

DEAR ABBY

Write to Dear Abby online at dearabby.com
or by mail at P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069



Dear Abby: When my husband and I were first married, I had no idea why his mother and sisters were so hostile. When they started treating our children the same way, my husband finally addressed the issue. We moved out of town, and he finally told me that when he was in his teens and early 20s, he had had sex with all of them, which was why they didn't like me.

After an estrangement of many years, he has now started talking to his mother and sisters again. His mother is now in her 70s.

It breaks my heart that he is talking to people he had sex with, but he says it is OK because they are "family." In my opinion, he should have nothing to do with them. Please tell me how I need to handle things.

— "All in the Family"

Dear "All In": You cannot control what another adult does. I sympathize with your feelings, and I agree your husband's family situation was beyond unhealthy. However, from what you wrote, I get the impression that you would be equally upset if he were talking with ex-girlfriends. If your husband wants to talk to his relatives, he's going to do it regardless of whether or not you find it threatening. My question to you would be, are you willing to tolerate it?

Dear Abby: My girlfriend suffers from depression. She says she loves me, but there are times she won't contact me for days because of it. During this most recent bout of depression, she hasn't talked to me for a month.

I finally got fed up. I told her the next time she talks to me it should either be a

breakup call or to give me an apology. Was I right to say that? I don't know what to do.

— *Unsure in the East*

Dear Unsure: You say your girlfriend suffers from depression. Is she under the care of a doctor and receiving treatment for it? Is her family aware of the fact that when she cycles down she is incommunicado?

If she's so incapacitated that she can't communicate, they should be notified so she can get the professional help she needs, including an adjustment in her medications if necessary.

I agree she owes you an apology, and I can't fault you for telling her. But I would not recommend mentioning breaking up while she's in a vulnerable mental state.

Dear Abby: I am a 55-year-old successful businesswoman who has fallen in love with a man who has nothing. I would have to support him completely in retirement, but he is so lovable, so kind and so much fun. He does bring me great joy and happiness. What should I do — stay with him and take on the burden of his finances or just keep moving?

— *Eye to the Future in Pennsylvania*

Dear Eye: You are a 55-year-old successful businesswoman. I assume you are asking me whether you should marry this man or not, even though you find him lovable, kind and fun to be with.

People have valuable assets to offer besides money. However, before you make any trips to the altar, I suggest you have a chat with your attorney, just in case your assessment of him should change after the wedding.

GARDENING

Seed catalogs sprout new year hope

BY LIZ DOUVILLE

For The Bulletin

Everyone knows the pitfalls of grocery shopping without a shopping list especially when you are hungry.

I can relate to that, I-want-it-all feeling when it comes to pursuing the stack of seed catalogs that started arriving on the November 17. I mark the date received on the cover and put it in the catalog basket until January 1. That's the tradition at my house. Football game on TV, a stack of catalogs, a black marking pen and a stack of yellow Post-it notes on the table. I am ready for 2021.

There's not as much indecision as years ago. I have done enough experimenting and learning about the Central Oregon climate and soil to be able to compile a master list, especially for the tomatoes.

I still have the compulsion to go through the catalogs, one by one and page by page just to see what's new. Or maybe it's just to have a conversation with myself — "Well, that won't work here." "A tomato that big couldn't be tasty." "A tomato THAT small couldn't possibly have any flavor." "Only one ear of corn per plant?"

Last year, there was an unexpected increase in vegetable gardening resulting in suppliers being sold out very early. Seed orders were eventually filled but many orders weren't received until mid-June or later.

National studies have shown that home-grown tomatoes get top billing in the vegetable category. Clear the table, get your catalogs and supplies set out, brew a cup of tea or coffee and make catalog browsing an



123rf photo

Seeds can mean a renewed sense of purpose for the new year.

event. I know, this can be accomplished on the computer, but it's harder to keep track of who offers the most seeds per packet for the best price and who offers the best shipping rates. Once you have made your decisions is the time to head for the computer. I suppose my long-standing ritual is my transition into the coming seasons.

Short growing season
New gardeners to central Oregon and many who have not gardened for some time will benefit by being reminded that our growing season is short, approximately 90-100 days, with Sunriver and Sisters being between 70-85 days. The secret is to choose varieties with a maturity time of 65-75 days. Add to that 14 days which helps to compensate for the swing of warm days to cool

nights bringing the total close to the 90-day growing season.

There are many vegetables we can grow that are frost tolerant. Beets, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, chard, kale, kohlrabi, lettuce, leeks, onions, parsnips, peas, potatoes (partially frost tolerant), radishes, rhubarb, and spinach. Being that these seeds are frost tolerant they can be purchased off the rack at your favorite garden center.

The vegetables that require more selection are bush beans instead of pole beans. Bush beans are easier to protect from frost with row cover. Individual size cantaloupes grow well, Minnesota Midget has become a favorite.

Sweet corn is one vegetable I haven't had a great deal of success with. The soil temperature has to be at least close

Golf

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"It was a weird putt that I didn't really know how to read it other than to look at it and say, 'OK, I think this is the right line,'" DeChambeau said. "I was able to start it 27 inches out to the right. It broke farther than that, then it came back. I was just trying to get it close to the hole."

It dropped for eagle, and he kept his one-shot lead when Wolff made his much shorter eagle putt.

DeChambeau says he often has trouble remembering shots at big events because he works so hard at staying in the moment. But he remembers the par-3 third hole on Saturday, which he felt was key to having a chance on Sunday.

Starting the third round one shot behind, DeChambeau opened with two straight bogeys. On the 243-yard third hole, he was left of the bunker that was left of the green. He was staring at a third straight bogey.

"I had to flop it over the bunker," he said. "It was a very difficult shot, and I hit it up there to 6 feet. That kept me from going 3 over. It saved me a little bit, and I just corrected myself after that. What's interesting is I don't remember much because I'm so focused when I'm in the middle of it. I remember that shot because I



Dustin Johnson tees off on the sixth hole during the final round of the Masters in Augusta, Georgia, on Nov. 15. He went on to make birdie after this pivotal shot in his Masters title run.

David J. Phillip/AP file

was going in the wrong direction."

The Masters

Johnson swears he wasn't worried.

Starting the final round with a four-shot lead, he had to scramble for par on the easiest hole at Augusta National (the par-5 second), then missed 5-foot par putts on the fourth and fifth holes as his lead shrunk to a single shot.

"I know I made two bogeys, but it wasn't like I made really bad bogeys," he said. "It didn't bother me. I knew I was swinging it well. I just needed to be patient."

Patience was rewarded on the next hole, an 8-iron to 6 feet for birdie on the par-3

sixth that built his lead to three shots when Sungjae Im missed a 5-footer for par.

"I just had to judge the distance right," Johnson said. "I hit a good shot and made a really good putt. That gave me confidence I needed for the rest of the day. That was a really big hole."

But it was another 8-iron that Johnson remembers even more fondly.

With a splotch of mud on the right side of his ball in the 10th fairway, he said he aimed right of the bunker toward the azalea bushes expecting the shot to turn to the left, which it did, leaving him a two-putt par. Mud was on the left side of his ball in the 11th fairway, so aim to the left?

"I can't start this in the water," Johnson said. Instead, he made sure it stayed short of the bunker right of the green, and he got that up-and-down for par.

Those were two great shots, both with 5-iron, both with mud on the ball. But what meant the most to him was an 8-iron to the green on the par-3 12th, the hole that has cost so many contenders over the years.

"As you can see on Sunday, a lot of guys mess that hole up," Johnson said. "It was into the wind, which is the hardest to play. I had 150 yards to cover the bunker. So I hit a flighted 8-iron, kept it under the trees. It was on the green. I could breathe a little bit."

YOUR HOROSCOPE

By Madalyn Aslan

Stars show the kind of day you'll have

★★★★★ DYNAMIC | ★★★★★ POSITIVE | ★★★ AVERAGE | ★★ SO-SO | ★ DIFFICULT

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR WEDNESDAY, JAN. 6, 2021: Explorative, educational and brutally truthful, you help lighten up the world. Because you see light, you see darkness, and this is your next project, resulting in a very successful 2021. If single, you're searching for your mate. When you accept someone's flaws, that is the one. If attached, you've found your direction. You're lonely no more. It is heavenly. Be in wonder. But don't sacrifice yourself. CANCER adores you completely.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★★ Today adds new substance to important friendships. Others make plans for the future that happily include you. Companions can be insecure about their jobs and talents. Bolster a friend with encouraging comments and tell a few jokes. Tonight: Date night.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ You will find your workload easier and more enjoyable today. Team spirit is a must at work. You will reach your goals by fitting in with the crowd. Natural healing techniques and alternative therapies rejuvenate you. Tonight: Health is a focus.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ The expression of creative ideas enriches your life in a serendipitous way. Share a favorite pastime with one you admire. A business trip would be productive. Information shared by an acquaintance offers fresh and useful perspectives. Tonight: True love is going through a transformation.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ Valuable information surfaces, and you find your direction. You realize how patterns guide your life. It's a good time to examine your roots and origins. Complete projects that have been dragging on for too long. Tonight: Add decorative lights, including unusual candles around your home.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ You are eager to communicate today. Controversy and debate will thrill you. There is a need to crusade for causes you believe in. Humor and patience ease a situation with a difficult neighbor. Tonight: Direct your mental energy into writing, studies or teaching.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★ Responsibility, managing time wisely and traditional values guide you today. Be early if meeting a deadline. Investigate financial decisions and commitments carefully. Learning a new skill will assure success and security. Tonight: Becoming aware of the latest developments in your field.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ Today marks the start of great hope. You are on the brink of great progress. You're observant and alert, and it's easy to learn anything you set your mind to. Journeys are quite productive, exceeding your expectations. Tonight: Feeling a huge sense of abundance.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ You will understand today how past events have helped your growth. Confusion clears. You realize you have conquered an old phobia or inhibition. You discover so much more about yourself. Tonight: Old memories and the momentum of past habits.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ Today the mood is altruistic. Friendships are a blessing. Involvement in community life or organizations brings rewards. You rethink commitments and alliances. New types of associates are included in your social circle. Tonight: You will explore options concerning your goals.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★ The winter has a solemn quality. You will long for greater success and status. You might feel dedicated to high profile projects that are a challenge but also have the potential to bring great rewards. Tonight: Fulfill promises to acquire long-term security.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ It is a wonderful time to enroll in a study program. You would enjoy learning experiences, particularly those involving philosophy or foreign languages. A broader and more expansive outlook develops. An in-law or grandchild brightens celebrations. Tonight: In wonderment.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ Strategy helps resolve any monetary glitches. New long-term financial strategies are worth considering. An inheritance or insurance settlement could come your way. It is a good time to attend a seance or consult a Ouija board. Tonight: Feeling the mystery.

Tennis

Continued from A5

There are some significant milestones in the offing for stars such as Nadal, Novak Djokovic and Serena Williams in 2021.

Nadal can break a tie with Roger Federer for the most Grand Slam singles titles for a man after matching him with No. 20 at the French Open in October; by March, Djokovic can surpass Federer's record for most weeks at No. 1 in the ATP rankings; Williams is one Slam singles trophy away from No. 24, which would equal Margaret Court for the most in the sport's history.

Other tennis storylines:

Federer's return

More than 12 months will have passed between matches for the 39-year-old Federer

by the time he returns from two operations on his right knee. Federer's agent told The Associated Press he is aiming for late February after missing the Australian Open for the first time since his main-draw debut in 2000.

The Slams

There were only three Slams in 2020, because the All England Club canceled Wimbledon for the first time since World War II. As of now, Wimbledon is scheduled for its usual place on the calendar, beginning June 28. The French Open's start got shifted from May to September last year and the number of fans was severely restricted; as of now, it is slotted for May 23. For the Australian Open, there are lingering questions about flights, hotels and quarantine plans for players and their person-

nel. "I'm not that excited, to be honest. Like, I don't want to stay in my room for 19 hours," Opelka said. "You know, I get it; we have to do it. But I'm not one bit excited."

Tokyo Olympics

The 2020 Olympics, as they'll still be called, are scheduled to start in July, and two tennis players representing Japan could be breakout stars: AP Female Athlete of the Year Naomi Osaka and Kei Nishikori. "The Olympics are a special time when the world comes together to celebrate sports. I am looking forward most to being with the athletes that had waited and trained for over 10 years, for celebrating a very hard year (2020), and having that happen in Japan makes it that much more special," Osaka wrote in an email interview. "It's a special and

beautiful country filled with culture, history and beauty. I cannot be more excited."

Crowded competition

It should be fascinating to watch the young women who recently won Grand Slam titles compete for more. That includes No. 1 Ash Barty, who is 24; No. 3 Osaka, 23; No. 4 Kenin, 21; No. 7 Bianca Andreescu, 20; No. 17 Iga Swiatek, 19.

Who's got next?

There appear to be more legitimate candidates for first-time major champions in men's tennis than there have been in years. With Dominic Thiem joining the club last year at the no-spectator U.S. Open, who will join him? Daniil Medvedev, Andrey Rublev, Stefanos Tsitsipas and Alexander Zverev all appear capable.