



RON MARSHALL  
sent team to site



TODD WAINSCOTT  
found Steve Anders alive



MIKE PETTITT  
led way to Paul Nutting



LARRY SCHWEND  
dug snow with hands



GREG JAKKOLA  
one of first on scene

## Buried alive!

### Rescuers find 2 boys trapped in snowslide

By DENNIS GAUB  
of The Gazette Staff

ROBERTS — One youngster was critically injured, while another escaped serious injury when the two boys were buried beneath a large slab of snow that broke loose from a steep hill here Tuesday.

A third boy, who had been playing near Roberts when the slab of snow fell, was at the base of the hill when the snowslide occurred at about 5:15 p.m.

Bryant Nutting, 8, a fourth grader, ran for help, starting rescue efforts that eventually involved 50 to 60 members of this south-central Montana community.

Bryant's brother, Paul Nutting, a kindergartener student, listed in critical condition Wednesday at Deaconess Hospital. The 3-year-old was transported to Billings by the HELP helicopter at about 8 p.m. Tuesday.

Rescuers used shovels and their hands, gloved and bare, to dig through 4 to 5 feet of snow to reach the boys. It took about 40 minutes to find Paul, who was buried the longest.

Steve Anders, 9, a third grader, was the first to be found, about five minutes before Paul, according to several rescuers. Steve was conscious and didn't receive medical assistance.

"He has a few bruises but his neck is stiff," his father, Tom Anders, said. "It was pretty traumatic, but he's not hurt."

For 14 members of the Roberts High School basketball team, practice ended abruptly Tuesday when the slide was reported. Several players were instrumental in the rescue, but Ron Marshall, school superintendent and head basketball coach, attributed to the players.

"The players responded like I would expect any person would. It was an emergency, and they did everything they could do to help. Speaking for them, I don't think they see themselves as heroes. That's not the kind of hero you like to be," Marshall said.

According to Anders, the three boys did some after-school chores together, then got together to go sledding on a steep hill about a half mile east of town. Because the hill is across a road from the cemetery, it's known as Cemetery Hill to many residents, though some call it Wentworth Hill.

(More on Rescue, Page 14A)



Cracks run through the snow on a steep hill east of Roberts where two boys were rescued Tuesday after they were buried under a snowslide.

Gazette photos by Larry Moyer

## U.S., Soviets to discuss Middle East

WASHINGTON (UPI) President Reagan said Wednesday that U.S. and Soviet officials will meet in Vienna next week in an attempt to "straighten out some matters" in Middle East issues concerning the superpowers.

The State Department said U.S. and Soviet officials will discuss the Arab-Israeli conflict, Lebanon, the Iran-Iraq war and the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan during the Vienna meeting.

Interest in immediate resolution on the talks set for Tuesday in the Austrian capital, Israel has been wary about such U.S.-Soviet talks since the United States and the Soviet Union negotiated a statement on the Middle East in 1977 without consulting the Israelis.

Reagan's remarks came as Israeli troops withdrew from the southern Lebanon port of Sidon, whose residents cheered in the streets while

Israelis took up new positions outside the city as part of a three-stage Israeli military pullback in Lebanon.

Ragan, in an impromptu news conference, said, "There's some reason to believe that we can straighten out some matters." State Department spokesman Bernard Kalb said the state "should not be seen as negotiations and do not anticipate any agreement."

John Murphy, assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs, will represent the United States. The Soviets will be represented by Vladimir Polykov, head of the Near East division of the Soviet Foreign Ministry.

Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko first proposed the talks to Reagan during their White House meeting last fall. The idea was discussed briefly by Secretary of State George Shultz and

Gromyko in Switzerland, last month.

The State Department announcement came amid renewed activity on the Middle Eastern diplomatic front, but Kalb declined to comment on the timing.

Saudi Arabian King Fahd, visiting Washington this week, urged the United States to "move vigorously" for peace in the Middle East and to "support" the just cause of the Palestinian people."

The prime minister of the Palestine Liberation Organization leader Yasir Arafat and Jordan's King Hussein agreed in Amman on a joint effort to seek a "just and peaceful settlement" for the region.

Arafat and Hussein reportedly agreed for the PLO and Jordan to seek a settlement based on U.N. resolutions calling for Israel to give up occupied territories in exchange for peace and recognition of its right to exist.

Reagan's remarks came as Israeli troops

withdrew from the southern Lebanon port of Sidon, whose residents cheered in the streets while

they decided after two days of debate to lower the level at which a person is considered obese from 40 percent to 30 percent, or the ideal weight set by life insurance tables for adults.

It was estimated that 34 million adult Americans are obese by that standard and in need of medical help. In addition, the panel said people who are even a few pounds overweight should be treated if they have diabetes or high blood pressure.

"Obesity is a killer," said Hirsch, of Rockefeller University in New York. "It is a killer as smoking is."

The 14-member panel, convened by the National Institutes of Health, also broke new ground

in deciding that the location of fat on the body also can be important. Some research has suggested that fat in the abdomen as opposed to fat on the thighs and buttocks may pose a greater risk.

## Airline plan shot down by foul-up

### Robertson too late for vote

By TOM HOWARD  
Gazette Sheridan Bureau

CHEYENNE, Wyo. — Call it a technically — or maybe it was a mix-up.

It required the interruption of a roll-call vote, but a bill to develop an intrastate airline system with a state aeronautics authority and subsidies died on the House floor Wednesday.

The House Transportation Committee had cleared the bill Tuesday. But the bill was not on the agenda for the House floor Wednesday.

The bill was to be a "payback

of equipment board.

Rep. Philip Robertson, R-Cody, who was to be in charge of the amendment, said it was late getting to the House floor from the printers. He was attending other business outside the House chamber when the House voted on the bill.

When it was discovered the amendment hadn't been considered, House Transportation Committee Chairman Rep. Doug Chamberlain, R-LaGrange, asked to interrupt the vote. The House voted down a request to suspend the rules and consider the amendment, dooming the bill.

Robertson, who supported Strock's original bill, said the chance of amending the aeronautics authority provisions on the bill would have been slim anyway.

## Big Horn head 'confused' by land-swap plan

SHERIDAN, Wyo. (AP) — The supervisor of the Big Horn National Forest in northern Wyoming says he's "very confused" by a proposed land exchange between two federal agencies because little resemblance to what was initially proposed.

The Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management announced last month a proposed swap of managerial duties for various pieces of public land in Wyoming, including land exchange between the Big Horn Forest from Forest Service jurisdiction to BLM.

But Big Horn Forest Supervisor Ed Schultz said Wednesday that wasn't the plan as outlined in a GAO report.

The plan, as outlined in the report December, said the plan that was to merge the Big Horn and Shoshone national forests and BLM lands in the Big Horn Basin into a single office in Worland — and keep it under Forest Service jurisdiction.

"It dealt with a whole different concept," Schultz said of the original proposal, adding the current plan is "entirely different" from the one in the GAO report.

"I'm as confused as anybody else on this one," he added.

Schultz said the new plan follows the original by placing the Forest Service's Thomas Basin Grasslands and the Laramie Peak District of the Medicine Bow National Forest under

BLM jurisdiction.

But the GAO said the rest of the Medicine Bow range in southeastern Wyoming would be merged with the Routt, Arapaho and Roosevelt national forests in Colorado, closing the supervisor's office in Laramie, which wasn't recommended last month, he said.

What puzzles Schultz most is that the supposed cost-savings and benefits being touted for the latest land exchange plan are the same as were voiced for the first plan, even though the plans are very different.

"I'm not sure what the questions that I do not have the answers for," he said Wednesday. "The GAO report was very complimentary of the job that was done in the state of Wyoming and the potential savings that are referred to in the land swap. But the plan is so dramatically different up in northwestern Wyoming that I don't know where it came from, and I don't have any idea how the costs would correlate, because it's a totally different concept."

He added that "the concept we are currently looking at uses the same dollar figures of saving and implementation."

Federal officials say further details of the proposed interchange, which would ultimately require congressional approval, are to be worked out later this spring.

## inside

(Three sections)

Action ..... 1C Markets ..... 4C  
Action Line ..... 9A  
Ann Landers ..... 9A Opinion ..... 4A  
Classified ..... 10C Sports ..... 1B  
Comics ..... 9A Television ..... 10A  
Deaths ..... 14A Weather ..... 15A  
Living ..... 12A Wyoming ..... 7C

## outside

Mostly sunny days today through Friday, and clouds at night. Highs today 35 to 45, lows tonight lower teens to lower 20s. Highs Friday in 40s to 50s.

## Attention, Gazette subscribers

Effective March 1, 1985, the suggested retail price of seven-day home delivery of The Gazette will change to \$9.75 a month.

Daily-only delivery will be \$7. Sunday-only service will be \$4.50 a month.

Single copy prices will remain 35 cents daily and \$1 on Sunday.