

Local

Settlement being appealed

Silkwood claims dismissed

United Press International
DENVER (UPI) — The 10th U.S. District Court of Appeals Thursday upheld a lower court in dismissing two claims filed by heirs of Karen G. Silkwood against officials and agents of both the Kerr-McGee Corp. and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Silkwood, a former employee at the Kerr-McGee Corp. Cimarron nuclear facility at Crescent, Okla., died in a car crash in 1974 while en route to meet with a New York Times reporter to disclose alleged evidence of safety defects at the facility. A federal court jury in Oklahoma City last year found Kerr-McGee liable for plutonium contamination the woman suffered while employed at the plant and awarded a \$10.5 million settlement against the company.

That case now is under appeal in the 10th Circuit Court. In the ruling Thursday, the court said an Oklahoma City federal court judge acted properly in dismissing a civil rights suit against the company and FBI agents. Attorneys for the heirs argued the court lacked jurisdiction to take such action. In the suit, heirs of Silkwood argued Kerr-McGee officials formed a conspiracy in November 1972 to prevent employees from organizing a labor union. The suit claimed the employees were placed under illegal surveillance, their phones were tapped and they were followed. Attorneys for the estate argued the National Labor Relations Board, not the federal courts, had exclusive jurisdiction of the claims that were

filed. The Denver-based appeals court disagreed. "Entrusting the exclusive power of vindicating these constitutional rights to the NLRB, which may refuse to hear a case at all, raises grave constitutional implications, heightened by the NLRB's lack of expertise in constitutional matters, a field traditionally reserved to the courts," the appeals court said. "Ruling that the board has exclusive jurisdiction in this area would give free rein to government officials and private parties acting in concert with them to violate the constitutional rights of others with impunity." The appeals court also agreed with the lower court judge that the complaint was insufficient to stand as a class action under the Civil Rights Act.

"Here it seems clear from the complaint as a whole that the feud, if there is one, is private," the court said. "No general prejudice which transcends the immediate dispute is shown. Rather the hatred which defendants allegedly harbor is against Karen Silkwood and her associates arising out of the activities of parties involved. We hold this is essentially a private feud not within the intended scope of the act's coverage."

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What's Up

FRIDAY
PSYCHOLOGY LECTURE: David B. Cohen of University of Texas at Austin will speak on "The Function of REM Dreaming" at 4 p.m. in 302 Rudder.
HILLEL CLUB: Will meet for Shabbat dinner at 6:30 p.m. and for Chanukah services at 8 p.m. at the Hillel Jewish Student Center.
CATHOLIC STUDENT ASSOCIATION: The TAMU Women's Chorus will perform a Christmas concert at 7:30 p.m. at St. Mary's Church.
OASIS: Will meet at 7:30 p.m. in 701 Rudder.
"AMERICAN GIGOLO": Richard Gere is Julian Kay, a man who earns a living pleasing women — such as senator's wife, Lauren Hutton. The feature will be shown at 7:30 and 9:45 p.m. in Rudder Theater.
"WHEN A STRANGER CALLS": A babysitter gets a strange call that asks, "Have you checked the children?" The police trace the call and find it's coming from within the house. The feature will be shown at midnight in Rudder Theater.
AG ECONOMICS CLUB: Will have a party at 7 p.m. at 2003 Willowick. An RSVP should be given by noon at 112 Agriculture.
MSC BASEMENT LOCAL SHOW: Will be held at 8 p.m. in the MSC Main Lounge.

SATURDAY
HILLEL CLUB: Will have a Chanukah party at 8 p.m. at the Hillel Jewish Student Center.
TAMU SPORTS CAR CLUB: Will leave for a rally at 5 p.m. from the Zachry Parking Lot. A party will follow.
BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION: Will have a party at 7:30 p.m. at the Arbor Square apartments party room.
RUGBY CLUB: Will have an Old Maroon Game of former students at 2 p.m. at the eastgate soccer field area.

SUNDAY
"THE PAPER CHASE": Timothy Bottoms stars as a first-year law student who strives to maintain the all-important grade while holding on to his integrity. He romances Lindsay Warren whose father, Oscar-winning John Houseman, he is trying to impress. The feature will be shown at 7:30 p.m. in Rudder Theater.
CATHOLIC STUDENT ASSOCIATION: Will meet for Bible study at 8:15 p.m. at St. Mary's Student Center.

MONDAY
TAMU RELIGIOUS COUNCIL: Will meet at 5:15 p.m. at the Faiths Chapel.
MARKETING SOCIETY: Aggeland pictures will be taken at 2 p.m. in the MSC Main Lounge.
ALPHA ZETA: Aggeland pictures will be taken at 8 p.m. in the Main Lounge.
T-STAR: Will meet at 7 p.m. in 607 Rudder.
GUATEMALAN STUDENT ASSOCIATION: Will meet at 7:30 p.m. in 502 Rudder.
CHRISTMAS TREE SALE: Lambda Sigma will be selling Christmas trees 1-5 p.m. at the Commons and 4-7 p.m. at Sbis.

TUESDAY
POULTRY SCIENCE CLUB: Will meet at 7:30 p.m. in 100 Klett.
CHRISTMAS SERVICE: Catholic Christmas in Aggeland will be at 8 p.m. at St. Mary's Church lawn. A party will follow the service.



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Aggies to enter for B-CS Yule parade

More than 100 community groups, including Texas A&M University, local schools and area churches, will participate in Saturday's annual Bryan-College Station Chamber of Commerce Christmas Parade. The Ross Volunteers, Fish Drill Team, the Women's Drill Team and several sororities and fraternities are among entries from the University, parade float chairman Susan Winkelmann said. Community involvement is much broader in this year's Christmas parade than previous years, Winkelmann said. In addition, seven busloads of with more than 300 Shriners will arrive from Houston to take part in the parade at 2 p.m. in downtown Bryan, she said. Parade organizers said rumor has it that Santa Claus, too, will make a special appearance at the occasion, which will be televised on KAMU-TV. Judging of floats will begin at 5 p.m. along the north side of Street where the 1980 Christmas parade entrants will assemble. Winners will be announced before parade begins. A first-place prize of \$200, second-place prize of \$100, and third-place prize of \$50 will be awarded in each of the four divisions which include commercial, community, religious and school. Following judging, the parade begins at 19th and Main Streets. From that point it will move along Main, turn west (right) on Street to Bryan Avenue and then north back to 19th Street. The procession will end at the Bryan Club Park on 15th Street and

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