Neo-Nazis denied a writ allowing Skokie march

By Dennis D. Fisher

A request by a group of neo-Nazis that would have allowed them to march in the largely Jewish suburb of Skokie was denied Friday by U.S. District Court Judge Bernard M. Decker. The judge refused to grant a preliminary injunction barring Skokie village officials from enforcing three ordinances that prohibit the kind of march the neo-Nazis desire.

Decker reasoned that an injunction now would eliminate

the need to determine the constitutionality of the ordinances.

Frank Collin, leader of the National Socialists Party of America, had sought the injunction. He filed suit in August to overturn the ordinances on the ground that they

violated his group's right to demonstrate freely.

The hastily adopted ordinances require groups seeking to hold marches or rallies to obtain \$350,000 in liability insurance and \$50,000 in property-damage insurance. They also ban the wearing of military-style uniforms and the distribution of inflammatory literature.

Village trustees passed the ordinances May 2 after Collin announced he would lead a march in front of the village hall.

The suit challenging the ordinances remains before Decker. It was filed in Collin's behalf by the American Civil Liberties Union.

The neo-Nazi group won in a similar suit against the Chi-

cago Park District before U.S. District Court Judge George N. Leighton in July.

Leighton struck down a requirement that rallies involving more than 75 persons must be covered by liability insurance of \$100,000 to \$300,000 and property damage insurance of \$50,000.

An ACLU attorney argued then that the neo-Nazis could

find no one who would write the policy.

The requirement had kept Collin's group from holding a rally in Marquette Park on the Southwest Side.