

Home Country

To dream the Olympic dream

Dud sat perched on the little board at the top of the run, sliding his super-long, super-wide skis slowly back and forth on the snow. He looked down at the people waiting at the bottom. The bottom, a quarter mile away,

nearly, but only seconds in Olympic time. "Representing the United States of America," the announcer said, the sounds reverberating across the mountain peaks, "Dudley Campbell."

The crowd roared and Dud continued psyching himself up. This wasn't just for him, or for his country. This was for Doc and Herb and Marvin, who were too old to do this. For Steve and Dewey, who weren't athletic

enough to do this. For his own Anita, who would have things to tell at the Ladies Literary League back home after this. A moment in time. A moment in a life. Dud smiled and slipped off the board



Slim Randles

and into his crouch, his arms behind him as the skis rocketed down, faster and faster toward the lip of the jump. And then, at precisely the right time, Dud lifted off, spread his skis into a V and flew. He flew, he soared and didn't seem to land. He flew past the first marker, he flew past the second marker ... the one his competitors had been trying to reach all morning, and he landed on clean snow in an area he knew meant a new world record.

A new world record for his country. Tears came to his eyes as he heard the crowd begin to chant "Dud ... Dud

... Dud..." "Honey," Anita said, "wake up. Here's some coffee for you." Dud smiled, because he knew this should really be champagne. He did it. You couldn't tell him he didn't.

In the background, the television was softly chattering "... his country's main hope for a medal in men's figure skating..." Dud smiled and laced up his skates before setting out on the ice. He wasn't nervous. He had trained for this moment for years...

Brought to you by The Long, Dark, An Alaska Winter's Tale. Available at www.slimrandles.com

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- '09 Buick Lucerne P1534 4 choices! Starting at... **\$19,990**
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- '07 Pontiac G5 Coupe P1492... **\$9,990**
- '07 Pontiac G6 Convertible P1400 1-owner, 24,xxx miles... **\$16,990**
- '06 Cadillac DTS P1403A Local Cadillac trade... **SAVE**
- '06 Pontiac G6 SE P1520 49,xxx miles... **\$8,990**
- '05 Cadillac Sedan P1501A 37,xxx miles, black & chrome... **\$16,990**
- '04 Saturn Ion P1500 Only 24,xxx miles... **\$8,990**
- '03 Buick LeSabre Limited P1386A Loaded... **JUST ARRIVED**
- '03 Saturn L200 P1413A Local trade... **\$7,490**

Pre-Owned Trucks

- '06 Ford F250 Long Box 4x4 1238A Local, 1-owner... **\$16,490**
- '06 Dodge Ram 1462B Only 33,xxx miles on this local, 1-owner trade... **\$16,990**
- '07 Chevrolet Silverado Crew LT 271 4x4 1367A 44,xxx local, 1-owner miles... **\$26,990**
- '07 Chevrolet Avalanche LT 4x4 P1529 Only 29,xxx miles... **NEW ARRIVAL**
- '08 Chevrolet Silverado Crew LT 4x4 1486A Only 12,xxx local, 1-owner miles... **\$28,990**
- '09 Chevrolet Silverado Crew LT 4x4 1485A Only 9,xxx miles on this black, local, 1-owner beauty... **SAVE**
- '09 Chevrolet Silverado Crew LTZ 4x4 P1575 Only 11,xxx miles, 1-owner... **SAVE**

Pre-Owned Sport Utilities, Vans & Crossovers

- '02 Dodge Grand Caravan 1380B Quads, rear heat & air... **\$6,990**
- '03 Toyota Highlander AWD P1527A Local trade... **\$13,990**
- '04 Jeep Grand Cherokee P1501B Only 48,xxx miles... **\$14,990**
- '04 Cadillac SRX AWD P1464 Loaded, leather, quads, local owner... **\$17,990**
- '05 Pontiac Vibe P1424A Loaded, local trade... **\$8,990**
- '05 Chevrolet Tahoe 1452A Loaded, leather, local 1-owner... **\$8,990**
- '07 Ford Edge SEL AWD P1527A Local trade... **\$8,990**
- '07 Chevrolet Tahoe 3LT 4x4 P1540 26,xxx miles on this local beauty... **JUST ARRIVED**
- '07 Chevrolet Tahoe LTZ P1538 A white beauty, DVD, sunroof, only... **\$35,990**
- '08 Chevrolet Tahoe LTZ P1529 34Ton... **\$33,990**
- '08 Chevrolet Crossover Van P1529 34Ton... **\$15,990**
- '09 Saturn Vue Many choices, P1528 Starting at... **\$13,990**
- '09 Saturn Outlook AWDs Leather... **SAVE**
- '09 Chevrolet Torrent AWD P1543 13,xxx miles, leather... **\$24,990**
- '09 GMC Acadia AWD 4 Choices! Leather... **SAVE**
- '09 Chevrolet Suburban LT 4x4 P1582 13,xxx miles... **SAVE**
- '09 Buick Enclave CXL AWD P1581 Loaded, leather... **SAVE**

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TV CROSSWORD

The identity of the featured celebrity is found within the answers in the puzzle. In order to take the TV Challenge, unscramble the letters noted with asterisks within the puzzle.

ACROSS

- Actress on "Law & Order: SVU" (2)
- "Island With You"; 1948 Peter Lawford film
- Poison
- Night we watched "The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air"; abbr.
- "I'm With ..."
- Photo ...; chances to pose in memorable pix
- Actor on "The Good Wife" (2)
- "Poison ..."; Michael J. Fox TV movie of 1985
- Jacob's sibling
- Mean Amin and others
- "The ... That Binds"; 1995 Daryl Hannah film
- Suffix for bet or abet
- Lead role on "Boy Meets World"
- "The ... Chaparral" (1967-71)
- Surgeons' spots; abbr.
- Role on "Desperate Housewives" (2)
- "Three ... Couch"; 1966 Jerry Lewis film
- Letter from Greece
- "The View" personality
- La Duouce and others
- "... Is Worth Living"; Fulton J. Sheen series
- Role on "Heroes" (2)

DOWN

- Welling or Cruise
- Calendar period
- "Tin ..."; 2007 Richard Dreyfuss miniseries
- American Wedding"; 2005 series
- Declare
- Susan Mayer's portrayer
- Prefix for real or usual

8. " ... Can Hear You"; '01 Kelly McGillis film

9. 2001 Gary Sinise movie

10. Holbrook's initials

11. "The People Under the ..."; 1991 Brandon Adams thriller

12. Namesakes of baseball's Young

13. One of Donald Duck's nephews

14. 1982 Lee Remick TV movie (4)

15. "The Waltons" setting

16. " ... Jury"; 1982 Armand Assante film

17. Portable bed

18. "Change of ..."; 1998-2003 game show

19. "the Wild Wind"; 1942 John Wayne film

20. " ... Living" (1980-89)

21. Casual farewell

22. "According to ..."

23. "Two ... Kind" (1998-99)

24. Craving

25. Whitney or McKinley; abbr.

26. Actress Kudrow's initials

Patrick Dempsey

Solution

ACROSS: 1. GARY SINISE; 2. WINTER; 3. POISON; 4. BEL-AIR; 5. I'M WITH ...; 6. PHOTOPRO; 7. BOB O'DONNELL; 8. HEARST; 9. THE TITANS; 10. GARY SINISE; 11. UNDER THE SILVER MOON; 12. YOUNG; 13. DUCK; 14. REMICK; 15. WALTONS; 16. JURY; 17. CAMPBELL; 18. WIND; 19. WILD; 20. LIVING; 21. FAREWELL; 22. ACCORDING TO; 23. TWO KIND; 24. CRAVING; 25. WHITNEY; 26. KUDROW.

DOWN: 1. WELLING; 2. PERIOD; 3. TINTIN; 4. WEDDING; 5. DECLARE; 6. MAYER; 7. REAL.

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