Sister suspects fiance caught flirting has much more to hide

DEAR ABBY: My youngest sister started dating a man and they quickly moved in together. Six months into their relationship she got pregnant and they got engaged. Their wedding is planned for this summer.

Recently she discovered he has been video-chatting with someone he met online. He admitted to flirting, apologized and promised that was the end of it. I have a strong suspicion that there have been other "situations" my sister is unaware of.

DEAR ABBY

Should I express my concerns to her and suggest postponing the wedding? Or should I keep my gut feelings to myself? I'm afraid she will get married and then find out what's really going on.

— BIG SISTER IN MASSACHUSETTS

DEAR BIG SISTER: Be honest with your sister. Although I suspect that your gut feelings are accurate, whether she will believe it is debatable, but at least she will have been warned. If she does decide to stay with him, refrain from any "I told you so's." Recognize that whether she marries her fiance or not, she will forever be linked with him because of the baby.

DEAR ABBY: After my mom passed away, my dad lived alone for three years until his death. During those three years, Mom's family not once made contact with him or me. Dad lived in a very small town. When he would see Mom's sister and her husband out and about in restaurants and stores, they would ignore him.

After Dad's death, my aunt contacted me asking if she could have a rocking chair that belonged to my mother. I agreed they could have it. To my shock, when my uncle arrived to pick up the chair, he began asking me about my dad's belongings. He wanted to look through Dad's tools and such. After making no attempt to contact Dad while he was alive, now that he's gone, my uncle had the nerve to ask to look through Dad's things?! I politely shut him down.

Since then, my aunt has been bad-mouthing me all over town, telling everyone "I dropped them" and "don't want anything to do with them." I suppose that's true under the circumstances, but what should I say to set the record straight without appearing as the bad guy?

— "ORPHAN" IN THE SOUTH

DEAR ORPHAN: Please accept my sympathy for the loss of your parents, and the uncomfortable situation in which you now find yourself. Memorize the first paragraph of your letter to me and recite it verbatim when the subject of your relationship with your aunt and uncle comes up. Because it's a small town, the message will spread quickly, and you won't have to repeat it often.

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I want to go to Europe this summer, but we don't want to take his mother along. We have taken her on two holidays over the last two years and didn't enjoy either one for various reasons. She now expects to go with us on our international vacations, and we don't know how to tell her we prefer to go alone. Please help.

— HOLIDAY FOR TWO

DEAR HOLIDAY: What your husband should say to his mother is, "Mom, my wife and I will be going to _____ for a few weeks in early August. We need an 'adventure' alone together, so we will not be asking you to join us." Period!

DEAR ABBY: Eighteen months ago, I discovered that "Steven," my husband of 27 years, had been secretly visiting "Blanca," the girl he wanted to marry 30 years ago. Since then, I have been talking to Blanca's husband, "Eric," and have fallen in love with him.

The affair has ended for Steven and Blanca, but Eric and I still talk several times a week.

Abby, should I stay with Steven? I'm tempted to leave him after what he has done.

— GETTING EVEN WITH STEVEN

DEAR GETTING EVEN: I don't blame you for wanting to get even, but if you're asking my permission, the answer is no. The fact is, neither you nor Eric is really available.

Before making any final decisions, try marriage counseling to see if you can rebuild a loving, trusting relationship with your spouse. That way, fewer people will be hurt.

Oregon reports boom in camping, longer camping season

Associated Press

PORTLAND — Oregon set a record for the number of campers at state parks last year, and the number of day-use visitors was the second-highest ever, according to a report by the state's Parks and Recreation Department.

The report said 2.9 million people camped at a state park in 2018 and 54 million people in total visited a park, the second-highest number ever after a blockbuster summer season in 2016 that attracted 54.5 million visitors, The Oregonian/OregonLive reported Wednesday.

Courtesy Photo

Cars and pedestrians navigate through the busy Tumalo Falls parking lot in Central Oregon.

Coastal parks saw the biggest gain in campers. Fort Stevens, South Beach and Bullards Beach — all along the Pacific Ocean — together accounted for more than half of the growth in overnight visits. They collectively attracted 59,300 campers last year, the newspaper said.

The camping season is also spreading beyond the traditional busy summer months. Crowds have begun to come to camp in the spring and well into the fall, filling yurts and cabins on rainy days, and taking advantage of months with unseasonably warm weather.

"The camping season is stretching itself," state parks spokesman Chris Havel said. "The peak time is getting longer and longer."

Smaller state park campgrounds also saw big growth, from Viento in the Columbia River Gorge to Lake Owyhee in eastern Oregon. Tiny Jackson F. Kimball State Recreation Site in southern Oregon saw the highest percent increase, with an additional 557 campers that added up to a 64 percent increase.

Those increases at smaller campgrounds are exactly what the parks department is looking for. Last year, the department launched an initiative to decrease camping fees at less-popular state parks, hoping to spread out the growing crowds.

Havel said it seems to have worked, so in 2019 the department will implement a one-month trial of increased camping fees at a few of the more popular parks, which could offset the discounts if made permanent.

As more people move to Oregon, the agency is working hard to accommodate increased demand.

The department's budget is funded by fees it collects, as well as slices of state lottery earnings and RV registrations.

Ninety percent of state park sites are currently free of charge - but Havel told the newspaper that park officials aren't considering adding fees in those locations. Part of the ethos of Oregon state parks is ensuring that these natural public spaces are accessible for everybody.

"We like seeing a nice, broad equitable system like that, but how do you fund it?" Havel said. "I don't know. We haven't answered that question yet."

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weather

	TONIGHT	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE
	1-3" of snow	A couple of snow showers	Cold with a little snow	Cloudy with snow possible	Cloudy and cold
Baker City	23	37 27	39 26	35 22	35 30
Comfort Index™	0	0	0	0	0
La Grande	26	37 27	36 24	32 20	33 26
Comfort Index™	0	0	0	0	0
Enterprise	21	35 23	33 22	31 16	29 21
Comfort Index™	0	0	0	0	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	35°	35°	36°
Low Wednesday	22°	27°	26°
PRECIPITATION (inches)			
Wednesday	0.02	0.10	0.47
Month to date	1.17	1.84	4.52
Normal month to date	0.41	0.79	1.66
Year to date	1.71	3.45	7.92
Normal year to date	1.21	2.42	4.83

AGRICULTURAL INFO.

HAY INFORMATION SATURDAY	
Lowest relative humidity	60%
Afternoon wind	W at 4 to 8 mph
Hours of sunshine	0.8
Evapotranspiration	0.04
RESERVOIR STORAGE (through midnight Thursday)	
Phillips Reservoir	9% of capacity
Unity Reservoir	36% of capacity
Owyhee Reservoir	41% of capacity
McKay Reservoir	54% of capacity
Wallowa Lake	29% of capacity
Thief Valley Reservoir	105% of capacity
STREAM FLOWS (through midnight Wednesday)	
Grande Ronde at Troy	1530 cfs
Thief Valley Reservoir near North Powder	N.A.
Burnt River near Unity	10 cfs
Umatilla River near Gibbon	146 cfs
Minam River at Minam	131 cfs
Powder River near Richland	225 cfs

WED. EXTREMES

NATION (for the 48 contiguous states)

High: 89°	Winter Haven, Fla.
Low: -29°	Malta, Mont.
Wettest: 2.68"	Winona, Miss.

OREGON

High: 52°	Scappoose
Low: 14°	Crater Lake
Wettest: 0.75"	Meacham

WEATHER HISTORY

On Feb. 22, 1980, Toledo, Ohio, was shrouded in fog for the seventh consecutive day. Fog is common in many parts of the country when winter snow melts.

SUN & MOON

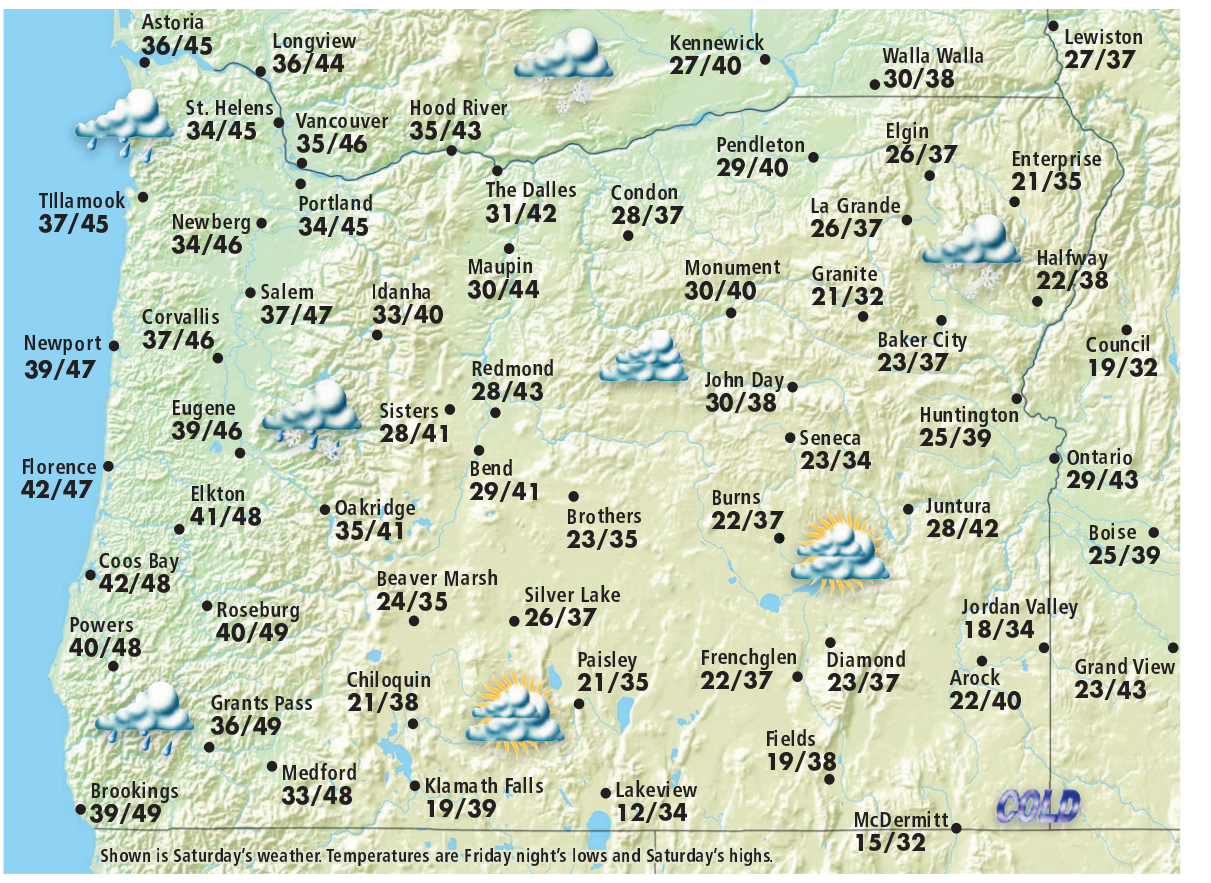
	FRI.	SAT.
Sunrise	6:43 a.m.	6:42 a.m.
Sunset	5:29 p.m.	5:31 p.m.
Moonrise	9:37 p.m.	10:49 p.m.
Moonset	8:44 a.m.	9:13 a.m.

MOON PHASES

Last	New	First	Full
Feb 26	Mar 6	Mar 14	Mar 20

AROUND OREGON AND THE REGION

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2019



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

REGIONAL CITIES

City	SAT. Hi/Lo/W	SUN. Hi/Lo/W	City	SAT. Hi/Lo/W	SUN. Hi/Lo/W
Astoria	45/34/r	46/31/sh	Lewiston	37/26/c	35/25/sf
Bend	41/30/sf	37/21/sf	Longview	44/34/r	45/29/sh
Boise	39/33/sn	41/33/sf	Meacham	34/24/sf	34/21/sn
Brookings	49/42/r	47/40/sh	Medford	48/38/r	45/36/sh
Burns	37/30/sf	36/21/sf	Newport	47/37/r	46/33/sh
Coos Bay	48/42/r	47/38/sh	Olympia	42/30/r	42/24/c
Corvallis	46/35/r	46/31/sh	Ontario	43/33/sn	42/32/sf
Council	32/26/sn	36/26/sf	Pasco	36/25/pc	35/19/sf
Elgin	37/25/sf	36/22/sn	Pendleton	40/24/c	31/20/sn
Eugene	46/37/r	47/33/sh	Portland	45/35/r	45/32/sh
Hermiston	43/26/pc	34/22/sn	Powers	48/40/r	45/37/sh
Hood River	43/33/r	39/27/sh	Redmond	43/29/sf	40/24/sf
Imnaha	38/22/sf	37/25/sf	Roseburg	49/39/r	45/37/sh
John Day	38/30/sf	39/28/sh	Salem	47/35/r	46/31/sh
Joseph	34/23/c	33/22/sf	Spokane	30/17/c	26/11/sf
Kennewick	40/25/pc	34/19/sh	The Dalles	42/31/sn	38/26/sh
Klamath Falls	39/29/sn	40/29/sh	Ukiah	35/23/sf	32/20/sn
Lakeview	34/27/sf	38/28/sf	Walla Walla	38/26/pc	31/24/sf

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

RECREATION FORECAST SATURDAY

ANTHONY LAKES
Snow squalls, 1-3"
16 10

MT. EMILY REC.
Very cold
27 21

EAGLE CAP WILD.
A bit of a.m. snow
24 14

WALLOWA LAKE
Mostly cloudy
34 23

THIEF VALLEY RES.
A bit of snow
37 27

PHILLIPS LAKE
Snow, 3-6"
33 23

BROWNLEE RES.
A bit of a.m. snow
39 26

EMIGRANT ST. PARK
Snow showers
30 20

MCKAY RESERVOIR
Mostly cloudy
39 25

RED BRIDGE ST. PARK
Snow showers
37 27

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