

THURSDAY

March 26, 2009

8 a.m. Noon 6 p.m.

43 55 61

Morning showers.  
Mostly cloudy tonight.

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# JOURNAL & COURIER

LAFAYETTE—WEST LAFAYETTE, INDIANA

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## Out of the woods? No

But the economic news  
in five categories is  
better than usual.

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# BUSINESS

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## Study hails locally made biologic mesh

By **MAX SHOWALTER**

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A five-year study has confirmed the long-term strength and durability of a biologic mesh used in hernia repair and manufactured at Cook Biotech Inc. in West Lafayette.

Conducted by the Texas Endosurgery Institute in San Antonio, the study demonstrates that the Biodesign Hernia Graft possesses the clinically important strength of nonabsorbable mesh while providing the benefit of decreased infection complications of absorbable mesh.

"Biodesign's long-term strength and ability to communicate with the body by signaling surrounding tissue to remodel are very important benefits for patients," said Mark Bleyer, president of Cook Biotech, which is headquartered in Purdue Research Park.

"The body uses the Biodesign graft as a lattice to guide tissue regeneration and heal itself with a repair that endures, as shown in the study."

From May 2000 to October 2006, 133 procedures were performed on 116 patients.

The study investigated placement of the breakthrough technology to repair infected or potentially contaminated abdominal



File photo/Journal & Courier

**The Biodesign Hernia Graft is manufactured by Cook Biotech Inc. at Purdue Research Park in West Lafayette.**

wall defects.

"The use of the Biodesign Hernia Graft in contaminated or potentially contaminated fields is a safe and feasible alternative to

hernia repair with a minimal recurrence rate and satisfactory results in long-term follow-up," said Dr. Morris Franklin Jr. of the Texas Endosurgery Institute.