

Red Sox Win
First Meeting
Against Yanks

PAGE D1



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PAGE A1

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PAGE A1



KATHARINE KIMBALL/JOURNAL

Economist Aaron Yelowitz, left, reviews documents with attorney Sidney Rosdeltcher on Friday.

'Living Wage' Trial Ends

■ *Economists dispute each other's figures during testimony*

BY JOHN T. HUDDY
Journal Staff Writer

Two economists on opposite sides of Santa Fe's "living wage" trial continued their duel through the final day of testimony Friday, dis-

agreeing about whose numbers were more reasonable and what Judge Daniel Sanchez should believe.

It was a final spat that was representative of an issue that continues to generate plenty of debate among those on both sides.

"If the judge believes that firms (restaurants) can pass along price increases" while maintaining a profit margin if Santa Fe's "living

wage" law takes effect, said Aaron Yelowitz, a University of Kentucky economist, "that makes a stronger case for the defendants.

Yelowitz testified as the plaintiffs' expert witness Friday afternoon. He maintained that if Sanchez believes the plaintiffs' testimony and the economist's conclusions that restaurants will likely take an economic hit if they have to raise prices because of Santa Fe's mini-

mum wage law, "then that's the case stronger for us," he said.

In the end, Yelowitz and Lawrence Brenner, an economist and league of Robert Pollin — a "living wage" expert who testified for the city Thursday and Friday — agreed after Friday's testimony there was a lot of different numbers that can be interpreted in different ways.

"The bottom line is our number

See 'LIVING WAGE' on PAGE A1

