

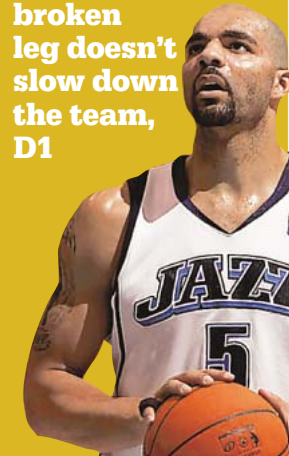
The Salt Lake Tribune

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THURSDAY ❖ FEBRUARY 1, 2007

JAZZ BEAT SPURS 97-93

The news of Boozer's broken leg doesn't slow down the team, D1



BYU 76, UTES 66

LEHI'S BOLD AMBITIONS UNVEILED

Gehry-designed development project, B1



Molly Ivins dies

Columnist leaves a legacy of skewering the establishment

A liberal newspaper columnist who delighted in criticizing politicians and interpreting, and mocking, her Texas culture, dies in Austin at 62. **NATION, A6**



Molly Ivins

Utah connection

Senators got an earful from officer who died in sneak attack

Last month in Iraq, Army Capt. Brian Freeman, whose mother and stepfather live in Utah, told visiting Sens. Christopher Dodd and John Kerry that the war is going badly because troops are stretched too thin. A few weeks later, he died. **NATION, A3**

Inside

Astrology	E6	Money	C1
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Lottery	B8	Television	E7

Weather Page C6

Chance of snow with northern highs in the 30s, 40s south.



VOLUME 273 NUMBER 108

Delta stands alone

From frontline employees to business leaders, a sigh of relief sweeps across Utah after US Airways drops its hostile takeover bid for Delta. **See A9**

Look how bad it was



PHOTOS BY TRENT NELSON, CHRIS DETRICK/The Salt Lake Tribune
THE VIEW OF DOWNTOWN SALT LAKE CITY and Interstate 215 from the mouth of Parleys Canyon before and after a small snowstorm blew through town Wednesday and cleared away much of the haze that had been suffocating the valley for weeks. **SEE PAGE B3**

Death on snowy route

Elderly couple freeze in wilderness

Former Utah Rep. Elton Reed Palmer and his wife, LoaFae, die along road

BY NATE CARLISLE
The Salt Lake Tribune

WEST VALLEY CITY — The sign on the Palmers' house says "Reed's Bike & Trike." But Elton Reed Palmer didn't run much of a business. He gave away a lot more bicycles than he sold, and he seldom charged any child for a repair.

"Every child in the neighborhood knew if they had a flat tire on a bike or a scooter, they could go to Reed and he would fix it," said Catherine Solomon, a neighbor to Palmer and his wife, LoaFae Palmer.

No more children will be running to the Palmer house with their bicycles.

The Palmers, both 74, were found dead Tuesday in central Utah. Police believe they died from exposure.

The bodies were found on State Road 29 in Sanpete County, about seven miles west of the Emery County line. The couple's car was located about four miles west of the line, stuck in the snow.

Residents in West Valley City's Academy

See **COUPLE, A8**



STEVE BAKER/The Salt Lake Tribune



Elton Reed Palmer



LoaFae Palmer

Passes Senate, 26-3

Bill would protect religious expression

Buttars sparked bill after a student in a CTR shirt was sent home; opponents call law unnecessary

BY MATT CANHAM
The Salt Lake Tribune

A government agency would have a hard time justifying any law or action that impeded a person's religious practices, under a bill passed by the Senate on Wednesday.

But opponents say the proposal is unnecessary and will only result in lawsuits that could now be avoided by applying existing law.

Sen. Chris Buttars, R-West Jordan, has pushed his free exercise of religion bill because he became enraged when a student wearing a

T-shirt with the Mormon slogan CTR (Choose the Right) was sent home from junior high.

He laments those who avoid saying "Merry Christmas" or singing of religious songs on government land.

"There isn't really in the public forum any freedom of religious expression," Buttars said.

The bill is similar to laws passed in 13 other states and will not allow prayer in schools or the display of the Ten Commandments on government property. But the legislation would require the

More from the Hill

- ▶ **GOP leaders want Utah** to lead anti-abortion fight, cost be darned. **B1**
- ▶ **Will Utah peace officers** take on new role as immigration agents? **B3**
- ▶ **County leaders warn** of shuttered recreation centers if tax shift passes. **A4**
- ▶ **For breaking news** from the Legislature, visit *The Tribune* online at www.sltrib.com



state to handle lawsuits for impeding religious freedom.

The legislation requires the government to show "by a preponderance of the evidence" that its action furthers "an important government

See **BUTTARS, A8**

Study ties exercise, men's sex problems

BY CAREY HAMILTON
The Salt Lake Tribune

Men, take heed: Exercising regularly and preventing heart disease and diabetes can safeguard your sex life.

A study published in today's issue of the *American Journal of Medicine* calculates that more than 18 million American men over age 20 are affected by erectile dysfunction, the inability to maintain or achieve an erection.

Almost 90 percent of the studied men with dysfunction had at least one risk factor for heart disease, such as diabetes, hypertension, poor cholesterol levels or smoking. They also were less likely to have had strenuous exercise within the month prior to the study.

With such a strong link between sexual problems and lifestyle, health providers are hoping men will make

See **MEDICS, A8**

A new study on erectile dysfunction

- ▶ **The overall prevalence** among U.S. men is 18 percent.
- ▶ **Almost 90 percent** of the studied men with dysfunction also had at least one risk factor for cardiovascular disease.
- ▶ **Nearly half of the men** who had diabetes also had dysfunction.