

Precautions help wildland firefighters

DEAR ABBY: I am the wife of a fireman. I have a personal stake in letting your readers know that they can help to protect the lives of wildland firefighters as we experience yet another terrible new fire season. We have already seen those frightening orange flames leaping across our television screens as they are beaten back by firefighters. Brave men and women risk their lives to save com-



abigail van buren

• dear abby

munities, while families like ours watch the news and hold our breath. Twenty-three firefighters lost their lives in wildland fires last year, and more than 6 million acres were reduced to ashes. This year promises to be even more costly. Millions of Americans live in what is called “wildland/urban interface.” These are areas of wild nature into which homes — and even cities

(18,000 communities) — have been built. Last year, the residents of Denver were shocked to learn that their metropolis is a wildland/urban interface as wildfires swept down from the mountains. When houses are threatened or engulfed, firefighters are at risk. However, homeowners can protect their dwellings and possessions — and the lives of firefighters — before the fires race toward them. Here’s what to do: Go to your computer and type in www.firewise.org. Firewise.org is a free service of the U.S. Forest Service, the Red Cross, the National Fire Protection Association and dozens of other government and private entities. This Web site

teaches visitors how to “firewise” their homes, imparting precautions homeowners can take to prepare their homes to ride out a wildland fire. You cannot firePROOF a home, but you can fireWISE it, and by doing so, you might save another firefighter’s family unending grief. Sign me ... PRECAUTIOUS IN PLACERVILLE, CALIF. DEAR PRECAUTIOUS: I hope millions of homeowners will take advantage of your helpful suggestion. This nation has opened its heart to firefighters and their families, especially during the last two years. The selfless courage of those dedicated men and women who put their safety on the line as they move into

burning buildings or burning wildlands is an inspiration. We owe them, among other considerations, a visit to Firewise.org, which puts preventive measures literally at our fingertips. And for those readers who are not computer-enabled, you, too, can save a wildland firefighter’s family enduring heartache by requesting a free Firewise Homeowner’s Guide. Simply write: Firewise, 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02269-9101 and tell them that Dear Abby sent you. DEAR ABBY: I am a retired airline pilot. My main recreational pastimes are golf and billiards, and I am good at both. However, I become despondent when I play badly, and lately my depression is hard to shake.

I have always had a competitive nature, but realize I’m no fun to be around when I’m down. I need an attitude adjustment so that friends won’t shy away from playing with me. Any suggestions, Abby? — SORE LOSER IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA DEAR SORE LOSER: There’s an old saying: It’s not whether you win or lose, but how you play the game that counts. You are wise to realize that your quest for perfection has become a problem. The solution is counseling to help you get to the root of — and deal with — your obsession with always “winning,” and your depression when you don’t.

| TUESDAY EVENING | | | | | | | | | | | JULY 29, 2003 | |
|-----------------|-------|--|------------------|------------------|-------------------|---|---|---|---|--|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| | | 6 pm | 6:30 | 7 pm | 7:30 | 8 pm | 8:30 | 9 pm | 9:30 | 10 pm | 10:30 | |
| 2 | PBS | Live From Lincoln Center "Mostly Mozart Festival Night Gala 2003" (N) | | | | Nine Months in York Town | | News | Being Served | Business Rpt. | BBC World News | |
| 3 | IND | (5:30) MLB Baseball Houston Astros at Atlanta Braves. Field in Atlanta. (Live) | | | | From Turner | Seinfeld | ★★★ "The Outlaw Josey Wales" (1976) (PA) Clint Eastwood, Chief Dan George. | | | | |
| 4 | ABC | 8 Simple Rules | Life With Bonnie | According to Jim | Less Than Perfect | NYPD Blue "Nude Awakening" | News | (:35) Nightline | (:06) Jimmy Kimmel Live | | | |
| 5 | HBO | (:15) ★★★ "The Sandlot" (1993, Comedy-Drama) Tom Guiry, Mike Vitar. | | | | Real Sports | "Undeclared" (2003, Drama) John Leguizamo, Vanessa Ferlito. | | | | Seabiscuit: First Look | |
| 7 | CBS | Big Brother 4 (iTV) (N) | | | | Cupid Ten candidates are selected. | Judging Amy "Judging Eric" | News | (:35) Late Show Eels. (N) | (:37) Late Show | | |
| 8 | NBC | Dog Eat Dog (N) | | | | Last Comic Standing (iTV) (N) | Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Risk" | News | (:35) Tonight Show Julie Scardina; Norah Jones. | (:37) Late Night | | |
| 11 | TVLND | Fantasy Island | | | | Sanford | Bewitched | Griffith | Leave | I Love Lucy | Jeannie | |
| 12 | ESPN | 2003 Poker | | | | Beg, Borrow & Deal 2 | Fox Sportscenter (Live) | | | | Outside | Baseball |
| 13 | FOX | American Juniors (iTV) (N) | | | | Paradise Hotel The sixth guest is evicted. | Fox Report With Shepard Smith | Blind Date | Blind Date | Paid Program | Paid Program | |
| 15 | MAX | ★★★ "High Crimes" (2002, Suspense) Ashley Judd, Morgan Freeman. | | | | Bronx Boys (N) | Women-Hair | ★★★ "Unfaithful" (2002) Richard Gere. A housewife has an affair with a charming stranger. | | | | |
| 16 | TNN | Real TV | Real TV | Real TV | Real TV | Blind Date | Blind Date | Star Trek: Next Gener. | "Man With Golden Gun" | | | |
| 17 | DISN | Boy Meets World | Smart Guy | Sister, Sister | Even Stevens | Sister, Sister | Lizzie McGuire | ★★★ "Eddie's Million Dollar Cook-Off" (2003, Comedy) Taylor Ball, Orlando Brown. | | | | |
| 18 | LIFE | (5:00) "The Spring" | | | | "Defending Our Kids: The Julie Posey Story" | | | | Golden | Golden | Nanny |
| 20 | USA | JAG "JAG TV" | | | | ★★★ "Meet the Parents" (2000) Robert De Niro. | | | | Dead Zone "The Hunt" | Nash | |
| 21 | SHOW | ★★ "Rock My World" (2002, Comedy) Peter O'Toole, Joan Plowright. iTV. | | | | ★★★ "Along Came a Spider" (2001, Mystery) Morgan Freeman, Monica Potter. iTV. | | | | ★★ "Rollerball" (2002) Chris Klein. iTV. | | |
| 22 | TMC | "Where It's At" (1969) | | | | (:35) ★★ "Body Slam" (1987) Dirk Benedict, Tanya Roberts. | (:15) ★★ "Mulholland Falls" (1996, Drama) Nick Nolte, Melanie Griffith, Chazz Palminteri. | ★★★ "Ghost World" (2001) | | | | |
| 23 | MTV | Direct Effect | | | | 2003 MTV Movie Awards | | | | Real World | Real World | Real World |
| 24 | DISC | Crocodile Secrets | | | | Crocodile Territory | | | | FBI Files "Crime Spree" | New Detectives: Forensic Science | New Detectives: Forensic Science |
| 28 | TNT | Law & Order "Encore" | | | | Law & Order "Barter" | | | | Charmed | Law & Order (DVS) | X-Files |
| 30 | FXSP | MLB Baseball: Rockies at Reds | | | | Rocky Mt. | Best Damn Sports Show Period | Rocky Mt. | Rocky Mt. | Rocky Mt. | Rocky Mt. | |
| 32 | FAM | ★★ "Baby on Board" (1991) Judge Reinhold. | | | | Whoose? | Whoose? | 700 Club | Caroline Rhea Show | | | |
| 33 | NBC | News | Ent. Tonight | Dog Eat Dog (N) | | | | Last Comic Standing (iTV) (N) | Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Risk" | News | (:45) Tonight Show | |
| 34 | NICK | SpongeBob | Amanda | Cosby | Cosby | Cheers | Cheers | Cheers | Cheers | Cheers | Cheers | |
| 36 | A&E | Biography "Judge Judy: Sitting in Judgment" | | | | Cold Case Files "Soft Kill; Unsolved" (N) | | | | Third Watch "Superheroes" | | |
| 38 | SCIFI | In Search Of... | | | | Beyond Bizarre (N) | | | | "Life in a Day" (1999) Michael Gorrjian. | | |
| 39 | TLC | While You Were Out | | | | Home Savvy | | | | What Were You Thinking? "Moving Violations" | | |
| 40 | FX | Married... | | | | Buffy Vampire | | | | ★★★ "Lethal Weapon 3" (1992) Mel Gibson, Danny Glover. | | |
| 45 | FMC | (:01) ★★ "Tough Enough" (1983) Dennis Quaid. | | | | (:01) ★★ "Night and the City" (1992, Drama) | | | | (:01) "The Gunfighter" | | |
| 49 | EITV | Martin Lawrence | | | | Star Dates | Star Dates | Wild On... (N) | Howard S. | Howard S. | Wild On... | |
| 51 | TRAV | World's Best | | | | Secrets | Secrets | World's Best | Secrets | Secrets | Secrets | |
| 53 | WB | Friends | | | | Everybody-Raymond | Everybody-Raymond | Friends | Will & Grace | Will & Grace | Will & Grace | |
| 54 | ESPN2 | Boxing: Courtney Burton vs. Angel Manfredy | | | | Baseball Tonight | | | | SportsCenter (Live) | Baseball | Streetball |
| 58 | HIST | Deep Sea Detectives (N) | | | | Nature Tech "Avalanches" (N) | | | | Modern Marvels "Terror Tech" (N) | Infamous Murders | Infamous Murders |
| 59 | HLTH | Doctors Diaries | | | | Workout | Bodies | Health Specials | Doctors Diaries | Workout | Bodies | |
| 60 | UNIV | Rebeca | | | | Niña... Amada Mia | Ver Para Creer | P. Impacto | Noticiero | En las Mejores Familias | | |
| 62 | HGTV | Ground | | | | Landscap | Room | Decorating | House | Curb | | |
| 99 | WGN | MLB Baseball San Francisco Giants at Chicago Cubs. (Live) | | | | (Live) | | | | News | Justice | In the Heat of the Night |

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| THURSDAY EVENING | | | | | | | | | | JULY 31, 2003 | |
|------------------|-------|--|--------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|--|--|--|---|----------------------|--|
| | 6 pm | 6:30 | 7 pm | 7:30 | 8 pm | 8:30 | 9 pm | 9:30 | 10 pm | 10:30 | |
| 2 | PBS | Sunflower Journeys | Kansas Arts Today | New This Old House Hour | Wide Angle "To Have and Have Not" | | News | Keeping Up | Business Rpt. | BBC World News | |
| 3 | IND | (5:30) MLB Baseball Houston Astros at Atlanta Braves. Field in Atlanta. (Live) | | | From Turner | Seinfeld | ★★ "Bait" (2000) (PA) Jamie Foxx. A petty thief is used to flush out a high-tech criminal. | | | | |
| 4 | ABC | ★★★ "Mary and Rhoda" (2000, Comedy) Mary Tyler Moore, Valerie Harper, Joie Lenz. | | | | Primetime Thursday (N) | News | (:35) Nightline | (:06) Jimmy Kimmel Live | | |
| 5 | HBO | ★★★ "Silverado" (1985, Western) Kevin Kline, Scott Glenn, Danny Glover. | | | | (:15) ★★ "Nine Months" Grant, Julianne Moore. | (1995, Comedy) Hugh PG-13 | ★ "Mr. Deeds" (2002) Adam Sandler. PG-13 | | | |
| 7 | CBS | Amazing Race 4 (N) | CSI: Crime Scene Investigation | (N) (DVS) | Without a Trace "Silent Partner" | | News | (:35) Late Show Melanie Griffith; O.A.R. (N) | (:37) Late Show | | |
| 8 | NBC | Friends | Scrubs | Will & Grace | Scrubs | ER "No Strings Attached" | News | (:35) Tonight Show (N) | (:37) Late Night | | |
| 11 | TVLND | Fantasy Island | | Sanford | Bewitched | Griffith | Leave | I Love Lucy | Jeannie | MacGyver | |
| 12 | ESPN | Billiards: Nine-Ball Final | | Billiards: Trick | | Baseball Tonight | SportsCenter (Live) | Outside | Baseball | | |
| 13 | FOX | National Geographic Channel: Bug Attack (N) | | 101 Things Removed From the Human Body | | Fox Report With Shepard Smith | Blind Date | Blind Date | Paid Program | Paid Program | |
| 15 | MAX | (5:00) ★★ "Crimson Tide" (1995) | | ★★★ "The Ghost and the Darkness" (1996, Suspense) Michael Douglas. | | | ★★ "The Assignment" (1997, Suspense) Aidan Quinn, Donald Sutherland. | | | | |
| 16 | TNN | Real TV | Real TV | Real TV | Real TV | Blind Date | Blind Date | Star Trek: Next Gener. | Elimination | Elimination | |
| 17 | DISN | Boy Meets World | Smart Guy | Sister, Sister | Even Stevens | Sister, Sister | Lizzie McGuire | "Motocrossed" (2001, Adventure) Alana Austin, Mary-Margaret Humes. | | Teamo Supremo | |
| 18 | LIFE | "Still Holding" | | ★★ "Chasing Secrets" (1999) Della Reese. | | | Golden | Golden | Nanny | Nanny | |
| 20 | USA | JAG | | ★★ "Mercury Rising" (1998) Bruce Willis. | | | Monk | Dragnet | | | |
| 21 | SHOW | (5:45) ★★ "Mr. Destiny" (1990) James Belushi. iTV. | | (4:5) ★★ "Hart's War" (2002) Bruce Willis. A law student defends a murder suspect in a Nazi POW camp. | | | ★★ "Bad Company" (1994) Ellen Barkin. | | | | |
| 22 | TMC | (5:30) ★★ "Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius" | | Movie News | | ★★ "Vanilla Sky" (2001) Tom Cruise, Penelope Cruz. A callow playboy is disfigured and charged with murder. | | ★★★ "I Love Trouble" (1994) | | | |
| 23 | MTV | Real World "Paris" | | Real World | Real World | Real World | Real World | Real World | Real World | Real World | |
| 24 | DISC | Dawn of the Dragons | | Killer Crocs of Costa Rica | | New Detectives: Forensic Science | Critical Rescue "Ominous Warning" | Dwarf: Standing Tall | | | |
| 28 | TNT | ★★★ "The Shawshank Redemption" (1994) Tim Robbins. | | | | ★★★ "The Shawshank Redemption" (1994) | | | | | |
| 30 | FXSP | NASCAR | Rocky Mt. | Golf Life | 54321 | Best Damn Sports Show | Period (Live) | Rocky Mt. | Rocky Mt. | Rocky Mt. | |
| 32 | FAM | ★★ "Au Pair" (1999) Gregory Harrison. | | Whoose? | | Whoose? | 700 Club | Caroline Rhea Show | | | |
| 33 | NBC | News | Ent. Tonight | Friends | Scrubs | Will & Grace | Scrubs | News | (:45) Tonight Show | | |
| 34 | NICK | SpongeBob | Amanda | Cosby | Cosby | Cosby | Cosby | Cosby | Cosby | Cosby | |
| 36 | A&E | Biography: Geraldo Rivera: Pushing | | "Columbo and the Murder of a Rock Star" (1991, Mystery) Peter Falk, Dabney Coleman. | | | Third Watch "Falling" | Biography: Geraldo Rivera: Pushing | | | |
| 38 | SCIFI | (4:00) Alien | | ★★★ "Alien Resurrection" (1997) Sigourney Weaver. | | ★★ "Screamers" (1995) Peter Weller. | | | | | |
| 39 | TLC | While You Were Out Secret Kitchen project. | | Home Savvy | Home Savvy | Medical Detectives | Medical Detectives | City Cops: San Francisco Blue | Ultimate Ten Remarkable speed machines. | | |
| 40 | FX | Married... | Married... | Buffy Vampire | Buffy Vampire | Buffy Vampire | ★★★ "M*A*S*H: Goodbye, Farewell, Amen" | | | | |
| 45 | FMC | (:01) ★★ "Garden of Evil" (1954, Western) | | | | (:01) ★★ "Sleeping With the Enemy" (1991) | | | | "Careful-Hear You" | |
| 49 | EITV | Christina Aguilera | | | | Star Dates | Star Dates | Howard S. | Howard S. | Wild On... | |
| 51 | TRAV | Creepiest Destinations | | | | Haunted Town | Haunted Road Trip | Creepiest Destinations | Haunted Town | | |
| 53 | WB | Friends | Everybody-Raymond | ★★ "Gossip" (2000) James Marsden. Collegians spread a damaging rumor about two classmates. | | | News | | Friends | Will & Grace | |
| 54 | ESPN2 | Yearbook | Yearbook | Interruption WNBA | | WNBA Basketball: Sparks at Monarchs | Baseball X Games | | | | |
| 58 | HIST | Making a Buck A review of counterfeiters spans 2,600 years. | | counterfeiters spans 2,600 years. | | Modern Marvels "Silver Mines" | Jesse James: Fact or Fiction | Making a Buck | | | |
| 59 | HLTH | Doctors Diaries | | Workout | Bodies | Health Specials | Doctors Diaries | Workout | Bodies | | |
| 60 | UNIV | Rebecca | | Niña... Amada Mia | Aqui y Ahora | | P. Impacto | Noticiero | En las Mejores Familias | | |
| 62 | HGTV | Weekend | Landscap | Designing Designers' | | House | House | Weekend | Landscap | Designing Designers' | |
| 99 | WGN | ★★ "Mad Love" (1995) Chris O'Donnell. | | News | | | Rockford Files | In the Heat of the Night | | | |