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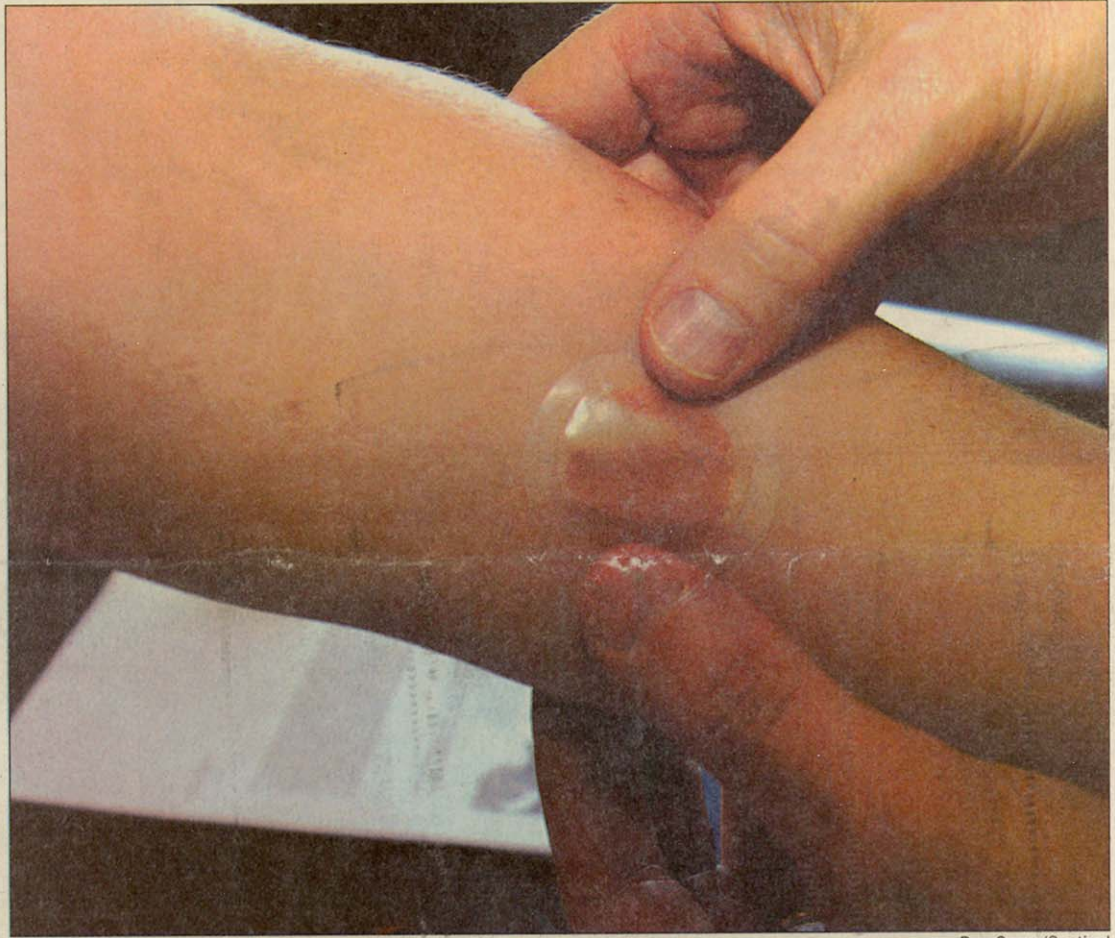
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Local chiropractic team pitches controversial 'stamina patch'



Dan Coyro/Sentinel

The Harmony stamina patch utilizes what patch creator David Schmidt calls LifeWave Technology, which utilizes the body's naturally occurring magnetic field to produce a stimulating effect.

Energy boost comes under scrutiny of Olympic officials

By GWEN MICKELSON
SENTINEL STAFF WRITER

CAPITOLA — Greg Smith had been in and out of Disc Treatment Plus chiropractic office for 20 years.

A sufferer of bad knees and shoulders, Smith recently decided to try a new skin patch he learned about from a friend who was working for the Suwanee, Ga.-based maker of the patches, LifeWave Products.

Upon donning the Harmony stamina patch, "The shift in Greg's body was dramatic," said Daniel Schlenger of Disc Treatment Plus. "About 90 percent of his problems were resolved."

Smith, a general contractor by trade, is now working as a distributor of the product, along with Schlenger and his wife, Mary Schlenger, who runs her husband's chiropractic office.

Last month, the patches made headlines when six female Stanford swimmers wore them during Olympic trials,

'It's like a needleless acupuncture.'

DAVID SCHMIDT, PATCH INVENTOR

causing USA Swimming officials to send samples to the United States Anti-Doping Agency for testing.

But the product's inventor, research scientist David Schmidt, says that preliminary results have found that the patches were clean. The swimmers were also drug tested and found clean, he said.

"I was looking for a new way to improve energy and stamina that wasn't a pill or a drink," said Schmidt of the patches, which he described as LifeWave Technology.

"It's a well known scientific fact that there's a pulsating magnetic field above the skin. I took amino acids and put them into water-based solutions and came up with a technique that used nanotech-

nology, so that I can program these organic structures the same way we program computer chips."

Schmidt says the patches, which his company put on the market in June, contain no drugs and do not send anything through the skin.

The small, round adhesive patches are worn as a pair on established acupuncture meridians on the body such as the wrists or around the knees. They are being marketed to both athletes seeking a performance edge and everyday consumers simply looking to boost strength and stamina.

"The patch communicates with the body and says, 'Use fat as an energy source,'" said Schmidt. "You get twice as much energy from fat as you do from carbohydrates, so you get a 30 to 40 percent improvement in stamina, within 10 minutes of use."

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