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2:30 p.m.: Chelsea Clinton Waco
6 p.m.: John McCain, Waco

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(February 27, 2008)--The U.S. Supreme Court seemed inclined Wednesday to reduce a \$2.5 billion punitive damage award to victims of the Exxon Valdez disaster.



Several justices indicated they think the amount approved by a federal appeals court is too high.

However, there appeared to be no consensus about how much Irving-based Exxon Mobil should have to pay for the 1989 accident.

The Exxon Valdez was a 987-foot tanker that ran aground on a reef and dumped 11 million gallons of oil into Alaskan waters.

Justices Anthony Kennedy and David Souter suggested that perhaps a reasonable number would be twice the amount of money the company has paid to compensate victims for economic losses.

That would be about one billion dollars.

Overall, Exxon has paid \$3.4 billion in fines, penalties, cleanup costs, claims and other expenses resulting from the worst oil spill in U.S. history.

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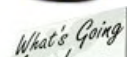
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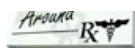
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