

## DEAR ABBY

Write to Dear Abby online at [dearabby.com](http://dearabby.com) or by mail at P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069



**Dear Abby:** My daughter received her tax refund recently. It amounted to \$8,700. Approximately \$5,000 is for overpaying on taxes. Approximately \$3,000 is the child tax credit she receives for her two children. Her boyfriend, the father of the two boys, thinks he's entitled to some of her money.

Now, I understand the child tax credit is given for financial help for the children. My daughter and I agree that the \$5,000 is hers exclusively as she is the one who paid those taxes. As far as the child tax credit is concerned, her boyfriend thinks that he should be entitled to at least half of that because he's the father. We think because she is the one paying for the year's health insurance, doctor copays, prescriptions and most of the diapers, wipes, pullups and other incidentals, it should all be hers.

Don't get me wrong. Her boyfriend does contribute to the household and is a great guy. They split most of the bills. After five years, this is their first big disagreement.

He chooses to get money during the year, so of course he gets a lower tax refund at the end of the year. FYI, she pays less for the baby supplies because she works at a well-known warehouse. He contributes when they are low by picking some up at the grocery store. What advice do you have?

— *Money Woes in the East*  
**Dear Money Woes:** Watch your daughter's "great" boyfriend closely because his

stance is troubling. Because he is the father (!) doesn't mean he has a right to any portion of the child tax credit. If he needs reimbursement for the items he picks up for his children at the grocery store, your daughter should repay him out of her salary, not by forking over half of her tax credit. That money is intended for the kids, not for any one parent. If things aren't clear enough, consider putting the tax credit money in a separate account.

**Dear Abby:** My brother "Frank" passed away last month. He didn't have any underlying medical conditions, so it was a shock. My problem is, when I was 9 and he was 14, he used to molest me while my mother was working.

For years, I never told anyone, but when I was 40, I told my mom and big brother. Both of them believed me. For the past five years, I had been there for Frank and his daughter, but I was always waiting for an apology from him that never came. Now it's all I dwell on. How can I move past this and try to remember the good times?

— *Perplexed in California*  
**Dear Perplexed:** Your religious adviser may be able to help you with that. However, if you are not religious, it may take some sessions with a licensed mental health professional. Your niece, Frank's daughter, should be asked if her father ever did anything that made her uncomfortable because, if he did, she may need professional help.

YOUR HOROSCOPE *By Georgia Nicols*

Stars show the kind of day you'll have

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

**MOON ALERT:** There are no restrictions to shopping or important decisions today. The Moon is in Pisces.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR THURSDAY, MAY 6, 2021:** You are warm, charming and sociable. You are also eloquent and persuasive! As your new year begins, you're entering a year of learning and teaching. This is why you will expand your world through reading, studying and travel. However, you also might train or teach others as well. Whatever you learn now will boost your success for the coming year!

**ARIES (March 21-April 19)**

★★★ Today you have strong feelings about your finances and your belongings. You might want to explore new uses for something you own. You will certainly feel attached to what you own. ("My precious!") You also might be excited about a moneymaking idea. If shopping, you'll want to buy pretty things.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)**

★★★★ Your relationships with others are intense today. In fact, you might be surprised at how emotionally intense they are! Possibly, you will attract someone to you who is also emotionally intense, and this leads to a new romance. This will be a memorable day for you.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)**

★★★ Some of you will be involved in a passionate, secret love affair today. Many of you will be involved in something that is secretive. Whatever is happening, it's as if this situation, or another person, has a magical hold over you. (Pretty heady stuff.)

**CANCER (June 21-July 22)**

★★★ Your relations with a friend or a member of a group will be powerful today. In fact, for some of you, a friend will become a lover. Whatever the case, your involvement with others might be life-changing or transformative in some way. It will be a learning experience.

**LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)**

★★★ Some of you might develop a deep crush on a boss or a member of authority today. No matter how hard you try to shake it, you can't. You admire this person because of his or her power, knowledge or influence. Meanwhile, others will be asked for their creative advice on something.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)**

★★★★ You might fall in love with someone who is "different" today. Others will passionately want to travel somewhere, especially someplace beautiful. Or perhaps you will delight in seeing art exhibits because your appreciation of beauty is heightened.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)**

★★★ Your physical passions are strong today. (It's a memorable day for some couples.) However, you will feel just as passionate about financial matters, especially regarding shared property or the wealth of someone else — perhaps even envy.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)**

★★★ Today you will attract someone strong and powerful to you. ("Hi Darth.") You might want to express your feelings to this person. You also might have deep, profound insights into the relationship. Or a new relationship might flourish that is almost magical.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)**

★★★ Today you might have strong ideas about how to improve your health or possibly how to introduce reforms and improvements to your job. Either way, these ideas are important to you. You intend to follow through on them because you want to do things in a better way.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)**

★★★★ This is a passionate day for romance, definitely. Actually, it's a passionate day for all aspects of your world. You have strong feelings about children, the arts and sports, as well as strong feelings about demanding your own freedom and independence. (Wow.)

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)**

★★★ Family discussions will be intense today. In all likelihood, you will come up with improvements on how to make your home more beautiful. You might even come up with ways to improve family relationships. People are more ready to express their affection for each other today.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)**

★★★★ This is a powerful day because something will happen that makes you truly appreciate your surroundings. You appreciate who you are and where you are. You also appreciate the people in your life. It's so easy to get lost in what you want in the future and fail to appreciate what you have right now.

## MOTOR SPORTS | NASCAR

THE FUTURE IS HERE:  
NEXT GEN CAR ARRIVES

*NASCAR's first new car in seven years has finally arrived*

BY JENNA FRYER

AP Auto Racing Writer

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — NASCAR's next generation race car is finally here after two years of hype and hope that it will revolutionize the stock car series.

How can a spec car radically change a sport?

Competition. Cost containment. Manufacturer relevance.

The Next Gen car, first proposed in 2018 and originally slated to debut this season until the pandemic delayed it until 2022, is a first-of-its-kind collaboration between NASCAR and its partners with everyone focused on the future. All parties had to work toward creating a car that served the entire industry.

"I think the world is just going to look a lot different at NASCAR once you get to the Next Gen car," NASCAR President Steve Phelps said. "The dynamics are going to change so significantly. There are many things that Next Gen will do for us as a sport when it rolls out."

The unveiling was scheduled for Wednesday afternoon, when Chevrolet, Ford and Toyota at long last got to uncover their designs. It's the most significant change to the stock car since the present "Car of Tomorrow" model was introduced in 2007.

For the first time in NASCAR's 73-year history, single-source manufacturers will build the chassis, provide parts and supply the carbon composite body. But each indi-



Mike McCann/AP

**Driver Chase Elliott and Eric Warren, director of NASCAR Programs with General Motors, talk about the Next Gen Camaro that will be used in the 2022 season during an event in Charlotte, North Carolina, Wednesday.**

vidual manufacturer has the flexibility to design the shell to at last resemble the Camaros, Mustangs and Camrys sold on the showroom floors.

That critical manufacturer relevance stretches far beyond, say, a Chevy on the race track actually looking like a Chevy that catches your eye at a stoplight.

The Next Gen also led NASCAR to modern upgrades found on today's street cars — rack-and-pinion steering, independent rear suspension, bigger wheels and upgraded connectivity to allow for an in-car camera in every vehicle. The Next Gen also is built with an eye on relevancy in the future and the ability for adaptation as technology continues to change.

NASCAR has had only three manufacturers since Dodge left the sport after the 2012 season, and Phelps has said new OEMs would not be interested in joining until a new car was

introduced.

The Next Gen should make NASCAR appealing to other manufacturers, particularly as hybrid technology is explored. The new car, for now, will continue to use internal combustion, pushrod V8 engines produced by each of the three manufacturers.

"We are future-proofing the car to enable hybrid," said Mark Rushbrook, global director at Ford Performance Motorsports. "We think that is important as our road car cycles changes to be able to race hybrid in this car as well."

The Next Gen has sparked interest in ownership, and three new teams entered the top Cup Series this year. Michael Jordan is now an owner alongside three-time Daytona 500 winner Denny Hamlin, Pitbull joined entered in partnership with former driver Justin Marks, and former driver Matt Tifft has a team with current driver B.J. McLeod.

The car is expected to dramatically contain costs in large part because of its single supplier chains, and teams will be limited to seven cars at a given time instead of an unlimited fleet, making ownership appealing for the first time in several years. It sparked a bidding war last summer on the charters that guarantee entry for 36 cars into the 40-car NASCAR Cup field each week.

The biggest test of the Next Gen will come on the track. NASCAR has said the car will improve competition and that will be where the car will ultimately be judged. Although the Cup Series has 10 winners through 11 races so far this season, it has been an anomaly of a year so far in that a handful of teams and drivers typically dominate.

Kevin Harvick and Hamlin combined to win 16 of 36 races last year before Chase Elliott snatched the title for Hendrick Motorsports; Joe Gibbs Racing won 19 races and the championship in 2019.

The Next Gen, though, is designed to give drivers greater control while putting an emphasis back on race strategy, team personnel and vehicle setup. The symmetric body shape significantly reduces side-force, which in theory should make the cars harder to drive through the corners — NASCAR's current car is offset, not symmetric.

The composite body is designed to minimize in-race damage that would otherwise affect the car's handling and lead to further incidents that could alter a race. And the new, wider tires are designed to allow Goodyear to bring a softer compound to improve passing and strategy options.

## Golf

Continued from A5

"People can see it for what it is, which is a money grab, which is fine if that's what you're playing golf for is to make as much money as possible," McLroy said. "Totally fine. Then go and do that if that's what makes you happy. But I think the top players in the game — I'm just speaking my own personal beliefs — I'm playing this game to try to cement my place in history and my legacy and to win major championships and to win the biggest tournaments in the world."

"I'm very much against it. I don't see why anyone would be for it."

The topic became the focus of chatter at Quail Hollow Club, where the Wells Fargo Championship begins on Thursday with another strong field. The players had a previously scheduled mandatory meeting on Tuesday night with Commissioner Jay Monahan.

According to several players who attended the meeting, Monahan reiterated what he told players more than a year ago when the proposed super league — then known as the Premier Golf League — made its first pitch: Players who join will be suspended from the PGA Tour and could be banned permanently.

Still unclear is how this would affect the world ranking or invitation to the majors, even a spot in the Ryder Cup, because it is not known if any player has agreed to the money.

Thomas said he was unaware if the league invited him to join — if so, his manager hasn't told him.

"I don't know where it's going to go because everybody feels differently and everybody's in different places in their career," Thomas said. "For me, I personally am about being No. 1 in the world and winning as many majors as I can and winning as many tournaments as I can and doing historical things on the PGA Tour."

"I feel like the next 10 years of my career could really be my prime and I want to take advantage of it here."

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