



# PRESS RELEASE

## The Man With Three Hearts

*LIFE takes an in-depth look at the world of heart transplants through medical miracle, Bill Wohl*

San Jose, CA – January 3, 2005

**Heart failure – the American epidemic** – is taking on a new face of hope: two time heart transplant survivor Bill Wohl. In LIFE magazine’s January 7 issue, Bill recounts the medical miracles that saved him – and might save **thousands of other Americans** in the future.

The recipient of both an artificial and a human heart transplant, Bill Wohl gives hope to the nearly **five million Americans** that suffer from heart failure every year. According to doctors, as many as 100,000 people a year could use a new heart. Last year, just over 2,000 patients received them. The answer, says award winning writer and doctor Abraham Verghese may be in the recently FDA-approved artificial heart that enabled Bill to live while he awaited his second transplant. Known as the SynCardia Cardio West Temporary Total Artificial Heart, it is less prone to clots and is designed as a temporary measure while patients await a donor heart.

As little as just 10 years ago, Bill would have most likely died from his heart condition. Today, he competes in bike races across the world. Dr. Jack Copeland, Bill’s cardiac surgeon and developer of his artificial heart, calls Bill, “... someone to emulate. He inspires other patients.” As for the temporary artificial heart, some doctors believe it may soon be a permanent solution.

**Also in LIFE:** LIFE takes an in-depth look at 25 health breakthroughs that will change your life:

- **Your Next Medicine Cabinet** A sneak peak at the drugs that are slated to help us with life threatening diseases, like obesity and diabetes, as well as treat common conditions, like coughs and sleep disorders.
- **The Bionic Body** LIFE shows readers how innovations are helping patients “upgrade” their bodies through revolutionary new joints, vision repair and an electrical stimulator that aims to replace gastric bypass surgery. Thanks to smart engineering, these new parts promise to be sleeker, sturdier and more reliable than earlier models.
- **The Future of Physicals** Not too long ago the yearly checkup consisted of “a tongue depressor and a very cold stethoscope.” No longer. With everything from a full body CT scan to yearly mammograms, doctors can now detect the smallest abnormality in our bodies.

Other stories appearing in this week’s issue, to be distributed to more than 26 million readers in over 70 leading newspapers:

- **The Great Weekend** Get advice from actor Jeff Bridges (“Approach things with joy,” Bridges tells LIFE readers.) Then, get started on those New Year’s resolutions with three books that will help you keep the promises you made to yourself.
- **LIFE 5: Our Favorite Things** Fill your next 48 hours with LIFE’s picks for the best books, movies, TV, music and shopping. This week, Loretta Lynn’s latest album is released and the action packed show 24 returns for its third season on Fox.

- **Sunday Dinner** Nutritionist Barbara Roll proves that just because we want to eat healthy doesn't mean it has to taste bad! She shares with LIFE readers her recipe for Pepper Slaw, with only 65 calories per serving.

LIFE is the nation's weekend magazine, drawing on its rich heritage and infused with a thoroughly modern sensibility. LIFE features the country's finest photographers and writers telling the most compelling stories of our times. With great pictures, great stories and great ideas for the weekend, LIFE helps readers get the most out of the two best days of the week. LIFE arrives Friday in more than 70 newspapers nationwide with a total circulation of 12 million, reaching 26 million readers nationwide. The LIFE website can be accessed at [www.life.com](http://www.life.com).

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