New feelings for longtime friend are not reciprocated

DEAR ABBY

DEAR ABBY: My longtime friend "Bonnie" and I have been reconnecting during COVID, mostly via text and video chatting. She's recently moved back to my area (she's in the military), so we spent a weekend together helping her move in. It was exhausting and stressful, and her drinking concerned me. I know drinking is prevalent in the military, and as a relatively high-ranking officer, she's under a lot of pressure all the time. I'm more aware of it because my sister is a recovering addict.

I'm a queer lady. Bonnie is gay, and over the last couple months I've been nursing a crush on her. She's very supportive of my artwork, and over the years has been the one doing the work to keep our friendship alive despite our lives going in different directions.

I told her I had a crush on her during the stressful moving weekend and asked her to please not tell me about all the girls she texts. She responded that she does not return those feelings for me. But we talk on the phone for hours at night, and she calls me "Baby" sometimes. She also tells me I'm sexually magnetic. Our lives are intertwined enough that both our parents think we're dating, and Bonnie frequently says things like, "My neighbor thinks we're dating."

How do I keep both our friendship and my sanity?

— CRUSHING

DEAR CRUSHING: Regardless of what others might think, you and Bonnie are NOT dating, and she has told you plainly that she's not physically attracted to you. She was honest with you, I'll give her marks for that. Whether she's being honest with herself, however, is anyone's guess.

My advice is to stop allowing her to monopolize as much of your time as she has been. It isn't good for you because it keeps you from looking for a companion who can reciprocate your feelings. If you continue as things are, you will only subject yourself to more of the confusion you are feeling now.

DEAR ABBY: My wife of 46 years keeps telling me about her deprived childhood. Everybody else had a color TV; theirs was a black-and-white. Granny didn't have a dryer; she had to use a clothesline. They didn't have a car, and when they finally got one, it was a used car. Finally, they had a new car, but it was stolen two weeks later.

All the other girls had ballet lessons; all the other girls were in Brownies. When Granny finally signed her up, it was too late. My wife had to get a used Brownie uniform that didn't fit, and they put her in a troop with Girl Scouts much older. She always wanted a swing-set, but never got one.

Is there counseling and group therapy for this self-pity condition? I'm laughing to myself and my tears are getting into my beer.

— HAD IT ROUGH, TOO

DEAR HAD IT: I would like to think your wife has it a lot better now, but to be married to someone as insensitive as you appear to be can hardly be an upper. Go pour yourself another pilsner before your tears dilute this one and bring you down further, Laughing Boy.

News of the Weird

EO Media Group

You're going to need a bigger boat — a much bigger boat

BRISTOL, England — Paleontologists with the University of Bristol, England, have unveiled the true size of the prehistoric mega-shark megalodon.

Today, the most fearsome living shark is the Great White. Adults can exceed 20 feet in length and bite with a force of two tons.

The University of Bristol in a press release Sept. 3 announced new research estimating the Great White's fossil relative was more than twice that long and could bite with a force of 10 tons.

The massive predator — and star of a share of B movies — lived from 23 million to around three million years ago. The fossils of megalodon are mostly huge triangular cutting teeth bigger than a human hand.

Jack Cooper, who completed his masters courses in palaeobiology at the University of Bristol's School of Earth Sciences, and colleagues made close comparisons to a diversity of living relatives with ecological and physiological similarities to megalodon, according to the press release, and used a number of mathematical methods to pin down the size and proportions of this monster.

Shark expert Dr. Catalina Pimiento from Swansea University and professor Mike Benton, a palaeontologist at Bristol, supervised the project.

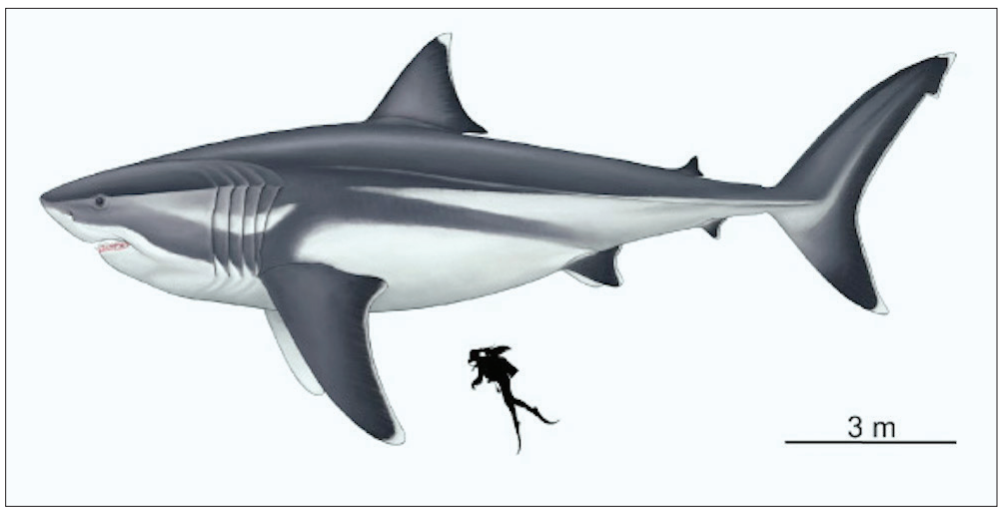

Illustration by Oliver E. Demuth

Paleontologists with the University of Bristol, England, on Sept. 3 published their research determining the size of the extinct mega-shark megalodon at more than 50 feet long.

Professor Humberto Ferrón of Bristol also collaborated.

The journal Scientific Reports published the research.

"I have always been mad about sharks," Cooper said in the press release. "As an undergraduate, I have worked and dived with Great whites in South Africa – protected by a steel cage of course. It's that sense of danger, but also that sharks are such beautiful and well-adapted animals, that makes them so attractive to study."

"Megalodon," he continued, "was actually the very animal that inspired me to pursue paleontology in the first place at just 6 years old."

Previously the fossil shark, known formally as Otodus megalodon, was compared with the Great White.

Cooper and his colleagues, for the first time, expanded this analysis to include five modern sharks. Pimiento said in the press release that megalodon is not a direct ancestor of the Great White but is equally related to makos, the salmon shark and porbeagle shark.

"We pooled detailed measurements of all five to make predictions about megalodon," he said.

Benton explained the team first had to test whether these five modern sharks changed proportions as they grew to adulthood.

"If, for example, they had been like humans, where babies have big heads and short legs," he said according to the press release, "we would have had some difficulties in projecting the adult proportions for such a huge extinct shark."

He said they were surprised and relieved to discover the babies of all these modern predatory sharks start out as little adults and don't change in proportion as they get larger.

Cooper added this meant they could take the growth curves of the five modern forms and project the overall shape as they get larger and larger.

Right up to a body more than 52 feet long.

The results suggest at that size, Otodus megalodon likely had a head about 15 feet long, a dorsal fin approximately 5.3 feet tall and a tail almost 13 feet tall.

"The reconstruction of the size of megalodon body parts represents a fundamental step towards a better understanding of the physiology of this giant," according to the press release, "and the intrinsic factors that may have made it prone to extinction."

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- Fuel
- Restaurant
- Clean bathrooms
- Convenience Store
- Interesting Gifts
- Food to go
- Bus Terminal
- Barber Shop
- Showers
- Shorepower electric
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- Dump Station
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weather

	TONIGHT	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON
	Clear	Sunny and very warm	Sunshine and very warm	Mostly sunny; very warm	Mostly cloudy
Baker City	39	87 / 40	89 / 42	87 / 45	83 / 35
Comfort Index™	6	6	6	6	9
La Grande	46	89 / 46	90 / 46	89 / 51	80 / 42
Comfort Index™	6	6	4	6	10
Enterprise	47	85 / 47	87 / 50	81 / 41	79 / 38
Comfort Index™	8	6	6	8	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 Tuesday	68°	72°	75°
Low Tuesday	36°	41°	36°
PRECIPITATION (inches)			
Tuesday	0.00	0.00	0.00
Month to date	0.00	0.00	0.00
Normal month to date	0.17	0.18	0.20
Year to date	2.99	13.06	25.31
Normal year to date	7.26	11.09	15.31

AGRICULTURAL INFO.

HAY INFORMATION FRIDAY	
Lowest relative humidity	15%
Afternoon wind	NW at 4 to 8 mph
Hours of sunshine	11.8
Evapotranspiration	0.20
RESERVOIR STORAGE (through midnight Wednesday)	
Phillips Reservoir	13% of capacity
Unity Reservoir	30% of capacity
Owyhee Reservoir	47% of capacity
McKay Reservoir	57% of capacity
Wallowa Lake	21% of capacity
Thief Valley Reservoir	16% of capacity
STREAM FLOWS (through midnight Tuesday)	
Grande Ronde at Troy	583 cfs
Thief Valley Reservoir near North Powder	52 cfs
Burnt River near Unity	94 cfs
Umatilla River near Gibbon	46 cfs
Minam River at Minam	82 cfs
Powder River near Richland	31 cfs

TUESDAY EXTREMES

NATION (for the 48 contiguous states)	
High: 106°	Thermal, Calif.
Low: 14°	Dakota Hill, Colo.
Wettest: 3.20"	Charlotte, Mich.
OREGON	
High: 92°	Medford
Low: 28°	Long Creek
Wettest: none	

WEATHER HISTORY

On Sept. 10, 1976, Kathleen became the first tropical storm to hit Southern California in 37 years. The storm killed five people and caused $160 million in damage.

SUN & MOON

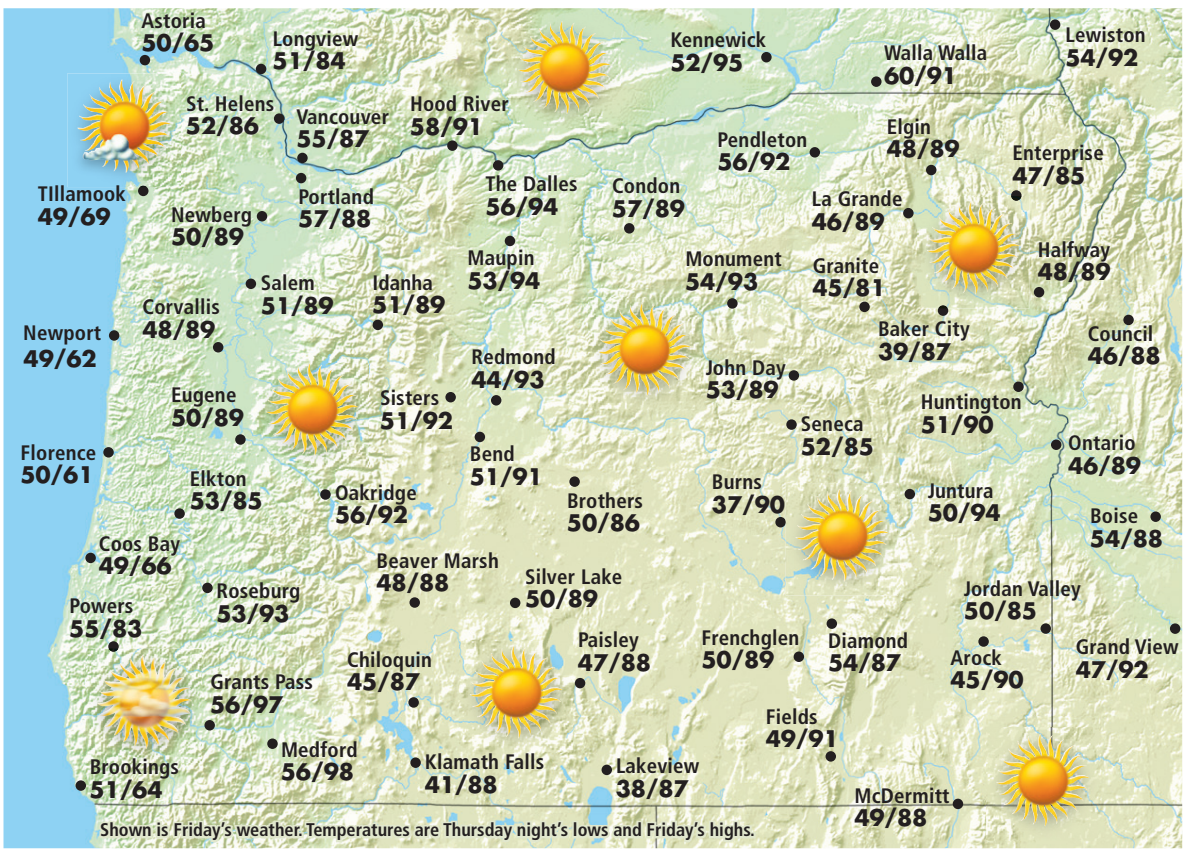
	THU.	FRI.
Sunrise	6:25 a.m.	6:26 a.m.
Sunset	7:12 p.m.	7:10 p.m.
Moonrise	11:39 p.m.	none
Moonset	2:48 p.m.	3:47 p.m.

MOON PHASES

Last	New	First	Full
Sep 10	Sep 17	Sep 23	Oct 1

AROUND OREGON AND THE REGION

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2020



Shown is Friday's weather. Temperatures are Thursday night's lows and Friday's highs.

REGIONAL CITIES

City	FRI. Hi/Lo/W	SAT. Hi/Lo/W	City	FRI. Hi/Lo/W	SAT. Hi/Lo/W
Astoria	65/51/pc	64/52/pc	Lewiston	92/56/s	93/57/s
Bend	91/51/s	93/52/s	Longview	84/50/s	83/51/s
Boise	88/55/s	91/59/s	Meacham	88/43/s	89/48/s
Brookings	64/51/pc	66/51/pc	Medford	98/57/s	97/55/s
Burns	90/43/s	90/44/s	Newport	62/48/pc	60/49/pc
Coos Bay	66/52/pc	63/52/pc	Olympia	83/47/s	81/49/s
Corvallis	89/49/s	85/50/s	Ontario	89/49/s	91/50/s
Council	88/48/s	89/50/s	Pasco	95/54/s	94/53/s
Elgin	89/50/s	90/50/s	Pendleton	92/58/s	93/57/s
Eugene	89/49/s	86/49/s	Portland	88/55/s	85/55/s
Hermiston	96/57/s	96/56/s	Powers	83/54/pc	79/54/pc
Hood River	91/57/s	93/58/s	Redmond	93/47/s	95/48/s
Imnaha	90/50/s	91/55/s	Roseburg	93/53/s	88/53/s
John Day	89/53/s	92/57/s	Salem	89/50/s	86/50/s
Joseph	84/48/s	85/51/s	Spokane	88/56/s	87/56/pc
Kennewick	95/57/s	95/55/s	The Dalles	94/58/s	95/58/s
Klamath Falls	88/45/s	89/45/s	Ukiah	87/44/s	88/47/s
Lakeview	87/39/s	88/42/s	Walla Walla	91/63/s	91/62/s

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

RECREATION FORECAST FRIDAY

ANTHONY LAKES
Sunny and pleasant
64 42

MT. EMILY REC.
Sunny and pleasant
76 47

EAGLE CAP WILD.
Sunny and warm
71 37

WALLOWA LAKE
Sunny and warm
84 48

THIEF VALLEY RES.
Sunny and warm
87 40

PHILLIPS LAKE
Sunny and warm
83 45

BROWNLEE RES.
Plenty of sunshine
89 48

EMIGRANT ST. PARK
Sunny and warm
83 39

MCKAY RESERVOIR
Sunny and hot
92 59

RED BRIDGE ST. PARK
Sunny and warm
89 46