

## **Clyde Mine Mishap Kills LaBelle Man**

A 39-year-old LaBelle man was killed in an accident at Republic Steel's Clyde 1 Mine at Fredericktown Thursday.

The victim was identified as Steve F. Ritzo Jr.

According to Republic Steel Corp. officials Ritzo, a continuous miner operator, was moving his machine out of a working area when he was caught between a mine timber and the machine.

He was pronounced dead at the scene of a crushed chest.

Ritzo had been employed 21 years with Republic Steel and had been operating the continuous miner for the past seven years.

He is survived by his wife, Erma Marini Ritzo; a daughter, Bernadette and a son, Steven, both at home; his mother, Mrs. Mary Kovach Ritzo, LaBelle; two brothers and two sisters.

Friends will be received in the Skirpan Funeral Home, Brownsville, after 7 this evening until Monday at 9:30 a.m., when prayer services will be held followed by a Requiem High Mass at 10 a.m. in St. James R.C. Church, LaBelle. Rev. Henry Murphy will officiate. Burial will be in Lafayette Memorial Cemetery.