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IDOL CHATTER

It Takes Two

Blake, Jordin and Melinda faced off on Tuesday, each tackling three songs in an attempt to earn a coveted spot in the "American Idol" finals. On Wednesday night, the people spoke. Did they decide to beatbox with Blake, or will the season end with dueling divas? Express' Greg Barber has a recap. | [COMING UP](#)



FREE RIDE

Restaurant Rammys

The Restaurant Association Metropolitan Washington has released its nominees for the 2007 Rammy Awards. Voting doesn't start until Sunday, and the award show is more than a month away, but check out readexpress.com to see who could take home a shiny food trophy. | [COMING UP](#)

BAGGAGE CHECK

Divorce Decline

Dr. Andrea Bonior is wondering why breakups are so trendy these days. "Why is it so outre to admit that the majority of marriages make it? Why does no one seem to believe that people may be more dedicated to making their marriages work?" Get the rest at readexpress.com | [ONLINE NOW](#)



comment board

“Virginia, hands down! They don't know the rules of the road. Although Maryland and D.C. [drivers] drive too fast, if they are cautious enough or not causing anyone but themselves danger, [they] don't bother me one bit.”

COMMENTER ANONYMOUS, RESPONDING TO WEDNESDAY'S POLL CENTER QUESTION, "WHO HAS THE WORST DRIVERS IN THE D.C. AREA?"



“Maryland is definitely the worst. I moved down from Buffalo a year ago, and the first thing that I noticed is that Maryland drivers do not use their directional [turn signal]. I think there must be a state law prohibiting it.”

COMMENTER ANONYMOUS, WHO ADDED "JUST BECAUSE YOU HAVE IT ON DOESN'T MEAN I HAVE TO LET YOU IN."

poll center

TODAY'S QUESTION

Should Maryland legalize slot machines?

1. Yes
2. No

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Who has the worst drivers in the D.C. area?

AS OF 5 P.M. WEDNESDAY. NOT A SCIENTIFIC POLL.

1. D.C.: 19%
2. Maryland: 32%
3. Virginia: 25%
4. All the same: 24%

SEE HOW YOUR METRO STATION VOTED AT [READEXPRESS.COM/POLLCENTER.PHP](http://readexpress.com/pollcenter.php)



“[G]o to your smoky bars, eat McDonald's until you're so fat you can't move. But don't expect us to pay for your diabetes care.”

A COMMENTER AT BLOG.WASHINGTONPOST.COM/RAWFISHER, THE BLOG OF WASHINGTON POST COLUMNIST MARC FISHER, ON THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY TRANS-FAT BAN APPROVED TUESDAY.



MARC COVATTA/AP

“The lesson? We need to focus on bringing up the inefficient rear as much or more than we work on pushing the high-mileage edge.”



SOLARKISMET.WORDPRESS.COM SAYS THAT TO INCREASE FUEL EFFICIENCY IN THE U.S., SOCCER MOMS NEED TO BUY MORE FUEL-EFFICIENT MINIVANS AS WELL AS PROMOTE HYBRID CARS.

“**TAKING GOLF CLUBS** on Metro is not as strange of an experience as I had hoped. I got a few funny looks, but they passed quickly. Only one man made a comment and not a very witty one. Something to the effect of 'Where were you golfing downtown?'”

APORTABLESNACK.BLOGSPOT.COM EXPECTED COMMUTERS TO FIND GOLD CLUBS IN TRANSIT SOMEWHAT INTRIGUING.

“**I'VE BEEN WONDERING** what everybody in the condo market was thinking, doubling the supply every year while also doubling the price. I mean, \$700,000 for some granite counter tops in a neighborhood you wouldn't have parked in five years ago?”

COMPFUTURES.TYPEPAD.COM REACTS TO NEW FIGURES SHOWING A WEAKENING MARKET FOR CONDO CONVERSIONS.

“**PLUS**, there's still grad school to think about. And we hear the University of Phoenix online is the new Johns Hopkins!”

JOSSIP.COM SKEWERS PARENTS QUOTED IN A NEW YORK TIMES ARTICLE ABOUT HOW THEIR KIDS CAN'T GET INTO COMPETITIVE IVY LEAGUE SCHOOLS FOR UNDERGRAD.

Live Online

The Inside Dish

Post food critic **TOM SIETSEMA** was online Wednesday and talked about finding a kid-friendly restaurant in town and where to go for good service — if it still exists in D.C.

I need to take my niece to a kid-friendly place in the Dupont Circle area, and I'm looking for somewhere that the adults can enjoy as well — something besides pizza and burgers. Any ideas?

It's quite new, but Circa at Dupont has just about everything you're wishing for: a range of options

(including pizza), 20 wines by the glass, gentle prices, a friendly staff and sidewalk seating. Bonus: Circa is also short stroll from the Dupont Metro station (in the former Wrapworks space).

What is the one food/wine magazine you would recommend for a person who loves eating, cooking, dining out and entertaining?

I don't think there's a single publication that gives me everything I want. If it means anything, I tend to hang onto most issues of "Cook's Illustrated." It's a great guide: practical, thorough, reader-friendly, sometimes surprising.

What happened to really great ser-

vice? Why isn't there any in D.C.? Is it really that hard to manage a bunch of waiters? I love great food and the city has some, but the lack of service turns me off.

Good service still exists in Washington, but I agree that it isn't exactly abundant. Komi, 1789, Marcel's, Cashion's Eat Place and the Prime Rib are among local restaurants that know how to pamper; the list of those establishments that don't — including a lot of newcomers on the scene — is much, much longer.

TODAY ON LIVE ONLINE: "Lost" blogger Jen Chaney sits in during Liz Kelly's regular Celebritylogy to discuss theories about the series at 2 p.m. | washingtonpost.com/liveonline.

DO

MAKE SURE BARBARO LIVES FOREVER. As this year's best horses descend on the Preakness, it's time to take one last look back at the champion injured a year ago in Baltimore. Buy hats and Beanie Babies and read a tribute poem (<http://www.horsehats.com/Barbaro.html>). It's like he never died.