MOTHER AND SON FOUND DEAD
(November 30, 2005) The Star-Banner reported that the mother of a 12-year-old boy who died in 2000 after being restrained by a youth camp counselor at Camp E-Kel-Etu, Linda Ibarra, 36, was found dead in her car with another son in what police are investigating as a murder-suicide. A neighbor, Jesse Heckman, said it seemed as if Ibarra had never gotten over the death of her other son. More...

NEW LIFETIME MOVIE: "AUGUSTA, GONE"
(November 30, 2005) The Futon Critic announced that Martha Tod Dudman's New York Times Best Seller, "Augusta, Gone" will air as a LIFETIME Original Movie in March 2006. Augusta, Gone" is the true story of a devoted single mother whose teenage daughter's self-destructive and hostile behavior becomes more than either of them can handle. More…

POLICE FINE STUDENTS FOR CURSING
(December 1, 2005) The Boston Globe reported that cursing is costing Hartford Public and Bulkeley high school students $103 each. Police officers assigned to the schools have fined about two dozen students for cursing in a new program to curtail unruly behavior. Senior adviser to Superintendent of Schools Robert Henry, Sandy Cruz-Serrano said, "We're sending a message to parents and teachers that we are trying to bring order back into the schools." More…

SCHOOL VIOLENCE NOT RARE
(December 3, 2005) The Deseret News reported that according to a new study by the National Center for Educational Statistics, one in every nine Utah high school students was in a physical fight at school and one of every 13 was threatened with a weapon at school. And over the past 30 days, the study also showed that one in every 18 students carried a weapon to school. More…

BOYS FAIL IN WASHINGTON ED ASSESSMENT
(December 4, 2005) The Daily Herald County reported that high school boys' test scores from last spring trail the girls' scores by 85 percent on the WASL's reading section. Overall, 60 percent of boys versus 54 percent girls in Washington's high schools failed the WASL. The largest differences appeared on the writing portion of the test, with about 16,800 high school boys failing compared to about 9,300 girls. More…

DECLINE IN MALE COLLEGE STUDENTS
(December 4, 2005) The Washington Post reported that in colleges and universities where men once dominated, they now make up no more than 43 percent of the student body, according to 2003 statistics. Every decade, the industrial classroom becomes more protective of the female learning style and harsher on the male, and though some boys do fine in the setting, many just hang on, fall behind, fail, or drop out.

TEEN HEALTH GAP WIDENS
(December 4, 2005) A story in the NewsWeek Health For Life section of MSNBC.com, reported that according to a 2004 survey by the U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), 18 to 20-year-olds have the highest rate of illicit drug use with 21.7 percent of that age group admitting to using illegal drugs in the previous month. Another SAMHSA survey found that nearly one in five 12 to 20-year-olds was a binge drinker, meaning five or more drinks on the same occasion on at least one day in the previous month. More…

BAKE SALES LINKED TO WEIGHT PROBLEMS
(December 5, 2005) An Associated Press article in the Boston Globe reported that a study in Minneapolis showed school run bake sales and candy rewards from teachers indicate higher risk of more overweight students. Lead author Martha Kubik, associate professor at the University of Minnesota, said that although her research doesn't prove these practices contribute to adolescent obesity, there does seem to be a connection.

NEW ZEALANDER FEARS BRAT CAMP LABELS
(December 8, 2005) The Dominion Post reported that in opinion article, Jane Bowron said she feels the ABC Series "Brat Camp" labeled kids as losers, such as "Lexie, Hostile Outcast" and "Heather, Habitual Runaway." Bowron said, "Try erasing that first and lasting impression from your student file when you apply for a university position or a job." She pointed out that it was tough on the students to turn their chaotic lives around and make good in front of a jury of millions with only a 90 day experience at SageWalk. More…

BOY SUFFOCATES WHILE RESTRAINED
(December 8, 2005) MySa.com in San Antonio, TX, an online version of the Express-News, reported that the autopsy findings in the death of a 12-year-old boy placed by the state indicated that he was suffocated while being restrained at Star Ranch, a residential treatment center in Ingram, TX. More…

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