

Parents want son to have a fresh start

DEAR ABBY: Our son, "Michael," is a freshman in college in New York. He is also on the football team. My wife and I traveled from Boston to see Michael's first game of the season. When we arrived, we were joined by his girlfriend, "Liz," a high school junior from our hometown, and her parents.

They stayed the entire weekend and acted like they were part of the fam-



abigail van buren

• dear abby

ily. Liz's dad was giving Michael "fatherly advice" and telling him they were coming back to see more games this fall. They even discussed plans for Christmas vacation. My wife and I had only about one hour alone with our son the whole time we were there.

Liz's parents were high school sweethearts and they seem to think the kids will be, too. We hinted to them that we think they are sexually active,

but they insist that Liz is a virgin.

We would like Michael to enjoy his college experience with students his age on campus. We don't appreciate Liz's visits. We would like to say something about this to her parents, but we don't want to alienate Michael. What can we do? — PARENTS WITH UNWANTED VISITORS

DEAR PARENTS: Forget about talking to the parents. Have a serious talk with your son. Make absolutely certain that he recognizes the importance of birth control, as well as the necessity of finishing his education before he assumes the responsibilities of marriage. Encourage him to get involved with campus activities and meet new people. Then tell him you

think Liz is a "sweetheart," but the romance is progressing at a faster pace than you're comfortable with, and that you'd like to spend more time alone with him. Be careful not to say anything negative to your son about Liz or her parents, or you could cause a backlash.

DEAR ABBY: I am 11. My parents are divorced. When I visit my dad's house, he always takes his telephone calls outside. I'm not allowed to answer the phone or be in the same room when he checks his e-mail. I love my father, but I'm scared to talk to him about this because he has a temper.

What do you think is going on? — CONFUSED IN MASSACHUSETTS

DEAR CONFUSED: It's sad that you are so intimidated by your father that you are afraid to talk to him. Since I don't know him, I cannot say for sure what's going on. However, let me say this: Sometimes when a person keeps something a "secret," it can make it appear more mysterious than it actually is. The subject applies to a lot of parents, so clip this column and hand it to your father. He needs to see it. Perhaps it will help to bridge the communication gap.

DEAR ABBY: I am grieving. My beloved shih tzu, Pretzel, died unexpectedly last Thursday. She was with me for nine wonderful years. I am so grief-stricken I can barely function. I have no children, and Pretzel meant

the world to me.

My problem is well-meaning family members and friends who are pressuring me to get another dog. My Pretzel has not been gone for a week, and these people keep asking me for details about her death and saying, "When will you get another one?"

How can I get them to let me grieve in peace? — HURTING IN L.A.

DEAR HURTING: Tell your friends and family you know they mean well, but it's too soon to discuss the details or consider getting another dog. They need to be reminded that dogs, like people, have special qualities and personalities that make them unique. They are not interchangeable, any more than people are.

SATURDAY EVENING								E=Eagle Cable S=S&T Telephone		OCT. 25, 2003			
E	S		6 pm	6:30	7 pm	7:30	8 pm	8:30	9 pm	9:30	10 pm	10:30	
2	2	PBS	Lawrence Welk Show "Halloween Party" (N)		Keeping Up	As Time Goes By	Two's Company	New Red Green	Austin City Limits "An Evening With Vince Gill"		Soundstage "Trace Adkins and Travis Tritt" (N)		
3	35	IND	(5:00) College Football	Teams to Be Announced. (Live)				★★★ "Nothing to Lose" (1997, Comedy) (PA) Martin Lawrence, Tim Robbins			College Football		
4	6	ABC	★★★ "Sleeping Beauty" of Mary Costa, Bill Shirley. (N)		(1959, Fantasy) Voices (N)		L.A. Dragnet "The Magic Bullet" (N)		News (N)	(:35) Entertainment Tonight (N)		Powerball Millionaire	
5	14	HBO	"Real Women", Lupe Ontiveros		(:15) ★★ "Life or Something Like It" (2002) Angelina Jolie, Edward Burns. (N) PG-13 (N)			★★★ "White Oleander" (2002) Alison Lohman, Robin Wright Penn. Premiere. (N) PG-13 (N)					
7	11	CBS	48 Hours Investigates		Hack "Out of the Ashes" (N)		District "Blind Eye" (N)		News (N)	(:35) Drew Carey (N)	(:05) Drew Carey (N)	(:35) Drew Carey (N)	
8	8	NBC	Whoopi "Shout" (N)	Whoopi (N)	Law & Order: Criminal Intent "Bright Boy" (N)		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Tragedy" (N)		News	Saturday Night Live (N)			
11	82	TVLND	Mister Ed	Mister Ed	Mister Ed	Mister Ed	Mister Ed	Mister Ed	Mister Ed	Mister Ed	Mister Ed	Mister Ed	
12	56	ESPN	(5:45) College Football	Auburn at Louisiana State. (Live) (N)				(:45) SportsCenter (Live) (N)			College Gameday Final		
13	7	FOX	(5:30) MLB Baseball World Series Game 6 -- Florida Marlins at New York Yankees. (Live) (N)					LAPD: Life on the Beat	Mad TV (N)		Blind Date (N)	Blind Date (N)	
15	29	MAX	(5:30) ★★ "Swimfan", Erika Christensen (N)		★★★ "Pretty Woman" (1990, Comedy-Drama) Richard Gere, Julia Roberts. (N) R (N)			★★★ "Gang Related" (1997, Drama) James Belushi, Tupac Shakur. (N) R (N)					
16	41	SPK	(5:30) ★★★ "Diner" (1982), Daniel Stern (N)				WWE Heat		Elimination/Elmination		SlamBall (N)	(N) (N)	
17	44	DISN	Kim Possible "Proud Family" (N)		Sister, Sister "Even Stevens" (N)		That's So Raven (N)	Lizzie McGuire (N)	"Halloweentown" (1998, Comedy) Debbie Reynolds, Judith Hoag. (N)		"Halloweentown" (1998, Comedy) Debbie Reynolds, Judith Hoag. (N)		
18	63	LIFE	"Killing", Soleil Moon		Wild Card (N)		1-800-Missing (N)		What Should You Do?		Nanny (N)	Nanny (N)	
20	34	USA	Law & Order		Law & Order		Law & Order		Law Order CI		Law & Order		
21	24	SHOW	★ "Soul Survivors" (2001) Melissa Sagemiller, Casey Affleck. (N)		★★★ "Scary Movie 2" (2001) Shawn Wayans, Marlon Wayans. (N) R			★★★ "The Others" (2001, Horror) Nicole Kidman, Christopher Eccleston. (N) TV. (N) PG-13 (N)					
22	26	TMC	(:15) ★★ "The Man Who Wasn't There" (2001) Billy Bob Thornton, Frances McDormand. (N)				(:15) ★★ "The Curve" (1998, Comedy-Drama) Matthew Lillard, Michael Vartan. (N) (N)		★★★ "Amy's Orgasm", Nick Chinlund				
23	77	MTV	Sorority "Frat Life"		Frat Life	Punk'D (N)	Punk'D (N)	Punk'D (N)	Punk'D (N)	Punk'D (N)	Punk'D (N)	True Life	
24	50	DISC	Monster House "Medieval Castle House" (N)		Curse of the Rat		Unsolved History "Salem Witch Trials"		American Chopper "Firebike 2" (N)		Monster Garage Toyota Tundra conversion. (N)		
28	37	TNT	"The Wedding Planner", Matthew McConaughey				★ "The Bachelor" (1999), Renee Zellweger				"EDtv", Jenna Elfman		
30	55	FXSP	College Football: Ore. St. at Wash. St.				College Football Arizona State at UCLA. (Live)						
32	46	FAM	Switched! "Jane" (N)		Perfect Match		"Beautiful Girl" (2003), Fran Drescher (N)				Perfect Match		
33	9	NBC	Entertainment Tonight (N)		Whoopi "Shout" (N)	Whoopi (N)	Law & Order: Criminal Intent "Bright Boy" (N)		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Tragedy" (N)		News (N)	Saturday Night Live	
34	43	NICK	All That "Romeo!" (N)		Amoanda (N)	Skeeter (N)	Cosby (N)	Cosby (N)	Roseanne (N)	Roseanne (N)	Cosby (N)	Cosby (N)	
36	53	A&E	American Justice "Mistaken Identity" (N)		Cold Case Files "Cold Hit, Silent Kill" (N)		Kobe Case NBA star accused of rape. (N)		Crossing Jordan "Strangled" (N)		American Justice "Mistaken Identity" (N)		
38	83	SCIFI	"Dagon", Francisco Ra		"Bone Snatcher" (2003), Rachel Shelley (N)				★★★ "Candyman 3" (1999), Donna D'Errico (N)				
39	51	TLC	Date Patrol "Jody" (N)		Trading Spaces: Family		While You Were Out		Trading Spaces "New York: Taft Avenue" (N)		Trading Spaces "Pennsylvania: Lloyd Lane" (N)		
40	38	FX	Cops (N)		★★★ "Vertical Limit" (2000) Chris O'Donnell, Bill Paxton. (N)				"Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon", Michelle Yeoh				
45	31	FMC	(:01) "Phantom of the Paradise", William Finley				(:01) "The Mephisto Waltz", Jacqueline Bisset		"Ace Eli", Pamela Frank				
49	81	EITV	Celebrities Uncensored		Infamous		Saturday Night Live (N)		Wild On...		Howard S. (N)	Howard S. (N)	
51	86	TRAV	Great Outdoors		Ends of the Earth		Ends of the Earth (N)		Great Outdoors		Ends of the Earth		
53	3	WB	"Sixteen Candles", Anthony Michael Hall		★★★ "Feeling Minnesota" (1996, Comedy-Drama) Keanu Reeves, Vincent D'Onofrio. (N)				News (N)		★★★ "Fatal Attraction", Glenn Close		
54	57	ESPN2	(5:15) College Football	Arkansas at Mississippi.				Gameday	NFL Live		NHRA Drag Racing: AC Delco Qual.	Baseball	
58	52	HIST	Battlefield Detectives (N)		No Surrender: German and Japanese Kamikazes (N)				Vanishings! (N)	Vanishings! (N)	Battlefield Detectives (N)		
59	-	HLTH	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Diary	Diary	Health Specials (N)		Doctors Diaries (N)		Diary	Diary	
60	89	UNIV	Sábado Gigante						P. Impacto	Noticiero	Otro Rollo		
62	67	HGTV	Room	Sensible	Designing	Designers' (N)	Design	Design	Design	Mission	Room	Sensible	
99	36	WGN	World Music Awards	Awards from Monte Carlo.				News (N)		Fresh Pr.	"Pacific Heights", Melanie Griffith (N)		

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MONDAY EVENING								Eagle Cable S-Sat Telephone				OCT. 27, 2003			
E	S		6 pm	6:30	7 pm	7:30	8 pm	8:30	9 pm	9:30	10 pm	10:30			
2	2	PBS	Antiques Roadshow "Hot Springs, Arkansas"		Ken Burns American Stories (Part 3 of 8)			Sun River Homestead	As Time Goes By	May to December	Charlie Rose (N) (R)				
3	35	IND	★ "House on Haunted Hill" (1999, Horror) (PA) Geoffrey Rush, Famke Janssen.		(10) ★★ "The Devil's Advocate" (1997, Horror) (PA) Keanu Reeves, Al Pacino. An attorney goes to work at a law firm run by Satan.										
4	6	ABC	Fat Like Me: How to Win the Weight War (N)		NFL Football Miami Dolphins at San Diego Chargers. From Qualcomm Stadium in San Diego. (Live) (N)			News (N)		(:35) Nightline (N)					
5	14	HBO	(5:30) ★★★ "The Cat's Meow" (2001) Kirsten Dunst, Cary Elwes. (N)		★ "Buffy the Vampire Slayer" (1992), Donald Sutherland (N) PG-13			★★★ "Road to Perdition" (2002, Drama) Tom Hanks, Paul Newman. (N) R (N)							
7	11	CBS	Yes, Dear (N) (N)		Still Standing (N) (N)		Everybody- Raymond	Two and a Half Men	CSI: Miami "Freaks & Tweaks" (ITV) (N)	News (N)	(:35) Late Show (N) (N)	(:37) Late Show			
8	8	NBC	Fear Factor Episode (N) (N)		2003 Radio Music Awards Festivities honor recording artists and radio personalities. (N)			News (N)		(:35) Tonight Show (N) (N)	(:37) Late Night (N)				
11	82	TVLND	Leave	Leave	Sanford	Bewitched	Griffith	Leave	I Love Lucy	Jeannie	MacGyver "The Eraser"				
12	56	ESPN	Countdown		Wild Rules		Wild Rules	Sportsman	Hooked	Offshore	SportsCenter (Live) (N)				
13	7	FOX	Next Joe Millionaire: An International Affair (N)		Skin "Secrets & Lies" (N)		Fox Report With Shepard Smith (N)		Cagney & Lacey "Recreational Use" (N)		Kojak "18 Hours of Fear"				
15	29	MAX	(5:30) ★★ "Firetrap" (2000), Lori Petty (N) R		(15) ★★ "The Glass House" (2001, Suspense) Leelee Sobieski, Diane Lane. (N) PG-13 (N)			★ "Half Past Dead" (2002) Steven Seagal, Morris Chestnut. (N) PG-13		MAX Set					
16	41	SPK	Real TV (N)	Real TV (N)	Blind Date	Blind Date	Cheers (N)	Cheers (N)	Star Trek: Next Generation		IWE Raw (N) (N)				
17	44	DISN	Kim Possible (N)		Sister, Sister (N)		Even Stevens	Sister, Sister (N)	Lizzie McGuire	★★★ "Eddie's Million Dollar Cook-Off" (2003, Comedy) Taylor Ball, Orlando Brown.					
18	63	LIFE	Unsolved Mysteries (N)		"The Right Temptation", Rebecca De Mornay			Golden Girls (N) (N)		Nanny (N)	Nanny (N)				
20	34	USA	Law & Order		Law & Order		Law & Order		Law & Order		Peacemakers (N)				
21	24	SHOW	(5:30) ★★ "Joshua", F. Murray Abraham (N)		★★★ "Hoosiers" (1986) Dennis Hopper. (ITV. (N) PG		(Drama) Gene Hackman, PG		★★ "Jay and Silent Bob Strike Back" (2001) Ben Affleck, Jeff Anderson. (ITV. (N) R		(N) R				
22	26	TMC	★★★ "Shout at the Devil" (1976, Adventure) Lee Marvin, Roger Moore.		(15) ★★★ "Bright Angel" (1990, Drama) Dermot Mulroney, Lili Taylor.					"Domestic Disturbance" (2001), Vince Vaughn (N)					
23	77	MTV	TRL (ITV) (N)		Punk'D (N)		Punk'D (N)		Direct Effect (N)		Made (N)				
24	50	DISC	Second Opinion With Doctor Oz "Cancer" (N)		More Than Human		MythBusters "Buried Alive"		Monster House "Fright House" (N) (N)		Monster Garage "Grim Ripper" (N)				
28	37	TNT	Law & Order (N) (DVS)		Law & Order (N) (DVS)		Law & Order (N) (DVS)		Law & Order (N) (DVS)		X-Files "Blood" (N)				
30	55	FXP	NASCAR Rocky Mt.		Rocky Mt. 54321		Best Damn Sports Show Period (Live) (N)		Rocky Mt.		Best Sports				
32	46	FAM	★★★ "Little Giants" (1994), Ed O'Neill		Who? Who? Who?		700 Club (N)		GrowPains		GrowPains				
33	9	NBC	News (N)		Broncos' Huddle		Fear Factor "Halloween Episode" (N) (N)		2003 Radio Music Awards Festivities honor recording artists and radio personalities. (N)		News (N)				
34	43	NICK	Oddparents Sabrina		Full House /Full House		Cosby Cosby		Roseanne Roseanne		Cosby Cosby				
36	53	A&E	Biography "Janet Leigh" (N) (N)		Cold Case Files A boat ride leads to death. (N)		City Confidential "Horror in Armitville" (N)		Third Watch "Castles of Sand" (N) (N)		Biography "Janet Leigh" (N)				