

Flood costs exceed \$63 million

By Jeff Goodwin

Gov. Bob Kerrey announced at a news conference Thursday that the damage from the recent floods in the state has totaled more than \$63 million.

Kerrey listed the damage as follows: private property, \$535,000; public property, \$15 million; agriculture loss, \$28 million; and soil loss, \$20 million.

Kerrey said the list did not include private property damage from Beatrice and the rest of Gage County as well as Dodge County. Those areas have seen some of the worst flooding in the past week.

Kerrey said he expected the damage to be much higher once the final reports are in.

"That \$535,000 is a very low number," he said. "It'll exceed that by a considerable amount."

Kerrey said he hoped to have all reports of damage in by this afternoon but said he wasn't sure that the Agriculture, Soil, and Conservation Service, charged with tallying the damage, would be done by

then.

Kerrey said he had no estimate on how much the floods had cost Nebraska in terms of being forced to call out the National Guard and making the State Patrol work longer hours.

Kerrey said he was opposed to the petition drive to enact a constitutional amendment to limit state spending.

"I don't like lids," he said. "Sometimes we do spend more than we can afford but to restrict representative democracy in this way is, in my opinion, not a good idea. It short-circuits democracy."

Kerrey said the proposed lid, and a similar measure which would reduce taxes, would have a negative impact on the public school system.

"It would permit those people who have the financial resources to send their children to private schools," Kerrey said. "We aren't going to be able to replace those revenues with state aid."

Kerrey refused to comment on the indictment this week of Attorney General Paul Douglas.

"I just don't think it's appropriate at this time," he said.

2 UNL halls experience flooding

Although it may seem a drop in the bucket compared to other parts of Nebraska, UNL also has had flooding problems after last week's storms.

Nebraska Hall and Abel residence hall, both on 17th Street, had problems from the rain.

In Nebraska Hall, water stood four to six inches deep and the bathrooms didn't work most of last Wednesday and Thursday, Harold Bathel, the manager of the Printing and Duplicating service there said.

Bathel said he thought the water backup came from flooding in the creek on the north side of Nebraska Hall.

Clyde Burkholder, a UNL Physical Plant employee, said there was more water than the storm sewer

system could handle, and that caused the backup. Most of the damage occurred in the University Press office and the print shop, Burkholder said.

In Abel Hall, sewer backup also caused problems. Greg Maguire, coordinator of operations for University Housing, said water in the basement stood about two to three inches deep.

Clean up began around 5 a.m. Wednesday and was completed by that evening, Maguire said. The water damaged elevators in the 13-story building. Total cost of the damage hasn't been assessed, he said.

Maguire said they are still investigating why Abel was the only residence hall to flood. It might have something to do with the lay of the land around 17th and Vine streets, he said.

This Goose's life is just ducky

Artists . . .

have sketched him, students have photographed him and girls love him. No, he's not a model. He's a goose and his name is Duck.

Duck, probably the shortest celebrity on the UNL campus, lives in the basement of Manter Hall Life Sciences. There, about 1,000 rats, mice, chickens, rabbits and pigeons are kept for exper-

iments by the life science department.

Duck is the only goose among them, "but he's special," according to his caretaker, David Pinkelman.

Pinkelman is one of three animal caretakers in the life science department.

The name "Duck" came from Pinkelman's 12-year-old son, Chris, who said Duck had adopted him.

Though everyone calls the goose "duck" the younger Pinkelman said everyone is beginning to believe the goose is indeed a duck.

But since he's growing up so fast, we're thinking of calling him 'Moose,' he said.

Whether the name be Moose or Duck, Chris' feathered friend is enjoying the attention.

"I take him for a walk about twice a day and we usually go by Sheldon Art Gallery," Chris said. "That's where the artists like to draw him."

Besides the artists, photographers always want snapshots, Chris said. Many girls stop and pet him, which can make for a very long wait, he said.

"If he gets tired of walking, he'll go to the edge of the sidewalk and start screaming until I stop," Chris said. Then when I clap my hands, he'll start to come back to me because he's afraid I'll leave him," Chris said.

The elder Pinkelman said Duck is "everybody's pet. He likes to follow people around."

Pinkelman said life science student Jeff Jarvis found Duck walking down an alley about two months ago. Duck was about three weeks old then and walked very clumsily, Pinkelman said.

Duck has his own room in Manter Hall basement and is allowed to eat anything he wants. Pinkelman said his diet may include mealworms, cockroaches, chicken feed and pigeon feed.

Pinkelman said Duck will be kept at Manter Hall for about another month until he is full grown. He then plans to release Duck somewhere near Pioneers Park.

One he is set free, there are no plans to adopt another 'Duck,' he said.

But, Pinkelman said, "I'd rather have him than a dog."

Chris Pinkelman and Duck the goose on one of their daily walks.

Craig Andresen/Daily Nebraskan



Off The Wire

National and international news from the Reuter News Report

Mitterrand raises Sakharov question

MOSCOW — French President Francois Mitterrand thrust aside diplomatic convention Thursday night and publicly raised the case of Soviet dissident Andrei Sakharov at a state dinner in the Kremlin. Mitterrand, breaking all precedents for frankness set by other Western leaders on Soviet visits, spoke after a warning from Soviet President Konstantin Chernenko not to give the Kremlin advice on human rights. "We will not permit anyone to interfere in our affairs," Chernenko declared.

The French president, improvising his speech from notes, appealed to Chernenko and the assembled Communist Party Politburo to understand Western emotion over violations of the human rights provision in the 1975 Helsinki agreements.

In 1980, Sakharov was banished to Gorky for campaigning for greater human rights in the Soviet Union. Friends say Sakharov began a hunger strike on May 2 to press Soviet authorities to allow his wife, Yelena Bonner, to travel to the West for medical treatment. However, Soviet authorities say the couple are well and eating regularly. The Soviet president made no reference to Sakharov's case, but said the Communist system gave people real guarantees of human rights, such as the rights to work, education and health. As a result, the Soviet people had no worries about unemployment, homelessness, education or medical bills, he said.

Jackson told to 'Beat It'

BOSTON — The refusal of a local government to allow a Michael Jackson concert in August has touched off howls of protests from fans and charges it was being racist. Officials in the Boston suburb of Foxboro Wednesday night voted to bar Jackson from performing at Sullivan Stadium and Thursday were flooded with angry protests.

A spokesman for the stadium said it was considering options which might include appealing the decision or asking another stadium to allow the concert there. Meanwhile, State Sen. Royal Bolling Sr. said Foxboro may have banned the concert "for reasons . . . not publicly spoken that may have to do with the fact that the Jackson 5 are a minority group with a deep attraction to minorities throughout the country."

House OKs organ list

WASHINGTON — The House voted, 396 to 6, Thursday to set up a nation-wide computerized list of organ donors and patients needing transplants and to outlaw the buying and selling of human organs. The bill will also allow the government to pay for expensive drugs that suppress the body's rejection of transplanted organs. One of these drugs, cyclosporine, which the patient must take for his lifetime, can cost \$5,000 a year. The House measure authorizes the government to make grants to set up regional groups to arrange transplants.

The administration opposes the bill, because it would cost about \$80 million over five years. The bill was sent to the Senate for consideration.

World's Fair refinanced

NEW ORLEANS — Gov. Edwin and New Orleans Mayor Dutch Morial Thursday reached an agreement with contractors, banks and fair officials to keep the New Orleans World's Fair open. The fair has been in financial trouble because of cost overruns and poor advance ticket sales since before it opened on May 12. In April the state loaned the fair \$10 million to help meet its payroll and other expenses. Today's agreement removes financial control from fair officials and gives it to a seven-member committee to be selected by Edwards, Morial and the fair's major creditors. Fair President Petr Spurney will no longer be permitted to sign the fair's checks. The city council unanimously endorsed the agreement. In Baton Rouge, the House of Representatives unanimously approved a resolution calling for an audit of Louisiana World Exposition Inc., the private organization sponsoring the fair. The resolution orders the legislative auditor to check the corporation's books from 1981 to 1984. To date, liens totaling \$3.5 million have been filed against the fair.