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## DirecTV

Posted by imuakahuku - 2008/05/19 09:30

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I just got DirecTV this past weekend. I have to say I am pretty disappointed. I have been keeping an eye on the programming but they pulled a fast one on me. I am pretty sure that CSTV and maybe ESPNU were in the choice extra package previous to some recent package changes. Well, I just signed up and apparently they are no longer in that package. :angry: Versus is still in it so I am left to wonder which package they will put the MTN in. I assume they did it when they changed to CBSWhatever. But in good conscience I cannot and will not pay \$90 for television programming so I may be in a bad spot because I may have actually just lost a couple of games without gaining any games. I don't love the boob tube enough and I certainly don't want my kids getting hooked on it.

I accidentally signed up for HD (I forgot to tell my wife to tell the installer not to activate it-maybe a subconscious decision?) and it is pretty awesome. But the regular channels appear worse. I am sure they were a little better than what they are now. Of course that could just be DirecTV.

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## Re:DirecTV

Posted by timmyboy - 2008/05/19 10:08

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imuakahuku wrote:

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I think you are right. However, all you need to add is the SPORTS PACK for \$8 per month. The package is worth it. It adds ESPNU, CBS College Sports (CSTV), all of the regional FSNs, and a bunch of other channels (including NBAtv). I believe you can add just during the football season, if you want. With this, you can get almost every game you ever wanted.

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## Re:DirecTV

Posted by azcavalier - 2008/05/19 10:24

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imuakahuku wrote:

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No, they didn't pull a fast one on you. It's been that way since I signed up for DirecTV a few years ago. I have also always subscribed to the Sports Pack, which is where the mtn. is going to be. The Sports Pack is pretty much all of the regional sports channels.

Yeah, standard definition channels don't look very good on an HD tv. Mine never have, anyway.

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## Re:DirectTV

Posted by imuakahuku - 2008/05/19 11:07

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azcavalier wrote:

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I could have sworn I saw it listed as a channel. I saw it there and thought, "good, then they should put the MTN on that same tier". I guess I was wrong. I just looked into the sports pack, it is \$12 now but that is worth it to me for the few months that I would sign up for it.

Thanks for the tip!

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## Re:DirectTV

Posted by Metallicat - 2008/05/19 11:08

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azcavalier wrote:

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It's not just a Direct tv thing either.

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## Re:DirectTV

Posted by imuakahuku - 2008/05/19 11:14

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Metallicat wrote:  
azcavalier wrote:  
imuakahuku wrote:

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It's not just a Direct tv thing either.

I connected DISH digital rec. with an s-video cable and I don't remember the channels looking as bad. At least the lines were mostly straight and I could read most words. The sdtv now is pretty bad. It is hard to even read large font words. I'm glad most channels I watch have an hd option.

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## Re:DirectTV

Posted by Metallicat - 2008/05/19 11:36

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Hmmm, yours sounds pretty bad, and I'm not real tech savvy. I know my parents have Dish, and the normal channels come in weird, but not unwatchable. My inlaws have Dtv and the normal channels are not that bad either.

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## Re:DirectTV

Posted by BYUtx - 2008/05/19 12:58

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FYI, the mtn. will be a local channel in the homes of most DirecTV CB'ers. I know that includes all of Utah, if not the "MWC footprint."

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## Re:DirectTV

Posted by Hawkwing - 2008/05/19 12:58

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I've been a subscriber to DirecTV for just over 3 years now. CSTV has always been in the sports pack, or I believe you can also get it by getting the most expensive total choice pack.

One thing that is definitely true is that standard channels look fuzzy and worse on an HDTV then on a normal channel, that's because there's so much more display for an image with not enough information to fill it out. However, my standard channels are much more clear with DirecTV than they were with Comcast. If you're seriously having trouble reading even large fonts you may have a setup issue or bad cables?

As for the MTN, in Utah it will be in the Total Choice package, anywhere outside of the MTN footprint I fully expect it to be in the sports pack only.

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## Re:DirectTV

Posted by MojoCougar - 2008/05/19 14:18

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I just made the switch from Dish Network to Direct TV this past weekend also. Unless the sales guy lied to me about this also, (He did tell me I would get my locals, but they don't offer my ABC or NBC affiliates)you should be able to change packages and additional programming, like the sports pack, without any penalties or fees. Can someone confirm that for me? If I want to cancel my sports pack at the end of the football season for 6 months, or go down a level in my channel selection package, do they charge you a fee like Dish does?

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## Re:DirectTV

Posted by MojoCougar - 2008/05/19 14:21

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BTW, when I called Dish to cancel, they said they were getting flooded with people cancelling because they don't have a contract with MTN. She said they were still hopeful to get onboard.  
If you have dish, you may want to sit tight for a couple of months-- Direct won't be broadcasting MTN until sometime in August anyway.

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## Re:DirectTV

Posted by Hawkwing - 2008/05/19 14:46

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MojoCougar wrote:

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Where do you live Mojo? I get all the locals in Utah. And if for some reason they don't have the locals where you live, you should be able to get an east or west coast feed of ABC/NBC/CBS/Fox. I'd call them and get them to give them to you.

As for the canceling -- you can order any package and a month later change it to something else with no penalty. I often get the sports pack during football and sometimes basketball season but then cancel it during the summer. I've also gone up and down the total choice packages, depending upon what I feel like. If you want to cancel something you've had for less than a month I believe there is a \$5 fee. So, in the end, getting the sports pack for football season and then cancelling it wouldn't result in any fees.

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## Re:DirectTV

Posted by MojoCougar - 2008/05/19 14:59

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Hawkwing wrote:

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Where do you live Mojo? I get all the locals in Utah. And if for some reason they don't have the locals where you live, you should be able to get an east or west coast feed of ABC/NBC/CBS/Fox. I'd call them and get them to give them to you.

I'm in West Texas. I just spoke with someone at Direct that said the other two locals will be on in about a week, but why didn't they tell me that to start with? Thanks for the other info-- I'm starting to feel better about it, but at first I was wondering if I had made a mistake.

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## Re:DirectTV

Posted by fansince5 - 2008/05/19 18:51

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I have talked with direct tv 2 times and they told me the mountain would be on all tiers...in addition I thought I remember them having a commercial on 1280 the zone saying it would be on all the packages. Hope so!

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## Re:DirectTV

Posted by BYUtx - 2008/05/19 19:12

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fansince5 wrote:

I have talked with direct tv 2 times and they told me the mountain would be on all tiers...in addition I thought I remember them having a commercial on 1280 the zone saying it would be on all the packages. Hope so!  
All tiers in places like Utah. I assume customers will have to upgrade back east and in WA/OR.

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## Re:DirectTV

Posted by timmyboy - 2008/05/19 22:42

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Another question for the experts: I'm moving from Utah to Texas in 4 months. I believe that you have to sign a new 2 year contract to get DirecTV to move your stuff. Can I just move myself - i.e. take the dish and receiver and put it on my new place?

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## Re:DirectTV

Posted by snoscythe - 2008/05/19 22:44

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We recently moved from Utah to Texas, and I took the opportunity to switch from Dish to DirecTV as that was the one way we could be certain we get the MTN here. I have to say that after about a month, I am really hoping Dish Network picks up the MTN so we can go back. The picture quality on the standard definition set is far worse than anything we got in SD in Utah, and the HD is about the equivalent. While DirecTV does offer more HD channels, you pay more for them, and most of them are simply upscaled SD picture anyway, so you really are only getting 720p resolution instead of what you might expect, so the HD you are getting is like being promised Mountain Dew, and then getting a warm can of diet caffeine free Dew. It is technically Mountain Dew, but the whole reason you wanted the Dew has been frustrated.

Also underwhelming is the DVR and the user-unfriendly guide and menus. Finding your to-do list takes 5 different clicks, and switching from one guide to another is an expedition into uncharted territory. The remote is awkward to handle as all the buttons you use the most (the DVR buttons) are at the top where they are least accessible. Dish Network's equipment and menus might not have been as sleek, but at least they were simple, easy to use, and had some thought put into what people do the most.

Yeah, DirecTV's customer service is lightyears ahead of Dish, but I only had to call Dish to upgrade or downgrade, whereas I have had to call DirecTV three times in one month with equipment freezes and disappearing channels. I also have to call DirecTV any time I want to order pay-per-view. If I am going to be calling these morons 5 times a month, they damn well better provide good service.

So yeah, I will stick with DirecTV until either Dish or Time Warner pick up the MTN, at which time I will gladly pay whatever penalties I have to, and ditch DirecTV.

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## Re:DirectTV

Posted by a1247 - 2008/05/20 03:20

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snoscythe wrote:

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This is exactly how I feel about Direct. I miss dish SO much. Its been two years of hell and with the bundle package I can't see any end to it any time soon.

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## Re:DiracTV

Posted by azcavalier - 2008/05/20 07:14

a1247 wrote:

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That's interesting. I had more problems with Dish then i've ever had with DirecTV. The ONLY problem i've had with DirecTV was that I didn't realize that the Full Court NCAA Tournament package was self-renewing, meaning that if you order it for one year, it automatically gets put on your bill every year unless you cancel it. Besides that, they've been great. I haven't had any technical issues with them at all, and I have four DVRs. The earlier DVR's were great, because they are TiVO units. So their interface is simple, and is totally the best one out there. The DirecTV DVR's are not as

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## Re:DirectTV

Posted by Conosticator - 2008/05/20 09:36

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azcavalier wrote:

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Call me stupid but why the heck does one need FOUR DVRs? I have a hard enough time finding one program that I want to watch right now let alone four that I want to watch later.

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## Re:DirectTV

Posted by Ovid - 2008/05/20 09:49

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timmyboy wrote:

Another question for the experts: I'm moving from Utah to Texas in 4 months.

snoscythe wrote:

We recently moved from Utah to Texas...

Not to hijack the post, but I really get excited thinking about rabid BYU fans moving from mormondom to other parts of the nation/world. Good on you, lads! Not only do you have the opportunity to spread the gospel (of Christ and Bronco), but you increase the demand for BYU sports nationwide.

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I think that deserves some K.

Go Cougs!!!

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## Re: DirecTV

Posted by stuckinbig10country - 2008/05/20 11:20

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Great, now what do I do. Dish sucks, bad. And now I guess DirecTV may suck worse. I may be one of the few cable people on the board, but I just find it to be a whole lot better. Few outages (less in Utah than Ohio), few equipment problems (again less with Comcast than with Time Warner), and it has a much wider range of on-demand programming.

Living in Ohio, I will be moving to DirecTV. Since TWC hasn't picked up the big 10 network, I don't see a high probability that the mtn will be picked up.

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## Re: DirecTV

Posted by Hawkwing - 2008/05/20 11:21

azcavalier wrote:

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It's been my experience also that DirecTV is far and away a better service than Dish. I moved to Eagle Mountain where the only two choices were DirecTV or Dish network. Dish was heavily promoting the area and almost all of my neighbors had Dish. My sister and her husband who lived not too far from there were also Dish subscribers. Every single one of them advised us not to get Dish, the reception and picture quality was terrible and prone to go out, the cost was low but then they nickle and dime you, and forget about every getting any kind of help.

As for now, I have a DVR and have never had any problems with it, I've never been bothered by the button placement, but it's also been the only place I've ever known. One fantastic feature that DirecTV has that Dish doesn't is the ability to tell your DVR to record shows over the internet. I know I've had a few times when I've been at work and find out that a show is going to be on that I didn't plan for, so I can just pop into my account online and tell it to record the show.

I for one was tickled that DirecTV got the MTN, because I wasn't looking forward to switching if it had been Dish instead, although I would have.

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## Re: DirecTV

Posted by sunsfrk - 2008/05/20 23:44

Hawkwing wrote:

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The wicked awesome thing about it is that it works on most phones with internet as well. I've recorded multiple programs from my blackberry after hearing about it during the day. I've been with directv for 2 years and have no desire to change although I've thought about telling them i'm going to change so i can get some free programming...would i go to hell for that??? I've heard the complaint of loosing reception but i've never lost reception for longer than 1 minute and that only happened once during a wicked crazy phoenix valley monsoon storm. I say go with directv

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## Re:DirectTV

Posted by a1247 - 2008/05/21 03:36

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With DirectTV every time it even sprinkles I lose my reception. This last winter I resorted to throwing snowballs at the dish in order to knock the snow off so I could get a signal.

My house does have a lot of full grown trees and I have thought about having direct come over and move the dish to another part of my roof. But I already paid for them to come out once before and make sure that the dish was OK were it is at. They got up on my roof and tightened the dish down and said the location was fine and they cant do anything about the signal because they can't "control mother nature and the effect that it imposes on the signal to the dish." This is the biggest bunch of horse crap ever. When I had Dish before at my other house the only time I lost a signal was the day after Christmas and SLC got 18 inches of snow. I think that was 3 or 4 years ago. DirectTV is the worst. I will refrain from talking about there TiVo and there slow arse receivers. Direct sucks!

If I wasn't locked into the whole bundle package with Qwest I would leave Direct and go back to Dish.

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## Re:DirectTV

Posted by imuakahuku - 2008/05/21 07:22

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Funny thing for me was that I hated Dish because of the same "lost signal" reasons. Everytime it even got overcast we were losing the signal. I complained that I only had a "70-80" signal strength and all they could do was say, "well, we can't do anything about that but you can call the installer and they will come out for \$50 and look at the dish for you". I had just had it installed so things were not good from the getgo. Next, I finished the basement last summer and setup the 50" tv, new tv console and a new dvd player. I put the reciever in the cabinet next to the dvd player and suddenly anytime someone would use the dvd player the person on the second tv couldn't change channels! :laugh: I think the receiver finally gave up the ghost so that was the final straw in finally changing to DirecTV.

Before moving to our new house we used to have TWC digital and loved it. We still have roadrunner, and rarely lost the TV signal. I would have gone back to cable if there were any chance of them getting the MTN and BYUTV but I don't think that will be happening before the 2nd comming.

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## Re:DirectTV

Posted by azcavalier - 2008/05/21 07:46

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Conosticator wrote:

azcavalier wrote:

That's interesting. I had more problems with Dish then i've ever had with DirecTV. The ONLY problem i've had with DirecTV was that I didn't realize that the Full Court NCAA Tournament package was self-renewing, meaning that if you order it for one year, it automatically gets put on your bill every year unless you cancel it. Besides that, they've been great. I haven't had any technical issues with them at all, and I have four DVRs. The earlier DVR's were great, because they are TiVO units. So their interface is simple, and is totally the best one out there. The DirecTV DVR's are not as

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elegant, but it only takes me one-click to get there (You can customize this in the setup of your receiver). Once you figure out how it works, it's not bad at all.

Call me stupid but why the heck does one need FOUR DVRs? I have a hard enough time finding one program that I want to watch right now let alone four that I want to watch later.

Well, it's interesting. We got one when we first switched from Dish to DirecTV, and then a year later, my in-laws moved in with us for six months. They liked it so much, they bought a second one for their bedroom and left it when they went home. Then we moved from Illinois to Virginia, and when we called DirecTV to set up the new dish at the new house, the nice customer service lady told me that we qualified for a third receiver, free of charge, since we had used their moving service. So we chose another DVR and put it in our bedroom. Then, recently we got an HD TV (when my 11 yr old destroyed the old TV by knocking it off of it's stand), and decided to move up to HD service, and so I got an HD DVR.

One DVR is on the HD TV, one is in the bedroom, one is in the guest (or in-laws) bedroom, and the fourth is sitting in an unfinished basement room with a Slingbox on it so that my brother and his wife (who are living in the Ronald McDonald house for six months while their 18 month old son goes through chemo to fight the Leukemia) don't go crazy with boredom.

Can I have my Karma back now that somebody dinged me on? Why? Cuz' I have four DVR's?

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## Re:DirectTV

Posted by penncougar - 2008/05/21 08:05

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azcavalier wrote:

Conosticator wrote:

azcavalier wrote:

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Can I have my Karma back now that somebody dinged me on? Why? Cuz' I have four DVR's?

This is off topic, but prayers for your brother and his family. Tough times right now. I hope everything goes well.

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## Re:DirectTV

Posted by imuakahuku - 2008/05/21 08:08

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azcavalier wroteCan I have my Karma back now that somebody dinged me on? Why? Cuz' I have four DVR's?

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That is absolutely hilarious!:laugh: Dinged for having 4 DVR's!

As for your brother. I hope their son responds well. My little brother had a brain tumor when he was 17. They said he had maybe six months if it was as bad as it looked, or 10-15 years if all went well. (Of course they didn't count on the power of the priesthood). They were astonished at how well the surgery went and he turns 39 this year with no effects and no expected problems. My dad was just diagnosed with cancer and had surgery and is preparing to start chemo. It is sad because he has always been around 180lbs and now he is down to 124lbs. But he is starting to sound like himself again so we are hoping for the best for him. Keep the BYU games flowing to the RMac house. I know a good BYU buttwhipping of WA and UCLA will be great for lifting spirits! :P

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## Re:DirectTV

Posted by azcavalier - 2008/05/21 11:12

penncougar wrote:

azcavalier wrote:

Conosticator wrote:

azcavalier wrote:

That's interesting. I had more problems with Dish then i've ever had with DirecTV. The ONLY problem i've had with DirecTV was that I didn't realize that the Full Court NCAA Tournament package was self-renewing, meaning that if you order it for one year, it automatically gets put on your bill every year unless you cancel it. Besides that, they've been great. I haven't had any technical issues with them at all, and I have four DVRs. The earlier DVR's were great, because they are TiVO units. So their interface is simple, and is totally the best one out there. The DirecTV DVR's are not as elegant, but it only takes me one-click to get there (You can customize this in the setup of your receiver). Once you figure out how it works, it's not bad at all.

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One DVR is on the HD TV, one is in the bedroom, one is in the guest (or in-laws) bedroom, and the fourth is sitting in an unfinished basement room with a Slingbox on it so that my brother and his wife (who are living in the Ronald McDonald house for six months while their 18 month old son goes through chemo to fight the Leukemia) don't go crazy with boredom.

Can I have my Karma back now that somebody dinged me on? Why? Cuz' I have four DVR's?

This is off topic, but prayers for your brother and his family. Tough times right now. I hope everything goes well.

Thanks. He is in the second round of chemo, and while he feels like crap, the doctors say that he is responding incredibly well (there's that priesthood thing again) and they feel like he will be okay. But, it's still a tough thing. The upside is that since he's so young, he won't remember any of what he is going through, and he should bounce back quickly.

Back on topic, I could just say that I have four DVRs because I need that much space to store all of the Cougar victories that we've witnessed in the last few seasons!

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## Re:DirectTV

Posted by azcavalier - 2008/05/21 11:15

imuakahuku wrote:

azcavalier wroteCan I have my Karma back now that somebody dinged me on? Why? Cuz' I have four DVR's?

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That is absolutely hilarious!:laugh: Dinged for having 4 DVR's!

As for your brother. I hope their son responds well. My little brother had a brain tumor when he was 17. They said he had maybe six months if it was as bad as it looked, or 10-15 years if all went well. (Of course they didn't count on the power of the priesthood). They were astonished at how well the surgery went and he turns 39 this year with no effects and no expected problems. My dad was just diagnosed with cancer and had surgery and is preparing to start chemo. It is sad because he has always been around 180lbs and now he is down to 124lbs. But he is starting to sound like himself again so we are hoping for the best for him. Keep the BYU games flowing to the RMac house. I know a good BYU buttwhipping of WA and UCLA will be great for lifting spirits! :P

I hope the best for your dad as well.

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## Re:DirectTV

Posted by SenorCougar - 2008/05/21 15:39

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Sorry, I've been out of town for a while.....

I have Dish Network and it not looking good for FB in the fall. How many have made the switch to either Comcast or Direct TV? Is one better than the other? What is the LEAST expensive plan to get the MTN? Reading some of these posts concerns me regarding Direct TV's system. Does anyone know of any GREAT deals offered to switch?

Thanks. I've called Dish Network with the advisory notice that I will be switching in August if I can't see the MTN with the their network. Thanks a million.....

Senor Cougar.

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