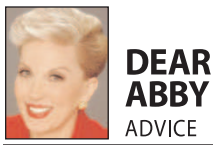


Mixed signals abound after long separation



DEAR ABBY
ADVICE

DEAR ABBY: I have been talking to my ex-boyfriend of more than 22 years. We have a grown son. We are now in our 50s and talking and texting again. I still love him, and I want a relationship with him, but I'm not sure he wants me back. I don't know if he's interested in me or just being friendly.

Can you help? At the end of our last phone call he said, "It's been a long time. Twenty-two years. We are both different people now.

I don't know if it could be like it was then," and we said goodnight.

Should I wait for him to text me back? I don't even know if he's dating someone. He didn't say. Please help. — **SECOND CHANCE IN THE EAST**

DEAR SECOND CHANCE: Continue talking to your ex and let this scenario play out further. Is he initiating these calls and texts, or are you? If it's him, that's a hopeful sign. Yes, it is true you are both different people now — but that can be a plus. With the passage of time, you both may have mellowed and matured. If the discussions continue, you will find out soon enough if he's involved with someone or interested in get-

ting back together. And remember, if he's just being "friendly," the son you share is a good reason for keeping that friendship going.

DEAR ABBY: My wife is very protective of our dog, "Spencer." I agree with her that Spencer should not receive table food. Yesterday, my wife put a large pile of dog vomit on my desk. She said it "proves" I have been feeding Spencer. Her accusation is not true.

I may have done some peculiar things in my time, but I have never put vomit on someone's desk. How should I respond? — **FLABBERGASTED IN IOWA**

DEAR FLABBERGASTED: There can be various reasons for

a dog having an upset stomach besides having consumed table scraps. Spencer should be checked by a veterinarian to be sure there isn't something else going on. As to your wife putting vomit on your desk, well, since you asked — I wouldn't blame you if you made it plain that SHE is in the doghouse.

DEAR ABBY: When someone gives a gift to someone, shouldn't it be opened in the presence of the giver? My 12-year-old daughter ran cross-country, and after the season ended, there was a banquet. At the banquet, several kids approached the coach and gave him cards. We gave him a gift certificate. When my daughter gave him the envelope, he laid it

down with the other cards and said, "thanks." I think he should have opened it and read the contents while my daughter was standing there (my daughter would have been so pleased). What do you think? — **LISA IN COLORADO**

DEAR LISA: Once a gift is given, it belongs to the receiver to do with as he or she pleases. Your daughter's coach was under no obligation to open the envelope in your daughter's presence. If he recognized the envelope contained more than good wishes, he may have wanted to spare the other athletes embarrassment if they could not afford to be as generous as your family.

NEWS OF THE WEIRD

Lawmaker apologizes after apparent try to 'pants' referee

The Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — A top Tennessee House Republican lawmaker has apologized for losing his temper and being ejected from watching a high school basketball game after a confrontation with a referee. The dustup included what appeared to be either a feigned or failed attempt at pulling down the official's pants, according to video footage.

On Tuesday, Jan. 4, Rep. Jeremy Faison, 45, posted on Twitter that he "acted the fool tonight and lost my temper on a ref."

"I was wanting him to fight me. Totally lost my junk and got booted from the gym," Faison wrote. "I've never really lost my temper but I did tonight and it was completely stupid of me.

"Emotions getting in the way of rational thoughts are never good. I hope to be able to find the ref and ask for his forgiveness. I was bad wrong."

Providence Academy, a private religious school in Johnson City, lives-treated the boys game against Lakeway Christian Academy, a private religious school in White Pine. Faison's son is on the Lakeway team.

The video feed shows Faison sitting in the stands before players hit the ground on a loose ball in the third quarter, spurring the referee's whistle and a brief scuffle between the two teams.



The Associated Press, File

Rep. Jeremy Faison, R-Cosby, center, talks with Rep. Dan Howell, R-Georgetown, left, during a meeting, Aug. 11, 2020, in Nashville, Tenn. A top Tennessee House Republican lawmaker has apologized for losing his temper and being ejected from watching a high school basketball game after getting into a confrontation with a referee, including a brief gesture at pulling down the official's pants that is visible in video footage of the game. On Tuesday, Jan. 4, 2022, Rep. Jeremy Faison, 45, posted on Twitter that he "acted the fool tonight and lost my temper on a ref."

According to a report provided by the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association, Faison showed up on the court and was then told by a referee to leave. Faison then pointed a finger at the referee's face and said, "You can't tell me to leave the floor — this was your fault," the report stated.

Faison then grabbed the ref's pants and tugged down on them, the report says.

The referee's pants stayed up and Faison subsequently walked away.

Since 2019, Faison has

been the House caucus chairman for Republicans, who have supermajorities in both legislative chambers. The GOP caucus chairman is among the most influential position in the House.

In his apology, the lawmaker from Cosby wrote that "for years" he has thought it is wrong for parents to lose their temper at sporting events, saying it is "not Christian and it's not mature and it's embarrassing to the child." Faison did not specifically mention the pants-pulling-down gesture in his post.

News of Faison's actions quickly sparked criticism.

"Panting" a ref on the gym floor is next level bullying...not even the stuff of middle school locker rooms," Rep. Gloria Johnson, a Knoxville Democrat, tweeted Jan. 5.

'Follow me': Dog finds help, leads cops to owner's car crash

LEBANON, N.H. — A German shepherd named Tinsley, first thought to be a lost dog, successfully led New Hampshire state police

to the site of its owner's rollover crash.

Both the vehicle's occupants were seriously hurt, but thanks to Tinsley's dogged efforts they quickly received medical assistance once officers discovered the truck, which went off the road near a Vermont interstate junction, WMUR-TV reported Tuesday, Jan. 4.

"The dog was trying to show them something," said Lt. Daniel Baldassarre of the New Hampshire State Police. "He kept trying to get away from them but didn't run away totally.

"It was kind of, 'Follow me. Follow me.' And they did that and you know, to their surprise to see the guardrail damaged and to look down to where the dog is looking at, it's just, they were almost in disbelief," he said.

A New Hampshire state trooper and police from the nearby city of Lebanon responded to the crash site late Jan. 3, just across the state line in Vermont.

There were no further details on the condition of those injured in the single-vehicle crash.

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weather

	TONIGHT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED
	Partly cloudy	Mostly sunny and chilly	Increasing clouds	Mainly cloudy and chilly	Mostly cloudy and chilly
Baker City	16	28 13	29 14	28 17	30 17
Comfort Index™	2	0	0	0	0
La Grande	25	33 23	34 22	33 25	32 24
Comfort Index™	3	0	2	1	0
Enterprise	19	37 23	36 23	39 27	36 26
Comfort Index™	1	3	4	4	4

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	39°	43°	41°
Low Thursday	28°	31°	30°
PRECIPITATION (inches)			
Thursday	0.02	0.09	0.67
Month to date	0.26	0.80	1.60
Normal month to date	0.15	0.34	0.66
Year to date	0.26	0.80	1.60
Normal year to date	0.15	0.34	0.66

THURSDAY EXTREMES

NATION (for the 48 contiguous states)	
High: 89°	Zapata, Texas
Low: -35°	Plentywood, Mont.
Wettest: 5.78"	Hoquiam, Wash.
OREGON	
High: 63°	Astoria
Low: 25°	Ruch
Wettest: 4.38"	Astoria

WEATHER HISTORY

The temperature stayed below zero in New York City for an entire day only once--on Jan. 8, 1859. During the same cold snap, Toronto had its coldest January temperature ever with a low of 27 degrees below zero.

SUN & MOON

	SAT.	SUN.
Sunrise	7:31 a.m.	7:31 a.m.
Sunset	4:27 p.m.	4:29 p.m.
Moonrise	11:17 a.m.	11:36 a.m.
Moonset	11:42 p.m.	none

MOON PHASES



AGRICULTURAL INFO.

HAY INFORMATION SUNDAY

Lowest relative humidity	45%
Afternoon wind	SSE at 6 to 12 mph
Hours of sunshine	2.4
Evapotranspiration	0.04

RESERVOIR STORAGE (through midnight Friday)

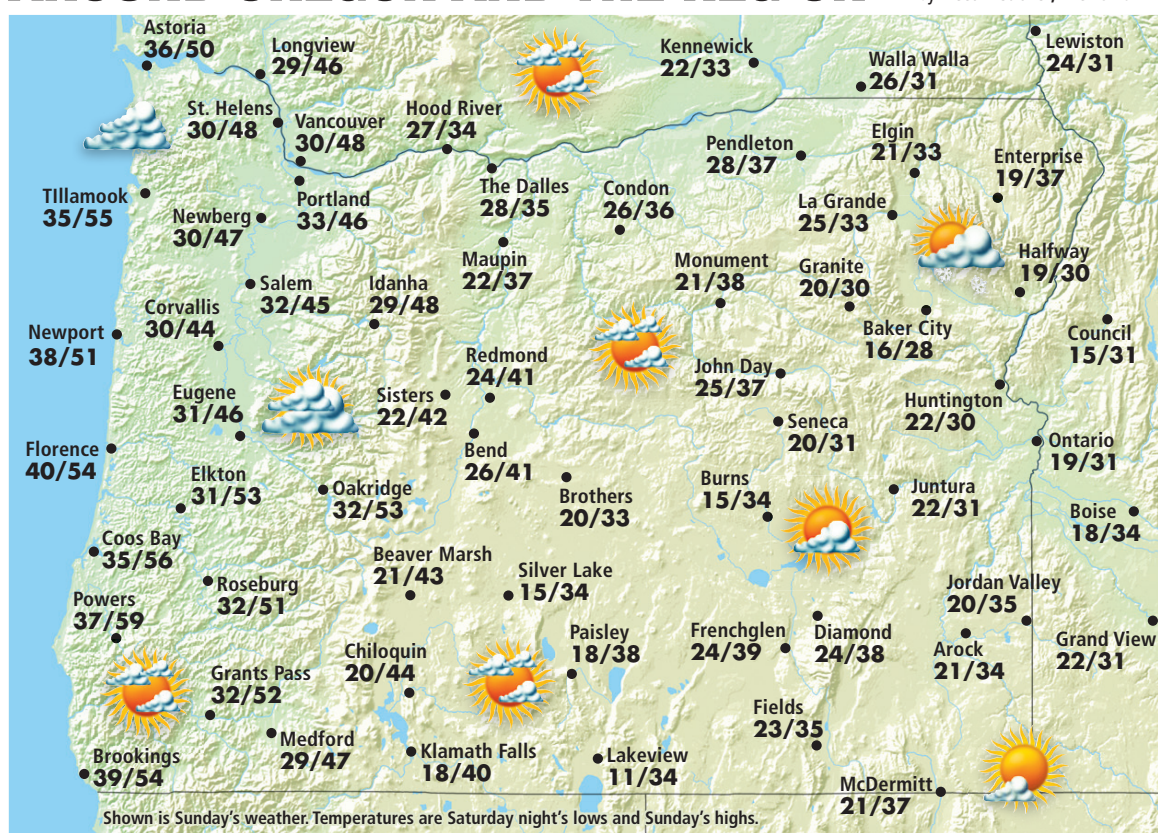
Phillips Reservoir	1% of capacity
Unity Reservoir	23% of capacity
Owyhee Reservoir	17% of capacity
McKay Reservoir	18% of capacity
Wallowa Lake	17% of capacity
Thief Valley Reservoir	20% of capacity

STREAM FLOWS (through midnight Thursday)

Grande Ronde at Troy	1190 cfs
Thief Valley Reservoir near North Powder	1 cfs
Burnt River near Unity	15 cfs
Umatilla River near Gibbon	271 cfs
Minam River at Minam	156 cfs
Powder River near Richland	43 cfs

AROUND OREGON AND THE REGION

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2022



REGIONAL CITIES

City	SUN. HI/Lo/W	MON. HI/Lo/W	City	SUN. HI/Lo/W	MON. HI/Lo/W
Astoria	50/39/s	49/43/r	Lewiston	31/22/s	32/25/c
Bend	41/31/s	44/34/pc	Longview	46/32/pc	43/42/c
Boise	34/18/s	32/20/pc	Meacham	33/21/pc	36/22/c
Brookings	54/42/pc	56/43/pc	Medford	47/34/pc	50/35/pc
Burns	34/13/s	32/15/pc	Newport	51/39/pc	52/43/r
Coos Bay	56/40/pc	57/45/c	Olympia	45/31/pc	46/40/r
Corvallis	44/30/pc	45/38/r	Ontario	31/18/pc	29/21/c
Council	31/14/s	30/16/pc	Pasco	32/19/s	33/25/c
Elgin	33/20/s	34/22/c	Pendleton	37/21/pc	33/25/c
Eugene	46/32/pc	48/37/sh	Portland	46/34/pc	44/38/c
Hermiston	35/25/pc	32/25/c	Powers	59/39/pc	59/44/pc
Hood River	34/29/pc	35/31/c	Redmond	41/24/s	42/28/pc
Imnaha	39/30/s	43/32/c	Roseburg	51/36/pc	52/39/pc
John Day	37/29/s	41/29/pc	Salem	45/30/pc	47/39/r
Joseph	38/29/s	37/29/pc	Spokane	32/19/pc	29/24/c
Kennewick	33/19/pc	31/23/c	The Dalles	35/27/pc	32/28/c
Klamath Falls	40/20/pc	41/21/pc	Ukiah	40/21/s	38/26/c
Lakeview	34/13/s	36/15/pc	Walla Walla	31/21/s	30/24/c

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

ANTHONY LAKES Not as cold	26	23	PHILLIPS LAKE Partly sunny	30	19
MT. EMILY REC. Mostly sunny	30	28	BROWNLEE RES. Mostly sunny	36	21
EAGLE CAP WILD. Mostly sunny	26	15	EMIGRANT ST. PARK Mostly sunny	34	23
WALLOWA LAKE Plenty of sunshine	38	29	MCKAY RESERVOIR Partly sunny	40	25
THIEF VALLEY RES. Partly sunny	28	13	RED BRIDGE ST. PARK Mostly sunny	33	23