

Readers advocate respect for opposing viewpoints

DEAR ABBY: I'm writing regarding "Open-Minded in the South" (Nov. 24), the Christian woman who's a supporter of the LGBTQ community. She's concerned about her boyfriend's mother's inability to see her viewpoint and the effect it would have on future kids I experienced something nearly identical. My boyfriend's grandfather is an ordained pastor, and they raised their kids in a conservative home.

ing point of view, it doesn't mean they hate you or are ignorant. Our culture is increasingly unable to engage in reasoned dialogue. Instead, people resort to shouting down reasonable thought and civil debate. My wife and I disagree over substantive issues, but we cope. Our society needs to work toward a renewal of civility.



DEAR ABBY

After a few conversations with them about LGBTQ people and other issues, we received a six-page letter detailing the "sins" we were committing.

Fast-forward 20 years: I get along with my in-laws fabulously. In fact, the grandfather has said I'm his favorite! We don't agree on pretty much anything politically, but I do still voice my opinion if the family says something I don't agree with.

My husband and I have two kids who often hear the in-laws say some judgmental things, and it's a great segue to a conversation with my kids afterward. They understand that not everyone is going to have the same beliefs, and even though we don't agree with the in-laws on these issues, we love them dearly. It definitely isn't a reason to end a good relationship.

As to "Open-Minded's" boyfriend not being up for the argument with his mom, he could be like my husband who HAS had conversations with them to no avail and realizes it's futile.

— BEEN THERE AND STILL THERE

DEAR BEEN THERE: My readers used "Open-Minded's" letter as an opportunity to have a forum about respect, love and civility. I found their comments both valid and refreshing. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: It is interesting that open-minded people are often open-minded only if you agree with them and are otherwise completely dogmatic. Neither party will ever convince the other that they are wrong. The solution: Don't talk about the problem issue.

We have a relative who holds office in a political party opposite to ours. We have a tacit agreement to simply never talk politics, and we get along great. Life is short, and there's nothing more important than family and friends. Agree to disagree!

— CALM IN KENTUCKY

DEAR ABBY: When people have an oppos-

— NO HATE IN TEXAS

DEAR ABBY: BOTH women are entitled to their beliefs and opinions. It's commendable that they discussed their differences. Now the question is, "How do I respond to someone important

in my life with whom I disagree?" The answer is RESPECT. Rather than demean each other, the women should choose to find some solid ground on which to build a relationship.

To advise "Open-Minded" to consider leaving her boyfriend because of his mother's beliefs shocked me. In my family there is an array of different views. We all know where we stand and steer clear of the bombshells. We have chosen to love each other, accept each other as is and be as close as we can despite our differences. It takes some work, but it's worth it. We have even been able to joke with one another in a good-natured way. THAT is love and respect at its best, and more of what our world could use today.

— HAPPY IN KANSAS

DEAR READERS: I confess I wholeheartedly agree.

DEAR ABBY: I have developed a weird habit. I'll remember something that happened in the past, think of what I should have said and then burst out loud with a remark. Other times I'll chuckle or say something like, "Oh, no!"

Sometimes my husband hears me and asks if something is wrong. How can I explain this without seeming like I'm totally losing it? Or am I? I'm only 50, and I'm afraid I'm turning into a dotty old lady.

— CRAZY? LADY IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR LADY: What you're doing isn't that unusual, so try to be less hard on yourself. You're not crazy, and you're no dottie than the rest of us. Explain to your husband that when you do this, it is an attempt to "repair" the past.

New storm brings more rain and snow to the West

By John Antczak

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — More rain, snow and wind hit the West on Wednesday, flooding roads, toppling trees and cutting power while raising threats of debris flows from wildfire scars.

The tempest, aimed at California and southern Oregon and barreling toward Nevada, was feeding on a deep plume of moisture stretching across the Pacific Ocean to near Hawaii, the National Weather Service said.

The storm followed more than a week of severe weather in the Pacific Northwest and was the latest in a series that has all but eliminated drought-level dryness in California this winter.

Winter storm warnings were posted in the snow-laden Sierra Nevada, where the forecast says up to 7 feet (2.1 meters) of new snow could be dumped at elevations above 9,000 feet (2,743 meters).

The National Weather Service recorded winds gusting to 132 mph (213 kph) late Tuesday and early Wednesday atop the Mount Rose ski resort southwest of Reno, Nevada.

A backcountry avalanche warning was issued throughout the Sierra.

"We are still trying to dig out of the last system and we have another big storm here," said Kevin "Coop" Cooper, spokesman for Kirkwood Mountain Resort south of Lake Tahoe.

Snow heavily impacted stretches of vital Interstate 5 in far northern California,

causing closures and forcing tire chain requirements.

A local state of emergency was declared in Shasta County due to "significant" storm damage, a Sheriff's Office statement said. Redding, the county seat, turned its library into a warming center.

Power outages also hit thousands of utility customers in the region.

In the fire-scarred Gold Rush town of Magalia, resident Doug Sheridan woke up to find electricity out across his neighborhood, apparently the result of a fallen tree limb that downed a power line.

"It finally came back on about 9:15," he said by phone as heavy rain pounded his house, melting snow that fell the night before and causing it to break off in large chunks and splatter on the ground.

Widespread roadway flooding occurred north of San Francisco Bay. To the east, a swath of California's Central Valley was under a flood warning.

At one point, flight arrivals at San Francisco International Airport were experiencing delays of several hours, the Federal Aviation Administration said.

In the Fresno County city of Sanger, police posted social media photos of wind damage to the roof of a school along with snapped trees.

Even before the storm spread into Southern California, voluntary evacuation warnings were in effect for some areas near a burn scar on the Riverside County side of the Santa Ana Mountains.

In Santa Barbara County

, hard-hit by a devastating debris flow in January 2018, officials predicted rainfall rates were below thresholds for new flows, but residents were still advised to stay alert.

In Washington, about 12,000 Puget Sound Energy customers remained without power Wednesday and Interstate 90 was closed for a second day across Snoqualmie Pass in the Cascade Mountains. The town of North Bend declared a state of emergency due to several feet of snow.

In Oregon, transportation officials closed westbound lanes of Interstate 84 in the Columbia River Gorge due to icy conditions that caused numerous wrecks. Local media reported that a huge number of vehicles became stranded overnight, and Oregon State Police handed out food and fuel to the motorists. The Oregon Department of Transportation tweeted Wednesday that it was still working to free vehicles.

The West's winter storms have greatly aided California's water supply.

The most recent Sierra snowpack survey taken on Jan. 31 was 100 percent of normal to date and more snow has fallen since.

In the Eastern Sierra, the Mammoth Mountain resort reported the latest storm had already added another 8 inches (to its summit season total, which is nearing 38 feet.

Mammoth said it planned to keep its slopes open to skiing and boarding through the Fourth of July, at least.

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weather

TONIGHT Mostly cloudy	SAT A little snow	SUN Mostly cloudy and chilly	MON Cold with some sun	TUE Snow or flurries possible
Baker City 22 Comfort Index™ 0	36 20 0	35 17 1	33 16 0	34 24 0
La Grande 24 Comfort Index™ 1	38 23 0	34 20 0	32 19 1	33 29 0
Enterprise 21 Comfort Index™ 0	35 19 0	30 14 0	28 14 0	32 25 0

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 Wednesday	40°	38°	39°
Low Wednesday	32°	33°	33°
PRECIPITATION (inches)			
Wednesday	0.01	Trace	0.30
Month to date	0.86	1.36	3.23
Normal month to date	0.27	0.51	1.11
Year to date	1.40	2.97	6.63
Normal year to date	1.07	2.14	4.28

WED. EXTREMES

NATION (for the 48 contiguous states)	
High: 80°	Marathon, Fla.
Low: 20°	Harvey, N.D.
Wettest: 3.86"	Santa Rosa, Calif.
OREGON	
High: 49°	Scappoose
Low: 19°	Crater Lake
Wettest: 0.92"	Brookings

AGRICULTURAL INFO.

HAY INFORMATION SATURDAY

Lowest relative humidity	50%
Afternoon wind	S at 6 to 12 mph
Hours of sunshine	0.4
Evapotranspiration	0.04

RESERVOIR STORAGE (through midnight Thursday)

Phillips Reservoir	9% of capacity
Unity Reservoir	35% of capacity
Owyhee Reservoir	40% of capacity
McKay Reservoir	50% of capacity
Wallowa Lake	27% of capacity
Thief Valley Reservoir	98% of capacity

STREAM FLOWS (through midnight Wednesday)

Grande Ronde at Troy	N.A.
Thief Valley Reservoir near North Powder	N.A.
Burnt River near Unity	7 cfs
Umatilla River near Gibbon	161 cfs
Minam River at Minam	N.A.
Powder River near Richland	44 cfs

WEATHER HISTORY

In 1980, a series of storms brought heavy rain to California, Oregon and Washington in mid-February. Mount Wilson, Calif., had 9.00 inches of rain in two days.

SUN & MOON

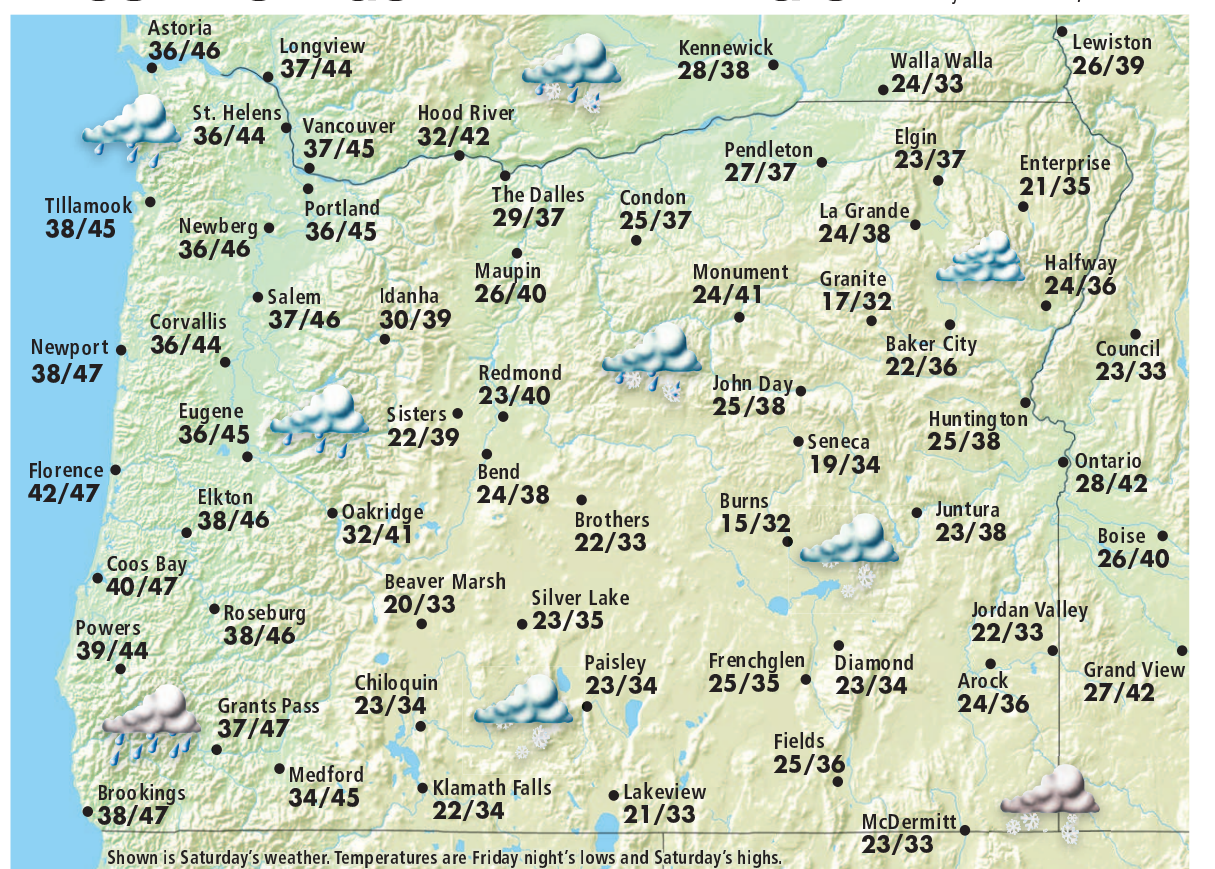
	FRI.	SAT.
Sunrise	6:54 a.m.	6:53 a.m.
Sunset	5:19 p.m.	5:21 p.m.
Moonrise	12:56 p.m.	1:57 p.m.
Moonset	3:36 a.m.	4:40 a.m.

MOON PHASES

Full	Last	New	First
Feb 19	Feb 26	Mar 6	Mar 14

AROUND OREGON AND THE REGION

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REGIONAL CITIES

City	SAT.		SUN.		City	SAT.		SUN.	
	Hi/Lo	W	Hi/Lo	W		Hi/Lo	W	Hi/Lo	W
Astoria	46/34	sh	46/30	sh	Lewiston	39/26	sn	35/26	c
Bend	38/19	sn	34/15	sn	Longview	44/31	sh	44/25	c
Boise	40/24	c	38/20	c	Meacham	36/21	sn	32/18	c
Brookings	47/31	r	48/33	c	Medford	45/29	sn	42/25	sn
Burns	32/15	sn	30/7	sn	Newport	47/35	r	47/34	c
Coos Bay	47/34	r	48/32	c	Olympia	44/27	sh	42/25	sh
Corvallis	44/32	r	44/27	c	Ontario	42/25	c	41/26	c
Council	33/18	sn	34/14	c	Pasco	32/25	sn	32/17	c
Elgin	37/22	sn	33/18	c	Pendleton	37/24	c	31/20	c
Eugene	45/33	r	44/28	c	Portland	45/34	r	45/28	c
Hermiston	39/25	c	34/18	c	Powers	44/31	r	47/28	c
Hood River	42/26	sn	41/26	sn	Redmond	40/20	sn	37/16	sn
Imnaha	42/21	sn	37/21	c	Roseburg	46/33	r	42/30	c
John Day	38/23	sn	34/18	sn	Salem	46/34	r	46/27	c
Joseph	35/20	sn	31/14	c	Spokane	31/21	sf	28/8	c
Kennewick	38/25	sn	34/16	c	The Dalles	37/25	sn	36/25	sn
Klamath Falls	34/18	sn	33/10	sn	Ukiah	36/20	sn	30/14	c
Lakeview	33/16	sn	32/8	sn	Walla Walla	33/22	c	28/20	c

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

RECREATION FORECAST SATURDAY

Location	Forecast	High	Low
ANTHONY LAKES	A bit of snow	15	5
PHILLIPS LAKE	A little snow	33	17
MT. EMILY REC.	A little snow	27	17
BROWNLEE RES.	A bit of snow	38	25
EAGLE CAP WILD.	A little snow	23	10
EMIGRANT ST. PARK	A little snow	33	19
WALLOWA LAKE	A little snow	35	20
MCKAY RESERVOIR	Rain/snow shower	39	23
THIEF VALLEY RES.	A bit of snow	36	20
RED BRIDGE ST. PARK	A little snow	38	23



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