

Wife in love with girlfriend resolves to end six year marriage with husband

DEAR ABBY: I'm married to a man 21 years my senior. "Joe" and I have been married six years. I have recently realized I'm gay and have fallen in love with another woman.

Although Joe isn't infirm or mentally deficient, he has a hard time making decisions on his own. He'll read something, hand it to me and ask me what I think. He can't form an opinion on his own, but God forbid you challenge an opinion he DOES have.

Over the course of our marriage, he has become "crotchety" and burned all his bridges. Because of this, I have lost friends, business opportunities and my reputation. He got fired from his job three years ago and has never actively tried to find another one. I have carried the family on my own financially.

He literally has no one but me. He's past retirement age, and I'm half that. I have more life to live being who I really am, but I feel guilty leaving him high and dry. I no longer love him; I love my girlfriend. I want to be out and proud and live what I realize now is my real truth. How can I tell him I want out?

— TRAPPED IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR TRAPPED: Before telling your husband anything, discuss this with a divorce lawyer. Leaving him may be complicated because you have been his sole support for a while. Once you know what your financial responsibilities may — or may not — be, you will be in a better position to give your husband the bad news. When you do, a way to start would be to tell him you have realized that you are a lesbian.

DEAR ABBY: My boyfriend, "Mason," and I have been dating for eight months, and it has been going well. However, there is one thing standing in our way — his mom and sisters. Mason is the only boy. His



DEAR ABBY

parents divorced when he was young. His mom never remarried, but his father did. His two sisters (one older, one younger) don't have boyfriends. The three of them constantly make comments whenever Mason and I go out and do things — that he's spending too much money or isn't at home enough. They critique everything Mason does, from what he wears to how much money he earned in his last paycheck. It's like they're obsessed with him.

They plan vacations while I'm around and don't invite me. I haven't been invited over for any holidays or family functions. I love Mason and want a future with him, but I can't continue dealing with the nonsense from his jealous mom and sisters. It's causing a huge strain.

Mason knows how upset I am. He says he has talked to them, but their behavior hasn't changed. If he won't take matters into his own hands, should I?

— COMPETING IN JERSEY

DEAR COMPETING: No! Until Mason is mature enough to put his foot down, his mother and sisters will continue to decide for him who he dates, how much time he spends with her and whether he is earning "enough" money to be seeing anyone. You cannot and should

not compete with his family because it isn't healthy for you or your relationship. Remember, Mason will likely always be a package deal, and if you can't accept it, you should end things.

DEAR ABBY: I've dated a guy for three months now, and I still can't be completely open with him. I am afraid the real me isn't that likable, so I have become less talkative in this relationship.

Each time we go out, he's always the talker, and when sometimes I want to say something, I clam up. I like him a lot, and I don't like myself being this way. I am outgoing and talkative when I'm with my friends. I like the way I am when I am with them because I feel free and relaxed.

He has started to complain about my quietness, and it's upsetting. Each time he mentions it, I feel like I'm exposed. Should I continue this relationship?

— NOT QUIET IN THE MIDWEST

DEAR NOT QUIET: Don't look now, but your self-esteem appears to be sagging. Stop hiding in a self-imposed "closet" and show this person who you really are! Whether the relationship survives the disclosure I can't guess, but I have a premonition that he will like you even better than he has for the last three months.

READER ALERT! If you know a student who would like to enter the \$5,000 Dear Abby College Columnist Scholarship Contest, see the information at DearAbby.com/scholarship and learn more. The deadline is fast approaching.

Death toll up to 38 after 2nd cyclone in Mozambique

By Farai Mutsaka
The Associated Press

PEMBA, Mozambique — More rain is forecast for northern Mozambique, where the death toll from Cyclone Kenneth jumped to 38, as flooding and pounding rains hampered efforts to deliver aid to badly hit communities several days after the storm.

More flooding is expected in the northeastern port city of Pemba and the surrounding areas.

An estimated 160,000 people are at risk from the second powerful cyclone to hit the southern African nation in just six weeks, officials said. It was the first time in recorded history that two cyclones had targeted Mozambique in a single season.

Just as most of the more than 600 deaths from last month's Cyclone Idai were caused by flooding in the days that followed, heavy rains in the wake of Kenneth have raised fears of a similar scenario. The storm made landfall on Thursday with the force of a Category 4 hurricane.

Flooding was "critical" in parts of the country's northernmost province of Cabo Delgado including Ibo island and the districts of Macomia and Quissanga, where more than 35,000 buildings and homes had been partly or fully destroyed, the government said.

Mozambique's national weather service on Monday afternoon forecast continued rain in the area. The national meteorological institute said the northeast-

ern region will continue to receive moderate to strong rains, dropping more than 3 inches over the next 24 hours.

Aid workers have described "total devastation" affecting a 37-mile stretch of coastline and nearby islands.

The rising waters have made many roads impassable and hampered air efforts to reach communities outside the region's main city, Pemba.

Authorities were preparing for a possible cholera outbreak as some wells were contaminated and safe drinking water became a growing concern.

The heavy rains in Pemba caused deadly mudslides. Residents of one poor neighborhood dug for bodies on Monday after two houses were crushed by the collapse of a sprawling dumpsite overnight, resident Manuel Joachim said.

A woman's body had been found, he said.

Later, the searchers discovered two hands protruding from the mud and debris. They tied a rope to one of the hands to try and pull out the body, but the rain started pouring again.

Five people in all were thought to be buried there, Joachim said.

In other parts of Pemba, some tried to return to a semblance of daily life amid the destruction. At a school, children in blue uniforms trooped into classes. Traders put their wares on street pavements and wooden tables while others were busy removing rubble from homes and yards.

weather

TONIGHT	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
Patchy clouds and chilly	Partly sunny	Mostly sunny	Mostly sunny and pleasant	Mostly sunny and pleasant
Baker City 27 Comfort Index™ 10	64 27 10	71 33 10	74 37 9	76 38 9
La Grande 32 Comfort Index™ 10	60 32 8	68 37 10	72 40 10	72 43 10
Enterprise 29 Comfort Index™ 10	57 29 8	65 34 10	69 38 10	68 40 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.

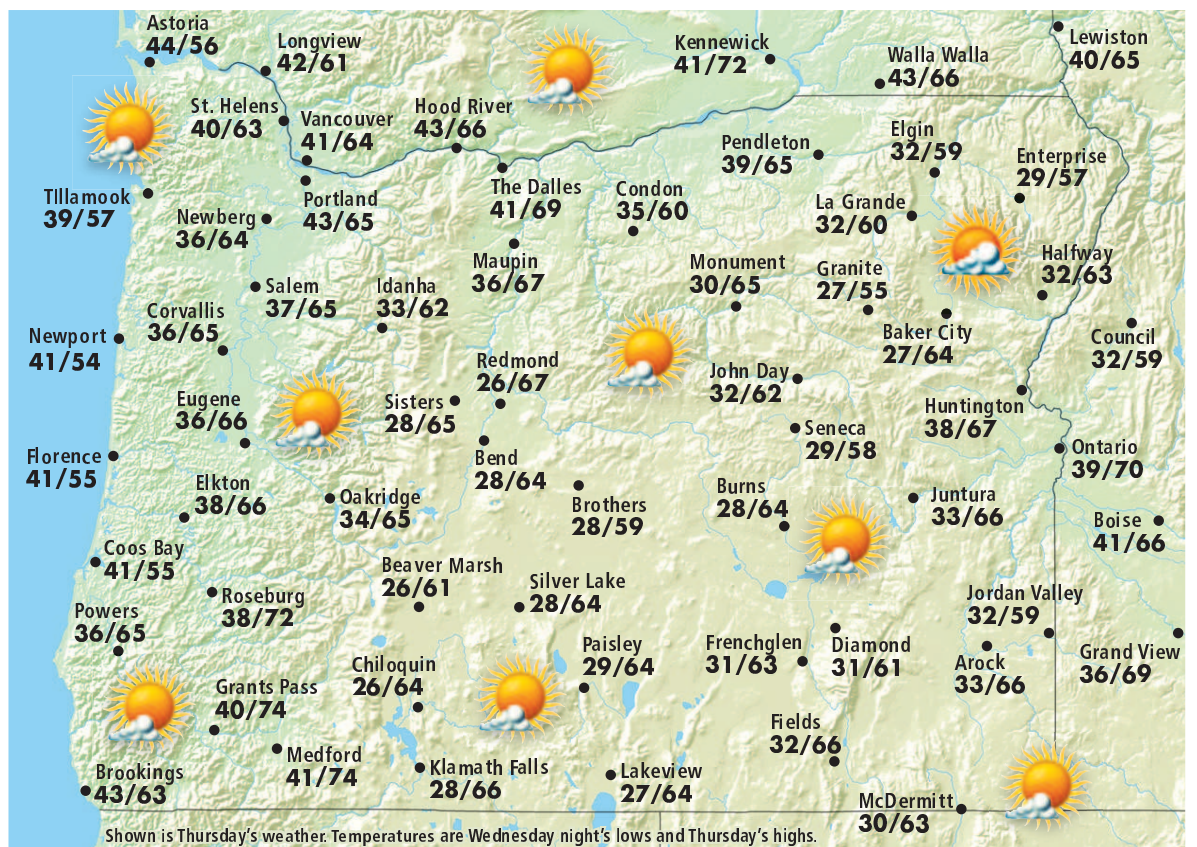
ALMANAC	MONDAY EXTREMES		
TEMPERATURES	Baker City	La Grande	Elgin
High Monday	56°	52°	53°
Low Monday	20°	26°	26°
PRECIPITATION (inches)			
Monday	0.00	0.00	0.06
Month to date	0.84	2.31	5.12
Normal month to date	0.81	1.52	1.93
Year to date	4.47	7.22	16.84
Normal year to date	3.01	5.75	9.63

AGRICULTURAL INFO.	HAY INFORMATION THURSDAY		
Lowest relative humidity	30%		
Afternoon wind	WNW at 7 to 14 mph		
Hours of sunshine	10.2		
Evapotranspiration	0.16		

RESERVOIR STORAGE	SUN & MOON		
Phillips Reservoir	50% of capacity		
Unity Reservoir	96% of capacity		
Owyhee Reservoir	90% of capacity		
Mckay Reservoir	98% of capacity		
Wallowa Lake	92% of capacity		
Thief Valley Reservoir	107% of capacity		

STREAM FLOWS	MOON PHASES			
Grande Ronde at Troy	9340 cfs			
Thief Valley Reservoir near North Powder	328 cfs			
Burnt River near Unity	335 cfs			
Umatilla River near Gibbon	480 cfs			
Minam River at Minam	912 cfs			
Powder River near Richland	591 cfs			

AROUND OREGON AND THE REGION



REGIONAL CITIES				RECREATION FORECAST THURSDAY			
City	THU HI/Lo/W	FRI HI/Lo/W	City	THU HI/Lo/W	FRI HI/Lo/W	City	THU HI/Lo/W
Astoria	56/45/pc	59/45/s	Lewiston	65/42/pc	70/44/pc	Anthony Lakes	35 20
Bend	64/32/pc	72/38/s	Longview	61/40/pc	68/43/s	Phillips Lake	58 26
Boise	66/40/pc	71/44/s	Meacham	57/29/pc	66/35/s	Brownlee Res.	65 33
Brookings	63/47/s	68/48/s	Medford	74/43/s	80/46/s	Emigrant St. Park	54 26
Burns	64/30/pc	71/35/s	Newport	54/41/s	57/44/s	Mckay Reservoir	64 39
Coos Bay	55/43/s	61/46/s	Olympia	61/39/pc	66/41/pc	Red Bridge St. Park	60 32
Corvallis	65/41/s	70/43/s	Ontario	70/39/pc	74/43/s		
Council	59/30/pc	66/36/s	Pasco	75/42/pc	79/47/s		
Elgin	59/32/pc	68/37/s	Pendleton	65/40/pc	71/44/s		
Eugene	66/40/s	71/42/s	Portland	65/45/pc	70/47/s		
Hermiston	70/42/pc	75/46/s	Powers	65/41/s	72/44/s		
Hood River	66/43/pc	74/46/s	Redmond	67/32/pc	75/36/s		
Imnaha	62/35/pc	71/41/s	Roseburg	72/43/s	77/45/s		
John Day	62/32/pc	70/39/s	Salem	65/41/pc	69/44/s		
Joseph	57/27/pc	65/34/s	Spokane	61/39/pc	65/43/pc		
Kennewick	72/42/pc	76/46/s	The Dalles	69/42/pc	76/45/s		
Klamath Falls	66/33/s	72/36/s	Ukiah	58/29/pc	66/33/s		
Lakeview	64/31/s	71/36/s	Walla Walla	66/46/pc	73/48/s		



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