

Judge orders arrest of editor for publishing trial verdict

TEXARKANA, Ark. (AP)—Circuit Judge John Goodson ordered the arrest Tuesday of a newspaper editor who published a story on a trial verdict in defiance of a court order.

Harry Wood, executive editor of the Texarkana Gazette and News, began an hour later trying to arrange to surrender. No arrangement could be made immediately because Goodson could not be found.

Wood wanted Goodson located

before he surrendered because the judge refused to set bond in advance and Wood faced remaining in jail until the judge reappeared.

Goodson issued an arrest warrant after Wood failed to appear at a hearing to answer a contempt citation issued by Goodson Friday.

Wood was represented at the hearing by lawyer W. H. Arnold, but the presence of counsel did not satisfy the judge. Wood did not appear on the advice of Ar-

nold, who tried unsuccessfully to fight the contempt citation with four motions, all overruled by Goodson.

Wood declined to comment on the case, saying he did so on Arnold's advice. He spent the afternoon in his office, smoking one cigarette after another, handling routine business, and complaining because of the delay in bringing the case to a head.

The Texarkana Gazette on Feb. 17 published a story about the

rape conviction of Eugene E. Sumler of Texarkana. The verdict was returned in open court Feb. 16, but Goodson first asked a reporter and then ordered Wood not to print the story in the next morning's Gazette because related cases were scheduled for trial the next day.

Although actions in open court generally have been regarded as public information, Goodson said in the contempt citation that he did not consider this verdict to

be a public record. He did not explain why he took this view.

The judge chastised Arnold at the start of the hearing because Arnold had not complied with a court rule that all motions must be submitted to the judge 15 minutes in advance of a hearing.

"... As you knew when you sat on this bench," said Goodson to Arnold, who was Miller County circuit judge until 14 months ago.

Arnold first moved to have the citation dismissed on the grounds

that it was improper for an Arkansas deputy sheriff to serve it on Wood in the Gazette offices, which are on the Texas side of this border city.

Goodson held that Wood had been adequately notified of the contempt proceeding. He then overruled a motion asking him to disqualify himself on grounds that he was "directly and personally involved" in the case.

Arnold sought to have the citation dismissed on grounds that

Goodson, an Arkansas judge, lacked jurisdiction to cite a resident of Texas in connection with an article printed in a newspaper located in Texas.

"Overruled," snapped Goodson. Finally, Arnold filed a formal answer to the contempt citation, declaring that Wood and the newspaper had a perfect right to print the offending story under the First (freedom of the press) Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

This, too, was overruled. "Anything else?" asked Goodson.

When Arnold said, "No," Goodson directed the sheriff to arrest Wood and said he wanted to be notified as soon as Wood was in custody "even if it is 4 o'clock in the morning."

Arnold asked the judge to set bond, but Goodson replied, "I'll set bond when Mr. Wood is in custody."

The judge apparently recognized some kind of jurisdiction problem but he instructed the sheriff's office not to try to arrest Wood in Texas.

Wood, 33, has been a newspaperman for 14 years. He came to Texarkana a year ago after three years as editor of the Sentinel Record-New Era at Hot Springs, Ark. Prior to going to Hot Springs, he was state editor of the Standard Times at San Angelo, Tex., for three years.

Simon presents Thursday talk

Dr. Herbert A. Simon of Carnegie-Mellon University closes out A&M's 1971-72 University Lectures Series with a Thursday presentation entitled "Is There an Information Explosion?"

The professor of computer science and psychology will speak at 8 p.m. in the Zachry Engineering Center auditorium.

Dr. W. A. Landmann, University Lectures Committee chairman, said the College of Business Administration will host Dr. Simon's admission-free presentation.

Dr. Simon is considered a national authority on the use of computers to simulate human thinking. He is a member of the National Academy of Sciences and the National Academy of Public Administration and serves in the President's Science Advisory Committee.

New dorm wing named for Dunn

A&M has designated one wing of its new \$8.5 million dormitory complex the "J. Harold Dunn Residence Hall" in honor of the Amarillo businessman, civic leader, rancher and 1925 A&M graduate.

Dr. Jack K. Williams, TAMU president, noted in his announcement that Dunn is one of the university's most dynamic graduates who started at the bottom of the ladder and worked his way to commanding heights.

Dunn was chairman of the board of Shamrock Oil and Gas Corp. from 1960-66 and chairman of the executive committee of Diamond-Shamrock Corp. from 1966 until his retirement on May 1, 1969.

His current interests are ranching and investments.

The new dormitory complex includes two four-story residence halls, one named for Dunn and the other still unnamed, and a one-story student commons with dining and recreational facilities. The 948-student complex, scheduled for completion this summer, is located across from the golf course north of the 12-dorm Corps of Cadets area.

Jones chosen for award

Mark H. Jones, A&M aerospace engineering major of Dallas, has been selected among eight students nation-wide for Sigma Gamma Tau's 1972 National Honor Undergraduate Student Awards.

The senior student will later be presented a \$100 honorarium and certificate documenting the award.

Students were nominated by each chapter of the society.

Jones has a 3.88 grade point ratio in the 4.0 TAMU system. He also is secretary of the A&M chapter of the American Institute for Aeronautics and Astronautics, serves on the senior class council and is a member of Phi Eta Sigma, Tau Beta Pi and Phi Kappa Phi.

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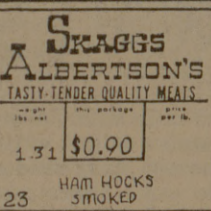
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