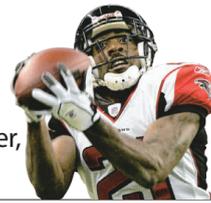




Overdone to overtime

Turkey Day football kicks off with Atlanta-Detroit stinker, finishes strong with Denver-Dallas thriller. **Sports, 1C**



'Newlyweds' no longer

Jessica Simpson, Nick Lachey calling it quits. **People, 2A**

The Post and Courier

THE SOUTH'S OLDEST DAILY NEWSPAPER

November 25, 2005 • Charleston • North Charleston, S.C.

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Today's best

Native plants take root in national forests

A program that has collected seeds from native plants along local roads and planted them in a special farm in Francis Marion National Forest is now considered a model technique that could help solve the problem of invasive plants across the nation. **1B**



PROVIDED

A scene from a public service announcement for the Dec. 3 Shopping With Friends fundraiser.

Shopping benefit raises funds for AIDS agency

Shopping With Friends is a twist on Dining With Friends, which began 17 years ago to raise money for AIDS support, in which retailers will donate a portion of their revenues on Dec. 3 to Lowcountry AIDS Services. **1D**

EU warns Iran of action on nuclear infractions

The European Union accused Iran on Thursday of having documents that show how to make nuclear warheads and joined the United States in warning that it faces referral to the U.N. Security Council for possible sanctions. **3A**



MELISSA HANLINE/STAFF

Keira Carlstrom runs to victory in the Turkey Day Run.

Record 3,336 people run, walk in Turkey Day Run

Keira Carlstrom ran Thursday on just a couple hours sleep. But if she was tired, it didn't show as she won the women's division of the race among a record number of participants. **1C**

Skilled trades in great demand across nation

Despite recruiting efforts and lucrative pay, jobs in the construction trades are proving a tough sell, not only to young people but also to their parents and school counselors. **15B**



Today's outlook

Sunny to partly cloudy and cooler. High 59. Low 35. 5-day forecast, **16B**.

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30 killed in Iraq suicide bombing

6 more U.S. soldiers die; 4 insurgent groups consider offer to discuss peace

BY CHRIS TOMLINSON
Associated Press

BAGHDAD, IRAQ — The third Thanksgiving Day since U.S. troops entered Iraq was a grim one as bombers killed at least 36 people, including children who were receiving toys from U.S. soldiers, and of-

ficials announced the deaths of six more U.S. troops.

A suicide bomber blew up his car outside a hospital south of Baghdad on Thursday while U.S. troops handed out candy and food to children, killing 30 people and wounding about 40, including four Americans.

Two soldiers died in another bombing near the capital, and the U.S. command said four American deaths occurred Wednesday.

Elsewhere, 11 Iraqis were killed and 17 injured Thursday when a car bomb exploded near a crowded soft drink stand in Hillah, a mostly Shiite Muslim city 60 miles south of Baghdad.

More than 200 people, mostly Shiites, have died from suicide attacks and car bombs since Friday.

Amid the bloodshed, at least four in-

surgent groups reportedly were mulling a government offer to talk peace — a hopeful sign for efforts to end an insurgency that has claimed thousands of lives.

Three women and two children were among the dead in the attack outside the hospital in Mahmoudiya, a flashpoint town 20 miles south of Baghdad in the "triangle of death" notorious for attacks on Shiite Muslims, U.S. troops and foreign travelers.

Please see **IRAQ**, Page 12A

Santa's elves must be working overtime on such high-tech toys

The Post and Courier's gadget gift guide for the holiday season

BY CHRIS DIXON
The Post and Courier

In a recent episode of *The Simpsons* entitled "Future Drama," the Marge of tomorrow makes the poignant observation that "life has been so much easier ever since science invented magic."

Well, a holiday-season browse down the aisles of *The Sharper Image* on King Street or a read through *Time Magazine's* Most Amazing Inventions of 2005 likely would be enough to convince most that Marge's prophecy already has come to pass. From Robosapiens to underwater digital cameras to video iPods, from Wi-Fi Sony PSP's to Xbox 360's,

to Nike's cyborg-inspired contact lenses, this year's slew of potential techno gifts is enough to inspire not only yuletide wonder but even a little Christmas fear. For if Santa's once simple elves are now capable of such astonishing, silicon-based toys and gadgets, how will we humans compete in the holiday marketplace of tomorrow? Will we have to become Robosapiens ourselves?

Almost certain to bring more happiness than two turtle doves, five golden rings, or even 10 lords a leaping, here are 12 days of techno gifts that kids of all ages will hope to find under that most hopelessly low-tech of objects, the Christmas tree, plus 10 more techno toys for children.

12 techno gifts

1. **The Apple iPod with video.** <http://www.apple.com>. Will video kill the audio star? Either way, you'll be ready with this easy-to-use but tech-heavy little rectangle. Wisely, Apple has folded video into its flagship music player, and simply keeps calling it the iPod. Remarkably thin and compact, the little player's 2.5 inch, 320 x 240 video screen might grow a little wearisome after a long movie, but it still delivers remarkably clear and high quality video and, of course, audio. Videocasts can be bought from the iTunes

Please see **TOP 12**, Page 13A

10 kids a leaping

Ten techno toys for children, in no particular order.

1. **Laser Tag Tanks.** www.thinkgeek.com has two models. Their Desktop R/C Mini-Rovers (\$39.99), can shoot at one another in mock laser battles. A step up and ONLY appropriate for older kids, the R/C Laser Tag Shocking Tanks (\$49.99) have controllers that actually deliver an electric jolt to the hands of unskilled opponents.

2. **Star Wars Force FX Lightsabers.** Also available from www.thinkgeek.com

Please see **KIDS**, Page 13A



Photos of the Apple iPod with video, WowWee Robosapien v2 and iRobot Scooba provided courtesy of SharperImage

Icy research yields clues to warming

Discoveries in ancient air bubbles chilling

BY LAURAN NEERGAARD
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — There is more carbon dioxide in the atmosphere today than at any point during the last 650,000 years, says a major new study that let scientists peer back in time at "greenhouse gases" that can help fuel global warming.

By analyzing tiny air bubbles preserved in Antarctic ice for millennia, a team of European researchers highlights how people are dramatically influencing the buildup of these gases.

The remarkable research promises to spur "dramatically improved under-



A. LORI, ENEA/ SCIENCE MAGAZINE/AP

The research station at Dome Concordia was built as part of the European Project for Ice Coring in Antarctica. The project's new study reports more carbon dioxide in the atmosphere today than at any point in 650,000 years.

standing" of climate change, said geosciences specialist Edward Brook of Oregon State University.

The study, by the European Project for Ice Coring in Antarctica, is published today in the journal *Science*.

Today, scientists directly measure levels of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse

gases, which accumulate in the atmosphere as a result of fuel-burning and other processes. Those gases help trap solar heat, like the greenhouses for which they are named, resulting in a gradual warming of the planet.

Please see **WARMING**, Page 5A

Ask anyone: Tonight's game is BIG

BY BO PETERSEN
The Post and Courier

Wanna know how big the rivalry is in tonight's Stratford-Summerville football game to see who goes on to the state championship? Ask the fans of two high schools in communities all but frothing at the mouth.

"It's huge. It's like going to an NFL game." — Breakdown of local rivalry. **1C**

Tierra Covington, Stratford High School senior.

"It can't get any bigger. This is as big as Carolina-Clemson." — Romie Simmons, owner of Simmons Barber Shop, the forum of Summerville High School fans.

"I think there's going to be a lot of

Please see **RIVALRY**, Page 13A