

"All the News
That's Fit to Print"

The New York Times

Late Edition

New York: Today, plenty of sun; light winds. High 38. Tonight, clear, calm. Low 25. Tomorrow, continued sun with a little wind. High 40. Yesterday high 43, low 30. Details, page C-7

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Girl Injured at Birth Given \$7.7 Million

By The Associated Press

A Bronx Supreme Court jury has awarded \$7.7 million to a 12-year-old girl who suffered brain damage at birth because of what her lawyer said was failure of the hospital and doctor to respond quickly to her mother's bleeding late in the pregnancy.

The verdict was won by Charmaine Frith and her mother, Chelsea. A jury of four men and two women, which deliberated five days after a four-week trial, returned the decision on Friday.

A statement issued in behalf of the family and its lawyer, Thomas A. Moore, maintained that doctors took three hours to act when an immediate surgical delivery was indicated to insure the health of the infant.

The jury said Union Hospital and the mother's doctor, Andre Spiner, each were liable for half the malpractice verdict.

A spokesman for the hospital, Thomas Murray, said there was no comment immediately. Dr. Spiner's telephone service said he was out of town until next week.

According to the lawyer's statement, the woman was near the due date for the baby's birth when she reported vaginal bleeding and her doctor said he would meet her at the hospital.

Doctors at the hospital diagnosed the bleeding as resulting from a condition which Mr. Moore said called for an emergency Caesarean section to deliver the baby.