

Gordon von Stroh.

The state survey seemed low to several apartment property managers, including Martha Sanders, president of RPC Relocation Services Inc.

"We were particularly tired of hearing of a low vacancy rate," Sanders said. "We knew there

we knew it was growing. ... There's just too much rental housing."

A check with several rental-property managers seemed to support Sanders' survey.

"If you look out over the town at

2/9/10 See VACANCY, Page B2

University Mall targeted for four 'big-box' stores

By DAVID PERSONS
The Coloradoan

If there is such a thing as a perfect location for a "big box" shopping center in Fort Collins, it's likely to be the University Mall, says a city planner.

That's good news for Deb Tamlin, president of ZTI Inc., the property manager for the 30-year-old mall. Tamlin has been working for more than a year to line up big-box tenants as a part of a mall redevelopment plan.

Big-box retailers are ones that buy volume and sell value. Tamlin will reveal more about the plan in a neighborhood information meeting from 7 to 9 tonight at University Mall, 2211 S. College Ave.

While she hasn't signed any companies yet, Tamlin says the big-box concept is appealing, and she's close to landing her first anchor tenant.

"It's difficult when you're dealing with an existing mall and not breaking ground," Tamlin said. "But we do have a lot of interest."

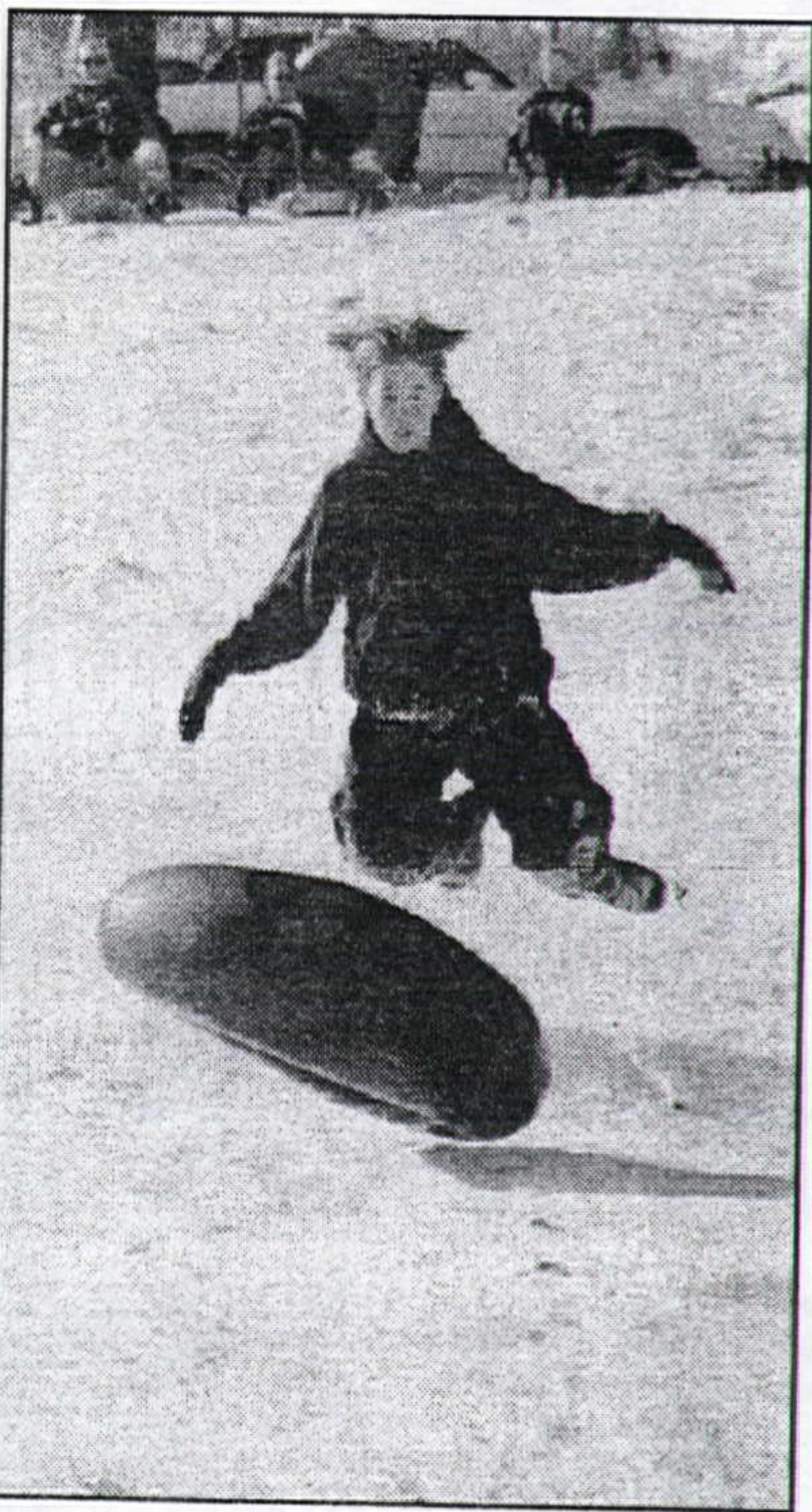
At tonight's meeting, Tamlin is expected to discuss plans to secure tenants for four big-box sites — a 15,000-square-foot store, a 17,000-square-foot store and two 30,000-square-foot stores. There also will be six smaller stores, she said.

The city is strongly in favor of the redevelopment plan, said city planner Steve Olt, who will be at the meeting.

"This is the logical place for them (big-box tenants) rather than putting them up out in the hinterlands," Olt said. "The conversion can be made easily. It's a good reuse (of the mall)."

"It not only brings in new, different businesses, it allows revitalization. And let's face it ... it's in need of true revamping."

The inner tube after getting airborne on a jump Sunday. He and about 150 other people took to sliding objects on the hills above Dixon Reservoir.



Thrills, chills on Sledding packed with fun

By SONJA BISBEE
The Coloradoan

Kids of all ages flocked to the slopes Sunday afternoon to enjoy plenty of sunshine and snow — and they didn't have to go all the way to the mountains.

About 50 thrill-seekers spent the afternoon shrieking and giggling their way down the hill next to Edora Pool Ice Center, 1801 Riverside Ave.

Aboard sleds, disks, tubes and even a plastic snowmobile, they raced, collided and jumped down the slope.

"Everybody's been itching to do this, but it's been so cold," said Fort Collins resident Carol Saindon, who brought her 5- and 7-year-old boys to enjoy the winter fun.

Nearby, Andy Frank and Daniel Belleau, both 9, went airborne with their sleds off a snow-covered, 2-foot concrete wall.

But officials urged caution during such afternoon antics.

See SLEDDING, Page B2

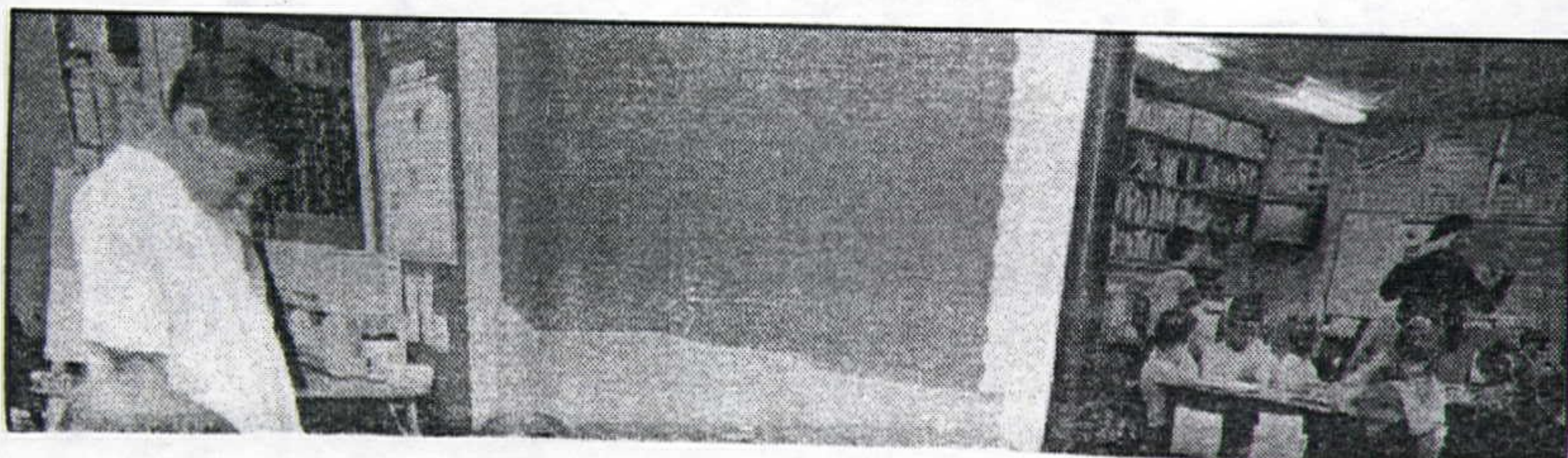
Avalanche kills one snowboarder

By The Associated Press

DILLON — One man was injured and another was killed when they were caught in an avalanche while snowboarding in backcountry terrain between the Arapahoe Basin and Keystone ski resorts Sunday, authorities said.

Writer's view/D1

Education



LEARNING: Teacher Nancy Constantine works with Irish Elementary students Aaron Koonce,

Girl Scout old, but fast-growing organization's focus

By ELIZABETH BEARD
The Coloradoan

The largest bake sale in the world is celebrating its 60th anniversary

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