

Not all wheel chair users want special treatment

DEAR ABBY: I rarely disagree with you, but after seeing the letter about a woman in a wheelchair cutting into line and “demanding access” to a handicapped restroom stall, I had to write.

Because of post-polio syndrome, I must use a wheelchair outside my home if walking even a moderate distance. To my knowledge, wheelchair users have the same bladder control as anyone else and require no special treatment. Unfortunately, some



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• dear abby

wheelchair users abuse their obvious physical problems and, at times, become tyrants. However, most of us want to be treated exactly like everyone else unless there’s some kind of barrier such as a door that’s difficult to open. Otherwise, we do not want special treatment. — ABBY FAN, JAMESTOWN, N.Y.

DEAR FAN: Other readers echoed your sentiments, and some pointed out that there are people with “hid-

den” disabilities such as irritable bowel syndrome or incontinence. They felt, as you do, that the woman in the wheelchair was out of line (forgive the pun) for being demanding.

I feel, however, that the person standing in line should have offered to let the woman in the wheelchair go in first. And if she couldn’t wait, she should have asked the woman for permission to go ahead of her. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: The Americans With Disabilities Act affords persons with disabilities “equal, but not better” access to public services and programs. While it may be “nice” that an able-bodied person allows someone in a wheelchair to have first access to the large stall, legally a person in a wheelchair has to wait just like every-

one else. — AMY IN MADISON, WIS.

DEAR AMY: Let’s use logic and consider statistical probability. If the bathroom contained four stalls, and only one was wheelchair-accessible, the odds of the person in the wheelchair getting to go to the bathroom were not “equal.” An able-bodied person would have a 100 percent chance of getting a stall, while the disabled person would have only a 25 percent probability (1-in-4). To me, that’s not “equal access.”

DEAR ABBY: I’m disabled and can’t count the times I’ve entered public restrooms and found the only occupied stall was the one that’s handicapped-accessible. Last weekend at the supermarket, the occupant was

reading the Sunday paper.

I’d love for anyone who thinks the woman in that letter “bullied” her way into line to spend one week in a wheelchair.

They’d quickly discover what a gift their accessibility grants them on a daily basis.

Perhaps then they’d understand the frustration of having only one stall to use, and having people who don’t need it tell them they need to wait. — ROSE IN ALTAMONTE SPRINGS, FLA.

DEAR ROSE: We think alike.

DEAR ABBY: Last December, I took my very ill, 80-year-old mother Christmas shopping. She needed to use the restroom, but her wheelchair wouldn’t fit through the door.

While Mom was struggling to get from her wheelchair into the stall, a woman in her mid-30s charged in and pushed her aside.

My mom, who couldn’t even stand straight, ended up having an “accident” because of the woman’s aggressive rudeness. There’s no doubt at all that she saw my mother struggling.

Mom rarely goes anywhere now; she is in hospice. But I’ll never forget the incident. There’s something seriously wrong with a nation that fails to honor and respect their elderly.

Who would do something like that to someone who is old and disabled—even if they do “gotta go right now”? Thanks for letting me vent! — VICKI IN ROCKFORD, ILL.

TUESDAY EVENING												E=Eagle Cable S=S&T Telephone JULY 19, 2005											
E	S		6 pm	6:30	7 pm	7:30	8 pm	8:30	9 pm	9:30	10 pm	10:30											
36	47	A&E	Cold Case Files		Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Crossing Jordan "Necessary Risks"		Cold Case Files												
4	6	ABC	My Wife and Kids	George Lopez	According to Jim	Rodney	Empire (N) (Part 4 of 5)	That's So Raven	News	(:35) Nightline	(:06) Jimmy Kimmel Live (N)												
26	54	ANPL	Nature's Vampires		The Most Extreme Creatures feast on blood.		Animal Precinct "Henry Clip Show" (N)		Nature's Vampires		The Most Extreme Creatures feast on blood.												
63	67	BRAVO	Blow Out		Blow Out		Queer Eye for the Straight Guy "Lee F."		Blow Out		The West Wing "Separation of Powers"												
7	11	CBS	NCIS "Pop Life"		Big Brother 6 (N)		Rock Star: INXS (N)		News	(:35) Late Show With David Letterman (N)	Late Late Show												
55	42	DISC	Sharks of the Deep Blue		Monster Garage "Belly Tank Lakester"		American Chopper "Police Bike 2"		Great White Shark Uncaged		American Shark Sharks that inhabit U.S. waters.												
33	56	DISN	Kim Possible	Braceface	Lizzie McGuire	Sister, Sister	That's So Raven	That's So Raven	Child Star	Howard S.	Saturday Night Live												
49	66	EITV	THS Investigates: Mind of a Serial Killer		Series of Poker		Tilt		The Soup		Baseball												
22	28	ESPN	WNBA Basketball: Monarchs at Comets				Boxing: Lamont Peterson vs. Manuel Torresillas				Streetball												
23	29	ESPN2	Who's? "Dr. Dolittle" (1998, Comedy)		Eddie Murphy. "Zorro, the Gay Blade" (1981, Comedy)		Who's? "How I Got Into College"		The 700 Club		Videos												
32	58	FAM	Emeril Live "Cajun Cookin'" Cajun recipes.		Roker on the Road	Recipe for Success	\$40-a-Day	\$40-a-Day	Iron Chef "Battle Noodle" Noodle battle.		Emeril Live "Latin Flavours"												
53	45	FOOD	Emeril Live "Cajun Cookin'" Cajun recipes.		Roker on the Road	Recipe for Success	\$40-a-Day	\$40-a-Day	Iron Chef "Battle Noodle" Noodle battle.		Emeril Live "Latin Flavours"												
13	7	FOX	Trading Spouses: Meet Your New Mommy		House "Sports Medicine"		The Fox Report With Shepard Smith		Blind Date		Maury												
40	41	FX	(5:00) *** "Speed" (1994) Keanu Reeves.		King of Hill	King of Hill	King of Hill	King of Hill	Blind Date		Maury												
30	27	FXSP	MLB Baseball: Rockies at Nationals		Rocky Mt.	Best Damn Sports Show	Rocky Mt.	Rocky Mt.	Best Sports														
-	60	HALL	Walker, Texas Ranger		M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H		M*A*S*H												
5	-	HBO	(5:00) *** "The Man Without a Face" (1993)		Mantle Profile of Mickey Mantle		Reverse of the Curse of the Bambino		*** "The Day After Tomorrow" (2004, Adventure) Dennis Quaid. PG-13														
62	44	HGTV	Designed Get Color		Decorating Mission		Designers' Designers'		Design House		Designed Get Color												
58	48	HIST	Wild West Tech "Execution Tech"		Shootout "D-Day: Fallujah" (N)		Modern Marvels "Extreme Aircraft" (N)		Modern Marvels "Transcontinental Railroad"		Wild West Tech "Execution Tech"												
25	38	IND	Friends		Sex and the City		Everybody-Raymond		Everybody-Raymond														
18	63	LIFE	(5:00) "Captive" (1991)		*** "First Degree" (1995) Rob Lowe. Premiere.		Golden	Golden	The Nanny		The Nanny												
54	74	MTV	Punk'd		MilonaKis	MilonaKis	70s House	70s House	Real World		Real World												
3	9	NBC	News		Ent. Tonight		Average Joe: The Joes Strike Back (N)		I Want to Be a Hilton (N)		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Night"												
8	8	NBC	Average Joe: The Joes Strike Back (N)		I Want to Be a Hilton (N)		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Night"		News	(:35) The Tonight Show With Jay Leno (N)	Late Night												
34	55	NICK	SpongeBob School		Fresh Pr.	Fatherhood	Fresh Pr.	Fresh Pr.	Fresh Pr.		Fresh Pr.												
2	2	PBS	Nova The progress of two rovers on Mars.		Wide Angle "Future for Lebanon" (N)		P.O.V. "The Brooklyn Connection" (N)		BBC World News		That's My Boy												
38	71	SCIFI	(5:00) *** "Firestarter: Rekindled" (2002) Marguerite Moreau.		Tripping		Tripping		Tripping		Tripping												
61	72	SPK	Maximum Exposure		Wildest Police Videos		CSI: Crime Scn		CSI: Crime Scn		*** "Goldfinger"												
39	43	TLC	While You Were Out		Clean Sweep Family clutter.		In a Fix "Southwestern Stakes"		Rides "Impressions" (N)		Overhaul'n												
28	40	TNT	Law & Order (DVS)		Law & Order (DVS)		Law & Order (DVS)		The Closer		Charmed												
51	49	TRAV	Taste		Made		Harley Mania		Taste		Made												
21	59	TVLND	Munsters		Griffith		Sanford		3's Co.		Cheers												
60	79	UNIV	Apuesta por un Amor		La Madrastra		Casos de la Vida Real		Impacto		Noticiero												
20	37	USA	Law & Order: SVU		*** "Belly of the Beast"		(2003) Steven Seagal.		Law & Order: SVU		The Dead Zone												
12	3	WB	Friends		Everybody-Raymond		Smallville "Sacred"		News		Will & Grace												
99	39	WGN	MLB Baseball Chicago Cubs at Cincinnati Reds.		WGN News at Nine		Becker		Becker		Home Delivery												

WEDNESDAY EVENING												E=Eagle Cable S=S&T Telephone		JULY 20, 2005	
E	S		6 pm	6:30	7 pm	7:30	8 pm	8:30	9 pm	9:30	10 pm	10:30			
36	47	A&E	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Inked (S)	Inked (N)	Criss Angel Mindfreak	Criss Angel Mindfreak	Crossing Jordan "A Stranger Among Us" (S)		Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter			
4	6	ABC	Supernanny "Collins Family (UK Family)" (S)		Brat Camp (N) (S) (S)		Lost "Confidence Man" (S)		News (S)	(:35) Nightline (S)	(:06) Jimmy Kimmel Live (N) (S)				
26	54	ANPL	Buggin' With Ruud "World's Biggest and Baddest Bugs" Killer bees; bullet ants; bird-eating spider.				Animal Precinct Puppy with deep neck wounds.		Buggin' With Ruud "World's Biggest and Baddest Bugs" Killer bees; bullet ants; bird-eating spider.						
63	67	BRAVO	Bobby Brown	Bobby Brown	Queer Eye for the Straight Guy "Lee F."		Sports Kids Moms & Dads (N) (S)		Queer Eye for the Straight Guy "Lee F."		The West Wing "Shutdown" (N) (S)				
7	11	CBS	The Cut "I Just Stabbed Myself" (N) (S)		The King of Rock Star: Queens (N) INXS (N) (S)		CSI: NY "Night, Mother" (S)		News (N)	(:35) Late Show With David Letterman (N) (S)	Late Late Show				
55	42	DISC	Great White Shark		Monster Garage "Jet Boatz/Car" (S)		American Chopper "Leno Bike 1" (S)		One Step Beyond (N)	One Step Beyond (N)	MythBusters Testing Hollywood shark myths.				
33	56	DISN	Kim Possible (S)	Braceface (S)	Lizzie McGuire	Sister, Sister (S) (S)	That's So Raven (S)	That's So Raven (S)							
49	66	E!TV	Jenna Jameson: The El		True Hollywood Story (S)		Palms	Child Star	Howard S.	Palms	Palms	Child Star			
22	28	ESPN	MLB Baseball: Yankees at Rangers				Baseball Tonight		SportsCenter (Live) (S)		Baseball	NFL Live			
23	29	ESPN2	Schwab	Schwab	Schwab	Schwab	MLB Baseball Oakland Athletics at Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim. (S)								
32	58	FAM	*** "She's All That" (1999) Freddie Prinze Jr.				Venus	Who's?	The 700 Club		Videos	Videos			
35	-	FMC	*** "Dangerous Crossing"				*** "Hello, Dolly!" (1969, Musical)		Barbra Streisand.		"Jack the Bear" (1991)				
53	45	FOOD	Emeril Live "Slow Cooking" Slow cooking. (N)		BBQ With Bobby Flay	BBQ With Bobby Flay	Good Eats	Good Eats	Iron Chef America Cat Cora vs. Kerry Simon.		Emeril Live "Food on the				
13	7	FOX	So You Think You Can Dance Dancers audition for a chance to compete in Hollywood. (S)				The Fox Report With Shepard Smith (S)		Blind Date (N) (S)	Blind Date (S)	Maury (S)				
40	41	FX	(5:00) *** "Swimfan"		King of Hill	King of Hill	Cops (S)	Cops (S)	Cops (S)	Cops (S)	Cops (S)	Cops (S)			
30	27	FXSP	MLB Baseball: Rockies at Nationals				Rocky Mt.	Best Damn Sports Show	Rocky Mt.		Rockies	Best-Sports			
-	60	HALL	Walker, Texas Ranger		*** "Hang 'Em High" (1968) Clint Eastwood.		M*A*S*H		M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H			
5	-	HBO	(5:30) *** "Johnson Family Vacation" (2004)		(15) *** "The Girl in the Café" (2005, Romance) Bill Nighy. (N) "NR"		*** "The Chronicles of Riddick" (2004, Science Fiction) Vin Diesel, Colm Feore. (N) PG-13" (S)								
62	44	HGTV	Kitchen	Want That	Weekend Landscap		Curb	What Get	Design	House	Kitchen	Want That			
58	48	HIST	Wild West Tech "Deadwood Tech" (S)		Modern Marvels "Cowboy Tech" (N) (S)		Automaniac "Pickups" (N) (S)		Breaking Vegas "Card Count King" (S)		Wild West Tech "Deadwood Tech" (S)				
25	38	IND	Everybody-Raymond		Seinfeld (S)	Seinfeld (S)	Sex and the City (S)	Sex and the City (S)	Friends (S)	Friends (S)	*** "The Pelican Brief" (1993) (PA)				
18	63	LIFE	"Deadly Look"		"Murder in the Hamptons" (2005)		Golden		Golden	The Nanny The Nanny					
54	74	MTV	Real World '70s House		'70s House '70s House		Direct Effect (S)		Hard Rock	Punk'd (S)	Made "Snowboard" (S)				
3	9	NBC	News (S)	Ent. Tonight (S)	The Most Outrageous Moments on Live TV (S)		Law & Order "The Brotherhood" (S)		Law & Order "Tombstone" (S)		News (S)	Tonight Show			
8	8	NBC	The Most Outrageous Moments on Live TV (S)		Law & Order "The Brotherhood" (S)		Law & Order "Tombstone" (S)		News	(:35) The Tonight Show With Jay Leno (N) (S)	Late Night				
34	55	NICK	SpongeBob Unfabulous		Full House	Full House	Roseanne	Roseanne	Roseanne	Roseanne	Roseanne	Roseanne			
2	2	PBS	American Masters "Bob Newhart: Unbuttoned" (N) (S)				On Stage at the Kennedy Center: The Mark Twain Prize (S)		To Be Announced		As Time Goes By	Charlie Rose (N) (S) (S)			
38	71	SCIFI	Ghost Hunters (S)		Ghost Hunters (S)		Ghost Hunters (S)		Tripping		Tripping	Tripping			
61	72	SPK	Maximum Exposure (S)		Wildest Police Videos		CSI: Crime Scn		CSI: Crime Scn		"Hunt-Red-Oct."				
39	43	TLC	While You Were Out Fireman's retreat. (S)		Clean Sweep Gary just moved in with Jennifer.		In a Fix A couple lives in a fixer-upper.		While You Were Out (N)		Miami Ink Friends open a shop.				
28	40	TNT	Law & Order (S) (DVS)		*** "Blue Streak" (1999) Martin Lawrence.		Martin Lawrence.		*** "Blue Streak" (1999) Martin Lawrence.						
51	49	TRAV	American Casino		World Poker Tour				American Casino		World Poker Tour				
21	59	TVLND	Griffith	Griffith	Griffith	Leave	Top 10		3's Co.		3's Co.	Cheers Cheers			
60	79	UNIV	Apuesta por un Amor		La Madrastra		Don Francisco Presenta		Impacto		Noticiero	La Hora Derbez			
20	37	USA	Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU		The 4000 (S)				
12	3	WB	Friends (S)	Everybody-Raymond	One Tree Hill "Near Wild Heaven" (N) (S)		Smallville "Pariah" (N) (S)		News (S)		Friends (S)	Will & Grace			
90	90	WB	*** "American Circus" (1980) Richard Gere				WGN News at Nine (S)		Becker (S)	Becker (S)	Home Delivery				