

HEALTH NEWS

Skateboarding injuries becoming common

(AP) - For each impressive skateboard move, there is probably an equally impressive scar.

Last year, 91,444 injuries were treated in hospital emergency rooms as the result of accidents involving skateboards - about one-sixth that involving bicycles, according to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission.

The number rises as the sport's popularity increases, although industry spokesmen, like Bob Jenike of Santa Cruz Skateboards, one

of the largest equipment manufacturers, say pads and other safety equipment are improving.

In 1979, emergency room-treated skateboarding injuries totaled 47,547. But in 1983, when skateboarding popularity waned, there were just 16,526.

The injured include the rich and famous.

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Farris had to cancel the Australian rock group's European tour this summer after a skateboard slip aggravated his arthritis.

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Pacemaker like real heart

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) - An experimental pacemaker has been given a human trial, an opportunity to experiment with emotions and moods all over again.

"I feel like I have a new heart," the 59-year-old widow said after becoming one of three people nationwide to have a \$5,000, self-adjusting, matchbook-size Teletronics Prim pacemaker implanted.

Now when her gentleman caller enters the room, her heartbeats quicken, "that wouldn't have been possible with the kind of pacemaker that's been around for 30 years."

On Friday in her room at Humana Hospital-University of Louisville, she wore her new heart on the pulse in the country certified by the federal Food and Drug Administration to do so.

The FDA will add to the list, and in a few months will evaluate the results of the machine. A second phase of 100 patients will follow before the government authorizes general use of the pacemakers, an FDA spokesman said.

Until now, no pacemaker could detect the needs of the body and make the heart react the way it should when a person meets a lover, or a doctor, or a friend who is best leaving at a fixed setting of 70 beats per minute regardless of the stimulus.

Kapernitsh said intense research is going on into improving the pacemaker has been going on about 10 years. The Prim, the one implanted in Ms. Cowley, upper left chest with a wire attached to the heart, was made by an Australian company.

It can be set at a range of beats, usually from 60 to 160 per minute. Singer said it emits a signal to pace the heart and receives a message back from the heart. It interprets the message and can adjust the heart rate to the body's needs.

The new pacemaker's ability to detect that need is not completely understood, Kapernitsh said, and that is one of the things that is being studied.

Singer said there can be medical reasons that would make an increase in heart rate intolerable for some patients. But when they get final approval, the "rate-responsive" pacemakers will be dominant, he said.

Kapernitsh said the pacemaker, simple to install under local anesthesia, might be an outpatient procedure some day. But when they get final approval, the "rate-responsive" pacemakers will be dominant, he said.

Cholera case prompts warning

(AP) - State health officials concerned after a Bifite man contracted cholera from a batch of raw oysters later distributed in the Denver area are warning consumers to cook their shellfish.

"There always was a risk of acquiring disease from eating raw oysters," said state epidemiologist Dr. Richard Hoffman. "This hammers home that point once again."

Hoffman said the 42-year-old unidentified Bifite man ate raw oysters with more than 10 other people, all of whom have undergone blood tests and are disease-free.

"It is a rare incident," said Hoffman, "but one that could have serious implications."

The life case is only the second reported case of cholera in

the United States this year, he said.

Laboratory tests confirmed the man had a toxigenic strain of cholera known as cholera type 01. Other strains are less deadly to humans.

The man was treated at Claget Memorial Hospital in Bifite after he became ill August 17 and has since fully recovered.

The man purchased the raw oysters at a retail store in Bifite, home of an oyster ranch that imports young Gulf Coast shellfish and raises them to maturity on Colorado's Western Slope.

Public health officials are investigating the oyster's origins, trying to figure out among other things, which Gulf Coast oyster bed it came from. All they know so far is that it traveled through Louisiana on its way to Bifite and was last handled by a company that distributes most of its fish in Denver.

Oyster growers in the southern United States have had problems in the past with cholera and hepatitis, which can contaminate shellfish if sewage finds its way to their breeding ground.

Health officials are investigating the possibility that severe storms may have caused contaminated water from a sewage disposal site to be released.

Pregnant? Read this

NEW HAVEN, Conn. (AP) - If you're a woman and you're pregnant, you might want to consider three doctors from Yale-New Haven Hospital.

The three doctors received the Good Housekeeping seal of approval when they were listed among the top 107 doctors in the country that treat women.

No other Connecticut doctors were included in the magazine's survey.

Good Housekeeping magazine surveyed 250 department chairmen and section chiefs in obstetrics and gynecology at major medical centers. The magazine asked center officials to name the most outstanding obstetrician-gynecologists in the country. These surveyed were asked not to name anyone within their own institutions and were to only name doctors who see patients.

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Lazer treatment is being studied

DURHAM (AP) - Glaucoma patients who have received all other forms of treatment may benefit from a new laser treatment being studied by researchers at Duke University's Eye Center.

"This is an extraordinarily powerful laser," said Dr. Bruce Shields, professor of ophthalmology. "This treatment, known as laser cyclophotocoagulation, is for people with glaucoma that hasn't responded to medicine, to the conventional laser approaches or to traditional surgery."

"These people are rapidly losing vision, and, before this procedure, there was little to be done about it."

Laser cyclophotocoagulation involves heating tissue inside the eye with a neodymium YAG laser. The 10-minute procedure can be done on an outpatient basis with relatively little danger to the eye itself.

Glaucoma occurs when fluid accumulates in the eye, creating pressure on the optic nerve. When the optic nerve is damaged, the patient loses vision.

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GENERAL NEWS

Mercury Memories

5 Years Ago

Thursday, September 23, 1983

The First Baptist Church will hold a Cystic Fibrosis Bike-A-Thon sponsored by the youth group. The event is to take place September 24, 1983.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert McClanahan, Nicholas County Republican chairman attended the Statewide Strategy meeting held by the Kentucky for Banning Campaign.

The Nicholas County Blue-jacket Football team lost to Beechwood by a score of 35-0. Eric McGuffey lead the team with the state of nine carries, 72 yards, two receptions, 22 yards.

BORN: Mark Tyler Doyle, September 7, 1983; Amanda Sue Willoughby, September 13, 1983.

DIED: Earl T. Harney, 79, Newton, September 14, 1983; Eggers F. Rohse, 64, Paris, September 14, 1983; Mrs. Katherine Reed "Ken", September 13, 1983; G.L. Tucker, 76, September 8, 1983.

10 Years Ago

Thursday, September 21, 1978

John Etton was hired as the Nicholas County road supervisor by a unanimous vote of the Fiscal Court. Frank Cunniff was elected to the position.

20 Years Ago

Thursday, September 18, 1968

Senior Halfback Billy



Bringing fall to school

Jacob Dryden, a student in Joan Spickler's first grade class, displays signs of fall brought for class. - Bill Oatis photo

50 Years Ago

Thursday, September 23, 1938

Members of the Nicholas County Future Farmers of America secured ninth in 49 competing teams at the annual livestock judging contests at the Kentucky State Fair in Louisville.

Hundreds of farmers, stock buyers and stock raisers crowded into the Farmers Stock Yards Company's annual Baby Beef Show and Livestock Sale Tuesday and Wednesday.

The Nicholas County Memorial Library, received a total of 46 new books according to Mrs. Tilla H. Feabach, librarian.

Nicholas County taxpayers will pay \$29,130.32 more in taxes this year, per tax collection books, which were turned over this week to Sheriff John Anderson by County Clerk John F. Sugg.

The Marketers of Carlisle High School, who took a 4-0 thumping from the Cynthia Bulldogs in their opening Kentucky Conference game will host the Paris Greyhounds Friday night.

BORN: Roger Dale Dempster, Friday, To Mr. and Mrs. Hampton Henton, a son, September 13, 1948; To Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Stalling, a son, September 13, 1948.

DIED: Robert Hopkins, 83, Nicholas County.

40 Years Ago

Thursday, September 16, 1948

A 135-year-old general store was found by arsonist Bartlett, Route 2, Carlisle, Monday

Eye Openers

By Dr. Robert F. Pretzsch, Optometrist

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Presbyopia, the gradual loss of focusing ability, is a normal process of aging. By the time people reach the age of 45, the lens of the eye begins to harden and thicken.

Though presbyopia appears to come on suddenly, the loss of focusing skills necessary to read in a gradual process. It does not become noticeable, however, when it reaches a critical stage.

What are the signs? Blurred vision or eye strain at normal reading distances. You may begin to hold reading materials further and further away from your eyes. Sometimes after a period of close work, you may have a headache or feel exhausted.

Although presbyopia cannot be prevented, glasses can compensate for the loss of focusing ability. Depending on your lifestyle, or other visual condition, reading glasses, or bifocals (or progressive lenses) will be prescribed. Presbyopia does not affect the general health of your eyes.

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Booth Information

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Booth Information

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Age _____

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