

Houston Chronicle

Tuesday, September 12, 1995

50 Cents ***

News briefs

Wrongful death suit

The family of a Bryan woman killed in an April 1994 truck crash settled her wrongful death lawsuit against three transportation-related companies for \$3.65 million Monday.

Richard Mithoff and Kevin O'Malley, attorneys for the family of Cheryl Harrison, filed the settlement in state District Judge Katie Kennedy's court.

Mithoff said a poorly maintained truck broke apart and its rear-wheel assembly flew across U.S. 290 and into the family's van, which then slammed into a tractor-trailer rig.

Harrison, 34, was a Texas A&M University librarian and mother of three sons, 2 through 16.

Her husband, Fred, is still receiving mental treatment and therapy for his injuries — fractures of the knee, hip and arm.

Pioneer Contract Services Inc., employer of Bennie Earl Shields, driver of the axle-plagued truck, is to pay \$2 million; Bright Truck Leasing Corp., which had repaired the truck on the day prior to the accident, \$1.6 million; and Ryder Dedicated Logistics, corporate operator