

B-8 \*\* Wednesday, July 1, 1998 Green Bay Press-Gazette

### Court backs suits for pothole injuries

MADISON (AP) — County highway departments can sue if they don't adequately repair road defects that cause crashes, the state Supreme Court ruled Tuesday.

The justices' unanimous ruling allows an injury victim to proceed with a lawsuit they filed against Janesville County over a 1994 accident.

Jane and James Morris' car collided with another vehicle that had no pothole markings on the right edge of the road. The driver allegedly pulled back into the center lane and collided with the Morris vehicle.

The Morrises said in their lawsuit that John Morris and Fred permanent back and knee injuries.

The investigating officer wrote in his accident report that the pit was 40 percent responsible for the accident, while the driver was 60 percent responsible.

Janesville County Judge Patricia Trappert dismissed the lawsuit.

### Superfund decision due next week

#### EPA proposal for Fox River still a secret

By Susan Campbell Press-Gazette

"During a year's worth of speculation, a decision is expected next week about whether the Fox River will be proposed for listing as a federal Superfund cleanup site."

"An answer will be forthcoming next week," Luke Hertz, spokesman for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in Washington, D.C., said Tuesday.

The substance of that decision, by EPA acting administrator Timothy Fields Jr., is being held close to the vest.

Officials in the EPA's Region 5 office in Chicago, who have argued strongly in favor of proposing Superfund designation for 10 miles of the lower Fox River, said Tuesday even they don't know the answer.

During the last few months, Fields had sought out arguments for support for listing the river against opposition from paper mills, Gov. Tommy Thompson and the state Department of Natural Resources.

The final and often vague rule will hold responsible for the cleanup of an estimated 70,000 pounds of polychlorinated biphenyls along the riverbed say the cleanup can be accomplished through voluntary negotiations between the state and the mills.

But EPA's Region 5 office says and notes that negotiations should take no more than two weeks.

The regional office says the EPA's public health risk, the chemical compounds have made their way into fish tissues and can accumulate in the bodies of people who eat contaminated fish from the river despite fish consumption advisories.

Superfund designation would force a cleanup, providing government funds to start the project and

steering money to help if paper mills refuse to cooperate.

Jim Hutchinson, of the EPA's Region 5 office, said Tuesday that if the Fox River is proposed and ultimately listed as a Superfund site, it would be the first time the EPA has overridden the state's position on cleanup.

The statute may be, at least in part, because of the fact that until last year, Superfund designations could not cover without the governor's approval.

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### Worker compensation for ski injury ruled

MADISON (AP) — A CBS employee at the 1994 Winter Olympics is entitled to worker's compensation coverage for a ski injury he received on his day off, the state Supreme Court ruled Tuesday.

The justices unanimously upheld a decision by the State Department of Appeals, which said Richard Kamp, 36, of Oshkosh, should be compensated for a knee injury.

CBS hired Kamp to assist in coverage for the 1994 Winter Olympics in Lillehammer, Norway, for four months.

CBS gave Kamp and nine other employees a day off because no Olympic games were scheduled. Kamp happened to get injured on his day off while skiing.

CBS attorney James Ratzel of Milwaukee said he could not comment on the ruling because he had not read it.

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David D. Kim, M.D.

### Green promises national '2 strikes' law if elected

Press-Gazette

State Rep. Mark Green, R-Green Bay, who is running for Assembly to run for the 8th Congressional District, and Tuesday that if elected to Congress, he will author a federal version of "two strikes" law.

"One 'two strikes' law is not enough," Green said. "I want to go to Congress and give kids everywhere this same protection."

Green was joined at the news conference by Alan Klain, the abduction and murder of Klain's daughter, Polly, which resulted in legislation in 1995. Polly was taken from her California home by repeat sex offender Richard Alvin Davis. Since his daughter's murder, Klain has become a spokesman for victims' rights and an expert on child safety issues.

"We raise the bars of the country do a better job keeping our children safe," said Klain. "Wisconsin is taking a giant step forward with the 'two strikes' law, now it's time for Congress to follow suit."

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