

Man seeking commitment finds casual sex instead

DEAR ABBY: What are your thoughts about having a sex-only arrangement with an ex? Most of the women I've dated have contacted me after the relationship was over hoping to have "no-strings-attached" sex on a regular basis. I have always refused because I figured it would make it more difficult to move on and to meet someone new.

That said, I'm an attractive guy in my early 30s, and I'd hate to continue to waste my prime sexual years. I'd love to be married and have a family, but I'm struggling to find a woman who is honest, loyal, a good communicator and independent. That leaves me with either having no sex while hoping for a miracle, or a lot of sex with women I don't really like.

— SEARCHING IN OREGON
DEAR SEARCHING: Dating may look like fun, but at a certain point it becomes serious business. You have reached an age at which you know what you are looking for. However, you will never find it as long as you tie yourself to women who don't fit the bill. This does not mean you must live like a monk, only that you direct your sexual (and emotional) energies forward rather than backward if your goal is marriage and a family.

DEAR ABBY: I'm 16 and unlike most girls I know, I prefer to be natural. I don't shave or wax my body hair. My friends accept this as my business. But my stepsisters, whom I share a room with every other weekend, say I look gross and proudly display their shave and wax jobs. They say their boyfriends and nearly all guys prefer it.

I have a boyfriend, but we aren't to that point. However, someday that day will come. Does it really matter to guys if a girl shaves and waxes? Also, how do I deal with my stepsisters?

— NATURAL IN THE WEST
DEAR NATURAL: Deal with your stepsisters by continuing to ignore their advice and following your own path. The idea that women should be hairless from

the eyelids down is one that Madison Avenue and the porn industry have foisted on the public. I can't predict how "guys" will react to you in your natural state, but I can say this: A MAN who cares about you will be only too glad to accept the entire package — fur and all.

DEAR ABBY: I have a close friend who visits me often. Recently I discovered that in addition to eating snacks I put out, he has been sneaking food and things like canned beverages from my home when I'm not

looking.

He has money. In fact, he is a very generous person. I can't get over his behavior. Is it right that this bothers me, and if so, what should I say?

— MISSING MY FOOD IN CALIFORNIA
DEAR MISSING: It should bother you, because as petty as it is, it's still theft. What you should say is, "Why are you taking food from my home without asking me first?" It's a legitimate question. If he denies it, your buddy may be a bit of a kleptomaniac.

DEAR ABBY: I recently attended a concert in the hall that is home to our local symphony orchestra. Imagine my dismay when the couple sitting behind me proceeded to unwrap candy, then crumple up and throw the wrappers on the floor.

It was, to say the least, distracting — and leaving the wrappers on the floor was low class. For pity's sake, folks, clean up after yourselves!

In this age of food allergies, eating peanut butter snacks in a crowded concert hall seems a doubly poor choice. Abby, would you please remind your readers to remember their manners during a live performance?

— APPALLED IN AKRON, OHIO
DEAR APPALLED: Your frustration is understandable, and I hope your letter will serve as a reminder to concert- and theatergoers not to check their manners with their overcoats at the door.

Strongest tornado in 8 decades hits Cuba; 3 dead, 172 hurt

By Michael Weissenstein and Andrea Rodriguez
Associated Press

HAVANA — Neighborhood brigades and teams of government workers hacked at fallen trees and hauled chunks of concrete out of collapsed homes Monday as the Cuban capital attempted to recover from what officials called the strongest tornado to hit Cuba in nearly 80 years.

Three people were dead and hundreds injured, at least 12 in critical condition, after the tornado touched down with estimated winds of 200 mph in three neighborhoods across eastern Havana.

Members of the Provincial Defense Council of Havana said 90 homes collapsed completely and 30 suffered partial collapse.

A quarter of the city's roughly 2 million people were without power Monday afternoon and more than 200,000 people had lost water service because of a broken main and power cuts that left pumps out of service. Some 100 underground cisterns close to the coastal section of Havana were contaminated by seawater.

Three electric substations were knocked out by the tornado, the strongest to hit Cuba since Dec. 26, 1940, when a Category F4 tornado hit the town of Bejucal, in what is now Mayabeque province, officials said. It also appeared to be the first tornado to hit the capital in at least as many years.

Residents of the three relatively poor boroughs hit by the tornado were bracing for further calamity once the

tropical sun started to dry sodden buildings, which can often lead to structures shifting and collapsing.

Julio Menendez, a 33-year-old restaurant worker, said his neighborhood in Havana's 10 de Octubre district looked "like a horror movie."

"From one moment to the next, we heard a noise like an airplane falling out of the sky. The first thing I did was go hug my daughters," who are 9 and 12, he told The Associated Press.

Driver Oster Rodriguez said that amid a fierce storm, what looked like a thick, swirling cloud touched down in the central plaza of the Reparto Modelo neighborhood "like a fireball." He saw a bus blown over, though he said the driver escaped unharmed.

Miguel Angel Hernandez of the Cuban Center for Meteorology said the tornado was a Category F3, with winds between 155 and 199 miles per hour, produced when a cold front hit Cuba's northern coast. Other meteorologist told state media that the tornado may have been even stronger.

Some of the heaviest damage from Sunday night's rare tornado was in the eastern borough of Guanabacoa, where the twister tore the roof off a shelter for dozens of homeless families.

Cubans enduring long waits for government housing often live in such multifamily shelters for years.

Dianabys Bueno, 31, was living in the shelter with her husband and son after they were forced to relocate by the collapse of their home

in Central Havana. Much of the housing in Havana is in dire condition due to years without maintenance, and building collapses are routine even in ordinary storms.

"This has already happened to us once," Bueno said. "I'm not going anywhere."

Around Havana, cars were crushed by fallen light posts and vehicles were trapped in floodwaters.

Leany Calvo, a restaurant cook in the 10th de Octubre borough, said she was working Sunday night despite heavy rain and wind when she heard a rumbling noise outside and looked out to see what appeared to be a tornado touching down.

"It was something that touched down, and then took off again. It was like a tower," she said, describing it as displaying colors of red and green. "It was here for two-three seconds, nothing more. They were the most frightening seconds of my life."

The tornado tore the concrete roof off an apartment building in the Regla section of Havana and dumped it into an alleyway, briefly trapping residents in their homes.

Marlene Marrero Garcia, 77, said she was in her ground-floor apartment with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren Sunday night when she heard electrical transformers begin to explode. Then the tornado passed.

"It looked like fire, everything was red, then everything began to fall," she said.

Marrero said she and her family were trapped by debris for about half an hour before firefighters arrived.

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weather

TONIGHT	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
Freezing fog	Mostly cloudy and breezy	A bit of afternoon rain	Mostly cloudy	A little rain
Baker City 23 Comfort Index™ 3	43 29 3	42 34 1	43 33 3	45 26 2
La Grande 28 Comfort Index™ 3	46 34 3	44 36 0	46 34 3	42 27 0
Enterprise 26 Comfort Index™ 4	45 31 4	44 35 2	45 32 4	41 25 1

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	Baker City	La Grande	Elgin
TEMPERATURES			
High Tuesday	43°	42°	42°
Low Tuesday	16°	18°	17°
PRECIPITATION (inches)			
Tuesday	0.00	0.00	0.00
Month to date	0.54	1.61	3.40
Normal month to date	0.75	1.55	2.99
Year to date	0.54	1.61	3.40
Normal year to date	0.75	1.55	2.99

AGRICULTURAL INFO.	
HAY INFORMATION THURSDAY	
Lowest relative humidity	45%
Afternoon wind	SSE at 10 to 20 mph
Hours of sunshine	2.1
Evapotranspiration	0.06

RESERVOIR STORAGE (through midnight Tuesday)	
Phillips Reservoir	9% of capacity
Unity Reservoir	31% of capacity
Owyhee Reservoir	38% of capacity
McKay Reservoir	39% of capacity
Wallowa Lake	23% of capacity
Thief Valley Reservoir	77% of capacity
STREAM FLOWS (through midnight Tuesday)	
Grande Ronde at Troy	1650 cfs
Thief Valley Reservoir near North Powder	N.A.
Burnt River near Unity	10 cfs
Umatilla River near Gibbon	284 cfs
Minam River at Minam	114 cfs
Powder River near Richland	35 cfs

TUESDAY EXTREMES	
NATION (for the 48 contiguous states)	
High: 78°	El Centro, Calif.
Low: -36°	Fosston, Minn.
Wettest: 1.93"	Panama City, Fla.

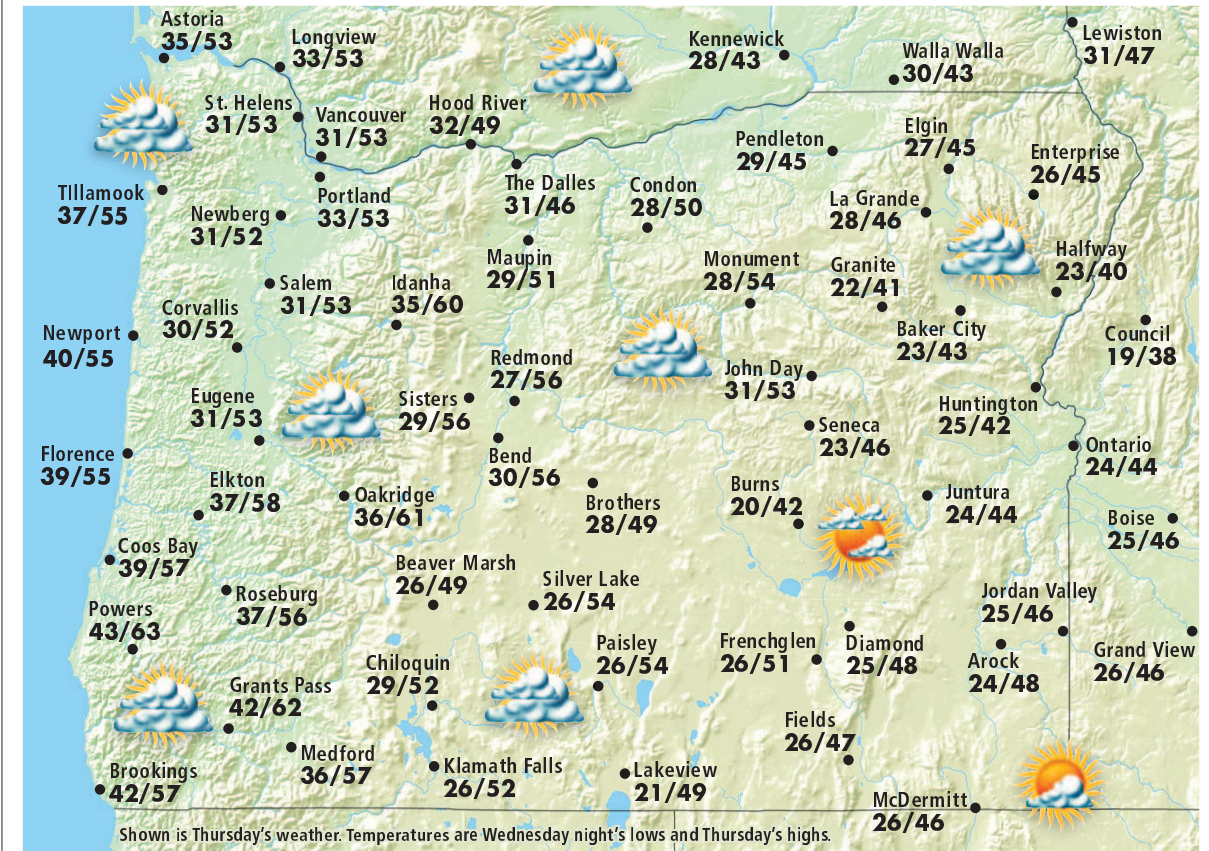
OREGON	
High: 60°	North Bend
Low: 11°	Meacham
Wettest: none	

WEATHER HISTORY	
January of 1977 was Philadelphia's coldest January in 211 years. Buffalo, N.Y., was buried in a huge blizzard, and more than 100 inches of snow fell in West Virginia.	

SUN & MOON	
Sunrise	7:16 a.m.
Sunset	4:56 p.m.
Moonrise	3:13 a.m.
Moonset	12:50 p.m.

MOON PHASES			
New	First	Full	Last
			
Feb 4	Feb 12	Feb 19	Feb 26

AROUND OREGON AND THE REGION



REGIONAL CITIES

City	THU. HI/Lo/W	FRI. HI/Lo/W
Astoria	53/46/c	52/41/r
Bend	56/38/c	48/33/r
Boise	46/28/pc	50/38/c
Brookings	57/48/c	53/46/r
Burns	42/23/c	43/31/r
Coos Bay	57/47/c	53/45/r
Corvallis	52/42/c	50/40/r
Council	38/22/pc	41/33/c
Elgin	45/34/c	44/36/r
Eugene	53/44/c	51/41/r
Hermiston	44/33/c	45/37/r
Hood River	49/40/c	48/41/r
Imnaha	49/36/c	49/39/r
John Day	53/37/c	51/42/r
Joseph	44/30/c	43/34/r
Kennewick	43/32/c	43/36/r
Klamath Falls	52/36/c	46/32/r
Lakeview	49/31/c	45/33/r

City	THU. HI/Lo/W	FRI. HI/Lo/W
Lewiston	47/33/c	46/39/r
Longview	53/45/c	51/43/r
Meacham	44/33/c	43/36/r
Medford	57/43/c	53/42/r
Newport	55/47/c	52/44/r
Olympia	52/43/c	50/40/r
Ontario	44/27/c	46/36/r
Pasco	42/31/c	42/35/r
Pendleton	45/35/c	48/37/r
Portland	53/43/c	51/42/r
Powers	63/47/c	53/45/r
Redmond	56/37/c	51/33/r
Roseburg	56/44/c	51/44/r
Salem	53/43/c	51/41/r
Spokane	38/29/c	39/34/r
The Dalles	46/36/c	46/39/r
Ukiah	50/32/c	47/36/r
Walla Walla	43/34/c	44/39/r

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	Mostly cloudy	29 18
MT. EMILY REC.	Mostly cloudy	37 29
EAGLE CAP WILD.	Mostly cloudy	30 16
WALLOWA LAKE	Mostly cloudy	41 26
THIEF VALLEY RES.	Mostly cloudy	41 23

PHILLIPS LAKE	Mainly cloudy	39 22
BROWNLEE RES.	Periods of sun	42 25
EMIGRANT ST. PARK	Mainly cloudy	41 24
MCKAY RESERVOIR	Mostly cloudy	43 30
RED BRIDGE ST. PARK	Mostly cloudy	43 28



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