

**Sports Legacy Institute Announces Findings on  
Wrestler Chris Benoit's Brain  
September 5, 2007**

**Julian Bailes:** Good morning. I'm Julian Bailes, and thank you all for coming. I'm from West Virginia University School of Medicine. I'm a neurosurgeon. With us this morning we're very happy to have Dr. Robert Cantu. He's chief of the neurosurgery service and the service of sports medicine at Emerson Hospital in Concord, Massachusetts. Also Mr. Cary Ichter; he's a partner at Thompson Hine in Atlanta, and Mr. Michael Benoit. We're going to have a couple of statements and then have a chance certainly for Q&A after that.

The Sports Legacy Institute is an independent medical research organization dedicated to studying the long-term effects of brain injuries in sports, and through cooperation from the Benoit family, we have had the opportunity to examine the brain tissue obtained from the autopsy of Mr. Benoit. Using special microscopic and staining techniques, our findings show extensive areas of tau protein deposition throughout his brain. Tau protein is a marker for brain damage. It is seen in people who have had prior repetitive injury to the brain's microscopic or ultra structural framework. In the elderly population, tau protein accumulation is a cause of brain degeneration and cognitive impairment. These tau protein deposits that we saw in Chris Benoit's brain we think most likely represent numerous areas of brain injury from blows during his wrestling career, and they are separated both by time of occurrence and the location within his brain. Our opinion is that this represents most likely a case of chronic traumatic encephalopathy, an unremitting condition characterized by a progressive decline in cognitive and mental function. We think it's also caused by multiple concussive blows and that in addition there may be sub-concussive injury or unrecognized damage which naturally can occur in any

contact sport. These areas of tau protein deposits are dead neurons, they're dead brain cells, they're ghosts of old neurons that are a footprint of a prior injury or injuries. We think this would correlate with the nature of the sport of wrestling and his medical history of having sustained multiple concussions during his career. The Sports Legacy Institute strives to continue this work by studying the causes and effects of head injuries in sports and applying this knowledge for education and advocacy to lessen the burden on athletes and their families. We wish to advance the health, the wellness and safety in sports and athletic endeavors. Next, I would like to ask Dr. Cantu to come up and deliver a statement. Dr. Cantu.

**Robert Cantu:** Thank you, Julian. These findings have immense significance both scientifically and historically, but they do not come as a surprise to the researchers at the Sports Legacy Institute. So everyone has a better idea of who we are at SLI, I am going to give a short summary of the work that SLI has carried out to this date. We have confirmed four cases of chronic traumatic encephalopathy in former NFL players, all of whom died by the age of 50 and exhibited similar neuropathological findings and clinical symptoms as Chris Benoit. These findings have been the subject of two papers. The lead author, Dr. Bennet Omalu and his colleagues, and an editorial that I recently wrote that appeared in the August issue of the journal *Neurosurgery*. I published guidelines defining concussion severity and return to play after injury for over two decades. And more recently, with Dr. Bailes, I and others have also been studying the correlations between concussion, depression, dementia, and other neurological sequelae. Prior to this case our founding members have been operating as a loose collaboration, but on the eve of taking our fourth case public, our president, Christopher Nowinski realized our mission to better understand the effects of head injuries in sports and to apply that research to improve the lives of athletes that we would now institute what has become called the Sports Legacy Project.

It was felt that this would be formalized and this was done by incorporating SLI in mid-June of this year as a charitable corporation. Chris Benoit was the sixth case in the ongoing Sports Legacy Project, our research program to identify cases of chronic traumatic encephalopathy in athletes by postmortem examination, and represents the fifth positive diagnosis. This work was pioneered by SLI founding member, Bennet Omalu, who while working in the Allegheny County Medical Examiner's Office, identified CTE in 50-year-old former Pittsburgh Steeler Mike Webster, who had died of a heart attack, and also Terry Long, who committed suicide at age 45 by drinking antifreeze. Both these former NFL players exhibited cognitive impairment, major depression, paranoia and aggressive behavior. SLI founding member Robert Fitzsimmons, battled victoriously on behalf of Mike Webster against the NFL's disability plan for seven years, during which time Mike passed away. The third case was discovered in 44-year-old former NFL safety Andre Waters, who committed suicide in November of 2006 while suffering from major depression and paranoia. That is what SLI president Chris Nowinski, a former Harvard football player and professional athlete who was forced to retire because of concussions, find it our current practice of contacting families for permission for autopsy examinations. Dr. Bailes inspired our investigation into the fourth case, 36-year-old former Pittsburgh Steeler Justin Strelczyk; reportedly Justin had been hearing voices from the evil ones and experiencing a religious rebirth and led police on a 40-mile high-speed chase through central New York at speeds up to a hundred miles an hour on the wrong side of the highway, which ended with him running into a tanker truck and dying. Chronic traumatic encephalopathy was first identified in 1928 in boxers and since then has been associated in the published medical literature not only in boxers but also in steeplechase jockeys, rugby players, professional soccer players and even a prior professional wrestler. And now due to the Sports Legacy project, professional football

players, four to date, and a second pro wrestler has (sic) been identified. We will be forever grateful to Michael Benoit and his family for placing their trust in the Sports Legacy Institute in an effort to better understand this disease and prevent further cases. Thank you.

Okay. If you could identify who you are and where you're from, we would like to open it up for questions.

**Reporter:** Yes, sir.

**Daniel Trotter:** Yes, my name is Daniel Trotter. I'm from Reuters. Did you say – that this is what may have driven Mr. Benoit to commit these terrible acts and what relationship can you say, if at all, the steroids may have had an impact.

**Julian Bailes:** The project, from its inception, was remarkable. For us additionally to be able to look at the brain tissue of a modern-day athlete. The only objective finding we have is the fact that this tau protein is widespread. When you look at Chris Benoit's brain, it is in fact shocking to see the extent of that staining and those are, as I said, ghosts of old neurons. That's the remnants of the bodies of the cells and their connections. That's all we have to go on. Concerning steroids, there's no medical evidence that steroids would cause this injury. In fact, CTE was first described in New Jersey in 1928 or '29. Anabolic steroids were not synthesized and available widespread in this country until the 1960s. So this syndrome, this brain damage syndrome, predates even the invention of steroids.

**Reporter:** I'm trying...whether either of these things, brain injury or the steroids, may have caused the rage, or –

**Julian Bailes:** Uh. I'm sure we'll get to the rage issue in a minute, but could these changes cause the behavior? I think as neuroscientists or as brain surgeons who deal with the brain on a regular basis, we admit we don't have all the answers to human behavior,

especially precipitous, uncharacteristic, out-of-character violent crime, but these findings, these tau protein deposits, these ghosts of old brain cells, are all that we objectively have. And so if you disconnect or unconnect the brain and its fibers, and this is from the frontal lobe all throughout the brain even down to the brain stem, the part where it becomes the spinal cord these changes are seen, who knows what ramifications they can have? Also, if you look at the fact that we're five out of five of the players that we've looked at with extensive changes and with the source of similar course. And I often said Justin Strelczyk, who was someone that I knew fairly well, uh, was, again, acting completely out of character, a great athlete, a great warrior, a great teammate, but those changes, were they enough to, to translate into a behavioral disturbance? It's very possible, and it's all we have to go on. Dr. Cantu.

**Robert Cantu:** Well, actually joining you, to answer in really great detail, I'd just like to reecho and re – (indistinct speaker in background) I would just like to reecho two things. First, of the five positive brains, as Julian has told you, by far and away Michael Benoit's has the greatest amount of this abnormal protein deposition, so has the greatest amount of brain damage of the five that have been examined. And then secondly, and I think very importantly, as Julian has said, the state of the knowledge today is that we don't associate abnormal protein deposition in the brain, this tau protein he's describing, with steroid use. We do associate it with brain damage and other neurodegenerative conditions that don't occur in people this young, such as in the 70s and 80s Alzheimer's disease, Nyman Pick's disease, other neurodegenerative processes. It's an indirect answer to your question, but I think to try to answer it beyond that would be speculation and not appropriate for people trying to come from a scientific background.

Thank you. I wanted to take an opportunity now to explain the pictures that we see here. On the left is a normal brain, and this is an immunostain you can't -- if you take the -- and this

was the big leap that Bennet Omalu and his colleagues first made at the University of Pittsburgh -- is that if you take these brains, in that case it was Mike Webster, but it has been that way throughout, if you look at them, they're grossly normal. There's no obvious brain trauma, there's no clefts, there's no missing tissue, grossly normal on their surface, their air surface. And if you slice them and do ordinary staining techniques that we do looking for ordinary things like brain tumors and strokes--again, completely normal. The big leap was to begin to look at special stains, so-called immunostains, for tau protein. They haven't been around that many years. This is a normal example on the left. It's homogeneous, it's smooth, it has the round cells that are very uniform, and for us who look at it a lot, that's a normal study. Mr. Benoit's brain here, from the same stain, you see first of all a striking brownish discoloration, and brown equals tau protein. And it is throughout the background, you see the brown, and then you see these brain cells here markedly taking up the brown tau antibody stain. You see the projection, the connections here have tau protein staining. When the brain gets injured, it attempts to repair itself. The tau has phosphorous attached to it; it phosphorylates, and then it clumps. And that's why when you add the special chemicals, you see the brown staining, but they're various size and shapes and now in the background you see the threads here. All these are remnants of the old projections, uh, throughout, uh, Chris' brain. This is a microscopic piece, but certainly we saw this throughout, multiple, multiple areas of a similar injury, again, representing different times and location of injury.

**Allen Schwartz:** Mr. Schwartz. I'm Alan Schwartz of the New York Times.

Dr. Bailes, what concussion history did Mr. Benoit have documented or otherwise, and what treatment did he receive for injuries through the course of his career?

**Unknown:** Michael, do you want --

**Michael Benoit:** The only, uh, knowledge that we have of the injuries that, uh, Chris sustained is in, um, talking to him on occasion, uh, that we've talked about concussions, and he mentioned that he had numerous concussions. Um, but I think that it's... it's the extreme that is in the wrestling industry today. The human skull just isn't built to get hit with a table or a chair. I think that that's probably one of the contributing factors to the extent of the damages that he suffered.

**Marty [unclear]:** Marty [unclear] from ESPN again. Mr. Benoit, can you give us some additional insight, uh, doctors talked about his condition is a deterioration of cognitive function, uh, as the situation worsened. Can you give us some insight into Chris' behavior months leading up to, uh, the end of his life and looking back now, what were some signs that you saw at the time to be accurate information?

**Michael Benoit:** Certainly leading up to the to the time of the tragic event, uh, we weren't aware of anything. We didn't notice anything, uh, Chris seemed quite normal to us. I spoke with him a week before this tragedy. He called me on Father's Day and said to me at the time, you know, "Happy Father's Day." I asked him where he was. He said he was traveling to an event that WWE was holding, and he said the only thing downside for him was that he wasn't able to spend Father's Day at home with his family, so this certainly wouldn't indicate the horrendous tragedy that was to take place a week later.

**Reporter:** How does that jive with what we're hearing that there was deterioration in cognitive function and brain function and some of the other athletes that we talked about did have very noticeable deterioration in their personality and their behavior.

**Michael Benoit:** Well, after the fact I came in possession of a diary that Chris had, that he was writing in that diary back in 2005 after the death of his friend, Eddie Guerrero, um.

After reading the diary, I would have thought that it was written by someone that was extremely disturbed at the time, um. I had the occasion to talk to one of their neighbors and told me that for three or four months prior to this tragedy taking place that Chris was walking around the property wearing a rosary around his neck that was completely out of character for Chris. He wasn't to my knowledge that religious and, um, going this way was out of character, and the doctors have shared with me, but they saw similar things happen with some of the football players that they have run the tests on.

**Reporter:** Mr. Benoit, two questions. All along that same line. What then, what answers do you then come away with as far as the correlation perhaps between the [unclear] samples and in the [unclear]?

**Michael Benoit:** On the day that the act occurred, it was completely out of character for my son to do what he did, so as the doctors say, we really don't have a full understanding of how the damage to the brain can cause people to act out of character. Um, and it was once we found out or once the family found out about these tests, we wanted to grow and help the Sports Legacy Institute further the research so that perhaps we're able to save lives going forward down the road so that we don't have other families that are suffering the tragedy not only on our side but we also lost our grandson, we lost our daughter-in-law. We loved both of them very very much.

**FoxNews Reporter:** Have these findings we've received, that anyone may be legally accountable for [unclear] WWE or [unclear]?

**Michael Benoit:** Well, I think that, um, we talked in terms of responsibility. I work for a company that the number one priority in the company is the health and safety of the people that work for us. I only wish that my son was in an organization that had the same values.



**Reporter:** Mr. Benoit, how do you know that the accident occurred on that day was not the result of steroids?

**Michael Benoit:** Well, the doctors, I, again I'd like to pass this over to, that question over to Dr. Bailes.

**Reporter:** Dr. Bailes, in light of the fact that there is, purportedly there is some establishment of steroid use and steroid abuse in this particular case. Is there – you know, how can you say that that played no role in what occurred?

**Julian Bailes:** I don't think I can say that. I don't think anyone really knows, but two comments. One is there is no consensus in the medical community that the syndrome of 'roid rage' even occurs. There is no consensus. Secondly, there is no evidence thus far, now, it may change in the future, but no evidence presently that steroids affect the brain and cause the brain cells to die. We don't have that evidence, so, or massive doses of steroids or any abuse of steroids certainly not, but we have no medical evidence that that is correlated with this or any other product related to an athlete.

**Reporter:** ...to be clear, You're saying that the rage is more likely an explanation [unclear] than steroids?

**Julian Bailes:** In our opinion, the brain injury is the only objective finding that we can, that we can note on a detailed autopsy examination. Again, whether there's a previously undocumented role of steroids, we don't know.

**Reporter:** But that it, that this injury could have or did lead to his behavior?

**Julian Bailes:** Yes.

**Reporter:** Okay.

**Julian Bailes:** I think that these extensive changes throughout the brain to me I think the others in our organization believe that it is enough to very likely explain their behavior including suicide and even homicide.

**Reporter:** Is this a condition that's easily diagnosed? Do the living patients suffer several [unclear]?

**Julian Bailes:** It is only diagnosed by having the actual brain tissue after someone's deceased.

**Reporter:** But not possible while he's living –

**Julian Bailes:** There's no tests which will show this in a living person. Dr. Cantu, do you want to add anything else?

**Robert Cantu:** Whereas there is not a test, there's not a spinal fluid test, there's not a blood test, there's not an imaging study and you're not going to biopsy-ing people's brains to see if it's there because it's such a hit and miss situation. You could miss it so easily. Julian's right. Unfortunately, post-mortem is the only way to diagnose it, but as a neurosurgeon, if you see an individual that is suffering cognitive impairment, depressive type behavior, aberrant emotional behavior who's had a history of head injuries, you can suspect this problem and for sure, try to keep them away from further head injury.

**Reporter:** But Mr....

**Robert Cantu:** Going back to the question of steroids. Uh, one thing that you need to keep in mind that this is an event, a tragic event that played out over the course of days. This was not a single episode of rage. So, the idea that 'roid rage' was the cause of this situation is inconsistent with the way that the facts played out. And certainly a logical explanation for the

kinds of dramatic changes in behavior that we have seen here are the changes, the shocking changes, that have been described by these doctors to explain brain injuries.

**Reporter:** Have you presented these findings to the WWE and have they responded to this at all?

**Robert Cantu:** We have not.

**Reporter:** Do you plan to bring this to them directly, or?

**Robert Cantu:** Uh, certainly we will meet with them and we offered to meet with other organizations that are in charge of the care and conduct of athletes, so certainly we'll be glad to meet with them and explain any of these findings.

**Reporter:** [Unclear entire question from female voice.]

**Robert Cantu:** Yes, we do.

**Reporter:** [Unclear entire female voice.]

**Robert Cantu:** Yes, they have.

**Reporter:** [Unclear.]

**Robert Cantu:** There are other specialists, other brain pathology specialists that have looked at this prior to our brain program.

**Julian Bailes:** In my comments I mention that four cases already have been brought to publication, and this case undoubtedly will be added to those previous ones.

**Reporter:** Dr. [unclear], a lot of folks here discussed the aberrant behavior, depression, cognitive, [unclear] that Mr. Benoit may have experienced...uhm...I think he did experience being back [unclear], but Mr. Benoit described at least four personal interactions with him suggesting no depression, no [unclear], nothing that you personally witnessed. What basis,

on whose recollection is giving you the confidence that Mr. Benoit was still suffering from those ailments?

**Michael Benoit:** I'd just like to respond to that. We live about 3,500 miles away from Chris so the contact that we had with him was pretty much limited to phone calls that we were getting which could be weekly, biweekly, um, somewhat short in duration, you'd get a 5, 10 minute phone call. I think that there were periods of time in Chris' daily life that he acted quite normal. Um. When I first talked to the doctors about this what they told me is that, um, it had taken away his ability to make rational decisions and it had also taken away his ability to control his emotions. And those are two, um, items that, uh, given the circumstances of what happened, you can only imagine what went on in his head that day.

**Reporter:** On what basis did you feel confident that it had taken away his ability to make rational decisions and control his emotions?

**Michael Benoit:** That's because of the work that they had done on the previous ball players.

**Reporter:** So were there any interviews conducted with friends, colleagues, um – is there any objective evidence of that behavioral finding?

**Robert Cantu:** Yes, there were—friends and colleagues. Yeah. From the diary which I've also seen. From his diary which I've also seen, friends and colleagues and certainly the ultimate, the ultimate event was the [unclear] of irrational behavior.

**Reporter:** Dr. Bailes, do you have any recommendations for the professional sports league on how to prevent this, I think maybe helmet design, foul, or rule changing or anything like that you recommend.

**Julian Bailes:** Well, I think for [unclear] of the day we wanted to announce our findings, but in a general sense, education, which we're trying to affect today, uh, uh, recognition and that's been the problem. Christopher Nowinski's book Head Games was one of the first to really get out the fact through his research that this is underappreciated by parents and athletes and coaches and everyone. So recognition, education. Now, prevention, you know, has to do with rules, it has to do with time off, or protocol from management of patients, or athletes, it has to do with equipment. So prevention, the very nature of a contact sport is that it is difficult to legislate away the risk and to protect someone unequivocally. You know, as opposed to the normal patient we see who comes in from a car accident or a fall and has a head injury, athletes in contact sports are coming back and asking us, "oh, by the way, is it okay if I go back and hit my head some more" undoubtedly get further concussive blows, and it's not just the known concussion as I mentioned, it's the subconcussive or unrecognized effects of multiple less severe or less obvious injuries. Dr. Cantu, do you want to elaborate?

**Robert Cantu:** Thanks, Julian. I think the message is injury above the shoulders takes on a whole different magnitude than injury below it. When you're dealing with a brain and a cervical spinal cord, if that part of the body shows symptoms, and has been injured, you don't put it back in harm's way and let it be reinjured again, unless you're going to be willing to risk some very traumatic and very unfortunate situations. And none of these injuries, even as minor concussions, should be ever thought of as quote unquote "minor." Cumulative concussions, even subconcussive blows, if there are enough of them, can lead to these dramatic degenerative damaged changes that we see in the brain. And that's kind of the message that we hope SLI is going to be able to go forward with.

**Reporter:** Mr. Ichter, can you clarify your role, are you the attorney for the Benoit family, your Chris Benoit's attorney?

**Cary Ichter:** I am.

**Reporter:** Mr. Benoit, when he was asked about the possibility of litigation, his answer said that he wished to work for a company...had decided to work for a company which cared as much, uhm...as his company. Directly, do you guys plan a [unclear] litigation? For instance, the World Wrestling [unclear] regarding this [unclear].

**Cary Ichter:** No decisions have been made about that as of this point. This family, these families have just been through a terrible tragedy. They're going through the mourning and healing process and we don't want to distract from that process, but at an appropriate time, we will give thoughtful consideration to what kinds of steps are appropriate in the legal arena.

**Reporter:** See any similarities between sports injuries and what the doctors are finding from veterans coming from Iraq and Afghanistan from the depressions caused by explosives?

**Cary Ichter:** Well, certainly, its very concern is in the same category. Dr. Cantu.

**Robert Cantu:** Twice in the last year we've been at several day meetings with the Department of Defense with regard to the blast issue and clearly the blast injury of the brain has many similarities to either directly hitting the head or indirectly loading the head and then it also has pressure phenomenon in addition, but there are many similarities both symptomatically and probably neuropathologically with those injuries. And this is a very underappreciated problem because usually these individuals have life threatening immediate injuries and the brain injuries aren't really noted until weeks, sometimes months, later.

**Reporter:** Dr. Bailes, I believe you presented work that was done prior to the Benoit findings, essentially four cases involving NFL players to the NFL meetings in Chicago. So far there hasn't been any indication of a great acceptance on the part of the NFL of these findings of . . . what is the latest on that and, number two, part of that is what would prevent the NFL or what is leading the NFL in your belief to that type of perception to these findings. How concerned are they that this will open up a Pandora's box in terms of benefits and disability claims by former NFL players who are already coming forward with stories all the time about percussion related injuries.

**Julian Bailes:** Yes. Dr. Cantu mentioned that another founding member of the SLI, Robert Fitzsimmons, labored for seven years to get Mike Webster his disability and to my knowledge that's the only one ever granted for a brain injury. So I think that in terms of disability the injury, to answer your last question... I think that only once it occurred, and I'm not certain if these findings that we've had are going to have any impact upon that. Uh, I did present this to the NFL in June as you said. I think it was openly received. I don't think that there's been time enough elapsed for them to act upon that. I'm not sure what they would do other than to increase their protocol and their requirements. I think that Commissioner Goddell has done that already for this season. I think it has to be looked at after this season to see if it's had any effect, what the incidence was and was there any change, or do a change or effect policy. The next thing is to study the effects of that behavior so I think that's the next step in the league.

I'm not defending the NFL, but having presented twice at that Chicago meeting, mostly on return to play issues. The NFL has taken a proactive step. I think it's huge. They've come forward with individuals, guidelines suggesting individuals who've been rendered unconscious should not go back into the same contest. Things that those of us have been writing on the

subject for years have been advocating and consensus of statements have been advocated. And so the NFL is taking some steps. They also are studying the problem. Will they put together the study and just how it's done? Time will tell. But I think Commissioner Goddell has taken some positive steps coming out of that meeting in June, uh...was listening to Julian. He was listening to others of the [unclear] at that meeting..

Any other questions?

**Conference Call Coordinator:** There are a couple of questions over the phone.

**Robert Cantu:** Okay. Go ahead.

**Conference Call Coordinator:** Well, okay, first, from Harriet Weber.

**Harriet Weber:** Uh, this message is for Mr. Benoit. Um, with regard to the litigation I know you've talked a little about that. Um. But as you have had time to heal and think about what happened, have you thought more about the possibility of litigation, is that something you're thinking about as you go forward? And, um, are you able to talk a little bit more about what you found in the diary? And, lastly, can you clarify, um, how you know about your son's concussions? Was it only through his conversations? Are there any records, any medical records that the league kept that hospitals have? Anything that you were able to find to, you know, that leads you to that knowledge?

**Michael Benoit:** Um. To my knowledge, there are no records that exist that would cover concussions that Chris may have had while he was wrestling. In terms of litigation, um, again, that hasn't even been discussed. When Chris Nowinski originally came to me and talked about doing the examination of Chris' brain tissue, um, that was our only hope. We were – we just couldn't believe that our son, that the person we know could have been involved in this horrendous act that ended up costing the lives of not only himself, but our daughter-in-law and



our grandson. Um. My goal right now and as I promised Chris Nowinski at the beginning of this is to do everything in my power to raise an awareness of the work that they're doing and to attempt to raise funds so that they continue to do what I believe is extremely important work.

**Rehema Ellis:** Mr. Benoit. Rehema Ellis with NBC news. Have you shared the results of your findings with authorities in terms of the medical opinions and the law enforcement authorities there in terms of what you think maybe have resulted in the tragedy?

**Michael Benoit:** I have not talked to any of the authorities in Georgia, but when Chris Nowinski originally called me, it was four days after we actually got the news that all three of the family members were dead. Um. I didn't know who Chris Nowinski was. I had heard his name, but I really didn't know who he was, and you can imagine the state of mind that as a family what we were in at that particular point in time. And I wasn't really sure how credible his request was, and I asked him at the time to give me some names of people that I could call to just see if there was some credibility in what he was asking me to do. Um. One of the people he gave me was Dr. Chris Sperry, who is the chief medical examiner for the State of Georgia. I thought if anyone is going to lead me in the right direction, it would be Dr. Sperry, and he encouraged me to go forward and actually helped me make the decision to call Chris back and say that I wanted to have the test done. So apart from that, no, we have not been in touch with anyone in Georgia.

**Regina Ellis:** Do you intend [unclear] might make a difference in terms of the [unclear] times on the death certificate?

**Michael Benoit:** Um. That hasn't been discussed at this point in time. Dr. Cantu, was there another question on the phone?

**Conference Call Coordinator:** Let's see, do you have another question from the phone line? We're hearing next from Jim [unclear].

**Jim [unclear]:** Yes, I was wondering if in the Benoit family, the mother's side of the family or father's side of family, if there has been any mental health issues such as depression, or bipolar or border line? Is there any history of that at all in any of the members whether it be any type of relative, grandparents, cousins, uncles, aunts.

**Michael Benoit:** On the Benoit of the family, no. There hasn't been anything at all.

**Jim [unclear]:** And my other question had to do with, um, your grandson. Was there any physical – did you know of any physical or mental ailments that your grandson had?

**Michael Benoit:** Absolutely none. We weren't aware that he had any problems whatsoever. Any other questions from the phone?

**Conference Call Coordinator:** No, there are no other further questions over the phone line.

Okay. I'll think we'll conclude at this point. Thank you.