Wheels: An e-mail from Todd says, "Due to financial constraints, I'm looking for a possible explanation to a problem I'm having that I might fix myself. On occasion, my car will begin to shift gears roughly. It seems to shift on time, but just bangs into gear. This is accompanied by a whiny noise that changes with engine speed. I am able to make it stop by turning off the car for a minute, but eventually the problem will return."

Halderman: The situation does not sound good. The noise is typical of a worn pump and the rash shifting could also be pump and/or pressure related. Changing the fluid may help, but I am sure it is only a temporary fix, even if it does help. Maybe the best bet would be to look for a used transmission or even another vehicle.

