

Woman can no longer support sister's decisions in life



DEAR ABBY
ADVICE

DEAR ABBY: For years my sister has been in a relationship with a man who treats her terribly. She works full time and comes home to find him out partying every day. I have stood by her and offered advice and a willing ear, but at this point, her problems are affecting my marriage as well as my sanity. His drug problems are getting worse, and he couldn't care less how she feels. She follows him and

sits outside the places he's hanging out, which forces him to come out and talk to her. I have tried my best to get her to move on. Their kids are grown, so she can't use them as an excuse anymore. Last night, she told me she has decided to let him do what he wants but stay with him because his health is deteriorating from the drug use. After 13 years of being her emotional support because she never makes an effort to get out, I've reached the end of my rope. I feel terrible guilt for feeling this way, but I recently had a baby, and with my new family, I no longer have the time or patience to deal with her drama.

I know it may be wrong to bow out, but I need to tell her that her problems have become my problems and they're damaging me. I don't think she's ever gonna draw the line. — **WORN OUT SIS IN KENTUCKY**
DEAR WORN OUT: Because your sister has tolerated this situation for 13 years, I, too, doubt she's ever "gonna draw the line." Had she done it years ago, it might have been the wake-up call her partner needed to sober up and straighten out. I agree it is time to step back, quit trying to solve your sister's unsolvable problems and concentrate on ones you can solve. And

when you do, do not apologize or feel guilty for doing so. It won't make you a bad sister but an emotionally healthier one.
DEAR ABBY: Like so many others, I am on social media to stay in touch with family and a few friends. I come from a large family with more than a dozen cousins and two siblings, as well as nieces and nephews. Many of them post photos, a lot of which are about their possessions — "Look at my new car, my new house, etc." And, of course, they expect you to "like" everything. I know, however, if I did the same thing, they would think I'm being obnoxious. Mind

you, I'm not wealthy. I would like to post some photos of just the scenery, but if I did even that, I'd be looked down upon. What's the best way to handle all the likes everyone expects with the knowledge that they hold me to a different standard? Sometimes it's infuriating. — **SICK OF SHOW AND TELL**
DEAR SICK: You are entitled to post what you wish, as well as to "like" or IGNORE what your relatives post online. Not everyone has the time to validate every post. If you are asked, say you don't spend as much time on the internet as they do, period. And don't apologize.

NEWS OF THE WEIRD

31M Americans to bet on Super Bowl, gambling group estimates

By **WAYNE PARRY**
The Associated Press

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. (AP) — A record 31.5 million Americans plan to bet on this year's Super Bowl, according to estimates released Tuesday, Feb. 8, by the gambling industry's national trade group.

The American Gaming Association forecasts that over \$7.6 billion will be wagered on pro football's championship game set for Feb. 13.

Both the amount of people planning to bet (up 35% from last year) and the estimated amount of money being bet (up 78% from last year) are new records.

Bettors include people making casual wagers with friends or relatives, entries into office pools, wagers with licensed sportsbooks, and bets placed with illegal bookmakers.

"Americans have never been more interested in legal sports wagering," said Bill Miller, the group's president and CEO. "The growth of legal options across the country not only protects fans and the integrity of games and bets, but also puts illegal operators on notice that their time is limited."

When the Los Angeles Rams and Cincinnati Bengals begin the game in the Rams home stadium, 30 states plus Washington, D.C., will offer legal gambling.

Since last year's game, 45 million additional people will be able to bet on the Super Bowl because their states have legalized sports betting over the past year: Arizona, Connecticut, Lou-



A gambler makes a sports bet at Bally's casino in Atlantic City N.J., Sept. 5, 2019. A record 31.5 million Americans plan to bet on this year's Super Bowl, according to the gambling industry's national trade group. The American Gaming Association on Tuesday, Feb. 8, 2022, released its annual predictions for wagering on pro football's championship game, forecasting that over \$7.6 billion will be bet legally and otherwise.

isiana, Maryland, North Carolina, North Dakota, South Dakota, Washington, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.

The association predicted that: • 18.2 million American adults will place traditional sports wagers online, at a retail sportsbook or with a bookie, up 78% from 2021.

• 18.5 million plan to bet casually with friends or as part of a pool or squares contest, up 23%. The association said there is some overlap among those two groups.

• 76% say it is important for themselves to bet through a legal operator, up

11% from last year. • 55% plan to bet on the Rams, with 45% backing the Bengals. That contradicts data from numerous individual legal sportsbooks that shows more bets and total money being wagered on Cincinnati thus far.

FanDuel, the official odds provider for The Associated Press, says 59% of spread bets are on Cincinnati to cover the 4-point spread as an underdog. Among moneyline bets that do not involve a points spread, 76% of bets predict the Bengals will win the game outright. Other

sportsbooks report similar breakdowns on bets received thus far.

The Super Bowl is also one of the most perilous times of year for people with a gambling problem.

Harry Levant, a public health advocate from Philadelphia and a recovering gambling addict, is an official with the group Stop Predatory Gambling. He said the ongoing wave of sports betting advertising, and numerous incentives to get people to bet, is reminiscent of the tobacco industry's efforts to get people to smoke and continue to do so.

He said legal sports betting is increasing a public health crisis in America involving problem gambling.

"One out of two people struggling with a gambling problem contemplates suicide, and one out of five will attempt suicide," he said. "I am one of those one out of five."

Levant said the rapid rise of in-game betting feeds into a compulsive gambler's desire for more and faster opportunities to bet.

"No longer is gambling limited to who's going to win the game," he said.

"Now gambling is on every play. Keep them gambling, keep chasing action."

There is a national help line for people with a gambling problem, or who think they might have one: 1-800-GAMBLER.

Don't got Moxie? Maine's beloved soda is in short supply

PORTLAND, Maine — Depending on whom you ask, Maine is in the midst of either a curse or a blessing — a shortage of Moxie.

Moxie, a polarizing beverage that is the state's official soft drink, is in short supply because of supply chain woes. The soda is beloved by thousands of Mainers and is the subject of a summer festival, but it also has detractors who say it tastes like medicine, or worse.

Coca-Cola Beverages Northeast, the local bottler of Moxie, told WGME-TV that supply chain issues have delayed its delivery of Moxie concentrate for months. The bottler said it looks forward to "being able to stock the shelves with Moxie as soon as possible."

Moxie originated in the 19th century, when it was indeed sold as a kind of medicine, replete with dubious claims of health benefits. The soda is available elsewhere in New England, but is especially ingrained in the culture of Maine.

It's not all bad news for Moxie lovers. Moxie Festival in Lisbon is coming back this July after two years off because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

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weather

TONIGHT	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON
Mainly clear	Partly sunny	Mostly sunny	Mostly sunny	Showers of rain and snow
Baker City 18 Comfort Index™ 5	40 15 5	38 16 3	37 18 1	38 21 0
La Grande 27 Comfort Index™ 7	47 25 5	42 29 3	42 30 2	40 29 0
Enterprise 22 Comfort Index™ 7	45 21 6	45 23 5	46 26 6	36 30 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 Tuesday	28°	43°	43°	
Low Tuesday	2°	19°	16°	
PRECIPITATION (inches)	Tuesday	0.00	0.00	0.00
Month to date	Trace	0.29	0.64	
Normal month to date	0.17	0.35	0.68	
Year to date	0.38	1.56	4.57	
Normal year to date	0.87	2.02	3.95	

TUESDAY EXTREMES

NATION (for the 48 contiguous states)	High: 87° Anaheim, Calif. Low: -19° Angel Fire, N.M. Wettest: 0.92" Houlton, Maine
OREGON	High: 77° Brookings Low: 2° Baker City Wettest: Trace North Bend

WEATHER HISTORY

On Feb. 10, 1980, snow closed interstate highways in Alabama and Dallas. Exactly one year later, spring-style tornadoes damaged schools and shopping centers from Texas to Alabama.

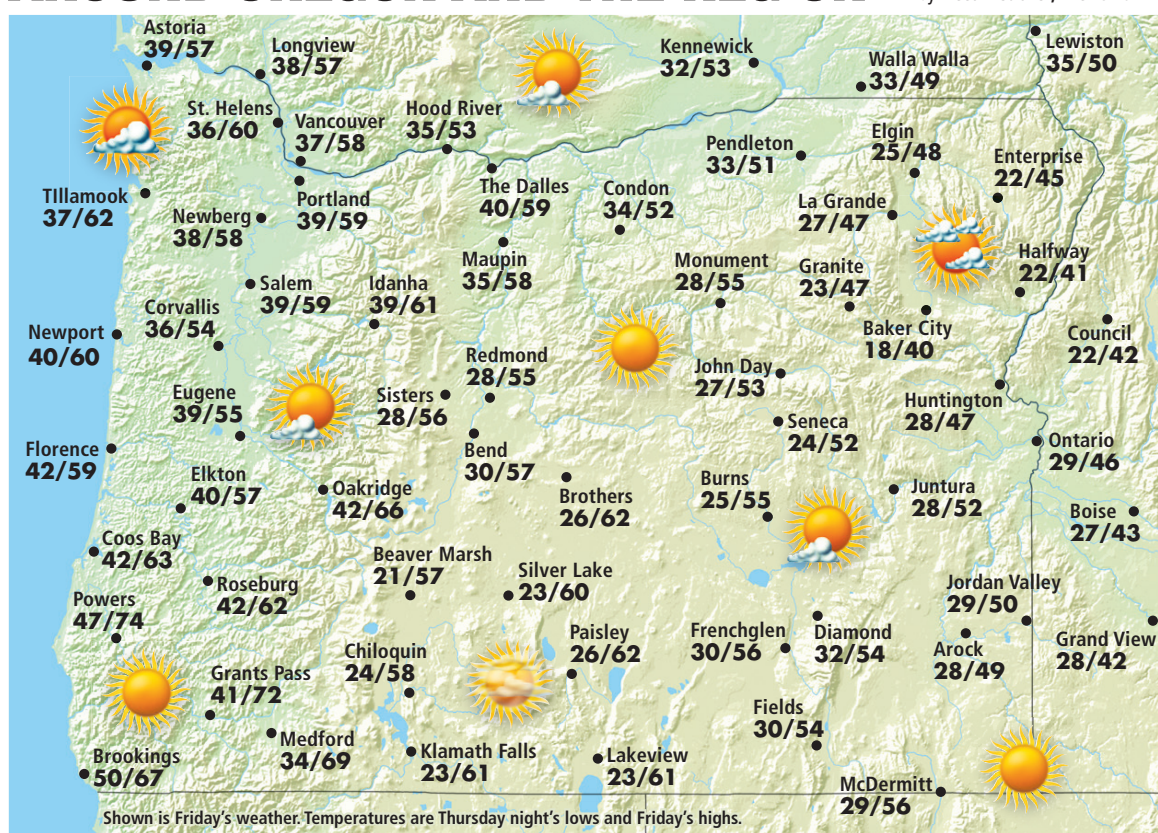
SUN & MOON

	THU.	FRI.
Sunrise	7:01 a.m.	7:00 a.m.
Sunset	5:12 p.m.	5:14 p.m.
Moonrise	11:41 a.m.	12:21 p.m.
Moonset	2:56 a.m.	3:57 a.m.

MOON PHASES	Full	Last	New	First
	Feb 16	Feb 23	Mar 2	Mar 10

AROUND OREGON AND THE REGION

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REGIONAL CITIES

City	FRI. HI/Lo/W	SAT. HI/Lo/W	City	FRI. HI/Lo/W	SAT. HI/Lo/W
Astoria	57/39/s	60/40/s	Lewiston	50/32/pc	52/34/s
Bend	57/24/s	57/26/s	Longview	57/35/s	58/32/pc
Boise	43/27/pc	44/27/s	Meacham	45/22/pc	42/26/s
Brookings	67/45/s	63/44/s	Medford	69/33/s	68/34/s
Burns	55/23/s	49/21/s	Newport	60/42/s	62/43/s
Coos Bay	63/41/s	64/39/s	Olympia	52/24/s	56/33/pc
Corvallis	54/31/s	55/32/s	Ontario	46/30/pc	43/28/s
Council	42/17/s	38/17/s	Pasco	54/31/s	50/28/pc
Elgin	48/21/pc	43/22/s	Pendleton	51/29/s	49/30/s
Eugene	55/35/s	56/35/s	Portland	59/39/s	58/38/s
Hermiston	53/31/pc	51/29/s	Powers	74/45/s	73/45/s
Hood River	53/35/s	54/33/s	Redmond	55/24/s	61/25/s
Imnaha	50/30/s	53/32/s	Roseburg	62/39/pc	63/39/pc
John Day	53/27/s	53/26/s	Salem	59/33/s	60/35/s
Joseph	45/23/s	46/26/s	Spokane	42/27/pc	43/26/s
Kennewick	53/29/s	47/27/s	The Dalles	59/35/s	57/34/s
Klamath Falls	61/21/s	62/21/s	Ukiah	50/24/pc	53/27/s
Lakeview	61/23/s	61/24/s	Walla Walla	49/31/pc	45/30/pc

RECREATION FORECAST FRIDAY

ANTHONY LAKES	Partly sunny	35 19	PHILLIPS LAKE	Increasing clouds	48 19
MT. EMILY REC.	Partly sunny	43 27	BROWNLEE RES.	Partly sunny	49 22
EAGLE CAP WILD.	Partly sunny	34 11	EMIGRANT ST. PARK	Cooler	44 16
WALLOWA LAKE	Mostly sunny	45 23	MCKAY RESERVOIR	Cooler	49 29
THIEF VALLEY RES.	Partly sunny	40 15	RED BRIDGE ST. PARK	Partly sunny	47 25

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