

Green Bay Press-Gazette

MONDAY, September 15, 1997

Reliving the good times, stormy seas
Ex-Coast Guard members reunite in Green Bay B-6



New concerns raised about PCBs

Controversial theory links them to human reproductive threats

By Susan Campbell
Press-Gazette

New research supports earlier findings that eating Great Lakes fish increases the risk of reproductive problems in women, leading to lower sperm counts to produce and bear children.

The most controversial discussion involving PCBs today regards a link between the chemicals and reproductive problems in people, ranging from lowered sperm counts to possible androgen excess.

Inside

PCBs aren't the only pollutants in the river/A-4
Paper mills also want a better Fox River/A-5
Former paper mill chief says he's proud of his environmental efforts/A-5

SPECIAL REPORT

RIVER RENEWAL
Second of a five-part series

There's more research on PCBs than on many of the other chemicals, said Lara Pullen, of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency this year to propose limiting the

loading research on PCBs is occurring in the region. PCBs also collect in the body fat of people, and some research has shown that women who eat Great Lakes fish throughout their lifetime can absorb the chemicals and pass them on to children in the womb and later through nursing. These chemicals are believed to affect children whose mothers ate contaminated fish from Lake Ontario.

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'Frasier' wins 4th straight Emmy

'NYPD Blue' gets the most trophies

FRESNO, Calif. (AP) — Lee & Oscar, the highly viewed and prestigious, was named best comedy series Sunday at the 49th Annual Primetime Emmy Awards.

David Hyde Pierce, who played Frasier Crane, won best actor in a comedy series.

Richard Dreyfuss, who played Dr. James K. Hound, won best actor in a drama series.

Michelle Williams, who played Joan Holloway, won best actress in a drama series.

Michael Richards, who played Cosmo Kramer, won best supporting actor in a comedy series.

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PACKERS 23 DOLPHINS 18

Press-Gazette's Extra Point



Breaking through: Green Bay Packers defense during Sunday's game at running back Dorsey Levens shoots Lambeau Field. Levens finished the day through a hole in the Miami Dolphins' with 21 carries for 121 yards.

Section inside today

'Older, fatter' Packers reunite for charity

By John Dipko
Press-Gazette

It was a night of memories and high spirits Sunday as dozens of Packers legends and other NFL greats gathered for the Green Bay Chapter of the NFL Alumni.

About 40 former NFL players lined up in the Bayview Sheraton Conference Center in Green Bay.

And how do the NFL legends look? "Older and fatter," joked former Green Bay linebacker Dave Robinson, who now resides in Akron, Ohio.

Robbie and Dave have always been a group of 25 to 30 players in Akron. Lately, though, the older players, some in their 70s

In 'Extra Point'

Packers still don't remember last year's Super Bowl/A-2
Chris Howell column: Cheer up, fans. A win is a win/A-6
Gilbert Brown spins loose: Lefty Butler tears biceps muscle/Page 12

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Two popular diet drugs withdrawn from market

WASHINGTON (AP) — Two of the nation's most popular diet drugs — fenfluramine and phentermine — were pulled off the market today after being linked to serious heart damage.

The Food and Drug Administration recommended that anyone now using Redux, known chemically as fenfluramine, or Phentermine, stop taking the

drug and contact their doctor. Fenfluramine is half of the popular diet drug combination called fen-phen. The other half, phentermine, is not affected by today's withdrawal, but patients could no longer use the combination.

The FDA asked manufacturers to withdraw the drugs after reviewing the records of 291 patients and found 30 persons had abnormal electrocardiograms — a

test that shows damage to the heart's electrical system — even though they had no symptoms of heart disease.

Some 92 patients had problems with their hearts or related heart valves, the data showed. The FDA said the numbers were much higher than it had expected, prompting the agency to recommend stopping sales of the drugs.

Wyeth-Ayerst Laboratories, which sells Redux, and whose parent company makes Phentermine, said it agreed after seeing the government's findings.

"One fenfluramine is in our patients and in their doctors," said Dr. Mark W. Deitch, senior vice president. "Even though this new information is not derived from a thorough clinical study and is difficult to evaluate, the company is taking the most prudent course of action."

The withdrawal comes after doctors at the Mayo Clinic announced in July they had diagnosed 23 cases of a rare heart valve defect in women who took the drugs.

The FDA later announced that it had received 66 additional reports of this dangerous valve disorder. Both fenfluramine and Redux also had been associated with an increased risk of a rare but potentially fatal heart and lung disorder, pulmonary hypertension.

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LOTTERIES

Sunday's SuperCash
Pick 3: 1-9-5
Daily Millions: red 9-15; white 10-18; blue 10-21
More lotteries... B-4

LOCAL STATE

Sheating over the... every detail is not Ted Pappert's top choice. The big picture is his true love and that picture has grown larger during his time as an Administration official — the last seven years as a village president. "Administration has just happened," he said. "It's been fun to be a part of that." B-1

With the season booming ahead...

pharmaceutical medical officers are announcing communication plans. But don't get a shot too early, says a health expert. If you get a shot too soon, its effectiveness will wane before the season does. B-1

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SPECIAL RIVER REPORT

PCBs not only pollutants in Fox River

By Susan Campbell

The most industrial rivers, the Fox River has a full dose of chemicals... PCBs are the main cause, mercury...

enough impact ecologically, that would... PCBs are a natural metal that can be... Mercury is a natural metal that can be...

significant — but still elevated — levels... PCBs are a natural metal that can be... Mercury is a natural metal that can be...

Patience said mercury and other... PCBs are a natural metal that can be... Mercury is a natural metal that can be...

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FOX

From A-1

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Wilder Paine?

Scientists are trying just that... PCBs are a natural metal that can be... Mercury is a natural metal that can be...

About this series

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Wildlife deformities

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PCBs and people

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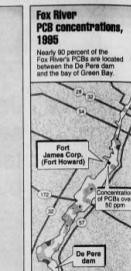
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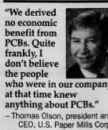
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SPECIAL RIVER RENEWAL REPORT

Paper mills also want 'a better Fox River'

By Susan Campbell Press-Gazette

"We derived no economic benefit from the Fox River cleanup... PCBs. Quite frankly, I don't believe the people who were in our company at that time knew anything about PCBs."



Thomas Olson, president and CEO, U.S. Paper Mills Corp.

Mill representatives don't dispute their polluting role, but say they are victims of a time when there was no money there, and they were generally not required to pollute.

Polychlorinated biphenyls are toxic chemicals once used in carbon copy paper, ink and dye, and are carcinogens in certain foods.

U.S. Paper Mills Corp. is the largest manufacturer of paper in Wisconsin. The company used PCBs to make carbon copy paper and bought the chemicals in bulk from Monsanto.

PCB concentration and behavior. PCBs, polychlorinated biphenyls, are aromatic chemical compounds containing hydrogen, carbon and chlorine.

The major source of PCBs in the Fox River came from carbonless copy paper discharged by paper mills through recycling.

Service with gasoline goes directly into the river; you had people living along the Fox River who put their garbage out on the river.

Not 'volunteering fingers' Although the mills are not responsible for runoff or accidental non-point source pollution, Hilgert said the Fox cannot be cleaned without addressing it.

PCBs remain in the river, but they are not going to clean up the river. The state is going to clean up the river.

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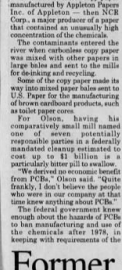
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Fox River damage

Shown are seven paper companies the federal government has named as having a responsibility for the Fox River.



Fort James Corp. U.S. Paper Mills Wisconsin Paper Appleton Paper Wisconsin Paper Mills Wisconsin Paper

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Former mill chief proud of environmental efforts

By Susan Campbell Press-Gazette

Recycling pioneer: Don DeMoss, retired chairman of Fort Howard, is proud of his company's contribution in pioneering paper recycling in the 1930s.

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Our environment

El Nino harming of fish breed

Wind, warm water among clues that phenomenon may be severe

MONTEREY, Calif. (AP) — Fish experts fear that the weather phenomenon known as El Nino, now brewing in the Pacific Ocean, could devastate salmon and other species along the West Coast.

Acid rain controls aim of legislation

WASHINGTON — Acid rain legislation passed by the House and Senate last week aims to reduce sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxide emissions.

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