

DEAR ABBY

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



Dear Abby: I have been married more than 25 years and have kids. I'm also gay. I always have been, but when I was a teenager, it wasn't acceptable and I always believed I would just outgrow it, or learn to live with it. Then came the computer era and the internet — things I never dreamed of while growing up. They changed my life, yet I'm still closeted.

I have had two gay relationships. Both lasted less than a year. I feel like my whole life has been a lie, and I pretty much screwed up my wife because of it. I did provide her with all the creature comforts financially, and gave her two beautiful kids.

I just don't know if it's worth coming out at this point in my life. I'm also reluctant because I don't have a guy in my life right now, although I am looking. It's just so difficult. I'm torn about how to live the remainder of my life. Please help.

— *Closeted in the Midwest*

Dear Closeted: Because you are looking for a partner, it looks like you really don't plan on sticking around once you find one. Tell your wife the truth so she can decide how she would like to spend the rest of HER life. She may need help from a licensed therapist to deal with the ramifications of your disclosure, so be prepared because it may be a shock when she learns the person she has spent the last quarter of a century with is not exactly who she thought he was.

Dear Abby: I was adopted and recently came across my biological family. It's huge. I suffer from severe depression

and now know that most of my bio family does, too.

During the past year, my husband and I decided to tackle it head-on with medication, and there has been a noticeable change in me. My husband is very supportive, and we are close. Problem is, I want to meet my out-of-state bio brother alone. He's the only full sibling I have, and our connection is uncanny.

My husband is a hyper extrovert, and I don't want his charming antics to distract from this moment (although usually I love it). He, however, says he can't agree. He's afraid something with the new family will set off a depressive episode, and I'll be too far away for him to get to me. That's understandable. But what do I do? I still feel the same. Is he right or am I?

— *Connecting in California*

Dear Connecting: Not knowing how serious your depressive episodes have been, my instinctive reaction is to advise you to listen to your husband. Surely he wouldn't have to be with you every minute and could stay at a nearby hotel or motel while you are seeing your sibling.

That said, if there is any chance that an episode could result in you becoming self-destructive, it is important to discuss this visit with the therapist who prescribes your medications before making any plans to go. Do tell your husband that if he accompanies you, you would like him to tone down his need for attention so he won't distract from your experience or your brother's.

HORSE RACING

Doping law not in play until 2022

BY EDDIE PELLIS
AP National Writer

For five years, a bill that would place the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency in charge of fighting illicit drug use in horse racing went nowhere in Congress. In 2020, it finally passed — but that milestone came too late to resolve the crisis that enveloped the sport and its latest Kentucky Derby winner this week.

As of Wednesday, Medina Spirit was entered in the Preakness Stakes, set to go for the second stage of the Triple Crown despite a doping positive at the Kentucky Derby that has shrouded its success and future, and further muddied the reputation of its trainer, Bob Baffert.

In the doping world, positive tests traditionally have to be corroborated by a “B” sample — in this case, a separately held specimen of the same blood sample that came back positive. It could take weeks for Kentucky authorities to get



Julio Cortez/AP

Kentucky Derby winner Medina Spirit after a morning exercise at Pimlico Race Course ahead of the Preakness Stakes Tuesday in Baltimore.

results from that sample, but authorities in Maryland and at Pimlico Race Course in Baltimore, where the Preakness is held, have been on a more urgent timeline. They had to decide whether to allow Medina Spirit to the post Saturday.

“The takeaway from this is that, right now, we're in this cloud of uncertainty,” said Bill

Lear, a Kentucky attorney who was a key architect of the law that was passed last year. “You don't know a lot of things you'd like to know, and we're coming up on the second race of the Triple Crown.”

Because of the uncertainty, horse racing powers in Maryland were forced to weigh the specter of legal action that

could come if they oust the horse against the cloud of suspicion that would exist if they let him run. Their decision was to let Medina Spirit run, albeit with an additional layer of testing scheduled for earlier in the week.

All this comes against the backdrop of a sport built for gambling. Millions of dollars will be wagered Saturday on a race that could include a horse less than two weeks removed from a failed drug test. Those who won (or lost) money on Medina Spirit in the Derby needn't worry — there will be no returns, despite the now-murky nature of the victory.

“You can't get the money back, and I don't think anyone's going to succeed in challenging that,” Lear said. “But the fact that wagers are paid immediately after the races are official heightens the need to do everything possible to not have an (antidoping) violation skew the results of a race.”

Canzano

Continued from A5

Pick one of those quotes and go with it today.

They both work. Also understand it will take a pile of critical things lining up to make Portland a true candidate in the race to land the A's. The city needs a massive clean-up effort. The MLB to PDX group needs a visible lead owner to emerge and push the charge. A more realistic and viable stadium site needs to be locked down, too. But most of all, what the effort to bring MLB to PDX needs is a champion inside City Hall.

It'd normally be concerned that Portland was being used as a pawn to get the stadium deal done in Oakland, but there is something different about the way this one feels. Oakland has already lost the Warriors (to San Francisco) and the Raiders (to Las Vegas). The trend is Portland's friend here. And I keep thinking that A's owner John Fisher has simply had enough and knows this ends with moving vans involved.

Legend has it that the list containing the names of the Portland Diamond Project's whale investors and billions in collective financial commitments was shared with Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler a couple of years ago. Wheeler added up \$2.5 billion in financial commitments and told The Oregonian/OregonLive, “They know what they're doing.”

Terrific. Does the city know what it's doing?

That's going to be an important question in the race for the A's. Because Las Vegas, Montreal, Vancouver (B.C.), Charlotte and Nashville present formidable opposition and they've all got more focused political backing. This is now a recruiting job. It's why Vegas, for example, emerged as the favorite on Tuesday.

Literally, an offshore sports book made odds on destinations for the A's:

Las Vegas +150
Montreal +250
Portland +500
Nashville +750
Charlotte +800
Vancouver (BC) +1200

“Sin City” has no organized ownership group on the ground. They just sunk millions into constructing a new Triple-A baseball stadium in the suburbs. Las Vegas feels saturated with the addition of NHL and NFL franchises that have recently harnessed the enthusiasm of the city. It's also about 150 degrees in the summer there and adding 81 home baseball dates to the spring-summer calendar feels like a big ask of the market.

Still, Vegas opened as the clear favorite for one reason — it's the best recruiter in the land. We all know the city, state and county political leadership will open their arms and make the A's feel like the only high roller in town.

Portland's sports market is underserved. The local ownership group is well organized. Constructing a ballpark district that would revitalize down-

town would be a win-win for the group and the city. Also, it's one of the few options that wouldn't require realignment of the American League West. But I'm just not sold that the Mayor of Portland and the current band of City Commissioners will stand tall to support a project that absolutely demands it.

This effort feels like it's missing a key ingredient — political will.

I so badly want to be wrong there.

A ballpark in Portland would create a pile of jobs, could be utilized as a financial catalyst to help address a troubling homelessness problem, and would enhance the blighted image of our city. City leaders could easily invest millions in a rebranding and marketing campaign that announces to the world that Portland is cleaning itself up. Or it could simply break

from character and help the Portland Diamond Project land the A's.

Fisher and the A's appear to be over trying to find a solution in Oakland. The competition doesn't have the head start that Cheek and his group engineered over the last few years. Simple geography and the rivalry that would be created with Seattle vs. Portland make our city an attractive option.

Yet, we don't feel anywhere near ready to bring company to Portland and showcase the city. The garbage is piled up. Too many windows are still boarded up. Not enough has been done to help people struggling to find a safe place to sleep. The timing of this feels wrong, but it's not everyday that an MLB team looks ready to visit so what we have to do is straighten up, get busy fixing the issues, and get it done.

The whales who back the Diamond Project must have celebrated the news on Tuesday night. They have a chance to make a legacy play here, either by partnering with Fisher and building him a stadium or buying the team outright from him. But if they're like me, they're a little uneasy, too.

I keep thinking about the late Harry Glickman. The visionary brought the Trail Blazers to Portland and almost pulled off the Delta Dome project that would have made the NFL's Seahawks ours, too. Glickman made no small plans. He also had the heart of a lion and a booming voice that sounded like a box of gravel when he directed it at you.

“If Portland wants a baseball team,” Glickman once barked at me over coffee, “it will need a champion in City Hall.”

Is there one out there?

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 Gemini.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR THURSDAY, MAY 13, 2021: People are entertained by your great wit. You're clever, intelligent and well prepared. You take pride in your professional approach to things, and you hope that others will do likewise. In the year ahead, many of you will make a decision that will lead to a major change in your life. Stay flexible so you can size up all options.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ You'll be surprised to experience something fresh and different in the next two months. Your capacity to learn more about the spiritual dimensions of your life will increase as you come in touch with deep, meaningful values. (This might sound trippy, but it's true.) Tonight: Enjoy daydreams and wishful thinking.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ Your popularity will increase in the next 10 weeks. Not only will you enjoy the company of friends and groups, these people will actually benefit you. This same window is an excellent time to ponder your hopes for the future. Tonight: Be careful of extravagance.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ Something good is coming down the pipe! For the next few months, you might receive a promotion, public recognition, kudos, an award or admiration for your achievements. Some might travel because of work. Mucho excitement! Tonight: Stay realistic.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ In the next few months, many opportunities will come to you that expand your view of things and expose you to a broader world. Some of you will travel to foreign countries. You might explore philosophical and religious ideas. Tonight: Don't be led astray by fantasies.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ Your financial scene will improve in the next few months because money from other sources will come to you. Ka-ching! This could mean money back from the government, or you might benefit indirectly through your partner. Maybe an inheritance? Tonight: A friend might confuse you.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ You have a wonderful opportunity to enjoy one-on-one encounters in the next few months. Relations with others will be upbeat and friendlier. If you marry in the next few months, your partner might be older, richer or more established. This is a good time to see an expert. Tonight: Be extra clear in communicating with authority figures.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ Good news! Your health will get a lovely boost in the next few months. You will feel stronger and more vigorous and pleased with yourself. Many of you will improve your job or get a better paying job. Some of you will explore work-related travel. Tonight: Don't fall for propaganda.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ Lucky you! In the next 10 weeks, you have more opportunities to express your creative urges. Romance will blossom! New romance is possible. Relations with your kids will improve, and some might slip away on a vacation. Tonight: Double-check banking and financial matters.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ Different scenarios related to your home and family will please you in the next 10 weeks. Family members will be more loving and generous to each other because something will happen that makes you enjoy your home more. You might benefit through real estate. Tonight: Family discussions might be confusing.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ You're entering an exciting window of about 10 weeks when your plans for the future will be more ambitious. You might learn something or get further training. Relations with siblings and relatives will be happier. Get ready for an upbeat time! Tonight: Daydreams and fantasies are par for the course.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ Lucky moneybags Jupiter has just moved into your Money House for 10 weeks, which means you will boost your earnings or increase your assets in some way. You will likely get richer! Explore moneymaking ideas. Tonight: Resist extravagant spending.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ For a brief 10 weeks, lucky Jupiter is in your sign for the first time since 2010. (A marvelous bonus!) It signals the beginning of a new cycle in your life, especially one of gaining new experiences. You will attract people and resources. Tonight: You're in a dreamy state of mind.

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