

Once-close sibling starts acting differently after nephew's birth

DEAR ABBY: I have always been close to my oldest brother and his wife. I'm 24 years younger than they are. In some ways, I think I was like a child to them because they were never able to have children naturally or through adoption.

Ever since I had my first child two years ago, they have become distant.



DEAR ABBY

from him. Should I forget about it, unless he mentions it? Even then, I'm afraid to tell him the real number.

— TORN UP IN THE EAST

DEAR TORN UP: You were entitled to have a life before you met the man you eventually married. These days, most men and women have a past,

so please stop flogging yourself with guilt over yours. Your past is

over. Concentrate on your present. Your husband obviously loves you exactly the way you are. Your history has made you the person you are.

DEAR ABBY: I am considering putting aside some money for my granddaughter's college education while I am able to do so. Do I need to see a lawyer for this? I just want a simple solution and need to know the best way to do it. She is 12 and wants to go to college someday. Is setting up a private bank account just for her a good idea? I really need some help in doing it the right way.

— SAD SIS IN CALIFORNIA
DEAR SIS: Because your brother is a "straight shooter," get to the point and tell him you are hurt because of the change in his behavior. Then ask him to explain what's going on. Unless you know for sure what has caused it, there is nothing you can do.

My brother is a straight shooter. When I asked him if I did something to offend him, he said no, but his behavior suggests otherwise. I feel like by having children, I have lost part of my family. Is there anything I can do?

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I don't care about the material items, but they used to send me very thoughtful gifts.) My brother has gotten angry at me over how I feed my son (I don't give him sweets), and says he will no longer be around me if food is involved. He's late to return emails I send. This hurts immensely.

DEAR REACHING OUT:

I'm glad you asked. Contact the parents, tell them about your discovery and ask whether they would like to have it. I would be very surprised if they didn't.

They will probably regard it as an unexpected gift.

I have been married for two years and everything is great. We rarely fight. The only thing that's bothering me is my husband has never asked me about my past lovers—never asked how many or any other details. I have had quite a past. He hasn't. I feel bad because I feel like I'm hiding it.

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DEAR ABBY: I need help.

I am a middle school drama teacher. Five years ago, one of my eighth graders and a friend snuck out late at night during a sleepover. While attempting to cross an interstate highway,

my student was struck by a car and killed.

A few days ago, as I was clearing space off an old external hard drive, I found a 90-second video of my deceased student doing a play audition a couple of months before her demise. It is a middle close-up (waist to head) and very clear. It's probably one of the last videos of her with such high quality. My question is, five years after her funeral, should I reach out to her parents or would that be too painful for them?

— REACHING OUT

DEAR REACHING OUT: I'm glad you asked. Contact the parents, tell them about your discovery and ask whether they would like to have it. I would be very surprised if they didn't. They will probably regard it as an unexpected gift.

FIS said the Saturday

World Cup downhill called off due to poor snow surface

By James Ellingworth
The Associated Press

KRASNAYA POLYANA, Russia — The second-to-last women's downhill of the World Cup season has been canceled in Russia after poor course conditions meant a mandatory training session was canceled for three straight days.

Downhill's high speeds mean athletes can't be expected to race on a course without having trained on it.

"The course was set on the slope Friday morning before heavy snowfall once again settled in for the day," the International Ski Federation said. Heavy snow continued in the afternoon.

The course is staging its first top-level Alpine ski races since the 2014 Sochi Olympics.

morning race slot at the Rosa Khutor venue will go to a super-G, which was scheduled for Sunday.

A second super-G will be raced on Sunday, using the vacant day to reschedule a race canceled in January at St. Anton, Austria.

Race organizers, course crew, and officials are doing everything in their power to battle the unfortunate weather conditions and hold races in Rosa Khutor where the weather is expected to clear up by Sunday," FIS said.

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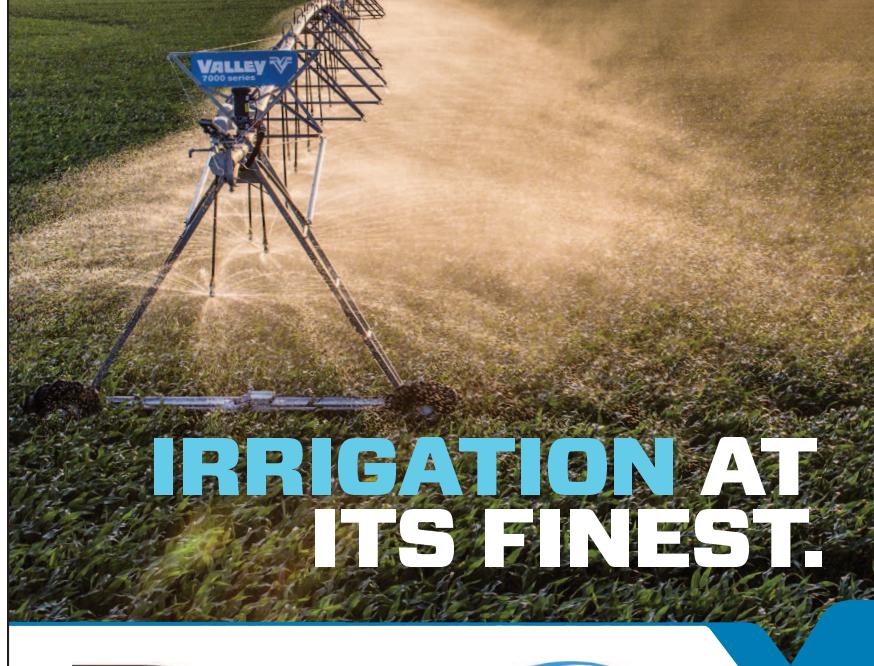
This weekend, American

star Mikaela Shiffrin will be mathematically confirmed as the winner of her third straight World Cup overall title.

Shiffrin leads the standings by more than 700 points from her main rival Petra Vlhova of Slovakia. With 100 points awarded for a win, only six races will remain when the circuit leaves Russia.

Shiffrin's title is already a formality as she and Vlhova, who are technical race specialists, are skipping the speed races this weekend.

All other skiers trail at least 900 points behind Shiffrin, who has a career-best 14 World Cup wins this season.



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