

# Missouri flood turns off water for city of 80,000

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rising water along the muddy Missouri River knocked out tap-water service early Sunday for nearly 80,000 residents of historic St. Joseph, Mo., stepping-off point for the Pony Express.

People crowded into grocery stores, buying up bottled water, paper plates and easy-to-fix food. "I'm going around trying to find anything I can," said Diane Clark. "They're bringing in water but you can only get 10 gallons a day, and I have five people in my family."

At late morning, all that was left on store shelves at Cub Foods was Evian bottled water and ice. "And that's going really good too," said Rachelle Bergeron, assistant store manager.

City officials and the National Guard brought in water from other Missouri towns and opened

distribution centers by noon.

Crews spent all of Saturday sandbagging the riverside Missouri-American Water Co. plant, but when the Missouri River crested at 33 feet — flood stage is 17 feet — water came over the plant's levee, said company spokeswoman Christie Sinn.

Water already was in the plant's basement and the crest pushed it into the main floor, where it reached pump motors and other equipment.

Service could be restored Monday, unless there was too much damage to equipment, Sinn said.

Upstream along the Big Muddy, people also scrambled for bottled water because flooding shut down water service in Brownville, Neb. And downstream, toward Kansas City, water service was at the tobacco raising and whiskey distilling town of Weston, Mo.

## Republicans give little support to presidential agenda Gridlock in Congress slows legislation

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — More than a handful of Republicans support President Clinton's national service plan, and one, from a flooded state, is even lobbying for a jump-start so volunteers can help devastated communities recover.

But some Senate Republicans nevertheless are trying to talk the national service bill to death, or at least into limbo for a while.

It is the latest episode in a legislative tug-of-war that has gone beyond the usual partisan competition, forcing Democrats to advance Clinton's major proposals completely on their own.

GOP lawmakers provided not one vote for

Clinton's economic blueprint or his budget. They killed his jobs-creation bill and they are playing little or no role as negotiators finalize the massive budget bill's spending cuts, tax increases and program priorities.

Their intention is honorable, they say: To save taxpayers from the policies of the man they elected president.

Republicans maintain they're just trying to improve a bill that's too expensive. But the impression among Democrats is that Republicans have realized that pieces of Clinton's agenda, from national service to his economic plan, are on the verge of passage — and they're determined to gum up the works.

"Clearly, the Republicans have decided that

obstructionism is the course they intend to take to block our mission of change," Democratic Party Chairman David Wilhelm told potential contributors in a recent fund-raising letter.

The essence of the GOP argument is that Clinton's plans cost too much and require new taxes. But as Democrats like to point out, Senate Republicans offered more than a dozen amendments to the budget bill in committee and none would have cut any spending.

Further, some Republican consultants were advising their House clients to vote no on the Clinton economic plan weeks before anyone knew what Clinton would propose. The point was solely to stockpile ammunition for their 1994 campaigns.

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## Milwaukee sewage flows in different direction Underground tunnels catch city waste

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MILWAUKEE — The next time it rains hard here, overflow sewage that used to run into Lake Michigan — sometimes causing beaches to close — will flow instead into a huge underground network.

Seventeen miles of tunnels drilled through bedrock 300 feet down were to begin operating Monday, 10 years after a court

ordered the system to prevent pollution and improve sewage treatment.

The \$2.3 billion project resulted from a state lawsuit against the city over the bacteria-laden sewage releases.

Now, the tunnels can hold up to 400 million gallons of sewage that otherwise would bypass treatment plants during heavy rainfall and flow into the lake. After the rain, it'll be pumped out and treated.

Engineers say they have no doubt the tunnels will work as intended.

"It's not like a sophisticated machine," said Fred J. Meinholz, director of construction management

for the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District. "There's no way that this can't work."

The tunnel system has made Milwaukee the envy of cities all over the world that have similar problems with overflow sewage.

Boston's sewage overflow problem remains unsolved while officials try to scale back a \$6 billion program as sewer utility charges soar, said Milwaukee project engineer Wayne St. John.

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## Name Change

Continued from Page 1

But Rep. Irma Rangel, D-Kingsville, said at the Friday meeting the alumni who filed the lawsuits are living in the past.

"I haven't heard anything from alumni opposed to the change, but they've got their memories and traditions," she said.

She said the name won't take away memories but would give Kingsville prestige by associating it with A&M.

Tony Garza, an alumni member from A&I, said his school has a lot of prestige on its own and changing it would take away its identity.

"I do not seem to comprehend this changing the name in order to upgrade," he said.

But Sen. Carlos Truan, D-Corpus Christi, said the name change will enable A&I to receive more financial assistance from the System.

Watson said A&M is trying to control the Permanent University Fund (PUF) by getting more colleges associated with A&M. The PUF is sponsored by oil money to benefit the University of Texas and Texas A&M.

Garza said all A&I needs is more funding

from the System but he does not think changing the name is the only means to obtain that funding.

Doug Vannoy, A&I graduate of '73, said his university will be in serious trouble with the alumni if it changes the name.

"It's important that maintenance of alumni support in the future be maintained because a lot of funds won't be provided by the legislature; it will be provided by the alumni community who care about the institution," he said.

Many members of the alumni have vowed to dissociate themselves with the university if the name change is successful.

Carl Douglas, former football player for A&I, said he has always worn his A&I ring with pride and would like to keep the ring, but if the name changes, he will take it off as well as remove his diploma from the wall.

"As long as Texas A&I stays Texas A&I, I will continue to support it and do anything I can for it," he said. "But if it does change, whether anybody cares or not, it will lose my support."

Dr. Manuel Ibanez, president of Texas A&I, asked the alumni to continue to support the institution regardless of the name.

He said many of the current students are

excited about the change, and he has received many requests from May graduates to wait until the name change to conduct graduation so their diplomas would have the Texas A&M name.

However, members of the alumni have collected more than 1,000 signatures on a petition opposed to the name change. The petition consisted of alumni, current students and members of the community. In addition, they have received letters from various student organizations, including the Residence Hall Association, which consists of over 900 members, saying the students do not support the name change.

Dick Hitchens, attorney for the plaintiffs in lawsuit, ended the argument by saying the Board did not act responsibly in making the decision without hearing local discussion.

"People feel they were left out of the decision," he said.

He asked the Board to visit Kingsville and hold a meeting to get the people's response.

"Citizens respect governments' opinions only when they feel they have an input," he said.

A bill sponsored by Sen. Judith Zaffarini, D-Laredo, which recently passed in the Senate states the Board of Regents has the right to change the name of an institution in its system regardless of the school's preference.

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## Tuition

Continued from Page 1

For example, Gaston said, the University decided a few years ago to move to an ID card that doesn't need to be renewed every year.

"These efficiencies have kept the rate from rising faster," Gaston said.

Brian Walker, A&M student body president, said Student Government is also working to slow the rate of increases.

"We are researching a plan that would provide that if the legislature increases tuition, they would have to match the increase with state funding as well," he said.

Walker said the plan is still in the works and would provide more for the students at a lower cost.

Taylor said the legislature also sets maximum rates at which the fees can be raised.

However, incidental fees, such as the computing access fee, are approved by the University, Gaston said.

The computing access fee will increase by \$1 per credit hour for the second time in two years, but a higher library fee, proposed by the student government, was turned down by the administration, he said.

Walker said many of the new fees have been passed by Student Government, such as a new fee to provide for a recreation center, but none of the fees are thought unnecessary.

"A&M is still ranking among the best institutions for education for the money," Walker said.

Joe Marks, assistant director for data services with the SREB, said

that Texas is fifth among the states surveyed in percent increase of tuition and fees, with a \$92 per student increase in 1991-1992.

"I don't know about all states, but there seems to be a general tendency for fees to increase faster than tuition," Marks said.

Marks said the increases nationwide are far above inflation and may be a result of the changing nature of a university education, including rising expenses of operations.

Gaston said some new fees will be charged by the University this year, including an equipment access fee for some science classes.

A similar fee is already charged for some engineering classes.

Room and board for public universities nationally has increased by over 28 percent between 1987 and 1992, Marks said.

Taylor said room and board have not increased at A&M very much, but student service fees increase \$7.85 each year, with the total amount not to exceed \$94.

The amount of increase is also set by the legislature, Taylor said, but the decision of how much to raise the fees within the prescribed limits is made by the University.

"We're doing everything we can to not pass these increases on to the students, but at some point, you have to," he said.

Doug Shaffer, assistant textbook manager at the Texas A&M bookstore, said the prices of books are also increasing because of increasing prices from publishers.

The price of other supplies at the bookstore, such as chemistry goggles, are also increasing, he said.

Harold Case, assistant director of A&M's student financial aid department, said rising tuition and costs will have little, if any, nega-

tive effect on aid to needy students.

"Grant funds have not kept up with the increased demands," Case said, "but loan funds are, and continue to be, available to students."

Walker said there has also been a tremendous increase in loans in recent years.

Case said increases in tuition may even increase aid because of the Texas Public Education Grant Program, which takes a percentage of tuition collected and gives it to students in need.

"If enrollment stays stable or increases, and tuition goes up, you get more scholarships," Case said.

He said the financial aid department conducts a survey each fall to determine the average costs of attending A&M and bases its aid on the results.

The Texas universities represented in the SREB survey include A&M, the University of Texas, Texas Tech, Texas Women's University, the University of Houston and North Texas State University.

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