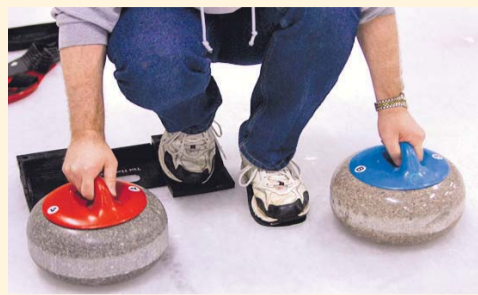


# THE KANSAS CITY STAR.



**SPORTS DAILY**

It wasn't pretty, but Missouri overcame poor shooting to defeat Iowa State, 65-56, on Wednesday in Columbia. | B1



**FYI WEEKEND PREVIEW**

Our intrepid reporter hits the ice to learn from the experts about that curious Olympic sport of curling.

**AERIAL PHOTOS FROM SEPT. 11 RELEASED**

Pictures of the World Trade Center from a police helicopter offer a chilling view of the destruction. To see the photos, go to [KansasCity.com](http://KansasCity.com).

GREG SEMENDINGER  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



**TODAY'S WEATHER: LOW 22, HIGH 32. MOSTLY CLOUDY WITH FLURRIES POSSIBLE. FORECAST | B10**

**75¢**

## CAPITAL DEALS WITH BLIZZARD OF OLYMPIC PROPORTIONS



MANUEL BALCE CENETA | THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

As a record-breaking snow fell Wednesday in Washington, Emily Tibbott skied past U.S. Capitol Police Officer Sean Whitehead, standing guard on Capitol Hill.

## D.C. pace goes glacial, in real time

**Snowbound capital grinds to a halt, but for many Americans, it's a fitting metaphor for the state of politics.**

By SHASHANK BENGALI  
McClatchy Newspapers

**WASHINGTON** | Back-to-back storms have turned snow day in the nation's capital to snow week.

Federal agencies have been closed since Friday afternoon, the House of Representatives and the Senate have canceled all votes and the endless stream of luncheons, congressional hearings, news conferences and cocktail parties — the lifeblood of political Washington — is frozen.

Forgive most Americans if they haven't noticed.

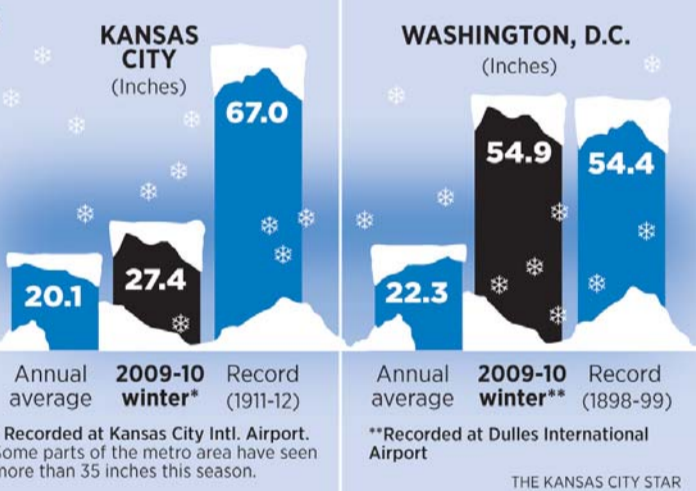
In places far from Washington's snowiest winter on record, Social Security recipients are still getting their checks. Tax returns and Medicare claims are being processed with-

SEE STORM | A11

**PILING UP**

Washington, D.C., set a record Wednesday for most snowfall in a season. Meanwhile, Kansas City has already passed its average snowfall for a winter. But our record is a tall one to topple.

Source: National Weather Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration



JAE C. HONG | THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**But Winter Olympics has to truck snow in**

An uncommonly warm winter has forced Olympic officials to truck in tons of snow from other parts of Cypress Mountain to help build up and maintain the ski and snowboard courses. However, a surprise snowstorm Wednesday was expected to deliver 2 to 4 inches of snow and provide some cushion.

The Associated Press

## Museum for children dreams of getting bigger

**Wonderscope has a plan to triple its space, and now it's looking for funding and a site.**

By DAWN BORMANN  
The Kansas City Star

It's a playland kids dream about.

An indoor tree to climb, a farm with pretend vegetables to harvest, water areas with tools to build bridges, a service station to tinker with toy cars, and a veterinarian's clinic with stuffed animals to nurture.

**MORE LOCAL NEWS, A4**  
KC Ballet gets financial boost for its new home.

But this child's wonderland isn't completely make-believe. After temporarily placing a new destination children's museum on hold because of the economy, Wonderscope has decided to forge ahead with fundraising efforts toward a new, multimil-

SEE WONDERSCOPE | A8



Joachim Burton (left), 3, and his brother Isaac, 22 months old, played recently in the H2ho! area at Wonderscope Children's Museum in Shawnee.

JOHN SLEEZER | THE KANSAS CITY STAR

**FINANCIAL REVIEW** | Fourth quarter reflects another down year

## SPRINT REPORTS FURTHER LOSSES

**Revenues and customers decline, but the company sees progress without promising a turnaround.**

By MARK DAVIS  
The Kansas City Star

The bleeding continues at Sprint Nextel Corp., with the company's 2009 financial report Wednesday showing another large loss, as well as fewer customers and less revenue than in 2008.

Sprint executives countered that the telecommunications company was continuing to make progress. They pointed to improved customer-satisfaction ratings in independent surveys, a healthy cash position, and a head start over its rivals on the next-generation wireless network.

**MORE BUSINESS NEWS, A9**  
New TV show sheds a light on out-of-touch managers.

However, the financial setbacks helped drive Sprint's stock price to its largest percentage loss since July. Shares fell 29 cents, or 8 percent, closing at \$3.36.

Analysts said the company's problems remained manageable even if they could not be stopped this year.

In short, the quarterly checkup produced a

SEE HESSE | A8

## Haitian death toll: We may never know

**Government estimates vary wildly as relief efforts focus on helping the living, not on counting the dead.**

By MICHELLE FAUL  
The Associated Press

**TITANYEN, Haiti** | Haiti issued wildly conflicting death tolls for the Jan. 12 earthquake on Wednesday, adding to confusion about how many people actually died — and to suspicion that nobody really knows.

A day after Communications Minister Marie-Laurence Jocelyn Lassegue raised the official death toll to 230,000, her office put out a statement quoting President Rene Preval as saying the government had buried 270,000 bodies.

A press officer withdrew the statement, citing an error, but re-issued it within minutes. Later Wednesday, the ministry said that, due to a typo, the number should have read 170,000.

SEE HAITI | A11

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From a computer or your mobile phone, click on [KansasCity.com](http://KansasCity.com) for...

Photos from Wednesday night's MU-Iowa State game, plus analysis on the Campus Corner blog.

