Man accused of leaving baby in sub-freezing temperatures

By The Associated Press

CARRIER MILLS, Ill. — A southern Illinois man is accused of leaving his infant son outside in sub-freezing temperatures while he fell asleep in his apartment.

The baby survived the ordeal, which Saline County prosecutors are blaming on 20-year-old Joseph Leadly of Carrier Mills. Leadly is now charged with misdemeanor child endangerment.

Investigators say temperatures were in the single digits when the 7-month-old baby was left on a step outside his father’s apartment Friday. The child was wearing only a onesie, and his head, face and hands were exposed.

Neighbors heard the baby's cries and called police about 90 minutes after his dad brought him home.

Leadly, estranged wife in Carbondale now has custody of the baby.

Leadly doesn't have a listed home telephone number. It isn't immediately clear if he has an attorney.

Slain physicist backed Mousavi

TEHRAN, Iran — A nuclear physicist who publicly backed opposition leader Mir Hossein Mousavi in the June presidential election was killed Tuesday when a bomb-rigged motorcycle blew up outside his home.

State media identified the victim as Masoud Ali Mohammadi, a professor at Tehran University, which has been at the center of recent protests by student opposition supporters. Before the election, pro-reform Web sites published Mohammadi's name among a list of 240 university teachers who supported Mousavi.

The government blamed the attack Tuesday on an armed Iranian opposition group under the direction of Israel and the U.S.

Hard-line government supporters called at recent street rallies for the execution of the opposition leaders.
Cold imperils Florida’s fish, produce

Tamara Lush
The Associated Press

FROSTPROOF, Fla. — Here’s something you don’t often see in this town at the heart of the state’s $9 billion citrus industry: a sign at the public library that says “ICE! On sidewalk, be careful!”

Growers were scrambling Monday to assess damage and pick as many oranges as possible from thousands of acres of citrus groves. Trucks filled with fruit nudged through the center of town all day as their drivers rushed through impatient plants.

Freezing temperatures that swept in on an Arctic front from Canada have been plaguing the state for a week, with several areas approaching, or breaking records on Monday.

The cold is extremely rough on the state’s fruit and vegetable growers, with crops such as citrus trees and sugar cane suffering damage when exposed to temperatures below 28 degrees for more than four hours. It was below 28 degrees more than eight hours overnight in the agriculture-dominated area around Lake Okeechobee.

“Temperatures have been ridiculous cold for south Florida,” said Eric Hopkins, vice president of Hudson Farms Inc. in Belle Glade — on the state’s southern edge. He estimated his farm would lose about $750,000 in green beans and sweet corn because of the cold.

We went an entire couple of the nights, but this weekend sort of finished us off as far as the sweet corn and green beans go,” he said.

Overall crop damage tallies will not be available for days or weeks, agriculture officials said. But the state Department of Agriculture said there has been “significant crop damage” throughout the state, from tropical fish farms near Tampa to the farms grown in Volusia for display in Valentine’s Day bouquets. Strawberries were also affected.

The state’s largest citrus grower’s group has been receiving reports of frozen fruit and damage to trees, leaves and branches, but it’s too early yet if those trees have suffered long-term damage. Frozen fruit must be nixed to a processing plant, or the flavor could be ruined.

Complicating efforts to assess the damage is “the sheer number of cold days we had in a row. I can’t remember anything like it,” said Michael W. Spak, executive vice president and CEO of Florida Citrus Mutual.

The state’s last “impact freeze” — a freeze so severe that it annihilates entire citrus groves around the state, causing tens of millions of dollars in damage — happened in 1989. It was only the fifth since 1835. It will take at least a month to determine whether this year’s cold snap will be classified as another, Spak said. Florida Citrus Mutual spokesman Andrew Meadows said.

U.S. Rep. Adam Putnam, R-Barbour, said damage to other fruits and veggies varied throughout the state. Tropical fish, fern and kumquat farmers were hit especially hard, as were certain tomatoes, cucumbers, eggplant and beets crops in the southern part of the state.

Putnam said he is asking the USDA to quickly finish a crop damage assessment so the federal government can expedite a disaster declaration, which would help farmers.

“It’s no surprise that there will be substantial losses,” he said.

The cold approached or surpassed records around the state Monday. The National Weather Service reported 36 degrees at the Miami airport, beating an 82-year-old record of 37 degrees. It dipped to 42 degrees in Key West, six degrees off the record and the second-coldest reading since 1873.

Record-breaking lows of 29 were observed in Orlando, and Tampa’s 25-degree weather beat its old record of 27. South Florida is usually around 68 degrees this time of year.

By midmorning, Florida Power and Light had about 14,000 homes without power and 1,300 restoration workers in the field.

FPL spokesman Mark Babitski said Sunday and Monday set successive records for consumer electricity demand. Tampa Electric Company also set a new, all-time peak-demand record for electricity usage Monday.

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Wednesday, January 13, 2010
WORLD & NATION
Mark McGwire finally admits using steroids

Ronald Blum
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Finally willing to talk about the past, Mark McGwire sobbed and stifled, giving the most complete, and seemingly honest — answer to the steroids question.

Ending more than a decade of denial and evasion, McGwire admitted Monday that steroids and human growth hormone helped make him a home run king.

"The toughest thing is my wife, my parents, close friends have had no idea that I had it from then all this time," he told The Associated Press in an emotional, 20-minute interview. "I knew this day was going to come. I didn't know when." In a quiet, measured voice, McGwire apologized and said he used steroids and human growth hormone on and off for a decade, starting before the 1990 season. That fuelled his rise to baseball stardom during his 15-year career in which he broke Roger Maris' single-season home run record in 1998.

"I wish I had never touched steroids," McGwire said. "It was foolish and it was a mistake." He had mostly disappeared since his infamous testimony before a congressional committee in March 2005, when he repeatedly said, "I'm not here to talk about the past," a response that made him an object of ridicule during his self-imposed exile.

Once he was hired by the Cardinals in October to be their hitting coach, however, he knew he had to say something before the start of spring training in mid-February.

"He knows he used the baseball world as an explanation," said former Rep. Tom Davis, the Virginia Republican who chaired the hearing. "I don't think anybody's surprised by this. He was one of hundreds of players who used steroids during this time... This will go widespread. Had we not held these hearings and have a year of God into baseball, it would still be going on."

Before a carefully rolled out schedule of statements and interviews, McGwire called committee chairman Bud Selig, St. Louis manager Tony La Russa and Marc's widow, Pat, on Monday to personally break the news.

He started by issuing a statement and calling the AP. "You can tell my calling the MLB Network."

In his AP interview, McGwire's voice shook when he recounted breaking the news to his wife, Matt, who is 22. When McGwire hit the record homer, he hosted Matt — then a 13-year-old batboy — at home plate. The former player called that conversation the toughest talk in his career.

"The biggest thing that they said is they're very proud of me, that I'm soft and I'm honest," he said. "They all believe it's for the better."
Crossword

Across
1. Actor _ Majors
6. Grant role for Ed Asner
10. Walt's favorite role in her sitcom
11. Magic of Snuppy
12. High-ranking naval title
13. College credits
15. Truck's truck
16. Best known for 1984
17. Epic Man's role on "7th Heaven"
20. Minor's discovery
21. "Who's M turtle_,..."-Mae West play
22. Kiefer's go, Mark Hutton/Rachel Ward move
27. Every
30. Actor _ Majors
31. A, from cocktail
32. Laurel and Oliver Hardy
35. Workers
36. "I'm a..."
38. Michael Caine movie
40. Jane's version for short
41. Actor _ "Merry"
47. "Confidential Miss
49. Fruit drink
50. "Fortune," shining star
51. "La La"
53. Place in order of importance
54. Lorne Greene's "Man
55. "Two...a Half"-Mae West play
56. Spanish woman

Down
1. Delany
2. "Red's"
3. In the middle of "...OLD"
4. Lovers of an Irish Rose
5. "Bosom"
6. "The...with Craig Ferguson"
7. "The...to old Roxy"
8. ...to Billy Jo"
9. Actors' husband
10. Stick-in-the..."old Roxy"
11. Very dry
12. "On the...a"-Mae West movie
13. "Hardy", true韦尔电影
14. Gone and Gay
15. Butch Walker's need
16. Early series for Jude
17. "It's a"-Norman Fell short
18. Largest city in
19. ""Pacific"
20. ""Diamond...""-Mark Harmon play
21. "Let Her Go, Mark Harmon movie
22. "All...in the"-Norman Fell short
23. "Tongue Show"-actor's famous role
24. "The...of people of your age."-Chang becomes difficult now, he'll be 106 years old but that's not right.
25. "The...of people of your age."-Chang becomes difficult now, he'll be 106 years old but that's not right.
26. Present an argument against
27. Match the...
28. "End..."
29. "Peles of Laos"
30. "Pat the Ten"
31. "Frem..."
32. "NORMAN FELL short
33. Largest city in

Sudoku

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

Jumble

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Mike Argirion and Jeff Knurrk

Horoscopes

By Nancy Black and Stephanie Clements

Today's Birthday - Thought processes deepen as you consider subconscious motivations. Find your priorities by broadening your horizons to embrace the new. Focus on self-improvement and newly emerging field of study. Prepare to follow your instincts that you might have ignored previously but can no longer avoid.

To get the advantage, check the day's rising, 10 is the easiest, 6 the most challenging.

March (March 1-4 April 19) - Today is an 8. You can accomplish great things today but be prepared for sudden changes in the following days or weeks. Keep your plans flexible.

April (April 20-May 20) - Today is a 5. Have fun today! Even if you accomplish nothing at work, you'll feel like you're making progress. Expect practical changes from a superego.

May (May 21-June 20) - Today is a 6. - "Feeling's get in the way of logical effort"

June (June 21-July 20) - Today is a 1 - "It's so cliche that" - you are working your way down, you need a vacation instead. 11 - "It's the time to travel this way."

July (July 21-Aug. 20) - Today is a 9. - "You might have a heavier stop. Don't let it deter you. Remember previous activities let you know what you need."

August (Aug. 21-Sept. 20) - Today is a 3. - "It's a beautiful day."

September (Sept. 21-Oct. 20) - Today is a 4. - "It's a busy day."

October (Oct. 21-Nov. 20) - Today is a 3. - "It's a beautiful day."

November (Nov. 21-Dec. 20) - Today is a 6. - "Today is a great day to take your imagination run away with you. You need a vacation instead."

December (Dec. 21-Jan. 19) - Today is a 9. - "It's a beautiful day."

The information on this horoscope is taken from the book, which contains the strength of the day before acting.
**Williams leads six into Saluki Hall of Fame**

**2009 Saluki HOF class introduced**

Stille Smith  | Daily Egyptian

Kent Williams is one of only two players to score more than 2,000 career points.

He led the SIU men's basketball team to the 2003 NCAA Tournament Sweet 16 and started more games (130) than any player in team history.

But Williams said none of those ranked as his greatest accomplishment as a Saluki student-athlete.

"Probably the greatest accomplishment is that I never missed one practice," Williams said. "I didn't think much about it then, but now that I'm in the coaching business, I don't think we had one player it make it to every practice this year."

Williams led a Hall of Fame class announced Friday that included SIU all-time leading rusher Tom Koutso, 10-year major league baseball pitcher Al Levine, two-year basketball big man Jerry Jones, former middle blocker Dana Olsen and former shortstop Cheryl Venony.

Williams, a Vero Beach native, said it was important for NFL to be successful at a university close to his home.

"I came here when it wasn't the roof thing to do," Williams said. "SIU is always going to be a special place to me. It's special because it's my home, it's my hometown."