

March 2004

A Little in English

Knife Robber Caught by Shoelaces

A man with a knife in his hand stormed in to a shop in Oslo and grabbed thousands of Norwegian kroner from the register before fleeing on foot. According to employees, he wore a dark jacket, dark pants and a ski mask covering his face. But the robber also wore white tennis shoes – one with black laces and the other with white.

A female police officer on the patrol that arrived at the scene looked at the footage from the store's security cameras. The next day she was working in Oslo near the train station. There she noticed the tennis shoes and laces she had gotten a description of the day before. The man was taken in and charged with both robbery and possession of heroin. He of course denied any knowledge of the robbery.

-From Aftenposten

Norwegian Smoking Less, Weighing More

According to a new study from Statistics Norway, www.ssb.no, four percent fewer Norwegians smoked in 2002 than in 1998. While that brings it to 28 percent, Norwegians still lag behind the Swedes - 19 percent of whom smoke.

However, while Norwegians are making their lungs healthier, that isn't the overall case. Thanks to increasing inactivity and larger diets, seven percent more Norwegians from 1995 to 2002 are now overweight. But while that's 23 percent, Norwegians remain among the world's healthiest.

-From Statistics Norway

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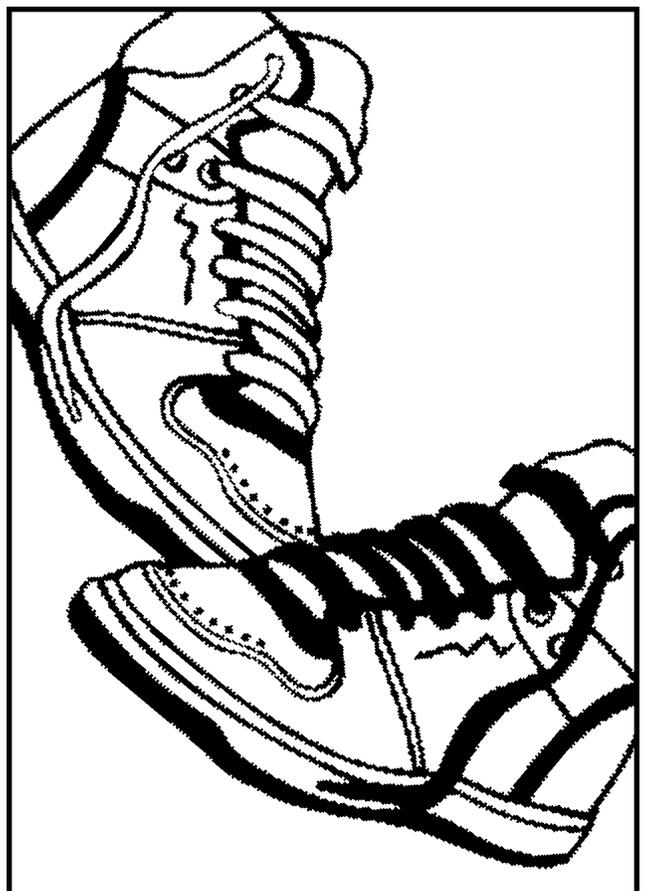
Litt på norsk

Knivraner avslørt av skolisser

En mann med en kniv i hånden stormet inn til en butikk i Oslo og truet til seg flere tusen kroner fra kassaapparatet før han stakk av til fots. Ifølge de ansatte hadde mannen på seg mørk jakke, mørk bukse og skyggelue trukket godt ned i ansiktet. Men raneren hadde også på seg hvite joggesko - den ene med svarte lisser og den andre med hvite.

En kvinnelig politibetjent som var med i patruljen som kom til stedet, så på opptakene fra overvåkningskameraene i butikken. Dagen etterpå var hun på jobb i Oslo ved togstasjonen. Der så hun joggeskoene og lissene hun hadde fått beskrevet dagen i forveien. Mannen ble pågrepet og siktet for både ran og besittelse av heroin. Han nekter likevel ethvert kjennskap til ranet.

-Fra Aftenposten



Norwegian Word Find

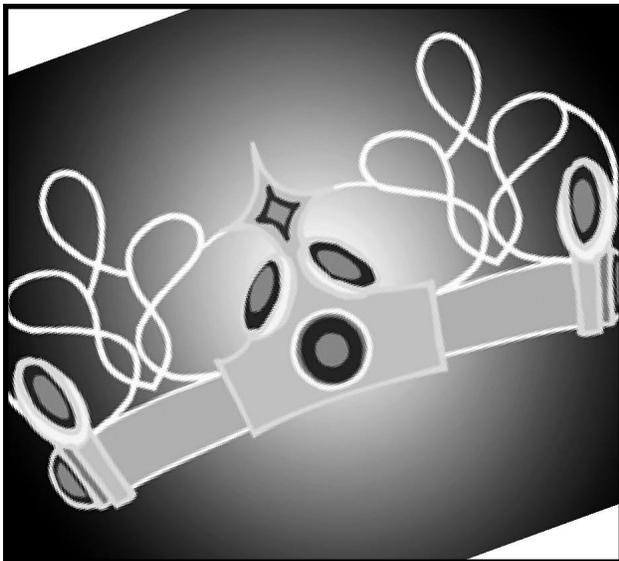
See if you can find the Norwegian words in this puzzle related to things in your home scenery:

K A V I N D U
R J N O J U E
T A E R O S D
A G U L V T R
K B D A L U Ø
K J Ø K K E N
E T R A P P R

Stue	-	Living room
Tak	-	Ceiling/roof
Kjøkken	-	Kitchen
Kjeller	-	Basement/cellar
Trapp	-	Stairs
Gulv	-	Floor
Vindu	-	Window
Dør	-	Door

God fornøyelse!

Have fun!



Famous Ingrids

Ingrid has always been a popular name in Norway, and now with the birth of Princess Ingrid Alexandra, it is sure to remain popular for some time to come. Here's a look at some of the many famous Ingrids of Norway, past and present:

Ingrid Bergman – legendary actress

Ingrid Kristiansen – world-famous distance runner

Ingrid Bjerås – Norway's first female priest

Ingrid Hjelmseth – goalie for world champion women's soccer team

An Heir is Born

After months of waiting, Norway celebrated in January the arrival of an heir to the throne, Princess Ingrid Alexandra. Born on January 21 to Crown Prince Haakon and Crown Princess Mette-Marit, Ingrid Alexandra is the first first-born Norwegian princess to become an heir. Norway changed their laws regarding throne inheritance, following its Scandinavian neighbors. Denmark's Queen Margrethe and Sweden's Crown Princess Victoria have both benefited from this change in Scandinavian laws.

Princess Ingrid's ascendancy to the throne, while it won't be for quite some time, will be the first time a queen has sat on the head throne of Norway in 650 years. In the late 14th century, the brilliant Queen Margrethe I maneuvered her way onto the throne of Denmark-Norway, and through further maneuvers became to only monarch to rule over Denmark, Sweden and Norway, under the short-lived Union of Kalmar. If you would like to see pictures of the new baby, who for now is said to look like her father, check www.kongehuset.no and click on "Pages in English."

-From *Aftenposten*

April 2004

A Little in English

Doctor Given Bathroom Office

When the doctor at Bremanger Service Center asked his employer for an office, he got it, in the bathroom! But the doctor was so disgusted with the offer he described as humiliating that he threatened to resign if the city didn't straighten things out. When renovations of the center are complete, they promise to find a solution for it.

-From Nettavisen



New Online Norwegian Music Service

A brand new opportunity to get Norwegian music is now available. In response to the trend of people illegally downloading music files from their computers, Norwegian record labels have made their own website where users can download music, for a fee.

The website, www.musiconline.no, charges on average 9.50 kroner per song to download. For that price, users can make a CD with the songs they buy, but if they try to send the file to a friend so they don't have to pay, that friend will be sent to the website to purchase the song. At the checkout screen, users will be provided with an estimate at that time of the price in American dollars and euros.

The website offers music from 90 independent Norwegian record labels, and carries approximately 50,000 songs. For one week in November of 2003, the new service celebrated its opening by allowing anyone to download songs for free. In this way, www.musiconline.no has made itself into one of the most popular sites for Norwegians.

april 2004

Litt på norsk

Lege fikk kontor på do

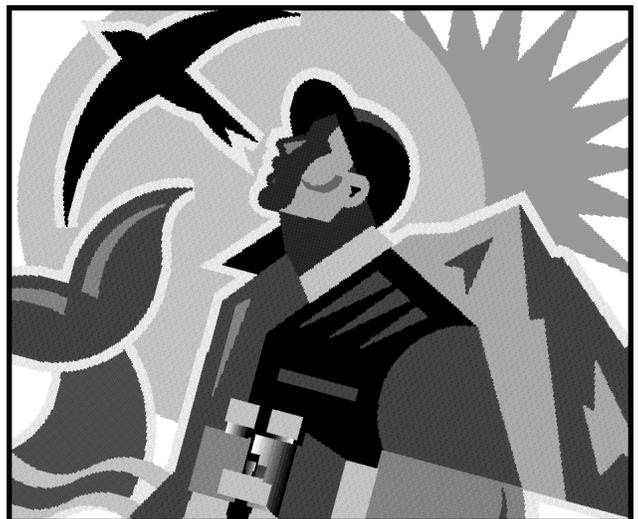
Da legen ved Bremanger Bu- og Servicesenter ba arbeidsgiveren om kontor, fikk han det, på toalettet! Men legen skal ha blitt svært forarget over tilbudet han beskrev som ydmykende, og truet med å si opp hvis ikke kommunen ordner opp. Når ombyggingen av senteret er ferdig, lover de å finne en løsning på det.

-Fra Nettavisen

Norwegian Geography Trivia

See if you can answer these trivia questions on Norway.

1. The first railroad in Norway, in 1860, ran from Oslo to where?
2. What church is supposedly built on the site of St. Olav's grave?
3. What county is Oslo in?
4. Why don't the fjords of Norway freeze in the winter?
5. In what city is Nidaros Cathedral located?



Answers: 1) Eidsvoll 2) Nidaros Cathedral
3) Oslo County 4) The Gulf Stream
5) Trondheim

Looking back... April 9, 1940

With the outbreak of war in Europe in 1939, Norway declared itself neutral, just as it had done in the First World War. On April 9, 1940, Nazi invasion swiftly disposed of that neutrality. Their well-planned and overwhelming assault rapidly overtook most of Norway within three weeks.

The battles turned to Narvik in northern Norway, where Norwegian and Allied forces successfully retook the city, but had to withdraw on June 7, when the Allied troops were called to fight in France. Refusing to stay behind to become Nazi puppets, King Haakon VII, Crown Prince Olav and the government left for London.

If you would like materials or ideas for lodge programming related to the war, you can visit the member section of www.sonsofnorway.com or call 1-800 945-8851. Supplies of some materials are limited, so please request materials well in advance.



Norway Tops in Deodorant Use

According to some industry officials, Norwegians use more deodorant than their European colleagues. Anne Britt Carr, head of Christian Dior in Norway, says that while many of their European customers prefer spray deodorant, most Norwegians opt for the stick variety.

"We have, though, a completely special tradition involving deodorant sticks with luxurious scents," says Carr. "It seems to be one of the few luxury articles that the masses allow themselves here. My colleagues in France ask me, what do Norwegians do with all those deodorant sticks," she laughed. "Eat them?"

-From *Aftenposten*



Travel in Norway Summer Festivals

If you're planning on traveling to Norway this summer, and want to add a little something extra to your itinerary, look into the array of wonderful festivals that Norway has to offer.

If you enjoy Norwegian folk music, there are many wonderful outdoor festivals in the summer months to choose from. One is the Folk Music Week in Ål, located in Hallingdal between Oslo and Bergen, being held this year from May 25 to June 1.

If it's jazz you like, believe it or not Norway has something to offer. Norway has a long tradition of embracing jazz music. For a great jazz experience, look no further than the famous Molde Jazz Festival, in western Norway between Bergen and Trondheim, being held this year from July 14 to July 19.

Another great festival is the month-long Church Music Festival in Kristiansand, in southern Norway, offering all types of church music during the month of June.

To find out more about any of the festivals Norway has to offer, visit www.norwayfestivals.com, or contact any of the great travel agencies advertised in the Viking.