

# Schroeder may go home for holidays

**United Press International**  
 LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Bionic heart patient Bill Schroeder took a ride in a wheelchair to view his hospital's Christmas tree Tuesday and officials said there is a "remote" chance he will leave the hospital by the holidays.

Schroeder and the desk-sized machine providing compressed air to power his artificial heart were wheeled from his private room by nurses to the hospital lobby so he could see the 5½-foot, artificial tree decorated with white doves.

As a safety measure, technicians also brought along a portable drive unit that could be hooked up in seconds to the two plastic air hoses leading to the pulsing heart in Schroeder's chest.

Doctors later had Schroeder concentrating on bedside exercises and on learning how to switch to the alternate power unit to prepare for the day when he is well enough to move to a nearby house.

Robert Irvine, a spokesman for Humana Hospital Audubon, said Schroeder would be "getting even more exercise walking around his room" in an effort to increase his strength as he recovers from the Nov. 25 mechanical heart implant.

The 52-year-old patient's daily routine has included leg and arm lifts in his bed and brief walks around his room overlooking a wooded area of suburban Louisville. His doctors have said they hope he may leave the hospital by Christmas.

"There is a remote possibility he will be out by Christmas," Irvine said. "I don't want to make a projec-

tion. We have no indication when he will leave the hospital and no indication it will be prior to Christmas."

Nurses on Monday began teaching Schroeder and his wife of 33 years, Margaret, how to switch back and forth from the cumbersome 323-pound drive unit to the portable, 11-pound machine hung from a shoulder strap.

Switching from one power source to another and back involves removing two air-drive lines and plugging them into the second unit, a process in which Schroeder misses two or three heart beats.

The shoulder-slung portable drive unit named for West German Dr. Peter Heimes can be used for up to three hours at a time and will give Schroeder more mobility and thus increase his quality of life, a key factor cited by critics of the artificial heart.

Schroeder, a grandfather and retired munitions inspector from Jasper, Ind., has said repeatedly that his goals include being able to move about to resume his pastimes of gardening, walking in the woods and attending ball games.

Schroeder first tried the Heimes unit — which is about the size of a camera case — on Nov. 30. He was the first person to have a mechanical heart powered by a portable unit.

Barney Clark, the world's first permanent artificial heart recipient, never had his health improve enough to test the portable unit. He lived for 112 days with an artificial heart tethered to the big drive system developed at the University of Utah.

# Explosions rip NATO pipelines in Belgium

**United Press International**  
 BRUSSELS, Belgium — Bombs exploded at six NATO pipeline sites in Belgium Tuesday, spewing fountains of burning fuel into the air and shutting down sections of the alliance's largest pipeline system in Europe, police said.

No injuries were reported in the bombings, claimed by the terrorist group the Communist Combatant Cells in a "war" against NATO.

The blasts came 48 hours before 16 alliance foreign ministers including Secretary of State George Shultz were to begin their regular fall session Thursday in Brussels.

"The war against NATO has become the main thrust of our action," the Communist Combatant Cells said in claiming responsibility for the blasts in a letter to the Brussels newspaper La Cite.

"Our actions took the revolutionary attack simultaneously to three provinces, cutting the pipeline network and the supply of NATO's armed forces in sensitive spots," the letter said.

The explosions damaged valve pits and started fires in at least two places.

The 3,680-mile pipeline system carries fuel for NATO forces between France and West Germany or from the port of Antwerp to Germany with branches to Belgian airbases and the Supreme Allied Command Europe at Casteau, Belgium. It also is used for the transport of products for private companies.

"It is not pleasant to see that NATO as such becomes a target now," a NATO official said. "Maybe it is also a pointer to some vulnerabilities."

The six bombings Tuesday occurred along a 100-mile belt of pipeline running from the French to the West German borders across the southern half of Belgium.

At Ensil near the West German border, aviation kerosene flowing from the ruptured pipeline set fire to a nearby forest, with flames leaping 30 to 50 feet into the air.

# Probation

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as much time with her as possible. "I used to spend a lot of time foolishly — enough to get by. The best grades I ever pulled was when I was studying with Lenette."

Foderetti says he was upset when he called his parents at mid-terms his first semester. It was the first time in his college career he had encountered trouble.

"They were very understanding," he says. "They gave me a lot of moral support and lots of prayers. They told me that if I couldn't make it, there would be no disgrace to come back home and if I could make it, to keep going and do what I wanted to do."

Foderetti didn't meet his probation terms that semester and he thought Texas A&M was history for him. He says he just waited for an official letter saying he could no longer attend this university, but it never came. Instead, Foderetti received a letter saying he had improved so much that the business college was going to give him one more chance. The dean let him go to summer school to make up the remaining grade points.

What were Foderetti's worst fears when he didn't meet his probation terms?

"The thought that I couldn't make it in college and having to go home were my worst fears," Foderetti says. "I didn't want to think I was a failure — even though I don't do some things very well — I didn't want to think I was a failure."

Renee, an agricultural economics major graduating this December, says she just sat and hoped and prayed when she didn't meet her probation terms of C-plus-six. But, like Foderetti, she got a second chance.

"I just wasn't ready for college," Renee says. "I had made straight A's all through high school and didn't know how to study at A&M."

"My parents knew what I was feeling the whole way. They told me to go see counselors, but I didn't want to."

She says everything changed when she changed her major to agri-

cultural economics.

"Before, I didn't know what in the world I wanted to do," she says. "The people in this college cared a lot more and that helped. I liked everything about the ag college. I changed my study habits more."

Renee's biggest fear was just getting kicked out of school. Now she wants to go to graduate school — if she can muster up the money.

Beard and Foderetti say their bad semesters didn't affect their job interviews.

Beard, who graduated with a 2.998 GPR, says that during interviews he didn't have any problems concerning his first semester here. A 2.998 GPR is hardly a grade point average anyone would laugh at, but it bothers Beard.

"That was two one-thousandths away from a 3.0 and, yes, that bothered me," Beard says. "I changed majors after scho-pro and made 4.0s and 3.75s the rest of the time, and I still didn't graduate with a 3.0."

Beard graduated with an industrial education degree, but chose to accept a management position rather than teach.

Foderetti, who graduated with a 2.1 GPR, says Luby's wasn't concerned with his grades during his interviews. He says they were mainly concerned that he had a degree and his grades were never mentioned.

He says he had two other job offers and his grades didn't make a difference to those firms either. But, he says, there was a computer software company in Georgia that didn't think he was qualified.

"They looked at my personal resume and my college background," he says. "They didn't think I had enough qualifications — but they never mentioned grades."

Good grades are important to some employers. To some employers the fact that you earned a degree is what's important. But, if you had a few bad semesters and you won't graduate cum laude, don't despair. Maybe it says something good about you if you overcame your grade problems and the problems that caused your problems in the first place.

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