ASK DEANNA! Real People, Real Advice

Ask Deanna! Is an advice column known for its fearless approach to reality-based subjects.

Dear Deanna!

I'm ready to make a commitment to my longtime fiancée, but I have concerns about her finances. As a man, I've been responsible for all of our dating requirements, and entertainment for 3 years. Now that I'm ready to marry her, I think she has a low credit score and financial issues. How do I approach this subject?

Keith

Washington, D.C.

Dear Keith:

You should've had that conversation during the first 6-months instead of waiting until now. As a team, credit scores, bank accounts and finances need to be organized with one family goal in mind. There's no secret formula, and rocket science isn't involved. All you have to do is open your mouth and ask about her credit and finances because if you're going to be married, you need to know now instead of later.

Dear Deanna!

I lost myself in my marriage, and now that I'm divorced, I don't know how to start over. I'm still dealing with anger, because I didn't see the separation coming, and my ex-husband is already dating and living it up. I feel jealous because he's enjoying life and I can't get into the groove. How do I shake this feeling?

Sheila

Las Vegas, NV

Dear Sheila:

Instead of having a pity party, you should thank God for your health and strength. You're blessed, and you are killing your spirit with negativity. I suggest you look in the mirror, close the door on the past, and start a new chapter by learning to love yourself. Stop validating your life based on your ex-husband, and do things you enjoy. Focus on yourself, renew your faith and relationship with God, and things will fall into place.

Dear Deanna!

I was in a situation where I saw a family member cheating on her husband. I told on her because her husband is a good man and doesn't deserve to be cheated on. Instead of him respecting me, he turned on me, cursed me out and accused me of trying to wreck his home. He has forgiven his wife for cheating, but now, they won't speak to me and have closed me out. Was I wrong for telling?

Anonymous Memphis, TN

Dear Anonymous:

You're forgetting the side of the story that deals with your motivation for telling. It sounds as if there was some scandal involved on your part. I'll give you the benefit of the doubt, and say, you should've stayed out of their business, because sometimes good deeds bring punishment. They made you look like a fool, but, at least, he forgave her. And if she cheats again, the mud will be on his face and not yours.

Ask Deanna! is written by Deanna M. Write: Ask Deanna! Email: askdeannal@yahoo.com or 264 S. LaCienega Blvd. Suite 1283 Beverly Hills, CA 90211 Website: www.askdeanna.com

Scream Tour

(Continued from Page 1) close sibling relationship when they talk about their group and working with each other.

"Sometimes it can get a little annoying. You do get in your arguments while working with your brothers," explained Kelly, 16.

"Being related and working together means that it's less likely that you will ever break up. There are definite advantages to being a family in terms of staying together," added 17-year-old Dustin, the oldest member of the group.

Asked if they had ever considered adding friends to their group, 14-year-old Patrick explained, "We don't want to have people that we don't know in the group. If they get mad, they would leave the group. If we get mad... we can't go anywhere."

"We don't have friends on tour with us. We try to stay focused," explained 13-yearold Carnell.

Instead, the boys of B5 have chosen to tour with only their mother Adrian Breeding.

Las Vegas was the 13th stop on the tour. It also marked the first time the boys had been to Las Vegas. They are originally from St. Petersburg, Fla., but now reside in Atlanta, Ga. While on the road, the brothers are provided with a tutor by their school. When they are not touring, the boys attend regular classes.



Members of B5, a quintet signed to Sean "P.Diddy" Combs' Bad Boy label, put on a show.

Sean Combs' Bad Boy label, and they aspire to run an entertainment empire similar to his. Their plans include branching out into movies and having their own clothing line. They have already adjusted to the hectic life of superstars.

"You never get any sleep in the entertainment business. If you are, you're not doing it right," explained

In talking to them, you would never know that in a few minutes they would be performing in the arena to an audience filled with pre-teen and teenage girls screaming at the top of their lungs.

"We still don't feel famous. I feel like myself, but it's just that a lot of people recognize us. I have never thought, 'We are famous!'" explained Carnell.

When asked if it ever gets The boys are signed to overwhelming to have fans screaming and fainting during their appearances and performances, Carnell added, "Who wouldn't like girls screaming your name?"

Spectacular, Pleasure, Baby Blue and Slick 'Em (ages 18 to 20) are the brothers who form Pretty Ricky. They have received a lot of radio airplay with their singles "Grind with Me" and "Your Body."

They were definitely the performers that had the most crowd participation during their show. With their blend of 3 rappers and one R&B vocalist, plus an outrageous stage show, the Miami natives have become instant

The group got their name from the TV sitcom "Mar-

"We're four handsome young men and we always used to dress alike. The girls used to tease us to death and call us Pretty Ricky," explained Pleasure, the group's vocalist.

Explaining why they don't mind the Jackson 5 comparison, Pleasure said, "...we think it's an honor. That's the biggest Black group that ever came out."

The music of Pretty Ricky is not reminiscent of the Jackson 5, though. Slick 'Em described their sound as, "Bob Marley, Keith Sweat,

Teddy Pendergrass, Luther, Elvis, Gerald Levert, R. Kelly — mix it all together, and that's our sound."

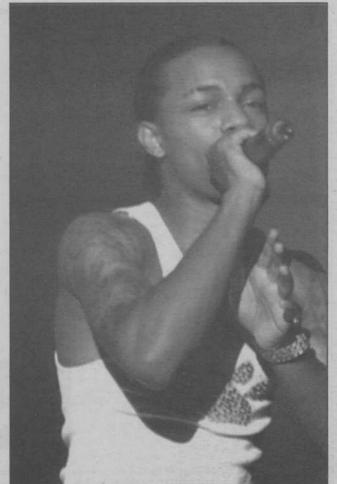
The brothers named their debut album "Bluestars" after their father Blue Smith. "We have a strong leader in our Daddy. He's a strong leader, and he's real strict. They call him 'a.k.a Joe Jackson," explained Slick 'Em.

"All of us were brought up under the same roof. Everything we do, we do together, and that's one thing Blue instilled in us," explained Baby Blue. "It's wonderful working with my brothers," he added.

"Our being related will help us in the long run, as far as longevity goes, because there is no breaking up. We're brothers, so, we will be together forever," Spectacular added.

The guys of Pretty Ricky also have desires to become moguls in the entertainment industry individually and together. "We've been doing this all of our life. We have other plans to get into movies and a reality show. We're in Vegas... We're going to have a Bluestars Casino," explained Slick 'Em.

For more information on either group, their official music websites www.prettyricky.com and www.b5online.com.



Bow Wow elicited a chorus of screams during his set.

