Rescuers close down two Milwaukee mills using vehicles and barrels

by Adam Akren

Milwaukee, WI — Missionaries to Preborn and (Collegians Activated to Liberate Life joined forces on Sept. 10 for two near-simultaneous lock and block rescues in the city of Milwaukee.

The first group of eight rescuers arrived at the Brown Deer abortuary in two vehicles, a van and a car, shortly before dawn. While the van was being parked directly in front of the front door, the car was parked across the back door. Most of the doors on the vehicles had been welded shut, according to one rescuer, and inside each vehicle four rescuers were locked together with ankle and arm locks.

After the security guard called for help, police and firemen responded quickly to the scene. Within thirty minutes there were six squad cars, four large fire engines, and two paddy Wagons present, and the officers began to survey the situation. About twenty minutes after arriving at the site, firemen broke the windows on the van and then pried apart the back doors, while others worked on the car in back.

Mike Schmiedicke, a well-known rescuer, who was present at the rescue site, said, "It's a shame the police and firemen insist on putting so much effort into trying to keep the death camp open, but thank God for those Christians who put so much effort into trying to save lives."

After about an hour and a half, police were able to remove two rescuers who had their arms locked inside a metal pipe which had been welded to the inside of the van. The side doors were then also pried off, and the workers continued to try figure out the ankle locks. "They tried the Jaws of Life unsuccessfully several times," said rescuer Chris Veneklese, "but the six-inch steel locks wouldn't budge."

Firemen continued to work on the car at the back door as well. "They just could not figure it out," said 20-year-old CALL member Paul Sauer. "But after all those hours they finally just got lucky." By the end of the rescue, all the doors and the entire roof had been removed from the car.

While the rescue was taking place, mothers slowly began arriving at the abortuary. Abortionist Paul Seamars stood by as police told the women that the mill was closed, while a sidewalk counselor gave them literature, and a pro-abortion "escort" hollered to them to "Come back in an hour." One young mother who arrived during the early hours when Seamars kills second-trimester babies, accepted the literature, was told by the police that the place was closed, and left before the pro-abortion woman was able to get to her. The young mother never returned to the abortuary.

"I praise God for that innocent baby that was spared from death," said sidewalk counselor Mary Reis.

After nearly 4 1/2 hours of cutting away at the metal locks in each vehicle with high-speed grinders, all the rescuers at Brown Deer were finally removed.

"I'm glad it took them so long to get the rescuers out," said Schmiedicke, 26, who spent two years in a Pennsylvania jail for rescuing children. "They kept the doors shut and they kept children from being killed."

About two hours after the Brown Deer rescue had begun, ten more rescuers arrived at the Imperial abortuary. A 1,000 lb. barrel had been placed in front of each of the two doors, and two rescuers at each had their arms locked inside a metal pipe going through the barrel. The rescuers locked into the barrels also each had one foot in an ankle lock, with three additional rescuers also locked into the ankle locks. As at Brown Deer, police and firemen arrived within minutes, and began assessing the situation.

After nearly an hour of trying to figure out what to do, the firemen, who had bragged, "We were the ones who cut the car out of here last year," were still perplexed.

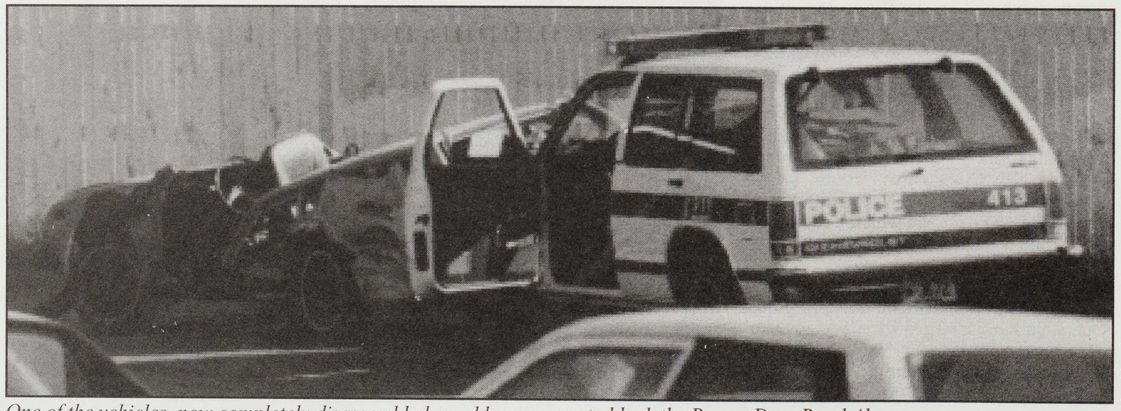
"I've really got to hand it to whoever did the welding on these locks," said one fireman. "That person's ingenious," Another fireman on the scene was heard to have said that the designer of the locks "should try designing on Chinese puzzles.

"However, the frustration of the workers soon became evident, as they began pulling roughly on some of the young female rescuers.

"They were so stumped by the ankle locks that they actually moved us with our arms in the barrel," said 22-year CALL member Beth Gifford. "They cared about as much about our well-being as they care about the well-being of the babies."

After firemen believed they had figured out the barrels, they informed the rescuers.

"To show their expertise, they looked over the barrels and told us what was inside them," said 21-year CALL member Nicole Sauvageau," but They were way off."



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One of the vehicles, now completely disassembled, used by rescuers to block the Brown Deer Road Abortuary

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Milwaukie rescuers lock in to a cement filled barrel blocking the abortuary door.

After firemen began chiseling away at the concrete in the barrels, they later discovered that the barrels were not filled with concrete and rocks, but concrete and steel pipes.

The barrels were dismantled after a little over two hours, though the groups of five still remained in front of the doors locked together at the ankles.

"They were so confused about the ankle locks that they didn't have a clue what to do," said 22-year-old CALL member Jacinta Goering. "So we were able to keep the mill closed for a long time. We had prayed God would confuse the police and firemen, and He definitely answered our prayers."

As firemen prepared to grind and saw away at the ankle locks, missionary Dwight Monagan superglued his hands together around the ankle of another rescuer, forcing the firemen to delay their cutting.

The rescuers continued to assure the officers that they would unlock and leave if they'd be allowed to stay in place until 6 p.m., but the workers continued to work at removing them.

After cutting and grinding for over four hours, the rescuers were finally cut out. Abortionist Milton Tarver, reportedly had had a full schedule for the day, though only one mother was seen entering the abortuary the entire day.

Even though we were given ridiculous charges," said missionary Bernadette Sacksteder, "it makes it all worth it knowing that many lives were saved because we were there."

The Brown Deer rescuers were charged with state disorderly conduct, while the Imperial rescuers were all charged with state disorderly conduct, criminal trespass, and obstructing emergency workers.

Rev. Joseph Foreman, co-founder of Missionaries to the Preborn, said he was extremely pleased with both rescues. "The Christians who locked-in in front of the abortuary doors bought time for the children, and each minute these children continue to live is precious time. Our prayer is that at least one of the children scheduled for death that morning had his or her execution stayed permanently."

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After four-and-a-half hours, rescuers are finally freed from their devices and carried away by Milwaukie police.