$128 Million Awarded

Ford Loses Lawsuit

SANTA ANA, Calif. (AP) — A California jury has awarded nearly $128 million in damages from the Ford Motor Co. to a teen-ager who has had 52 operations since being maimed in the explosion of a Ford Pinto's gas tank.

"This is probably the loudest noise that the jury has made in any civil suit in American jurisprudence," Mark Robinson, attorney for 18-year-old Richard Grimshaw of Orange, said after the verdict was returned Monday.

A spokesman for Ford Motor Co. in Detroit termed the award "a staggering amount of money," but said the automaker would have no further comment on the verdict until the firm's lawyers had been consulted.

Under Monday's decision by an Orange County Superior Court jury, Grimshaw was awarded $125 million in punitive personal injury damages and $2.84 million in compensatory damages.

Since the May 1972 accident that burned 95 percent of his body, Grimshaw has undergone 52 operations and will have to undergo 20 more, Robinson said. The youth, who was 13 when the accident occurred, lost four fingers, his nose and left ear.

Grimshaw was a passenger in the car driven by 52-year-old Lily Gray of Anaheim, who died in the accident. The jury awarded her family $665,000 compensatory damages. No punitive damages were sought in her death.

Mrs. Gray was a neighbor of the Grimshaws, who at the time lived in Anaheim.

The entire passenger compartment of the 1972 Pinto ignited when it was hit from behind by another vehicle traveling about 35 mph on Interstate 15 near San Bernardino. Evidence at the seven-month trial indicated that because of faulty welding, the gas tank was punctured by the impact and that burning gas leaked inside the car.

Robinson said three similar suits involving Pinto gas tanks have been filed, but that this was the first effort to obtain punitive damages. The highest compensatory damage award in the other suits was for $3.3 million in a 1975 Florida suit, Robinson said.

Robinson said Ford had failed five crash tests on the Pinto model involved in the accident.

"We were charging that Ford Motor Co. had consciously, knowing that those tests had failed, put out that model to save 10 bucks a car at the risks of hundreds of human lives and hundreds of more injuries like Grimshaw's," Robinson said.

Robinson said he expects Ford to appeal the verdict.

Last August, Ford characterized as "distortions and half-truths" claims by consumer advocate Ralph Nader that the company knowingly permitted the sale of Pintos with fuel tanks that would rupture in rear-end accidents. Nader had demanded investigations by Congress and the National Traffic Safety Board.

Contrasting

(Continued from page 1)

anonymous telephone call. Police that same afternoon recovered a knife and Miss King's purse in an open area near the store.

Estes today said that his client is being held in the Washington County Jail and htat his arraignment is set to be held Wednesday morning. He said Circuit Judge Maupin Cummings may then establish a bail bond or order that the youth be held without the privilege of a bond.

The attorney explained that Vancleave was born June 26, 1961 at Odessa, Tex. but that the family moved to Springdale when Vancleave was two months old. He has a younger sister, who is seven years old.

Vancleave attended Washington Elementary School in Springdale and then later was a student at Southwest Junior High School, Estes explained. The youth later transferred to Central Junior High School in Springdale when his parents moved.

His parents said that their son achieved mostly "A's and B's, with an occasional C grade" while attending Springdale High School, Estes stated. He explained that Vancleave dropped out of school this year because he wanted to get a job.

Estes said his client is a member of the Royal Rangers, an affiliate group of the Boy Scouts of America. He also attends the Elm Springs Assembly of God Church, the attorney added.

Recent 4-H Club projects begun by Vancleave included raising homing pigeons and a pig, Estes said. The youth often stayed with his grandmother, Estes explained, and had been at her residence at the time the incident took place on Jan. 29.

Blizzard

(Continued from page 1)

expected to come at 24-hour intervals, with the worst storm predicted for Wednesday morning. At the height of the rains on Sunday some 44,000 homes and businesses were without power and hundreds of residents still had no electricity on Monday.

In Boston, tke trouble started when a roof from a neighboring building blew into Boston Edison's largest generating station, setting off a chain reaction that led to the power cuts.

The city subway system was reported operating under its own emergency power, but with long delays.

Off the coast of New England, a Coast Guard cutter searched Salem Sound in blinding snow for three vessels which reported they were disabled in 60-mph winds and 30-foot seas. The three — a Greek tanker, a pilot boat and a fishing vessel — carried 42 persons.

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Center

(Continued from page 1)

facility was flexible enough to be used for other purposes should the UA not continue its programs.

Segraves answered that it would be a steel frame building and only the walls around the elevators would be weight-baring — meaning the structure would lend itself to other uses.

However, Dr. Hugh Mills, dean of the UA continuing education program, told the directors that the University's Board of Trustees considered the project a long-term agreement and had "no intention of going in concert with the city and then backing out." He added that they expected to use the facility as long as they operated a continuing education program, pointing out that the UA has had a continuing education program since 1893.

Asked for the University reaction to the structure, Dean Mills said they were "in full accord at this point" and had attended numerous meetings with the architects and city officials on the project's design. He said they expect the facility to meet the UA's needs for continuing education for the next 20 to 25 years.

Segraves reviewed the preliminary plans for the building and discussed the materials to be used with the Board.

The ground floor will be accessible from a ramp off East Avenue back to the north end of the building. The level will contain a mail room, printing room, small conference rooms, an educational television equipment room and studio and an auditorium equipped with fixed seats and projection equipment. The auditorium is designed to accommodate about 150 people.

Segraves said the second level would serve as the main level with the entrance off Center Street. Towards the west would be office space for directory information and registration. The east half of this floor would contain two large conference rooms with a divider that could be removed for large meetings.

He noted that the conference area would have a high ceiling and would be structurally designed so that no columns would be necessary. The large conference rooms will be located to the east throughout the building, producing only four levels while the office areas and small conference rooms along the west side will produce five levels.

Also on the main level, Segraves said a north exit will provide access to the hotel. (A Hilton Hotel will be built to the north of the center. Although the hotel will be privately financed, the two structures are to be coordinated.)

Segraves said the two large conference rooms on the second level could accommodate up to 600 people. He noted that a large lobby area had also been designed to handle the large numbers of people spilling out from meetings.

With offices and small conference rooms on the half-level to the west and large conference areas to the east, the building is capped by a terrace area opening to the west. A glass-cased staircase runs up the building on the south side.

Although details of the engineering have not been completed, Mike Green of Segraves staff said they were designing the building to use the body heat of all the participants to reduce utility costs. While a large portion of the building appears to be windows, Green said only about 15 percent of the total wall-area will be windows. He said the rest will be "spandrel panels" — panels used to cover construction and engineering areas.

Green said the installation of an "active" solar energy system would also be studied. He said the building could be designed so solar panels could be added at a later date.

In other action connected with the continuing education facility, the Board authorized the acquisition of two tracts of land in the area. The Board has already authorized a condemnation of property owned by Carlos and Ivan Hill, property immediately wes tof the alley between East and College Avenue off Center Street.

The property which the Board authorized acquisition of Monday night included the tract immediately west of the Hill property, where the Greenhaw law offices were located. The property is owned by Mrs. J.G. Walker of Muskogee, Okla., and her brother, Hugh Thomas of St. Louis, Mo.

The Board authorized City Manager Don Grimes to offer the top appraisal for the property as required by law. Should the appraised value of $33,000 be rejected, the directors authorized condemnation proceedings.

The Board made a similar authorization for property on which a parking facility is to be constructed to the northeast of the center—the lot now used for parking, and containing the Greer Abstract building. The city has offered the property owner, Southwestern Underwriters Association, the appraised value of $150,000 for the property and was rejected.

The Board authorized the condemnation of the property with only Director Todd dissenting. He said he was "not convinced this is sacred ground" and said the city should have considered other property in the area for parking.

Arraignment Is Scheduled

BENTONVILLE—Roger Gamache, 26, of Bentonville will be arraigned today before Circuit Judge William Enfield, on charges of obtaining controlled substances by false pretense at Bates Memorial Hospital.

Gamache, an anesthetist, who has been employed at the hospital about 18 months, is accused of taking glass cylinders of a drug that was supposed to have been administered to patients during surgery. Gamache is charged with substituting another type of medicine, according to Deputy Prosecuting Attorney David Clinger of Bentonville.

Gamache's arrest followed an investigation by the Bentonville Police Department and the Benton County Sheriff's office, which resulted from an anonymous tip.

All-Day Service

Dial-A-Ride, sponsored by the Economic Opportunity Agency of Washington County has started full-day service.

The Dial-A-Ride van will spend one day a week in each area it serves.

Interested persons may call 442-5000 collect, to obtain the scheduled service in their areas.

Trial To Be Set

TORONTO (CP) — Keith Richard, guitarist for the Rolling Stones, has been ordered to appear March 6 in county court to have a trial date set.

Richard, 34, was charged with possession of heroin for the purposes of trafficking and possession of cocaine after a police raid on his Toronto hotel room last Feb. 27.

Governor Speaks

Gov. David Pryou was guest speaker last night at the 56th annual Springdale Chamber of Commerce banquet. (Timesphoto by Barry Thomas)

Hospital

(Continued from page 1)

ten off.

"After we found the hospital revenue bonds for an expansion were not negotiable the Hospital Corporation of America (HCA) studied the situation and told us the patient mix was wrong, that we had too many Medicare patients compared to private pay. They told us a hospital could go along pretty well with a 50-50 mix but a higher level of Medicare patients tipped the scales the wrong way.

HCA recommended we change the patient mix by increasing private pay patients in the hospital and increasing costs to geriatrics patients. Since we were committed to the care of the elderly and rehabilitation we saw an increase of private pay patients in the hospital as a duplication of services provided by Washington Regional Medical Center (WRMC)," he explained.

"After the resignation of the administrator Board members had to take an active part in administration, and the operation was streamlined. In three months we were operating in the black but we are kidding ourselves because, with hospital costs down Medicare will also cut reimbursements. 'If City Hospital is to continue to take Medicare patients we are going to have to get what it costs somewhere else. We are reluctant to get it from the nursing home," he said.

Dr. Hall also pointed out the number of persons 65 and older is increasing and it is predicted that 30 percent of the population will fall into that age category in 40 to 50 years. "For every patient who needs life saving services 10 to 20 need relief care to suffering," he said.

Listing the attributes which make City Hospital unique, Dr. Hall, included a dedicated nursing staff, by outstanding patient care; a medical staff which makes it possible to obtain a physician when necessary; lower costs because it is a relatively small institution. Primarily, however, he indicated, the small acute care facility (approximately 35 beds) makes it possible to provide outstanding care to geriatrics patients.

He also mentioned the availability of a variety of diagnostic procedures and noted the outstanding physical therapy department.

He said the hospital has approximately 500 applications for its geriatrics center, because of the quality of patient care rendered.

John Lewis, also a Board member, explained the hospital's immediate needs were to be able to meet current debts of $275,000 and to underwrite a $370,000 long term debt.

"We decided on a fund drive, started to organize itand our chairman George Tharel, had to resign for health reasons, Lewis said.

In response to a question from Al Eason, Lewis said that even if the hospital paid all its bills, a subsidy was necessary.

"There will always be a deficit between cost and reimbursement," said Vandergriff and it was noted that without the subsidy it would necessary to phase out the acute care section and go entirely into nursing home care.

While it was not said specifically, it was the general consensus that a fund drive should be delayed until after a committment was received from the city from the proposed sales tax. Hospital officials meet tonight with the City Board of Directors to discuss this issue.

Should be Given

Curtis Shipley, a member of the WRMC Board of Governors, said he felt strongly that support should be given to the city's proposed sales tax and it would be a mistake to go into a fund drive. "Save the fund raising for brick and mortar project," he said, and suggested that maybe the acute care section is a luxury. "Find a level of service which maintains most of the service but still is on a profitable basis," he said.

Russell Purdy, former member of the City Board of Directors, and an active volunteer at City Hospital for many years, equated City Hospital's request for a share of the revenues of the proposed sales tax, with the city getting into providing social services. "I personally don't believe the city should get into this. The city needs expanded fire department services, better streets and sewer system, he said.

Vandergriff explained City Hospital is a city-owned institution and appoints four representatives to the hospital's Board. Lewis added that historically City Hospital has received tax support in the past.

Springdale

(Continued from page 1)

the special award he was to receive.

Louis McJunkin, 1978 president-elect of the Chamber of Commerce, presented a special award to Chamber member Tom Kennan. Kennan has topped the membership drives of the past few years with regularity, McJunkin said. Glenn Howard, outgoing President of the Chamber of Commerce, was presented with a plaque in appreciation for his outstanding service to the Chamber and community.

Incoming Chamber President Larry Clinkscales told the crowd of plans for Springdale's Centennial celebration that will take place this year.

April 1, the centennial of the incorporation of the city of Shiloh, now Springdale, will mark the official beginning of festivities. A queen's contest and parade will be held on that day. Jerry Clower, star of the Grand Ole Opry, will be special guest and Parade Marshall.

The weekend of June 23, 24, 25 will be proclaimed the days for the official homecoming of all former Springdalians, Clinkscales said.

Obituary

ARLIS LEDBETTER

Springdale—Arlis Boyd (Steve) Ledbetter, 65, of Springdale died this morning at the Springdale hospital. Born Mar. 12, 1912 at Aurora, the son of H.C. and Maggie Hillis Ledbetter, he was a member of Phillips Chapel of the Freewill Baptist Church, a laborer in a canning company, and a Army veteran of World War II.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Rosa Alice Thomas Ledbetter, of the home; three step-daughters, Mrs. Rosa Reading of Siloam Springs, Mrs. Bettie Sullivan of Winston Salem, N.C., and Mrs. Margaret Dorsey, of Fullerton, Calif.; two half-brothers, Ed Ledbetter of Morrisville, Calif. and Jim Ledbetter of Alexandria, Va.; a sister, Mrs. Lloyd Officer, of Springdale and five step-children.

Funeral arrangements will be announced by Sisco Funeral Chapel.

Funeral

Burnett, Glenn, 2 p.m. Wednesday, Sisco Chapel; burial in Pea Ridge Cemetery.

Cancellation

A meeting of the Washington County Association for Children with Learning Disabilities (ACLD) that was scheduled for tonight has been postponed due to inclement weather. The meeting has been moved ahead to Feb. 14, 7:30 p.m. and will be held at the SWEPCO building.

Grand Jury Acts

FORT SMITH, Ark. (AP) — A federal grand jury Monday returned 14 indictments after a one-day session.

The names of those indicted have not been released.

One of the matters considered by the grand jury was the alleged beating of Lee Watson, 25, of Arkadelphia last summer by law enforcement officers.

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Mobil Oil	59½
J.C. Penney	33¼
Ralston Purina	14⅛
Raytheon	31½
Sambo's	17½
Scott Paper	13⅝
Sears	26
Shakespeare	9⅜
Union Carbide	38⅝
Walter Kidde	27¾
Wal-Mart	19⅝
White Motor	8¼
Ark. West. Gas	16⅞-17⅜
Kearney Natl.	3½-4
Pioneer Foods	7¼-7¾
Std. Register	21-21¾
Tyson Foods	19-19¾

Averages

Inds.	up 1.71
Trans.	up .54
Utils.	up .13
Volume	2,020,000

Commodity Openings

Mar. Corn	226
Mar. Soybeans	572
Mar. Eggs	4670
Feb. Pork Bellies	6535
Mar. Wheat	267

Schools

(Continued from page 1)

such as tornadoes, fire, or severe weather that prevent schools from meeting the minimum requirements," Peterson's letter stated.

He advised that when schools submit annual reports for the school year, justification should be provided for all days lost if the number of days in session is less than 175. "Dismissal for ball games, fairs, deer season, scheduled holidays, professional meetings and similar activities is not considered to be caused by nature," the letter states.

Experienced Critic

OXFORD, N.Y. (AP) — Mary Snyder gives a mixed review to a local craft fair she attended, saying "there isn't anything here I used to do."

Mrs. Snyder qualifies as a longtime critic — she turned 108 years old Monday and attended the weekend craft fair as part of her birthday celebration.

"I feel pretty good," Mrs. Snyder said at a birthday gathering. "I can stand most anything. I just get a lot of sleep."

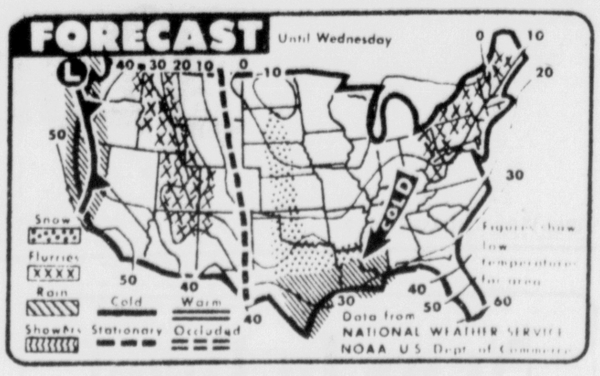
Passenger Killed

Siloam Springs - Anthony Paul Lee, 23, of Route 5, Siloam Springs was killed in a one-car accident at 7:30 p.m. Sunday on Hwy. 43 about 11 miles north of Siloam Springs, the State Police reported.

Trooper Donny Anderson said Lee was a passenger in a car driven by Harold Lee Harrington, 29, Siloam Springs. The car was southbound on Hwy. 43 when Harrington swerved to miss a parked car and lost control.

Anderson said the car went airborne, flipped several times and struck a tree while in the air. Lee was thrown 150 feet from the car. Harrington was treated and released from Siloam Springs Memorial Hospital.

Charges are pending on further investigation, State Police said.



Continued Cold

Arkansas weather is expected to be cold with scattered snow flurries through tonight. Elsewhere snow flurries are forecast in the Northeast and rain is expected in the central and western Gulf region, turning into snow over Texas and extending to the Dakotas. (AP Laserphoto Map)

Rounding Up The News

Polanski Report 'Hogwash'

SANTA MONICA, Calif. (AP) — Roman Polanski's judge says a prison psychiatric report on the director is "a complete whitewash" and that Polanski should have been imprisoned and deported for having had intercourse with a 13-year-old girl.

Superior Court Judge Laurence Rittenband said Monday that Polanski knew a harsh penalty was in store when he fled the country to avoid sentencing on a charge of unlawful sexual intercourse.

The judge disclosed that he told Polanski's lawyer in advance that he planned to send the director back to the state prison at Chino for 48 days, then seek his voluntary deportation from the United States.

Rittenband said he assumed the attorney, Douglas Dalton, passed the word to Polanski.

Dalton could not be reached for comment.

Polanski took a plane to London last Tuesday and later flew to his home in Paris to avoid the sentencing, which had been set for last Wednesday.

Tradition Continues

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Almost as old as Fat Tuesday itself is the curious tradition of the flambeau carriers — black men and boys who balance heavy torches while dancing in Mardi Gras Carnival parades.

Since the 1880s, blacks have marched below white float riders, lighting the night with open kerosene lanterns.

While the bands play and maskers rain trinkets on the screeching masses, the flambeau carriers juke in the street and spin their heavy loads like flimsy umbrellas.

Flambeaux — 10-foot poles with 2-gallon kerosene cans on top and burning jets half way down — used to light the way for nearly every nighttime Carnival parade. Only five parades use them today because so many floats have neon lights.

The job pays only $10, but the crush to serve is fierce. Fights once were so bitter, and the gatherings so notorious, that the selection for the 80 carriers was moved to a park across the street from a police station.

The carriers are always black. A story from the 1950s has it that some white Tulane fraternity boys who tried to join were lucky to get away with their lives.

Chinatown Celebrates

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Chinatown greeted the Year of the Horse today with hope that the bleak specter of a bloody massacre has slipped away with the Year of the Snake.

It has been five months since three masked gunmen invaded the Golden Dragon restaurant and sprayed a crowd of 75 diners with bullets, killing five and wounding 11. No one has been arrested in connection with the shootings.

The Sept. 4 outburst — blamed on warring between rival Chinese youth gangs — cast a pall over the ricky-ticky neighborhood, the largest enclave of Chinese outside Asia. Sidewalk traffic thinned and once-bustling restaurants began to close early, spurring rumors that several would go out of business.

But there was a spirit of optimism among shopkeepers and street venders Monday night on the eve of Chinatown's traditional two-week celebration of the lunar New Year.

"Chinatown has been so crowded you can hardly move," said the Rev. Tso Tin Tamm, a community leader who has lived 55 of his 77 years in Chinatown. "Everyone has been shopping for the New Year goodies — flowers, oranges, fruits, chicken.

Hunt To Run

LITTLE ROCK (AP) — Cary Hunt, 54, of Little Rock, said Monday she would be a candidate for state representative from District 5, Position 1.

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