

Rains stop; runoff threatens Oklahoma

United Press International
Sunshine returned to flood-ravaged Oklahoma Sunday but authorities braced for a record high bubble of water generated by days of heavy rains that was expected to sweep down the Red River on the state's southern border.

"The bubble of water is making its way down the Red River right now," said Robbie Robinson, director of programs for the Oklahoma Civil Defense. "It's going to do some damage around Jefferson and Love Counties."

Runoff from relentless storms that dumped more than 13 inches of rainfall in several areas of the state was expected to

push the Red River to a record 10 feet above flood stage late Sunday or early Monday, he said.

The flooding was expected to be worse than the record flooding of 1981, when waters six feet above flood stage rushed through, sweeping away bridges and closing roads.

"There's a limited number of things you can do to get ready for a flood of that size," Robinson said.

Some evacuations were expected along the sparsely populated river bottom.

Robinson said after the waters pass the Interstate 35 bridge, they will pour into Lake

Texoma and probably will no longer be a danger.

Simon Kennedy, sheriff of Jefferson County along the Red River, said the river was the highest it's ever been.

"I've been here for 65 years. This is the worst I've ever seen," he said.

He said some residents along the river were evacuated during the rains, but only cattle, crops and oilfield operations were damaged.

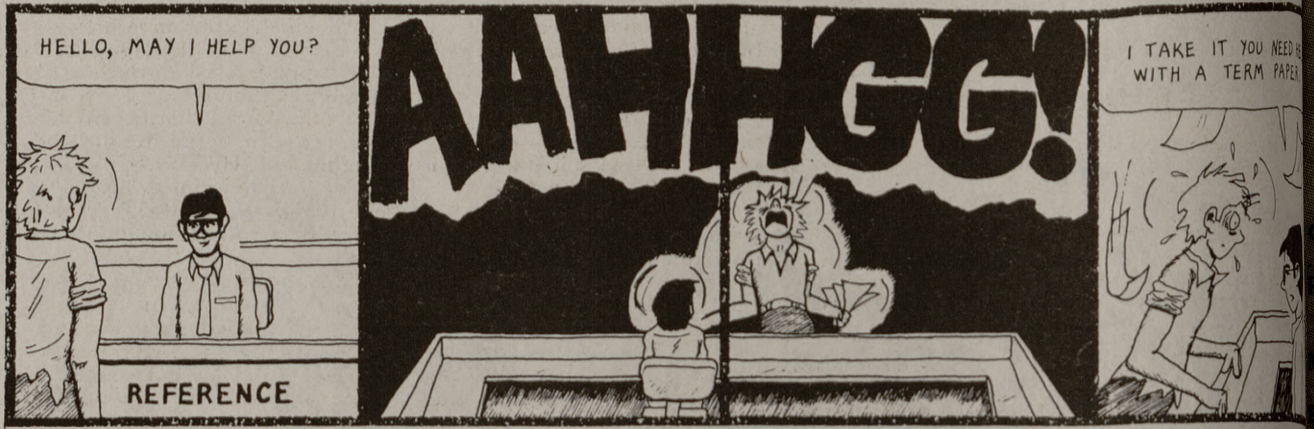
Flooding from steady rains chased some 1,500 or so people from their homes around central and southern portions of Oklahoma Thursday and Friday.

Some 50 square city blocks of Guthrie in central Oklahoma were flooded in the worst damage done by the heavy rainfall. One man was believed drowned in Guthrie, but the death still was not confirmed.

High waters from the storms also caused some flooding Sunday along the Washita River near Pauls Valley, Alex and Lindsay in Grady and Garvin Counties, Garvin County Civil Defense director Eddie Patchell said.

Warped

by Scott McCu



Mauled

Woman killed by canines trained to fight

United Press International
HARPER, Kan. — Authorities plan to file the most serious charges they can against the owner of two pit bull dogs that mauled to death the elderly mother of a Texas woman Saturday, Police Chief Ed Starks said Sunday.

Starks said he, the Harper County sheriff and the county attorney were to meet Monday morning to discuss charges to be filed against David Reynolds,

19, who lives several houses away from the victim, 67-year-old Grace Parsons.

"There are going to be charges filed," said Starks. "We just don't know how far and heavy we can go. We are going to go to the maximum of anything we can do because of the negligence involved."

Starks said people in this southern Kansas town of 1,800 were appalled at the incident, which prompted some of them to report their own problems with the dogs.

"It's not a panic type thing, but people are appalled by the fact that it was an adult person being mauled to death by a dog," he said.

Of the dogs, Stark said: "One man came around and said one of them bit him, but it didn't draw blood so he decided not to mess with it. I've had 15 people who said they saw the dogs running loose, but no one ever reported it."

The dogs, pedigreed male pit bull terriers, are 2 years old and 3 months old. Starks said the older dog was trained to fight and the younger one "was just a follower."

"This dog was trained to be a four-legged bodyguard for a human being," he said, noting both dogs were confiscated by authorities.

Starks said he was called to the woman's house about 8 a.m.

Saturday by a neighbor who she saw what appeared to be dogs mauling a human in the front lawn of the house.

"I thought possibly it was the owner of the dog — he's a penchant for going out there sometime — and that he passed out and the dogs just licking him," said Starks.

"I pulled up outside the house and saw the dogs were chewing on it."

Starks said the woman, though cold from lying in the morning chill for about hours, was still breathing when she was taken to Harper Center, where she died at 9:30 a.m.

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Illegally used radios confiscated by FCC

United Press International
MOBILE, Ala. — Some \$39,000 worth of radio transmitters were confiscated in the Mobile area for allegedly using frequencies set aside for emergency use only, but no arrests were reported, federal officials said Friday.

Sherry Jones, a spokeswoman for the Federal Communications Commission in

Atlanta, said the seizure was part of an ongoing crackdown on illegal ship radio usage in the Gulf of Mexico, including Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas.

Search warrants were issued by U.S. Magistrate David Bagwell of Mobile. Jones said U.S. marshals and FCC agents seized 53 radios from the See Inc., of

Bayou La Batre, and in nearby residence Wednesday.

Jones said the unauthorized radio stations were using on frequencies set aside for police, fire and other emergency transmissions.

She said the FCC received "urgent complaints" from emergency units about the interference.



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