

- **U.S.**
Meet a cheese whiz!
- **SOUTH ASIA**
Take a look at what caused the tsunami.
- **IRAQ**
Attacks make many question upcoming elections.

TIME FOR KIDS

An American medical officer carries an injured child in Banda Aceh, Indonesia.

THE WORLD REACHES OUT

After South Asia's devastating tsunami, international volunteers bring an outpouring of support





Cheesy does it! Sarah Zaborowski shows off the goods at Murray's Cheese shop.

Call Her the Big Cheese

What does a professional cheesemonger do?

SARAH ZABOROWSKI, 27, SAYS "cheese" every day. It's her job! She works as a cheesemonger at Murray's Cheese in New York City. Murray's sells more than 7,000 pounds of cheese each week. Zaborowski is required to know all about the store's 300-plus cheeses.

Each day, the native New Yorker arrives at Murray's around 10 a.m. and works until the store closes at 8:30 p.m. She has to recognize the taste, smell and look of all of Murray's cheeses. The cheeses come from many countries, including Britain, France and Spain. Zaborowski must also know the type of goat, sheep or cow that the milk for the cheese came from.

Zaborowski admits that writing labels for the cheeses can be fun. She enjoys using wacky words like *gooey*, *fudgy* and *barnyardy* to describe cheeses. Some also have funny names such as Stinking Bishop or Drunken Goat. Zaborowski says it is exciting

when famous chefs stop in to buy cheese for their restaurants.

Last summer, Zaborowski traveled to France for two weeks to study for her job. She visited cheese caves to learn the complex process of aging cheese. In cheese caves, bacteria, mold, temperature and moisture are carefully controlled to produce the final product.

This cheese whiz has always been interested in food. After college, where she read cookbooks "like novels," she worked in a restaurant in Ardmore, Pennsylvania. In 2003, she moved back to New York and started to work at Murray's nearly a year ago.

Zaborowski suggests that kids visit local dairy farms "to see how cheese is really made." She likes being a big cheese at Murray's because she "gets to taste so many different cheeses while opening customers' eyes" to the world of cheese.

—By Laura Weiss

Dear TFK...

Adidas's new sneakers are really cool, but they cost \$250 ["The Coolest Inventions of 2004," 12/10]. Yikes! Who would want to pay that much for sneakers? Maybe the big sports stars, but not me.

—Claire O., 10
Washington

It's sad that more U.S. troops found out they had to go to Iraq, especially during the holiday season ["More U.S. Troops Head to Iraq," 12/10]. All they want is to be home with their families. On the other hand, I do understand that President George W. Bush is just trying to keep our country safe and help other countries too.

—Claire M., 10
Pennsylvania

Alex Scott did a great job ["A Stand Against Cancer," 12/10]. I think she had a grown-up brain in a child's body. Her story is very touching. We all should learn a lesson from what she did. Three cheers for Alex!

—Pickles S., 9
New York

It sounds to me like Luke Mitrani is pretty lucky to be on the U.S. Snowboard Team when he is only 14 years old ["He's Ready to Hop on Board," 12/10]. He must be really good!

—Jessi B., 11
Arizona

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