

Braves take 2-0 lead over Indians with 4-3 victory

**50°**  
**36°**

**FEELIN' LIKE FALL**  
Sunshine

For your area forecast, see back page of section

**MILES CITY AREA**

# 2 slain, killer at large

## Victims shot, set on fire; 2 survive

By **CHRISTINE LYALL**  
Of The Gazette Staff

**KINSEY** — When Jeff Wyman approached his neighbors' door Saturday night, covered in blood and yelling to be let into the house, the neighbors thought he was up to his usual Halloween antics.

"Jeff is a character," the neighbor woman said Sunday. "When he came to our door, I thought he was pulling a Halloween prank. He looked like a monster."

Wyman, 32, of Billings, began pounding on the neighbors' door at about 8 p.m. Saturday while they were watching television. He was drenched in blood and burned over most of his body.

Within seconds, the neighbors knew that Jeff wasn't joking.

"I got a smell of him and he was crying and screaming, so I knew he was serious," the woman said.

She and her husband asked not to be identified.

Moments earlier, Jeff had run from his parents' nearby home on foot after a man — identified as Carl Sidney Race — entered their small farmhouse and shot him, his mother, Rita, his father, Claude, and his 28-year-old brother, Paul, with a shotgun.

Race, who was once married to Rita's sister, then allegedly doused at least three of his victims with a flammable liquid and started the house on fire.

The house was gutted. Rita, 55, and Paul died. Claude Wyman, age unknown, was shot in the stomach but managed to get away in his wife's Ford Tempo, driving to the same neighbors' house where his son had gone.

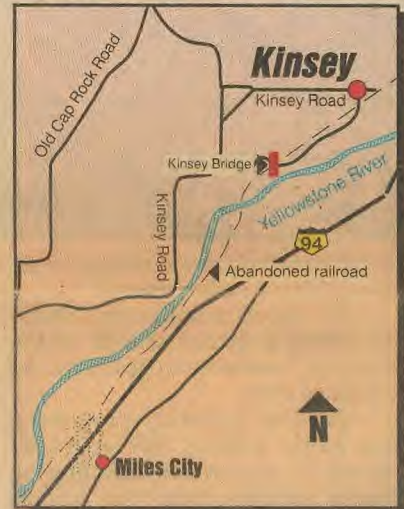
With his body on fire and only socks on his feet, Jeff escaped from the burning house, ran through an



Gazette photo by David Grubbs

The killer entered this house in Kinsey, northeast of Miles City, shot Rita and Claude Wyman and their sons Jeff and Paul and then set the house on fire. Rita and Paul Wyman were killed. Jeff and Claude Wyman survived.

**Shooting deaths**



Gazette Map by OJAY ALL



The suspect in the case is Carl Sidney Race, 49, of Washington state. He is 5 feet, 5 inches tall, weighs 260 pounds with thinning gray hair. Police are looking for a gold Buick with license plates 180 GKZ.

irrigation ditch and over to the neighbors' house. There he asked them to lock their doors, turn off their lights and get their guns because Race was "after them, trying to kill them all," according to the neighbor woman's husband.

The neighbors recalled that all that was left of Jeff's socks were the tops that clung to his feet.

Jeff and his father were taken to Holy Rosary Hospital in Miles City, where Claude remains in critical condition. Jeff, suffering burns on about 75 percent of his body, was later flown to the Burn Unit of



**RITA WYMAN**  
died in shooting



**CLAUDE WYMAN**  
survived attack



**Paul, left, and Jeff Wyman in family snapshot.**

thinning gray hair. His right eye is blind and dilated.

Neese said the attack on the Wyman family appeared to be a surprise. He said that each victim was shot somewhere in the upper torso.

"It looks like he was blaming the (Wyman) family for his failed marriage," said Neese, who declined to disclose the name of Rita's sister, Race's ex-wife. "Our only speculation is that it was going to be a homicide that was going to be covered up by arson."

Neese was handling the case alone because Sheriff Tony Harbaugh was on a hunting trip.

(More on Killings, Page 7A)

the University of Utah Health Sciences Center in Salt Lake City.

Custer County Undersheriff Don Neese said Sunday that a warrant will be issued this morning for Race's arrest. He said the survivors of the shooting in Kinsey, a small town about 14 miles northeast of Miles City, positively identified Race as the assailant.

Race, 49, believed to be from Washington state, remained at large Sunday night, possibly traveling west in a 1978 gold Buick Skylark with Washington license plate number 180 GKZ. He is described as 5 feet 5 inches tall and weighing about 260 pounds, with



## Continued stories

# Killings

### From Page One

According to Neese and other Kinsey residents, Race lived in the small town in 1981 — and both of the houses that he had lived in burned down under suspicious circumstances. Though arson charges were filed against Race, he was never convicted, Neese said.

Volunteer firefighters were called to the Wyman house Saturday night, but were held back for some time because officers feared the gunman was still present.

"We saved the house," Neese said. "We were able to save the structure."

Residents of Kinsey and friends of the Wymans said the family's tragedy has shocked the community and will mean a great loss to everyone. Rita had been the Kinsey postmaster since 1987 and a district Avon saleswoman for several years.

"She was Mrs. Perfect-Community-Minded-All-American lady," said one friend, who asked

not to be identified. "You never heard her raise her voice or swear" and she always helped out in the community.

Both Rita and her younger son had undergone kidney transplants within the last year and were recovering well, the friend said. Paul and Jeff lived in Billings and owned High Bank Racing, which sold racing cards and collectibles.

Jeff and Paul happened to be visiting their parents over the weekend with plans to go hunting.

Kinsey residents are also pulling for Claude, who used to work as a janitor at Kinsey Elementary School and was most recently working for Primestar, a satellite television service. He was described as a cherished man in the school and community.

"Rita and Claude never parted without saying 'I love you' or 'Love ya lots' or throwing kisses," Rita's friend said. "It's a darn shame for anyone to harbor that much hate."

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The Associated Press also contributed to this story.