

Separated Siamese Twin Succumbs After 11 Years Of 'Miracle' Life

FERRIS, Ill. (UPI)—The odds were against Rodney Dee Brodie from the very start even though he was a "living miracle" of modern science.

The nation had much on its mind back in September, 1951—Korea, inflation, and whether Harry S. Truman would run again. But on the month's 16th day, the nation's heart was gripped by what happened in a hospital in East Moline, Ill.

Rodney Dee and his brother, Roger Lee, were born. They were Siamese twins—joined at the scalp.

It appeared hopeless that either would live. Separation of Siamese twins is always precarious and surgeons had never successfully separated twins joined at the head.

But Royt and Marjorie Brodie, did not become disconsolate. They kept looking until they found a team of surgeons at the University of Illinois Educational and Research Hospital in Chicago willing to try to separate their sons.

Received Nation's Prayers

Finally, 15 months and one day after they were born, on Dec. 17, 1952, the surgeons took Rodney Dee and Roger Lee into the operating room. The nation prayed and waited.

For 12 hours and 30 minutes, the surgeons toiled. They separated the young boys. Then they made a heart-breaking discovery. Rodney Dee and Roger Lee had only one sagittal sinus vein which drains blood from the brain. One would have to die, the other would live.

The surgeons felt that Rodney Dee was the stronger, so they gave the vein to him. Roger Lee never regained consciousness and 33 days later he died.

Rodney Dee began his tremendous struggle to live.

For five years he was in the hospital. He had operation after operation—about 29 in all—mostly to provide some sort of bone structure on the top of his head.

Youth Never Recovered

Rodney Dee went home to his parents and seven brothers and sisters at their farm home near this west-central Illinois community, the first person ever to survive such an operation.

But the little lad was not to know recovery.

His head never lost its misshapen appearance. He had trouble balancing. He could not run and play. He was unable to attend school regularly. A teacher and his brothers and sisters tutored him.

He weighed only 50 pounds.

Last Sunday, Mrs. Brodie and the other children were on a picnic. Brodie started feeling Rodney lunch in bed. Rodney could not swallow, and Brodie turned to get some medicine.

When the father turned back, Rodney Dee, had stopped breathing.

His doctor, J.D. Trotter, said malnutrition was the technical cause of death.

Tornadoes Rip Ohio River Area

By United Press International

Thunderstorms rumbled up the Ohio River Valley today after a night of tornadoes. Hail battered parts of the Midwest and plains. Rain soaked much of the nation from the Rockies to the south.

Nearly 1 1/2 inches of rain fell across the northwestern Louisiana, central Alabama and western Ohio in six hours during the night.

At least two unconfirmed twisters tore across western Ohio, smashing homes and ripping up power lines. No injuries were reported.

Much of rural Drake County in Ohio was without electric power.

An apparent twister tore a one-mile swath through the countryside about five miles west of Greenville, Ohio. Roofs were torn from three homes, two barns were flattened and other buildings damaged.

The roof was ripped from a farm home near Gettysburg, Ohio, and outbuildings were demolished.

Living Cost Stays High

WASHINGTON (UPI)—The cost of living continued at a record high of 106.2 per cent during April, the Labor Department reported today.

Ewing Clague, head of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, said food prices dropped three tenths of one per cent but the decline was offset by increased prices for housing, used cars, newspapers and clothing.

The consumer price index was one per cent higher than a year ago, reflecting increased costs for food, housing and recreation. All major types of goods and services except transportation shared in the over-the-year advance.

Clague said the decrease in average food prices in April resulted largely from drops in the prices of meats, eggs and dairy products. The price of meat was the lowest since 1937, he said.

Meat, poultry and fish prices dipped 2.4 per cent. Beef and pork prices led the way with a drop of about 3.5 per cent.

However, prices for fruits and vegetables increased. Fresh fruits climbed four per cent and fresh vegetables 1.6 per cent. Clague said this was largely a continuing result of frost which destroyed southern fruit crops last winter.

Weather Roundup

Temperatures during the 24 hours ending at 4 a.m. PDT today.

High	Low
Astoria	62-42
Baker	75-40
Brookings	66-49
K. Falls	75-47
Medford	80-43
Newport	60-40
N. Bend	63-44
Pendleton	77-49
Portland	73-50
Redmond	78-56
Salem	73-42
The Dalles	83-49
Chicago	39-50
Los Angeles	65-39
New York	73-32
San Fran.	61-54

Portland-Vancouver, Willamette Valley: Mostly fair; highs about 75; low tonight near 40.

Western Oregon: Mostly fair with some clouds; highs 72-84 inland, 60-65 coast; low 42-50.

Eastern Oregon: Mostly fair; highs 75-85; low 36-42.

CAR Names Officers

Rebecca Pierson has been elected president of Scorchin Society, Children of the American Revolution, for the coming year. Elected also at a May 13 meeting at the home of Mrs. Julian Ager were Sally Wales, vice president; Betty Baldwin, secretary-treasurer; Phyllis Waters, chaplain, and Marilyn Whitney, registrar.

President Diana Wales announced that the State and Regional Convention will be held in Portland June 22-23 and that a large number of favors for the convention had been completed during a workshop in her home.

The silver tea for DAR members was held May 14 at the home of Mrs. E. S. Robinson.

Diana Wales will present a memorial wreath at the shaft on the courthouse grounds Memorial Day. An article written by Diana, "Freedom Isn't Free," was published in the March issue of the Children of the American Revolution official magazine.

Members were reminded of Flag Day on June 14.

Peg Baldwin spoke briefly on the program planned for the Portland convention and brief histories of Champoug and Robert Newell were read.

Guests for the meeting were Julian Ager and Debbie Blair. Senior officers present were Mrs. Richard Baldwin and Mrs. Julian Ager.

Attend Meeting

MOUNT SHASTA—Arnold Durkee of Mount Shasta and Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Nicholas and Mabel Nicholas of McCloud attended the District 29 meeting in Anderson as representatives of the Mount Shasta VFW Post and Auxiliary.

Nicholas was appointed inspector, and from the auxiliary, Mrs. Barbara Nicholas will be a color bearer for District 29. Lester Burdell of Burney was elected district commander, and Mrs. Flora Ellis of Weaver will be district president for the coming year.

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Land Sale Fraud Bill Approved By Senators

SALEM (UPI)—A bill intended to protect buyers from fraud in land sales passed the Senate Monday.

It returned to the House for consideration of Senate amendments.

Sen. Harry Boivin, D-Klamath Falls, said the bill was designed to "protect the public from fraud, deceit and misrepresentation that we have witnessed, particularly in Eastern Oregon, in the sale of subdivisions." He said all parties involved, including the real estate industry, have accepted the Senate version.

The subdivision bill would require developers to file notice of their plans with the state real estate commissioner.

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Congressman Alarmed Over Russian Access To Undersea Cable Charts

WASHINGTON (UPI)—A Democratic congressman said in testimony made public today it was "utterly fantastic" that the United States gave Russia maps locating the undersea cables that link Distant Early Warning (DEW) line stations.

The Pentagon replied that it would not do Russia any good to cut the cables before an attack, because radio communications are virtually jam-proof.

The DEW line is a network of radar stations in the Far North which are supposed to sound an early alarm in the event of a bomber attack on Canada and the United States.

The subject came up in House defense appropriations subcommittee hearings May 2, when Rep. Daniel J. Flood, D-Pa., and others brought up breaks in the undersea cables. Brig. Gen. J. F. Raulor Jr., director of command control and communications for the Air Force Office of Programs and Requirements, said he believed breaks caused by Soviet fishing boats were accidental.

He said the American Telephone and Telegraph Co. had given the Russians maps showing

Mary Oslund Dies In Oswego

Mrs. Robert (Mary) Oslund, a former resident of Klamath Falls, died unexpectedly at the family home in Oswego, Sunday, May 26. The family left here about eight years ago.

Mrs. Oslund was employed as a receptionist at one time by Dr. Frank Johnson of Klamath Falls. Her husband, who survives, is associated with Georgia Pacific in Oswego.

Two daughters, Joan and Janice, also survive.

Funeral services will be May 29.

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Dates Change

MOUNT SHASTA—Because of conflicting community activity dates, the Toastmistress Club of Mount Shasta will meet May 29 instead of June 5 as previously announced. The meeting will be at 7:30 p.m. at the Ski Bowl Cafe.

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