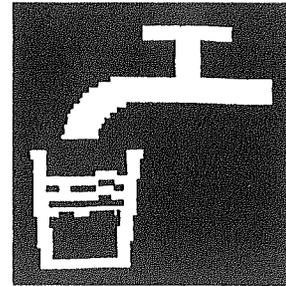


CITY OF MADISON  
WATER & WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT  
P.O. BOX 308  
MADISON, SD 57042  
(605)256-4586 EXT. 238  
JERRY MIKEL, SUPERINTENDENT/KIM VERHEY, FOREMAN



July 21, 1993

Madison Water and Wastewater Plants Damaged by Flood

On Saturday July 3rd, the Madison area received 6 inches of rain in addition to the 3 1/2 inches that fell the previous Monday and Tuesday. The resulting run off caused Memorial Creek and Silver Creek to jump their banks and resulted in the evacuation of 2,000 people in this town of 6,200. Approximately 500 homes were damaged by the flood waters. By 7:00 a.m. on Saturday, the lower level of the City Water Treatment Plant had been flooded, and the plant had to be shut down. It wasn't until mid afternoon, that the five feet of water was pumped out and the transformer room, high service pumps and air compressors were repaired. Electricity was restored at 11:30 p.m., and the plant was back in operation by 4:30 a.m. on Sunday. At no time was our water supply contaminated, but extensive testing was done to make absolutely sure.

On Tuesday, the flood waters had receded enough to allow operators back into the Wastewater Treatment Plant to assess damages and begin repairs, (which are expected to take until at least the end of August). Major damage occurred to the sewer line going to the wasteplant, when creek banks eroded and tore out 165 feet of the line; this break dumped raw sewage into the creek and caused sewage backup into hundreds of homes. The 21 inch concrete pipe leaving the wasteplant was also washed away and repairs are expected to be completed on that line by July 23rd. Damage repair costs have already exceeded \$100,000.00 and may possibly reach \$200,000.00 when repairs are complete.

Throughout our emergency we received excellent support from the DENR Office of Drinking Water and State Health Department. We would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank Darron Busch and his staff for their help, also the State Health Lab for handling our Bacteriological testing; and Curt and Pierre at the DENR Sioux Falls Regional Office.

Kim Verhey, Foreman  
Water and Wastewater Department  
Madison, South Dakota

## SPECIAL FLOOD EDITION



RESCUE — Jim Casanova (left) waded out on 9th St. to an Orville Johnson and Sons maintainer Saturday morning. He and others along the street rode to safety in the grader.

# Huge flood strikes Madison

By BILL DUNN

If there was ever a worse flood in Madison's history, there's no one alive to remember it.

The disaster's beginnings were at about 4:30 a.m. Saturday, July 3, when the rain started. About six inches fell by midmorning, turning creeks in town into raging rivers and spilling them blocks past their boundaries.

Though no lives were lost or major injuries reported, private and public property damage will run into the millions.

Lake property was submerged and already saturated farmland was further inundated. A second storm raged through the area about 12 hours later Saturday night, dropping 30 more of rain with accompanying high winds.

The American Red Cross has declared a national disaster operation in Madison, said regional director Jerry Grant.

The preliminary estimate is that over 500 families were affected here. About 900 families suffered major damage in five counties in South Dakota, but Lake County appears to have been hardest hit, Grant said.

One Red Cross emergency response vehicle will be earmarked for Madison and 500 cleanup kits will be available by Tuesday. "The Red Cross will be here as long as we're needed," Grant said.

There was a briefing for state officials Monday morning in the Public Safety Building. City Engineer Bill Hoyer said that according to 1977 federal flood plain maps, Silver Creek through south Madison is in excess of the 500-year flood. The north creek behaved in excess of the 100-year flood, he said.

Entrance to the city was still limited today because water was over the road on S. Egan, S. Washington and S. Highland avenues. Traffic from the east came into town down the firecracker

stand road north from SD-34 and west on old 34.

The 9th St. bridge buckled between Josephine and Egan on Saturday, causing the road to be closed.

Over 2,000 people were evacuated, said Ron Hughes, Lake County emergency management director. The number of families displaced will go up because many areas haven't been assessed yet, including some in Madison, he said.

The big question was whether the Lake Herman spillway would hold, which so far it has, with the help of some reinforcement and sandbagging along Territorial Road.

A serious situation still exists at the Madison wastewater treatment plant. It wasn't until this morning that city employees were able to get into the plant, said Jerry Mikel, city water and wastewater superintendent. The bridge near the plant is torn out.

About 250 feet of main sewer line leaving the plant leading to the final pumps gave way.

"Everything's going right into the creeks and into the lakes," Mikel said. People shouldn't swim in lakes downstream of the plant and should stay clear of creeks because of the potential contamination.

The city will be testing water for pollutants. Homes that have had sewage backups are a danger, so hygiene like handwashing should be observed. Open sores or cuts also are a potential for danger.

Mikel said the water treatment plant had minor flooding and the power had to be cut for a time because motors were under water. Two of the five city wells weren't affected by the flooding nor was the one-million-gallon underground reservoir.

Water is being treated and should be safe to drink, but anyone who is concerned can boil it as an extra precaution.

Nothing has shown up yet as far

as water main breaks and pressure is holding up. Individual services to many residences were affected.

Electric Superintendent Dick Nighbert said 98 percent of electrical services had been restored as of Monday morning. Still out was the south area, including the Bethel Home and southwest industrial park.

The Memorial Park substation was lost when the transformer was flooded and ruined, so a spare one was installed. The walking bridge in the park was removed so it wouldn't further clog the creek.

Most of the Gehl Company plant is swamped with 2-3 feet of water. Twenty-four skid-steer loaders in a lower pit area that were scheduled to be shipped out Tuesday are completely submerged, as are pallets of loader motors.

"Not good, not good," said plant manager Francis Janous. Twenty-four employees have been called in to start cleanup operations Tuesday.

Most of the 14 bridges in Madison appear to be all right, although structural damage could show up later, said Gordy Johnson, street superintendent.

There were washouts alongside some of them, including S. Washington. Storm sewers clogged with debris are slowing drainage down and there are five or six areas where washout of blacktop occurred, Johnson said.

The county highway shop was temporarily flooded. Superintendent Scott Mathison said it's hard to assess road damage because so many areas are impassable. The high water is peaking now in the Chester area, he said.

Roads are undermined and some culverts washed out. Territorial Road could be undermined and water is still going over it, he said. SD-19 is impassable near the

Mar's Beach entrance.

All the points at the lakes, such as Johnson's, Walker's, Best and Peninsula, are under water, said Linda Hilde. She had to drive about 15 miles to get to town, and there are others in worse shape, she said.

She said the state should be closely monitoring water contamination. "That water on those lakes is absolutely unsafe." People with sandpoint wells should get water tested before drinking it, she said.

Protection from any looting is also needed because people had to leave their homes, and emergency response people needs maps of roads that are open in case they need to get somewhere, Hilde said.

"This has touched everyone," said County Commissioner Shirlee Leighton. The Junius creek is down about a foot-and-a-half from its peak Sunday, she said.

The National Guard was activated but has been released, Hughes said. "The primary reason for activation of the Guard was for their equipment, not their manpower," he said.

Guard generators and water

trailers were brought here and personnel also provided security in south Madison.

Hughes said he's heard only one report of looting and that turned out to be a property owner moving his own property. "Most of these areas at the lake, if anybody wants to loot them, they'll have to get through eight feet of water to do it."

Hughes said volunteers, many who had problems of their own, performed many selfless acts, including rescuing people from their homes. "In checking with the response people, things went fairly smoothly...Not everything went right, but most things did."

There was a shortage of boats, so that will be rectified in the future, he said.

"I'm amazed we didn't have any fatalities," Hilde said. "As fast as it all came up, it was a near thing in many cases." She said she saw a youth on a motorcycle ride through deep water, get thrown off and have to swim to safety.

Lt. Gov. Steve Kirby and other state officials toured the devastation this morning after arriving by National Guard helicopter about 10:30.

Kirby said he will chair a flood task force centered in Sioux Falls. As much technical expertise as possible will be provided, he said. "We are here to help you."

State DOT and emergency funds will be available and the state will push for a federal disaster declaration, Kirby said. "We're going to roll up or sleeves and go in there fighting (for the declaration)."

Kirby said he would look into reactivating the Guard to provide more security.

The shelter at the City Armory will remain open. There weren't that many people there this morning, but occupancy is expected to increase.

The city will begin picking up debris, including trees and ruined items, from residences this Wednesday.

One unconfirmed report was there were 18 basement cave-ins in the city. Many homes had several feet of water in basements and there had water above ground level.

The fireworks display is rescheduled for next Sunday, water levels and weather permitting.

## Mayor: 'Rather devastating'

"This flood is rather devastating. We're trying to keep everything going as best we can," said Mayor Gene Borchardt.

After touring with a delegation including Lt. Gov. Steve Kirby and Major General Harold Sykora, Borchardt pointed out "we were very, very fortunate not to lose any lives."

"We continue to worry about the dam at Lake Herman. Holding up over all the pressure has been a blessing for Madison," he said.

One chief concern now, Borchardt continued, is the sewage treatment plant. When the plant was flooded, the sewage backup into town "that's a real mess through much of Madison."

The plant is still under water and sewage is flowing into Lake Madison untreated.

"But drinking water is safe," he said.

City departments have been praised throughout the weekend for their assistance, and the mayor

promised that the city would continue to do everything it could for residents.

"City crews have been working on almost a 24-hour basis," he said, "and they are continuing to work very hard."

In addition, scores of volunteers are doing a great job, he said. "People have even come from out of town to help."

"This flood is something that isn't supposed to happen. But with all the help, I think it is going as good as can be expected."



THE PARKING LOT IN FRONT of Mundt Library was just one of the many spots in Madison that was flooded as early as 7:30 a.m. Saturday. DSU has had ongoing water problems in their utility tunnels during the past couple of weeks.

## Flood forces Bethel into city armory

By DAN HOLSWORTH  
Bethel Lutheran Home residents and apartment dwellers were still feeling the effects of the flood which forced them to evacuate the South Egan health-care facility on Saturday. They were moved back on Sunday.

Bethel is using its emergency power supply and dealing with, like other Madison residents, water and sewer problems, along with the lack of telephone communications outside the home and apartments.

The apartments, which use city electricity, were still without power as of Monday afternoon.

At 2:30 p.m. Sunday, James Iverson, Bethel administrator, decided to move the residents back to Bethel. The return trip took about 2½ hours.

"Our disaster plan went exceedingly well," said Iverson. "There is no way we can begin to thank everyone, and I mean everyone, who has helped us out."

Saturday's detoured journey, which took 1½ hours, was necessary when, at about 7 a.m., water began coming in at the west end of the home, according to Betty Brookside, the charge nurse on duty at the time.

"The sewers began backing up," said Brookside. "We called help to sandbag those areas. It was at about that time that Mr. Iverson began contacting various government

agencies about our problem. He then made the decision to evacuate."

At about 10:50 a.m., Bethel residents and apartment dwellers began evacuation procedures, according to Joan Johnson, director of nurses.

Fifty-two residents were transported by Bethel and Evergreen Terrace vans and private vehicles via the bypass by Gehl to the Madison City Armory, which wound up as the community's only American Red Cross disaster shelter.

At that time, the Gehl road was still passable.

Seven residents with special health-care needs and four apartment residents were motored to Madison Community Hospital along the present "firecracker stand" detour route.

Bethel had to supply its own staff members to take care of those transported to the hospital.

Later Saturday, two apartment residents remained at the hospital, while one was picked up by Madison relatives and another eventually went to the Madison armory.

At the armory, five residents were taken by relatives to homes in Madison either for the day or overnight care.

"Off-duty Bethel nurses assistants, hospital and former Bethel employees helped us at the armory," added Johnson. "All of

these people did a very, very good job in this emergency."

"In fact, all the community really responded well to our situation, including all the food which was provided by the American Red Cross and brought in by Madison citizens and food services. That was greatly appreciated."

Johnson and her volunteers worked tirelessly through the night, surviving a second storm, which blew out a transformer outside the armory, forcing the National Guard to start up an emergency generator.

Bethel residents, considering the sudden change of "homes," went through the night's stay remarkably well, according to Johnson.

"Considering the all-night activities at this disaster shelter, with others using the facility and the National Guardsmen coming in and out all the time, our stay there went remarkably very well."

Iverson added, "Through this whole ordeal, we never had even a minor health problem occur. Ironically, our residents had a very quiet night at the armory."

## DSU back up and running

By JON M. HUNTER  
Dakota State University, with a campus of 18 buildings, sustained some damage but will be ready for classes Tuesday.

Most of DSU's problems came when the parking lot between the Mundt Library and Lowry Hall filled up Saturday morning. The area is one block east of Memorial Creek at 7th Street. The water rose above the ground level basement

windows and poured in.

The water then raced into the intricate set of tunnels below the campus. Physical plant director Pat Keating shut down the power to avoid the any circuit that occurred when the tunnels flooded last week.

The university brought in a truckload of sand to keep additional water from coming in. Once the flow stopped, the tunnel water stabilized.

But without power, the pumps would not be useful. The city of Madison came to the rescue with a gasoline-powered pump as did US West. The National Guard and Virgil Gagnon supplied extra generators.

Even though the pumping began quickly, the tunnel took on more water than ever before. After the water was cleared, power was restored about 4:30 Sunday afternoon.

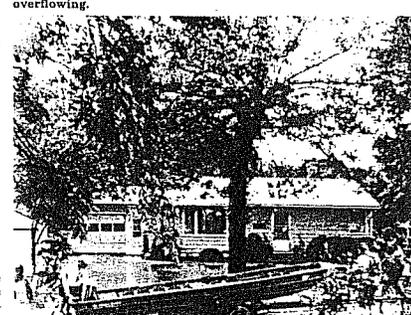
Several buildings took on about eight inches of water, including the Mundt Library, the Heberger Science Center and the Trojan Center. The important Mundt archives were preserved, but a few books got wet. Some books were damaged at the bookstore in the basement of the Trojan Center, but the rest of the inventory escaped harm.

The Zimmerman Wellness Center gained two inches of water, and athletic director Judy Dittman has scheduled repairpersons to check the exercise equipment.

The dorms and classroom buildings had very little trouble. Summer school classes will commence as scheduled Tuesday morning.



WHAT'S A GUY TO DO? Joe Thompson and Steve Polzen stood helplessly watching water rise and come into the Thompson home on East Center St. That home and many others in town have or had water on the main floor after basements filled to overflowing.



"MAYBE THEY'LL ISSUE A lake wind advisory on North Washington Ave." — That was the remark made by a resident on the flooded street as this rescue boat was being loaded back onto the trailer after bringing two families out of their homes at the creek's edge. The water's highest point on the street was the corner of Washington and 4th just south of Washington school. That crest was reached in the late morning Saturday.

to get the people and Jupe into the boat to take them out of the area. A fearful Jupe decided being rescued wasn't for him, and he jumped out of the boat. Of course, the people couldn't get to him so they had to hope he made it to safety.

By 2 p.m., there was still no clue as to the cat's whereabouts and the cat's people were moved into Allan and Eve Fisher's home on N. Lee Ave.

Throughout the long night, no one knew where Jupe was; but on Sunday, Richards' handyman Eunice Griffin stopped over to get damage reports and learned that Jupe had been found clinging to a lilac bush. The cat was reluctant to let go, but was finally pried loose.

"The cat was freaked out," said Griffin. But at least he was home and dry.

The couple, married just two weeks, and their guest looked out the door and found they wouldn't be able to walk out of the house. They stood on the front steps shouting for help.

A boat full of volunteers arrived to rescue them, but was unable to get close enough to the house. A second boat then came and was able

to get the people and Jupe into the boat to take them out of the area. A fearful Jupe decided being rescued wasn't for him, and he jumped out of the boat. Of course, the people couldn't get to him so they had to hope he made it to safety.

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JUST HAD TO TRY IT — This group of young men saw north Washington Ave. as a challenge at about 4 p.m. Saturday after some of the water had gone down. They huffed and puffed but made it through to celebrate their victory with a loud whoop.



MADISON POLICEMEN (left) Rob Haug, Tom Spiering and Chuck Pulford readied a boat for evacuation use on 9th St. It was determined the current was too strong to use it.



DISASTER ASSESSMENT — Officials including (right) Lt. Gov. Steve Kirby and gubernatorial chief of staff Frank Brost heard what damage was incurred here. Also pictured are Mayor Gene Borchardt and City Commissioner George Lee.

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# Emergency effort: teamwork at best

## Saluting area's best

Through all the water, danger and loss of property, the flood of 1993 was this area's defining moment. People are remembered for what they do, and the things they did were heroic, helpful and heart-warming. Virtually every person we spoke to this weekend made it a point to help someone else. Many of those gave up working on their own homes to help others worse off. We saw people help in life-saving situations. Local citizens carried distressed neighbors out of trapped houses through four feet of water. Trucks went into dangerous situations to save others. We saw people help in small but important ways. Joe Habeger drove his truck around town delivering gasoline to people using gas generators. "I can't help much, but I can do this," he said.

Other people got in cars to search for extra pumps, extension cords or generators, or to deliver food to one of the shelters. We've said it a hundred times, but we are witnessing an attitude, an ethic that exists in few places. Remember the fires in Los Angeles last year after the Rodney King trial? Did people help their neighbors? Did they check to see if other people needed their assistance? No. Stores were looted, drivers were pulled out of their cars and beaten, rocks were thrown through office windows, public property was vandalized. Ironically, the flood of 1993 occurred over the Fourth of July, the day we remember people two centuries ago who bound together and fought for what they believed was right. Lake County people did the same thing.

— Jon M. Hunter

## An outsider's view of the land of infinite variety

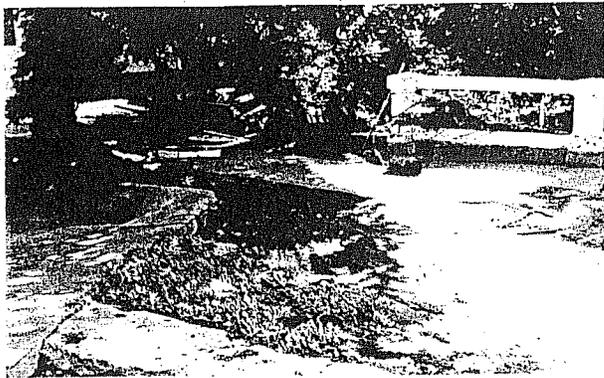
Land of infinite variety ... winds as soft as the kiss on a boy's cheek, fierce enough to move barns and shatter silos ... parched Dakota pastures and rain drenched roadside ditches ... weather far off course and behaving like a loose cannon ... basements under water ... western cloudless skies but ominous at midday, dark, foreboding, threatening ... farmers prayed for rain yesterday, now ask the heavens for clearing ... laws soaked like a steam bath towel ... crazy creeks have lost their way and overnight want to be rivers ... puddles everywhere a pleasure for the young at heart ... hail ... 911 switchboard never this busy ... meteorologist's nightmare ... old-timers say it's the worst ... flooded basements ... pump company's dream ... landscape in shock ... on Saturday mixed-up Mother Earth wet from head to toe ... who's angry up there and pulled the plug? ... bypass closed ... you can't get there from here ... waterworks under water ... lakes overloaded try to set rid of excess ... even ducks protest ... golf course road impassable, fairways flooded, golfers teed off ... cottages can't be reached ... electric wires whipped by high wind ... branches broken ... lights out and candles ... bottled water ... neighbors helping neighbors ... National Guard on duty ... Noah needed in Madison ... families evacuated ... bridge on 9th St. washed out ... firecracker road becomes detour ... sandbag reinforcements rushed in ... utility crews overworked ... hip boots and waders ... cars in water up to door handles ... police rush doctor to hospital ... fireworks fizzled on the Fourth ... hot rodders disregard high water warnings ... mobile home from New Mexico needs escort to get out of town ... more of the same forecast? ... will rice paddies replace corn fields? ... theme song this season Hogey Carmichael's "Stormy Weather" ... cancellations and rescheduling ... sun shines on the Fourth like a birthday gift ... drying out begins ... downstairs rec room in ruins ... foul odor ... valued possessions soiled ... officials come to assess the disaster ... aid never enough ... the Lord giveth and taketh away ... loss is a material matter only ... life goes on ... sunshine and pleasant again soon in the Land of Infinite Variety.

— Neil Hunter

## Arlington girl drowns in city lake

ARLINGTON (AP) — A 3-year-old Arlington girl apparently drowned in a city lake after wandering away from her parents' business sometime Friday afternoon, Kingsbury County Sheriff Norm Lee said. Sarah Jensen was last seen about 5:30 p.m. Friday, the sheriff said. Her body was discovered by divers in Lake Arlington just before noon on Saturday.

Lee said police and others spent much of the night going door-to-door and searching garages and other buildings hoping to track down the little girl. About 70 volunteers joined in. The small lake is located in an area where Jensen often played. She would have been 4 years old on July 14.



THIS BIG HOLE in the sidewalk was located just behind Sample One Flowers at the spot where the water came out from under the bridge on a normal day. This area and

many near the creeks in town are very dangerous. Police caution parents to make sure children are kept away from all water, no matter the depth, because currents are still very strong.

By PATT GERMAN  
Police chief Gary Gile said, "It's a credit to all emergency personnel involved and the people of Madison that no lives were lost throughout this weekend's emergency. Things were handled professionally and calmly. The city employees as well as REACT volunteers have put in some long, long hours. Everyone just did a tremendous job. There's just not anything more I can say."

The emergency in town began early Saturday morning when more than 4 inches of rain fell in just an hour. Memorial Creek running through town swelled out of its banks to a level never before seen in Madison. Gile said, "I'm kind of an expert on that creek because I grew up next to it (the house behind Uncle Ed's Cafe). I know it's never, ever looked like that before. Once water ran between our house and the one north of us, but never like this."

The light, water, street and police department along with the sheriff's office and emergency office all swung into action to get vehicles and personnel where they were needed. People came to the police station to offer boats, and Nelson Farm Equipment volunteered several pieces of equipment to assist in moving through the water. Interlake Sports also volunteered equipment. Gile assigned one radio-equipped officer to each tractor and rescue boat.

One of the more dramatic rescues of the day took place on N.E. 3rd St. at the Reverts home. Several people were trying to get out of the house by tractor. The tractor was unable to get out of the yard because of the rising water. A loader was brought in to assist and became stuck in what probably was a sink-hole caused by the rapidly running and rising water. Another loader was called in, but after it was determined it was unsafe, the driver came back out. Finally, a large John Deere tractor came to the rescue, pulled out the loader and eventually rescued all the trapped people without injury.

The water at Reverts' home was up to the first-floor windows and looked like rapids going past the house. Gile said at least 50 people were brought out of their homes by boat by volunteers during the morning. The electricity was cut about noon Saturday in the flooded areas that hadn't lost power. It was returned to some homes late Sunday afternoon depending on the condition of the water in the basements.

The water department is urging people to conserve water and will likely be doing so throughout the week. Gile said the flood water in the southwest corner of town is likely to remain a problem for at least a week. That means sewers will be backing up in addition to the streets across which the water had rushed. Overall, Gile said, the bridges and streets stood the water and wear fairly well. The bridge on N.W. 9th St. collapsed and the street is closed. Most of the other holes have been at least filled with sand and streets are passable.

There are still a lot of people in the downtown armory, Gile said. Temporary private housing is being sought for those individuals. Anyone having an extra room or facility that they are willing to open for them is asked to call the police station at 256-4586.

Also, Gile said, anyone who will have equipment and/or time to volunteer for the cleanup when the southwest area dries up is asked to call the police station and leave names and numbers where they can be reached when the need arises. In addition to the city and county employees, the South Dakota National Guard was activated by the governor to assist in the rescue and cleanup efforts. They were out in amphibious vehicles to help. They also provided fresh, safe water where needed.

The Guard members were stationed throughout town overnight to deter any problems that might arise, said Gile. He commended the Guards for their help. Gile did ask that people please not drive around the southwest section of town to sightsee. "We've had calls from people trying to work around their property and have had sightseers getting in the way and causing the water to rise as they drive through. People should just stay away from there unless they are going to help," said Gile.



RESCUE EFFORTS INCLUDED many volunteers who walked in shoulder-deep

water sometimes during the day. This group was working in the East Center St. area to get people out of their homes.

# Federal help won't be enough

SIoux FALLS (AP) — Federal aid for flood-stricken farmers in South Dakota will never make up for crop damage suffered this year, the state director of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service said Friday. Mike O'Connor estimated losses in 27 eastern South Dakota counties — 41 percent of the state's total — at \$133 million. That money represents losses due to failed or unplanted crops.

"It's going to have a very dramatic impact on the small communities that those local producers either live or do business in," O'Connor said. "In some cases, you're going to see some producers no longer in the business of agriculture."

U.S. Agriculture Secretary Mike Epp visited South Dakota and three other states last week to view crop damage. President Clinton on Thursday promised to ask Congress for money to supplement federal emergency aid funding. It won't be enough, O'Connor said.

"Whatever happens in a disaster payment is never going to recover the losses that we incurred this year," he said.

Meanwhile, some county officials are revising property tax payment plans for local farmers who are low on cash. First-half payments become delinquent on May 1, and the second half is due Nov. 1.

Turner County Auditor Sheila Hagemann said county commissioners plan for 10 percent delinquency on first-half payments,

but are predicting a 30 percent delinquency rate in November.

"They figure the second half will not be coming in because of the farmers not getting the crops in the field and the bankers are not as willing to borrow money for that type of thing," she said.

The rain also has strained county roads and drainage systems, forcing local officials to stretch budgets to cover repairs.

"It started early this spring when the high water washed out several culverts," said Al Schroeder,

treasurer of Delapre Township in Lincoln County. "Then the heavy traffic on waterlogged roads has created more problems."

The township typically sets aside \$20,000 to \$25,000 to gravel about 40 miles of road, Schroeder said. So far this year, the township has spent more than \$40,000 on roads.

"It's just bad news," said Jeff Moser, executive director of the state Association of Towns and Townships. "We're looking at some local budgets that are going to be severely impacted."

## Forecasters kept busy by rain, storms

SIoux FALLS (AP) — Richard Ryrholm says he knew a big storm was coming when he left his job at the National Weather Service on May 22.

He was right. Seven inches of rain fell that night, and Ryrholm's basement filled with water and sewage. Now that he's got the mess cleaned up, Ryrholm can smile at beating the odds at the inexact science of weather forecasting.

"I felt the thing was going to explode, but I didn't know it was going to explode right over my house," said Ryrholm, 40. "The computers are helpful for a lot of busy work, but the human brain is a better computer for weather."

Ryrholm and other South Dakota weather forecasters say they hate to see damage such as that caused by this year's heavy rains and flooding. But they say they do enjoy the challenge of forecasting rain, hail, tornadoes and floods.

"You would have to be crazy if you think we don't like bad weather. It's kind of exciting to see a bad storm," Ryrholm said.

"I think people are fascinated by a bad storm. Everything comes together here. I'm a little disappointed that we don't get hurricanes and earthquakes here."

Most meteorologists in the weather service's Sioux Falls office say they have always been curious about the weather. "I was always interested in

weather. I would run out in it instead of going in the basement," said Chris Jensen, 35, a Wisconsin native.

Julia Vetter, 27, came from a family of farmers and knows how important accurate forecasts are for people who work the land. Still, times like the drought year of 1988 aren't the best, she said.

"Clear skies all the time are boring," Vetter said.

While many skeptics would question the accuracy of their forecasts, the National Weather Service boasts an 85 percent accuracy rating in the first 48 hours

after a forecast, the meteorologists said. While no specific records are kept for Sioux Falls, the forecasters say they believe the office meets that standard.

Although the office has banks of computer monitors, another important piece of equipment is the window.

"If you're a good forecaster, you better look out the window," Ryrholm said.

When the clouds, the smell of the air and the actions of animals — as well as a forecaster's sixth sense — provide weather clues that no compute can, he said.

## Dell Rapids man dies in flood

DELL RAPIDS (AP) — A Dell Rapids man died Sunday after his car was swept away while he tried to drive on a closed and flooded road, authorities said.

Xavier McCarthy, 82, was pronounced dead on arrival after being airlifted to Sioux Valley Hospital in Sioux Falls, said Minnehaha County Sheriff's Deputy Gary Taylor.

McCarthy's car was swept off of a county road by floodwaters at about 2 p.m. Sunday, Taylor said. McCarthy had ignored a sign and

barricade warning that the road was closed due to flooding along the Big Sioux River, Taylor said.

The car had been swept off the road and into a field, which looks like a lake at this point," Taylor said. "By the time I got there it had started to sink, and all you could see was the back window and the trunk."

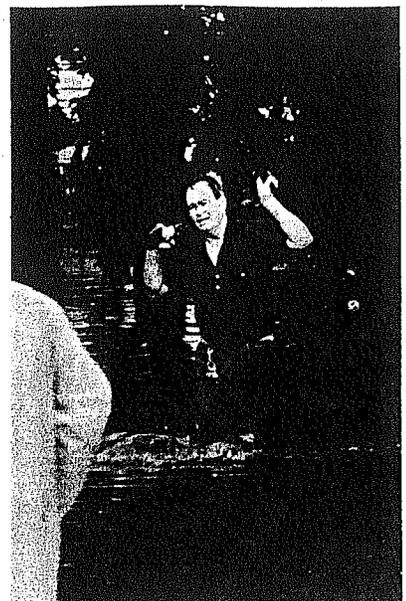
Divers found the body about an hour later, Taylor said.

The accident illustrates why drivers should obey signs that warn of closed roads, Taylor said.

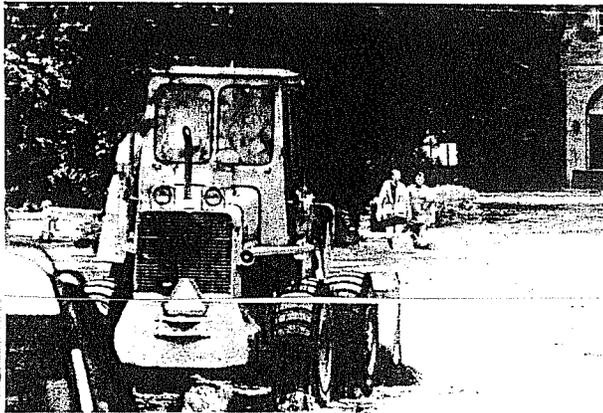


**TOO BAD THEY DON'T BUILD BOATS**—Gehl Manufacturing found their plant and storage area under water when Silver Creek came over the bypass and the road north of the plant. The entire area west and north of Gehl is not only flooded but, on Sunday, was serving as a recreational area for people to watch

carp try to swim upstream across the bypass road. The bypass was impassable all day Sunday. Water is still flowing over the road. Drivers are urged to obey "road closed" signs throughout the area to avoid dangerous situations which may result in injury, death or damage.

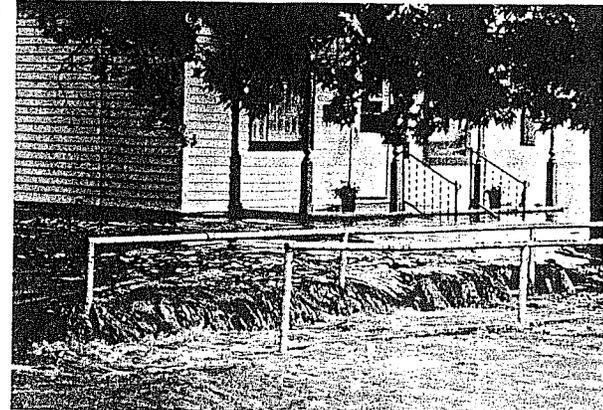


**WADING OUT** from his home on 5th St. was Roy Law. His place of employment, Campbell Supply, also was surrounded by water.



**ST. JOHN CHURCH IN EAST MADISON** (in the background) was one of the many buildings to suffer water damage as water rose to all-time highs in town Saturday.

Tractors, boats and even jet skis volunteered by owners were among rescue vehicles used for a variety of jobs that day all over the flooded areas.



**EAST MADISON FALLS** had developed when the creek went over its banks and headed to the nearest low spot. The flooding

of the two in-town creeks covered a good portion of Madison Saturday. Many Lake Herman residents have been battling the water for weeks.

## Midwesterners cope with Mississippi

In the 25 years since their last big flood, Davenport, Iowa, residents had three chances to build flood walls for protection against the mighty Mississippi River.

But three times they rejected city proposals, choosing instead to keep their view and chance the elements. Their view now includes water, water and more water.

"I think the vast majority of residents in Davenport want the way it is, living in concert with the river rather than fighting it," said City Alderman Larry d'Autremont.

National Guard troops and volunteers spent another day Friday stacking thousands of sandbags along the rain-swollen Mississippi, which threatened homes and businesses in Wisconsin, Illinois, Iowa and Missouri.

Thunderstorms dumped as much as 3 inches of rain on parts of Wisconsin and Minnesota. Flood waters have begun to recede in Minnesota, but the river was still rising elsewhere.

In Davenport, the National Weather Service said the Mississippi would crest at 22 feet today. Earlier, it was thought the river would tie the record 22.5 feet set in 1965. Flood stage is 15 feet.

While some cities spent millions to build dikes after the 1965 flood, Davenport is paying the price for

saving its money and its view of the Mississippi River, Mayor Patrick Gibbs said.

"It's a beautiful river when it's not in your back yard," he said.

Meanwhile, nearby Bettendorf was protected behind three miles of levees and walls.

"You can't believe...how it's helping us," said city administrator Decker Ploehn. "None of our downtown or industrial area is affected."

In rural St. Charles County, Mo., officials predicted at least 400 families would have to be evacuated. And in Gulfport, Ill., the last of the town's 500 residents were evacuated Friday because a levee failed a few miles away, although a levee protecting the town was expected to hold.

In Alexandria, in northeast Missouri, officials of the community of 400 were keeping a watchful eye on sodden levees.

"The levees are holding," said Clark County Treasurer Julie Buschling. "When they do get a bubble, they repair it with sandbags, straw, plastic, fencing, anything they can get a hold of."

In Andalusia, Ill., residents equipped with walkie-talkies and flashlights kept a round-the-clock vigil along the three-mile earthen levee that was built 20 years ago as a temporary measure.

"Rain is our big enemy right now," Richard Kaiser said Friday night as he inspected the red flags placed at possible leaks.

Floodwaters have swamped thousands of acres of nearby farmland.

Along the Missouri River, a tributary of the Mississippi, nearly 400 inmates were moved Friday from a women's prison near Cedar City, Mo., because of the flooding.

In Wisconsin alone, flooding from the Mississippi has caused nearly \$200 million in damage, including \$140 million in farm losses, Gov. Tommy G. Thompson said.

The U.S. Coast Guard has banned all river traffic, commercial and recreational, on a 634-mile stretch of the Mississippi from north of Prairie du Chien, Wis., to north of St. Louis.

Up to 1,000 barges that transport crops, coal and other materials have been idled on the vital thoroughfare. Shippers are losing an estimated \$1 million a day.

A U.S. Transportation Secretary Federico F. Pena visited St. Louis and toured flooded areas on Friday. President Clinton plans to visit flooding in Davenport on Sunday.

"The river is sort of out of sight for most of us," Pena said. "We don't appreciate the impact of something like this."

## Clinton pledges \$1.2B disaster package

ELDRIDGE, Iowa (AP) — President Clinton has offered the Midwest a \$1.2 billion package of flood-relief assistance, saying the high water along the Mississippi River is "as bad as it gets."

Clinton, touring the flood-ravaged area Sunday, met with about 100 farmers huddled under a tent on a farm just outside Eldridge. He expressed sympathy for those affected and said he would back up the sympathy with more federal money.

"We're trying to be responsive and to be helpful," the president said.

Before leaving Washington, Clinton said he authorized the release of \$100 million in federal disaster funds. He also said he would use another \$297 million that's available.

And Congress will be asked to approve another \$850 million on an emergency basis, something lawmakers are almost certain to endorse, Clinton said.

"I don't think we're going to have any trouble getting it," Clinton said. In addition, Clinton said he would move to give flood victims more time to seek disaster aid and pledged a "long-term reform" of the nation's system of crop insurance.

While cities along the swollen Mississippi have suffered enormous damage, millions of acres of farmland also have been flooded and officials are projecting heavy crop losses.

In Iowa alone, officials have projected the loss at \$750 million. Clinton, heading for an economic summit in Japan, spent three hours in the region where the Mississippi is experiencing its worst flooding in nearly 30 years.

"I've seen a lot of this in my life and this is as bad as it gets," Clinton said.

The disaster aid package Clinton

said he would seek is designed to provide flood victims the same level of relief given victims of Hurricane Andrew.

Agriculture Secretary Mike Espy accompanied Clinton to his hour-long meeting with farmers. Dressed in jeans and a flannel shirt, Clinton perched on a hay bale, occasionally chewing on a piece of straw.

He told the crowd that his history as the governor of a small, rural state makes him a sympathetic listener.

"I'm going to be very sensitive to people like you," he said.

Clinton said Congress would be given a choice of either directly appropriating the money or finding spending cuts elsewhere in the budget.

While Clinton got a generally warm reception, 23-year-old Steve Loussart of nearby Long Grove

had a tasty exchange with the president over financing the disaster program and tax increases in Clinton's economic package.

"In my opinion, we're taxed enough the way it is right now," Loussart told Clinton. "I'd just as soon be able to spend my money the way I want to spend it."

Clinton said his economic program relied mainly on spending cuts and taxes on the wealthy, but Loussart interrupted.

"I'd just as soon you didn't raise taxes on the rest of the nation," the young farmer said.

When Loussart tried again to interrupt Clinton, the president cut him off.

"I didn't think we were going to have a political discussion," Clinton said. "You've started your talk, so you're going to have to listen to mine."

## More rain for Marshall residents

Another holiday, another flood. Residents of the southwestern Minnesota town of Marshall, forced from their homes when the Redwood River overflowed its banks on the Mother's Day and Father's Day weekends, watched sheets of rain fall from the sky again Saturday.

"We're just following the same routine we're getting pretty used to," said Tammy VanOverbeke, emergency management director for Lyon County. "We're sandbagging, looking at possible evacuations and monitoring our river."

VanOverbeke said 5 inches of rain was reported south of Russell Saturday morning and more was falling through the day.

The National Weather Service said the Redwood River was at 15.5 feet at midday, above flood stage of 14 feet. The Redwood feeds into the Minnesota River, which flows into the Mississippi.

"The ground is real wet so a couple of inches of rain could make a big blip in the Mississippi River," said Mark Hove, a hydrologist with the U.S. Geological Survey in Mounds View. "We'll just have to wait and see how widespread this rain is."

Locks along the Mississippi River in Minnesota were just reopened last week, after high waters from earlier rains subsided. Flooding problems continued downriver to St. Louis, Mo., and the rising

Redwood River spells more trouble for those on down the line, VanOverbeke said.

"We're just starting off everything again," she said.

The National Weather Service said the storm system traveling across south-central Minnesota Saturday included "torrential rains, almost continuous lightning and winds up to 50 miles an hour."

In Marshall, at least, residents were prepared for a soggy Fourth of July weekend.

"A lot of people don't even have everything back in their basements," VanOverbeke said. "And they know how to get things up in a darned hurry."

## Midwest governors request disaster aid

WASHINGTON (AP) — Eight Midwest governors asked President Clinton on Friday to declare an economic emergency in the flood-ravaged states and to provide assistance for farmers.

In the letter, the governors also requested a meeting with Clinton after he returns from next week's economic conference in Tokyo.

"Mr. President, we need your help," the governors wrote.

The disaster declaration would make their states eligible for federal aid programs.

The farmers also asked Clinton to keep subsidies for crop payments they received for crops that will not be produced and to

ease crop insurance restrictions. Clinton said Thursday that he will ask Congress for money to help farmers as soon as it is clear how much of this year's crop is lost. He is scheduled to tour a farm near Davenport, Iowa, on Sunday.

At least 2 million acres of corn and soybeans have been destroyed in Iowa, Minnesota and South Dakota, according to the House Agriculture Committee.

The letter was signed by Arne Carlson of Minnesota, Terry Branstad of Iowa, Jim Edgar of Illinois, Tommy Thompson of Wisconsin, Walker Miller of South Dakota, Ben Nelson of Nebraska, Mel Carnahan of Missouri and Ed Schefel of North Dakota.

By DAN HOLSWORTH  
"There's just too much water," admitted George Flanery, Lake Herman State Park manager, following the Madison area's disastrous flood Saturday.  
Saturday's 5-inch deluge effectively shut down activities in all three Lake County lakes — Herman, Madison and Brandt — according to Mike Kintigh, Lake County conservation officer.  
Lake Herman, whose spillway controls the area's future flooding worries, is like most of the area's outdoor recreational facilities, not available for public use.  
"The park itself is impassable for motor traffic," added Flanery. "We got the last of our stranded campers

out of the park Sunday afternoon. The park's staff has been getting into and out of the park by boats only.  
"Our office and shop area is flooded. Right now, the park is closed to the general public and closed until further notice. We don't want the public inside the park. It's just too dangerous, and it hampers anything we do toward cleaning up the park."  
Flanery added, "Once we can get vehicles in and out of the park, we can open it, but until then it is closed."  
He said the only available camping spaces accessible are those at Walker's Point at Lake Madison. Lake Madison also is not open to boating.

The Madison Country Club, which borders Lake Herman to the northwest and is the entry point for North Creek, has suffered a double water "whummy" shutting down golfing on the 18-hole course.  
It is just unplayable, according to Bill Stromberg, grounds superintendent.  
"Whole areas of the course are either under water or have extensive water coverage," said Stromberg. "Nos. 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 10, 11, 12, 17 and 18 holes are just unfit."  
He added, "I have no idea when we will be able to get the course back into any sort of playing shape. It all really depends on the weather. The water level has to go down a lot before we can do anything on the course."

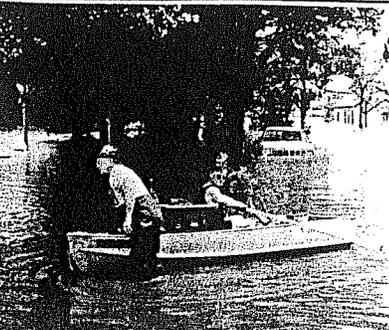
**FORECAST**  
Partly cloudy Monday night with a 20 percent chance of showers. Lows in the mid 50s. West winds 10 to 15 mph. Partly sunny Tuesday with a 20 percent chance of thunderstorms. Highs from 75 to 80. Northwest winds 10 to 20 mph.

**EXTENDED FORECAST**  
Chance of thunderstorms Wednesday through Friday. Lows in the 60s. Highs in the lower 70s to lower 80s.

**Tornado near Chester again**  
Twice in a month is a little too close for comfort. That's how often Beverly Engelkes has seen the damage of a tornado at her farm near Chester.  
Flooding was the theme of the Fourth in the Interlakes area this year, but the sparkler at the Engelkes farm was a tornado that hit around 9:30 p.m. Saturday. The farm is located 2 miles west and a half-mile south of Chester.  
"We saw this big cloud come in and the wind was blowing so we shut the windows," said Engelkes. "We stood in the kitchen and watched (out the window) the top of the barn blow off. Three sides are gone. All that's left is the west."  
Engelkes' husband and son were gone at the time, but two other children were home with her when the tornado struck.  
"They didn't go in the basement for shelter. You have to go outside and it's real muddy and small," she said. "I figured it'd be as good up here, and if it got too bad we'd lay down on the floor against an inside wall or something."  
The storm earlier this spring damaged the roof on the house, the machine shed and the garage.



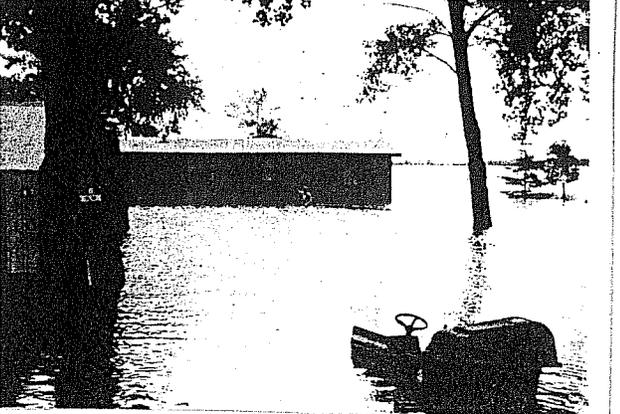
**WHAT TO DO NEXT?** — Galen Crosby and helpers worked all weekend on the west side of Lake Herman. Floodwaters filled cabins, trailers and other buildings.



**CANOE CREW** — Galen Crosby and son-in-law Jerry Kzeul tried to save some antique furniture in their canoe at Lake Herman. Water was doorhandle deep on the pickup in the background.



**EVEN BARRELS FLOAT** — Gas barrels and boat trailers float in the lake waters at Lake Herman. Ottosons' log cabin is in the background, next to Kraft's (right).



**TRAILERS IN TROUBLE** — The trailer park on the west side of Lake Herman is totally under water. Depths over waist-high cover the whole area.



**SANDBAGS** are used to try to keep water from the Ken Becker home, across the road west of Lake Herman. Water is close on the north and west, and in the basement.

**Broken levee increases river flooding**

WINFIELD, Mo. (AP) — Residents along the rain-swollen Mississippi River are beginning to feel marooned and helpless.  
"I thought I saw a cow floating out there a while ago," said Dale Parsons, sitting on his front deck.  
"I might look like I'm kind of relaxed, but I'm not," he said. "I'm just at the point where there's nothing to do."  
Nothing to do but watch high waters since Saturday, when a weak spot in a dirt levee gave way.  
"Towns and cities along the Mississippi have suffered enormous damage from the flooding, the region's worst in nearly 30 years. Millions of acres of farmland also have been flooded and officials are projecting heavy crop losses.  
At more than 7 feet above flood stage, the river has inundated low-lying farms and homes in parts of Iowa, Illinois and Missouri and it flowed unimpeded into downtown Davenport, Iowa.  
In Iowa alone, officials have projected \$760 million in losses.  
Rain was in the forecast for each of the next several days, and officials were warning it could prolong the flooding for weeks.  
President Clinton, who visited Davenport on Sunday, offered the Midwest a \$1.2 billion package of flood-relief assistance.  
Flood stage at Winfield is 26 feet, and the river rose to nearly 35 feet Sunday.  
The river, usually a half-mile wide in the town, grew to five times that width by Sunday and the water still was rising, threatening the homes of many of Winfield's 592 residents.

More than 150 families had left their homes by Sunday.  
"It's like an open lake out there," said Mike Frost, who owns a marina and boat ramp near the break in the levee. "It's so windy there are 2-foot waves and whitecaps. I'm not going out anymore. It's getting too dangerous."  
A boat tour of Winfield, about 40 miles northwest of St. Louis, showed water reaching almost to the eaves of many homes.  
Residents tried to prevent some damage by taping heavy plastic to the foundations in their basements, and some people were stacking sandbags.  
Glenda Keeteman was trying to rescue items from the family's rental houses. She found leeches and fish in the basement of one.

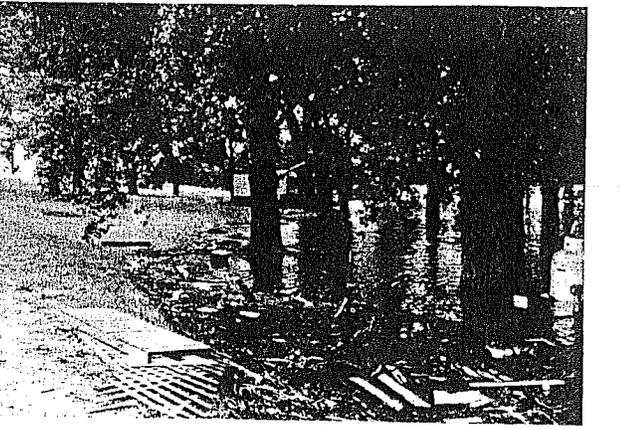
"Fish in the basement?" she repeated incredulously.  
The American Red Cross opened five shelters in towns along the Mississippi River. The shelters are in Winfield, Hannibal, La Grange, St. Charles and in Grifton, Ill., said Beth Heinrich, a Red Cross spokesman.  
About 25 people spent Saturday night in the Winfield shelter, and the others were serving as temporary homes for anywhere from one to two families to 30 people, Heinrich said.  
The Red Cross also has opened a kitchen in Lincoln County, where meals are being fixed for volunteer sandbaggers and people flooded out of their homes.  
"We're busy and unfortunately, we're going to get even busier," she said.

**Wyoming gets winter in July**

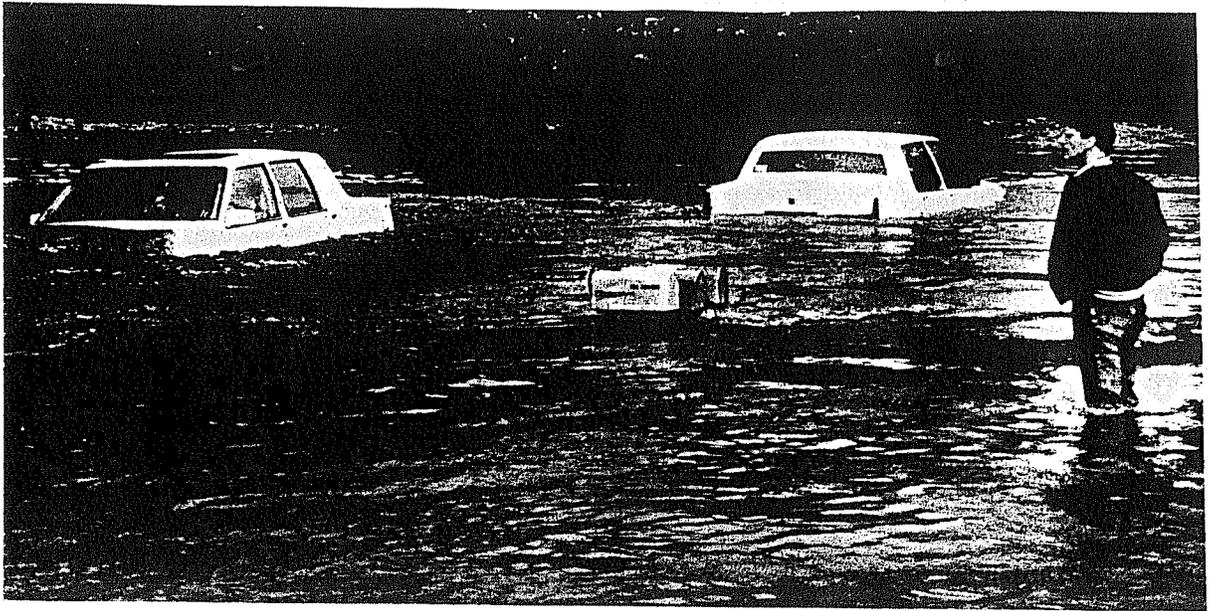
JACKSON, Wyo. (AP) — Meteorologists had a snowball's chance in July of predicting the weather that hit northern Wyoming on Saturday.  
Most Wyoming residents began the holiday weekend with sunny skies and warm weather, but people in northern Wyoming scrambled for their snowsuits.  
One foot of new snow was reported in parts of Grand Teton National Park and heavy snow also fell at lower elevations of the park. The National Weather Service

had predicted thunderstorms across northern Wyoming for Saturday. But heavy rains combined with a cold front over the Tetons to produce snow.  
Rangers in the park's backcountry, at an elevation of about 11,600 feet, reported 12 inches of new snow on Saturday, accompanied by winds of 65 mph, park spokeswoman Linda Olson said.  
"So we've got full winter conditions," she said. "It's pretty crazy. I wish it were 98 degrees up here."

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**DEBRIS FLOATED UP** on the shores on the west side of Lake Herman. High winds and rushing currents brought boards, tires, bottles, even docks onto shore.



HIGH WATER swamped these two white Cadillacs, including Sharon Hansen's, on N.W. 9th, as an unidentified man watched.

# Sharon Hansen 'never more terrified'

By DAN HOLSWORTH  
A 6 a.m. phone call to Sharon Hansen's home at 110 N.E. 8th St. eventually turned into one of her most harrowing experiences. One of the many individual stories started to unfold during the early-morning, 5-inch downpour which resulted in much of Madison being flooded.  
Hansen, head of dietary services at Bethel Lutheran Home, was called in to replace one of the home's workers in the kitchen.  
"When I was ready to go, my husband (Ed) and I looked out our window and we couldn't see our

yard or the street," said Hansen. "It looked like we were in the middle of a lake."  
Hansen managed to get to her 1988 white Cadillac, trudging through water to their garage.  
She remembered what Ed had told her.  
"I was to go north from our alley between 8th and 9th streets," she added. "After that, traveling down 9th, I turned to go down Washington, and I saw the water going over the road down by the interstates medical Clinic near the hospital."  
"It was then I turned around to go

back, heading west on 9th. It was raining so hard, but I kept driving west until the car quit."  
Hansen's real drama then began.  
"By then, it was really pouring down rain and lightning," said Hansen. "I got out of the car into water which was up to my knees. Carrying an umbrella, I was just howling and praying that I'd get home safely."  
"A bolt of lightning struck and a utility pole shot flames, making me just go that much faster. I was never more terrified."  
Hansen did make it home, finding out that the cook she was called into to

Bethel to replace had made it.  
Hansen's '89 Cadillac wound up directly in the middle of the Memorial Creek's 9th St. bridge.

The vehicle was pulled out by the Lake County Search & Rescue team and towed to Prostrallo's.  
"It was really something I never want to go through ever again!" Hansen said.

*Flood - Beginning - 5:30 PM*  
*Declarations - yes*  
*Shelters & Evac - yes*  
*Red cross - feeding - yes*  
*Damage Assessment in progress (App. 500 homes inspected)*  
*Injuries - 2 - minor*  
*Deaths - none*  
*Evacuated - App. 2000 persons.*  
*Water Treatment - operable*  
*Sewage Treatment - (trouble)*

THE FLOOD SITUATION as detailed in the emergency operations center in the Public Safety Building.



JUST GETTING WETTER AND WETTER - The parking lot around Chuck's and Campbell Supply looked like a newly-formed lake on Saturday as the creek rose out of its banks. Sandbags helped keep stores dry inside and the stores were reopened today.



NOT MUCH LEFT - The small white tent used for spring sales was just one victim of the raging waters that went past Sample Our

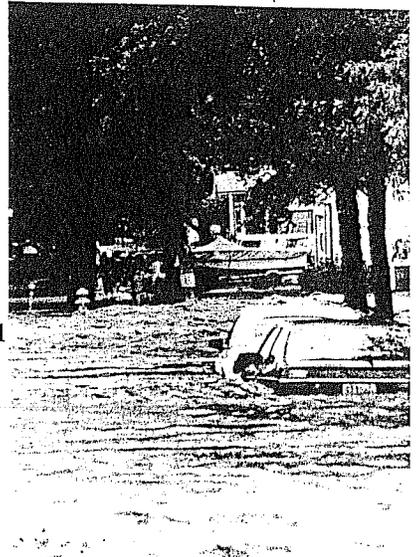
Flowers Saturday. The floor of the building was either gone or in such bad shape it was unsafe. The Samples said they plan to rebuild.

## Chuck's sustains little damage

By PATT GERMANN  
Chuck's Jack and Jill of Madison sustained very little water damage in the flooding which occurred Saturday in southeast Madison.  
Barry Cole, store manager, said the sandbagging efforts which took place early in the morning paid off. Only a little water seeped into the store.  
The main loss for the business was the on-hand supply of ice cream, dairy products and fresh meat. Those departments were a total loss due to the lengthy power outage from about noon Saturday until around 4 p.m. Sunday.  
The store was open for business at 8 a.m. Monday and will be receiving fresh supplies of the items that were ruined.

## Sample to rebuild after total loss

By PATT GERMANN  
Bert and Jenean Sample said they plan to rebuild their flower and gift shop after they lost everything in the flood waters that raged past the small building on the edge of Memorial Creek.  
The shop floor was all but torn away, and what's left isn't safe for walking. The building will be destroyed.  
They did get some merchandise out of the store on Sunday with the assistance of many helpers.  
It was just nine years ago last month that the Sample's store burned and they moved to their current location, Mrs. Sample said.  
"We've known adversity before and we will be back," she said. "It's the best location and we hope we won't see this again in about 500 years."



"...AND NOT A DROP TO DRINK" - Fortunately that wasn't the case in Madison for very long over the weekend. Although the town was without water for a short time the city water department quickly met the challenge and continued to provide safe drinking water. Jerry Mikel, water superintendent, requests that all residents conserve water during this crisis. The ever-present danger is that there would be no pressure to hydrants in the event of a serious fire.

## County hears reports on flooding

By ERIC THOMPSON  
The weekend's flooding and its aftereffects dominated the Lake County Commission meeting Tuesday as County Highway Superintendent Scott Mathison and Emergency Management Director Ron Hughes informed the commission on part of the damage done outside the city limits of Madison.

There was some concern expressed about city residents moving back into their homes already due to the severity of the high water at Lake Herman.

Commissioners Vern Spartz and Shirlee Leighton acknowledged that Territorial Road "isn't safe yet. The lake is still running over and water is still coming into Lake Herman. We are not out of danger yet."

"It will be Center Street and on south if the road goes," Spartz added.

"Most of the damage is in the southern half of the county," Mathison said.

The flood swept away five 54-inch culverts waiting to be installed on the Chester-Neuman Road project.

Overflowing Skunk Creek took out a railroad bridge in the Chester area and cut a hole in County Road 52, Mathison said.

County employees will be cleaning debris and checking barricades and roads for some time, he said.

Leighton said many township roads are in terrible condition.

The commission discussed liability concerns over accidents on these roads, both county and township.

"The washouts must be kept under supervision, as we could be liable for accidents," Leighton said.

The signing process of bad roads will continue, and travel was advised "at your own risk" on all county and township roads.

When asked about repair costs for flood damage, Mathison said he will have to talk to the state Highway Department first.

The county will also be picking up flood debris, eventually, as they are still working on tornado debris. The commission and Mathison encouraged the burning of wooden objects by rural residents.

Hughes met with the commission with some brief notes regarding the flood.

He said Sen. Tom Daschle was sending aide Rick Weiland to assess flood damage. Weiland was here Tuesday afternoon.

Hughes will be touring the Madison area again today with two officials from the EMA.

Flood damage also was a concern of the commission as it met with Director of Equalization Brian Seitz.

They tabled a tax abatement request from Les Caulk.

Caulk had requested an abatement for the second half of the year because his mobile home was destroyed by the June 7 storm.

In the past, the commission has granted such requests when damage was incurred by an act of nature.

Caulk's request was deferred for two weeks, allowing Seitz to talk to the state Department of Revenue for possible options the county can take, including reassessment of Lake County and what course of action the county can take for future abatements.

Commissioners also heard three other abatement requests.

Bill Downs' request for \$29.22 was allowed as he had been doubly assessed when he moved his grain bin.

A request from the estate of V.A. Graham was also approved for \$125.58 as a mobile home which is located in Minnehaha County had inadvertently been registered by

the estate in Lake County.

An abatement request from Mike Jewel, claiming a mobile home he was assessed for is unlivable, was denied by commissioners.

Residents are reminded that demolition permits are needed if property is to be destroyed. There will be no fee.

Building permits are also needed for reconstruction or remodeling.

A bidding on the two-way radio equipment for the 911 Emergency Communications System was held.

Vantek Communications of Sioux Falls was the low bidder, bidding \$36,275 on the radio equipment and \$259.90 each on the pagers.

Sioux Falls Two-Way Radio bid

\$40,975 on the radio equipment and \$375 on the pagers.

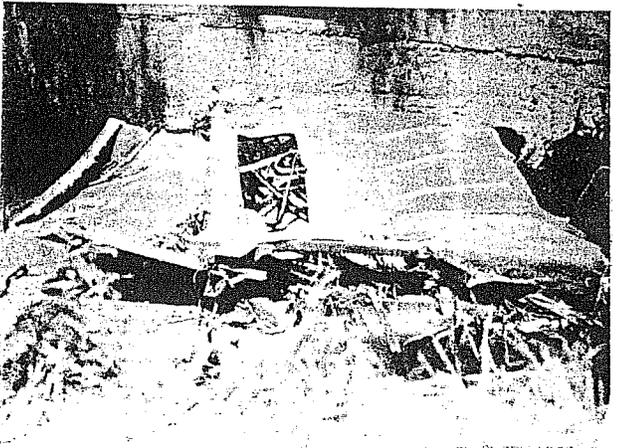
Commissioners tabled the bids for a week.

Leo Jones, county weed superintendent, told the commission that John Basler will be replacing Walker George on the Weed Board, as George is retiring.

Carren Schramm of Dakota Heritage Association requested \$263 be put in the county budget to pay for the listing of Lake County in their tourist book.

Dakota Heritage is a tourist organization which lists places to see and go in South Dakota.

No decision was made by the commission.



FLATTENED OUT — This 1959 Ford pickup belonging to Jerry Lilleskov was wedged under the Washington Ave. bridge so far that it was not visible from the street. It

was discovered after the flood waters subsided. Lilleskov didn't even realize it was gone from the alley until they could get in behind their N.E. 2nd St. home after the flood.

## Water topics are city commission concerns

By BILL DUNN  
The Madison City Commission tabled a bid for road improvement projects Tuesday pending review of flood damage.

A bid of about \$826,000 for 2.8 miles of projects was the only one received. It was over \$125,000 over the state engineer's estimate.

Commissioners said the money might have to instead be spent repairing flood damage.

Commissioner Bob Broderick said he doesn't think S. Egan Ave. improvement can be put off.

"In light of what happened this weekend, maybe we need to reprioritize what we want to do," said Mayor Gene Borchardt.

A Myrl & Roy's Paving representative said it's possible streets could be substituted for those in the original specifications.

N. Washington resident Jerry Heckenlaible discussed drainage concerns after praising city employees. "I don't know what you're paying them, but it's not enough after what they did this weekend."

Better drainage is needed in his area of town because of more development, Heckenlaible said. "Simply people, asphalt and concrete do not absorb water."

He urged that the work be done now and worry about paying for it later.

A storm sewer was put in in the area in 1972, said City Engineer Bill Heyer. Since then a lot of development has been added. Now the new middle school will add to the problem.

A culvert behind the school will divert some water to 11th St., but some will also drain down 9th St. The school district has requested city cost-sharing for a storm sewer there.

Heyer said part of the problem

may be the type of drain inlets in the street. Conceivably they could need changing, along with cleaning out sand and gravel from the pipes.

"I don't think any normal storm sewer would have handled this one Saturday," he said.

Draining of sump pumps into the sanitary sewer was discussed. Residents have 72 hours to disconnect them from the sanitary sewer after being warned.

Some new homes are illegally hooked up, Broderick said. It's up to the homeowner and contractor to agree who will pay for the changeover.

Borchardt said the city should inspect new construction in the future at the time of final water hookup to ensure compliance.

The commission set a nine-percent interest rate and seven-year payback on road improvements that will be specially assessed against property owners.

Equalization Director Brian Seitz asked for the city's cooperation in waiving building permits for demolition work. His office is trying to keep a handle on property that will need to be reassessed because of the flood.

If people don't choose to rebuild to past levels, their assessments will be re-evaluated, Seitz said. Property owners can still come in at equalization time in April to rectify their valuations.

"It may be two or three years before some of these are brought back to what they were before Saturday morning," he said.

Heyer said the city has to consider whether some areas are safe to rebuild in. "In some instances they might not be able to rebuild if they're in a floodway type area. We'd like to evaluate their options with them."

There could be about 2,000 properties affected, Seitz said.

## City receives block grant

The governor's office has notified the city of Madison its Community Development Block Grant request for \$160,000 for library construction has been approved.

"You should be proud of this accomplishment and continue to improve your community through projects such as this," said a July 1 letter from Gov. Walter Miller.

## Montgomery's has flood damage

Montgomery Furniture of Madison was dealt a blow by the weekend flood.

The store sustained a major loss when its warehouse on Jefferson Ave. received about a foot of water inside.

Over 100 mattresses and box

springs received some damage. Those have been donated free of charge to flood victims.

Remaining furniture in the old Hallenbeck warehouse has been moved to the former ECCO building on S. Union where it is being sorted.

A flood sale will be held this Friday or Saturday.

In his 13 years here, the building never had water problems, said Clark Sinclair. As far as he knows, the previous owners never experienced problems.

The building wasn't insured for flood damage, and Sinclair estimated the retail value of the items at between \$150,000 and \$200,000.

Inventory is still being taken and will be completed today.

There will be items with varying degrees of damage, and they will be priced accordingly for the flood sale. "Nothing goes back in the store or warehouse. Everything will be sold," Sinclair said.

Though the store will take a financial bath so to speak, Sinclair said he's thankful the downtown business and other warehouse weren't damaged.



HOOKING UP the cable from the Johnson Construction scoop to pull the pickup out was Doug Koch of Search & Rescue.

## Tetanus shots may be needed, available from health nurses

Area residents and those assisting the flood victims have expressed concerns about working in dirty water and raw sewage.

Dr. Richard Sample of Madison said tetanus shots need updating every 10 years, and many persons now working in the sewer waters could very well need the vaccine.

"The water problems we are having in Madison can very well be carrying the type of bacteria that causes tetanus," Sample said.

Intact skin is not as much of a problem as cuts, pokes, scratches, etc., he said, but persons with these injuries need updates to the tetanus shots every 5 years.

LaVonne Schlump, Lake County

public health nurse, said Tuesday that her office in the courthouse has the vaccine and "we have been doing a lot of them (shots) today."

"The public health nurses' office provides the shots for a \$5 fee; however, if persons cannot afford that, they may still receive the vaccine."

Sample also cautioned residents to "use your head."

"As far as public safety and the water situation, listen to the city officials. They won't lend us wrong. If they say the water is safe to drink, it is. Also, steer clear of dangerous water areas. Don't drive on roads when told not to, and don't go swimming without a lifejacket."

## Weather

### FORECAST

Mostly cloudy. Wednesday night. A 50 percent chance of thunderstorms, especially after midnight. Lows around 60. Southeast winds 5 to 15 mph. Partly cloudy Thursday with a 30 percent chance of thunderstorms. Highs from 80 to 85. North winds 5 to 10 mph.

EXTENDED FORECAST  
Chance of thunderstorms Friday through Sunday. Lows in the mid 60s. Highs in the 70s to lower 80s.

## News in brief

### City officials to meet tonight

The Madison City Commission meets Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. Agenda items are:

- May 21 Library Board minutes and June building permits;
- Plumber's license application, Van De Voort Plumbing;
- Review road project bid;
- Resolutions 2144-49, special assessments for street improvements;
- 10-cent hourly raises for 31 employees;
- Acknowledge \$150,000 CDBG award for library construction.

### Sportscaster Jim Burt dead at 75

SIoux FALLS (AP) — Longtime sports broadcaster Jim Burt died of cancer Monday morning. He was 75.

Burt, known to listeners and viewers as the "sports voice of South Dakota," got his start at radio station KELO in Sioux Falls. When the station added television in 1953, Burt became sports director, a position he held until his retirement in 1987.

"He was always so up and such a pleasure to be around," said KELO-TV weatherman Dave Dedrick. "We will dearly miss him."

John Egan, a former sports writer for the Sioux Falls Argus Leader newspaper, was a close friend.

"We shared thoughts typical of all husbands and fathers," Egan said. "One thought I will always leave is literally the thousands of miles I travelled with him, listening to the stories he had to share."

Burt received several awards, including induction last year into the South Dakota Broadcasters Hall of Fame.

Burt's family has asked donations be sent to the James Burt Broadcast Journalism Fund at the University of South Dakota.

Funeral services will be at 1 p.m. Friday at the First United Methodist Church in Sioux Falls.

### FAA completes plane crash investigation

PHILIP (AP) — A homemade plane that crashed northeast of Philip on Sunday, killing a Philip businessman, did not have enough speed to take off, a Federal Aviation Administration official said Tuesday.

Mark Goodwin of the FAA office in Rapid City said the plane, which was taking off from the Tom Ferguson ranch 27 miles northeast of Philip, hit an updraft and stalled before crashing. The plane also hit a two-wire fence as it was taking off, Goodwin said.

The crash killed Jay Crowser, 50, and seriously injured his wife, Raye. Crowser built the single-engine, two-seat plane from a kit. He had just received his pilot's license late last year, Goodwin said.

Goodwin said it's too early to blame the crash on pilot error. The results of Goodwin's on-site inspection of the crash have been forwarded to the National Transportation Safety Board office in Chicago.

It may be two months before a final cause is issued, he said.

Raye Crowser remained in a Rapid City hospital in serious condition on Tuesday.

## Weather

### FORECAST

Partly cloudy Tuesday night with a 20 percent chance of showers. Lows in the lower to mid 50s. Light winds. Partly sunny Wednesday with a 20 percent chance of thunderstorms. Highs in the mid to upper 70s. Light winds.

### EXTENDED FORECAST

Chance of thunderstorms Thursday through Saturday. Lows in the mid 60s. Highs in the 70s.

# Residents cope with flood aftermath

By BILL DUNN

Madison residents are continuing to clean up after the weekend flooding, while access to the city is still limited because of water flowing over main roads into town.

Some homes on S. Egan are still cut off and surrounded by water. Caved-in basements and weakened house foundations are also becoming more evident as water is pumped out.

Those still with full basements are being advised to wait to pump them out after the water goes down around their homes because of the pressure on foundations.

Effective at noon, Mayor Gene Borchardt said law enforcement officers were going to start inspecting homes to make sure sump pumps aren't draining into the sanitary sewer system.

The wastewater treatment plant is still off-line. Those with sumps draining into the sanitary sewer will be ticketed, Borchardt said. The problem is that sewers are backing up into basements.

Officials continue to assess the damage, here and downstream at Lake Madison, Brant Lake and Chester.

Volunteers were being put to work by the Lake County

emergency management office, said director Ron Hughes.

This morning about 10 Mennonite and Hutterite colony residents from as far away as Freeman showed up with pumps to help with the cleanup. More were expected.

A crew was working to remove a pickup from underneath the bridge behind Uncle Ed's Cafe. It was washed in Saturday.

Cleanup kits are available from Hughes' office. They include brooms, a mop, bucket, sponge, soap and disinfectant.

The office is very busy sending volunteers to where help is needed. People are still removing furniture and other items from basements.

Two accidents were reported. A pickup driven by Eric Prigg, 21, Sioux Falls, had \$1,500 damage when the driver went through a barricade on SD-19 near Marr's Beach.

The road is washed out there but the pickup made it through. The rear axle and portions of the undercarriage were torn loose and wheel rims bent. The pickup was northbound.

An accident at the firecracker road corner caused minor injuries to

two Sioux Falls girls and caused \$5,000 damage to their car. Their car pulled out in front of a car driven by Wilbur McGee, 62, Sioux Falls, whose car had \$4,000 damage.

The road has been very heavily traveled as a detour route. The 17-year-old driver stated she was upset because of the traffic and that contributed to the accident.

The creek are still flowing at above-normal speeds and officials

have had to warn children to stay clear.

City Engineer Bill Heyer calculated that the flow of the 500-year flood, which is what the Silver Creek flow is said to be, was about 60,000 gallons of water a second.

Officials are continuing to monitor the sedimentation dams upstream from Lake Herman and the Lake Herman spillway. A rumor that the Doblair dam had a crack in it was circulating, but isn't true, said Sheriff Herb Lurz.

## More papers

Due to the high demand for copies of Monday's special flood edition, The Madison Daily Leader has done a second printing of that issue.

Extra copies are now available at the newspaper office. This is the special edition section only.

## Some eastern South Dakota residents return to flooded homes

As residents in Madison slowly began moving back into their flooded homes this morning, the Big Sioux River surpassed a nine-year flood record and forced out residents of other downstream towns.

About 500 homes in Madison were damaged by flooding that began Saturday after a round of heavy rainstorms. Another 400 homes in other areas of the state were damaged, officials said.

Most of the 2,000 people evacuated in Madison have been able to return.

But in Renner, crews scrambled to sandbag to the rising Big Sioux. The river on Monday crested at 15.6 feet at Dell Rapids, surpassing the 1984 level of 15.2 feet, said Mike Dirksen, a National Weather Service meteorologist.

The record is 16.5 feet set in 1969. The river is expected to rise another three feet in rural areas east of Sioux Falls through Wednesday, Dirksen said.

Some Dell Rapids families were also forced out of their homes Sunday as water filled many basements and was lapping at doorsteps in portions of town.

Some residents had to load their belongings on boats as they left their homes. By Sunday afternoon, the river had reached at least eight homes and water was reported in the basements of many others.

"Mike swimming in the water were trying to climb up me for safety," said Jeff Alberts of Dell Rapids.

The flooding washed out long-distance telephone service for several communities Sunday, said Sarah Watson, a spokeswoman for

South Dakota Telephone.

The cable was rerouted Sunday night, but local telephone service problems continued Monday, Watson said.

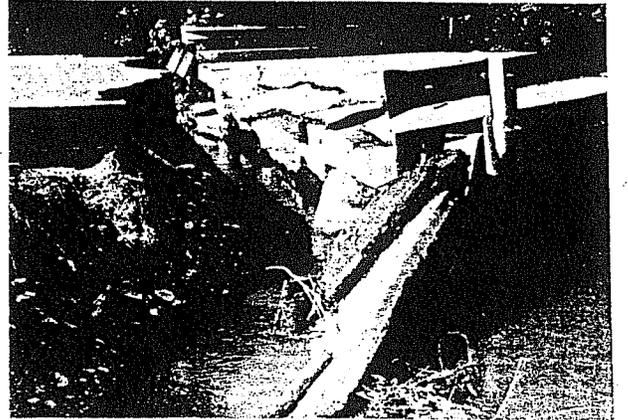
Customers of the Sanborn and Sully Buses telephone companies also lost their long-distance service when flooding washed out a cable that sends calls to Sioux Falls, said Dick Johnson, manager of the Sanborn telephone company.

Officials in Montrose asked residents Monday not to drink water from the city system. About 50 homes were damaged in the Vermillion River spilled onto city streets.

The river receded a bit Sunday, but not enough to allow people back into their homes, authorities said.

"You could see it coming," Ken Katzer of Montrose said of Saturday evening's flooding. "Within a half hour it came up three or four feet. We had time to get out, and we were able to pile some things up, but we lost some things."

Flooding also was reported in nearby Spencer.



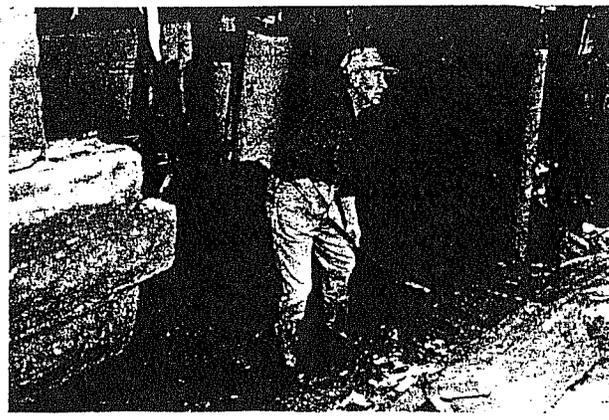
BRIDGE OUT — The bridge across 9th St.

shows the results of the raging Park Creek overflow.



EXAMINING THE DAMAGE caused by the Fourth of July weekend flood is Elise Feistner, daughter Ruth and son-in-law Larry. Feistner was in Wells, Minn., when the flood occurred. The current and force of the floodwaters washed away the dirt surrounding the

basement wall, then pushed it in from the bottom. According to Feistner, there were 4 feet of mud and silt on her basement floor. "We were lucky in a way. There are others worse off than us," Feistner said. Family members came back with her Sunday to help clean up. The home is located on N. Garfield.



DISCOURAGING — Terrence Lage was in the basement of his home in Dell Rapids on Sunday.

The back wall of the basement fell in during the flood.

## Shelter is still open

The Madison City Armory will continue serving as the temporary American Red Cross shelter for the time being, according to Lake County disaster relief chairman Bob Blom.

At the present time we are providing the three basic needs — food, shelter and clothing, when available," Blom said.

Accommodations for those with special needs are available as well. Jerry Phillips of Community Counseling Services will be providing basic counseling and nurturing for those in need as well.

The local Red Cross chapter is also expecting support from the national Red Cross.

"We will be receiving a site director from Omaha — Jim Phillips — and some ERV's (emergency response vehicles). The ERV's will carry needed supplies,

victims in certain hard-to-reach areas," Blom added.

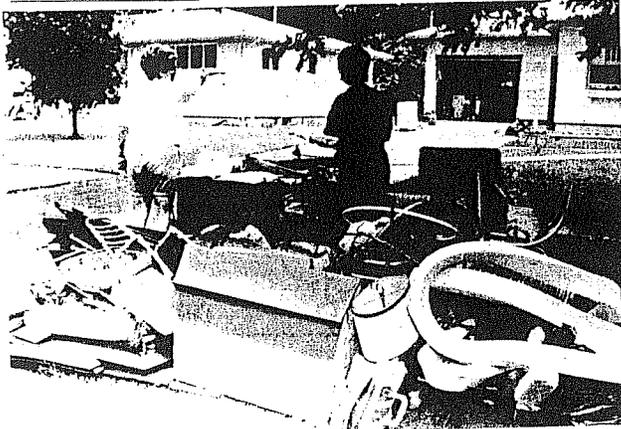
The Red Cross has also made home cleanup kits available. They can be picked up at the Public Safety Building lower level.

Blom said the next two steps involve Red Cross specialists going through the area assessing damages.

They will use the Red Cross formula for need when going through the damage assessment process, which involves damage and losses.

At this time, the Red Cross has counted approximately 550 housing units as being damaged.

They will also provide a service center to evaluate personal needs and special orders will be made to provide these needs. Future plans will depend on the



**MAJOR CLEANUP EFFORT** — Jennette Kreul (right) and her friend Marilyn Mounhart were among the hundreds of people cleaning out basements which had been flooded over

the weekend. The Krauls live on Prairie Ave. near 3rd Street. Sump pumps were running like mad Monday as workers hauled load after load of wet, muddy things from basements.



**CLEANING POP** for Mom and Dad — Pam Christie Patrick was home from Los Angeles for the weekend when her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Christie's home became flooded suddenly Saturday morning. The family home had a foot or more of water on the main floor. Pam was washing off the pop cans that were covered with sludge from the water.

## Views inside an emergency shelter

By DAN HOLSWORTH

With Saturday's second wave of storms bearing down on Madison and my wife Rose, a certified Bethel Lutheran Home nurses' assistant doing volunteer work at the Madison City Armory disaster shelter, I went down and spent the night there.

Here are some impressions:  
Health-care providers seen, for the most part, to thrive on emergency conditions.

Taking an extra dose of adrenaline, present and past Bethel nurses and assistants worked hard and long tending to the residents' needs throughout the night.

The care and concern was abundantly evident at the shelter.

That was brought home when, at 11 p.m. Saturday, Jane Raethz said, "The residents need more bed pads." Her husband Kelly immediately volunteered to drive his 4x4 to Evergreen Terrace Healthcare Center to get some more. Evergreen, by the way, was generous in their support during the crisis.

Eerie yet assuring was the shadowy sight of CNAs quietly turning the elderly at 3 a.m. Sunday in the dimly-lit armory.

Young National Guardsmen who walked down the DSU Fieldhouse aisle a little over a year ago at Madison's high school graduation seemingly came of age that night.

They carried their own sense of humor into the armory, along with their camouflage-decorated outfits, including flashlights.

Guardsman Wade Lowe: "I'm not doing so bad for a fella who's been operating on a couple of Cokes!"

Guardsman Mark Ferber: "I really didn't sign up to do this kind of thing."

Ferber and Lowe then left me to set up the emergency generator, which provided the shelter with power and lights for over five hours after a fireworks-like display from a blown-out transformer left the shelter powerless.

American Red Cross personnel must have been plopped, like pairs of spongy sneakers, on the front steps leading into the armory's west doors.

Bob Blom, one of the Lake County Red Cross volunteers, was almost too busy bringing in food, going in and out of the shelter to keep up on the latest reports from people like Ron Hughes, to stop and answer a reporter's questions.

Blom was able to utter those assuring words, "Lake Herman's spillway is holding up well," just often enough to drown the "panic bugs."

Blom started to flop his long, lanky body down on one of the 5-foot-8 Red Cross cots for a short time, only to be abruptly roused when the power came back on in the early hours Sunday.

He knew he was the only one who knew which switches to flip to turn them back off, since Bethel residents and other needy ones were resting so peacefully, and he wanted to keep it that way.

Jim Iverson, Bethel Home administrator, another foot soldier who kept watch all Saturday night and into Sunday morning, said Monday:

"Ironically, the residents (and everyone else) had a very quiet night at the armory."  
Eerie but true!

**in brief**

**Gehl won't open Monday**

Due to the recent flooding of Gehl company's Madison facilities and the resultant impact on property and inventory, production will not resume on Monday as scheduled, according to plant manager Francis Janusz.

Certain employees have been contacted directly to assist in putting the operation back into full production as soon as possible, he said.

No other information is available at this time.

**'Snow White' to be presented**

The Madison Area Arts Council is pleased to present Jessie Brahm's "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" as the 1993 summer theater production. The show, directed by Megan McMurchie, will feature local children.

The two performances of the play will be Aug. 15 at Dakota Prairie Playhouse at 2 and 7 p.m.

Tickets and general information about auditions and other involvement with the play may be obtained by calling Kelli Smith at 256-9792.

**Seven charged for steroids**

SIOUX FALLS (AP) — Seven men in their late teens and early 20s have been charged in federal or state court for illegally using and acquiring steroids.

Six of the seven were attending either the University of South Dakota in Vermillion or South Dakota State University in Brookings while using or acquiring the drugs, authorities said.

South Dakota Attorney General Mark Barnett and acting U.S. Attorney Ted McBride both are involved in the case. Those charged include Wayne Koon, 21, of Rapid City; Lonnie Larson, 24, and Judy Brozik, 23, both of Vermillion; and Jeff Sinda,

**Red Cross offers bed, food, clothes**

**By ERIC THOMPSON**  
The American Red Cross Service Center, located in Madison in the gym at St. Thomas School, is ready and waiting to help those in need of assistance.

**PPD receives SDDC 504 loan to expand**

PPD, USA, Inc., will be expanding with the assistance of a South Dakota Development Corporation 504 loan.

"It's always a positive sign to see demand for products, the company said Gov. Walter Miller. "The SDDC 504 loan program has been instrumental in business expansion in our state."

A manufacturer of plastic components, PPD USA of Madison, a subsidiary of Industries PPD, Inc. of Canada, received a \$226,000 SDDC 504 loan to purchase and install new compression presses and expand its chilling system.

According to Sylvain Furgon, controller of PPD, Inc. the company has been very satisfied with doing business in South Dakota. "We received our first financial assistance from South Dakota in 1987 with a REDI Fund loan which enabled our company to purchase equipment and begin operations," he said.

In order to meet the rising demand for products, the company plans to purchase compression presses to increase capacity. The expansion will enable PPD to recycle water through its chilling system.

PPD USA also received a \$50,000 REDI Fund loan approved by the Board of Economic Development last month.

This \$645,000 project is being financed with a SDDC 504 loan, a REDI Fund loan, a Northwest Bank loan, an equity contribution from the company, and other sources. The company projects to create 10 jobs within three years.

The shelter and the volunteers working there offer a dry place to sleep, warm food and clothing.

"We are here to help with your needs. Anything which happened due to the disaster we can help with, including losses," said Kathryn Miller of Lincoln, Neb., family services specialist.

The Red Cross Service Center is there to help those in need of funds for clothing, food, rent, transportation, health needs and selected basic furnishings.

"They have vouchers for those who need clothing. The vouchers are to be used to purchase clothes; the Red Cross is not handing out used clothing articles."

Miller said the Red Cross also

looks toward the community for resources and help with assisting those in need.

Jim McAlister from St. Louis, Mo., said a lot of the help they offer depends on what is needed. "Each case is different. Everybody needs something that someone else doesn't necessarily need."

The Red Cross can also help with transportation needs, including gasoline.

Miller said the volunteers can help provide assistance in many different areas. "We can help you get the smell out of your house or we can tell you how to properly wash your clothes to get them clean again, and so on."

If you are in need of assistance you only need to go down to the center at St. Thomas and sign up.

You will be interviewed briefly to explain your problem and your needs. From there, the Red Cross will do all they can to help.

The American Red Cross has three service centers in the region. They are located in Madison, Mitchell and Montrose. The hours are from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

In addition, Lutheran Brotherhood has announced it will be offering a matching gift program to support the American Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund.

Early estimates are that the Red Cross will spend about \$490,000 to aid victims of floods in eastern

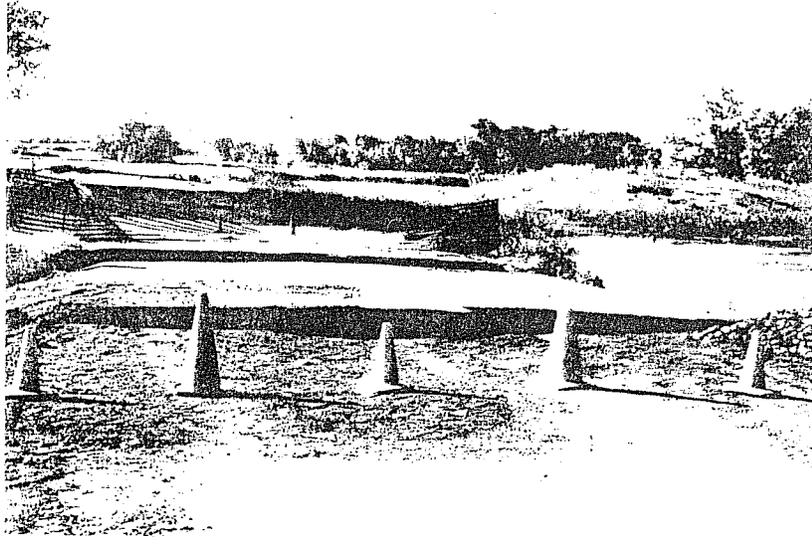
South Dakota.

Because of this, Lutheran Brotherhood Tri-County Branch 8601 and West Sioux Falls Branch 8838 will match monetary donations from their service area.

There are over 60 Red Cross volunteers from across the U.S. eastern South Dakota assist flood victims.

The Red Cross shelter in Madison has people from Nebraska, Florida, Missouri and Alabama work here, as well as local volunteers.

For those who wish to contribute to the American Red Cross, see contributions to the American Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund, 3209 Summit Ave., Sioux Falls, S.D. 57105.



ROADS ARE WASHED OUT and dangerous caverns have been cut into the highways. This bridge area on Highway 19 is no longer passable.

**EMA officials in Madison to assess damage**

**By ERIC THOMPSON**

Officials from the state Emergency Management Agency were in Madison Wednesday to view the area and answer questions from local government, particularly regarding possible state and federal disaster declarations.

Darryl Dvorak from the state EMA office in Pierre and Tom Welch, EMA regional coordinator for the 14-county area, said they were here to get an idea of the damage and the dollar total in damages.

"When things slow down, we can look at the smaller areas of impact. At this time we are looking at the more severe damage, particularly the big-ticket, expensive items," Welch said.

Items on the line include bridges, the water system, sewer system, rural and city utilities, etc.

Welch and Dvorak plan to compile their information over the

weekend and present a monetary damage estimate to Gov. Walter Miller so he can possibly pursue a presidential declaration proclaiming the area a disaster.

"The more statistics we compile, the better the chance for a declaration," Welch said.

According to Welch, one problem with a damage assessment will be roads which are under water, as it is very hard to assess damage when they are submerged.

He also said roads on the federal aid system should be kept track of separately, including bridges, as the assistance is not part of the same program.

One area with damage that is causing major concern is the wastewater treatment plant.

"We may have a break in the line at the plant," Mayor Gene Borchardt said.

"The sewage plant is not in operation right now, and with the

line possibly broken, we may need to build a road to reach the problem in order to correct it," he said.

He stressed it is a health concern. Welch told Borchardt the thing to do at this time is to contact the Environmental Protection Agency.

He also told Borchardt it is programs such as that which would be covered by a full federal declaration.

Welch was unsure if the costs of the road, which may be necessary to build in order to fix the problem, would be covered in a federal declaration since it could be considered an improvement instead of just repairing it to its pre-existing condition.

Borchardt said he believes the EPA had been contacted.

If President Bill Clinton were to proclaim this area a disaster, he would have three options: a declaration of public assistance, a declaration of individual assistance, or both.

When regions of South Dakota were proclaimed disaster areas by Presidents Reagan and Bush in 1984, 1985 and 1989, they made public assistance declarations.

Welch felt that if the region is declared a federal disaster area, it also would be a proclamation of public assistance.

The last time a declaration of individual assistance was made by a president was in 1969, when President Nixon proclaimed Rapid City eligible for individual assistance after the great Rapid City flood of that year.

In order to be eligible for individual assistance, the area affected must have had 100 families displaced. This assistance is intended to help families get by in times of need.

The individual assistance program provides for a grant of up to \$11,000 to purchase necessities.

The federal public assistance declaration which Madison is hoping to eventually receive, calls for the placing of disaster teams in the area.

"FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) comes into

the area and creates teams. Included in these teams are federal, state and local engineers, as well as probably the county highway superintendent. These people would write a damage survey report for each site in the area. If the total damage or cost to replace is more than \$43,000, it is considered a large project. If under that total, it is considered a small project," Welch said.

The category of large project vs. small project is done for reimbursement purposes.

A large project is reimbursed on a total cost basis, while a small project is reimbursed on the estimated cost of the project.

A federal disaster proclamation traditionally allows for 75 percent federal payment of costs, 10 percent state and 15 local.

Welch told those from local government that recordkeeping is very important, as the county could be subject to an audit.

"Keep track of everything, where the money was spent, how much,

where, who spent it, etc."

Photographs are very important as a photo speaks a thousand words, Welch said.

When the president declares an area a federal disaster, everything spent by local government is accountable for payment or repayment, Welch said.

He added that if you are a non-profit organization, everything directly related to the flood would be eligible for funds as well.

He also stressed that although a team was here, a presidential declaration declaring the area a federal disaster was not a given at this point.

Should the area not receive a federal declaration, it already has received a state declaration of disaster.

In order to receive state funds, you must need a "significant commitment."

What this amounts to in Lake County is damages totaling or exceeding \$678,252.

In this scenario, the state government pays for up to 90 percent of the damages over the initial \$678,252.

Overtime hours to local government employees are included in this sum.

"The process of declaring the area a federal disaster begins at this level," Welch said.

"We present the governor with our figures and findings. If Miller decides the area is bad enough, he sends them to the director of FEMA in Denver, who then sends them to the national director in D.C., where they are then filtered to the president."

As of Wednesday, the governor had proclaimed 15 counties as non-related state disaster areas. The Air Guard in Sioux Falls has set up a task force to handle inquiries to coordinate with state agencies to work with the people in need and those helping.

Welch said that historically, if the region is declared a federal disaster area, it would be within a month.

**Kintigh: All area lakes closed**

Mike Kintigh, Lake County conservation officer, continues to warn boaters that all of the county's lakes are closed to boating, resulting from the flooding which has occurred since Saturday's deluge.

"Due to the flooding, our area lakes are closed to all boating," said Kintigh. "This is primarily an effort to keep property damage caused by wave action to a minimum. It will also allow the large amounts of debris floating in the lakes to wash ashore so they can't pose a threat to boating traffic."

Kintigh said the area lakes' closure notice came as an order from Gov. Walter D. Miller at the request of many of the lakes' residents. The order includes Lakes Herman, Madison and Brandt.

Kintigh has been the recipient of many inquiries as to when the closings will be lifted.

"I cannot give an exact date," said Kintigh, "but I am certain the lakes will not be opened until the water has receded below the high water line. Depending upon rainfall, I expect to see the lakes reopened in about 11 days."

He said he will enforce the closures. "I have been told to cite anyone who ignores the 'no boating' order," he said.

Once the lakes do open again, boaters should be especially careful of floating debris and, if possible, remove any debris from the water when encountered, said Kintigh.

"We will also ask all boaters to be very careful of their wakes as a lot of the shoreline will still be very unstable and easily eroded."



STATE EMA regional coordinator Tom Welch answered questions and explained what state and federal disaster declarations

The Lake County Commission, Mayor Gene Borchardt, County EMA Director Ron Hughes and other county and city officials were

# More rain predicted in region

## Flood-weary towns worried

By DAVID KRANZ  
Special to the Star  
MADISON — Storms that could aggravate flooding in eastern South Dakota are possible today, forecasters said Friday.

That prediction has people in flood-stricken communities worried again.

Billy Williams, meteorologist for the National Weather Service in Sioux Falls, described the storm as a potential monster, one that could worsen flood conditions at a time when people were hoping the worst was over.

Cliff Millsaps, hydrologist with the weather service, agreed.

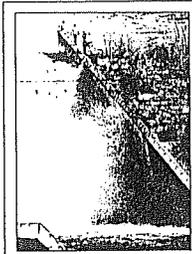
"I am concerned about it in terms of the amount of rain. We will definitely be keeping an eye on it," Millsaps said.

But the forecast is getting old for many people who have watched their property and crops soak away.

"It has been hard on people's spirit. People are sure down. That's needless to say," said Bob Ellsworth, owner of Ellsworth Funeral Home in Madison.

Shirlee Lughton, chairman of the Lake County Commission, said she was seeing the same thing.

"They feel very defeated," she



### Inside:

■ **PUBLIC PROPERTY LOSSES:** Public property losses in eastern South Dakota could reach \$10 million as counties, cities and townships assess damage in coming days 3A

■ **SIoux FALLS DAMAGE:** An estimated \$2 million in damage to streets, parks and other public property is expected, city officials said Friday. Stabilizing Skunk Creek will be one of the most expensive projects. 3A

said. "I know I have been feeling totally beat by this."

After 2,000 Madison residents evacuated their homes because of



DRIVE SLOWLY — Cars splashed through the waters Saturday morning north of the golf course after 4-plus inches of rain dumped on the Madison area.



## More rain: Monster storm is possibility

Continued from 1A

flooding last Saturday night, they watched the skies threaten again Thursday night and Friday morning. The two-hundredths of an inch of rain that fell did not send floodwaters back over the road around Lake Herman, east of the city.

The flood has brought people in the community together.

On sunny days, Bob Blom runs a computer sales business in Madison. But on these rainy days,

he goes to the old Army every day to help direct the volunteer

operation for the Red Cross. He oversees a command post that provides shelter, food, clothing and cleaning supplies.

Maxie Elpert, a Madison housewife, said she had no personal problems with flooding, but knows it will be hard on some people.

"This is a good community, though. People will pull together." "It's a traumatic experience for a lot of them," Blom said.

The Rev. Al Goldammer of St. John Lutheran Church said he was seeing some despondency among farmers and others in the

church who have lost their livelihood because of flood damage.

"I basically listen to them. People have feelings. They don't need answers. They need people who hear them and understand them," he said.

But others who are helping to clean up the church, parsonage and each other's homes are too busy to be depressed, Goldammer said.

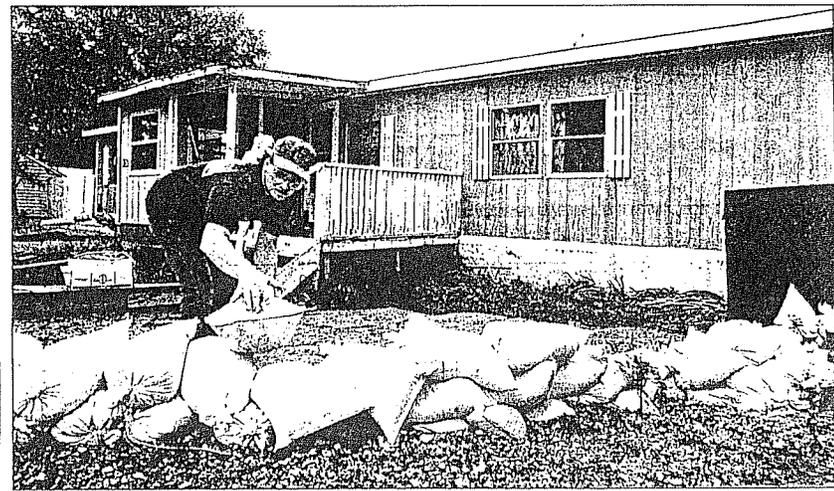
"People are just very industrious. They have things to do and they are doing them. They are too busy to be despondent."

Jerry Philippi of Chester is a counselor at Community Mental Health in Madison and has been trained by the Red Cross to deal with disasters. He also has been spending his days at the Red Cross Center.

"Altogether, people are hearing up pretty well. The folks who lost the most are pretty upset."

Bishop Paul Dudley of the Sioux Falls Catholic Diocese will say Mass for flood victims at noon Monday at St. Joseph's Cathedral, Sioux Falls.

# Flood may cost S.D. \$1 billion



Scottie Pederson of Madison places sandbags in front of the Lake Herman home of Darwin and Mary Fish on Thursday.

## Madison residents dig in despite mess

By DAVID KRANZ  
Special to the Star  
MADISON — Mary Fish was looking forward to drying out some of her flood-soaked household wares Wednesday.

By now, she was standing on the porch of her Lake Herman home in the midst of a steady rain, watching her husband and neighbors sandbagging the place.

"I don't believe this," she said. "Sometimes, this almost seems defeating. We have had water up to 4 feet here, now with this rain it will probably come back again. We had fish swimming over the road Sunday."

But the sight of the water creeping in the edge of the road again Wednesday didn't break her spirit. There is no way she was about to give up on her home she has lived in since 1966.

"We aren't leaving here. We've

### On page 3A:

■ **ON THE RISE:** The Mississippi River sprawled seven miles outside its banks Wednesday north of St. Louis. Levees on small rivers failed in Iowa and Illinois and forced more than 1,000 people from their homes.

stuck it out through the worst. There is no way I am leaving now," she said.

Ivan Weber, who lives a couple of doors down to the east, is also a veteran of the neighborhood, having built the home he and his wife Charlotte have lived in since 1958.

They also planned to dry out some of their belongings Wednesday, but couldn't do much because of the rain.

Weber doesn't want to leave

either, but he wants some response from the government.

"I think the whole house is a bunch of garbage. I think it is time they condemned the whole thing. If this was the Rapid City flood, that would have happened by now. The way it is, we don't know," he said.

A retired float plane pilot, Weber used to park his plane on Lake Herman, across from his home.

Ron Hughes, director of emergency services for Lake County, can't give any reassurance that the water won't be back.

"When it rains, you can assume that 70 percent is absorbed. Thirty percent is runoff. The way the ground is saturated, every time it rains, you will get 100 percent runoff. It won't take much to send it over the road again," Hughes said.

Hughes spent most of Wednesday with state emergency personnel, setting criteria for determining

damage in the city. A loss estimate could be ready by the end of next week.

Most people have returned to their homes along Lake Herman, but it may be awhile before those in the flash flood area just south of the downtown area can return. Waters from the Silver Creek area still surrounds about 50 to 60 homes, Hughes said.

In addition to sandbagging, Roger Husman of the Lake County Highway Department used his road grader to shove rock around the edge of the lake to hold water in.

A public health advisory was issued for the Lake Madison area by the health department on Wednesday, asking residents to avoid direct contact with water and the lake. State health secretary Barbara Smith said there was a possibility that sewage discharge could contaminate the lake.

## Madison assesses damage after disaster

By CORRIE OLSON  
Argus Leader Staff

MADISON — Charolette Weber gets to her kitchen by boat these days.

With water flooding out of Herman Lake, into her front yard and into the house she has little choice.

She and her children waded into the kitchen Sunday afternoon and started to salvage what they could.

Weber is one of hundreds of people in this community of 6,200 about 40 miles northwest of Sioux Falls who are fighting floodwaters that hit town Saturday after heavy rains.

"It washed away our front steps. Our basement filled completely. It's coming up faster than we can keep up with," said Merry Olinger, as she and family members hauled belongings out the basement.

Mittens, socks and coats hung on the clothesline. "My daughter was supposed to go to Bible camp today and we could only find one of her shoes," Olinger said.

Two of her five children had bedrooms in the basement. Furniture, clothing, toys and Christmas decorations were spread across the lawn as though the family was having a large yard sale.

"It's Christmas in July here,"



Argus Leader photo by PAUL BUCKOWSKI

Ivan Weber and his sister, JoLynn, remove food Sunday from the refrigerator at their parents' home on Territorial Road at Lake Herman. Ivan and JoLynn were helping their mother, Charolette, remove property from the flood-damaged home.

said Marilyn Olinger of Salem, whose son, Brad, is married to Merry.

Olinger said she and her husband rushed to the basement Saturday

night to rescue what they could. But water poured in so quickly that it filled in 30 minutes.

Karl Felsheim and Kim DeBates were moving out of their house

Sunday afternoon. Sewage had risen to within one foot from the ceiling in the basement of the house they rent.

All across town people were trying to rescue what they could and recover from a storm that is like nothing they remember.

se Charlie Hagg, 75, has lived in Madison for nearly 50 years and he never remembers the lake rising like it did Saturday night.

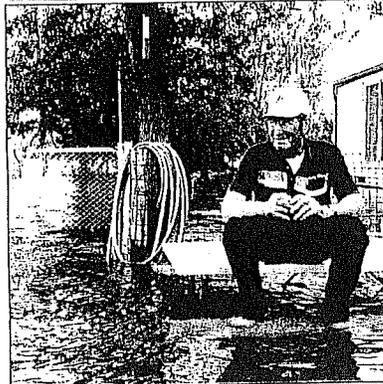
"I have about two feet of water in my house. There is about four feet in my daughter's. My daughter's refrigerator is floating. I suppose everything is ruined," he said.

Mark Ebsen of Madison spent part of Sunday afternoon catching minnows. The small fish were swimming across County Highway 38 that circles the lake.

Orville and Betty Olson, who own the Prairie Park Resort, watched as waves lapped halfway up the building that houses a ball shop.

The Olsons worry that if a wind comes up they will lose the building, which is not insured. But they haven't given up hope yet.

"We're going to try to reopen," Betty Olson said. We drove through water to get here, but I couldn't stand it any longer. I had to see if it was still here."



Argus Leader photo by PAUL BUCKOWSKI

Virgil Schoebel sits Sunday on a picnic table in front of his home at Lake Herman.

## Madison tries to recover as flooding fears subside

By CORRIE OLSON  
Argus Leader Staff

A spillway on Lake Herman held through the night and the worst flooding may be over for Madison, said Ron Hughes, Lake County Emergency Management director.

Officials fear that if the spillway collapsed it would send a wall of water through town, much of which is still under water from Saturday's flooding.

Hughes said 500 homes received some degree of water damage and the cleanup will take some time.

Most of the 2,000 people who were evacuated from their homes as floodwaters rushed through town have returned home. But they haven't always liked what they found.

"They go home and they find the home is not livable, so they're coming back," said Hughes, referring to a Red Cross shelter that was set up at the city armory. Most north-south streets

leading into the city were blocked Sunday, with water running over them.

Hughes said it is impossible for him to estimate how much damage the flooding did until everyone can get back into their homes.

"I'm sure we have damaged hot water heaters, furnaces, refrigerators. Some basement walls are collapsing," he said.

Memorial Creek, which is usually a dry bed, drew to 10 times its normal width in some places.

"I've never seen it out of its banks. It came out of there with such force it actually pulled black top off the road," Hughes said.

Power to the entire city was lost at one point and was being restored gradually on Sunday.

Hughes is pleased with the way Madison residents have responded to the problems.

"Even though care and assistance have taken a while to get to them, they have been grateful," he said.

## Rain brings more flooding

### 2,000 residents evacuated in Madison

By WADE MERRY  
Argus Leader Staff

Madison officials were still on edge late Saturday, even after they successfully evacuated 2,000 residents because of a five-inch downpour that caused flooding.

The potential for greater damage loomed. If the spillway on the northeast edge of Lake Herman does not hold, the whole city could flood in a matter of minutes, officials said.

"If Lake Herman breaks, God only knows what will happen," said Ron Hughes, director of Lake County Emergency Management.

"What we are really concerned about is that situation," Shirley Leighton, Lake County Commission chairwoman, said. "Because of all the heavy rainfall we have had, everything is running to the max in our area."

Gov. Walter D. Miller ordered the National Guard into duty because of flooding and power outages in Madison, a Lake County community of 6,000.

Some of the townspeople were evacuated out of necessity. Others were moved as a precaution, authorities said.

The usually placid Memorial Creek, which runs through the heart of the town, left its banks early in the morning.

Memorial Creek, usually 12-14 feet wide, was in some places nearly 10 times that wide.

The new moisture fell on top of 3 1/4 inches received Monday and Tuesday.

Authorities also were worried about the rising waters of Silver Creek, which runs through the city's south side. Fed by Lake Herman to the west, Silver Creek was out of its banks and shutting off streets.

Highway 34, which runs into the city from the south, was flooded



John Hammer of Madison walks through floodwaters on Center Street in Madison on Saturday after searching a home for friends, who had left.

near Prostrullo All-American Auto Mall and the Pamida Discount Center. Egan Avenue near the baseball field also was flooded.

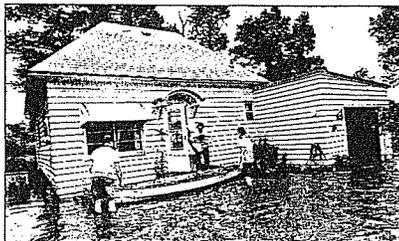
Everyone south of Center Street was evacuated by 9 a.m.

"We got everyone evacuated that needed to be," said Hughes. "We have about 100 people in shelters."

Residents of Bethel Nursing home were moved to the city armory. A National Guard truck brought in drinking water.

Only two minor injuries were reported; both involved people trying to help others out of their homes.

While residents along Silver Creek were gone, those living along Madison /See 3A



Marnie Margsson and her son Mike climb into a canoe Saturday after rescuing their cat Speedy from their home, on Grant Avenue.

### On Page 3A:

■ **MIGHTY MISSISSIPPI:** Davenport, Iowa, residents watched the swollen Mississippi River lap through their streets and rise higher than its predicted crest Saturday.

■ **FEDERAL AID:** President Clinton ordered federal disaster assistance for people in a 17-county belt across Wisconsin's midsection as rivers again began rising.

■ **SOAKED AGAIN:** Residents of Marshall, Minn., forced from their homes when the Redwood River overflowed its banks on the Mother's Day and Father's Day weekends, watched sheets of rain fall from the sky again Saturday.

### I-90 closes between Plankinton, Mt. Vernon

By DAVID KRANZ  
Argus Leader Staff

A Saturday morning drenching left Davison County roads and farm land under water, and threats of more flooding endangering Mitchell today.

Davison County Sheriff Lyle Swenson said reports of between three and six inches of rain throughout the county caused the closing of about a 12-mile stretch of I-90 from Mount Vernon to Plankinton due to lowland flooding. Portions of virtually every county road were closed because of high waters, he said.

"We have water where we never thought there could ever be water," said Swenson, who has spent 30 years in law enforcement in Davison County.

"They are in horrible condition in Mount Vernon. I drove down the streets today and they had a foot and a half of water on them. They have Main Street sandbagged and the railroad tracks sandbagged. They've stopped running the trains."

Swenson said a snowplow was waiting to clear the limbs and debris that have accumulated on the flooded stretch of the interstate.

He said there is a concern about extensive flooding in Mitchell today. Many basements were flooded already Saturday morning, but if Dry Run Creek overflows there will be a bigger problem, he said.

"You have never seen water in July coming over the spillway like that, and water is coming out of culverts like a torrent. Our sewage plant has no place to pump water. We have a lot of critical problems," he said.

He said flooding in Mitchell was averted because the city an. Flooding /See 3A



Floodwaters rage through a Madison street north of North Harth Avenue and Northeast Second Street on Saturday after the Lake Herman spillway overflowed its banks.

### Madison: Fears spillway may give

Continued from 1A

Memorial Creek could only stand and watch.

Melinda Edwards awoke to find water up to the windows on her car.

"I was scared and I got the phone instantly, and I was crying," she said.

After her car was towed, she found a snake inside.

"That scared the crap out of me," Edwards said.

Edwards stood beside Misty Van Heuvelen and Tricia Ludwig, outside 7-11 at the

corner of Washington Avenue and Second Street.

"They're my support," Edwards said.

The 7-11 was closed, without power since early in the morning. Lori Morgan, a clerk at the store, said that at one point the water was lapping at the doorway.

Nearby, Uncle Ed's restaurant was closed. Memorial Creek surrounded the building, causing its basement to collapse.

Tim Salmen, who lives along Memorial Creek, was awakened by his daughter, complaining

about water coming in through the windows of their home.

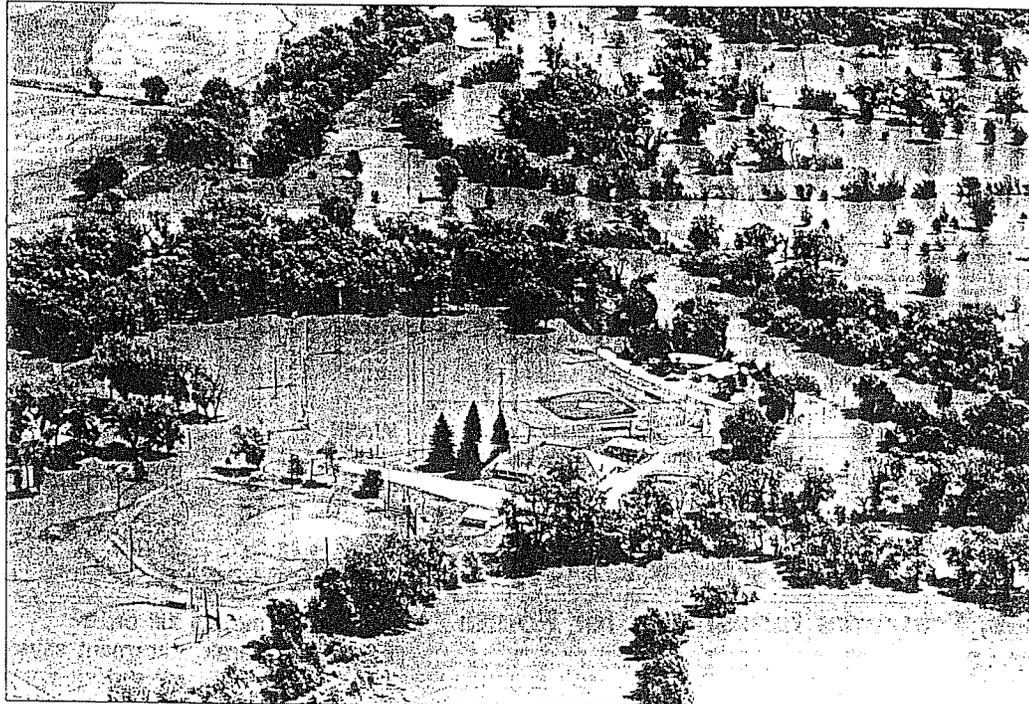
"I knew we didn't have any windows open," said Salmen.

Across the street one house had been moved off its foundation. Several cars sat stranded, flood waters covering the bumpers.

Ted Weiland has lived in Madison his entire life. He can't remember anything this bad.

But there's more rain in the forecast, and residents are bracing themselves.

## No letup in flood fury



### Rain brings more misery, one death to region

By DAVID KRANZ  
Argus Leader Staff

Another inch of rain fell last Saturday in much of eastern South Dakota, adding unneeded and damaging moisture to farms and towns along rivers and creeks that were already overflowing at an alarming rate.

The first report of loss of life due to recent flooding was reported Sunday near Dell Rapids.

Areas along the major rivers, the Big Sioux, Vermillion and James continued to flood and there was short-term sign of relief.

Mike Diresken, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service, said rain is forecast for today through Friday, with heavier rain likely Thursday and Friday.

In addition to flooding on farm and in towns, miles of county roads and one section of interstate highway water running over them, forced authorities to detour traffic.

Among the problems:

- Road conditions were responsible for a loss of life in Dell Rapids when an elderly man drove across a "Road Closed" sign and his vehicle was swept away. Max McCarthy, 32, of Dell Rapids, died on arrival at Sioux Falls Hospital.
- Many residents on the side of Dell Rapids were evacuated after high waters from the Sioux River spilled into homes.
- Montrose authorities have evacuated about two dozen people from their homes.

## Residents salvage belongings from flood

### Friends, neighbors pitch in to help

By ROSEMARY MCCOY  
Argus Leader Staff

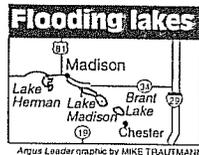
CHESTER — Cabin owners along Brant Lake floated furniture to dry ground Monday as the crest of water that flooded parts of Madison over the weekend swamped their homes.

"I wanted to be near water, not in water," said Jim Ihnen, who bought his lake home this year. Then, owner of the Tea Steakhouse and O'Toole's Bar, spent the day in waist-deep water fetching belongings from his cabin. With the help of his father, brother-in-law and two steakhouse employees, he hauled the household goods in a boat to a moving van.

The lake started rising two weeks ago, but 6 inches of rain that fell Saturday in the Madison area sent floodwaters storming downstream from Lake Herman and several creeks.

The water flooded cabins and mobile homes on the northwest and southeast sides of the lake. Tom O'Neara of Sioux Falls sat on the tailgate of a pickup Monday afternoon, smoking a cigarette and sipping on a beer after helping one of Ihnen's neighbors. O'Neara said he hadn't been across the lake yet to check on his mobile home and wasn't too worried about it because the damage was already done.

On the north side of the lake, Kevin Nelson removed his belongings from a house that lost most of its roof in high winds Saturday night. Nelson, Chester school principal, lived in the basement of Annette St. Clair's house. He wasn't home at 9 p.m. when



Argus Leader graphic by MIKE TRAUTMANN

the storm hit. St. Clair and seven members of her family who were visiting for the Fourth of July holiday crowded into a bathroom on the first floor, Nelson said. They made it through the storm safely.

The storm was the third bad one in the last year, Nelson said. "I plan to move back here so we can go through another storm," he joked.

Last summer, a tornado tore through Chester, destroying homes and businesses. One of those rebuilt businesses, the Roadside Convenience Store, was surrounded Monday by water from Skunk Creek.

Owners Nick VanDam and Deb Schuidt and her husband Ed spent the last two days sandbagging the store with the help of 100 volunteers. Their work paid off. By Monday morning, the water was receding.

"Unless they get another rain up north, we've got it licked," VanDam said. Ed Schuidt ferried his two daughters to the store across flooded County Road 15 in the scoop of a tractor. He made another trip back to deliver gasoline to a motorist.

Children watching the tractor cross the water begged their mothers to let them ride along.



Ed Schuidt keeps an eye on sandbags keeping Skunk Creek at bay from the Roadside Convenience Store at County roads 15 and 52 on the edge of Chester. Water rose to the top of the sandbags Monday morning but was receding by afternoon.

To the east of the store, a hunk of pavement on County Road 52 was washed out, and to the west, the highway was under water.

The floodwaters from Skunk Creek also washed out railroad tracks and a trestle. "We thought we were going to lose it about 2 a.m. last night," Ed Schuidt said of the store. The water rose as high as the 4-foot wall of sandbags before it subsided.

Upstream, Madison residents scrubbed items they could salvage and piled along the curb

water-soaked belongings they couldn't. Parts of town flooded Saturday as Lake Herman filled and spilled into Silver Creek. Runoff from farm fields also flooded Memorial Creek.

Along Silver Creek, water still lapped at the foundations of some homes. Mike and Cheryl Duffy were more fortunate. The water swamped their back yard but had stopped running into the basement of their split-foyer home.

"The first day we cried, the second day we laughed, and now we're too tired to care," Cheryl Duffy said. "We didn't even re-

alize it was the holiday until after it was over."

As they shared their stories with neighbors Tom and Deb Michelke, the four cursed the cost of flood insurance.

"You better pray for a tornado tonight," Tom Michelke said, joking about how they could get the insurance company to pay for the damage.

Along Memorial Creek, the water had gone back within the black retaining walls. Dan and Judy Dahl and their three children had to evacuate their home next to the creek when the water

"Unless they get another rain up north, we've got it licked."

— Nick VanDam

broke through windows in the basement Saturday morning.

At the height of the flooding, the creek rose 8 to 10 feet, Judy Dahl said. Most years the creek is just a trickle of water, the Dahls said.

In the last few days, strangers have offered their help, the Dahls said.

"Everybody's so wonderful," Judy Dahl said. "People we hardly know have offered us their homes. Others have brought us hot dishes."

Instead of complaining about the hard work ahead, the family joked about the effort. "It's like putting a big puzzle together," Dan Dahl said.

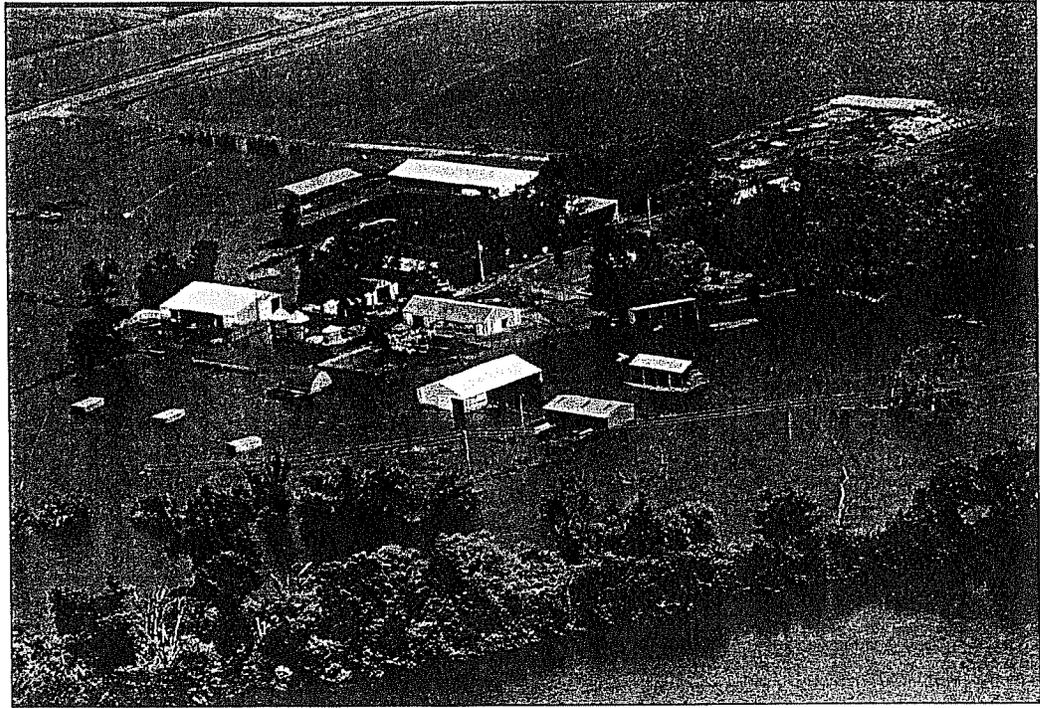
The cleanup work will continue today as Memorial and Hutterite crews volunteer their help, said Ron Hughes, Lake County emergency management director.

About 500 homes in Madison and on Lake Madison were damaged, Hughes said.

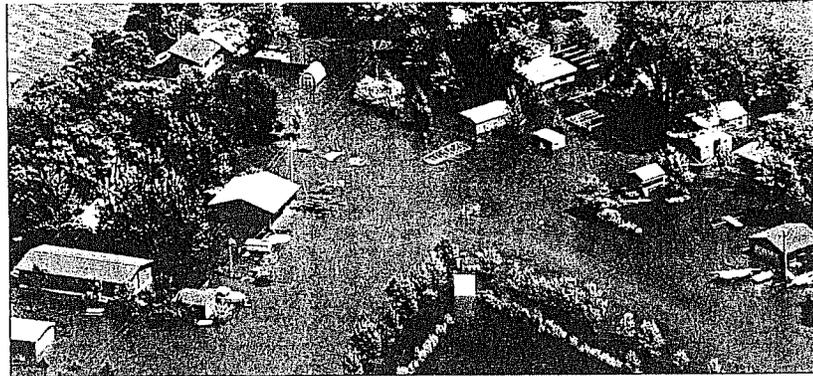
The city's wastewater treatment plant also was flooded, but the drinking water is safe, Hughes said. Three of five wells were shut down and are being tested to determine if they are contaminated. The other two wells can provide enough water for the town, he said.

Water in area creeks and lakes, though, is contaminated with sewage, and officials are warning people to stay out. Homeowners with flooded basements also need to be careful because of backed-up sewage, Hughes said.

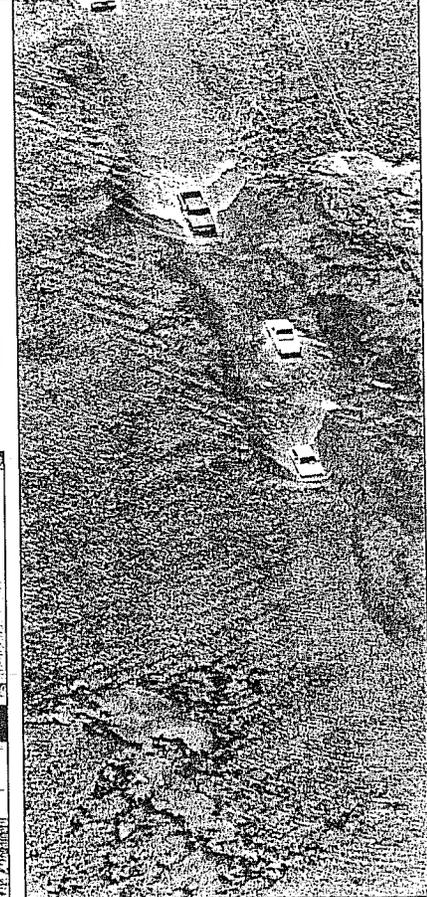
# Floodwaters keep on rising



The Larry Jorgenson farm southwest of Trent is virtually surrounded by floodwaters Sunday afternoon. The Big Sioux River normally flows north and west of the farm. Argus Leader photo by LEW SHERMAN



Floodwaters on Sunday engulf "The Point," which is on the southern shore of Lake Madison. Saturday 2,000 families were evacuated from the Lake Madison area due to flooding. Argus Leader photo by LEW SHERMAN



Four vehicles on Sunday travel through the floodwaters that cover a Lake County road, which is known locally as the Chester highway. Authorities are discouraging people from driving across roads and highways that are flooded. Argus Leader photo by LEW SHERMAN



Ivan Weber Jr. steers a boat Sunday toward the front door of his parents' home on Territorial Road along Lake Herman. Weber was helping his parents, Ivan and Charolette, move their articles from the home. Argus Leader photo by PAUL BUCKOWSKI

July 27, 1993

Attention Monica  
U.S. E.P.A., Region VIII  
999 - 18th Street  
Denver Place - Suite 500  
Denver, CO 80202-2405

Dear Monica:

Enclosed you will find all the information that pertains to the flooding July 3rd. I hope this will be sufficient, but if it isn't please let me know.

A brief description of the events that affected the Wastewater Treatment Plant are as follows. On Saturday July 3rd we received 6" of rain in a two hour time span, which was in addition to the 3 1/2" that fell the previous Monday and Tuesday. The result of all the rain caused the two creeks that run through Madison to jump their banks and flood our Wastewater Plant. The power had to be shut off when the transformer went under water.

Saturday morning about 11:30 an old railroad bed that our 21" outfall sewer line that runs to our holding pond and I/P Cells washed out. It took out approximately 265 feet of this line. On the influent line coming into our plant, we have an 18 inch and a 21 inch line that combine into a 25 inch line. We noticed an awful increase in flow, which was caused by a washout of approximately 165 feet of 18 inch line before the plant.

The water did not recede enough to even get into the plant until Tuesday morning the 6th of July. At that time we started to pump out the building and remove electrical motors and switching to dry it all out. Also on July 6th I called you to report what had happened. At that time we had contacted local contractors to bid replacing the two washed out lines.

On July 9th, Prunty Construction out of Brookings was awarded the bid. They started hauling riprap and equipment to Madison on the 12th. On the 15th of July they made the final hookup on the 18 inch raw wastewater line. After that, they moved directly to the 21 inch line that was washed out after the plant.

July 27, 1993  
Page 2

On Wednesday morning, July 21st, the line was installed and hooked up. I feel Prunty Construction did a very good job and contained our sewage flows in a timely manner.

At this time we are about 95% up and running. We still have to clean our Grit Chamber of sand and gravel that washed into it. This should be completed by July 23rd, at which time we will be running 100% of our treatment units.

Enclosed are pictures of each project labeled in sequence. I also enclosed some newspaper clippings and lab results. I hope everything is in order, and want to take this time to thank you for your help and understanding on this matter.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to call me at (605) 256-4586 ext 238.

Sincerely,

Jerry Mikel, Superintendent  
Water & Wastewater Departments  
Madison, SD 57042  
Permit# SD-0020010

JM/bf

Enclosures

August 3, 1993

Attention Monica Heimdahl  
U.S. E.P.A., Region VIII  
999 - 18th Street  
Denver Place - Suite 500  
Denver, CO 80202-2405

Dear Monica:

Enclosed you will find the rest of the Lab Data from the testing that was done during the flood. We will have all of our treatment units 100% on line by Friday August 6th.

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Sincerely,

Jerry Mikel, Superintendent  
Water & Wastewater

JM/bf

Enclosures

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Department of Environment & Natural Resources  
Joe Foss Building  
523 East Capitol  
Pierre, SD 57501-3181

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