

Mom fears history will repeat for daughter marrying young

DEAR ABBY: I have been divorced for 18 years. The main reason for my divorce was that I married too young and wasn't ready to be a wife and mother. My daughter has just announced her engagement to a truly wonderful man, but she's only 19. I want to support her, but I'm afraid she's making the same mistake I did. I have tried talking to her about it, but she is sure she is making the right decision.

I am tight on money now, and I don't want to pay for an expensive wedding if it's going to be a waste later on if my daughter gets a divorce. But I do want to be by her side and support her during



DEAR ABBY

one of the most important times of her life. What should I do?

— EXPERIENCED MOM

DEAR MOM: Your daughter already knows you're concerned about her marrying so young and the reasons why. Ultimately, this is her decision — or mistake — to make. Explain that you won't be able to contribute financially to her wedding because money is tight right now, but that you are there to support her emotionally now and forever. Tell her, too, that many successful marriages begin at a courthouse, and you wish her better luck than you had.

DEAR ABBY: My wife of 38 years passed away a year and a

half ago. My ex-wife, to whom I was married for 14 years, and who is the mother of our adult kids, is single again after four failed marriages. She's making overtures about getting together again.

She is assertive, likes to spend and was very jealous.

At my age, I could use the help, but it would require selling my house and moving several states away. She's really pushing, but I'm just not sure. It would be nice to have someone around because I am lonely. She is a neat lady, but I just don't know. Help!

— PROPOSITIONED IN THE MIDWEST

DEAR PROPOSITIONED: Surely you can find someone to

fill your loneliness other than a woman you divorced for at least two solid reasons. I have four words of advice for you: When in doubt — DON'T! Your common sense is fueling your ambivalence. Please pay attention to it. At most, maintain a long-distance friendship with her.

DEAR ABBY: During a recent trip to the supermarket, I noticed a couple in their 50s who were shopping for produce. The woman picked up eight different avocados before selecting one. (I counted.) The man touched three different bags of oranges before placing one in their cart. This was repeated with each item they shopped for!

I considered asking them to stop touching the food, but I didn't

want a confrontation. How would you have handled this? Can you please encourage your readers to minimize what they touch for the sake of public safety?

— CONCERNED SHOPPER

DEAR CONCERNED: I would have handled it by talking about it to the store manager. In California, signs are posted asking customers to please handle merchandise as little as possible, and shoppers are encouraged not only to wear masks and practice social distancing while shopping for groceries, but also to wear gloves.

Once you bring your groceries home, you should wipe them down, and ALWAYS wash your hands thoroughly for the recommended 20 seconds.

Young baseball players get memento filled with stadium dirt

By Yuri Kageyama
Associated Press

TOKYO — Japanese high school baseball players, heartbroken because their annual tournament was canceled due to the pandemic, are getting a consolation prize: a spoonful of dirt.

It's not just any soil — it's from Koshien Stadium. Which means it holds special meaning to all who love the game in this baseball-mad country.

Every year, more than 3,000 teams go through competitive regional play-offs to advance to the finals at Koshien in Nishinomiya city, central Japan — the prized stage that's seen the likes of major leaguers Ichiro, Daisuke Matsuzaka and Hideki Matsui.

And every year, after a team loses, the players, many weeping uncontrollably, scrape the dirt near the dugout to take home as a memento.

On a recent afternoon, it was the members of the professional club, the Han-

shin Tigers, who were digging with their hands to collect dirt from Koshien, their home stadium.

The dirt will be put in transparent balls hanging from key chains and sent to some 50,000 high school baseball players. Each ball has the words: "2020 102nd Koshien," for the 102nd tournament, and pictures of a ball, bats and the stadium. They are to be delivered in August, when the tournament had been scheduled to start.

Hibiki Kawamoto, a centerfielder and slugger at Iwamichisuikan High School in Shimane Prefecture, western Japan, was thrilled. The Tigers are his favorite team, and he plans to put the key chain proudly on his bag.

The game means so much to him.

"When I get a hit when the team really needs it, I get praised by everyone," he said. "I'm going to play baseball till I die."

Akihiko Tanimoto, a social studies teacher



Photo by Kyodo News via AP

Akashi Commercial High School baseball players collect dirt of the grounds after losing to Riseisha High School during a semifinal game at the National High School Baseball Championship at Koshien Stadium in Nishinomiya, Japan, on Aug. 20, 2019. Every year, after a team loses, the players, many weeping uncontrollably, scrape the dirt from foul territory near the dugout to take home as a memento. Japanese high school baseball players who had their heart set on going to the annual tournament won't be able to go, with the 2020 event canceled due to the coronavirus pandemic.

who works with the team, said the players were still working out hard, and the cancellation served as a lesson to not quit in the face of hardships.

"Koshien was our goal, but it is not the purpose of

why we play high school baseball, which is about not giving up until it's over," he said in a telephone interview.

The school has made it to the Koshien summer tournament 10 times.

How the custom of bringing home Koshien dirt originated is unclear. But it's a tradition that dates back decades.

The winning team also gathers the dirt, but only after the final award cere-

mony, which is witnessed by fans from all over Japan. They fill Koshien's stands and cheer raucously, in much the same way American fans follow the NCAA basketball tournament.

The dirt is replenished regularly to make sure there is enough.

The idea of the key chain originated from Tigers players, who understood the disappointment of having the Koshien dream shattered. Many played in the tournament as youngsters.

"We all pondered what we could do for them, and I think it holds special meaning that we did this for them together as a team," said outfielder Kosuke Fukudome, who took part in the Koshien tournament while at PL Gakuen high school.

"I want them all to stay optimistic," said Fukudome, formerly of the Chicago Cubs, Cleveland Indians and the Chicago White Sox.

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weather

TONIGHT

Clear to partly cloudy

Baker City 57

Comfort Index™ 3

WED

A blend of sun and clouds

Baker City 85 54

6

THU

Partly sunny and nice

Baker City 82 51

9

FRI

Mostly sunny

Baker City 89 55

4

SAT

Sunny and pleasant

Baker City 83 49

9

La Grande 61

Comfort Index™ 4

82 54

8

80 54

9

87 57

5

78 51

9

Enterprise 56

Comfort Index™ 4

78 50

8

76 48

8

83 52

6

75 48

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 79°

La Grande 77°

Elgin 82°

High Sunday 79°

Low Sunday 53°

PRECIPITATION (inches)

Sunday 0.00

Month to date 0.48

Normal month to date 0.90

Year to date 2.58

Normal year to date 5.45

Trace

1.84

1.18

12.80

9.02

Trace

1.88

1.33

24.76

13.33

SUNDAY EXTREMES

NATION (for the 48 contiguous states)

High: 120°

Low: 27°

Wettest: 2.73"

OREGON

High: 88°

Low: 47°

Wettest: 0.03"

Death Valley, Calif.

Gothic, Colo.

Bowie, Texas

Ontario

Lakeview

Astoria

WEATHER HISTORY

Sir Frances Drake encountered a hurricane on June 23, 1586, that caused floods and damaging wind along the North Carolina and Virginia shorelines.

SUN & MOON

TUE.

WED.

Sunrise 5:05 a.m.

Sunset 8:44 p.m.

Moonrise 7:21 a.m.

Moonsset 11:06 p.m.

MOON PHASES

First

Full

Last

New

Jun 28

Jul 4

Jul 12

Jul 20

AROUND OREGON AND THE REGION

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2020

REGIONAL CITIES

City	WED. Hi/Lo/W	THU. Hi/Lo/W	City	WED. Hi/Lo/W	THU. Hi/Lo/W
Astoria	68/56/sh	69/54/pc	Lewiston	88/63/pc	86/62/pc
Bend	82/48/pc	83/54/s	Longview	74/55/c	81/55/pc
Boise	93/65/pc	87/61/s	Meacham	80/50/pc	79/50/pc
Brookings	72/58/pc	81/60/s	Medford	90/62/pc	93/62/s
Burns	91/52/pc	86/52/s	Newport	64/50/c	63/50/s
Coos Bay	67/54/pc	67/53/s	Olympia	75/55/c	81/55/pc
Corvallis	80/53/c	85/57/s	Ontario	96/66/pc	91/62/s
Council	87/54/pc	82/52/s	Pasco	94/60/pc	94/61/pc
Elgin	82/52/pc	81/55/pc	Pendleton	88/60/pc	87/61/pc
Eugene	82/56/pc	83/57/s	Portland	79/59/c	85/60/pc
Hermiston	92/62/pc	92/63/pc	Powers	77/56/pc	81/55/pc
Hood River	80/56/pc	88/58/s	Redmond	85/49/pc	86/53/s
Imnaha	83/55/pc	80/56/pc	Roseburg	86/59/pc	87/61/pc
John Day	83/53/pc	80/50/s	Salem	81/56/c	83/58/s
Joseph	78/48/pc	75/49/pc	Spokane	84/59/pc	81/61/pc
Kennewick	93/60/pc	93/60/pc	The Dalles	85/61/pc	91/62/s
Klamath Falls	88/50/pc	89/52/s	Ukiah	79/49/pc	77/47/pc
Lakeview	86/50/t	85/50/s	Walla Walla	88/61/pc	87/64/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 WEDNESDAY

ANTHONY LAKES

A t-storm in spots

62 41

MT. EMILY REC.

Clouds and sun

70 49

EAGLE CAP WILD.

A t-storm in spots

69 40

WALLOWA LAKE

Partly sunny

78 48

THIEF VALLEY RES.

A t-storm in spots

85 54

PHILLIPS LAKE

A t-storm in spots

81 48

BROWNLEE RES.

A t-storm in spots

88 54

EMIGRANT ST. PARK

Clouds and sun

76 46

MCKAY RESERVOIR

Partly sunny

86 58

RED BRIDGE ST. PARK

Partly sunny

82 54

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Sun. 12 noon-4 pm

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