

Kiss shared with a co-worker puts marriage on shakier ground

DEAR ABBY: I may be having a midlife crisis. I'm not happy in my marriage and haven't been for quite some time. I pray every night that my husband will find someone else so he will leave our marriage. I tried to leave him before, but financially I couldn't make it. I'm now at the point where I don't care about the financial side of it.

I recently kissed a co-worker. It was really hot, heavy and I want more. I haven't felt this alive in years. My co-worker is not the reason I want a divorce, but now, feeling desired by someone makes me want out even more. But I'm a coward. I don't know how to tell my husband I'm no longer in love with him.

— COWARD IN THE SOUTH

DEAR COWARD: Not knowing you, I can't determine whether you may be having a midlife crisis. However, you definitely do need to talk to your husband, if only to ask if he feels the same emptiness that you do. It would be better for both of you if you tried counseling to see if it's possible to heal your marriage before you run out the door.

I caution you about involving yourself in a workplace romance while you are feeling this needy. If it doesn't work out — and most of them don't — you could find yourself not only without a husband but also a job.

DEAR ABBY: I dated a man I'll call Mike for several years. We eventually broke up because of distance and a difference of opinion about where we wanted to live. I also had developed a crush on a female friend, which contributed to my decision to break off with him.

The crush didn't work out. Now, more than a year later, Mike and I are close friends. I visited him recently and realized I still have feelings for him. I want to get back together, but I don't think I should say it unless I am 100 percent certain I won't break up with him again.

Abby, I wonder if I might be gay. I don't know what to do. I love Mike, but I'm paranoid that I'll eventually regret getting back together with him. I couldn't betray his trust again. What should I do?

— CONFUSED 20-SOMETHING

DEAR CONFUSED: You may be gay; you might also be bisexual or simply curious. You

owe it to yourself AND TO MIKE to talk to a counselor and explore what your sexual orientation is. If you and Mike have worked through your other differences, only the two of you can decide whether to resume your relationship or just be friends. (Friendships have been known to sometimes last longer than romantic relationships.)

DEAR ABBY: My question is, is it ethical to "try" the fruit at the grocery store? I am amazed at the number of shoppers who open the bags of grapes and help them-

selves to a snack. Shouldn't they buy without sampling?

— CRAIG IN FLORIDA

DEAR CRAIG: Theoretically, shoppers should buy without sampling. Talk to the manager of the grocery store about it. Some establishments leave a bag of grapes, cherries, etc. open for shoppers to sample to see if they would like to buy. If that's not happening in the store you patronize, consider suggesting it.

DEAR ABBY: My wife went on a diet a year ago and lost a tremendous amount of weight. The problem now is she won't quit. Every time I suggest she stop and put a few pounds back on, she gets angry and won't speak to me.

My wife isn't anorexic, but I have a feeling she may be headed in that direction. She has no health concerns that either of us is aware of, and when I say anything she just says, "You wanted me thin, so now I'm thin!"

Please tell me what I should do before her dieting gets out of control and becomes a serious threat to her health.

— DISTRAUGHT HUSBAND

DEAR DISTRAUGHT: Your wife may have worked so hard to lose the weight you urged her to lose that she hasn't figured out how to stabilize and maintain it. Because you are worried that she may have gone off the deep end, the two of you should make an appointment with her doctor to discuss what a healthy weight is for her — and possibly get a referral to a licensed nutritionist who can help her establish a healthy maintenance plan.

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weather

	TONIGHT	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
	Mainly cloudy	Times of sun and clouds	Partly sunny	Partly sunny and mild	Mild with clouds and sun
Baker City	30	44 25	44 24	46 27	47 24
Comfort Index™	1	6	4	4	4
La Grande	34	44 28	43 25	48 31	49 25
Comfort Index™	0	4	3	5	3
Enterprise	31	41 26	40 24	46 30	46 23
Comfort Index™	0	4	4	6	3

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	35°	34°	35°
Low Tuesday	22°	25°	25°
PRECIPITATION (inches)			
Tuesday	0.14	0.17	0.00
Month to date	0.53	0.88	1.92
Normal month to date	0.60	1.22	2.36
Year to date	0.53	0.88	1.92
Normal year to date	0.60	1.22	2.36

AGRICULTURAL INFO.

HAY INFORMATION THURSDAY

Lowest relative humidity	55%
Afternoon wind	SSW at 4 to 8 mph
Hours of sunshine	4.1
Evapotranspiration	0.04

RESERVOIR STORAGE (through midnight Tuesday)

Phillips Reservoir	9% of capacity
Unity Reservoir	29% of capacity
Owyhee Reservoir	37% of capacity
McKay Reservoir	28% of capacity
Wallowa Lake	22% of capacity
Thief Valley Reservoir	68% of capacity

STREAM FLOWS (through midnight Tuesday)

Grande Ronde at Troy	1700 cfs
Thief Valley Reservoir near North Powder	N.A.
Burnt River near Unity	9 cfs
Umatilla River near Gibbon	324 cfs
Minam River at Minam	148 cfs
Powder River near Richland	78 cfs

TUESDAY EXTREMES

NATION (for the 48 contiguous states)

High: 86°	McAllen, Texas
Low: -30°	Watertown, N.Y.
Wettest: 2.78"	Quillayute, Wash.

OREGON

High: 54°	Brookings
Low: 11°	Lakeview
Wettest: 0.92"	Astoria

WEATHER HISTORY

Snowstorms hit the Pacific Northwest and New England on Jan. 24, 1935. Winthrop, Wash., received 52 inches of snow in 24 hours, and Portland, Maine, had 23.2 inches.

SUN & MOON

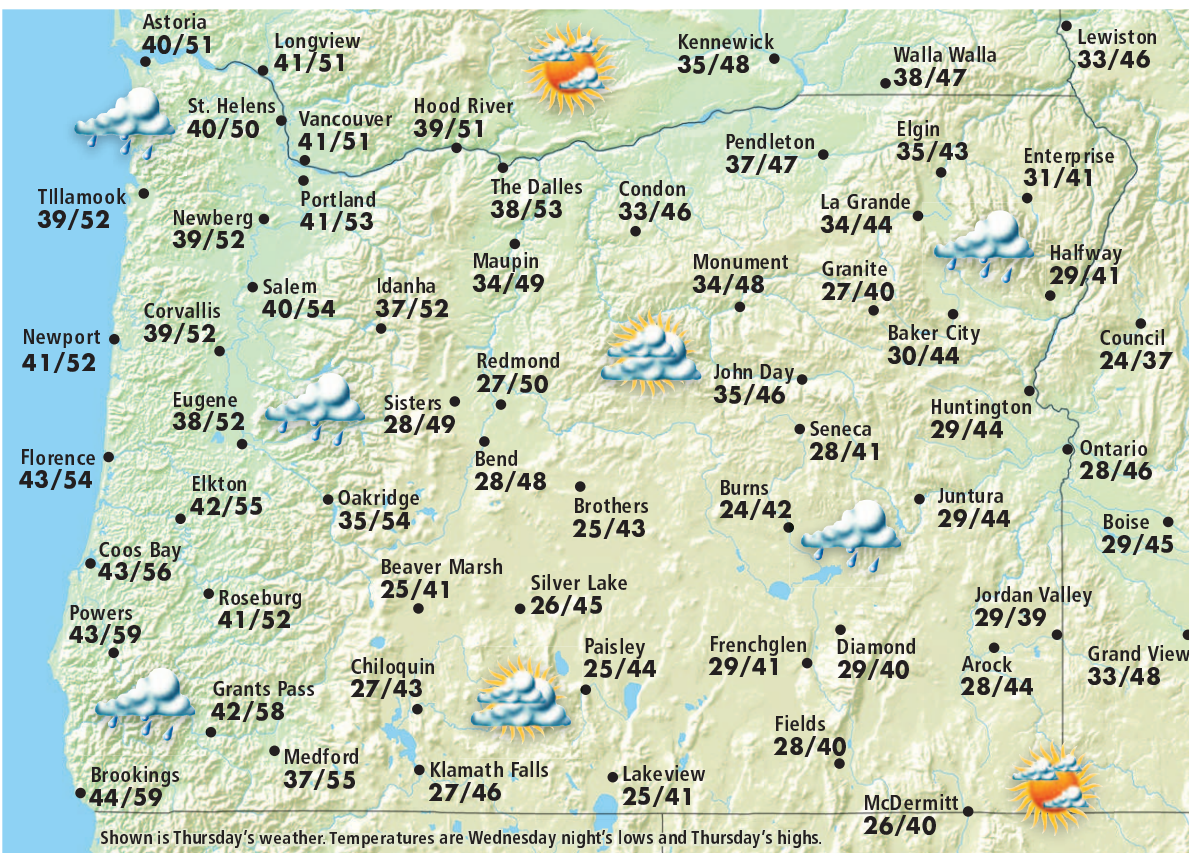
	WED.	THU.
Sunrise	7:23 a.m.	7:22 a.m.
Sunset	4:46 p.m.	4:48 p.m.
Moonrise	8:15 p.m.	9:31 p.m.
Moonset	9:15 a.m.	9:48 a.m.

MOON PHASES

Last	New	First	Full
Jan 27	Feb 4	Feb 12	Feb 19

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	51/37/pc	52/37/pc	Lewiston	46/32/c	44/29/pc
Bend	48/28/s	49/28/pc	Longview	51/37/c	50/36/pc
Boise	45/28/pc	44/25/pc	Meacham	42/26/pc	42/24/pc
Brookings	59/43/s	62/47/s	Medford	55/30/s	56/32/s
Burns	42/18/s	45/19/pc	Newport	52/39/pc	52/41/pc
Coos Bay	56/40/s	56/41/pc	Olympia	51/37/c	51/34/pc
Corvallis	52/35/pc	52/34/pc	Ontario	46/27/pc	45/27/pc
Council	37/23/pc	38/19/pc	Pasco	48/33/c	46/31/c
Elgin	43/27/pc	42/26/pc	Pendleton	47/34/c	45/32/pc
Eugene	52/36/pc	51/34/pc	Portland	53/38/pc	51/36/pc
Hermiston	50/36/c	48/32/c	Powers	59/39/s	60/40/pc
Hood River	51/38/c	52/35/c	Redmond	50/26/s	49/25/pc
Imnaha	46/29/c	46/26/pc	Roseburg	52/37/pc	51/33/pc
John Day	46/28/pc	46/28/pc	Salem	54/36/pc	53/34/pc
Joseph	40/25/pc	40/21/pc	Spokane	36/30/c	36/27/c
Kennewick	48/35/c	46/32/c	The Dalles	53/35/c	51/34/c
Klamath Falls	46/21/s	49/24/s	Ukiah	42/26/pc	43/24/pc
Lakeview	41/19/s	46/22/s	Walla Walla	47/35/c	44/36/pc

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

RECREATION FORECAST THURSDAY

ANTHONY LAKES Snow showers 26 18	PHILLIPS LAKE Rain/snow shower 40 26
MT. EMILY REC. Spotty showers 36 30	BROWNLEE RES. A shower or two 43 29
EAGLE CAP WILD. A little snow 32 19	EMIGRANT ST. PARK Spotty showers 39 30
WALLOWA LAKE Spotty showers 41 29	MCKAY RESERVOIR Spotty showers 50 37
THIEF VALLEY RES. Rain and drizzle 42 30	RED BRIDGE ST. PARK Spotty showers 44 34



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