

straighten up & fly right

/1/ the resolve

Returning to work after seven days **off**, Derek Olson, 31, **confessed** Monday that his plan to **use** his weeklong vacation to **straighten out** his life didn't **work out** as well as he had hoped.

"This was the week all the **shit I'd been putting off for years**—big **and** small—**was going to get done**," said Olson. "**From getting** Steve and Kim a gift for their wedding two months ago **to going** through all those boxes **I'd left** unpacked **since moving** here in 2004 **to finally deciding** what **my future is** with Melanie, it **was all going to get taken care of**. I **did pay** my gas bill, but then I lost the envelope somewhere on the way to the mailbox, so now I have to wait for a second **notice**."

After using last Saturday and Sunday—the first two days of his break—to **recover from "a shitstorm of a work week"**, Olson decided he **would** begin **straightening up** his life **first thing** Monday morning. "I **figured** that if I **didn't rest up over** the weekend, I'd **burn out halfway through** my week **off**," said Olson, explaining the slow start. "Saturday night, I **did write up** a list **of what** I wanted to **accomplish over the course of** the coming week, but it wasn't really **all that** complete."