

# Teen navigates opposing currents of reality, religion



**DEAR ABBY**  
ADVICE

**Dear Abby:** I'm a 16-year-old girl, and I've been struggling a little bit. My family is super-Christian. They believe that members of the LGBTQ community are sinful because of who they are. I do not agree.

I have a small group of friends. Two of them have come out to me as bi and gender-fluid. When my family talks about gay people, they say horrible things. I want to tell them what they are saying is wrong and that the mean comments

they make apply to my friends, but I'm afraid to give them my opinion. I'm unsure whether I should say anything at all. Can you help me? — **Keeping Quiet in California**

**Dear Keeping Quiet:** You are free to think the way you do, and to support your friends. However, you are not likely to change the way your parents feel on this subject. Your friends have come out to you, but not to your parents. If you out them to your parents, they may forbid you from seeing those friends. In two years, you will be 18, legally an adult and more able to express your thoughts with fewer negative ramifications. If I were you, I'd wait.

**Dear Abby:** My husband was annoyed and upset by a cricket in the house. He had used insect spray, but it was still chirping, so he asked me to take care of it. I told him I didn't know how to get rid of a cricket, since we didn't know where it was exactly. He was banging around the utility room. I called his name and asked him where he had sprayed — no answer. I asked again. No response. I then used his full name, and he got upset that I did! He said it was disrespectful and that I was "treating him like a child."

I apologized if I had hurt his feelings, but he's still upset with me because I don't agree it was disrespectful. Am I wrong? Is

it disrespectful to use your husband's full name when trying to get his attention? — **Sad in Nevada**

**Dear Sad:** It's not disrespectful if you can't get him to respond any other way. I don't know what your husband's relationship was with his mother. Perhaps she used his full name when he ignored her as he did to you when he was "playing cricket." The next time he tells you to take care of something you can't handle, pick up the phone and hire a professional. That way you won't have to inconvenience your husband.

**Dear Abby:** The owner of a store I shop at every week, who I believe is in her 40s, recently

posted on her Facebook page that she was having a sale because it was her birthday. I thought it was greedy and inappropriate, as I was always taught that it's a breach of etiquette to announce that it's your birthday, especially as an adult. Am I right? Or am I reading too much into this? — **Bothered in the East**

**Dear Bothered:** You are reading too much into this. There is nothing wrong about people revealing that it's their birthday. It doesn't obligate anyone to fork over anything more than their good wishes. If you decide to shop the sale, all you have to do is say, "How nice! I hope you are enjoying your special day."

## NEWS OF THE WEIRD

# Research on beards, wads of gum wins 2021 Ig Nobel prizes

The Associated Press

**SALT LAKE CITY** — Beards aren't just cool and trendy — they might also be an evolutionary development to help protect a man's delicate facial bones from a punch to the face.

That's the conclusion of a trio of scientists from the University of Utah who are among the winners of this year's Ig Nobel prizes, the Nobel Prize spoofs that honor — or maybe dishonor, depending on your point of view — strange scientific discoveries.

The winners of the 31st annual Ig Nobels being announced Thursday, Sept. 9, included researchers who figured out how to better control cockroaches on U.S. Navy submarines; animal scientists who looked at whether it's safer to transport an airborne rhinoceros upside-down; and a team that figured out just how disgusting that discarded gum stuck to your shoe is.

For the second year in a row, the ceremony was a roughly 90-minute prerecorded digital event because of the worldwide coronavirus pandemic, said Marc Abrahams, editor of the Annals of Improbable Research magazine, the event's primary sponsor.

While disappointing in many ways because half the fun of a live ceremony is the rowdy audience participation, the ceremony retained many in-person traditions. Those included real Nobel laureates announcing the



Elise Amendola/The Associated Press, File

The 2019 Ig Nobel award is displayed at the 29th annual Ig Nobel awards ceremony at Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts, on Sept. 12, 2019. The spoof prizes for weird and sometimes head-scratching scientific achievement were presented online in 2021 due to the coronavirus pandemic.

prizes, and the world premiere of a mini opera called "A Bridge Between People," about children who literally build tiny suspension bridges to join two angry adults.

No faces were punched for the beard study published in the scientific journal Integrative Organismal Biology.

Instead, University of Utah scientists Ethan Beseris, Steven Naleway and David Carrier used a fiber epoxy composite to simulate human bone, and sheepskin to act as the human skin — some-

times with the fleece still on, sometimes sheared. They then dropped weights on them.

The sample with the fleece still attached absorbed more energy than the sheared samples.

"If the same is true for human facial hair, then having a full beard may help protect vulnerable regions of the facial skeleton from damaging strikes, such as the jaw," they said. "Presumably, full beards also reduce injury, laceration, and contusion to the skin and muscle of the face."

It's obvious that those wads of discarded chewing gum found on sidewalks around the world are pretty revolting.

But just how revolting? Researchers from a Spanish university determined the already-chewed gum that has been stuck to the sidewalk for three months is teeming with nasty bacteria.

It sounds like a silly study, but as usual, there was some method to the madness.

"Our findings have implications for a wide range of disciplines,

including forensics, contagious disease control, or bioremediation of wasted chewing gum residues," Leila Satari, Alba Guillén, Angela Vidal-Verdú, and Manuel Porcar from the University of Valencia wrote in their paper, which was published at Nature.com.

A team of U.S. Navy researchers won for figuring out a cheaper and more effective way to control cockroaches on submarines. The 1971 study that appeared in Journal of Economic Entomology found that traditional methods such as carboxide fumigation and use of the pesticide malathion were not good enough.

They found that using the pesticide dichlorvos was less expensive and more effective.

The goal is to return next year's ceremony to its traditional home at Harvard University's Sanders Theatre, Abrahams said, but much depends on whether the pandemic is under control and what kind of travel restrictions are in place around the world.

### Former soccer player dies after 39 years in a coma

**PARIS** — Jean-Pierre Adams, the former France and Paris Saint-Germain defender who spent 39 years in a coma, has died. He was 73.

In a poignant tribute on Monday, Sept. 6, PSG

called him the club's "glorious elder."

"His joie de vivre, his charisma and his experience command respect. Paris Saint-Germain offers its condolences to his family and loved ones," PSG said in a statement.

Adams, cared for by his wife, Bernadette, has been lying in a coma at his home in the southern French city of Nimes since 1982.

He was injured in a match and required knee surgery. During the operation at Lyon Hospital, an anaesthetic error saw him fall into a coma.

As a young boy, Adams left his home country of Senegal with a passion for soccer.

He was spotted by Nimes in 1970 and went on to score 10 goals in 98 matches for the club before playing almost 150 games and scoring 17 goals for Nice.

Adams moved on to PSG in 1977 and played there for two seasons. He then ended his playing career in 1981 after brief spells with Mulhouse and Chalons.

He won his first cap for France in 1972 and went on to play 22 times for Les Bleus.

Even though Adams was relatively short for a central defender at 5 feet 10 inches, he formed an imposing partnership with Marius Tresor.

The last of Adams' international appearances was away to Denmark in 1976.

# weather

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	TONIGHT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED
	Mainly clear	Partly sunny and pleasant	Partly sunny	Mostly sunny and pleasant	Nice with clouds and sun
<b>Baker City</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>77 38</b>	<b>75 35</b>	<b>77 39</b>	<b>79 39</b>
Comfort Index™	10	10	10	10	10
<b>La Grande</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>74 46</b>	<b>69 38</b>	<b>74 49</b>	<b>72 40</b>
Comfort Index™	10	10	10	10	10
<b>Enterprise</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>71 45</b>	<b>70 42</b>	<b>73 48</b>	<b>67 34</b>
Comfort Index™	10	10	10	10	9

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	93°	83°	91°
Low Thursday	46°	49°	47°
PRECIPITATION (inches)			
Thursday	Trace	0.02	0.00
Month to date	Trace	0.02	0.00
Normal month to date	0.14	0.18	0.28
Year to date	3.11	6.56	15.79
Normal year to date	6.56	11.51	16.19

### AGRICULTURAL INFO.

HAY INFORMATION SUNDAY	
Lowest relative humidity	35%
Afternoon wind	NW at 6 to 12 mph
Hours of sunshine	8.8
Evapotranspiration	0.15

### RESERVOIR STORAGE (through midnight Friday)

Reservoir	Capacity
Phillips Reservoir	N.A.
Unity Reservoir	16% of capacity
Owyhee Reservoir	13% of capacity
McKay Reservoir	37% of capacity
Wallowa Lake	0% of capacity
Thief Valley Reservoir	0% of capacity

### STREAM FLOWS (through midnight Thursday)

Stream	Flow
Grand Ronde at Troy	449 cfs
Thief Valley Reservoir near North Powder	0 cfs
Burnt River near Unity	80 cfs
Umatilla River near Gibbon	41 cfs
Minam River at Minam	49 cfs
Powder River near Richland	2 cfs

### THURSDAY EXTREMES

NATION (for the 48 contiguous states)	
High: 118°	Death Valley, Calif.
Low: 23°	Walden, Colo.
Wettest: 4.25"	Chatham, Mass.

### OREGON

High: 99°	Rome
Low: 43°	Meacham
Wettest: 0.02"	Florence

### WEATHER HISTORY

North winds brought an early taste of autumn to the East Coast on Sept. 11, 1917. Temperatures dropped to as low as 25 degrees at Culvers Lake, N.J.

### SUN & MOON

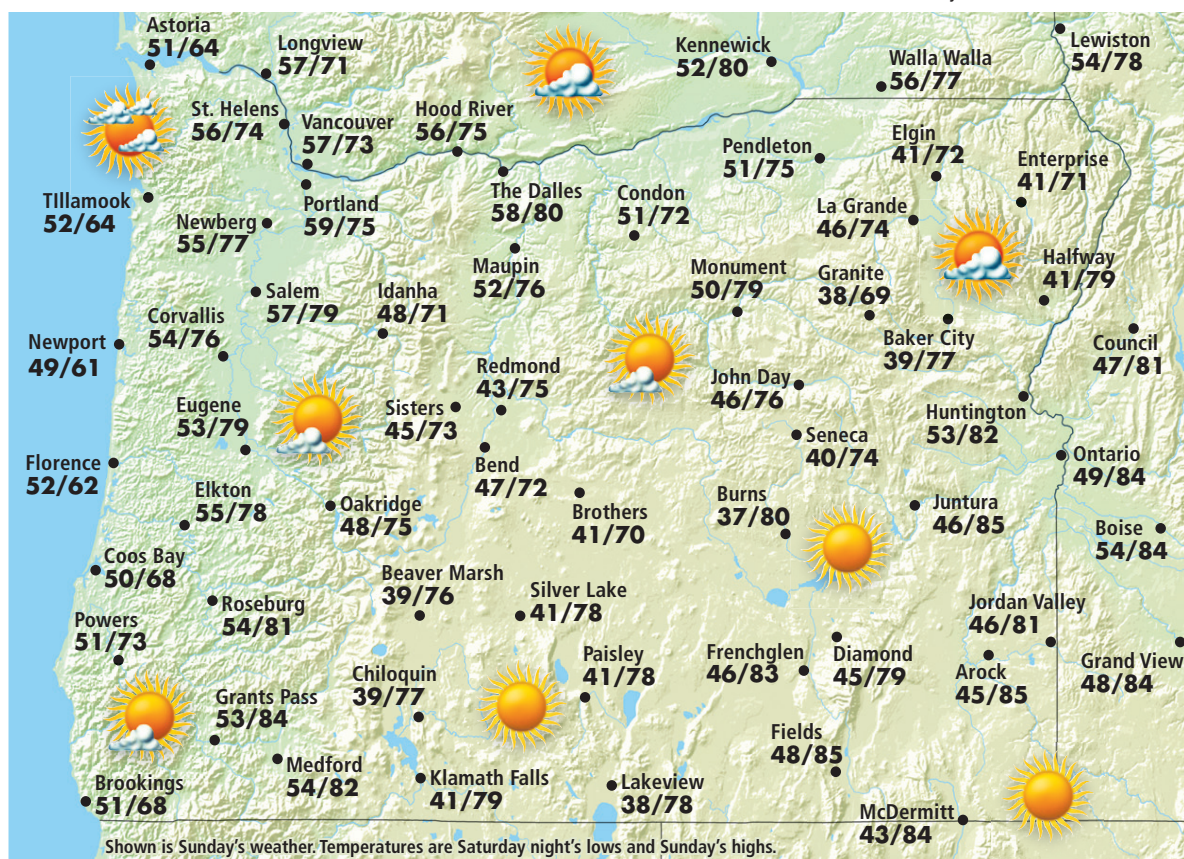
	SAT.	SUN.
Sunrise	6:26 a.m.	6:27 a.m.
Sunset	7:11 p.m.	7:09 p.m.
Moonrise	12:01 p.m.	1:20 p.m.
Moonset	9:46 p.m.	10:23 p.m.

### MOON PHASES



## 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	64/50/pc	65/49/pc	Lewiston	78/54/pc	77/53/pc
Bend	72/43/pc	71/44/s	Longview	71/50/s	73/46/pc
Boise	84/52/s	77/49/pc	Meacham	72/42/pc	71/37/pc
Brookings	68/53/s	72/53/s	Medford	82/51/s	82/51/s
Burns	80/37/s	79/35/s	Newport	61/45/pc	60/46/s
Coos Bay	68/48/pc	67/50/s	Olympia	72/47/pc	73/44/pc
Corvallis	76/47/s	76/47/s	Ontario	84/56/s	82/47/pc
Council	81/47/pc	78/41/pc	Pasco	81/48/pc	78/46/s
Elgin	72/43/pc	70/38/pc	Pendleton	75/50/pc	73/47/s
Eugene	79/48/pc	78/46/s	Portland	75/55/pc	74/52/pc
Hermiston	79/51/pc	77/46/s	Powers	73/47/s	74/49/s
Hood River	75/51/pc	75/51/s	Redmond	75/40/pc	74/40/s
Imnaha	76/46/pc	75/44/pc	Roseburg	81/51/s	80/49/s
John Day	76/45/pc	72/44/pc	Salem	79/49/s	76/51/s
Joseph	72/44/pc	68/42/pc	Spokane	73/49/pc	72/47/s
Kennewick	80/50/pc	77/48/s	The Dalles	80/51/pc	79/53/s
Klamath Falls	79/38/s	77/40/s	Ukiah	70/36/pc	70/32/s
Lakeview	78/37/s	79/39/s	Walla Walla	77/53/pc	75/54/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 SUNDAY

Activity	Forecast	Phillips Lake	Forecast
ANTHONY LAKES	Partly sunny; cool	Nice with some sun	
<b>50 36</b>		<b>72 39</b>	
MT. EMILY REC.	Partly sunny	BROWNLEE RES.	Partly sunny
<b>60 40</b>		<b>80 46</b>	
EAGLE CAP WILD.	Partly sunny	EMIGRANT ST. PARK	Partly sunny
<b>58 31</b>		<b>66 34</b>	
WALLOWA LAKE	Partly sunny	MCKAY RESERVOIR	Partly sunny; nice
<b>72 44</b>		<b>74 50</b>	
THIEF VALLEY RES.	Partial sunshine	RED BRIDGE ST. PARK	Partly sunny; nice
<b>77 38</b>		<b>74 46</b>	