

## 90 minutes to decide

The trial opened Wednesday and the verdict was reached Thursday after about 90 minutes of deliberations.

Marsh said the company had failed to test Hendrix, 51, for drugs at any time during his employment and that the company had no records of any maintenance or pre-trip inspections on the dump truck.

Since the judge determined before and during trial that the company was liable based on evidence presented by the plaintiffs, the only issue left for the jury to decide was how much to award in damages.

Defense attorney Scott Harwell said the owner of Hardway Hauling was sorry the accident happened.

Hendrix was represented by a different attorney but did not attend the trial; he is serving a 20-year prison sentence related to the accident. Court records show Hendrix pleaded guilty to murder last October.

► See Verdict, Page 12A