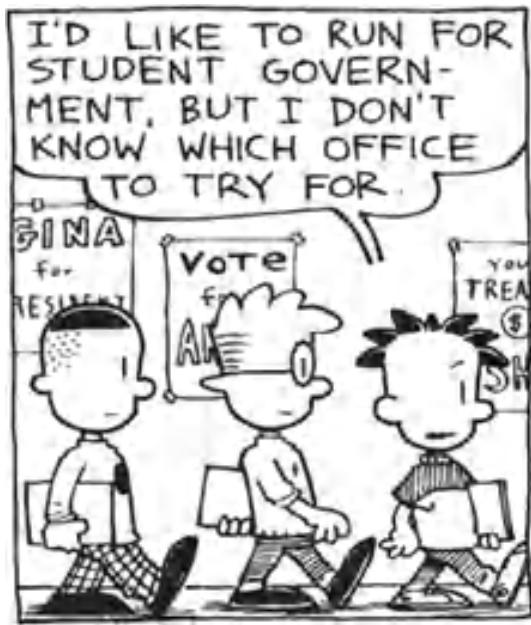








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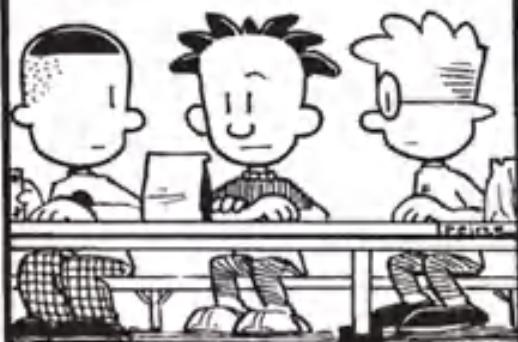
I DON'T WANT TO RUN FOR PRESIDENT, BECAUSE GINA'S GOING TO BE PRESIDENT.



...AND BEING VICE PRESIDENT WOULD MEAN GETTING BOSSED AROUND BY GINA... SO THAT'S OUT.
...AND RUNNING FOR SECRETARY SOUNDS TOO GIRLISH...



I GUESS I'LL JUST HAVE TO SETTLE FOR TREASURER.

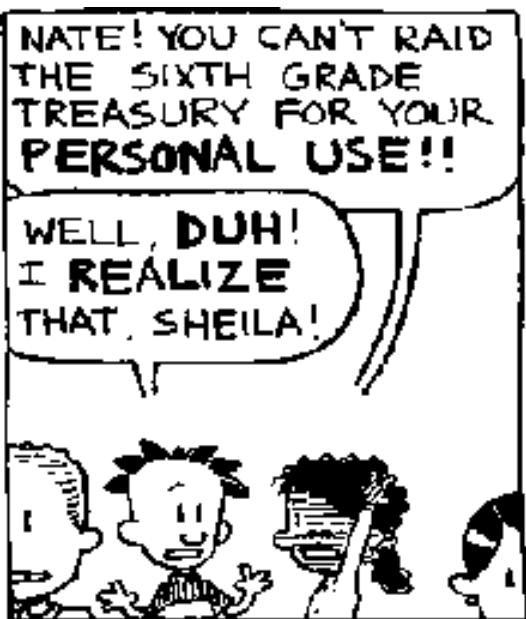


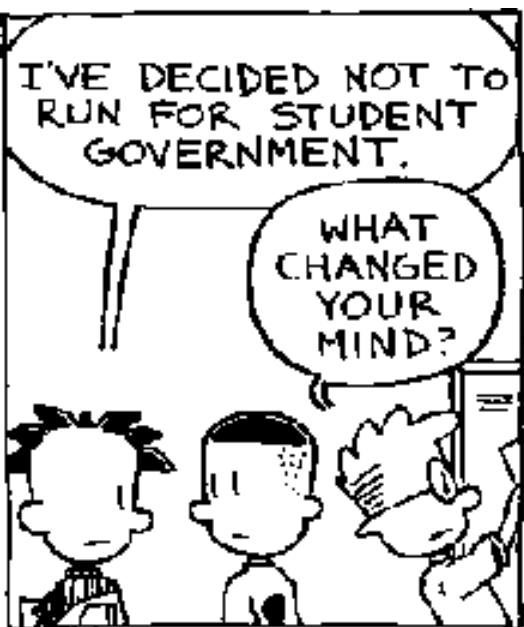
"I'LL JUST HAVE TO SETTLE FOR TREASURER."
THERE'S AN INSPIRING CAMPAIGN SLOGAN!

EXCUSE ME WHILE I RUSH TO THE POLLS!

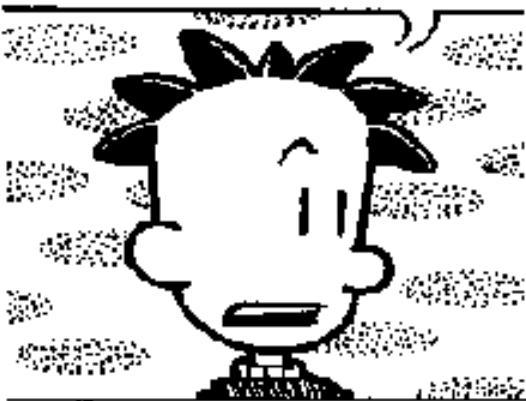


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WELL, YOU DON'T REALLY DO ANYTHING IN STUDENT GOVERNMENT: YOU DON'T HAVE ANY POWER!

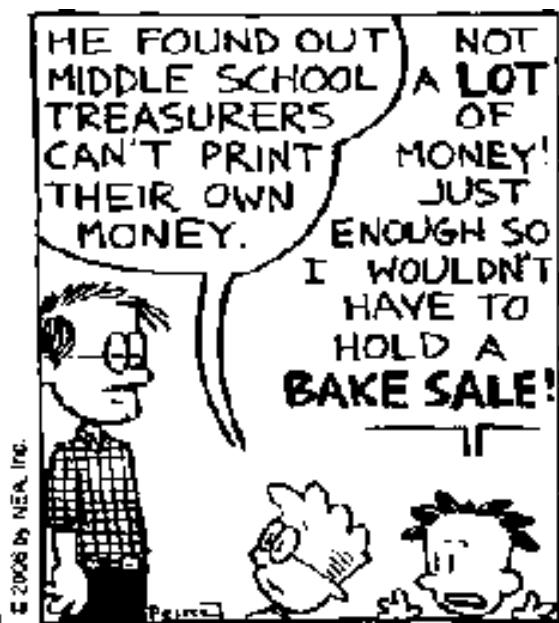
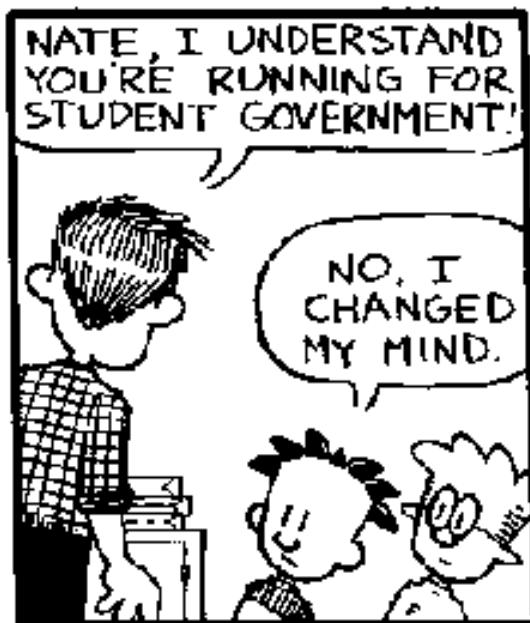


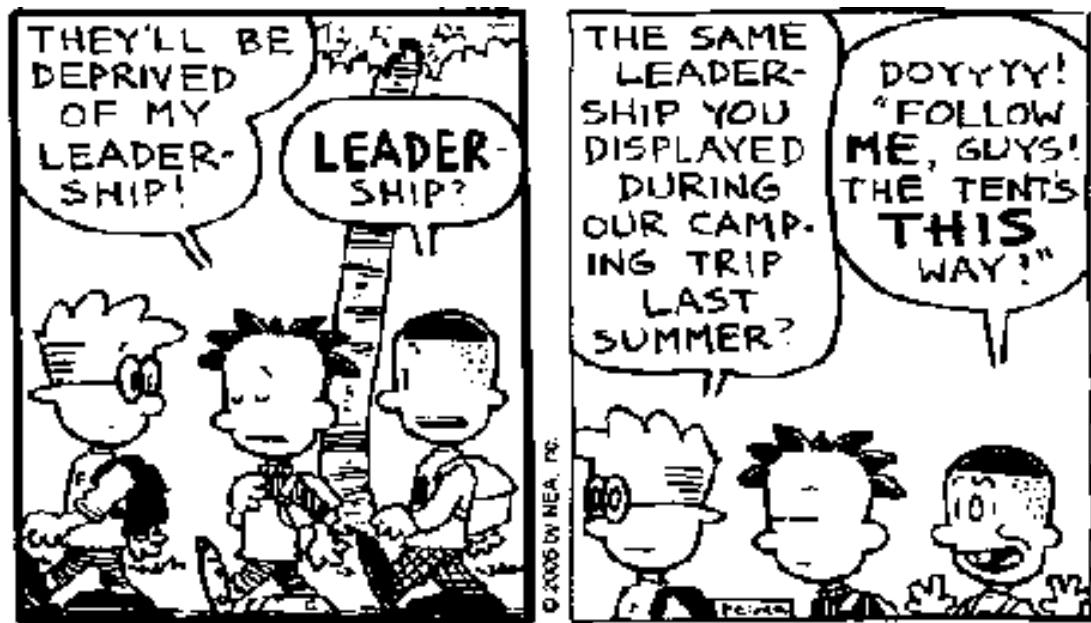
OR FAME.
FAME IS GOOD.

THERE'S NOTHING LIKE PUBLIC SERVICE.

CERTAINLY NOT IN THIS CASE.



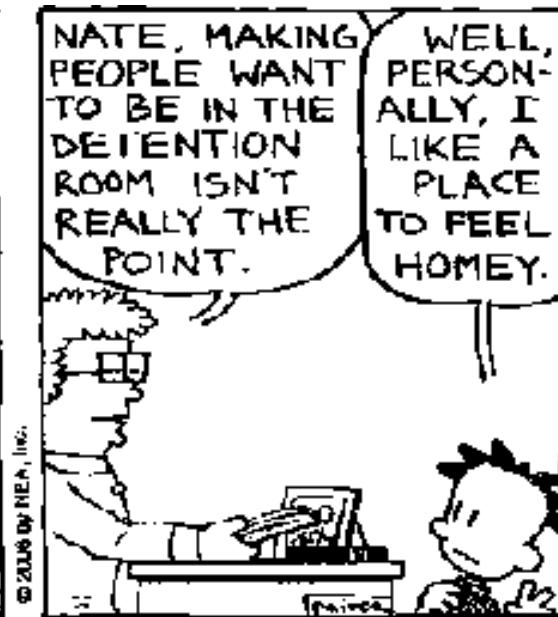
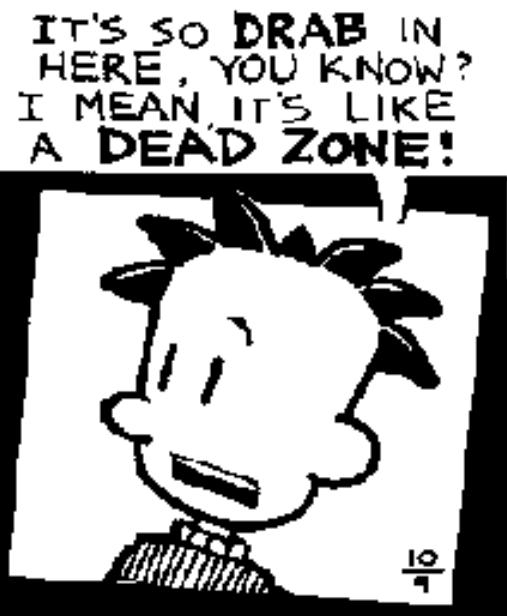




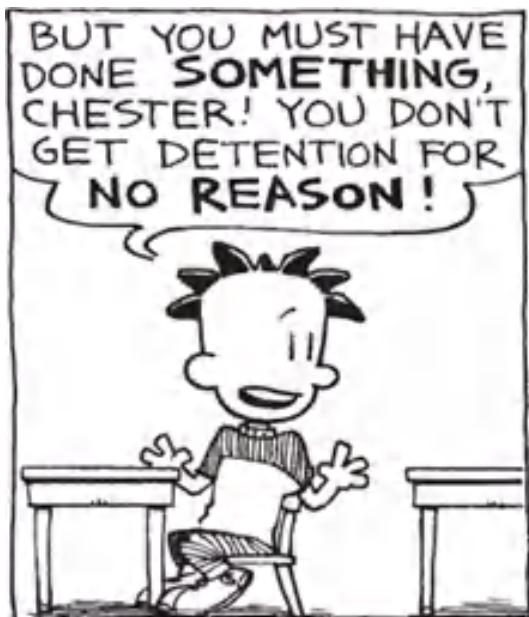
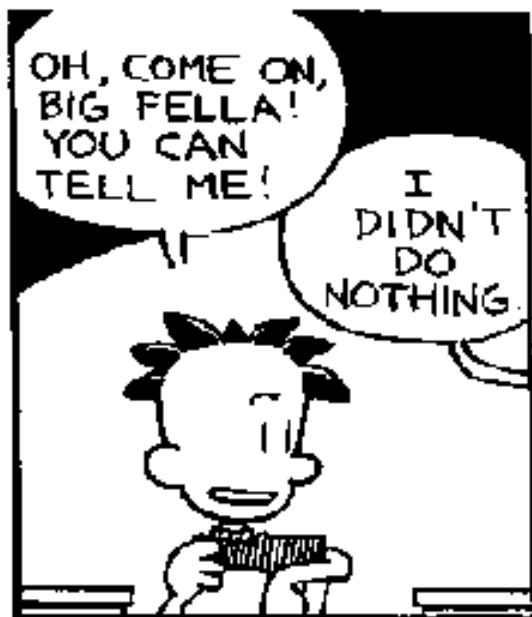


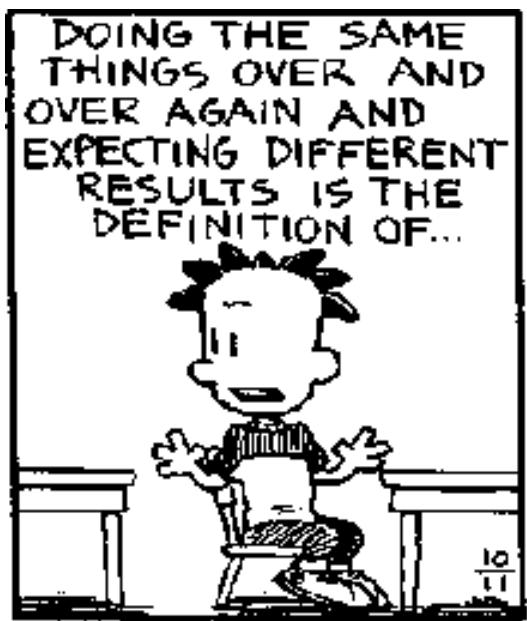
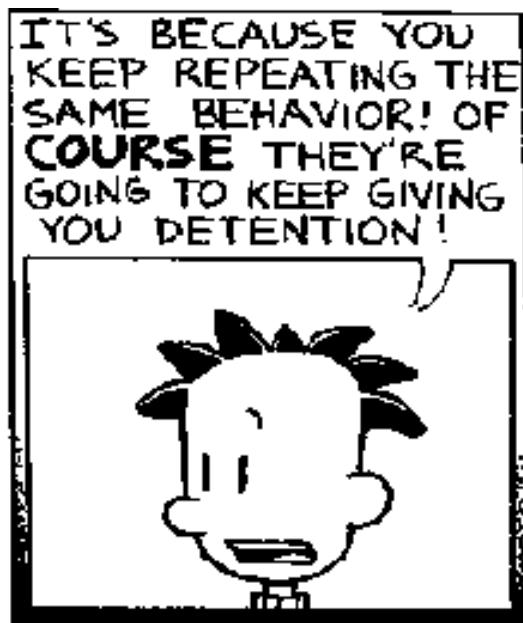
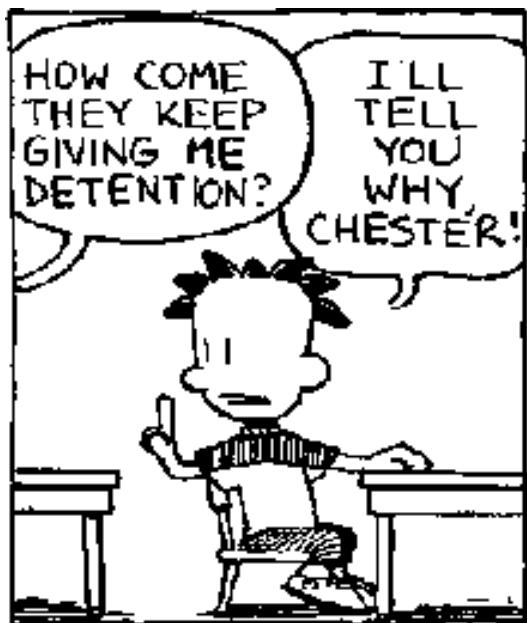


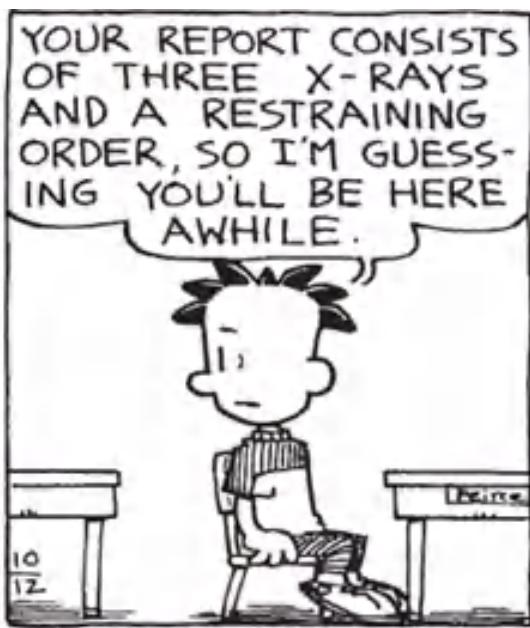
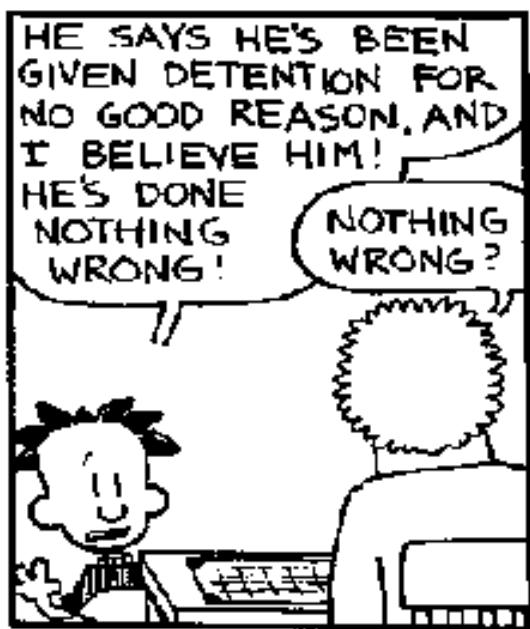
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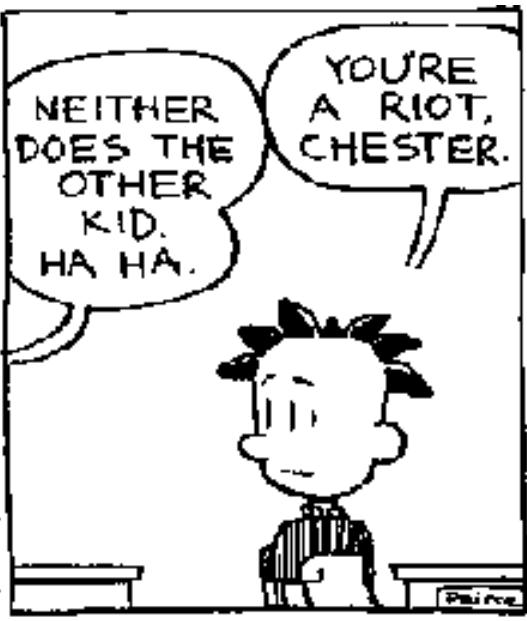


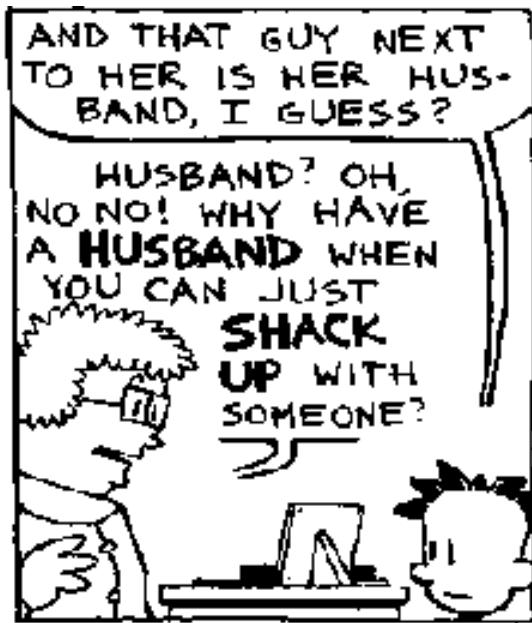
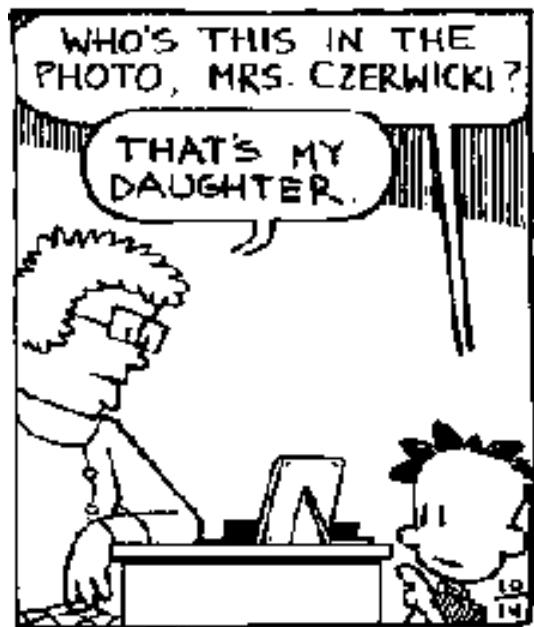
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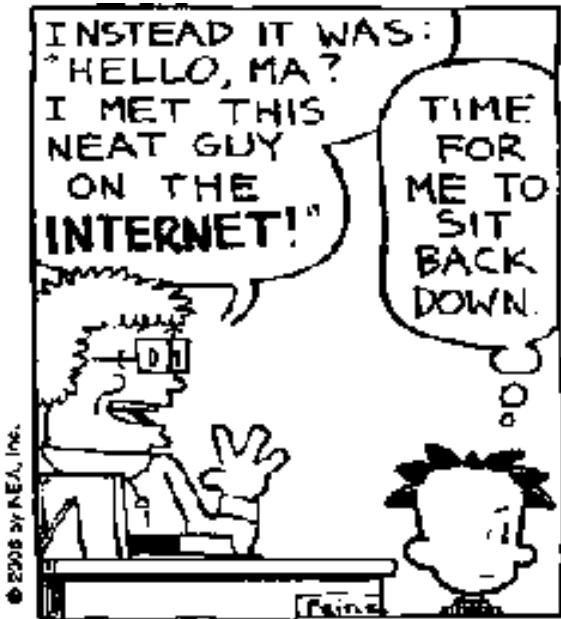








SHE COULD HAVE MARRIED KEVIN! BUT NO! KEVIN WASN'T EXCITING ENOUGH FOR HER!





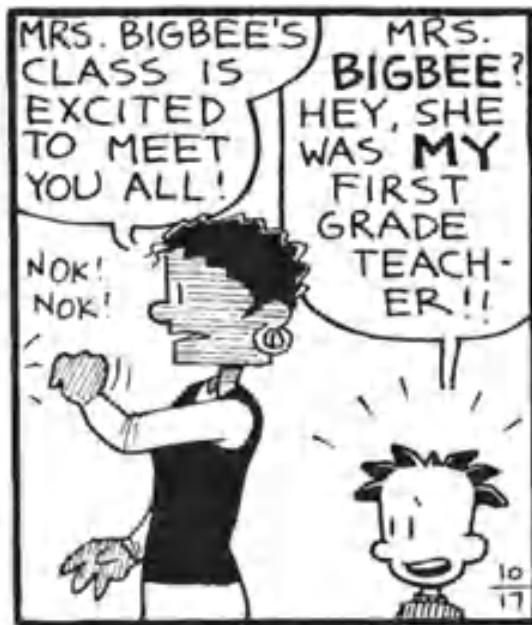
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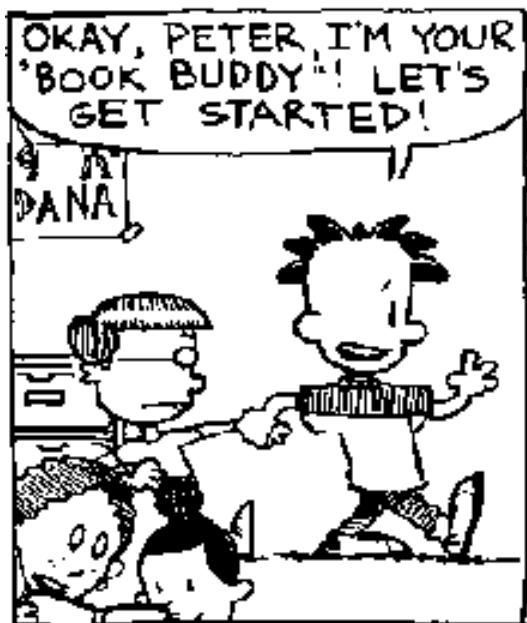
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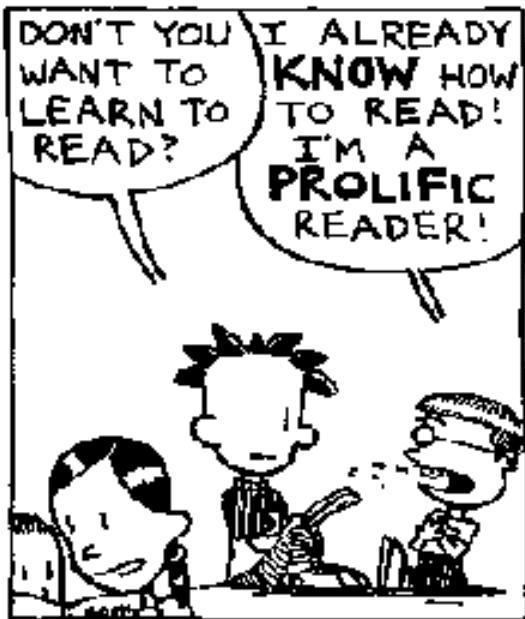
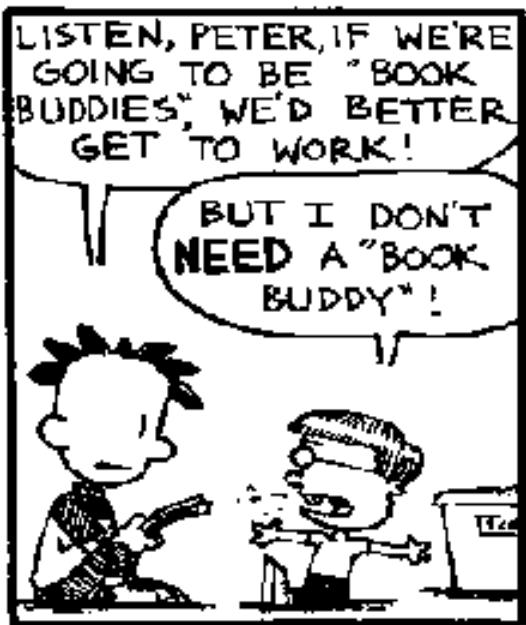








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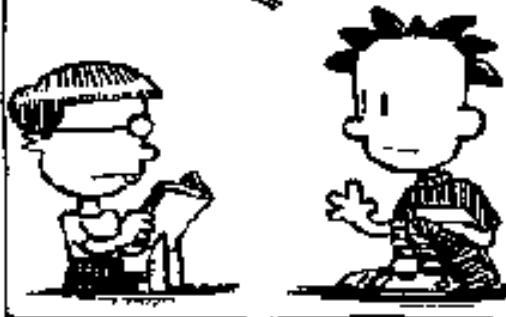


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Peirce

OKAY, PETER, YOU'RE
RIGHT. YOU'RE AL-
READY SUCH A GOOD
READER, YOU DON'T
REALLY **NEED** A
BOOK BUDDY.



...BUT I'LL TELL YOU
WHAT YOU DO NEED:
**A LITERARY
ADVISOR!**

LITERARY
ADVISOR?



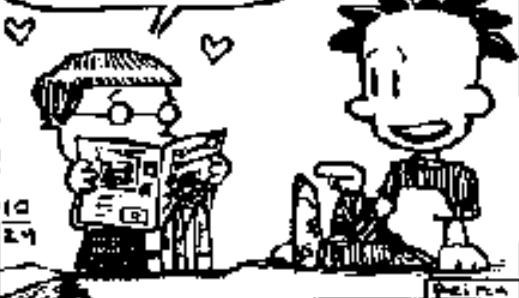
SOMEONE TO EXPAND
YOUR HORIZONS! SOME-
ONE TO SHOW YOU
THERE'S MORE TO
LITERATURE THAN
DUSTY OLD NOVELS!



FIVE SECONDS LATER...

SHE'S CALLED
"FEMME FATALITY"!

COLOR ME
SHMITTEN.

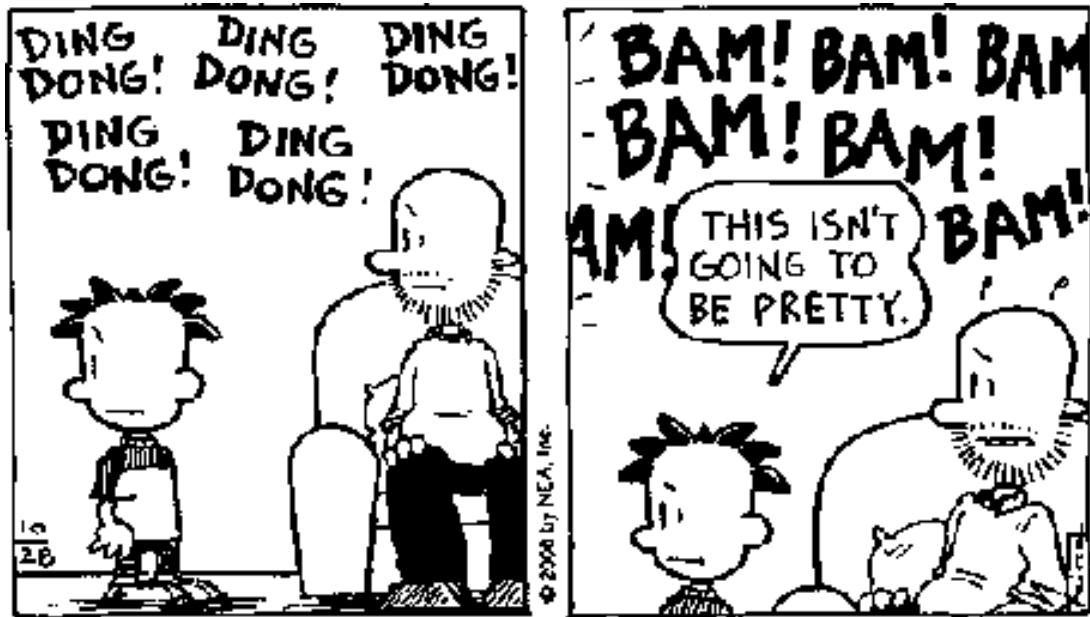


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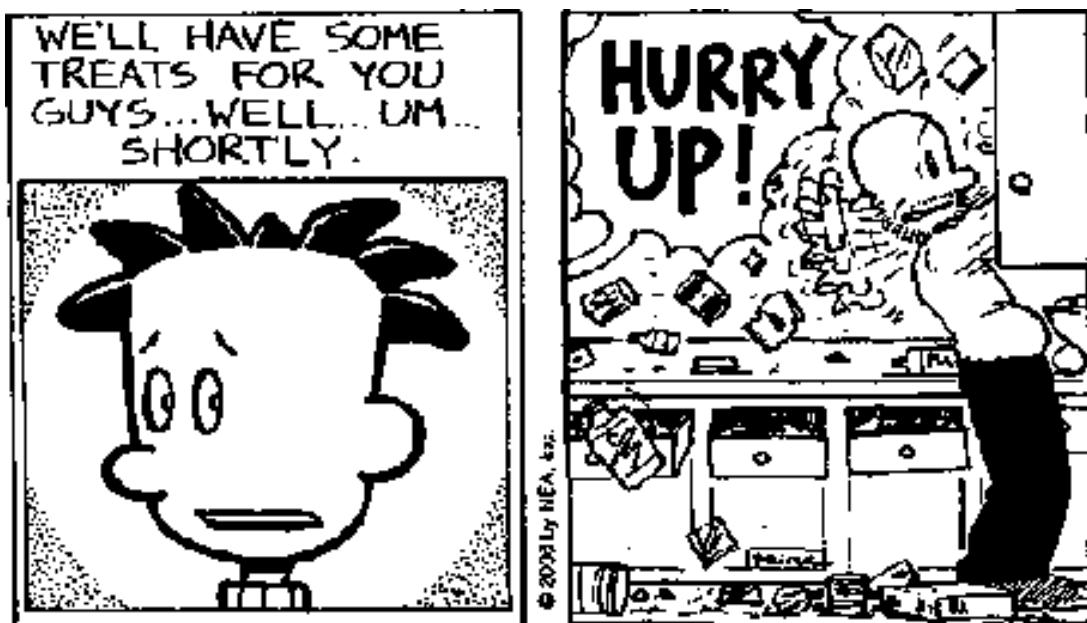








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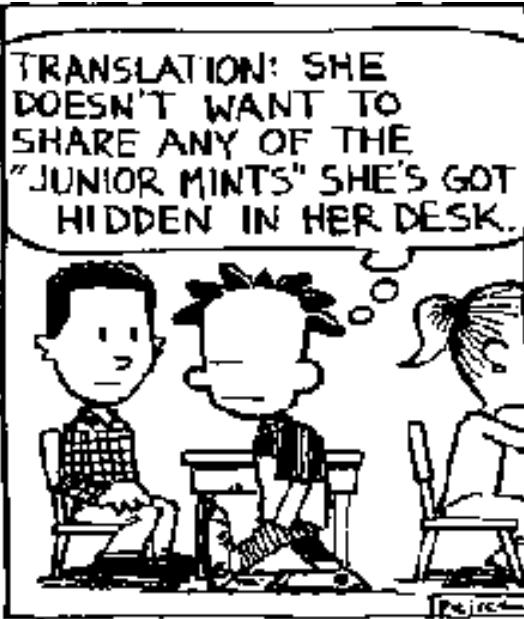
Peine



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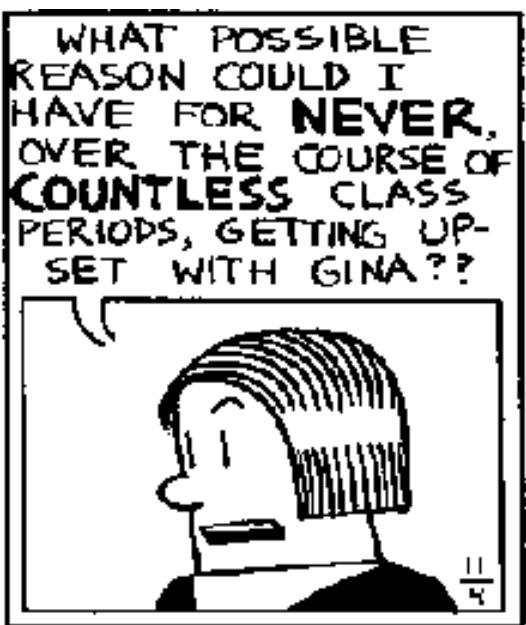


YEAH! BACK IN
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL,
WE GOT CANDY IF OUR
BEHAVIOR WAS GOOD,
OR IF WE DID WELL ON
A TEST, OR...





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ACCORDING TO THIS ARTICLE, WOMEN ARE ATTRACTED TO "BAD BOYS"!



THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT A REBEL THAT THE LADIES FIND IRRESISTIBLE! HMMM!



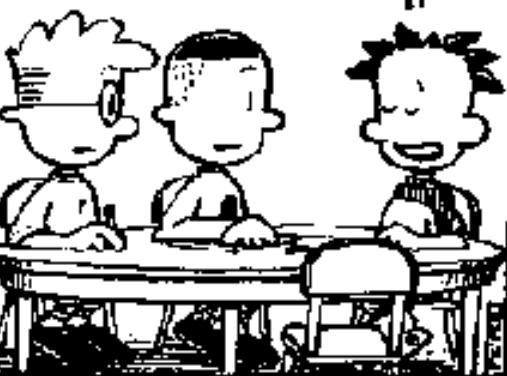
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GENTS, I DO BELIEVE I'M GETTING ANOTHER BRILLIANT IDEA!



"ANOTHER"?

YUP! THE HITS JUST KEEP ON COMIN'



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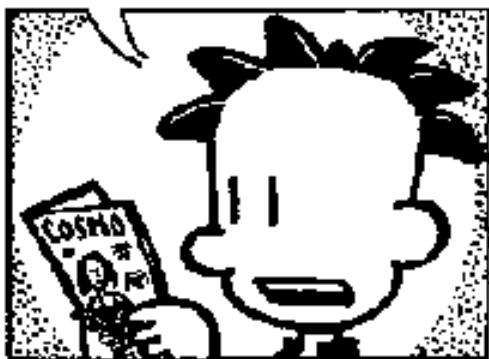


I GOT THE IDEA FROM THAT ARTICLE I READ ABOUT WOMEN BEING ATTRACTED TO REBELS!





"FOR A MULTITUDE OF REASONS, WOMEN ARE OFTEN ATTRACTED TO "BAD BOYS"— MEN WHO SIMPLY AREN'T GOOD FOR THEM."

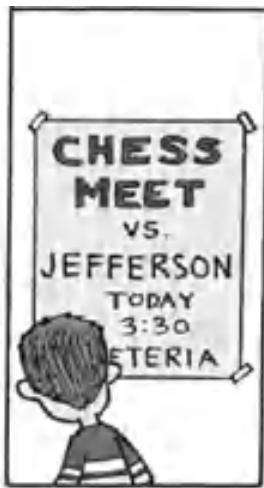








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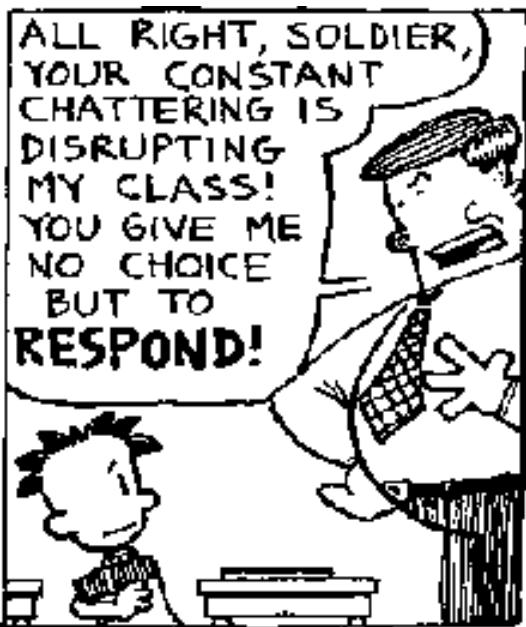






YOU REMIND ME OF A KID I COACHED AT SOCCER CAMP LAST YEAR! YOU'RE JUST LIKE HIM: A SPIKY-HAIRED CHATTERBOX!









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I NOTICE A FEW OF
YOU SCHOLARS ARE
TRYING TO GET
EXCUSED FROM
CLASS BECAUSE
YOU'RE
"SICK!"



WELL, YOU DON'T EVEN
KNOW WHAT SICK **IS**,
SOLDIERS! YOU HAVE
NO EARTHLY **IDEA!**



YOU WANT TO TALK
SICK? TRY EATING
A JAR OF RANCID
MAYONNAISE AND
THEN WATCHING
"THE EXORCIST"!



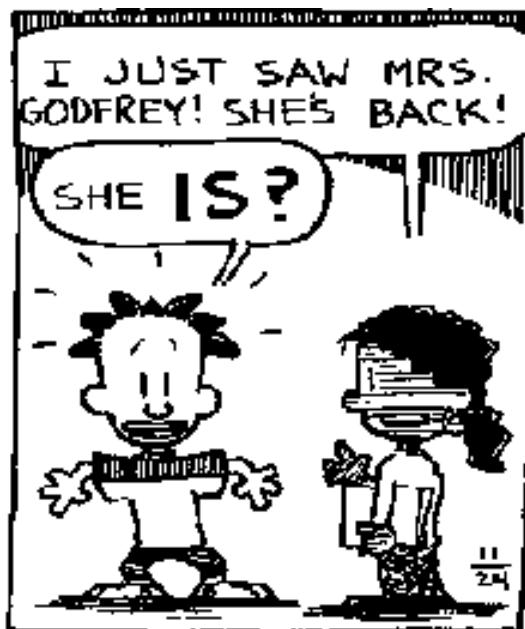
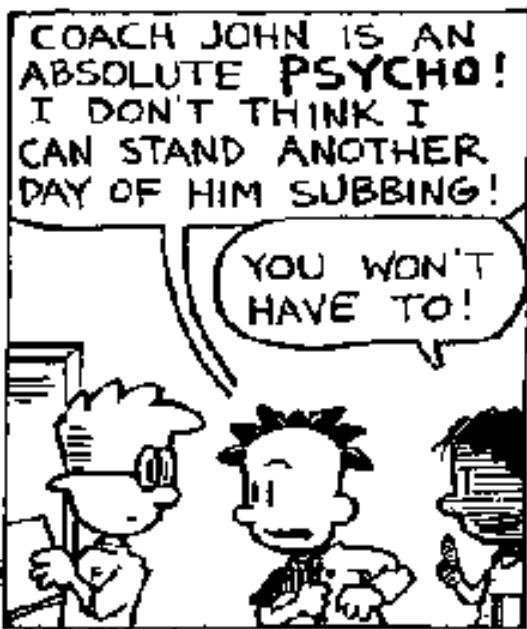
NOW I
REALLY
DO NEED
TO BE
EXCUSED.

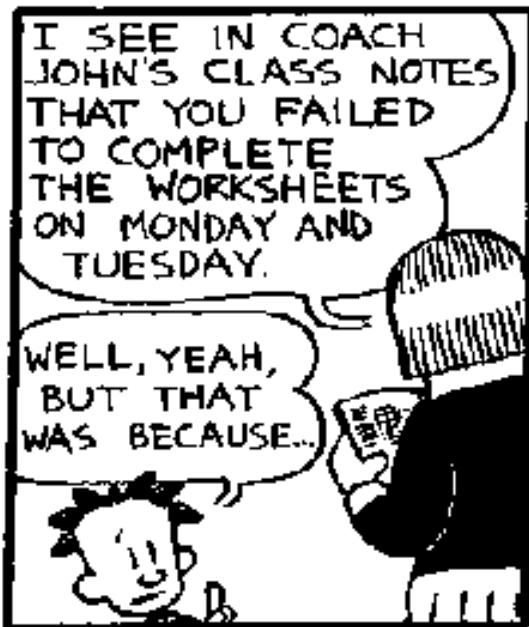
BUT ENOUGH
"PLEDGE
WEEK"
STORIES...



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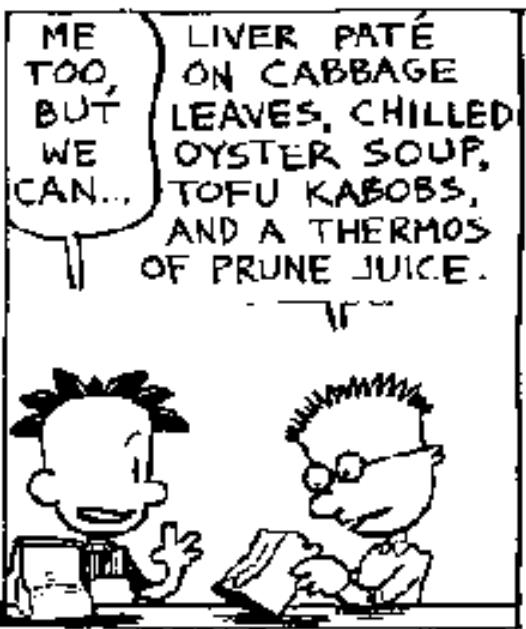


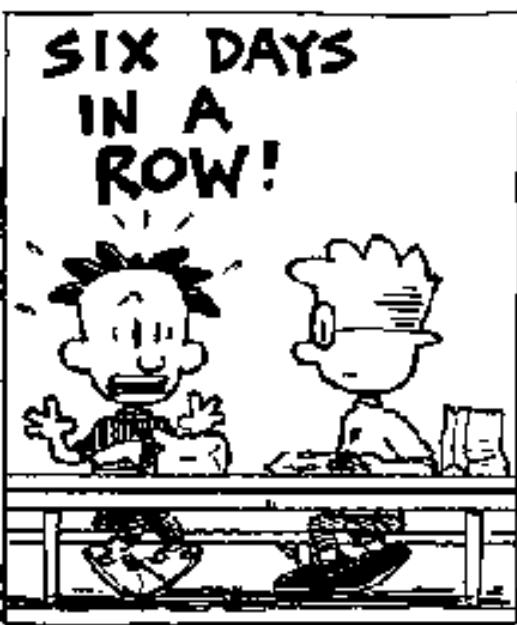
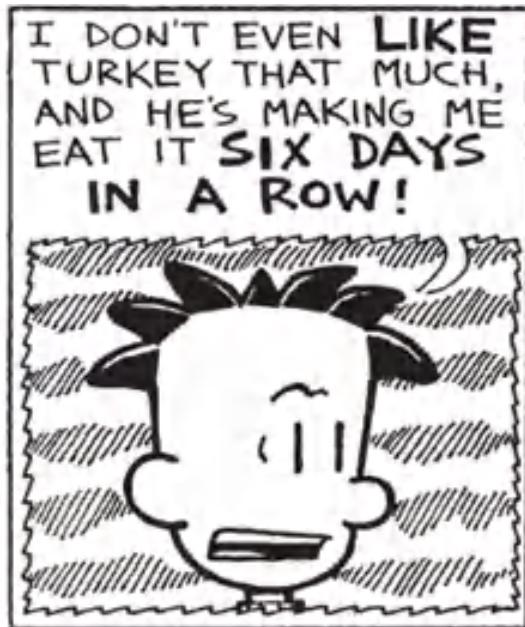
SKWEEEEEE!!



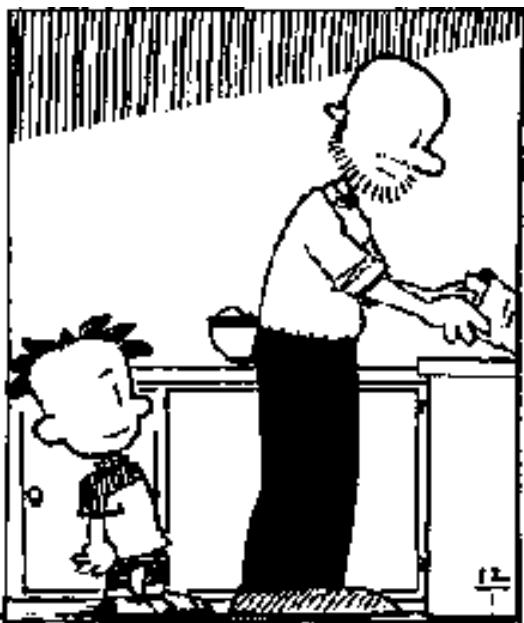
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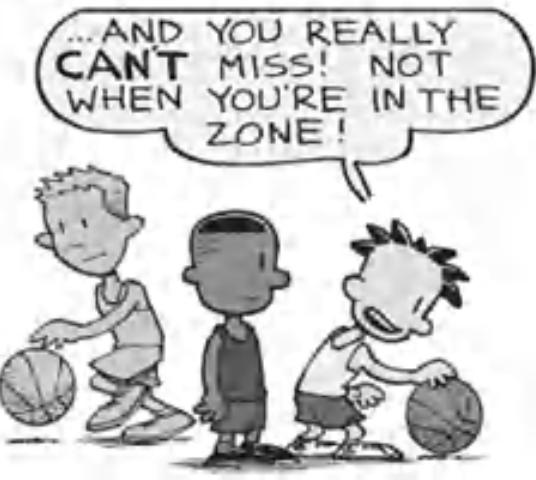








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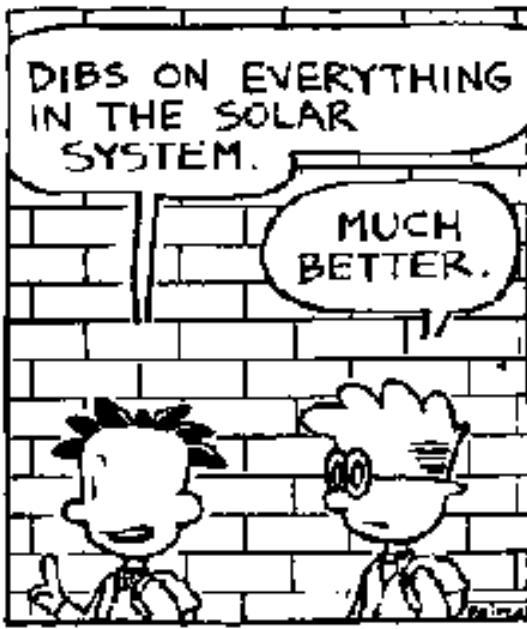




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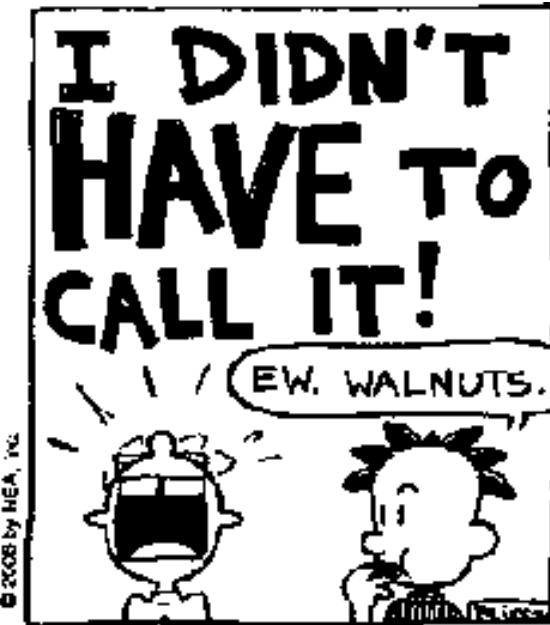
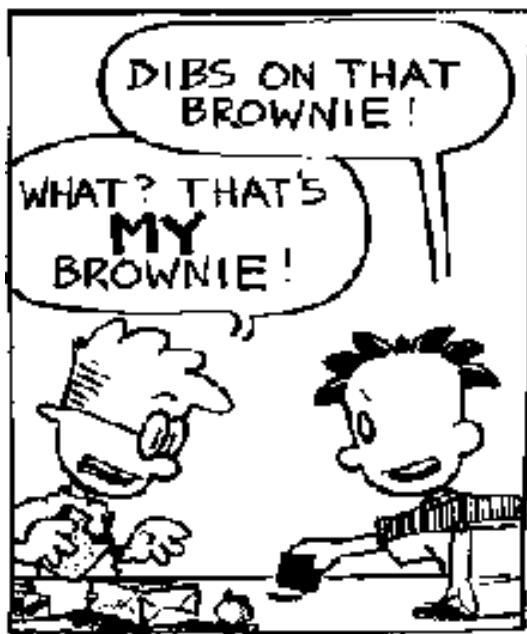
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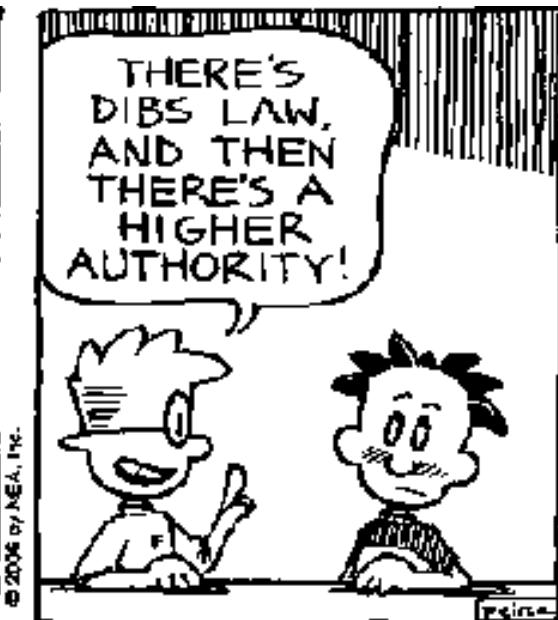
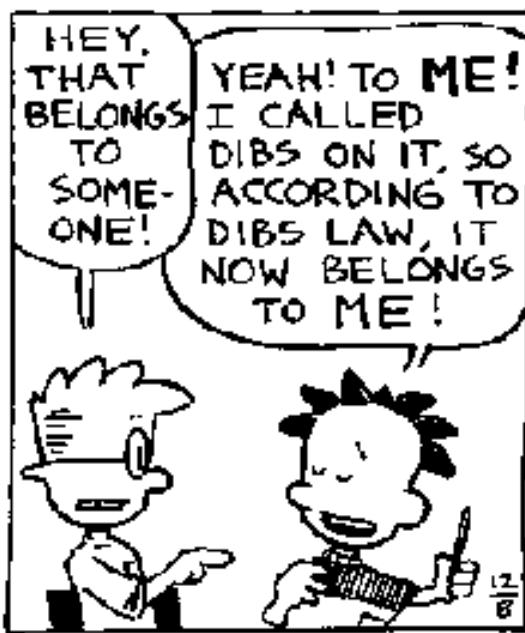




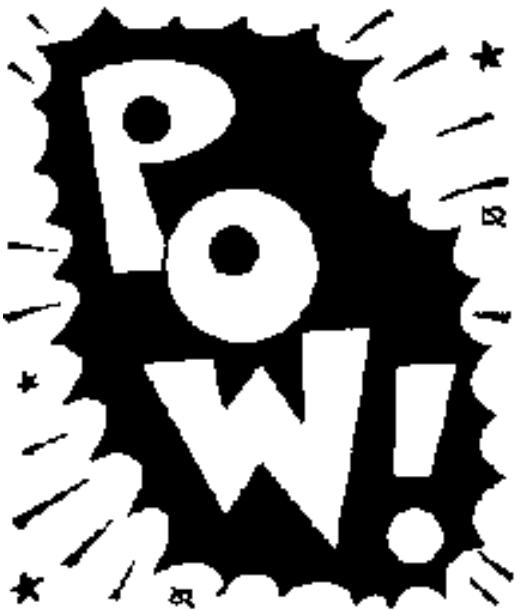
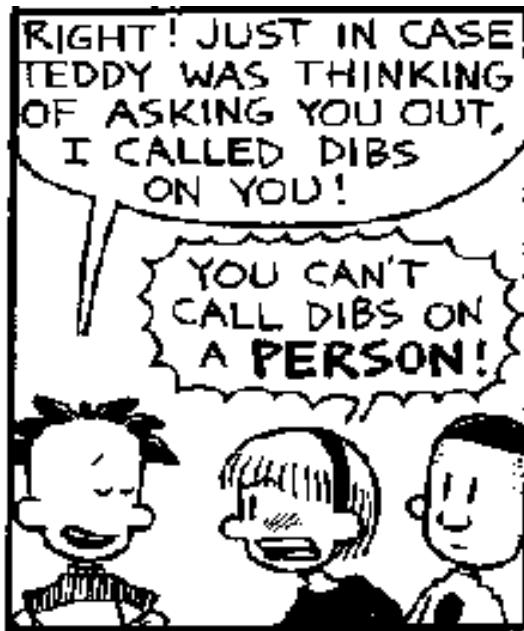
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Pearce





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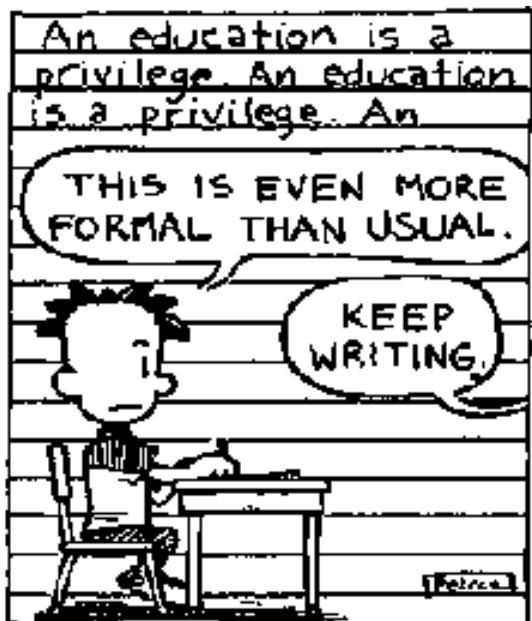
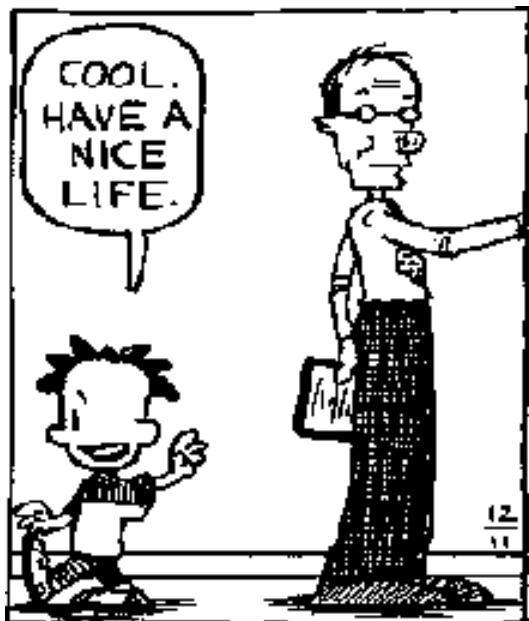
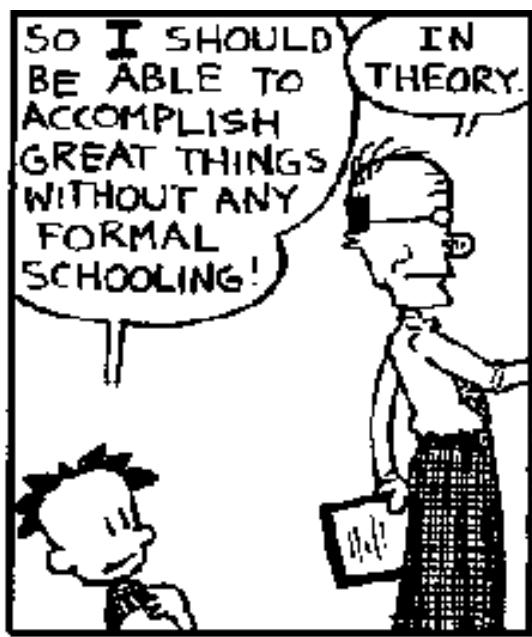
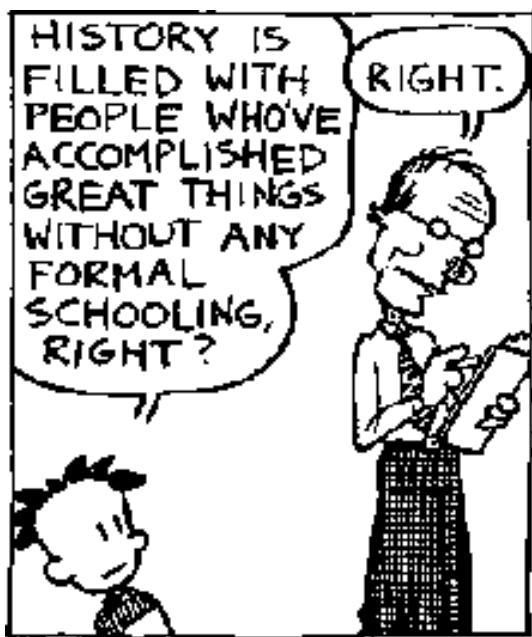


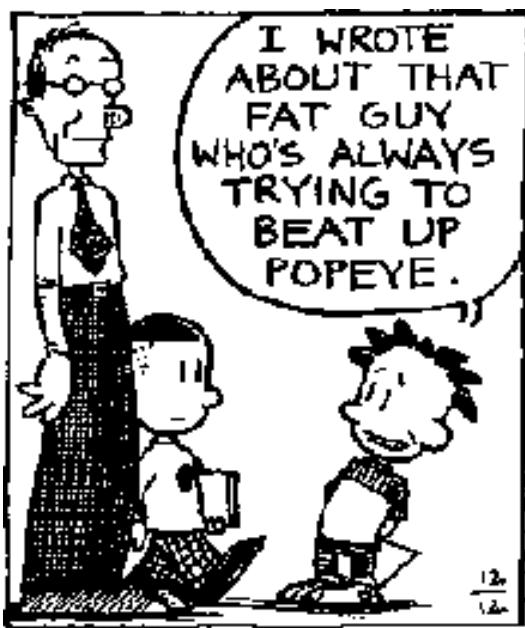
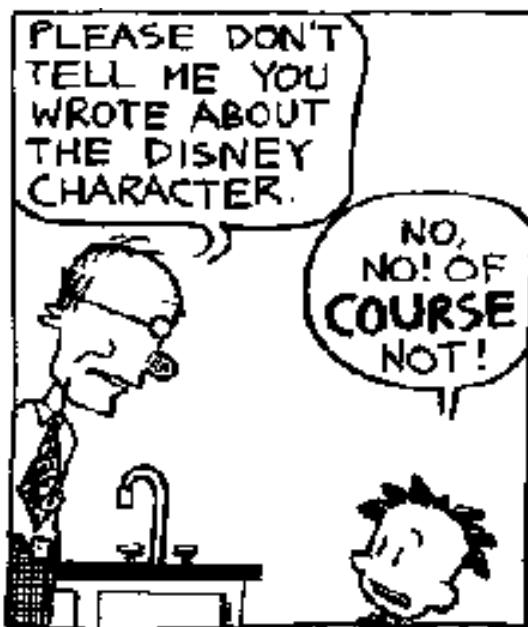


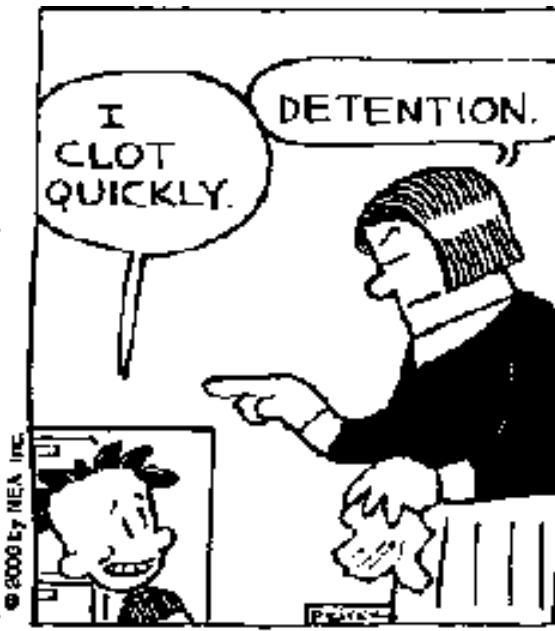
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BIG
NATE

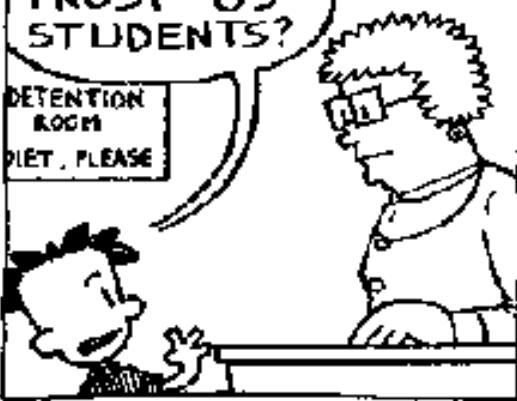






MRS. CZERWICKI,
WHAT SORT OF MES-
SAGE ARE TEACHERS
SENDING WHEN
THEY DON'T
TRUST US
STUDENTS?

DETENTION
ROOM
DIET, PLEASE



I ASKED TO BE EX-
CUSED FROM SOCIAL
STUDIES BECAUSE I
HAD A BLOODY NOSE,
AND MRS. GODFREY
DIDN'T BELIEVE ME!



AND DID YOU
HAVE A BLOODY
NOSE?

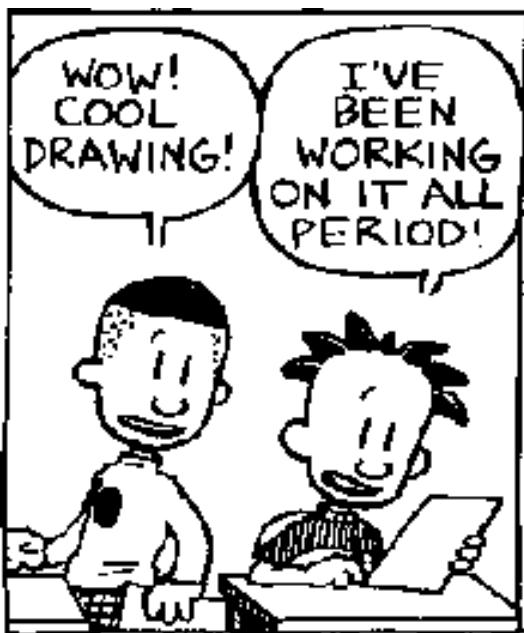
NO, I WAS
JUST TRYING
TO GET OUT
OF CLASS.



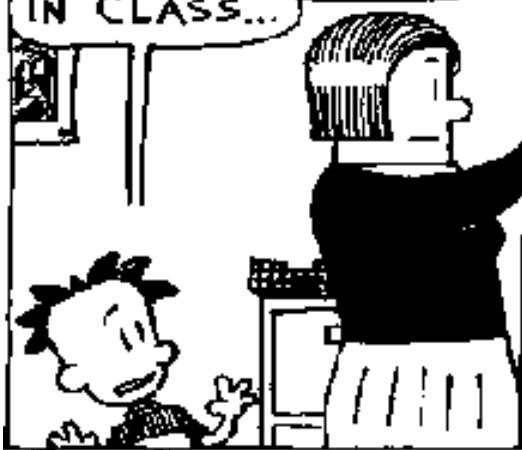
SIT DOWN,
CHILD.
BUT THE
POINT IS,
WHERE
IS THE
TRUST?



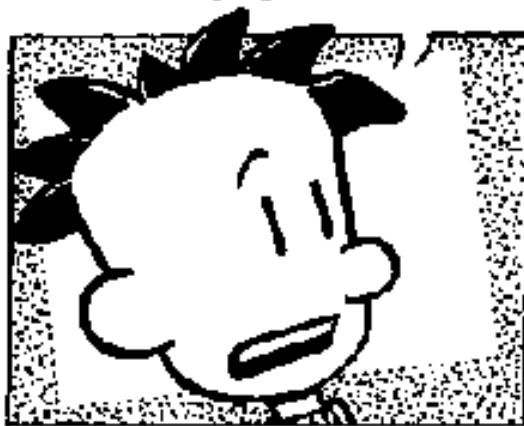
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HERE'S WHAT I DON'T GET, MRS. GODFREY: HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO PAY ATTENTION IN CLASS...



... WHEN YOU KEEP SEND-
ING ME TO THE PRINCI-
PAL'S OFFICE DURING
CLASS? YOU'RE NOT
MAKING SENSE!



I'M A TEACHER.
I DON'T HAVE TO
MAKE SENSE.



ODDLY ENOUGH,
EVERYTHING HAS
JUST BECOME
CRYSTAL CLEAR.

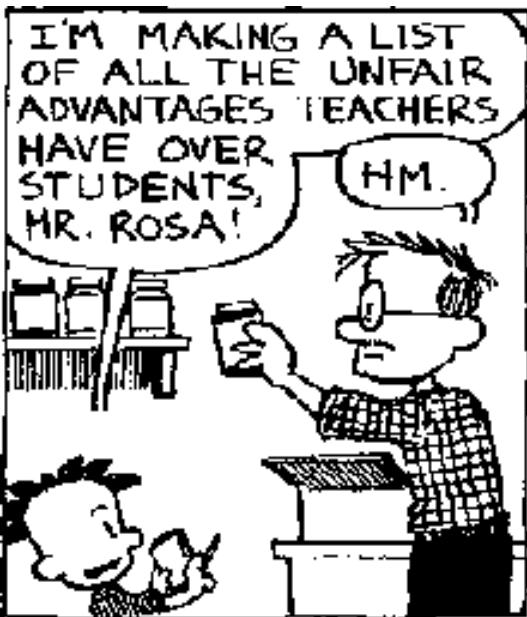




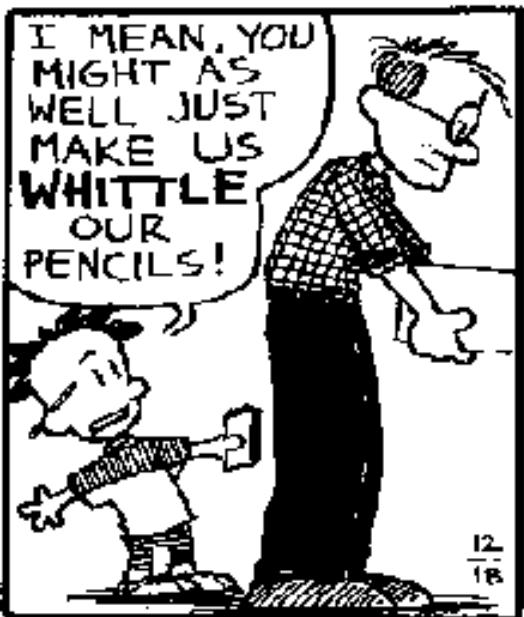
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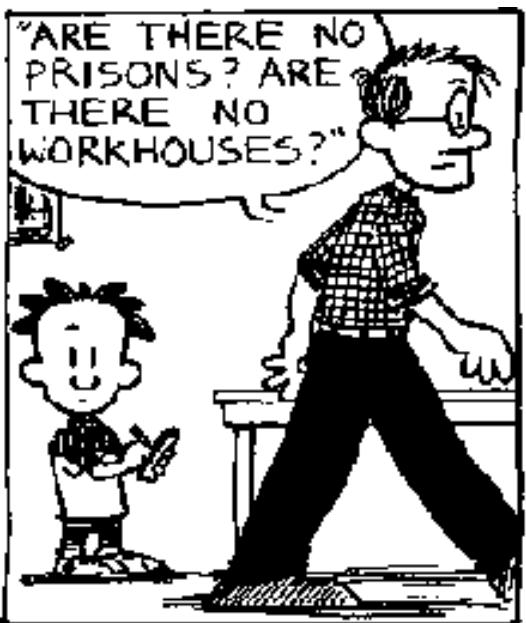
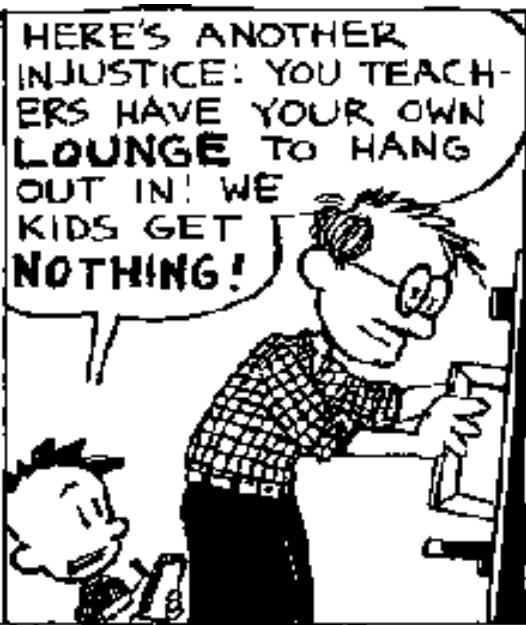
6/19
NATE



ITEM ONE: YOU GET
TO USE AN ELECTRIC
PENCIL SHARPENER
WHILE WE USE THIS
CRANK MODEL!
THIS THING IS A
TOTAL **DINOSAUR!**



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12
19

Prime

HERE'S **ANOTHER** THING
THAT'S NOT FAIR: WE
STUDENTS GET **NOTHING**
FOR BEING HERE!
YOU **TEACHERS**
GET **PAID!**

"PAID."

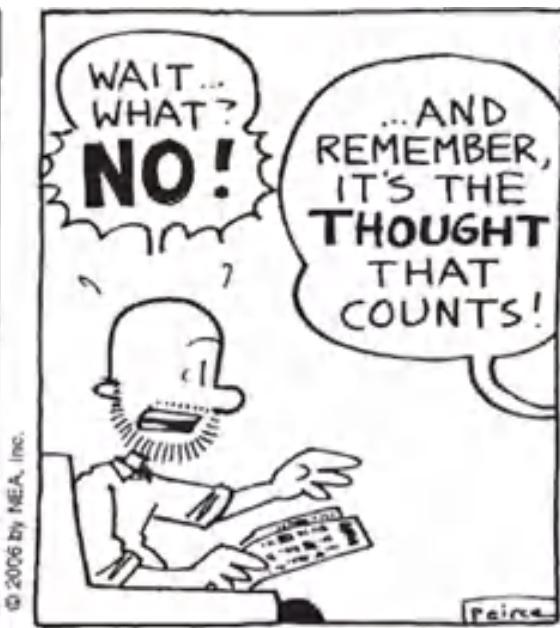
HEH HEH...
WE GET
"PAID."
HEH HA HA.

HA HA HA HA HA HA
WE'RE **ROLLING**
IN IT!
HA HA HA
HA HA HA
HA HA

HA HA HA HA HA HA
I'M RICH!
HA HA HA
THEY ALL
ACT THIS
WAY WHEN
ANYONE
MENTIONS
MONEY.

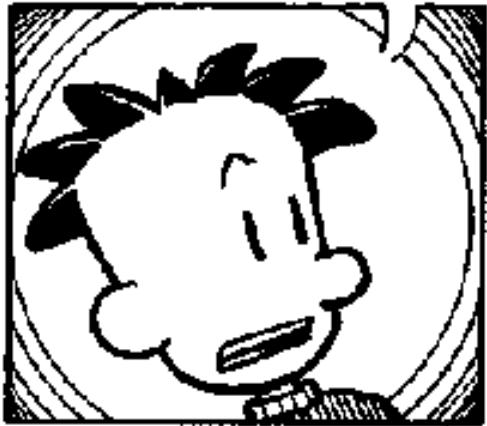
12
2008

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DOGS LIVE ABOUT TWELVE YEARS! THAT HARDLY BRINGS YOU TO THE END OF YOUR...





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Peanuts

'Twas the night before Christmas
When all through the house,
Not a creature was stirring





b19
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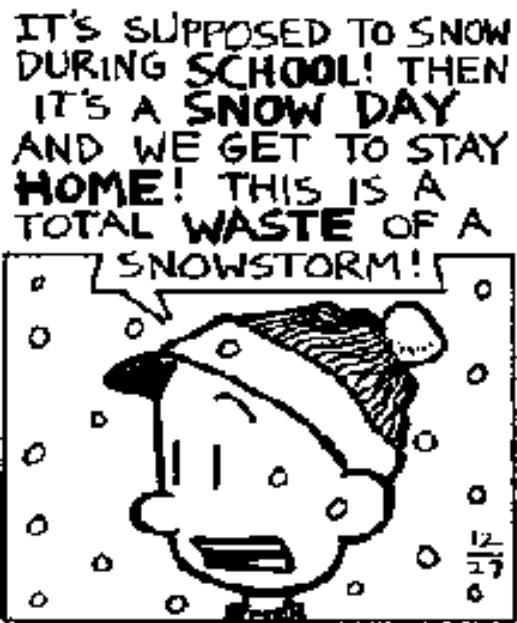


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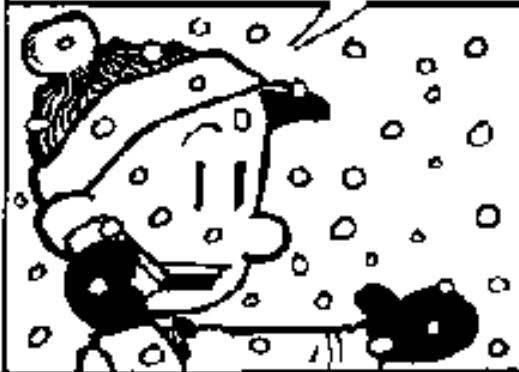




HI, IS THIS CHIEF
METEOROLOGIST WINK
SUMMERS?... WINK!
NATE WRIGHT, HERE!



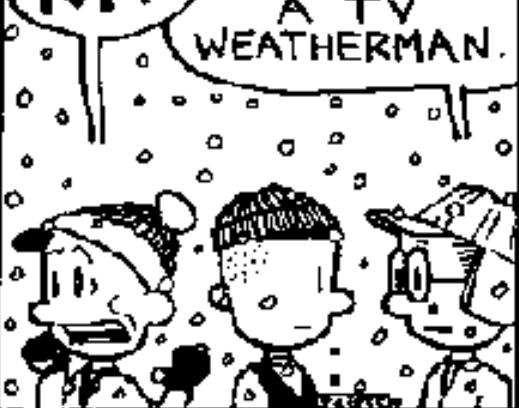
LISTEN, WINK, WHAT'S
UP WITH THIS **SNOW**?
WE DON'T NEED THIS
NOW, WE NEED IT
NEXT WEEK! WHEN
WE'RE BACK IN **SCHOOL**!



WHAT?... YOU DON'T
CONTROL THE WEATH-
ER? OH, **REALLY**?
GEE, I WASN'T
AWARE OF THAT!



OH, DID
I SOUND
SARCASTIC? I NEVER
THOUGHT
SOR- I'D FEEL
RY! SORRY FOR
A TV
WEATHERMAN.



LISTEN, WINK, SINCE I'VE GOT YOU ON THE PHONE, LET ME GIVE YOU SOME FEEDBACK ON LAST NIGHT'S FORECAST.



THAT BLUE BLAZER WASN'T REALLY DOING YOU ANY FAVORS, DUDE. IT MADE YOU LOOK A LITTLE PUDGY.



THEN AGAIN, YOU ARE A LITTLE PUDGY, WINK. I MEAN, YOU REALLY PACKED ON THE POUNDS AFTER THAT BABE WHO DOES THE MOVIE REVIEWS DUMPED YOU.



YOU'RE BETTER OFF WITHOUT HER, MAN. SHE ONLY GAVE ONE STAR TO "SNAKES ON A PLANE"!



HANG UP.
WINK!

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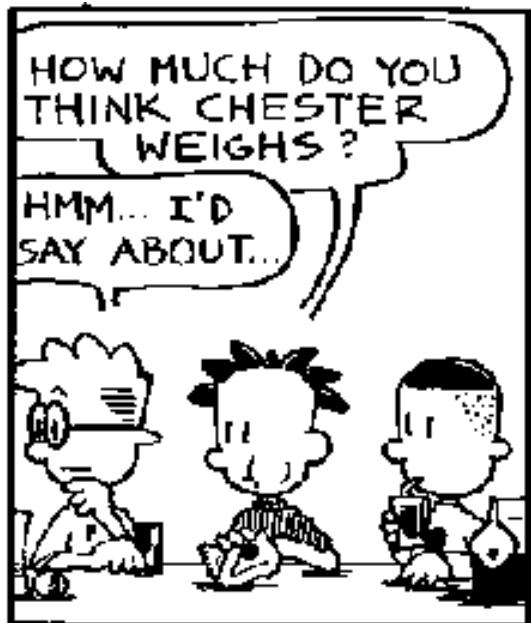




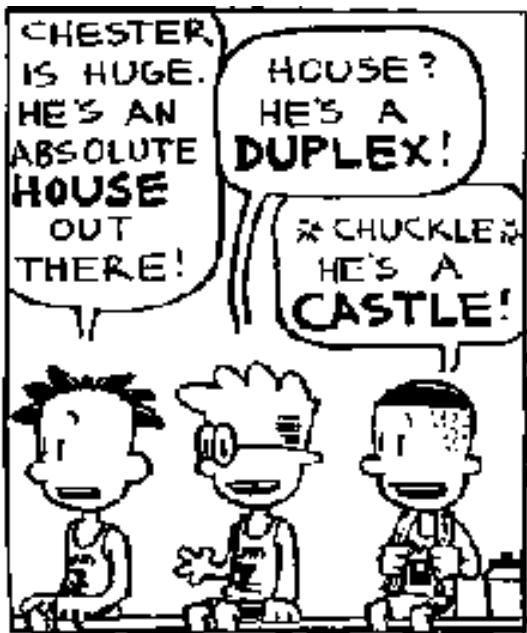


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NATE



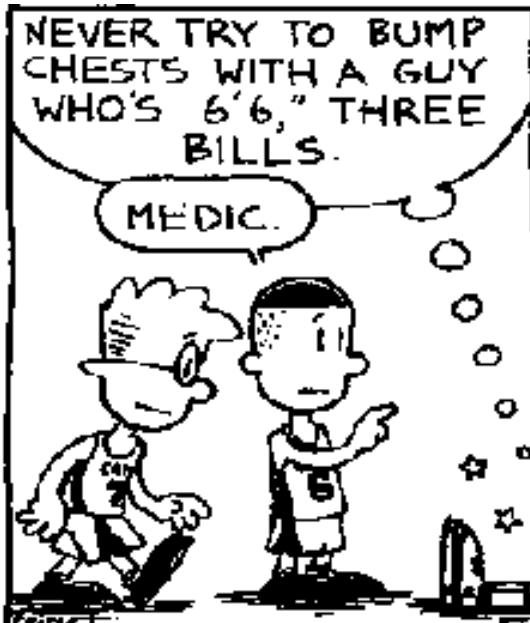


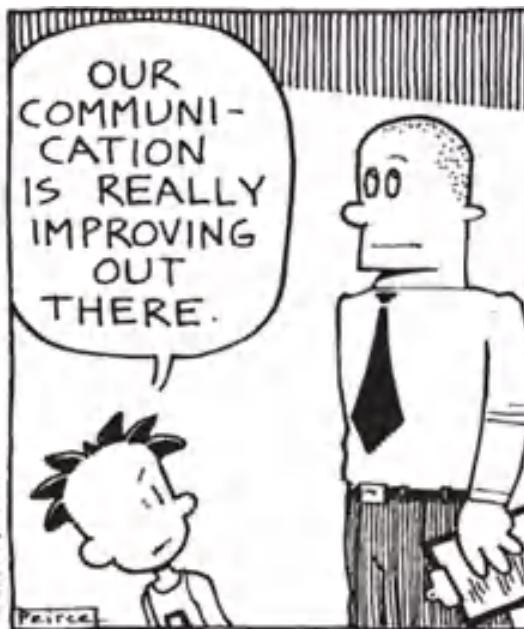
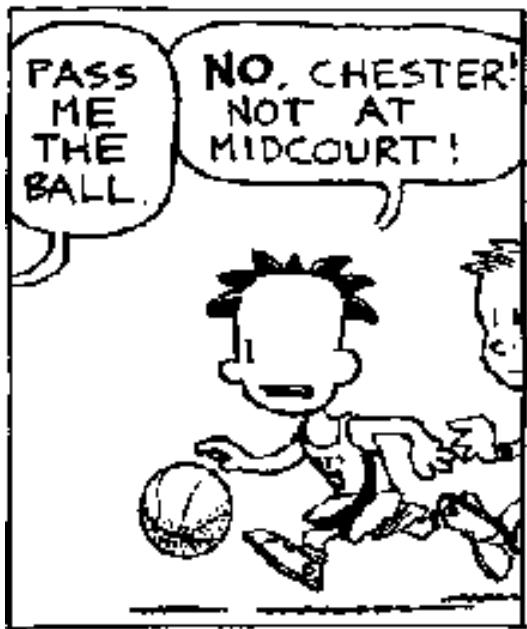






BOOMP!



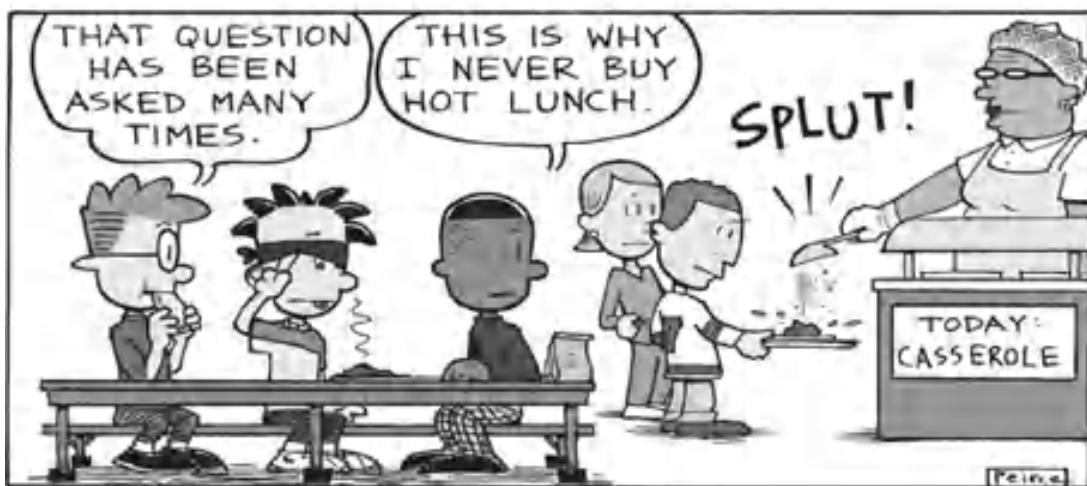


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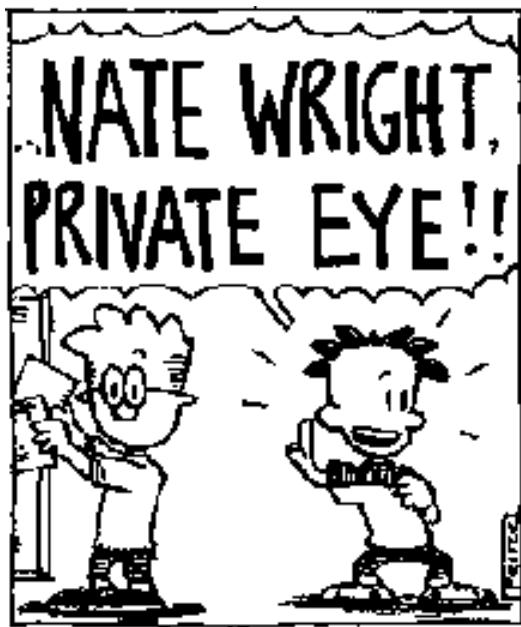
PEANUTS



→



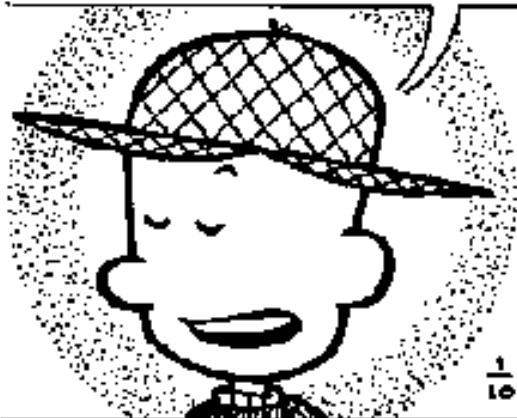
DIG
NATE







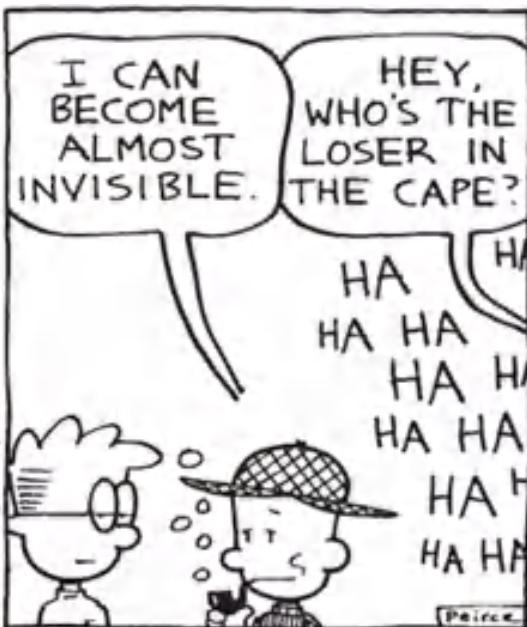
LIKE ALL GREAT
DETECTIVES, I AM A
CHAMELEON! I CAN
CHANGE MY IDENTITY
AT WILL!



1
10

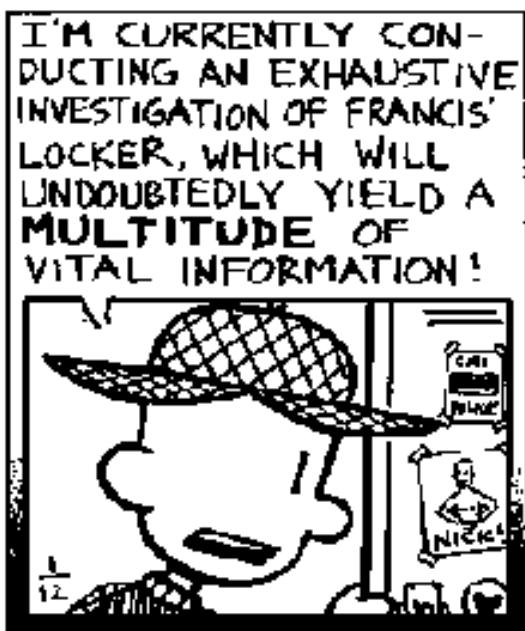


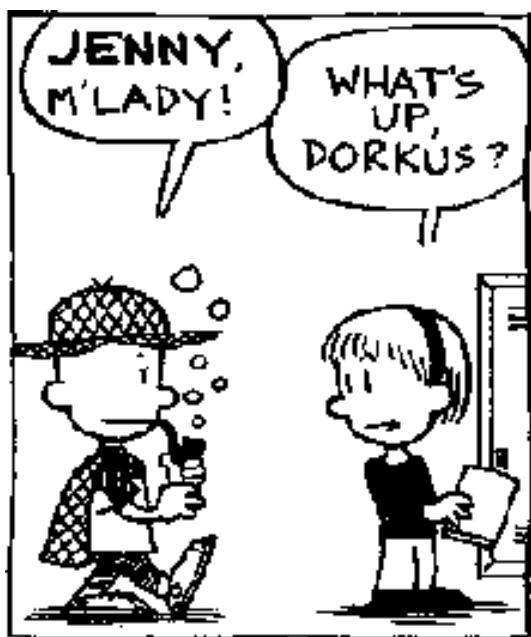
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Timeline





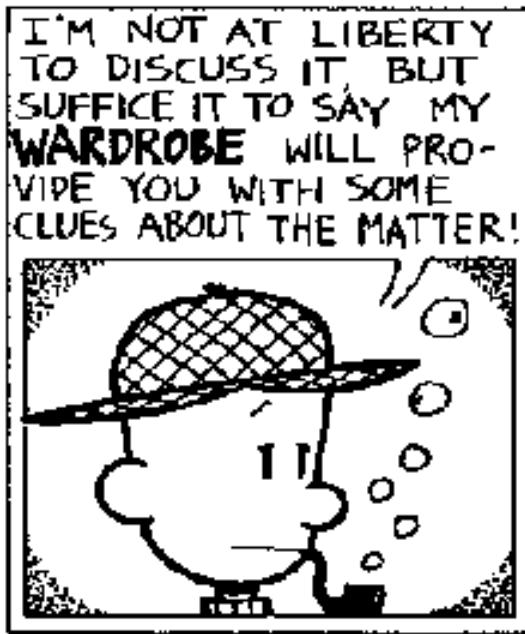




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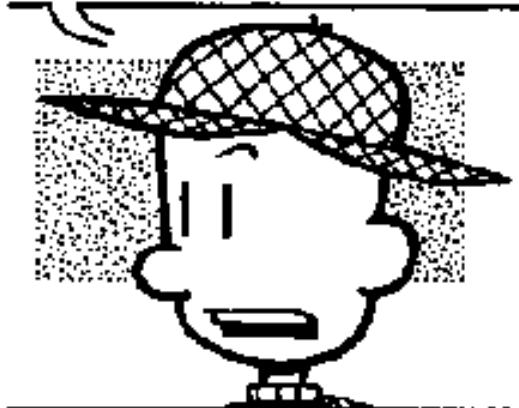


b19
NATE

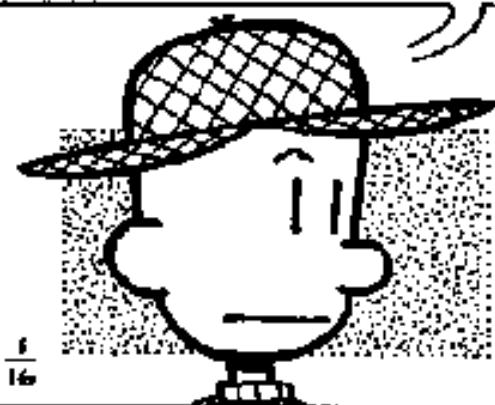




MOREOVER, WHAT KIND OF A PERSON STEALS MONEY FROM A KID? RIGHT OUT OF HIS LOCKER?

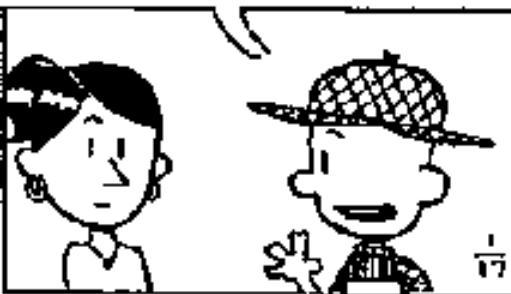


CLEARLY, I'M DEALING WITH A DERANGED INDIVIDUAL... A SICK MIND... A BORDERLINE PSYCHOPATH.





I'VE BEEN STAKING
OUT FRANCIS' LOCKER,
KNOWING FULL WELL
THAT WHOEVER
BURGLARIZED IT
THIS MORNING WOULD
RETURN TO THE SCENE
OF THE CRIME!



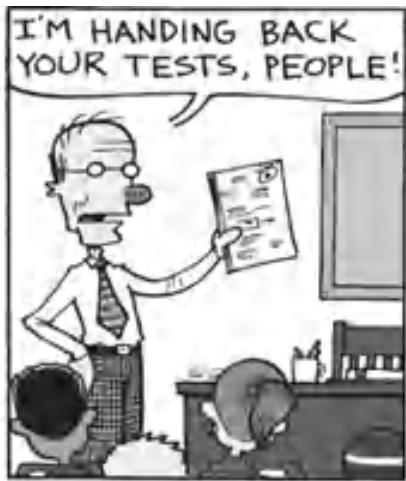


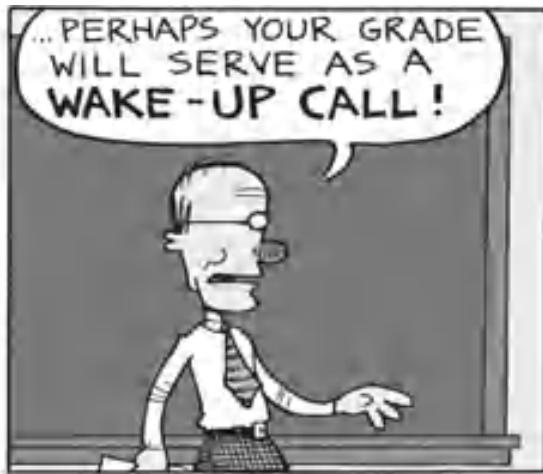


HOW DO WE KNOW
THIS IS REALLY **YOUR**
TWENTY DOLLAR BILL?
GIVE ME SOME PROOF
THAT THIS IS ACTUALLY
YOUR MONEY!





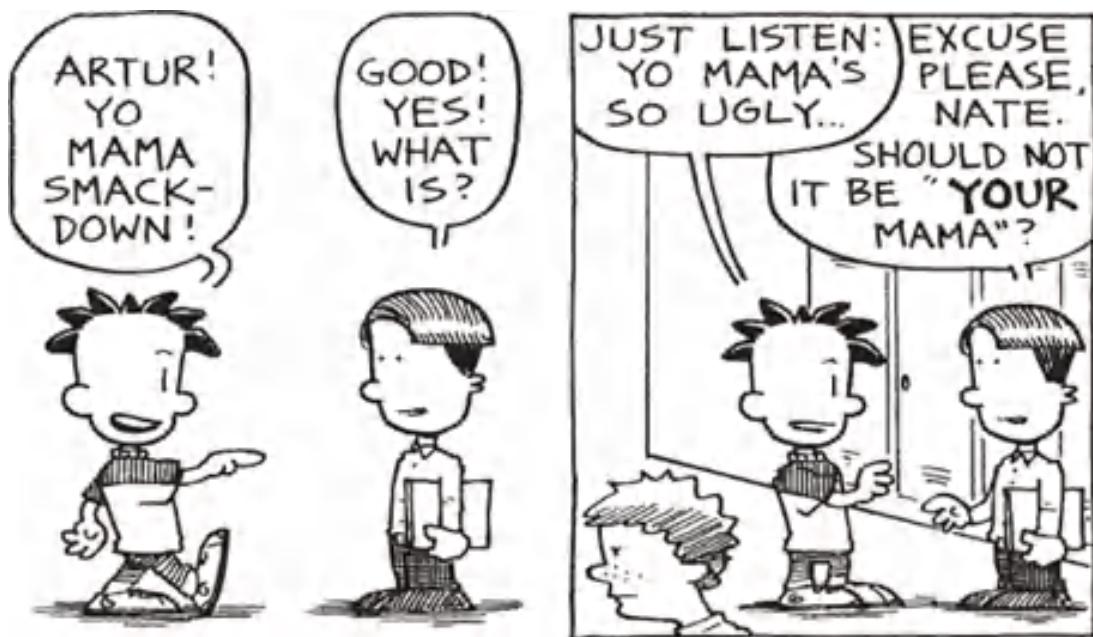


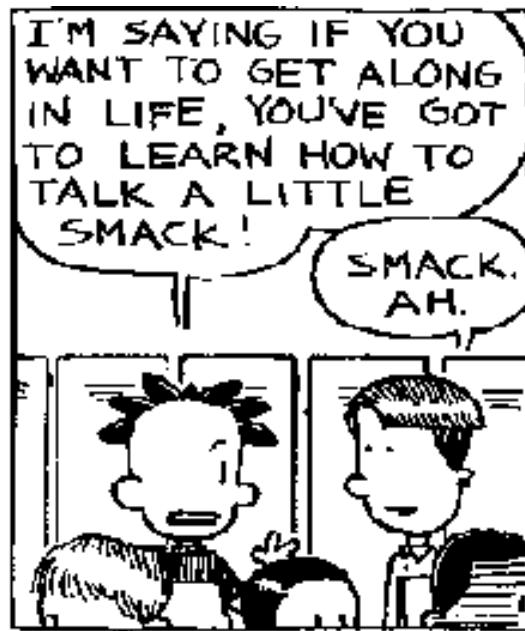
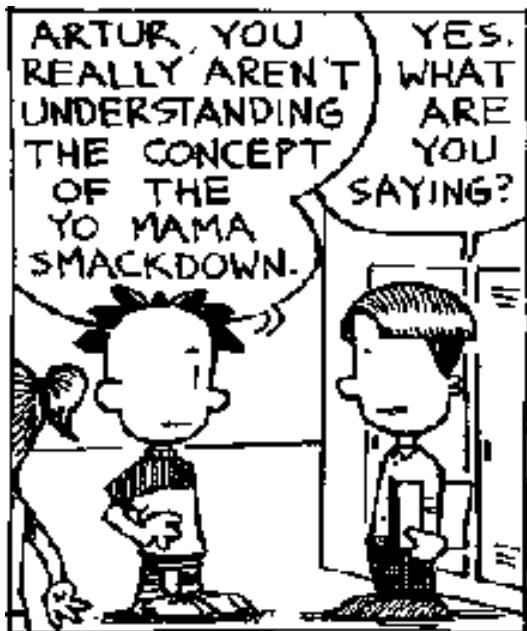


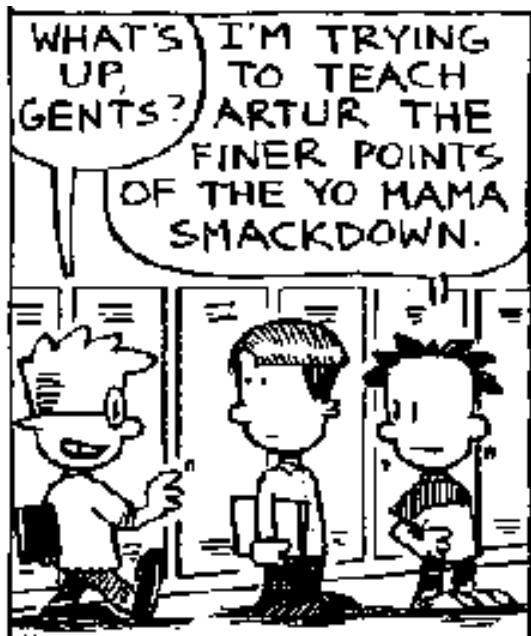
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I'LL THROW DOWN
SOME **KILLER** YO
MAMAS AT THE NEXT
PERSON TO COME
AROUND THE CORNER!





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→

MM HMM... YES, THAT
DOES SOUND LIKE
SOMETHING HE SHOULD
HAVE MENTIONED!



I WILL!... I CERTAINLY
WILL!... YES, YOU CAN
BE SURE OF THAT!
THANK YOU
FOR CALLING.



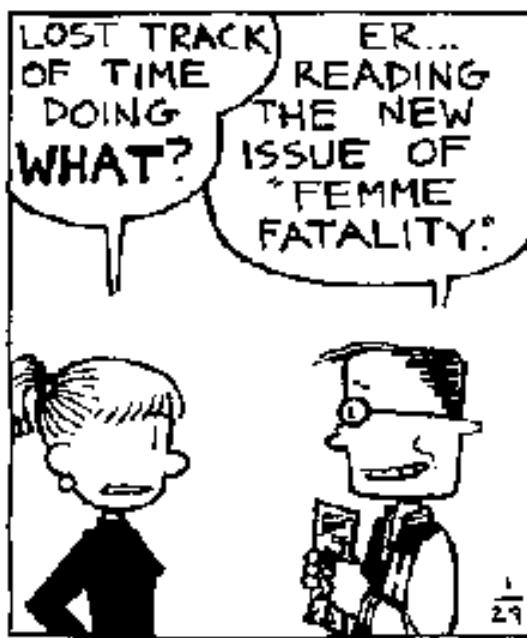
BOOP!

SHE WAS JUST ASKING ME
TO HELP CHAPERONE A FIELD
TRIP, BUT **HE** DOESN'T HAVE
TO KNOW THAT.

CAN I GET
YOU ANYTHING?



BIG
NATE



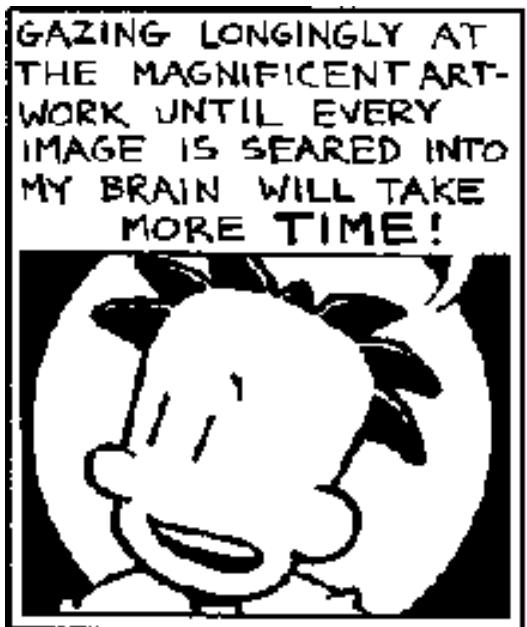


...AND BECAUSE THE AVERAGE TEMPERATURE IS OVER ONE HUNDRED DEGREES, SHE SPENDS THE ENTIRE STORY... *AHEM!* DRESSED ACCORDINGLY!



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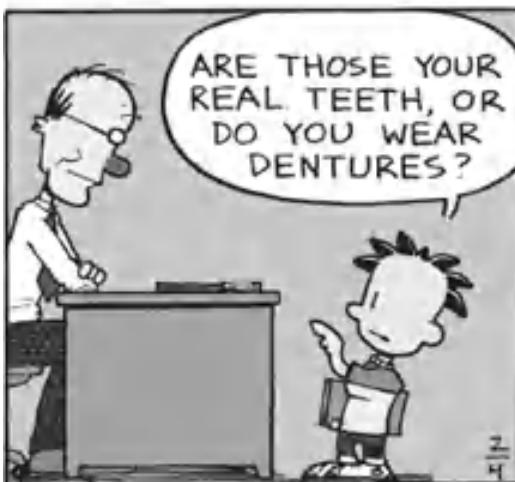






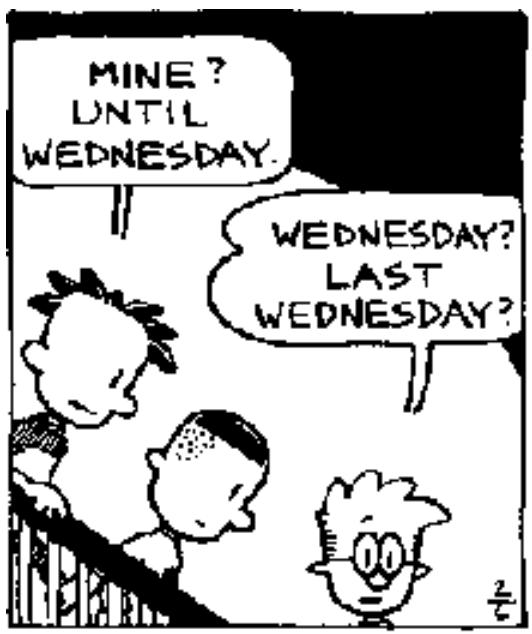






big
NATE





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KAPPEL







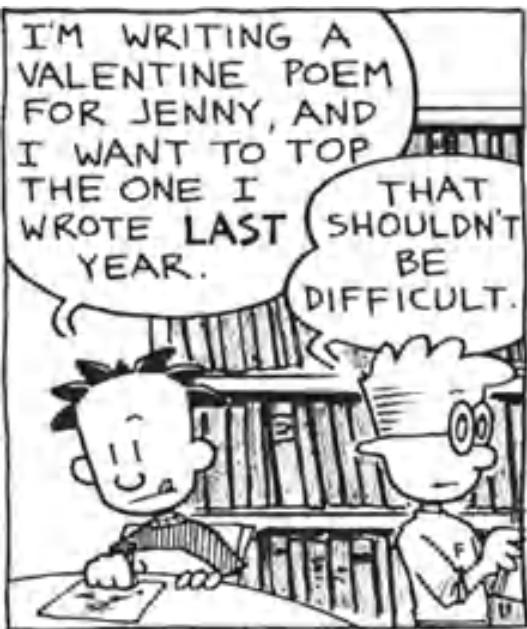


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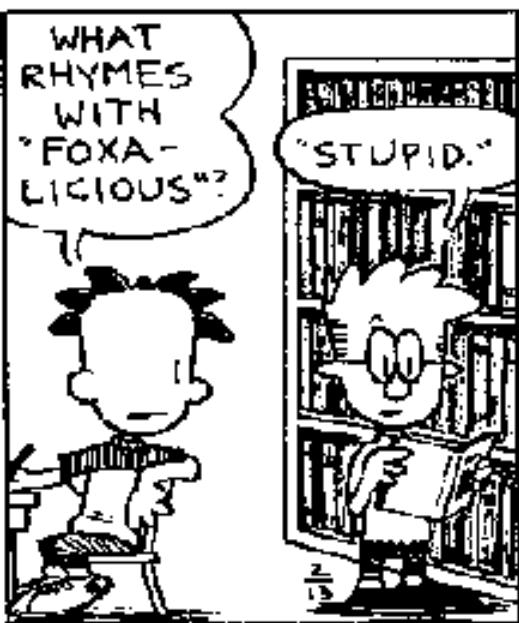


619
NATE





"YOU'RE SO FOXALICIOUS, AND I'M SO... HMM...



You've known me now
For many years,
But never have we dated.



For reasons
I don't understand,
You think our love ill-fated.



But Jenny,
I'm your destiny.
One day we will be mated.



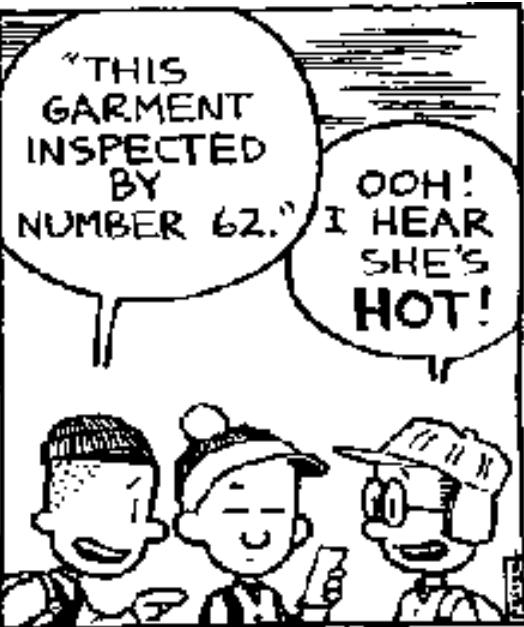
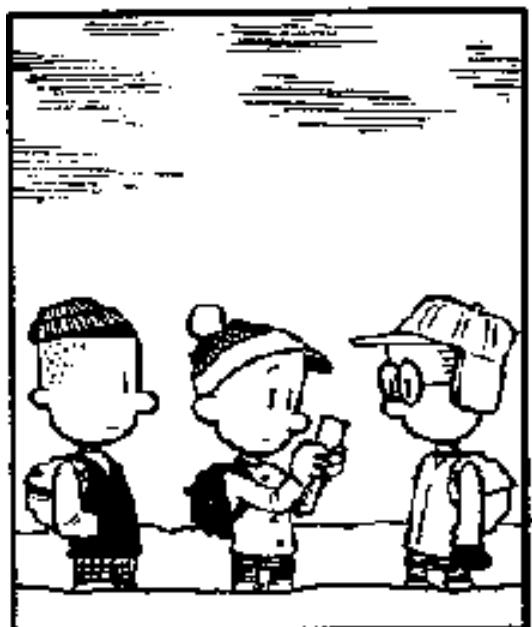
And then you'll know
Just what it's like
To say that you've been "Nated."







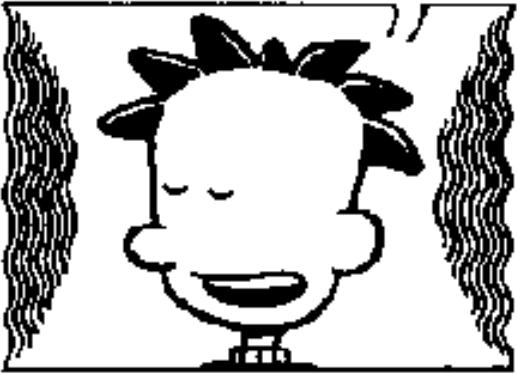
COULD SOME LOVELY
LASS HAVE SLIPPED
ME A **VALENTINE**
THE OTHER DAY
WITHOUT ME
REALIZING IT?



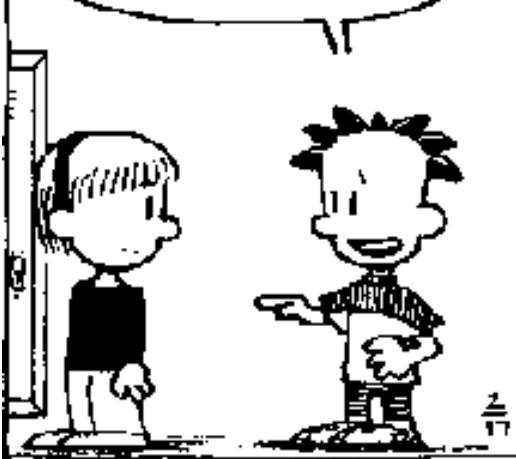
JENNY, I WANT YOU
TO KNOW THAT I
UNDERSTAND WHY
YOU DIDN'T GIVE ME
A VALENTINE THIS
YEAR!



IT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE
SCARED OF LIKING
ME TOO MUCH! IT'S
EASIER TO **DENY** YOUR
FEELINGS THAN
TO **ADMIT** THEM!



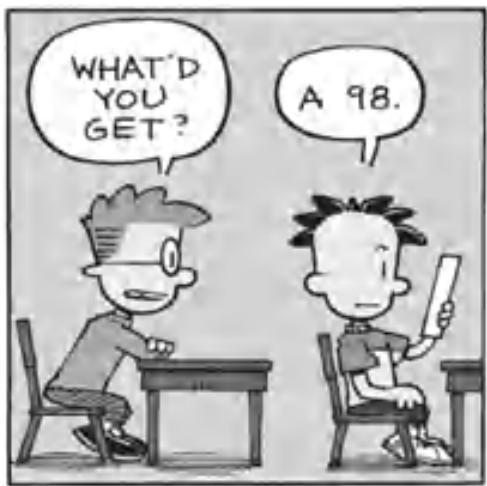
THOSE SORTS OF
POWERFUL EMOTIONS
CAN BE OVER-
WHELMING!



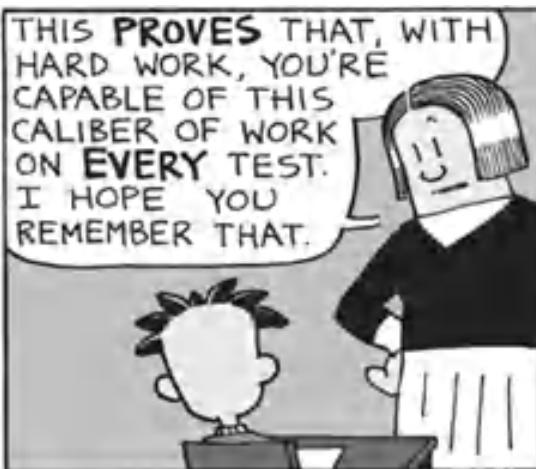
SO
CAN
NAUSEA.

NOW, NOW,
MY SWEET!
WE CALL
THAT
"LOVE-
SICKNESS"





→



BIG
NATE



TURNING MY CLASSROOM INTO AN ABSOLUTE PIGSTY THAT'LL TAKE THREE HOURS TO CLEAN UP AFTER SCHOOL, MAKING MY BACK EVEN MORE SORE THAN IT ALREADY IS!

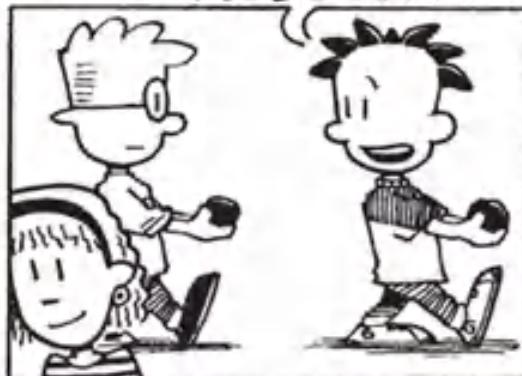


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REMEMBER THAT DRAGON I MADE LAST YEAR? **THAT**, IF I DO SAY SO MYSELF, BELONGED IN A **MUSEUM**!



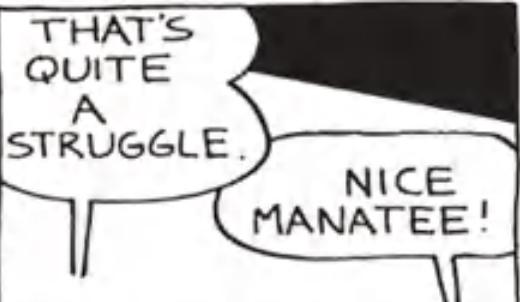
MICHELANGELO SAID THAT IN EVERY BLOCK OF MARBLE, THERE'S A HUMAN FORM STRUGGLING TO GET OUT!



WELL, SAME THING WITH THIS HUNK OF CLAY! INSIDE IT IS A HUMAN FORM STRUGGLING TO GET OUT!



2
21

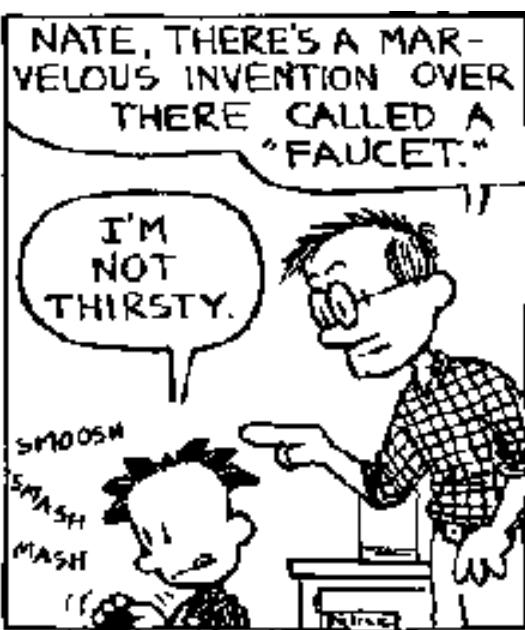


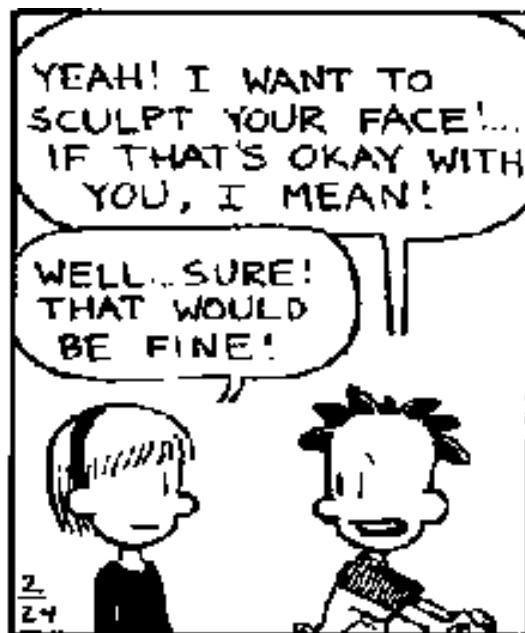
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peirce



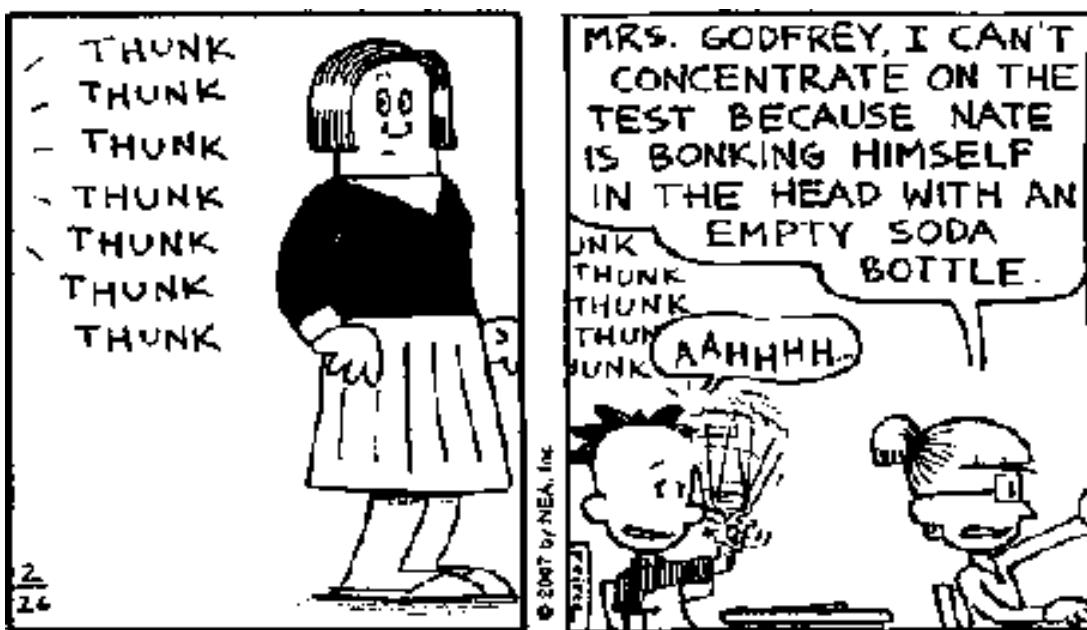
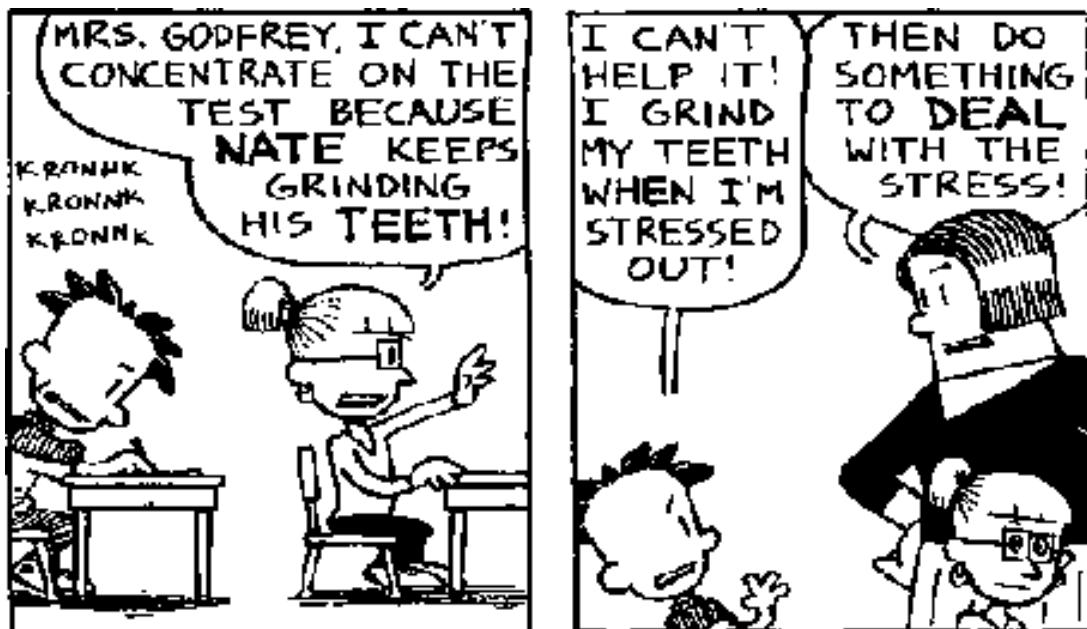


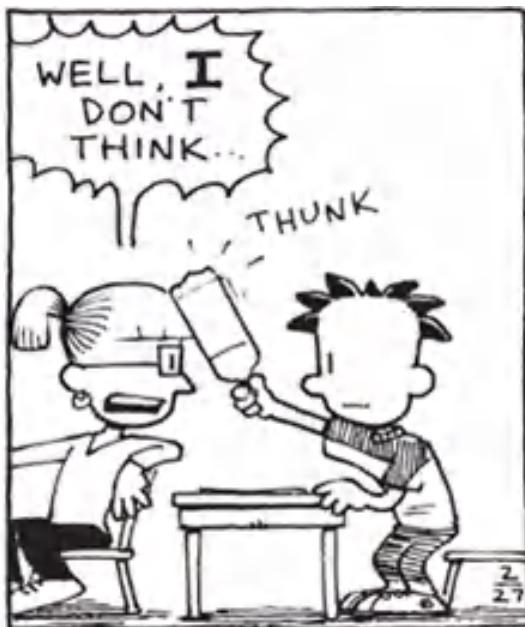






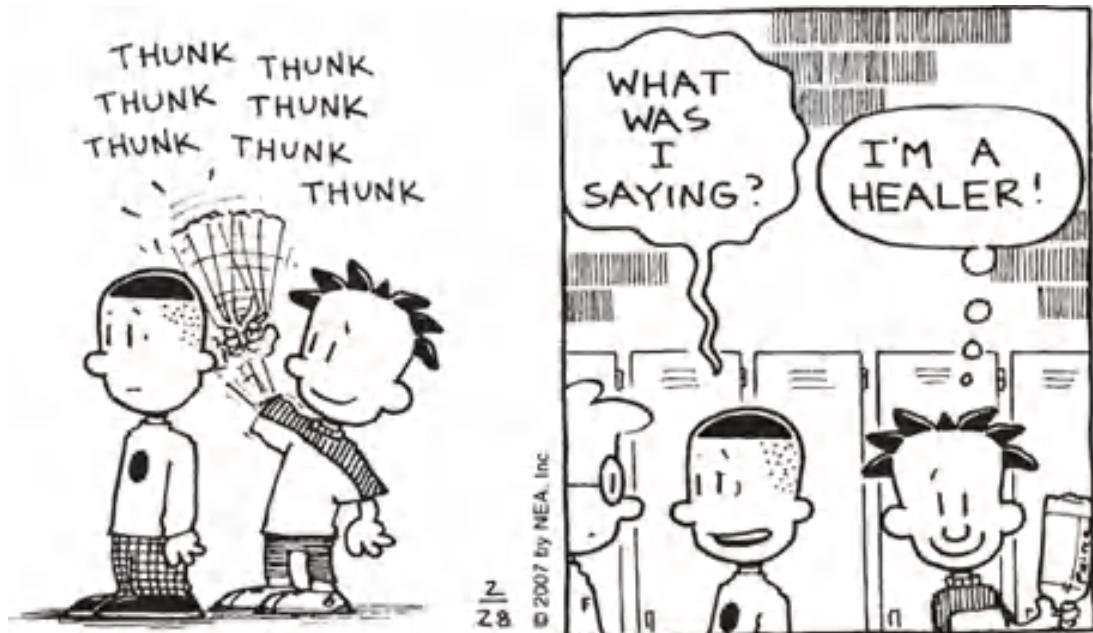
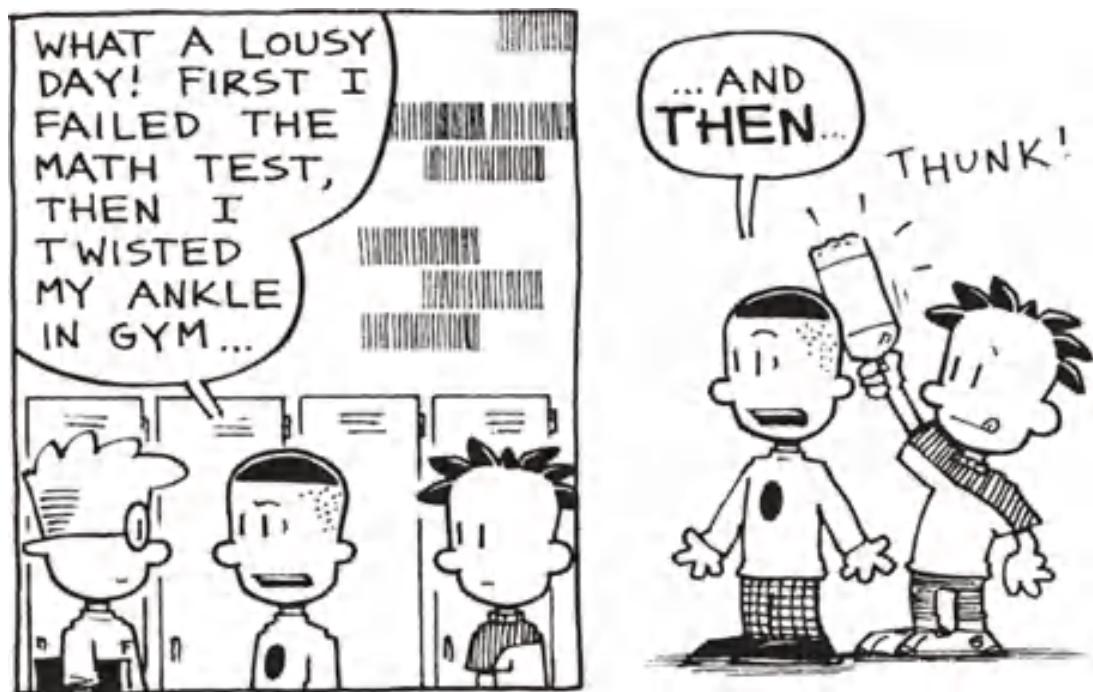
b19
NATE



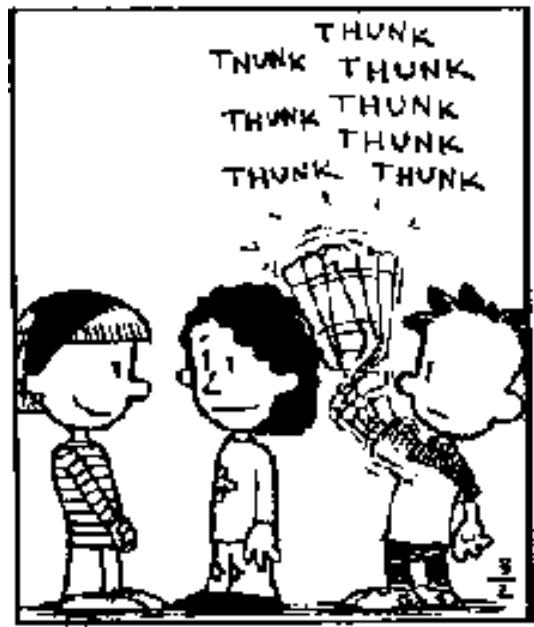
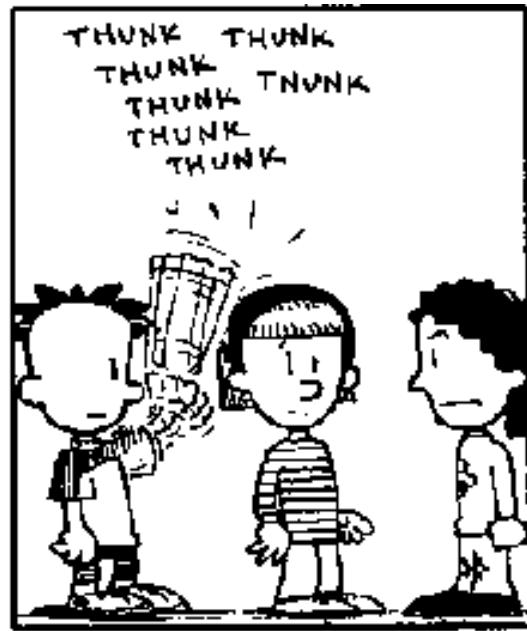


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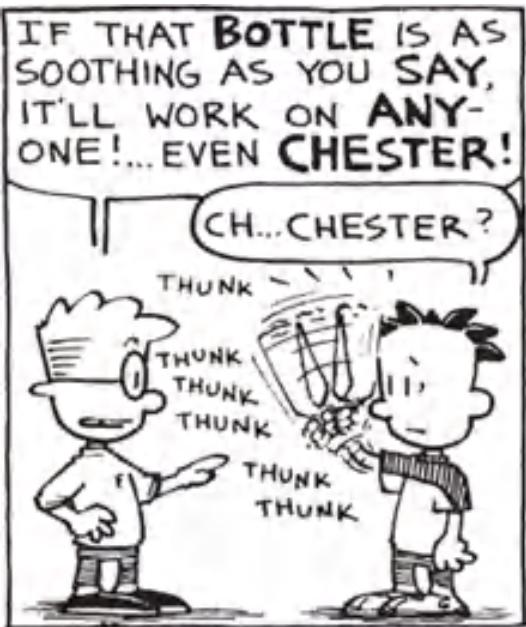
Peanuts







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5 19
NATE



IT'S JUST THAT...
MOST PEOPLE WHO
ARE GOOD AT CHESS
ARE USUALLY...
THEY'RE USUALLY...

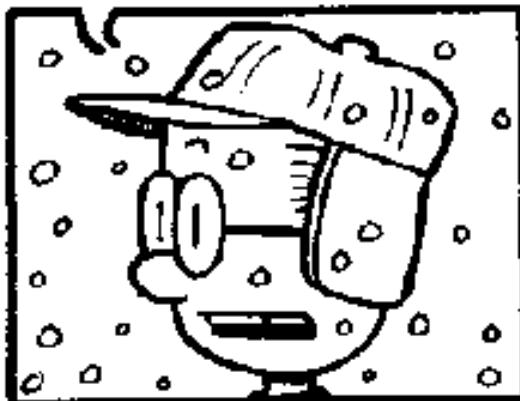


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DON'T YOU THINK
IT'S KIND OF WEIRD
THAT NATE IS SUCH
A CHESS PHENOM?



I MEAN, YOU'D EX-
PECT SOMEONE WHO'S
SO GOOD AT CHESS
TO BE, LIKE, REALLY
SMART, RIGHT?



BUT HE'S JUST THE
OPPOSITE! HE'S **CLUE-**
LESS! MOST OF THE
TIME HE HAS NO
IDEA WHAT'S GOING
ON!



NO
OFFENSE

HUH?

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AH-HA! IT SAYS IT
RIGHT HERE: PEOPLE
WHO ARE GIFTED AT
CHESS ARE USUALLY
GIFTED IN OTHER
AREAS!



...LIKE
MATH,
FOR
EXAMPLE!
OR
MUSIC!

WELL, THERE
YOU GO!
THAT'S ME!
I'M VERY
MUSICAL!



YOU?

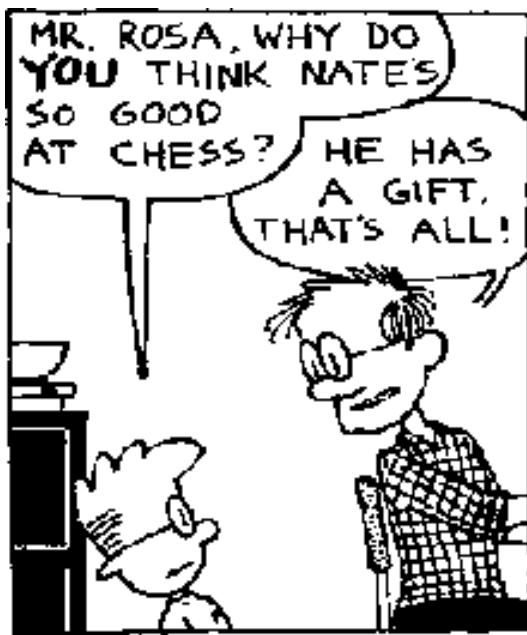
HAVE YOU
FORGOTTEN
I PLAY THE
TROMBONE?



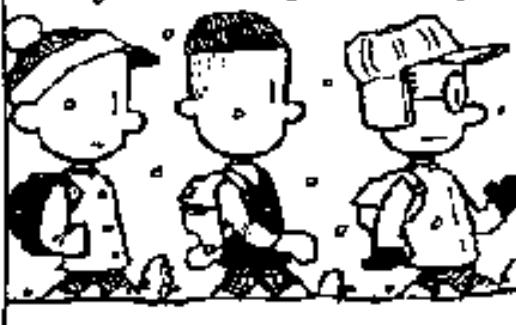
HAVE YOU
FORGOTTEN
THAT THE
BAND
DIRECTOR
SWITCHED
YOU TO
CYMBALS?

BECAUSE
HE COULD
TELL I'M
A PER-
CUSSION
PRODIGY!





MR. ROSA SAYS EVERYONE'S GIFTED AT SOMETHING. I'M GIFTED WITH A PHOTOGRAPHIC MEMORY... NATE'S GIFTED AT CHESS...



...AMONG OTHER THINGS!

WHAT ABOUT YOU, TEDDY? WHAT'S YOUR GIFT?



I CAN DRINK A CARTON OF CHOCOLATE MILK, THEN BLOW IT OUT MY NOSE!

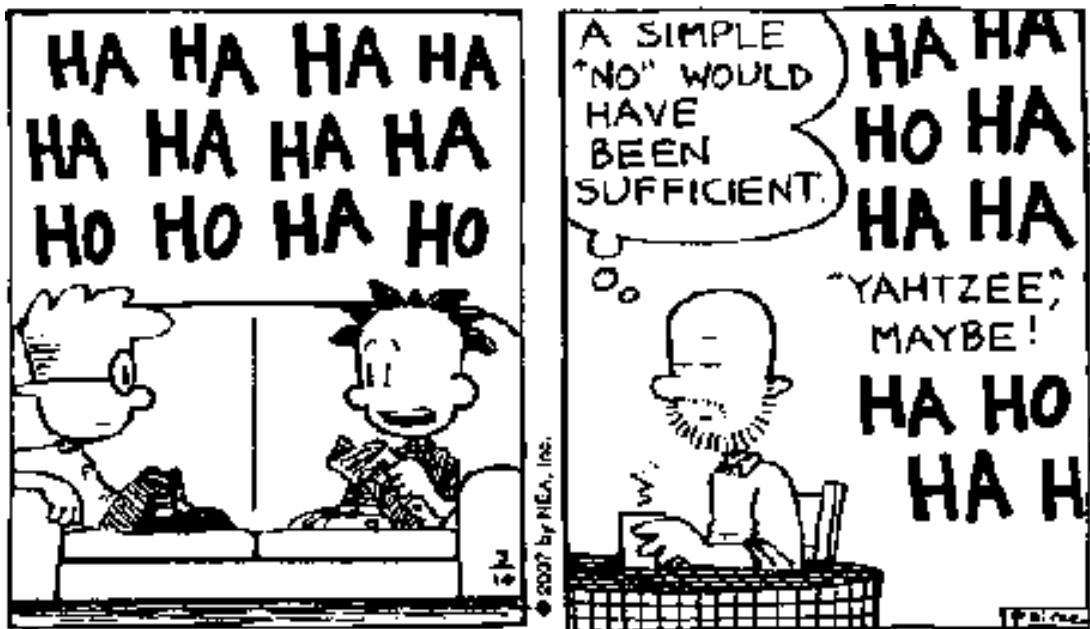
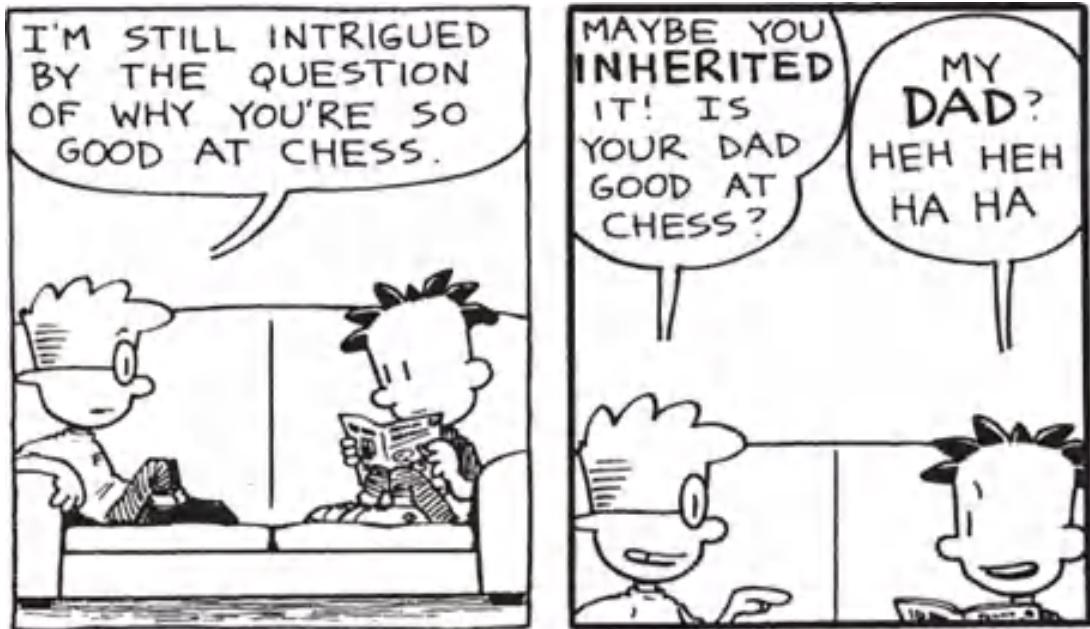


DUDE, WASN'T THAT AN ACCIDENT?

NO, THE "MOUNTAIN DEW CODE RED" WAS AN ACCIDENT. THE CHOCOLATE MILK WAS ON PURPOSE.

GROSS.





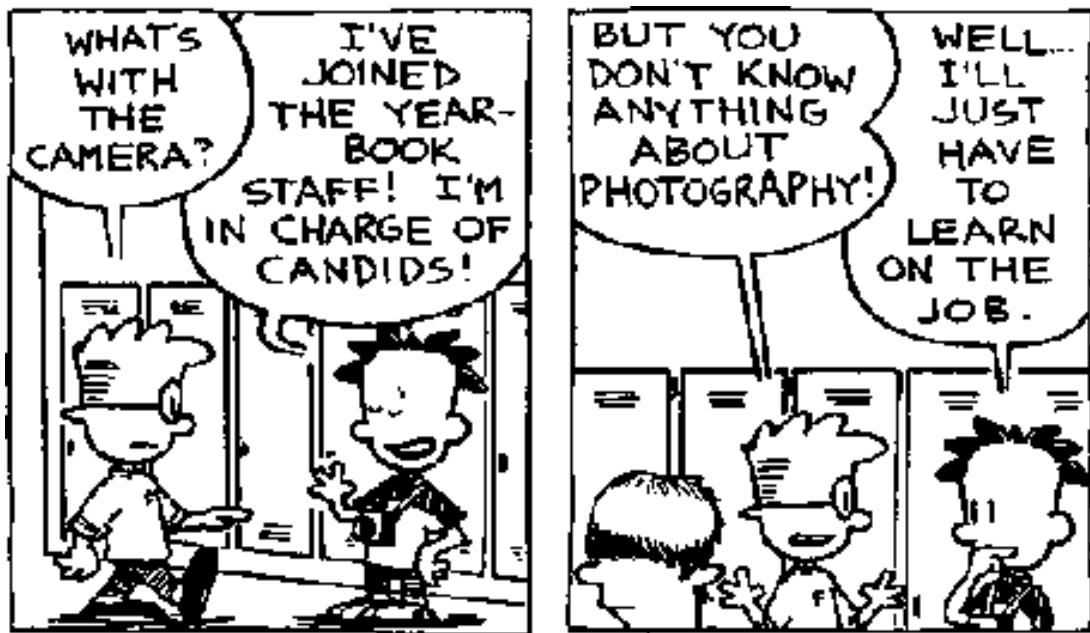


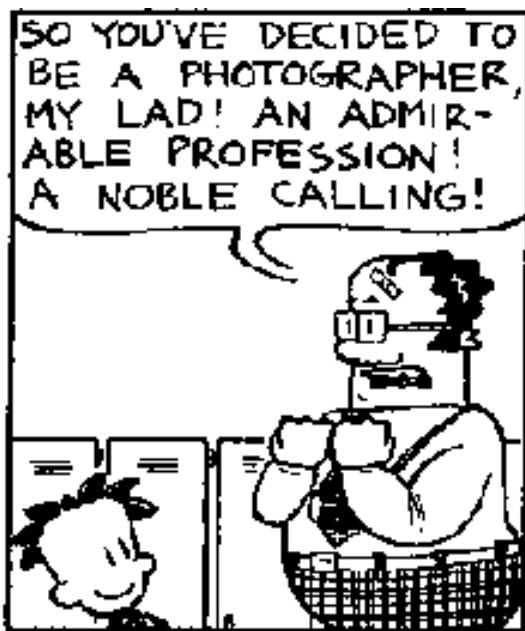
→



Pearce

big
NATE





HOW WELL I REMEMBER WHEN I WAS FIRST BITTEN BY THE SHUTTER BUG! YES, AMIGO, I RECALL IT **VIVIDLY!**



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TAKE A LOOK, KID! EVERYWHERE AROUND YOU, THERE ARE MOMENTS HAPPENING! THEY HAPPEN, AND THEN THEY'RE GONE!



AS A PHOTOGRAPHER, THOUGH, YOU HAVE THE POWER TO MAKE THOSE MOMENTS LIVE FOREVER!!



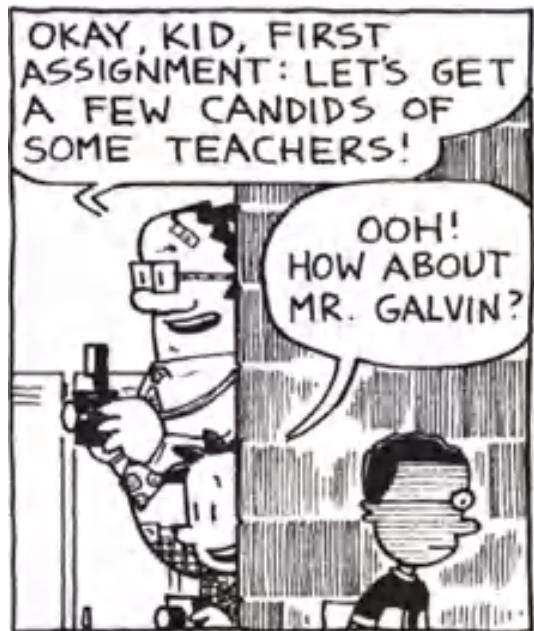
THAT'S THE NUMBER ONE GOAL OF TAKING GOOD CANDIDS, KID: CAPTURING A MOMENT IN TIME!



I THOUGHT THE NUMBER ONE GOAL WAS CATCHING PEOPLE WITH STUPID LOOKS ON THEIR FACES.

TRUE. BUT WE DON'T SPEAK OF THAT.

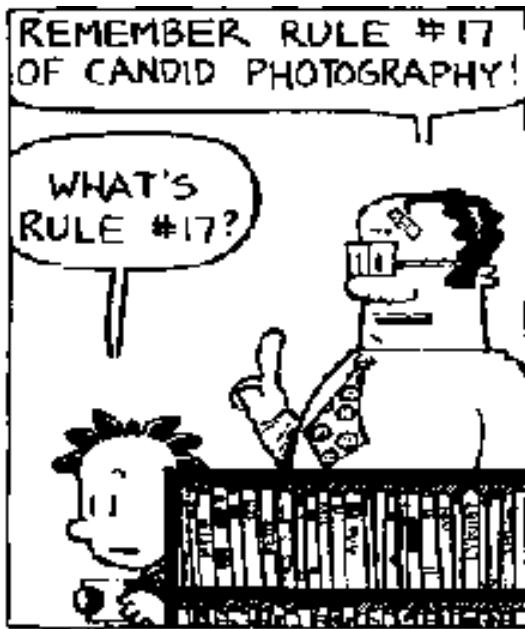
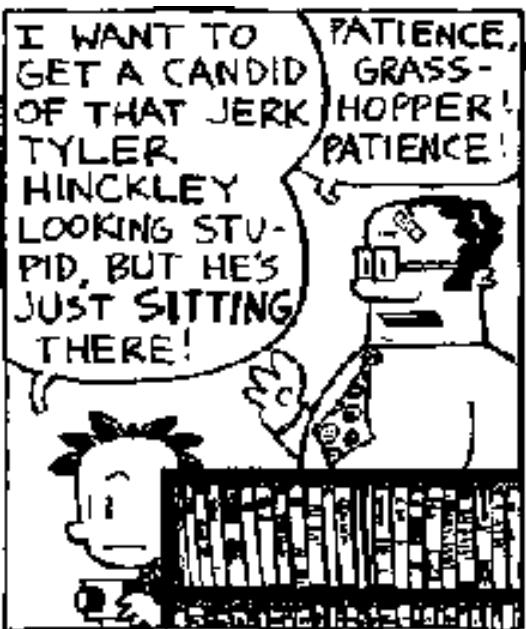




3
15



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THIS IS NOT A FORTUNE! IT'S JUST SOME LAME SAYING!



A FORTUNE IS SUPPOSED TO TELL YOU, "ONE DAY YOU'LL BE RICH" OR "TODAY WILL BE YOUR LUCKY DAY"! IT'S SUPPOSED TO PREDICT THE FUTURE!



DOES THIS PREDICT THE
FUTURE? **NO!** SO IT'S
NOT A **FORTUNE!**
CALLING 'EM "FORTUNE
COOKIES" IS **WRONG!**



HERE, YOU TAKE IT!
I DON'T WANT IT!



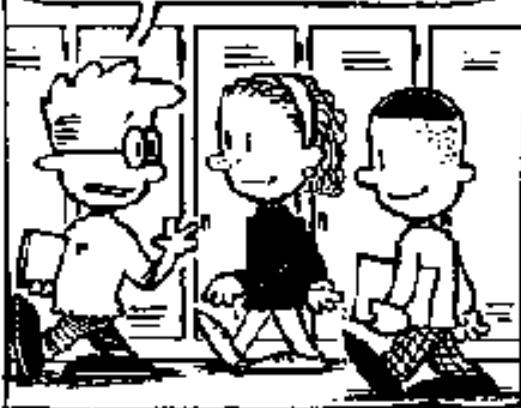
TRIP!

"YOU ARE EASILY
ANNOYED BY
MATTERS OF LITTLE
CONSEQUENCE!"

WHO PUT
THAT THERE?

BIG
NATE

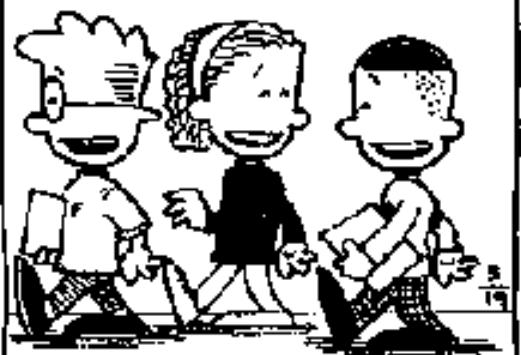
...SO THEN MRS. GODFREY GOES: "PEOPLE, I HAVE A VERY IMPORTANT DATE TO TELL YOU ABOUT."



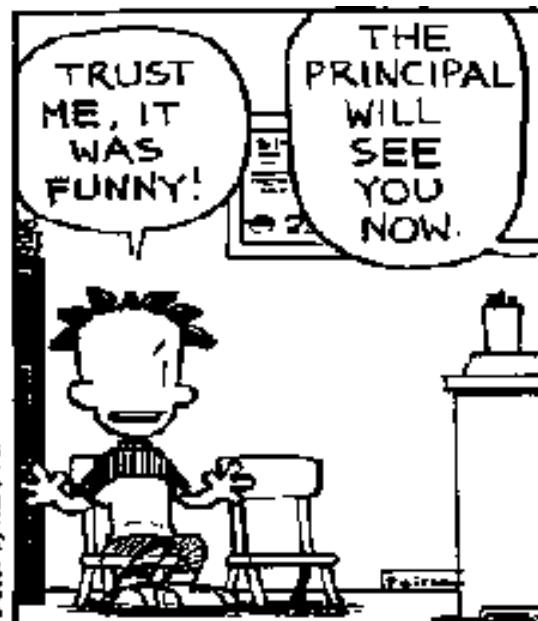
...AND THEN NATE GOES: "REALLY? WHO'S THE LUCKY GUY?"

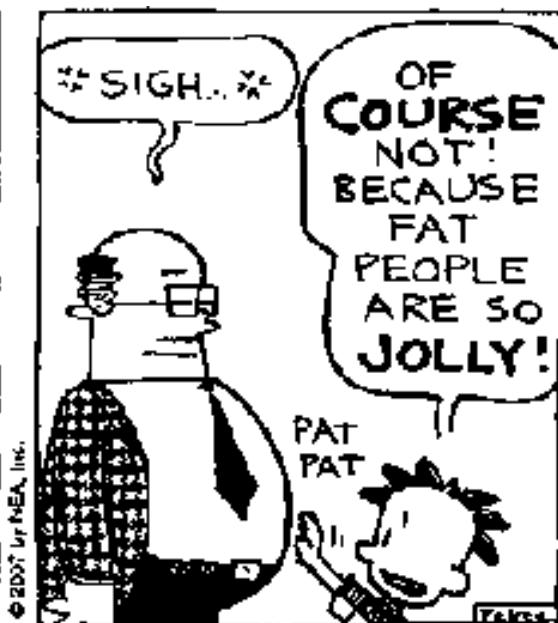
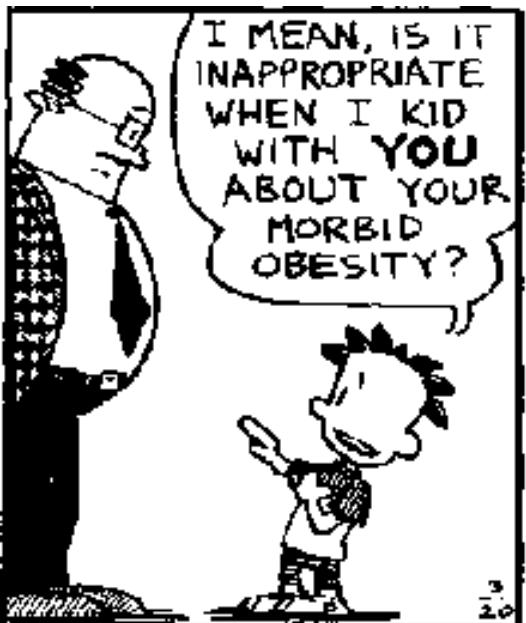
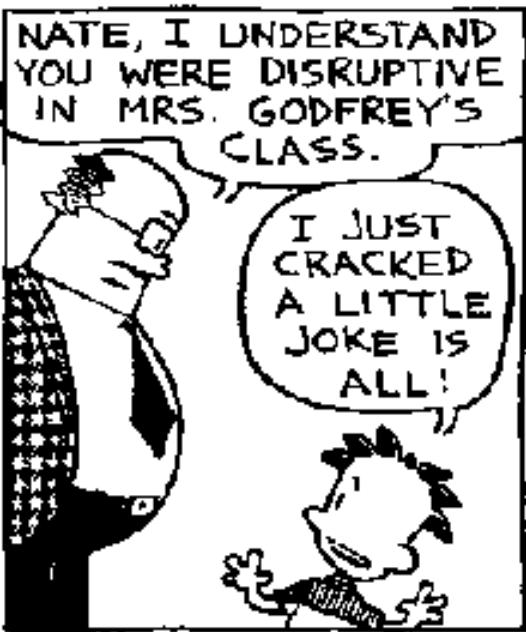


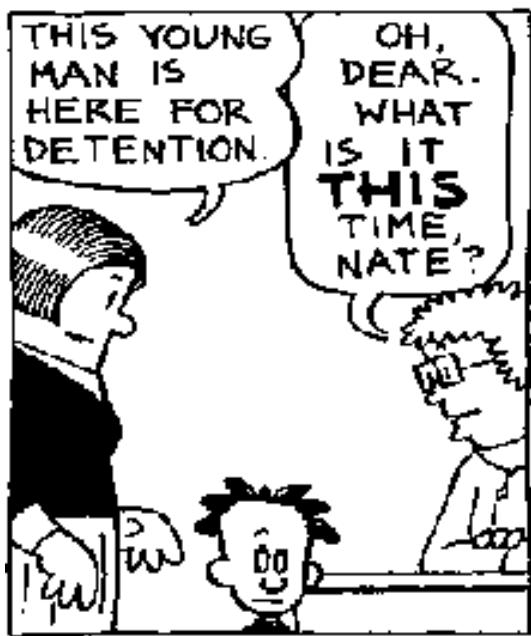
HA HA HA HA
HA HA HO HO
HEE HA HA HA

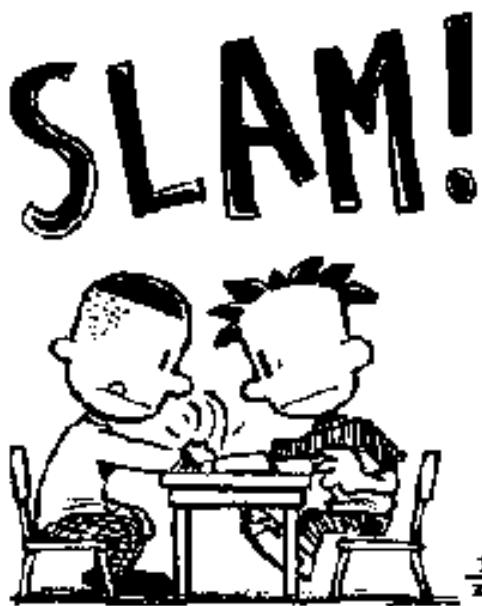
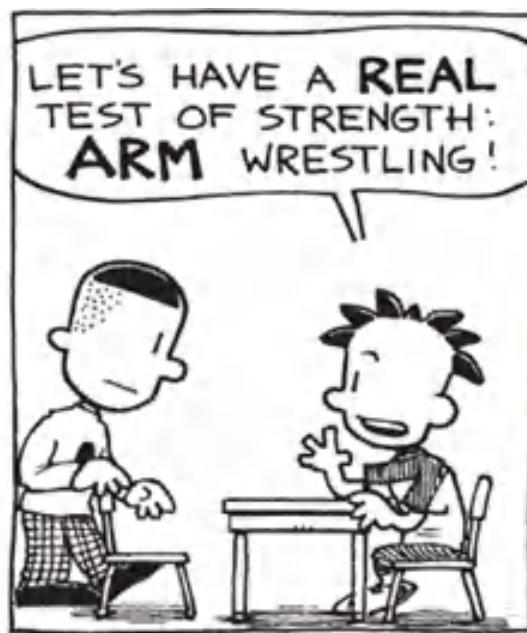


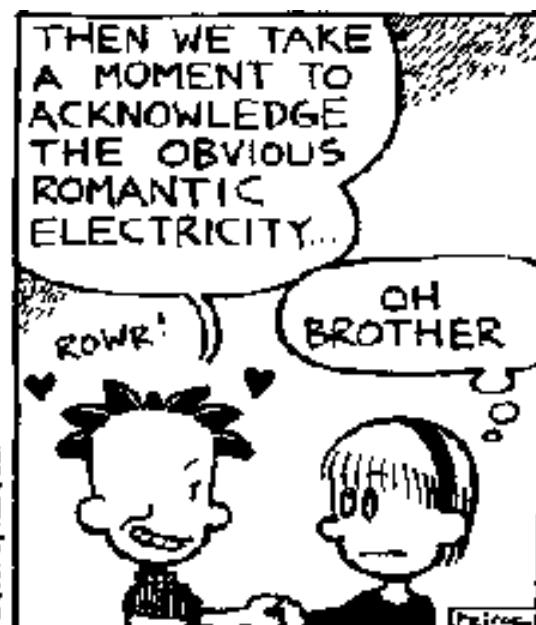
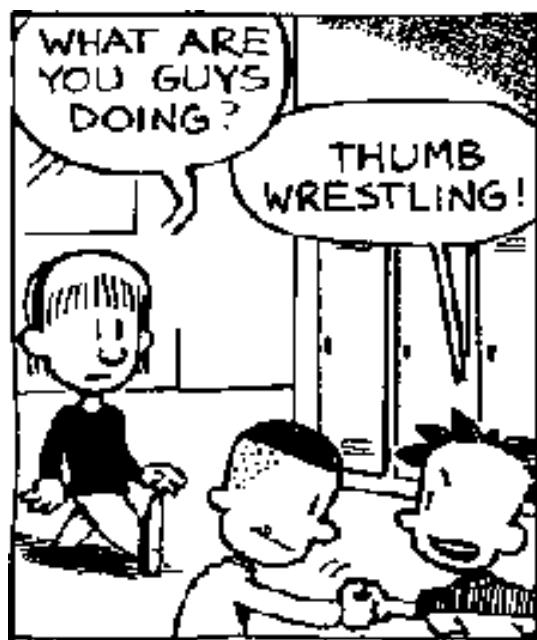
TRUST ME, IT WAS FUNNY!
THE PRINCIPAL WILL SEE YOU NOW.



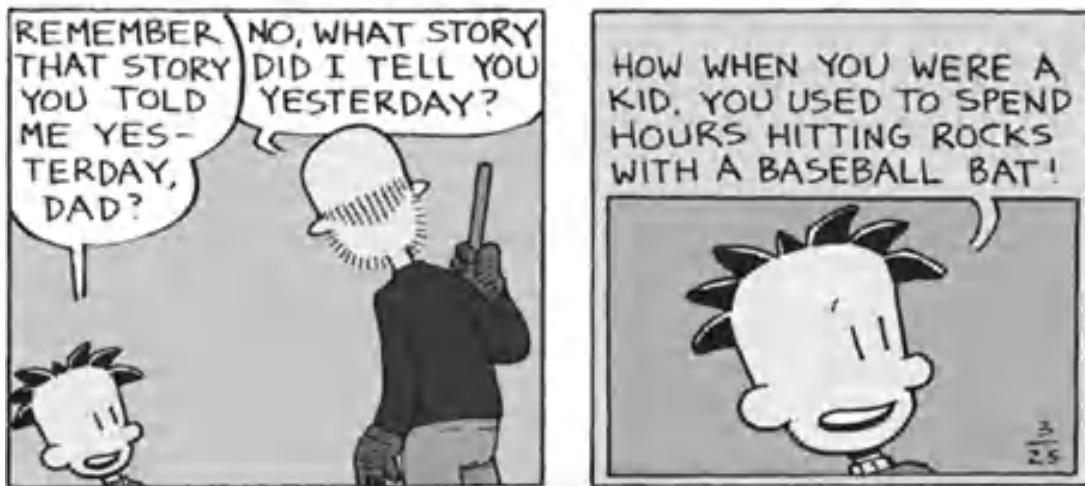








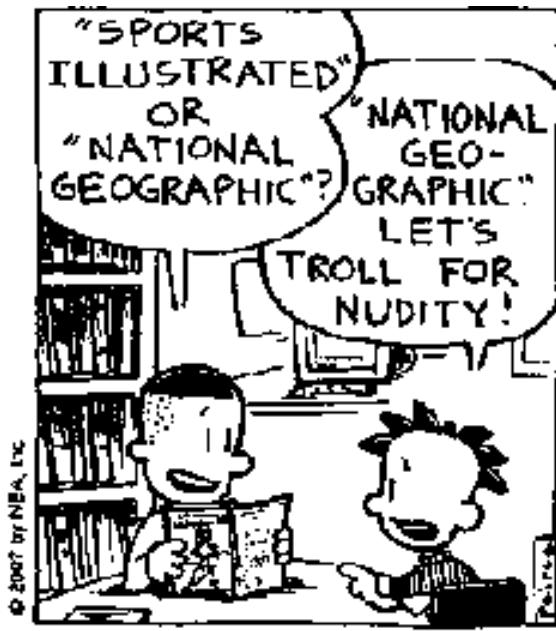
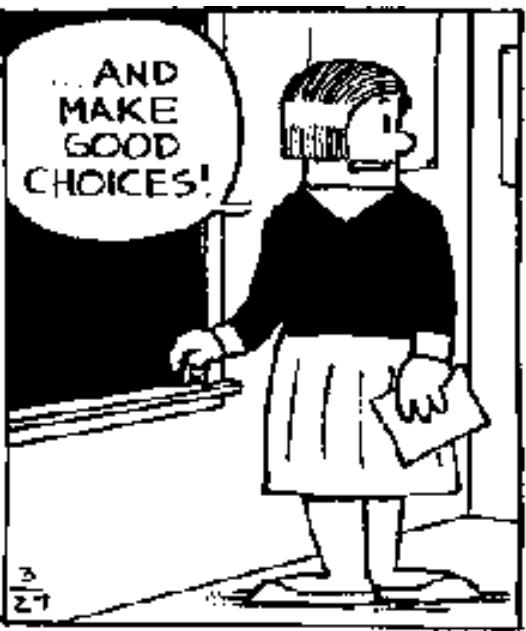
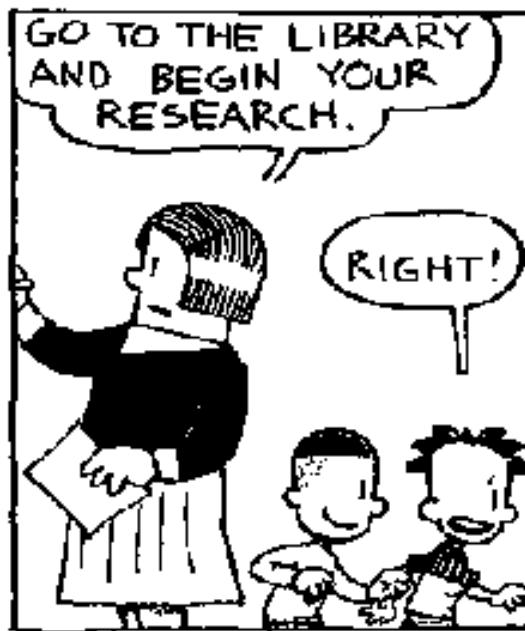


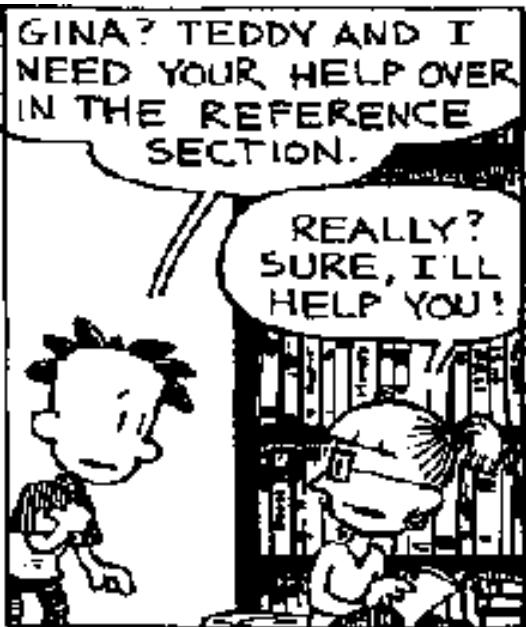




big
NATE







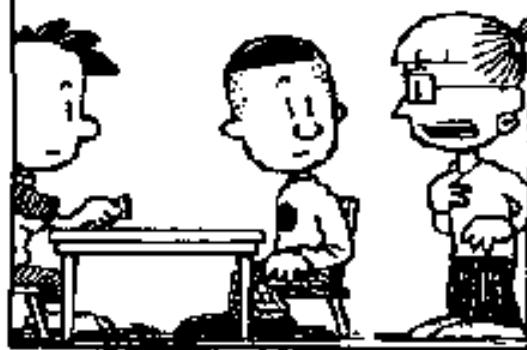
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WHAT ARE YOU FOOLS DOING PLAYING TABLE FOOTBALL? YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE RESEARCHING YOUR CIVIL WAR REPORT!

SHUT UP, GINA.



SHUT UP? SHUT UP?
YOU CAN'T MAKE ME
SHUT UP! YOU CAN'T
MAKE ME SHUT UP!



POINK!

FLIK

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OW!

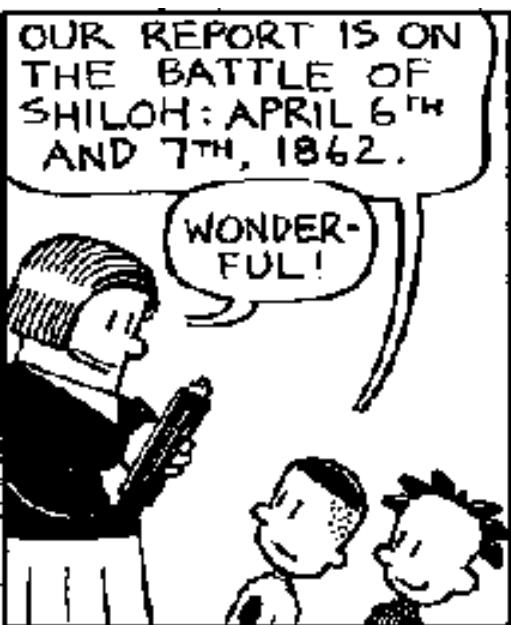
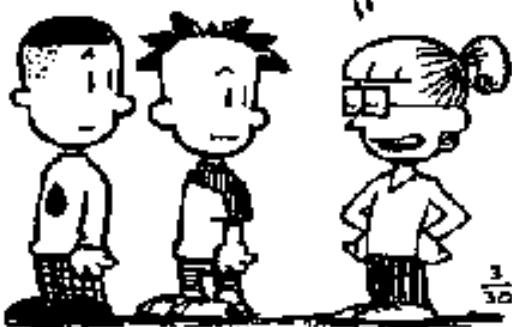
SHE'S
RIGHT.

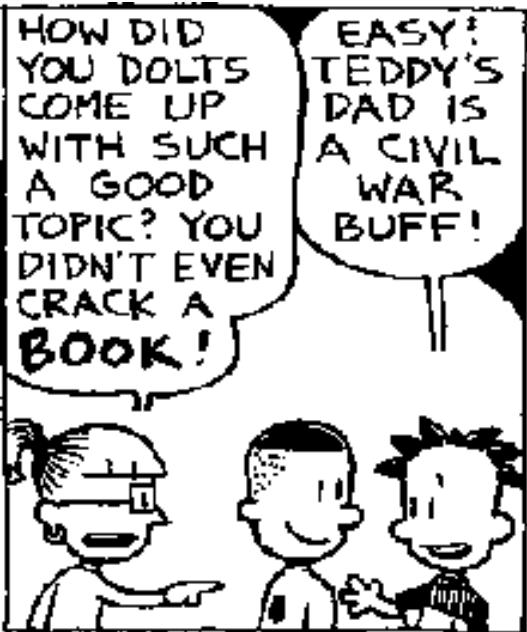
NICE
TRY,
THOUGH.





THEY DIDN'T DO A
BIT OF RESEARCH
IN THE LIBRARY!
THEY SPENT THE
ENTIRE PERIOD PLAYING
TABLE FOOTBALL!









5/9
NATE