City and Region

# News in brief

## Victim identifies Ladany at trial

Billy Lee Gay Jr. today identified Robert Ladany as the man who shot and robbed him at a Norton gas station on Jan. 29, 1980. Ladany is on trial before a Summit County Common Pleas jury of nine men and three women on charges of attempted aggravated murder and aggravated robbery. Gay, 21, told the court he still has bullet fragments in his head from the incident at Tom's Sunoco, 3175 Barber Road. Ladany, who has been arrested 35 times since 1951 and has served seven terms in prison, has pleaded innocent, claiming he was elsewhere at the time of the robbery.

## Richland escapee caught by deputies

Richland County sheriff's deputies today apprehended an escaped prisoner they said shot one of their colleagues. Deputies said Gary Schoolcraft was arrested shortly after midnight as he was trying to break into a home about a block from the jail. Schoolcraft is accused of shooting Deputy Arthur Hicks, 58, while Hicks was returning Schoolcraft to the jail from a psychological examination. Hicks was "stable" at Mansfield General Hospital. Schoolcraft, 32, is accused in the strangulation of a 17-year-old Mansfield girl. He pleaded innocent by reason of insanity to the aggravated murder charge.

## Chemical spill called no threat

A device that regulates the flow of electricity through a line broke this morning on an Ohio Edison pole on Akron's North Hill, spilling polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB), a toxic chemical used in electrical power equipment. Edison spokesman David Osterland said the PCB, which spilled onto a gravel driveway on Dayton Street, posed no immediate threat. PCB, an insulating liquid, is not dangerous unless ingested, he explained. Osterland said a customer had notified the company about the spill, and said the material was being cleaned up according to Environmental Protection Agency regulations. There was no interruption of electrical service.

PCB-ARCH-EXT0376436