

'It's \$100 for every foot of the mountain'

MOUNTAIN from page S1

"But I couldn't believe it when the doctors said that. Golf-ball-sized? No, football-sized. We thought it was a death sentence."

The tumour had the potential to cut off the flow of blood to major organs, and some cells had spread to his bone marrow, she said. Doctors harvested stem cells in anticipation of a future transplant, and started him on chemotherapy.

He lost his eyebrows and eyelashes and his blond hair was reduced to tufts. He had to be fed through tubes.

The chemotherapy — which fills the body with toxins in the hope that the high-metabolism cancer cells die first — devastated the child. He's lost much of the hearing in one ear, and doctors say he may lose his sight.

This month, after six rounds of chemotherapy, doctors thought the cancer was in remission, and scheduled a bone-marrow transplant. But an hour after the boy was admitted to a Toronto hospital, tests showed the cancer was back, making the transplants pointless.

Yesterday, his family returned from the hospital in London, where Cole finished a seventh chemotherapy session.

"It's an aggressive cancer and the odds are against him, we know that. It's really taking its toll on our family," Ms. Petrie said. She and her husband, Brian, have quit their jobs to take care of Cole, who was awake and playing hide-and-go-seek with his father last night.

"But Brandon just said to his mom that he wanted to be able to do something for us, and just, well, did it," she said.

In September, Brandon advertised that he would do odd jobs, such as mowing lawns. Then, he



Brandon Schupp, 13, seen climbing Mt. Baker last year, wants to raise \$1-million for children with cancer.

enlisted assistance from the same people who had helped him raise money to travel to the West Coast and climb Mount Baker in Washington when he was 12.

With bake sales and a silent auction, Brandon raised \$20,000. After talking with representatives of the Childhood Cancer Foundation,

Brandon decided to raise \$1-million for children with cancer by climbing Good Hope Mountain on July 24.

"It's \$100 for every foot of the mountain," said Mary Lye of the foundation. "We know it's possible."

Mr. Mayencourt, MLA for Van-

couver-Burrard, said he has no mountaineering experience, but will take a training course before attempting to climb the mountain.

Brandon is dreaming big, Mr. Mayencourt said.

"I think he's going to get the whole country behind him," he said. "I think he's going to do it."

Marines treated deserter like part of family, he says

ABNEY from page S1

When his brother received a U.S. draft notice, Mr. Abney decided to enlist in the Marines.

He says now that he should have stayed in the military and served his time.

Asked why, he replied: "Honour. Duty."

Those weren't concepts he knew much about when he was 19, he said, but meeting Marines at Camp Pendleton near San Diego last week, and watching TV reports about Canadian soldiers in Afghanistan this year, made him think deeply about those values — and he said he has come to recognize just how important they are.

Mr. Abney said that although he has had a good life in Canada, there was always a fear that he would be caught, and looking back, he regrets the anguish he caused his family when he decided to quit the Marines.

"It wasn't worth the pain," he said. He bristled at the term "deserter," preferring to say that he was on an "unauthorized absence."

Mr. Abney, who retired at a relatively young age after working in Canada in logging, managing a fish farm and then buying into a chain of computer stores, has lived in several communities in British Columbia, including Victoria, Comox and Port McNeill.

He said he never hid from his friends that he was on the run from the U.S. military.

Despite knowing that he could be arrested, he crossed hundreds of times into the United States to visit friends and family and for vacations.

Until the March 9 crossing, he'd shown only his driver's licence as proof of identification. On his last crossing, he gave customs officials his passport, and when they scanned it, his violation flashed on

the computer screen.

Mr. Abney said he was worried when he was taken into custody, not knowing what lay ahead and when he might be released.

"I freely admit that I was scared." But he said that throughout the several days he was held the U.S. Marines treated him with great respect. And he ended up feeling proud to be among them.

"I would like to make clear in the strongest possible terms that I was treated with the utmost respect and courtesy by all of the officers, NCOs [non-commissioned officers] and the enlisted personnel that I came in contact with. The USMC [U.S. Marine Corp.] is one of the finest military organizations in the world. Good or bad they take care of their own and I feel privileged to have shared some time with those fine young warriors. May they always stay safe," said Mr. Abney, reading from a prepared statement.

During his imprisonment, Mr. Abney was given a Marine haircut, and when told he had to trim his mustache to meet military standards, he voluntarily shaved it off.

Taking off his cap to reveal his crewcut, he said he felt honoured to have been with the Marines he met during his incarceration.

He was held in a cell initially, but after U.S. military officials had reviewed his case and decided to process him out of the Marines rather than seek prosecution, he was issued combat fatigues and boots and left to mingle with the troops.

"I told them my story," he said. "They treated me like they were part of my family."

And Mr. Abney seems to feel the same way about them. One of the first things he did after returning to Canada was buy a pair of Marine combat boots, just like the pair they gave him to wear in prison.

"They were the most comfortable boots I ever had on," he said.

British Columbia in Brief

Calgary man acquitted of B.C. sexual assault

Kamloops. A Calgary man accused of sexual assault has been acquitted in B.C. Supreme Court in Kamloops. Darrell Pichurski, 40, was charged after a family acquaintance said he spiked her drink with

a drug in August, 2003. The woman testified she had been drinking most of the night with Mr. Pichurski and his wife at a cottage outside Merritt before the alleged assault. But the judge said there were too many inconsistencies in the woman's recollection and no scientific evidence to back

up her allegation. *CP*
Health Minister moves to tighten tobacco sales
Victoria. Health Minister George Abbott has introduced legislation to make it even harder for young people in B.C. to buy tobacco

products. He said changes to the Tobacco Sales Act will set out clear rules for retailers to follow in determining the age of those seeking to purchase the products. Retailers will be required to ask for identification from anyone appearing to be under age 25. Only

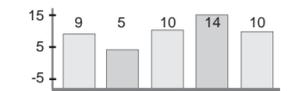
certain kinds of ID will be acceptable. The amendments also will give officials updated information about outlets where tobacco is sold. In addition, violations of the law will be handled through an administrative-penalty process rather than through the courts. *CP*

Vancouver and area forecast

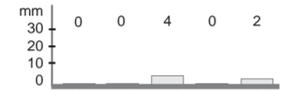
Today	Tomorrow	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
H: 11 L: 6	H: 11 L: 4	H: 12 L: 4	H: 12 L: 5	H: 10 L: 6	H: 8 L: 5	H: 9 L: 5
Mainly cloudy in the afternoon (40%).	100% chance of light rain.	100% chance of light rain.	80% chance of light rain.	100% chance of light rain.	90% chance of light rain.	90% chance of light rain.

Vancouver Almanac

Temperatures	
High	Low
Today 11	6
Yesterday 9	-0.7
Last year 9.6	5.4
Normal 10.7°	2.9°
Record 17.2/1986	-2.2/1955



Precipitation (mm)	
Day	Month
Today 0	7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Yesterday 0	61.4
Last year 2.4	60.2
Normal 3.6	72.3
Record 36.2	1984



Sun: Rises at 6:13 a.m., sets at 6:27 p.m. Hours of sunlight: 12 hours 14 minutes. Moon: Rises at 1:32 a.m., sets at 8:45 a.m.

Wane:	New:	Wax:	Full:
Mar 22	Mar 29	Apr 5	Apr 13

Vancouver Tide Times

Today High	0:12 a.m.	4.1m
Low	4:37 a.m.	3.6m
High	8:34 a.m.	3.9m
Low	5:03 p.m.	1.1m

Air Quality Reports

For 8 a.m. Monday. Readings of 0 to 50 - acceptable, 50 to 100 - fair, over 100 - poor.

Vancouver (d'town):	10(N02)
Richmond:	14(IP10)
Vancouver N.E.:	7(N02)
Hope:	11(O3)
Kamloops (Fed. Bld.):	N/A
Kelowna:	14(IP10)
Prince George (d'town):	33(IP10)
Quesnel:	24(IP10)
Williams Lake:	28(IP10)

Around The Province

Prince Rupert: Mainly cloudy in the morning with light rain developing in the afternoon with 70% probability of precipitation. High 8. Winds light. Normals: High: 8.4, Low: 0.1

Port Hardy: Variably cloudy in the morning with light rain developing in the afternoon with 60% probability of precipitation. High 8. Winds southeasterly 10km/h becoming easterly 30km/h. Low 4. Normals: High: 8.8, Low: 2.1

Nanaimo: Mainly sunny with cloudy periods in the morning with light rain developing in the afternoon with 60% probability of precipitation. High 10. Winds light. Low 6. Normals: High: 11.2, Low: 1.6

Abbotsford: Mainly sunny with cloudy periods. High 15. Winds light. Low 8. Tomorrow, cloudy with light rain (pop 100%). High 12. Low 5. Normals: High: 11.5, Low: 2.2

Hope: Variably cloudy. High 11. Winds light. Cloudy with light rain ending in the evening, cloudy with clear breaks overnight (pop 70%). tonight. Low 5. Normals: High: 12.0, Low: 1.9

Prince George: Mainly sunny with cloudy periods in the morning, becoming mainly sunny in the afternoon. High 8. Winds light. Normals: High: 5.3, Low: -4.8

Williams Lake: Variably cloudy in the morning, becoming mainly sunny with cloudy periods in the afternoon. High 7. Winds light. Normals: High: 6.5, Low: -4.7

Kamloops: Cloudy with sunny breaks in the morning with breaks in the afternoon. High 12. Winds light. Low 3. Tomorrow, cloudy with showers (pop 60%). High 12. Low 2. Normals: High: 12.3, Low: -0.5

Kelowna: Variably cloudy in the morning, becoming mainly sunny with cloudy periods in the afternoon. High 10. Winds light. Normals: High: 10.4, Low: -1.5

Cranbrook: Mainly sunny with cloudy periods in the morning, becoming mainly sunny in the afternoon. High 8. Winds light. Normals: High: 8.5, Low: -2.8

Southern B.C. Today



UV Readings	
Vancouver:	2.2 (low)
Whistler:	3.7 (low)
Comox:	3.6 (low)
Port Hardy:	3.3 (low)
Kamloops:	3.4 (low)
Kelowna:	3.9 (low)
Castlegar:	3.5 (low)

3-day national forecast

Daytime high, overnight low temperatures and conditions:
c-cloudy fg-fog fr-freezing rain hz-haze na-not available pc-partly cloudy r-rain
rs-rain/snow s-sun sn-snow sh-showers sh-snow flurries t-thundershowers w-windy

The West

	TODAY	WED.	THURS.
Banff	2/5 pc	7/8 pc	9/6 c
Brandon	-8/-13 pc	-2/-10 pc	-2/9 pc
Calgary	-2/4 sf	3/9 pc	7/7 c
Castlegar	11/1 r	11/1 r	10/3 r
Edmonton	-1/2 c	-1/11 pc	1/8 c
Jasper	6/7 pc	9/8 c	10/6 r
Kamloops	12/3 pc	12/2 r	13/3 r
Kelowna	10/1 pc	10/1 r	10/0 r
Med. Hat	2/5 c	7/4 pc	10/1 pc
Pr. George	8/4 s	7/7 rs	7/6 rs
Pr. Rupert	8/4 r	8/1 r	8/1 r
Regina	-2/10 pc	-3/8 pc	0/7 pc
Saskatoon	-4/10 pc	-2/9 pc	-1/6 pc
Victoria	9/6 r	10/4 r	11/4 r
Winnipeg	-6/12 s	-1/9 pc	-2/8 pc
Whistler	6/3 rs	3/5 rs	4/4 rs

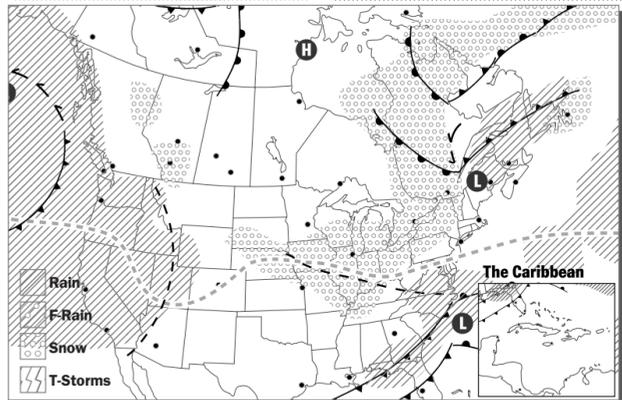
The East

	TODAY	WED.	THURS.
Char'town	2/-1 rs	3/3 pc	2/4 sf
Corner Br	2/-7 sf	2/6 sf	2/9 pc
Fredericton	5/2 pc	2/3 sf	4/2 rs
Goose Bay	5/3 r	2/6 sf	0/9 sf
Halifax	4/2 pc	4/2 rs	3/3 rs
Hamilton	0/5 pc	1/4 sf	4/3 rs
Kingston	-1/4 pc	1/5 sf	3/5 sf
Moncton	4/2 pc	3/4 rs	2/4 sf
Montreal	1/2 pc	0/5 sf	3/3 sf
Ottawa	2/3 pc	0/5 sf	0/4 sf

	TODAY	WED.	THURS.
Quebec	2/2 pc	1/5 sf	3/4 rs
S.S. Marie	-1/8 pc	0/7 sf	2/6 sf
Saint John	3/3 pc	2/4 sf	3/3 rs
Sept-Isles	6/1 r	2/4 sf	3/6 sf
St. John's	0/3 pc	1/4 sf	-1/6 sf
Sudbury	-2/8 sf	1/8 sf	1/7 sf
Thund Bay	-1/10 s	4/10 pc	3/9 pc
Toronto	0/5 s	1/4 sf	4/3 rs
Val d'Or	-2/5 sf	-2/8 sf	-2/8 sf

The North

	TODAY	WED.	THURS.
Iqaluit	-8/14 s	-5/17 pc	-9/19 pc
Baker Lake	-15/23 pc	-14/22 pc	-12/21 pc
Fort Simpson	-11 pc	3/11 sf	1/10 r
Inuvik	-17/19 pc	-12/17 sf	-10/20 sf
Rankin Inlet	16/23 s	14/22 pc	12/21 pc
Whitehorse	6/6 pc	1/11 sf	-1/12 c
Yellowknife	0/6 pc	1/10 pc	0/8 c



3-day international forecast

United States

	TODAY	WED.	THURS.
Anchorage	3/2 sf	0/5 pc	0/5 pc
Atlanta	18/0 pc	14/2 s	13/2 r
Boston	5/0 pc	5/0 c	6/1 sf
Bellingham	12/5 r	12/7 r	12/7 r
Charlotte	10/0 r	12/0 s	14/3 c
Chicago	13/5 sf	12/7 r	12/7 r
Cleveland	0/1 c	2/0 pc	2/0 pc
Dallas	13/2 s	15/6 pc	12/3 pc
Denver	1/5 c	3/3 c	7/2 s
Eugene	10/5 r	14/7 r	13/8 r
Honolulu	26/21 r	25/21 r	25/21 t
Houston	20/6 s	17/7 pc	21/6 pc
Jumeau	5/1 r	6/1 pc	6/1 r
Las Vegas	13/5 r	19/7 s	22/9 pc
Los Angls	16/6 r	20/10 pc	23/11 pc
Memphis	11/0 c	11/3 pc	11/1 r
Miami Bch	28/20 pc	27/18 pc	25/17 pc
Minneapolis	1/7 pc	2/8 pc	1/5 pc
Myrtle Bch	18/6 r	13/3 s	14/5 pc
Nashville	12/2 r	9/0 s	9/0 r
New Orins	23/10 s	17/11 pc	18/9 pc
New York	5/0 pc	7/1 pc	9/3 pc
Orlando	29/13 pc	24/12 s	23/10 t
Palm Spr	18/8 r	25/11 s	28/13 pc
Phoenix	17/8 r	22/10 s	26/12 pc
Portland	10/7 r	11/8 r	12/10 r
Reno	7/1 sf	13/1 c	16/2 pc
St. Louis	2/5 sn	6/2 pc	6/1 sf
Salt Lake	3/0 rs	8/0 pc	14/1 pc
San Fran	11/7 r	15/9 c	17/10 pc
Seattle	10/6 r	11/8 r	11/8 r
Spokane	9/0 pc	10/2 c	15/5 pc
Tampa	32/26 pc	22/13 s	23/12 t
Washington	2/2 rs	8/0 pc	11/2 pc

Europe

	TODAY	WED.	THURS.
Amsterdm	4/0 pc	4/0 c	7/0 pc
Athens	24/9 pc	22/12 c	26/16 s
Barcelona	16/12 r	17/11 pc	16/11 pc
Berlin	3/4 c	5/2 c	7/3 c
Brussels	5/2 r	6/1 pc	10/0 pc
Budapest	9/0 pc	7/3 r	8/4 r
Copenhagen	2/6 pc	2/5 s	4/5 c
Dublin	4/3 r	5/2 c	7/2 pc
Edinburgh	5/0 pc	7/0 c	5/2 r
Geneva	9/8 r	10/7 r	11/10 r
Istanbul	13/5 pc	17/6 s	23/12 c
Kyiv	3/2 r	1/5 c	2/1 r
Lisbon	15/11 pc	15/10 pc	15/14 r
London	6/4 c	8/2 c	10/2 pc
Madrid	14/7 r	13/6 r	12/7 r
Milan	10/4 r	13/6 r	18/8 pc
Moscow	-4/8 sn	-7/15 c	-5/13 sn
Naples	18/9 c	19/13 pc	18/13 pc
Nice	11/11 r	19/16 r	19/15 pc
Oslo	3/10 pc	1/13 pc	0/16 sn