

Little fish in big pond

DEAR ABBY: I am a 12-year-old girl in the sixth grade. At my school, the sixth-, seventh- and eighth-graders all have classes together.

Lately, I've noticed the eighth-graders seem to think they are better than us sixth-graders. They make a point of letting us know that they are bigger, cooler and more grown-up than we are.

I am fed up. They were sixth-graders once, too. How do I handle them? They are only two years older, but they seem to think they're practically adults and that we're only about 4. Please help. — ANNOYED IN ASHLAND, ORE.

DEAR ANNOYED: My advice is to be patient and bide your time. Two catchphrases come to mind. They are, "Big fish in a small pond," and "Time wounds all heels."

Next fall, those snobbish eighth-graders will be headed for high school. No longer will they be the "most grown-up" students in school. On the contrary, they will be insignificant minnows in a much larger pool. They'll receive from the sophomores, juniors and seniors the same treatment they are giving you. Remember that when you're in the eighth grade and interacting with students in the lower grades. It's a lesson in humility.



abigail van buren

• dear abby

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I were married in a small, intimate ceremony and reception in 2004. We were living in a condominium complex and had become close friends with one of our neighbors and her boyfriend, so we invited them to our wedding. Afterward, I opened their card. It read: "We are happy to share your day with you, but we are strapped for money right now and can't afford a gift at this time. As soon as we're back on our feet, we'll make sure you get your wedding gift."

We are now invited to their wedding. We never did receive a gift from them, nor has it ever been mentioned. These neighbors have a history of being "cheap," so it's not the first time.

My husband and I are at odds. I think we should attend the wedding and buy them a nice gift. He says we should just give them a card with no gift. Or should we simply not attend at all? I know that wedding gifts are just that — gifts. But I'd feel strange not giving them anything. I

would also feel strange giving them anything under the circumstances. How should we handle this? — MIFFED IN MONTANA

DEAR MIFFED: The rule of etiquette is: When someone attends a wedding, a gift is in order. Your former neighbors broke that rule, and it has affected the relationship. Please don't stoop to retaliation. The real question is whether you plan to attend or send your regrets — and only you can answer that.

DEAR ABBY: When does a stepparent stop being a stepparent? My father passed away a few years ago, and I have been wondering ever since if my stepmother is still my stepmother. What happens if she remarries?

We do not have a warm relationship, but we do make contact on birthdays and holidays. We live in different states. — JUST WONDERING IN GEORGIA

DEAR JUST WONDERING: I have always believed that what binds people together has more to do with what is in their hearts than official titles. If you are not close to the woman, it really doesn't matter if she's your "stepmother" or not. She's your dad's widow. Period.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

SATURDAY EVENING

		6PM	6:30	7PM	7:30	8PM	8:30	9PM	9:30	10PM	10:30
E	S	E = Eagle Cable S = S&T Telephone									
36 47	A&E	Cold Case Files: Asesino proximo (TVPG)		Cold Case Files: The Bedroom Basher		American Justice: Gangbusters (TVPG)		Justice: Prosecution: Sex and the Law		Cold Case Files: Asesino proximo (TVPG)	
4 6	ABC	Figure Skating U.S. Championships (Live) (HD)									
26 54	ANPL	Dog Shows & Competitions: AKC Eukanuba National Championship 2006 from Tampa, Fla. (Live)						Dog Shows & Competitions: AKC Eukanuba National Championship 2006 from Tampa, Fla.			
63 67	BRAVO	"Vanilla Sky" ('01) A heedless playboy's life is turned upside down by a suicidal ex-lover.				"Vanilla Sky" ('01, Drama) ★★½ Tom Cruise, Penelope Cruz. A heedless playboy's life is turned upside down by a suicidal ex-lover. (R)					
7 11	CBS	NFL Playoff AFC Divisional game (Live) (HD)				Eyewitness News		(.35) Drew Carey	(.05) Alias: Q & A		
55 42	DISC	Dog Shows & Competitions: AKC Eukanuba National Championship 2006 from Tampa, Fla. (Live)						Dog Shows & Competitions: AKC Eukanuba National Championship 2006 from Tampa, Fla.			
33 56	DISN	The Buzz (TVY7)	The Buzz (TVY7)	Naturally (TV G)	Life Derek (TV G)	The Suite (TVY7)	So Raven (TVY7)	"Lilo & Stitch" An alien creature is adopted by a naughty little girl who unlocks his heart.			
49 66	EITV	Gastineau	Gastineau	The Girls	The Girls	SNL: Paul Giamatti		Dr. 90210 (TV14)		Dr. 90210 (TV14)	
22 28	ESPN	(5:00) PGA Tournament from Honolulu (Live)				SportsCenter (Live) (HD)		NFL Prime. Gamenight			
23 29	ESPN2	Boxing		Boxing		Martial	Martial	Martial	Cheerlead.	Fast Break	Madden Nat
32 58	FAM	"Home Alone 2: Lost in New York" Crooks go after kid.									
35 -	FMC	"99 and 44/100% Dead" ('74, Crime) ★ (NR)				"Black Widow" ('87, Suspense/Thriller) ★★		"Point Break" ('91)			
53 45	FOOD	Emeril Live: Quick & Easy (TV G)		White House Kitchens Behind the scenes.		Top 5		Iron Chef America: Batali vs. Dufresne		Emeril Live: Quick & Easy (TV G)	
13 7	FOX	Cops (TVPG) (N)	Cops (TVPG) (R)	America's Most Wanted (TVPG)		St. Elsewhere: Cold War		Mad TV (TV14) (N)		Blind Date (TVPG)	Blind Date (TVPG)
27 25	FX	"Broken"		"Hollywood Homicide" ('03, Action) Detective moonlight.				"X-Men" ('00, Action) Mutant superheroes.			
30 27	FXSP	List	Broncos	College Hockey St. Cloud State at Denver (Live)				FSN Live Poker Poker			
- 60	HALL	"The Parent Trap"		"Jane Doe: Yes, I Remember It Well" ('06)				"Jane Doe: Yes, I Remember It Well" ('06)			
5 -	HBO	DeGeneres (TVPG)	"The Phantom of the Opera" A grotesque composer uses terror to advance his beautiful protégé's career. (HD)					"Ocean's Twelve" ('04, Comedy) ★★½ Danny's gang plots European thefts. (PG-13) (HD)			
62 44	HGTV	Double	Divine	1st Place	reDesign	Design	Design	Gardener	Trading Up	Double	Divine
58 48	HIST	The Presidents: 1945-1977 (TVPG)		The Presidents: 1977-Present (TVPG)		Conspiracy?: Jack Ruby (TVPG)		Conspiracy?: RFK Assassination (TVPG)		The Presidents: 1945-1977 (TVPG)	
25 38	IND	"Stepmom" ('98, Drama) children face the possible		★★ A new stepmom must help the loss of their mother. (PG-13)				"Sweet November" ('01) ★★½ An eccentric woman teaches a heartless business executive how to enjoy life.			
18 63	LIFE	"Forbidden" ('05) ★★		"For the Love of a Child" ('06, Drama) (NR)				"Fathers and Sons" ('04) Life experiences.			
54 74	MTV	MADE: Soccer Player		Gauntlet	Gauntlet	True Life		Aftershock	MTV Cribs	MTV Cribs	MTV Cribs
3 9	NBC	9 News On Assignment		Crossing Jordan: Judgement Day (R) (HD)		Medium (TV14) (R) (HD)		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit (R) (HD)		9 News (N)	Saturday Night (HD)
8 8	NBC	Crossing Jordan: Judgement Day (R) (HD)		Medium (TV14) (R) (HD)		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit (R) (HD)		KSN News at 10		Saturday Night Live: Scarlett Johansson; Death Cab for Cutie (HD)	
34 55	NICK	Guide	Drake	All That	Amanda	Full House	Bel-Air	Bel-Air	Cosby	Roseanne	Roseanne
2 2	PBS	(4:30) HS Fball (Taped)		Lawrence Welk: Time Was (TV G)		RedGreen (TVPG)	Austin Limits: Blues Traveler, Cafe Tacuba	Blues Traveler (TV G) (HD)		Soundstage: Sheryl Crow (TV G) (HD)	Tavis Smiley (N)
38 71	SCIFI	"Alien Hunter" ('03)		"H.G. Wells' War of the Worlds" ('06) ★½				"Robin Cook's Invasion" ('97) Luke Perry.			
61 72	SPK	"Shade" ('03, Thriller) "The Dean" (R)		Amazing (TV14)				"Escape from New York" ('81, Action) ★★½			
39 43	TLC	Clean Sweep: Where the Toys Are (TV G)		While You Were: Kyle; Tex-Zen Samurai		Property: Demonic Duo Deconstruction		Moving Up: Faux Finish Fiasco (TV G)		Trading Newlyweds. (TV G)	
28 40	TNT	"Underworld" ★★½ Medical student sought in undead war.									
51 49	TRAV	Wild Poker				Casino: Pick Six		Wild Poker			
21 59	TVLND	All Family	All Family	All Family	All Family	TVLand Top		All Family	All Family	All Family	All Family
60 79	UNIV	Sábado gigante (TVPG)		All Family		All Family		Primer imp	Noticiero	Otro rollo (TV14)	All Family
20 37	USA	Law & Order (HD)		Law & Order (HD)		Law & Order (HD)		Law & Order (HD)		Law & Order (HD)	
12 3	WB	Star Trek: Enterprise: Storm Front (TVPG)		Smallville: Insurgence (TVPG)		24: 3:00 PM-4:00 PM (TV14)		WB2 News at Nine (N)		Sex & City (TV14)	Will (TV14)
99 39	WGN	Bulls Eye		NBA Basketball (Live) (HD)		WGN News		Becker	Home Impr.	Home Impr.	

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		6PM	6:30	7PM	7:30	8PM	8:30	9PM	9:30	10PM	10:30
E S		E = Eagle Cable					S = S&T Telephone				
36 47	A&E	Justice: The Jonesboro Schoolyard Ambush		The First 48: Last Exit, Out Cold (TVPG)		Intervention (TV14)		CSI: Miami: Cop Killer (TV14)		Justice: The Jonesboro Schoolyard Ambush	
4 6	ABC	Extreme Makeover: Kirkwood Family (N)		Desperate Housewives (TVPG) (N) (HD)		(01) Grey's Anatomy: Begin the Begin (HD)		KAKE News at 10	Seinfeld (TVPG)	(05) Lawyer Line	Sports Machine
26 54	ANPL	Dog Shows & Competitions: AKC Eukanuba National Championship 2006 from Tampa, Fla. (Live)						Dog Shows & Competitions: AKC Eukanuba National Championship 2006 from Tampa, Fla.			
63 67	BRAVO	Law & Order: Criminal Intent (TV14) (HD)		Inside the Actor's Studio: Ralph Fiennes		Law & Order: Criminal Intent (TV14) (HD)		Law & Order: Criminal Intent (TV14) (HD)		Law & Order: Criminal Intent (TV14) (HD)	
7 11	CBS	Cold Case: Detention (TVPG) (N) (HD)		"Jesse Stone: Night Passage" ('06, Made for TV) Tom Selleck, Polly Shannon. (NR) (HD)		Eyewitness News		(35) News (N)	(05) Alias: Masquerade (TV14)		
55 42	DISC	Dog Shows & Competitions: AKC Eukanuba National Championship 2006 from Tampa, Fla. (Live)						Dog Shows & Competitions: AKC Eukanuba National Championship 2006 from Tampa, Fla.			
33 56	DISN	Phil (TVY7)	So Raven (TVY7)	Naturally: Surprise!	Life Derek (TV G)	The Suite (TVY7)	So Raven (TVY7)	"Kim Possible: A Sitch in Time" ('03) ★★½		(20) Life with Derek: Babe Raider (TV G)	
49 66	EITV	El Story: Kate Moss		Glamour's 50		The Girls		El Story: Kate Moss		Glamour's 50	
22 28	ESPN	(5:00) PGA Tournament from Honolulu (Live)				NFL Prime.		SportsCenter (Live) (HD)		NFL Prime. Gamernight	
23 29	ESPN2	Grand Slam Tennis Tournament: Australian Open: Early Rounds from Melbourne, Australia						Poker (Replay)		Lakewood	
32 58	FAM	(5:00) "If Only" ('04)		"If Only" ('04, Drama) Relive the day.		Home Video		Home Video	Lakewood	Children	
35 -	FMC	"That Thing You Do!" ('96, Comedy) ★★★				"A Walk in the Clouds" ('95, Drama) ★★		"Taps" ('81, Drama)			
53 45	FOOD	Emeril Live Culinary fun. (TV G)		Iron Chef America: Play vs. Burke (TV G)		Food Network Challenge: Mystery Cake		Ham on St. Good Eats: My Pod		Foodnetwork Goes to Hollywood	
13 7	FOX	24: Day 5: 7:00 A.M. - 8:00 A.M.; 8:00 A.M. - 9:00 A.M. (N) (HD)				Remington Steele: Hearts of Steele		Fall Guy: High Orbit		Quincy: Smoke Screen	
27 25	FX	(5:30) "X-Men" ('00) ★★★ Mutant superheroes.				"X2" ('03, Action) ★★★		Heroes battle evil government agent. (PG-13)			
30 27	FXSP	College Basketball Wake Forest at Maryland				Beyond Gilry		Boxing (Taped)		Spotlight Myers	
- 60	HALL	"Murder 101" ('06)		"Mystery Woman: Snapshot" ('05, Drama)		Matlock (TVPG)		Matlock (TVPG)			
5 -	HBO	(5:45) "Contact" ('97, Drama) A brilliant scientist searches for extraterrestrial clues. (HD)				(1:15) "Starsky and Hutch" ('04, Comedy) ★★½ Detectives try to stop a drug dealer. (HD)		The Sopranos: In Camelot (TVMA) (HD)			
62 44	HGTV	Designed	Designed	Want That!	reZONED	Wall Could	Ext. Homes	Buy Me	Kitchen	Designed	Designed
58 48	HIST	Time Machine: Kennedys: The Curse of Power Kennedy clan weathers tragic loss. (TV G)				Eighty Acres of Hell: To the Victor, Belongs the Silence Rebel prisoners. (TVPG)		The Sopranos: In Camelot (TVMA) (HD)		Time Mach. Clan weathers loss. (TV G)	
25 38	IND	"Pretty Woman" ('90) ★★½ An emotionally-detached businessman hires a street walker to be his companion. (R)				"Pretty Woman" ('90) ★★½ An emotionally-detached businessman hires a street walker to be his companion. (R)					
18 63	LIFE	"Love of Child" ('06)		Strong Med		Missing: Cut (TVPG)		Missing (TVPG)		Strong Med	
54 74	MTV	Gauntlet	Gauntlet	NEXT	NEXT	NEXT	NEXT	True Life	Barkers	Barkers	
3 9	NBC	Dateline NBC (N)		West Wing: Internal Displacement (N) (HD)		Law & Order: Criminal Intent: Slither (N) (HD)		Crossing Jordan: Elephant in the Room		9 News (N) (HD)	(.35) Over-time
8 8	NBC	West Wing: Internal Displacement (N) (HD)		Law & Order: Criminal Intent: Slither (N) (HD)		Crossing Jordan: Elephant in the Room		KSN News at 10 PM (TV14)		(35) Inside Ed.	
34 55	NICK	Zoey 101	Romeo!	Full House	Bel-Air	Roseanne	Roseanne	Roseanne	Cosby	Bel-Air	Bel-Air
2 2	PBS	Nature (TVPG) (R)		Masterpiece Theatre: Henry VIII "Henry VIII" concludes (TV14) (R)		Scientific Am. (R)		Globe Trekker: Egypt (TV G)		Mystery! (TVPG)	
38 71	SCIFI	"Hercules" ('05) ★★½		"Hercules" ('05, Drama) ★★½ The challenges.		Surface (TVPG)		"Farscape" ('04) ★★			
61 72	SPK	"Fistful of Dollars"		"Hang 'Em High" ('68) ★★½ Old West revenge.		"U.S. Marshals" ('98) ★★½ A new chase is on.					
39 43	TLC	Miami Ink (TV14)		Miami Ink: More Money, More Problems		The Repossessors (TVPG)		The Repossessors 2 (TVPG)		David Blaine: Street Magic (TVPG)	
28 40	TNT	"The Matrix Reloaded" ('03) ★★½ Zion's future. (R)						(45) "The Matrix Reloaded" ('03) ★★½ Zion's future. (R)			
51 49	TRAV	Tribal Wolani (TVPG)		Tribal Life		Tribal Life		Tribal Wolani (TVPG)		Tribal Life	
21 59	TVLND	All Family	All Family	All Family	All Family	All Family	All Family	All Family	All Family	All Family	All Family
60 79	UNIV	Bailando por un sueño						Primer imp	Noticiero	Tras la verdad	
20 37	USA	"Man Apart" "Blow" ('01)		George Jung controls cocaine in the U.S. (R)				Law & Order (HD)		Law & Order (HD)	
12 3	WB	Reba (TVPG) (R)	Reba: Switch (TVPG) (HD)	Charmed: Payback's a Witch (N)		Supernatural: Scarecrow (N) (HD)		WB2 News at Nine (N)		Sex & City (TV14)	Will: Prison Blues
99 39	WGN	24 (TV14) (HD)		24 (TV14) (HD)		WGN News		Replay	Sex & City	Becker	Max Exposure (TV14)