

Man’s explosive anger causes concern for easy going fiancée

DEAR ABBY: I'm engaged to a wonderful guy. He is very sweet, and I'm beyond thankful for him. I wouldn't trade him for the world. But he has a character flaw that's hard to ignore. When he gets frustrated, he screams out loud and takes a while to get himself together.

When he lost his phone on a plane and was angry for hours, he pouted and scowled like the world had just ended. I have a very easygoing personality, and I don't understand this type of behavior. (He contacted his phone provider, and a new phone was delivered to him within 24 hours.)

When I talked to him about his anger, he said sometimes people get frustrated and show emotions. He added that he has noticed this issue, and it's something he's been working on for years. What should I do or say the next time we encounter a mishap and he becomes angry?

— WONDERING IN WASHINGTON, D.C.
DEAR WONDERING: Your fiance may be a perfectionist or even have a touch of OCD, which is why he is so hard on himself when he makes a mistake and becomes frustrated. For his own sake (and yours), he needs to find a better way of venting his emotions.

While anger is something everyone experiences at one time or another, most people start learning to control it during childhood. While pouting and scowling are acceptable, your fiance “screaming” over losing his cellphone seems over the top. Not only that, it is intimidating. Your fiance needs to learn to channel his emotions more constructively because if he doesn't, it may eventually drive others away. We live in increasingly stressful times. It takes self-control as well as maturity to react calmly instead of exploding. Being in touch with his emotions will not only help your fiance calm himself without losing it, it will also help him maintain the respect of others.

DEAR ABBY: I have a friend and co-worker who likes to play with my hair, rub my back and put her hands on me in general. I am not a touchy-feely kind of person with anyone, and it makes me very uncomfortable when she does this. Is there a polite way of telling her to stop without making her feel uncomfortable

or hurting her feelings? I'm not a “beat around the bush” kind of person, and I sometimes lack the tact of putting things nicely.

— NO TOUCHY-FEELY
DEAR NO TOUCHY-FEELY: To express your feelings would not be lacking in tact; it would be setting a boundary. Try this: “I like you very much, and I know the feelings are mutual, but I do not like to be touched, and I want you to stop doing it.”

DEAR ABBY: I am a 25-year-old college student on the verge of graduation. Over the past three months, I have been dating a slightly younger man (he's 21). We get along well, and I thoroughly enjoy his company. He has never been anything but kind and supportive.

My parents have an issue with the match. My boyfriend is Latino, born and raised in a South American country. He speaks and understands English well, although speaking it does make him a little nervous. I speak Spanish fluently, so when we talk to each other, he speaks in Spanish and I speak in English, and we have no problem communicating.

My parents think that relationships (especially marriages) are already hard enough, and adding cultural differences to the equation is a dangerous gamble for my future happiness. They strongly oppose my continuing my relationship with him. Do you think their argument is valid?

I've looked up statistics that say marriages between a Latino man and white woman are the most likely to end in divorce (not that I'm thinking of marrying him any time soon, but one of my future goals is to be in a happy marriage, and I realize that you marry who you date). The idea of ending a relationship with someone I adore based on statistics is upsetting to me. I'd really appreciate your thoughts.

— GROWN-UP IN UTAH
DEAR GROWN-UP: You have been dating this man for only three months. By the age of 25, the decision about whom you decide to eventually marry should be yours, not your parents', regardless of how well-meaning they are. Do not let statistics rule your life because there are always exceptions. Let this play out, and you will have your answer.

OREGON

Witness recalls panic after children swept to sea

The Associated Press

PORTLAND — Joanne Cornelius had just finished taking photos of the breathtaking waves and extreme high tide outside her home on the Oregon Coast when a frantic woman pounded on her window and asked her to call 911.

Children had been washed out to sea by a wave, the woman said.

A family visiting from Portland had been storm-watching on the remote beach Saturday when a powerful wave caught them by surprise, sweeping the father, his 4-year-old son and his 7-year-old daughter into the surf.

A police officer pulled the girl from the waves, but she died Saturday at a hospital. The boy's body has not been found, and the U.S. Coast Guard discontinued the search Monday. The father, Jeremy Stiles, 47, survived and is recovering from hypothermia at a hospital.

“It's a dangerous beach. It's a thing that people have to be aware of in winter at the beach at the Oregon Coast. There's dangerous waves, and when the signs are up, people have a tendency to walk right by,” said Cornelius, who recalled seeing the family heading toward the beach a few minutes earlier as she returned from photographing the waves.

“It was tragic, just absolutely tragic.”

The family said in a statement on a GoFundMe page that the family had been walking on a beach trail when



The Associated Press

A Coast Guard helicopter searches for a missing boy near Falcon Cove Beach in Clatsop County.

the waves came crashing in. The posting identified the children as William and Lola.

“Our hearts as you can imagine could not be more broken as both children were loved beyond measure by our entire family and so many others,” the statement said.

It's a scenario that plays out all too often on the Oregon Coast, a rugged and treacherous shoreline that is made more dangerous each winter by powerful storms and “sneaker waves” — fast-moving surges of water that materialize within seconds to swallow a seemingly dry beach with knee-deep water.

In most areas, the beach is flanked by steep bluffs or rocky outcroppings that make it hard to run away.

On Saturday, a fierce storm blowing ashore was made even more dangerous because of an unusually high tide, called a king tide, that added 11 feet to the

tops of already huge waves, said Rick Hudson, emergency manager for the nearby town of Cannon Beach.

King tides occur when the sun and moon line up and their combined gravity makes the tides much higher and much lower than normal. They can cause flooding and inundate normally dry beaches.

The waves at high tide on Saturday were 15 feet , and swells further out were up to 40 feet, with winds of about 25 mph, the Coast Guard said. Sea spray and foam covered the entire beach, authorities said.

“When he walked out on that beach, he may have seen 20 to 30 feet of beach that wasn't occupied by the highest level of surf and he may have thought it was safe, but the sneaker waves that come up can catch people off guard,” Hudson said of Stiles.

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weather

	TONIGHT	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
	Breezy early; cloudy	Morning snow, up to 1"	Clouds and sun; chilly	Cloudy with a bit of snow	Cloudy
Baker City	28	38 21	34 21	35 25	38 25
Comfort Index™	0	0	2	0	1
La Grande	31	39 23	33 25	33 28	35 22
Comfort Index™	0	0	1	0	1
Enterprise	29	39 21	31 20	35 25	36 22
Comfort Index™	0	0	3	0	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		Baker City	La Grande	Elgin
TEMPERATURES				
High Monday		34°	35°	32°
Low Monday		19°	28°	28°
PRECIPITATION (inches)				
Monday		Trace	Trace	0.82
Month to date		0.11	0.66	4.30
Normal month to date		0.38	0.75	1.41
Year to date		0.11	0.66	4.30
Normal year to date		0.38	0.75	1.41

AGRICULTURAL INFO.			
HAY INFORMATION THURSDAY			
Lowest relative humidity			45%
Afternoon wind		S at 8 to 16 mph	
Hours of sunshine		0.4	
Evapotranspiration		0.06	

RESERVOIR STORAGE	(through midnight Tuesday)		
Phillips Reservoir		23% of capacity	
Unity Reservoir		45% of capacity	
Owyhee Reservoir		69% of capacity	
McKay Reservoir		21% of capacity	
Wallowa Lake		41% of capacity	
Thief Valley Reservoir		101% of capacity	

STREAM FLOWS	(through midnight Monday)		
Grande Ronde at Troy		1130 cfs	
Thief Valley Reservoir near North Powder		82 cfs	
Burnt River near Unity		11 cfs	
Umatilla River near Gibbon		115 cfs	
Minam River at Minam		114 cfs	
Powder River near Richland		108 cfs	

MONDAY EXTREMES		
NATION (for the 48 contiguous states)		
High: 87°		McAllen, Texas
Low: -18°		Cut Bank, Mont.
Wettest: 5.07"		Andalusia, Ala.
OREGON		
High: 50°		Brookings
Low: 18°		Burns
Wettest: 2.04"		Brookings

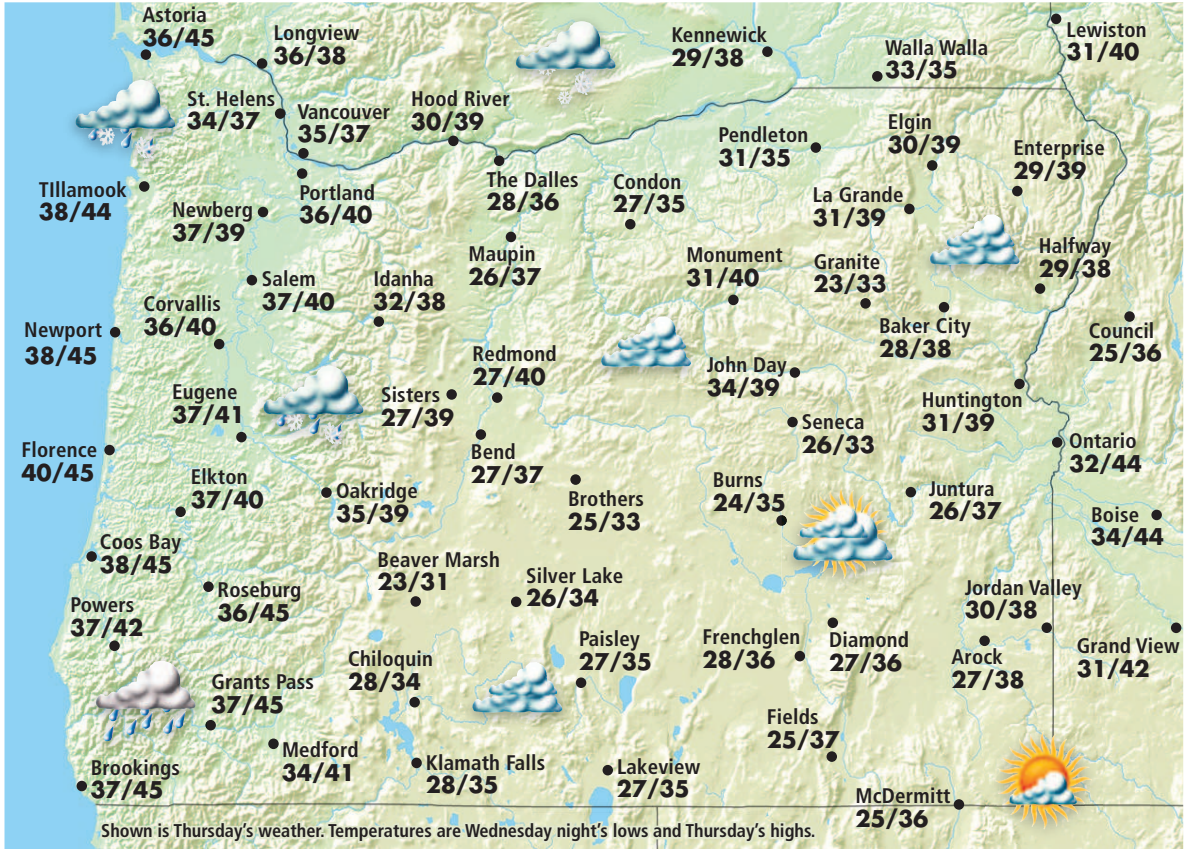
WEATHER HISTORY		
On Jan. 15, 1780, ice in the New York Harbor was thick enough to allow the transport of heavy cannons. While river ice can stop boat traffic, it can also create possibilities.		

SUN & MOON		WED.	THU.
Sunrise		7:28 a.m.	7:28 a.m.
Sunset		4:35 p.m.	4:36 p.m.
Moonrise		10:49 p.m.	none
Moonset		10:44 a.m.	11:11 a.m.

MOON PHASES	Last	New	First	Full
				
	Jan 17	Jan 24	Feb 1	Feb 8

AROUND OREGON AND THE REGION

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REGIONAL CITIES

	THU.	FRI.		THU.	FRI.
City	Hi/Low/W	Hi/Low/W	City	Hi/Low/W	Hi/Low/W
Astoria	45/34/c	44/39/c	Lewiston	40/29/sn	37/25/pc
Bend	37/21/sn	34/29/c	Longview	38/34/c	41/38/c
Boise	44/30/sf	39/27/pc	Meacham	37/22/sn	32/24/pc
Brookings	45/36/r	48/44/c	Medford	41/27/sn	41/35/c
Burns	35/13/sn	27/18/c	Newport	45/34/c	44/41/c
Coos Bay	45/35/r	47/43/c	Olympia	39/29/sn	41/37/sn
Corvallis	40/33/sn	43/39/c	Ontario	44/28/sf	41/27/c
Council	36/23/sf	30/19/c	Pasco	38/28/c	40/30/pc
Elgin	39/23/sn	33/24/pc	Pendleton	35/23/c	38/28/pc
Eugene	41/32/sn	46/40/c	Portland	40/32/sn	43/39/c
Hermiston	37/25/c	40/31/pc	Powers	42/34/r	44/41/r
Hood River	39/28/c	38/31/sn	Redmond	40/21/sn	38/31/c
Imnaha	43/22/sn	35/24/pc	Roseburg	45/31/r	47/41/c
John Day	39/19/sn	34/28/c	Salem	40/31/c	44/41/c
Joseph	38/19/sn	30/20/pc	Spokane	36/22/sn	30/19/c
Kennewick	38/26/c	38/27/pc	The Dalles	36/27/c	36/30/c
Klamath Falls	35/13/sn	35/26/c	Ukiah	36/16/sn	30/23/pc
Lakeview	35/18/sf	32/22/c	Walla Walla	35/28/c	38/30/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	A little snow		PHILLIPS LAKE	A bit of snow	
23	7		34	17	
MT. EMILY REC.	Snow, up to 1"		BROWNLEE RES.	Snow, 1-3"	
30	18		40	24	
EAGLE CAP WLD.	Snow, 1-3"; cold		EMIGRANT ST. PARK	Snow, up to 1"	
26	10		34	17	
WALLOWA LAKE	Snow, 1-3"		MCKAY RESERVOIR	Snow, up to 1"	
38	19		38	24	
THIEF VALLEY RES.	Snow, 1-3"		RED BRIDGE ST. PARK	Snow, up to 1"	
38	21		39	23	

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Baker City Herald THE OBSERVER