A jury returned a $230,000 verdict against a San Fernando Valley doughnut company owner Thursday in a suit in which he was accused of defrauding a former franchisee by exaggerating profits and misrepresenting the rate of store failure and turnovers. Arthur S. Pfefferman, founder and president of Woodland Hills-based Donut Inn, must also pay John and Carol Salvino $75,000 in punitive damages as part of a separate settlement reached by both parties.
BUSINESS
In Era of Fitness, Doughnuts Still Yield Fat Profits: Donut Inn Keeps Eye on Humanity's Sweet Tooth, Not on Appetite for Holistic Health

December 16, 1986 | ALAN GOLDSTEIN, Times Staff Writer

Along the boulevards of the San Fernando Valley and the rest of Los Angeles, it's hard to go very far without passing a doughnut shop. An obvious question arises: How do all those sellers of sugary, gooey stuff stay rolling in dough in Southern California, that Mecca of health-and-fitness consciousness? No problem, says Arthur S. Pfefferman, chairman and president of Woodland Hills-based Donut Inn, a 20-store franchise chain. "Everyone always eats doughnuts."

CALIFORNIA | LOCAL
CSUN's Rein on Freedom

October 4, 1990

The Cal State Northridge Foundation board votes not to accept Carl's Jr. on the campus because of the conservative political views of Carl Karcher. Political science sounds more like political bias. Next thing will be to prohibit a franchise like Shakey's should the owner oppose Proposition 128, Big Green; or DoNut Inn should the owner promote capital punishment; or Kentucky Fried Chicken should the owner lobby to support non-burning of the flag. AMY CHILD Chatsworth

FOOD
Missed Stations on Doughnut Quest

October 11, 1990

It's likely you will get lots of mail about Jonathan Gold's doughnut article ("Searching for the Hole Truth," Sept. 27) asking, "how could you have omitted such and such a doughnut-hole joint?" Well, you missed the boat on two counts in my opinion. The Donut Inn in the Marina del Rey shopping center on Admiral Way makes two kinds of whole-wheat honey doughnuts—the best anywhere. Also available are the hard-to-find plain honey whole-wheat and a glazed variety. And though you may not have been impressed by Randy's buttermilk doughnut, I think its cake doughnuts surpass many, many others.

CALIFORNIA | LOCAL
Donut Inn Franchising

January 12, 1997

Re "Doughnut Franchisees Are Rancor-Filled," Jan. 5. Having just read John Glionna's article on Art Pfefferman and Donut Inn, I felt compelled to write. It is distressing that Glionna chooses to take a one-sided, biased attack against Pfefferman and his Donut Inn chain. Franchise agreements are set up for the benefit of the franchiser and the franchisee. A savvy franchiser cannot, should not and would not tolerate any franchisee's independent operation of a chain (franchise) store.

CALIFORNIA | LOCAL
OAK PARK: Residents Call for Business Curfew

July 26, 1991 | MAIA DAVIS

Contending that a 24-hour doughnut shop may attract crime, a group of Oak Park residents is asking the county to impose a curfew on businesses in the area. However, John Bencomo, a spokesman for the county planning department, said the county can't randomly limit the hours a business can operate. Nearly a dozen residents from various Oak Park subdivisions expressed concerns before Supervisor Maria VanderKolk and the Oak Park Municipal Advisory Council at Tuesday's council meeting.

BUSINESS
Doughnut Franchisees Are Rancor-Filled

January 5, 1997 | JOHN M. GLIONNA, TIMES STAFF WRITER

Donut maven Arthur S. Pfefferman's business credo says there are two kinds of dough: "The kind you earn and the kind you bake." As founder and president of the Woodland Hills-based Donut Inn franchise, the 49-year-old entrepreneur has excelled at making both. Starting his doughnut career as an apprentice baker in the 1960s, Pfefferman has turned a humble business in the San Fernando Valley into a chain of at least 30 franchises spanning Southern California, Nevada and two foreign countries.

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trendies have tried to knock the humble doughnut off its paper plate with an uppity array of scones, muffins, croissants, baguettes, and cinnamon twists. But they can't. The doughnut survives because it is good. And cheap. And it has existed since ancient times, its fossilized remains found in kitchens of prehistoric Native American settlements.

CALIFORNIA | LOCAL
OAK PARK: Busy Agenda Forces 2nd Council Session

August 26, 1991 | MAIA DAVIS
Because of an unusually full agenda, the Oak Park Municipal Advisory Council will meet twice this month. On Tuesday, the council will hold a meeting devoted solely to the Jordan Ranch development proposal. Potomac Investment Associates, developers of Jordan Ranch, and Ventura County planning officials will be present. The meeting will be at 7 p.m. in the multipurpose room of Oak Hills School, 1010 Kanan Road. The second meeting will be at 8 p.m.

1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | Next