

Man has misgivings about rough talk in the bedroom

DEAR ABBY: My wife and I have been married 25 years and have three adult children who no longer live with us. We are religious and belong to a conservative church.

We have a satisfying sex life. About 15 years ago we started using graphic language during our lovemaking. We find it exhilarates and enhances our experience. We do not call each other names; we use graphic words to express how good we feel during the act. The excitement I feel from this is cheaper than Viagra.

Is what we are doing wrong? We are empty nesters. I worry about what would happen if our closest religious friends knew. Would they feel the same way toward us? I believe words become wrong when they are used for the wrong motive. When I use them with my wife for better sex, my motive is pure. Do you think other religious couples enjoy this activity?

— BEDROOM SECRET IN WEST VIRGINIA

DEAR SECRET: Unless your religious friends have a hidden listening device in your bedroom, your worries are groundless. What happens in the bedroom between two adults — as long as it is consensual and hurts neither one — is OK and nobody else's business. As to whether other religious married couples do something similar to what you and your wife are doing, I think the odds are pretty good they are doing that and more.

DEAR ABBY: My younger brother has been with his girlfriend for three years off and on. He's 22; she's 19. He joined the Army during one of their breakups. (Being in the military was something he had wanted to do since he could talk.)

When he was away, she mentally abused him because she "doesn't trust other people." My brother has told me he's only with her because she has nobody else. (She comes from a dysfunctional family.) She doesn't allow him to have any kind of social life when she's not around.

She's now pregnant with what we believe is not my brother's child, given they had

broken up and the day they got back together, BAM! she's pregnant. I know it takes only one time, but the dates really don't add up.

This is affecting his relationship with our family and his lifelong buddies. He's my only brother; and I don't want to just flush our relationship as siblings, but I'm exhausted. What do I do?

— TIRED IN THE EAST
DEAR TIRED: Your family should talk to your brother as a group and discuss your concerns. His girlfriend is immature, insecure and controlling. He will be under

her thumb for a lifetime if they marry. Ask him to clarify how honest he was when he said he was with her only because she had no one else.

He may be so physically attracted to her he can't think straight, which is why he seems to be willing to accept her manipulation and control. He should not support the baby without first talking to an attorney and insisting on a paternity test.

DEAR ABBY: What do you say when a friend's son has committed a horrific crime? Does one say, "I'm sorry" or "Call me," or merely pat them on the shoulder and move on? Or, what?

I know she is suffering and blames herself for his crime. How do I even approach her? I knew her quite well until I moved away and started my life on an opposite coast. Telling her what her son did is not her fault somehow seems trite.

I'm sure other people have been in this kind of situation. I found out about the young man's crime from the news media. I haven't been in contact with his mother for some time, which makes me feel awkward.

— LOST FOR WORDS
DEAR LOST: The time to be a friend is when somebody needs one. I'm sure your friend could use some emotional support right now. If you have her phone number, call her and tell her you know she's hurting, and she's in your thoughts and prayers. Tell her you are with her in spirit and hope she knows you care about her and her son. Then listen. There's not much more you can do than that.

US West struggles with smoke

By Sally Ho, Gillian Flaccus
The Associated Press

SEATTLE — Smoke from wildfires clogged the sky across the U.S. West, blotting out mountains and city skylines from Oregon to Colorado, delaying flights and forcing authorities to tell even healthy adults in the Seattle area to stay indoors.

As large cities dealt with unhealthy air for a second summer in a row, experts warned that it could become more common as the American West faces larger and more destructive wildfires because of heat and drought blamed on climate change. Officials also must prioritize resources during the longer firefighting season, so some blazes may be allowed to burn in unpopulated areas.

Seattle's Space Needle was swathed in haze, and it was impossible to see nearby mountains. Portland, Oregon, residents who were up early saw a blood-red sun shrouded in smoke and huffed their way through another day of polluted air. Portland Public Schools suspended all outdoor sports practices.

Thick smoke in Denver blocked the view of some of Colorado's famous mountains and prompted an air quality health advisory for the north-eastern quarter of the state.

The smoky pollution, even in Idaho and Colorado, came from wildfires in British Columbia and the Northwest's Cascade Mountains, clouding a season that many spend outdoors.

Portland resident Zach Simon supervised a group of children in a summer biking camp who paused at a huge water fountain by the Willamette River, where gray, smoky haze obscured a view of Mount Hood.

Simon said he won't let the kids ride as far or take part in as many running games like tag while the air quality is bad.

"I went biking yesterday, and I really felt it in my lungs, and I was really headachy and like, lethargic," Simon said Monday. "Today, biking, you can see the whole city in haze and you can't see the skyline."

One of Colin Shor's favorite things about working in the Denver area is the view of the high peaks to the west. But that was all but gone Monday.

"Not being able to see the mountains is kind of disappointing, kind of sad," he said.

Forest fires are common, but typical Seattle-area weather pushes it out of the way quickly. The latest round of prolonged smoke happened as hot temperatures and high pressure collided, said Andrew Wineke, a spokesman for the state Ecology Department's air quality program.

It's a rare occurrence that also happened last year, raising concerns for many locals that it may become normal during wildfire season. Wineke said climate change is expected to contribute to many more fires.

"The trend is clear. You see the number of forest fires increasing, and so there's going to be wildfires," Wineke said. "There's going to be smoke. It's going to be somewhere."

The Federal Aviation Administration said airplanes bound for the Sea-Tac International Airport, Seattle's main airport, may be delayed because of low visibility.

In Spokane, air quality slipped into the "hazardous" range. Thick haze hung over Washington's second-largest city, forcing vehicles to turn

on their headlights during the morning commute.

The air quality was so bad that everyone, regardless of physical condition or age, will likely be affected, according to the Spokane Regional Clean Air Agency.

In California, wind blew smoke from several wildfires into the San Francisco Bay Area, where haze led authorities to issue an air quality advisory through Tuesday. They suggested people avoid driving to limit additional pollutants in the air and advised those with health problems to reduce time outdoors.

Health officials say signs of smoke-related health symptoms include coughing, scratchy throat, irritated sinuses, headaches, stinging eyes and runny nose. Those with heart disease may experience chest pain, irregular heartbeats, shortness of breath and fatigue.

Patients at Denver's National Jewish Health, a respiratory hospital, were reporting worsening symptoms, hospital spokesman Adam Dormuth said.

In Portland, six tourists from Lincoln, Nebraska, posed for a photo in front of the Willamette River with the usual Mount Hood backdrop shrouded in haze. The group of siblings and friends rented an RV and drove in to visit a sister who recently moved to the area.

"We are disappointed that we can't see the mountains and the whole city, because our relatives live here and tell us how pretty it is, and we're missing it," Bev Harris said. "We're from tornado alley, and we don't have wildfires. It's a different experience."

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weather

	TONIGHT	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
	Mainly clear and smoky	Mostly sunny	Mostly sunny; not as warm	Partly sunny	Clouds and sun
Baker City	48	89 49	79 40	80 47	74 46
Comfort Index™	6	5	9	9	10
La Grande	52	87 52	78 43	79 51	73 49
Comfort Index™	7	7	10	9	10
Enterprise	49	85 51	76 41	78 49	72 47
Comfort Index™	7	6	10	9	10

Comfort Index takes into account how the weather will feel based on a combination of factors. A rating of 10 feels very comfortable while a rating of 0 feels very uncomfortable

ALMANAC

TEMPERATURES	Baker City	La Grande	Elgin
High Tuesday	82°	82°	85°
Low Tuesday	51°	51°	47°
PRECIPITATION (inches)			
Tuesday	0.00	0.00	0.00
Month to date	Trace	0.03	0.03
Normal month to date	0.46	0.57	0.42
Year to date	4.75	10.33	20.81
Normal year to date	6.82	10.59	14.79

AGRICULTURAL INFO.

HAY INFORMATION THURSDAY

Lowest relative humidity	15%
Afternoon wind	WNW at 6 to 12 mph
Hours of sunshine	11.3
Evapotranspiration	0.26

RESERVOIR STORAGE (through midnight Tuesday)

Phillips Reservoir	17% of capacity
Unity Reservoir	29% of capacity
Owyhee Reservoir	42% of capacity
McKay Reservoir	45% of capacity
Wallowa Lake	14% of capacity
Thief Valley Reservoir	11% of capacity

STREAM FLOWS (through midnight Tuesday)

Grande Ronde at Troy	489 cfs
Thief Valley Reservoir near North Powder	87 cfs
Burnt River near Unity	119 cfs
Umatilla River near Gibbon	35 cfs
Minam River at Minam	65 cfs
Powder River near Richland	43 cfs

TUESDAY EXTREMES

NATION (for the 48 contiguous states)	
High: 117°	Death Valley, Calif.
Low: 30°	Bodie State Park, Calif.
Wettest: 4.06"	Camp Springs, Md.
OREGON	
High: 95°	Salem
Low: 39°	Meacham
Wettest: Trace	North Bend

WEATHER HISTORY

Hurricane Andrew wreaked havoc from south of Coral Gables to the northern tip of Key Largo on Aug. 23, 1992. A wind gust of 164 mph was recorded at the National Hurricane Center in Coral Gables.

SUN & MOON

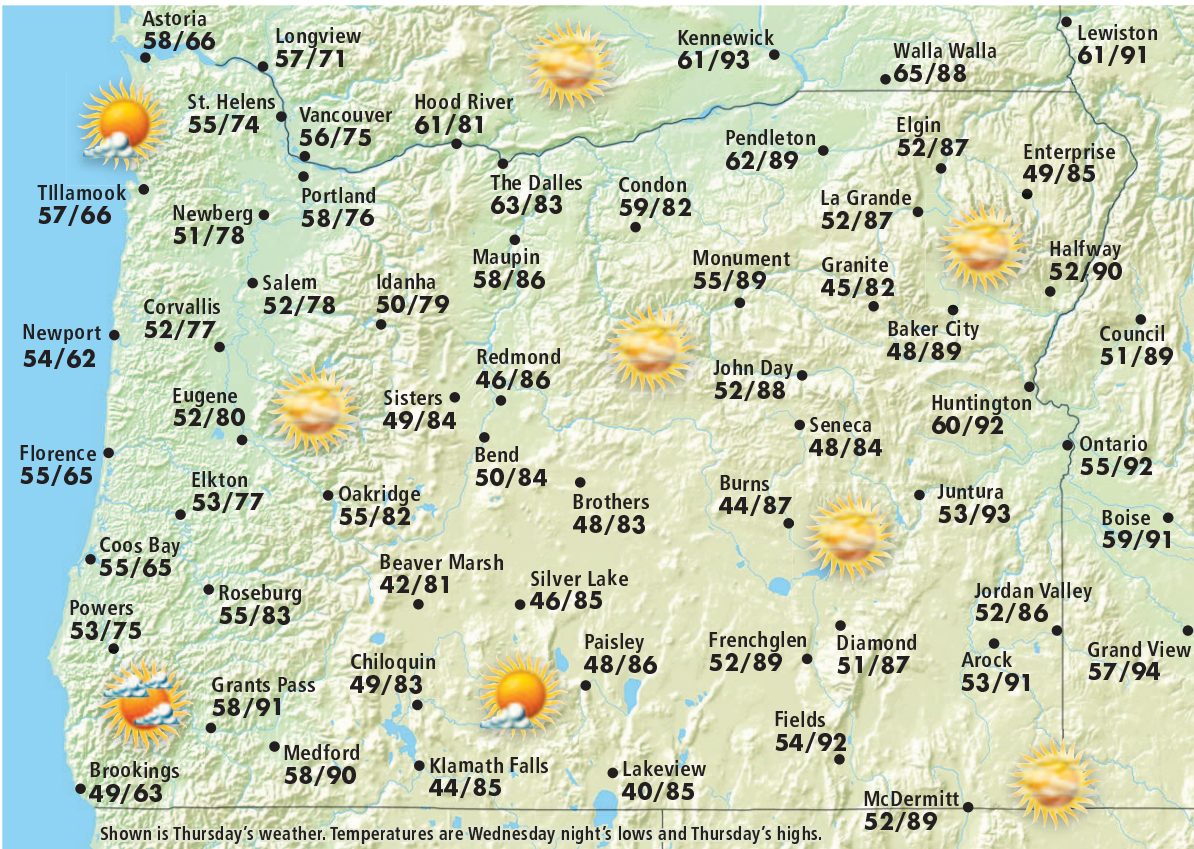
	WED.	THU.
Sunrise	6:02 a.m.	6:03 a.m.
Sunset	7:48 p.m.	7:46 p.m.
Moonrise	5:50 p.m.	6:31 p.m.
Moonset	2:21 a.m.	3:13 a.m.

MOON PHASES

Full	Last	New	First
Aug 26	Sep 2	Sep 9	Sep 16

AROUND OREGON AND THE REGION

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REGIONAL CITIES

City	THU. Hi/Lo/W	FRI. Hi/Lo/W	City	THU. Hi/Lo/W	FRI. Hi/Lo/W
Astoria	66/56/c	65/55/sh	Lewiston	91/60/s	80/52/s
Bend	84/45/s	76/40/s	Longview	71/56/pc	68/54/pc
Boise	91/59/s	85/54/pc	Meacham	84/49/s	74/40/s
Brookings	63/51/pc	66/53/pc	Medford	90/54/pc	82/51/pc
Burns	87/44/s	79/34/s	Newport	62/52/s	62/50/s
Coos Bay	65/56/pc	65/53/s	Olympia	70/50/pc	69/49/c
Corvallis	77/51/s	73/47/s	Ontario	92/61/s	85/50/s
Council	89/52/s	83/47/s	Pasco	91/53/pc	81/47/s
Elgin	87/52/s	77/43/s	Pendleton	89/57/pc	78/49/pc
Eugene	80/51/s	75/47/s	Portland	76/57/pc	72/55/pc
Hermiston	91/58/pc	82/53/pc	Powers	75/52/pc	71/50/s
Hood River	81/58/pc	73/55/s	Redmond	86/45/s	76/38/s
Imnaha	91/55/s	82/49/s	Roseburg	83/55/s	78/53/s
John Day	88/52/pc	80/48/s	Salem	78/52/pc	73/49/pc
Joseph	86/50/s	78/42/s	Spokane	83/53/pc	73/52/s
Kennewick	93/57/pc	83/53/s	The Dalles	83/59/s	74/55/s
Klamath Falls	85/41/s	79/39/s	Ukiah	83/46/s	74/39/s
Lakeview	85/40/s	79/35/s	Walla Walla	88/60/pc	78/55/pc

Weather(W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, f-ice

RECREATION FORECAST THURSDAY

ANTHONY LAKES	PHILLIPS LAKE
Hazy sun and smoky	Hazy sun and smoky
60 40	82 47
MT. EMILY REC.	BROWNLEE RES.
Hazy sun and smoky	Dimmed sunshine
74 49	88 54
EAGLE CAP WILD.	EMIGRANT ST. PARK
Hazy and smoky	Hazy sun and smoky
69 39	81 43
WALLOWA LAKE	MCKAY RESERVOIR
Hazy sun and smoky	Hazy sun and smoky
82 49	90 61
THIEF VALLEY RES.	RED BRIDGE ST. PARK
Hazy sun and smoky	Hazy sun and smoky
87 48	87 52

GO

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