

Bride chooses not to walk down the aisle with her father

DEAR ABBY: For some reason, my father hates my fiancée to the point where, when I stayed with my fiancée for one day, Dad wouldn't allow me to come home. Dad said many nasty things after eventually letting me back home, but among the more hurtful ones were that he hoped my fiancée would abuse me, and that I shouldn't be allowed to get married.

He says he doesn't remember saying them, but I remember them well.

Only my immediate family and my fiancée's family know the specifics, and whenever I say I would rather have my brother walk me down the aisle, my relatives are

all in disbelief. Dad has come to terms with my engagement to my fiancée, but he treats him differently compared to my older sister's boyfriend. Am I really in the wrong for not wanting him to escort me?

— MISUNDERSTOOD BRIDE-TO-BE

DEAR MISUNDERSTOOD: Does your father have a substance abuse problem? An anger management problem?

Under the circumstances, it is understandable that you would prefer someone else walk you down the aisle.

Your fiancée must be a saint to want to enter a marriage with a built-in in-law problem like your dad. My advice is to do what is

best for the two of you, including considering an elopement.

DEAR ABBY: I'm a girl in my teens. My best friend moved away, and I miss her so much. It feels like the world has turned against me, and I am depressed.

I don't like to text her, and I don't think she would let me call her every single day, although I haven't asked. I'm afraid we're not going to be friends anymore, and I feel so distant from my other friends. I made a new friend this year, but it isn't the same.

What should I do, Abby? Do I talk to her about it? Or should I stop being her friend?

— MISSING MY BEST FRIEND

DEAR MISSING: It is painful when life separates people. As you pointed out, friendships,

unlike Lego blocks, are not interchangeable. Do not suddenly stop communicating with your friend. You should absolutely talk to her and tell her how you are feeling because she may be feeling the same way.

With more time, you will get past this. You will meet more people and establish new relationships. But in the meantime, try to stay busy, which will help you feel less isolated.

DEAR ABBY: I am an 84-year-old divorced alum from a local college, who has developed feelings for a 59-year-old widowed alum from a local university. She works at my former college and visited me a month ago asking for a donation to the college. Since then, she has shown extreme appreciation of my gift,

via letter, emails and phone calls.

I'm curious as to how much her feelings of appreciation are for her success as a fundraiser, or if the attraction could be mutual. Do you think the age difference is too much for me to pursue a meaningful relationship with her? I would appreciate your opinion. Thank you.

— UNKNOWN FEELINGS IN VIRGINIA

DEAR UNKNOWN FEELINGS: Depending upon the condition you are in physically and financially, the age difference may not be an insurmountable problem. At 59, she is old enough to decide whether it's a deal-breaker. Invite her out. See if she accepts. If she hits you up for another donation, you will know where you stand.

NASA, SpaceX bringing astronaut launches back to home turf

By Marcia Dunn
Associated Press

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — For the first time in nearly a decade, U.S. astronauts are about to blast into orbit aboard an American rocket from American soil. And for the first time in the history of human spaceflight, a private company is running the show.

Elon Musk's SpaceX is the conductor and NASA the customer as businesses begin chauffeuring astronauts to the International Space Station.

The curtain rises next Wednesday with the scheduled liftoff of SpaceX's Falcon 9 rocket and Dragon capsule with two NASA astronauts, a test flight years in the making.

The drama unfolds from the exact spot where men flew to the moon and the last space shuttle soared from Kennedy Space Center.

While Florida's Space Coast has seen plenty of launches since the shuttle's farewell tour in 2011

— even at the height of the coronavirus pandemic — they were for satellites, robotic explorers and space station supplies. The only route to orbit for astronauts was on Russian rockets.

NASA's newest test pilots, Doug Hurley and Bob Behnken, are launching from home turf with SpaceX presiding over the countdown.

"Getting a chance again to see human spaceflight in our own backyard," Behnken said. "That's the thing that's most exciting for me."

The cosmic-size shift to private companies allows NASA to zero in on deep space travel. The space agency is busting to return astronauts to the moon by 2024 under orders from the White House, a deadline looking increasingly unlikely even as three newly chosen commercial teams rush to develop lunar landers. Mars also beckons.

"We're building momentum toward a much more exciting future," said



Photo by Bill Ingalls/NASA

In this Aug. 13, 2019 file photo, NASA astronauts Doug Hurley, left, and Bob Behnken work with teams from NASA and SpaceX to rehearse crew extraction from SpaceX's Crew Dragon, which will be used to carry humans to the International Space Station, at the Trident Basin in Cape Canaveral, Florida. For the first time in nearly a decade, astronauts are about to blast into orbit aboard an American rocket from American soil. And for the first time, a private company — SpaceX — is providing the ride.

John Logsdon, founder of George Washington University's Space Policy Institute and a professor emeritus.

The Russian launch site in Kazakhstan is out of the way and out of sight. Launching crews again from Florida is sure to fire up the public, Logsdon said. Adding to the appeal

is the flash generated by Musk, SpaceX's chief executive, designer and founder who shot his red Tesla Roadster into outer space two years ago during the first flight of a supersized Falcon Heavy rocket.

In a touch of Musk showmanship — he also runs the electric car com-

pany — Hurley and Behnken will ride to the launch pad in a gull-winged Tesla Model X, white with black trim just like the astronauts' spacesuits and the rocket itself.

The Dragon riders appreciate Musk's hands-on approach.

"On more than one occasion he has looked both Bob and I right in the eye and said, 'Hey, if there's anything you guys are not comfortable with or that you're seeing, please tell me and we'll fix it,'" Hurley said.

While trumpeting the return of astronaut launches, NASA is urging spectators to stay away because of the pandemic.

But beaches near Kennedy are now open, and the local sheriff is welcoming visitors even though inside the space center, the number of guests will be severely limited. Among the exceptions: both astronaut wives — who have flown in space themselves — and their young sons. Vice President Mike Pence, chairman of

the National Space Council, is also going, and President Donald Trump told reporters Thursday that he's thinking of attending, too.

Liftoff is set for Wednesday at 4:33 p.m. Eastern time.

"It's going to be a great inspiration to the country next week to see you two go aloft from the Kennedy Space Center," Pence told the astronauts Tuesday.

It will be just the fifth time NASA astronauts strap into a spanking new U.S. space system for liftoff — following Mercury, Gemini, Apollo and shuttle. NASA owned and operated all those spacecraft, built by contractors to NASA's precise specifications. The commercial crew program, by contrast, calls for private businesses to handle and own it all, with input and oversight by NASA.

Only three countries have launched humans — Russia, the U.S. and China in that order — making SpaceX's attempt all the more impressive.

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weather

	TONIGHT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED
	Mainly clear and chilly	Cloudy	A shower in the afternoon	A stray p.m. shower	Partly sunny and pleasant
Baker City	34	69 42	73 46	75 48	77 46
Comfort Index™	5	10	10	10	10
La Grande	38	68 44	72 50	74 50	75 52
Comfort Index™	5	10	10	10	8
Enterprise	35	64 41	69 46	71 48	71 52
Comfort Index™	8	10	10	9	10

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 Thursday	55°	54°	52°
Low Thursday	39°	39°	42°
PRECIPITATION (inches)			
Thursday	0.02	0.18	0.91
Month to date	1.03	4.03	2.71
Normal month to date	0.95	1.32	1.48
Year to date	2.02	10.62	22.44
Normal year to date	4.02	7.17	11.25

THURSDAY EXTREMES

NATION (for the 48 contiguous states)	OREGON
High: 100°	Death Valley, Calif.
Low: 15°	Bodie State Park, Calif.
Wettest: 3.20"	Martinsville, Va.
High: 68°	Hermiston
Low: 31°	Crater Lake
Wettest: 0.45"	Troutdale

AGRICULTURAL INFO.

HAY INFORMATION SUNDAY	
Lowest relative humidity	35%
Afternoon wind	N at 6 to 12 mph
Hours of sunshine	5.5
Evapotranspiration	0.12

RESERVOIR STORAGE (through midnight Friday)

Phillips Reservoir	45% of capacity
Unity Reservoir	99% of capacity
Owyhee Reservoir	80% of capacity
McKay Reservoir	106% of capacity
Wallowa Lake	78% of capacity
Thief Valley Reservoir	107% of capacity

STREAM FLOWS (through midnight Thursday)

Grande Ronde at Troy	14200 cfs
Thief Valley Reservoir near North Powder	1021 cfs
Burnt River near Unity	222 cfs
Umatilla River near Gibbon	1690 cfs
Minam River at Minam	2310 cfs
Powder River near Richland	780 cfs

WEATHER HISTORY

Downburst winds on May 23, 1984, caused \$150,000 in damage in Monroe and Pike counties of Pennsylvania. Such winds can be as destructive as some tornadoes.

SUN & MOON

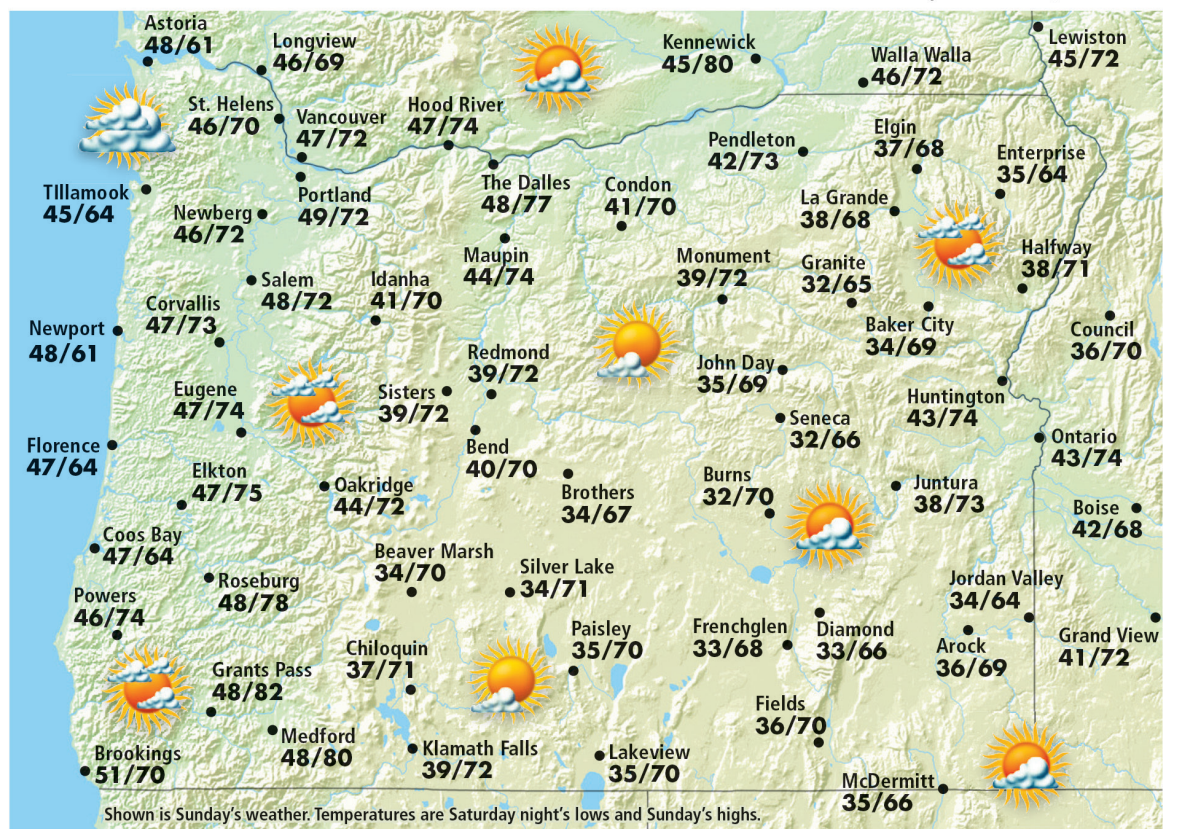
	SAT.	SUN.
Sunrise	5:14 a.m.	5:13 a.m.
Sunset	8:25 p.m.	8:26 p.m.
Moonrise	6:00 a.m.	6:40 a.m.
Moonset	9:39 p.m.	10:40 p.m.

MOON PHASES

Phase	May 29	Jun 5	Jun 12	Jun 20
First				
Full				
Last				
New				

AROUND OREGON AND THE REGION

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REGIONAL CITIES

City	SUN. Hi/Lo/W	MON. Hi/Lo/W	City	SUN. Hi/Lo/W	MON. Hi/Lo/W
Astoria	61/52/sh	62/50/sh	Lewiston	72/52/c	72/57/pc
Bend	70/45/c	76/48/pc	Longview	69/51/sh	69/52/c
Boise	68/47/c	75/53/pc	Meacham	66/42/c	71/48/c
Brookings	70/54/pc	70/56/s	Medford	80/53/c	87/57/s
Burns	70/39/c	76/43/pc	Newport	61/52/c	62/51/pc
Coos Bay	64/51/c	65/52/pc	Olympia	67/51/sh	67/50/c
Corvallis	73/52/c	76/52/pc	Ontario	74/47/c	79/52/pc
Council	70/41/c	72/47/pc	Pasco	79/53/c	82/59/pc
Elgin	68/44/c	72/50/c	Pendleton	73/51/c	77/57/pc
Eugene	74/52/c	78/53/pc	Portland	72/56/sh	72/56/c
Hermiston	79/54/c	82/60/pc	Powers	74/53/c	76/54/pc
Hood River	74/52/c	75/57/pc	Redmond	72/44/c	78/48/pc
Imnaha	69/45/c	75/58/pc	Roseburg	78/53/pc	81/56/s
John Day	69/42/c	76/54/pc	Salem	72/53/c	73/53/pc
Joseph	64/39/c	68/46/pc	Spokane	67/49/c	68/52/c
Kennewick	80/52/c	83/60/pc	The Dalles	77/54/c	77/57/pc
Klamath Falls	72/45/pc	80/47/s	Ukiah	67/42/c	70/48/pc
Lakeview	70/41/pc	77/45/s	Walla Walla	72/54/c	74/57/c

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

RECREATION FORECAST SUNDAY

ANTHONY LAKES	PHILLIPS LAKE
Cloudy	Cloudy
47 35	65 40
MT. EMILY REC.	BROWNLEE RES.
Clouds	Overcast
56 42	72 47
EAGLE CAP WILD.	EMIGRANT ST. PARK
Clouds	Cloudy
52 33	63 41
WALLOWA LAKE	MCKAY RESERVOIR
Overcast	Clouds
64 39	72 51
THIEF VALLEY RES.	RED BRIDGE ST. PARK
Cloudy	Cloudy
69 42	68 44

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