### Lawyer believes 'Silkwood' to be far from the truth

AMES, Iowa — The movie silkwood" does not give the al story behind the death of ren Silkwood because the viemakers feared a libel t would be filed by KerrscGee Corp., a lawyer said

Dan Sheehan, one of the ttorneys who won a \$10.5 lion civil suit against Kerr cGee Corp. on behalf of the ilkwood estate, told students t Iowa State University that he nation's laws do not pro-ect workers like Silkwood.

ilkwood was killed in a car cident in 1974, while she s on her way to meet with a porter to discuss possible ety violations in the KerrcGee Cimmaron plutonium

ant at Crescent, Okla.

Marks found on her car owed the vehicle was ushed off the road by nother car. A manila folder dence of safety hazards at the plant — and that she planned to give the reporter - was never found.

Particles of plutonium — a man-made radioactive substance considered one of the most toxic in the world — had been found earlier in her apartment. Silkwood had been contaminated by high levels of radiation before her

Although the recently released movie has focused public attention on Silkwood's case, Sheehan still has a number of complaints about "Silk-

"They were extraordinarily considerate of Kerr-McGee," Sheehan said. He said moviemakers feared a libel suit, so they blackened Silkwood's character and downplayed some of the issues to

appease the company.
Sheehan has never been

able to press his claim that Kerr-McGee deliberately exposed Silkwood to plutonium

"They never wanted to kill her," he said. "All they were trying to do was 'max' her out," by increasing her radiation exposure to the lifetime maximum allowed for nuclear workers under federal regulations, "to make her leave, to get her out of their hair.'

by placing it in food in her apartment — although he does not suspect the company

of trying to kill her with it. "They never wanted to kill her," he said. "All they were trying to do was 'max' her out," by increasing her radiation exposure to the lifetime maximum allowed for nuclear workers under federal regulations, "to make her leave, to get her out of their hair."

He also absolves the com-

pany of a conspiracy to murder Silkwood, making the death look like a traffic acci-

"They didn't want to kill her," Sheehan stressed. "They just wanted to run her off the road and get those documents

Although Sheehan lost a civil suit alleging Silkwood's civil rights were violated by a 'federal conspiracy" to prevent her from releasing the documents, he won the damage suit against Kerr-McGee for allowing Silkwood to be contaminated by plutonium from the plant.



### t olice murder trial starts

United Press International

IAMI — An all-white jury called Monday to hear openarguments in the volatile lof a Cuban-born policeman killed a black youth in a tto arcade, setting off three

s of racial rioting.
Luis Alvarez, 24, is on trial manslaughter for the fatal poting of Nevell Johnson Jr., a syear-old black, at a video arcade in the Overtown

A jury of three men and three en, one of whom is the only n on the panel, plus a man woman as alternates, was sen late Friday after eight s of questioning. Circuit ge David Gersten held off aring in the jury until Monafternoon in case of appeals their selection to a higher

o appeals developed over weekend, during which the gnated jury was seques-

stemacone juror chosen Thursday reformatew a legal hitch into the selecnad been n process when he said he had eived an anonymous eatening telephone call.

His statement, which came arlier and t before a jury was to be sworn forced an overnight delay ne equipal another go-around in the

The juror, Guillermo Mar-to, was scheduled to be sented Monday for contempt of irt. Gersten cited him for con-\$687 hpt when he found that Marohad gone to work although

ple he was on the Alvarez jury after being ordered not to discuss the case with anyone.

The jurors finally chosen are white middle-class citizens ranging in age from 32 to 67. A number of black activists in the community protested the exclusion of blacks from the panel. The only four blacks considered were dismissed during the challenging process.

Alvarez, an 18-month member of the Miami police force at the time, claimed the shooting of Johnson on Dec. 28, 1982, was accidental. He told investigators he was showing his rookie partner, Louis Cruz, the ropes in a high-crime area when he spotted a suspicious bulge at the pit of Johnson's back.

After determining the bulge was a concealed handgun, Alvarez said he drew his service revolver and pointed it upward.
As he asked Cruz to get the handgun, Alvarez said Johnson suddenly jerked around, causing the policeman's gun to fire

The bullet struck Johnson in the head and the youth, a Dade County courier with no police record, died the next day. Three days of rioting ensued, during which another man died and 26 were injured.

The police report on the incident said Alvarez was away from his assigned beat at the time of

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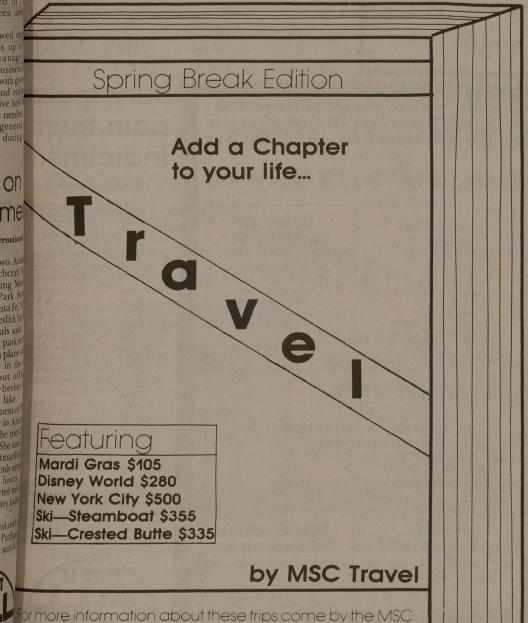
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