

Mitsubishi Aircraft seeking \$9.5 million in malpractice suit

AUSTIN (AP) — A jury in the Mitsubishi Aircraft International vs. Fulbright & Jaworski legal malpractice trial began deliberations that are expected to last several days.

The trial in State District Court Judge Pete Lowry went to the jury Monday after 24 days of testimony.

In its lawsuit, Mitsubishi claims lawyers acting on behalf of a Fulbright & Jaworski partner made changes in an aircraft contract to the detriment of Mitsubishi.

Since Mitsubishi had been a client of Fulbright & Jaworski for about 20 years, it asserts that the law firm and

its lawyers had a responsibility to look out for Mitsubishi's interests.

At the center of the dispute is a 1984 contract to buy a Mitsubishi Diamond II business jet executed by a group of Austin businessmen that included Fulbright & Jaworski partner Pike Powers, who is also chairman of the Austin Chamber of Commerce.

In closing arguments, Sidney Rav-kind, representing Mitsubishi, told jurors "the time is now and the place is here" to restore decency and honor to the legal profession.

Two philosophy books praise liberal education

NEW YORK (AP) — Michael Oakeshott is 87 years old, lives in a stone cottage in Dorset, England, and is, in the minds of many, one of the century's great philosophers.

A Bartlett Giamatti, a teacher of Italian, English and comparative literature, was president of Yale University and is about to become the commissioner of baseball in April.

Space: The Real World of the University" (W.W. Norton, \$19.95) consists of 23 essays, many of them originally delivered as speeches.

The Oakeshott collection represents an opportunity for Americans to discover a major British philosopher, a professor emeritus at the London School of Economics.

The two men, seemingly so distant in place and circumstance, are actually close intellectual neighbors. Each has just published collections of essays on the idea of the university.

Both have fashioned elegantly written defenses of liberal education and the ideal of the university as a place of civil conversation; a place where, as Oakeshott puts it, a student may "come to seek his intellectual fortune" undistracted by the press of time or outside worries.

"The Voice of Liberal Learning: Michael Oakeshott on Education" (Yale University Press, \$20) was edited by Timothy Fuller, head of the political science department at Colorado College.

Noses lead people to jobs in Cognac

COGNAC, France (AP) — Some good jobs are won by a nose in this little community of southwestern France.

Sensitive nostrils can easily nose out competition here, where nearly all 23,000 inhabitants are involved in making and selling cognac. A keen sense of smell insures success for a master blender, or "maitre de chais," who helps create the well-known brandy that comes from this area.

As a rule, these jobs are hard to come by since they are handed down from father to son over many generations.

In addition to being able to detect what creates superb cognac, a master blender must put to memory the taste of each of hundreds of cognacs of various ages and zones. He must also recall combinations of blends that can total 30 or more.

For this flair, he is treated in this community with awe. People whisper as he walks by, for it is he who is final arbiter of France's No. 1 export product.

To keep his nose and palate in top condition, he cannot have garlic, pepper or other foods or condiments that may affect his senses of smell and taste.

Producers work to develop odd-colored fruits, vegetables

Would black strawberries on your shortcake whet your appetite? How about some blue sweet corn? And would Peter Piper pick a peck of purple peppers?

These colored vegetables and others are available or in the process of being developed. Would they lure you to the market, at least to try some?

The "Black Beauty" strawberry — known thus far as NY1593 — is an advanced selection of strawberry characterized by a deep purplish-red color that is almost black.

"I hesitate to recommend it as a table variety because I don't think people are ready to accept strawberries that aren't red," says John C. Sanford of Cornell University's New York State Agricultural Experiment Station in Geneva, N.Y., who is working on the berry. He believes the berry may be valuable as a natural coloring agent for processed foods, ice cream, yogurt and frozen fruit bars.

The black berry is large, attractive, relatively firm and has a pleasant flavor, says Sanford, who ranked

it about the same in nutritional value as the traditional red berry.

Blue corn won't turn your teeth blue, as some folks might fear, says Rose Edwards of Albuquerque, N.M., who founded Blue Corn Connection in 1985. He produces blue corn popcorn, pancake, muffin and waffle mixes, blue corn chips and blue corn meal ground coarse, medium and fine.

Edwards says people are intrigued by a blue product and "most of our products come across a little sweeter." He says about 15,000 acres of blue corn are being farmed presently, largely in the Southwest.

There are quite a few purple vegetables. Purple cabbages alternated with green ones in the garden are attractive. There are glossy purple eggplants named Black Magic.

Purple cauliflower actually looks more like broccoli but with smaller buds. Varieties include Purple-Head and Royal Purple. Purple cauliflowers generally become green when cooked.

Seed companies also are offering blue potatoes, white eggplant, yellow beets and white potatoes.

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