

WEATHER



Sunny to partly cloudy conditions. Full report, Back Page 35/24

THE TIMES

RIDGE FINAL

An edition of The Times serving Munster, Highland, Griffith and Calumet Township



FRIDAY MARCH 12, 2004

The spoils of victory

The Steelheads' prowess on the court and drive for the playoffs prove to be a boon in ticket sales and merchandise for the Gary-based CBA franchise. BUSINESS, F1

7 SECTIONS, 68 PAGES

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SPAIN BOMBINGS KILL 192

Terrorist bombs hit trains in rush-hour attack in Madrid

BY MAR ROMAN Associated Press Writer

MADRID, Spain - A series of bombs hidden in backpacks exploded in quick succession Thursday, blowing apart four commuter trains and killing at least 192 people and wounding more than 1,400. Spain at first

blamed Basque separatists but a shadowy group claimed responsibility in the name of al-Qaida for the worst terrorist attack in Spanish history.

Panicked rush-hour commuters trampled on each other, abandoning their bags and shoes, after two of the bombs went off in one train in the Atocha station in the

BACK PAGE

- Investigators struggle to sort out attack in Spain. President Bush calls to express solidarity.

heart of Madrid. Train cars were turned into twisted wrecks and plat-

forms were strewn with corpses. Cell phones rang unanswered on the bodies of the dead as frantic relatives tried to call them.

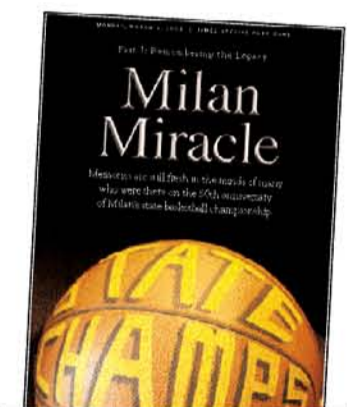
"March 11, 2004, now holds its place in the history of infamy," Prime Minister Jose Maria Aznar said.

See BOMBINGS, Back Page



PETER DEJONG / ASSOCIATED PRESS

Emergency personnel work Thursday inside a train at Atocha train station in Madrid, after explosions rocked three stations in the city. At least 192 people died in the attacks.



FIFTY YEARS LATER

Hoosiers remember the dream

As basketball fans throughout Indiana cheer on their favorite teams through the tournament trail this month, many also are celebrating the 50th anniversary of what is arguably Indiana's

most famous high school basketball team. Tiny Milan High School, enrollment 156, captured the single-

class state basketball tournament in 1954 with its dramatic upset over Muncie Central - a well-documented story that was the basis for the movie "Hoosiers."

"We didn't think that 50 years later, we'd still be carrying the torch," said Glen Butte, a player on that team.

They are, though. And beginning today, The Times looks back at the Milan Miracle with the first of two weekly Prep Zone installments that show how the impact of what happened in 1954 still peppers the animated discussions that take place over the 1997 decision to divide Indiana's high school basketball tournament into enrollment-based classifications.



A life of madness

Munster woman accused of beheading her mother had chronic mental illness

STORY BY RUTHANN ROBINSON | TIMES STAFF WRITER

No one, not even the doctors who treated Margaret Church for paranoid schizophrenia or the few let in on the secret of her mental illness, thought it would end like this.

"We always thought she'd kill herself - that had been her pattern," said Tina Church, stepmother to Margaret Church's son, who now is 29 and serving in the U.S. Air Force in Ramstein, Germany.

On the morning of Feb. 20, Munster police went to 8129 Highland Place on yet another check-the-

welfare call. There they found Margaret Jansky's decapitated, decomposing body lying on the kitchen floor under a shroud of plastic shower curtains and blankets. Behind the trash can on the furnace vent was the 81-year-old woman's head. Margaret Church shouted, "The queen is sleeping, and she'll be sleeping a long time," according to court documents.

Margaret Church, 54, is in the Lake County Jail, held without bond on a charge of murder.

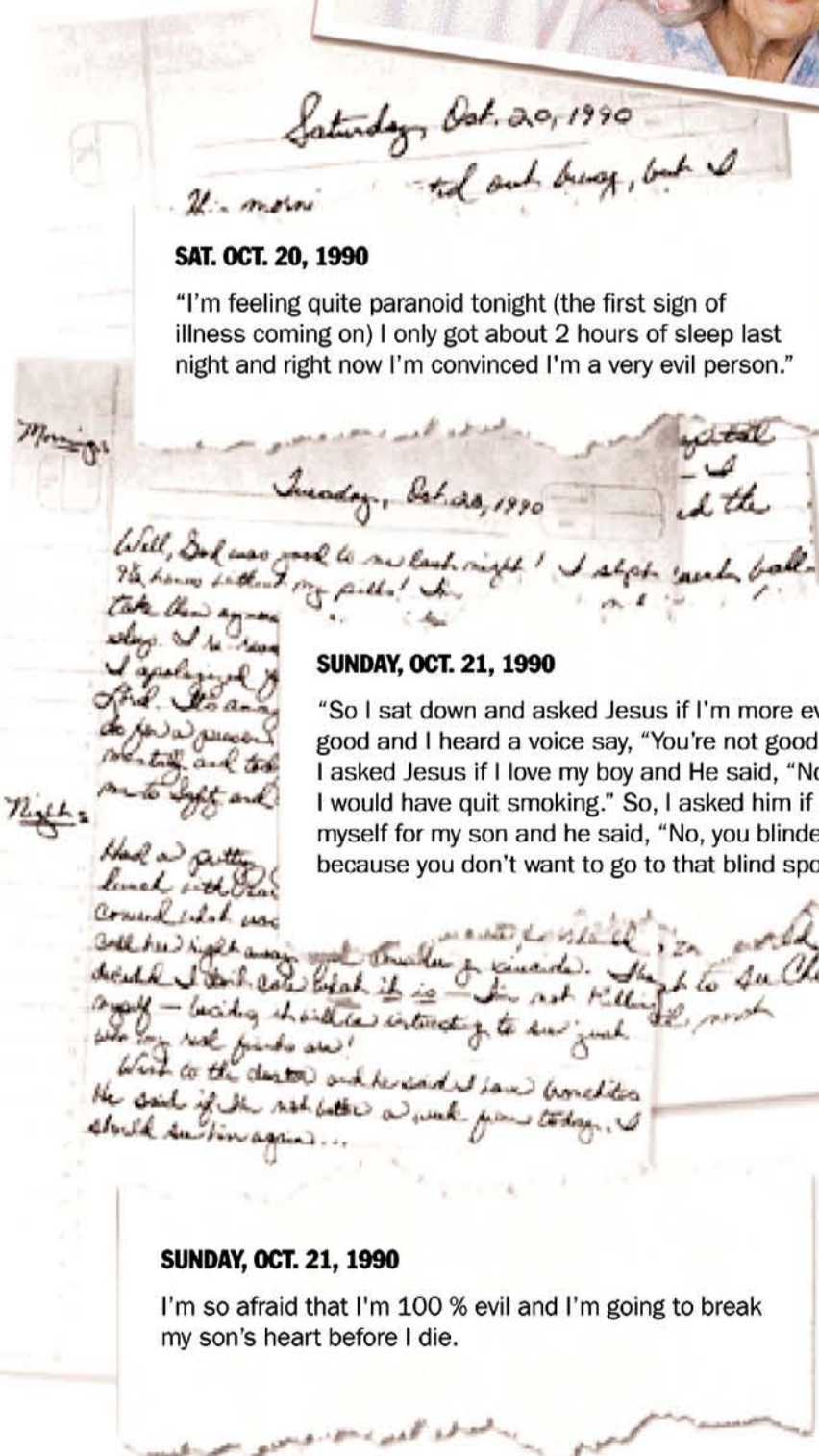
Her long, sad life has been undermined by the confounding and socially unacceptable scourge of mental illness.

Doctors diagnosed Margaret Church with paranoid schizophrenia when she was 17. If her parents accepted the diagnosis, they didn't share it with anyone - not even the man their daughter married in a formal church ceremony on Dec. 30, 1972. In fact, four



Margaret Church is currently in Lake County Jail, held without bond on a charge of murdering her mother.

See MADNESS, A5



SAT. OCT. 20, 1990

"I'm feeling quite paranoid tonight (the first sign of illness coming on) I only got about 2 hours of sleep last night and right now I'm convinced I'm a very evil person."

SUNDAY, OCT. 21, 1990

"So I sat down and asked Jesus if I'm more evil than good and I heard a voice say, 'You're not good at all.' I asked Jesus if I love my boy and He said, 'No, or else I would have quit smoking.' So, I asked him if I blinded myself for my son and he said, 'No, you blinded yourself because you don't want to go to that blind spot.'"

SUNDAY, OCT. 21, 1990

I'm so afraid that I'm 100 % evil and I'm going to break my son's heart before I die.

Diary passages

ABOVE | Several passages from the diary of Margaret Church written in the fall of 1990. Church, who suffers from paranoid schizophrenia, currently is being held for allegedly killing her mother last month in their Munster home.

TOP | Margaret Church, left, is shown in this undated photo with her mother, Margaret Jansky.

Ex-Gov. Orr left his mark on region

BY DAVID MITCHELL Times Staff Writer

Friends and colleagues in Northwest Indiana remembered former Gov. Robert Orr, a Republican, as a world statesman, a champion of education and the man most responsible for shepherding Indiana through the bleak recession of the early 1980s.

They recalled a man who often eschewed political wisdom in favor of what he believed right and necessary.



Former Gov. Robert Orr

See ORR, A6

OUR OPINION: Orr was a strong leader and good to Northwest Indiana. A8

Bootleg 'Passion' shown to children

Mom angered about church exposing kids to illegal, R-rated tape.

BY SUSAN BROWN Times Staff Writer

Sandy Flaherty said she regrets having gone to see Mel Gibson's controversial "The Passion of the Christ" so is doubly upset her 12-year-old was exposed to the film at a youth group service at a church.

Flaherty, of Highland, said she was not aware a tape of the film was to be shown when she allowed her daughter to attend the youth group service at Abundant Life Tabernacle Church in the Black Oak section of Gary. With the film itself in early release, the tape had been bootlegged, according to Flaherty.

See PASSION, A6

7 DAYS AHEAD a glimpse of what's coming in The Times

Table with 7 columns: Benny the Bull author also makes time to work at Calumet Hospice. SATURDAY | PEOPLE; Acceptance of people's body sizes is changing in fashion and society. SUNDAY | LIFESTYLES; Local chefs combine talents to benefit Meals on Wheels program. MONDAY | SENIORS; More teens are playing cards for money. What are the ramifications? TUESDAY | LINK; The Irish have specific uses for different types of potatoes. WEDNESDAY | FOOD; The Times' Home and Garden section springs back into action. THURSDAY | H & G; Can't travel? Try these ideas for spring break in the region. MARCH 19 | ON THE GO



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