

The Daily lowan

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Iowa City's Morning Newspaper

Friday July 24, 1981

Funding cuts hamper I.C. sewage plans

By Michael Leon
Staff Writer

Construction of a \$54 million sewage treatment project will be scrapped and Iowa City will be left with a sewage plant already operating beyond its capacity if no substitute for recently-cut federal funding can be found. City officials said construction of a multi-million dollar sewage treatment plant and several sanitary sewer mains was to receive 75 percent of its funding

from the federal government but cuts may sideline the project indefinitely. The present plant, built in 1936 and upgraded in 1965, is already operating above its capacity, they said. Environmental Protection Agency sewer funds were cut when Congress went along with President Reagan's budget cuts. The funds, distributed in Iowa by the state Department of Environmental Quality, help municipalities comply with the federal Clean Water Act.

THE DEPARTMENT notified Iowa City and about 50 other municipalities of the cuts last week, but city sewer officials are not sure how much federal funding has been lost. "It's a little too early to give a concrete answer, but I'd say we are going to be hurt," said Harry Boren, Iowa City Superintendent of Pollution Control. Boren said local sewer projects have usually received 80 percent funding

from federal and state grants. A reduction in those funds may increase the local share from 20 to 50 percent. "The DEQ said federal funds may only be able to provide half the cost," he said. "The way state funding is going, I don't think there will be much money available. Mayor Balmer has said if the DEQ provides only 50 percent funding we will be in a no-build situation," Boren said.

THE CITY had planned construction of \$54 million in improvements to the sewage system. Included in the plan was a \$36 million treatment plant with a capacity 60 percent greater than the present plant. The plan also called for increasing the capacity of overloaded sewers. The present plant was designed to handle a flow of up to four million gallons per month. When the plant was upgraded, its capacity increased to eight million gallons per month, but

Boren said the plant had a flow of more than 8.5 million gallons in April and in June. Boren said the plant can reduce sewage strength 80-90 percent when operating below or near capacity, but operating over capacity causes sewage to be pumped through the plant more quickly and reduces treatment time. "I CAN'T SAY operating at nine See Sewage, page 5



The Daily lowan/Dirk VanDerwerker

Send in the clowns

Awed by the clown (Francis Wheeler, 67), a young boy hugs his custom-made balloon animal while he watches the creation of another during Thursday's Sidewalk Days

at Black Hawk Mini Park downtown. Wheeler, 67, a retired UI computer operator, was an Iowa City Shrine Circus clown for 10 years.

Mathis sees old, new medicine in China

By Ann Teeple
Staff Writer

The director of nursing at UI Hospitals saw what she called "a blend of traditional Chinese medicine and modern medicine," during her recent month-long visit to the People's Republic of China. Sally Mathis was chosen by the China Medical Board of New York as one of four American nursing administrators and educators to tour China for three weeks during June and July. The purpose of the trip was "to assess the status of nursing education and nursing practices and then make recommendations based on our finds

for improvement," Mathis said. The group submitted approximately eight recommendations to the board suggesting ways members of the Chinese health profession could develop and modernize methods and programs that were sharply curtailed by the Cultural Revolution. **SUGGESTIONS** included re-establishing a baccalaureate-level nursing program, developing unified admission requirements for China's present two-year program and recognizing the need for continuing education for practicing doctors and nurses. When the Cultural Revolution occurred more than a decade ago in the

People's Republic, "health care and education was literally brought to a halt" in an attempt to achieve a classless society, Mathis said. The cutback in the medical and nursing fields resulted in training programs being deleted or shortened, Mathis said. "What we saw was a gap in their educational process. The impact (of the Revolution) was felt for about 10 years." While touring both city and rural health care facilities, Mathis said she saw interesting applications of Chinese medical aid. "I SAW a blend of what would be called traditional Chinese medicine

and modern medicine," she said. Chinese doctors "might treat one patient with herbs and another one with Western drugs." Another practice she noted was the unusual area of specialization many Chinese nurses chose to enter. "There are nurses in many of the hospitals who make the valves that are used for open-heart surgery. It is part of their job to go to the slaughterhouse and pick up valves from the slaughtered cattle," Mathis said. Nurses in China are also responsible for the sterilization of all reusable supplies — which encompasses most everything, she said. "They don't have disposable sup-

plies. All of the reesterilization involved requires a great deal of labor and a lot of the nurses' time." **THE USE** of acupuncture for "above-the-neck surgery" is a common practice, as is the wide-spread utilization of rural "barefoot doctors," Mathis said. "Barefoot doctors should not be confused with medical doctors," she said. "It is one of their attempts to establish rural health care. They do serve a purpose." These village people receive about six months of emergency first aid training, and a rudimentary preven-

See China, page 5

Minimum recipients lose Social Security

WASHINGTON (UPI) — House-Senate negotiators agreed Thursday to end the Social Security minimum monthly payment, acting only two days after a symbolic House vote urged continuation of current benefits. The panel — a subcommittee of a larger conference committee resolving House and Senate differences over \$37 billion in budget cuts — agreed to end the minimum benefit for current recipients in February. The change would show up in checks mailed March 3 to some 3 million retirees who now receive the \$122 monthly payment. The House voted 405-13 Tuesday to approve a non-binding Democratic resolution opposing any reduction to current Social Security recipients. **BUT THE** Republican-dominated

Senate rebuffed a move Tuesday to restore the minimum benefit, which goes to people who have not paid enough money into Social Security to qualify for \$122 in regular benefits. Both chambers had already approved termination of the monthly benefit, and the administration urged them not to undo the earlier action during this week's conference meetings on the budget-slashing bill. The administration argues that while there are about 3 million recipients of the minimum, only 300,000 actually will suffer from the change. The remainder either draw a government pension as well, or qualify for additional welfare help. Most of those 300,000 are women who worked only briefly before and/or after rearing a family, people who earned

very low wages during their working lives, or people who worked mostly in occupations not covered by Social Security. **CONFEREES** **AGREED** beneficiaries who will be cut should be notified the first week of December so they can apply for other benefits, such as Supplemental Security Income. Sen. John Chaffee, R-R.I., said that date would be too early and would alarm recipients before they knew how much they would lose or what else they could apply for. But House Ways and Means Committee chairman Dan Rostenkowski, D-Ill., responded, "If you think they're going to be upset when they get the notice, wait until they get the reduction."

Food stamps cut, tax fight continues

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The House and Senate completed work Thursday on a food stamp compromise with cuts of nearly \$200 million more than required by the overall budget bill, while President Reagan agreed to make "substantial changes" in his tax package. Reagan's changes were made in an attempt to lure the essential support of conservative Democrats for next week's tax vote in the House. And as the Democratic cause took a beating in the Republican-controlled Senate, the House Ways and Means Committee gave formal approval to the Democratic alternative tax cut plan. Conferees on the food stamp issue tentatively agreed to cuts of \$1.65 billion in fiscal 1982 food stamp spending, compared to a goal of \$1.45 billion. **REAGAN'S CHANGES**, according to New York Rep. Barber Conable, senior Republican on the Ways and Means Committee, might include phasing out portions of the oil windfall profits tax, gearing more breaks to small businesses, helping savers and altering estate taxes and levies on agricultural products. He said there will be no change in either the length of the cut or the size of the reduction. Conable said the altered bill will be ready Friday morning. The Ways and Means Committee approved by voice vote a 21-month, 15 percent tax cut targeted more towards middle-income taxpayers. A third year of cuts would be triggered only by significant improvement in the economy. Chairman Dan Rostenkowski, D-Ill., predicted the alternate plan would prevail when the House votes next

week. "It will be close, but we can win," he said. **THE REPUBLICAN-DOMINATED** Senate, meanwhile, debated the president's 33-month 25 percent tax cut for the eighth day, working late into the night to dispose of 22 of the 100 pending amendments. The Senate voted again and again against Democratic efforts to target the tax cut more towards middle-income taxpayers. But Finance Committee Chairman Bob Dole, R-Kan., indicated Democrats may get what they want in the end. The food stamp conferees broke a deadlock and agreed to a compromise on the size of a deduction for work expenses that may be subtracted from an employed food stamp recipient's income in computing eligibility for stamps. **TO ENCOURAGE** recipients to get jobs, existing law says 20 percent of earned income need not be counted as income in determining eligibility for stamps. The deduction is intended to cover costs like transportation to and from work. The Senate had voted to reduce the deduction to 15 percent to save \$118 million, rejecting arguments it would be a disincentive to work. In a compromise, both sides agreed to reduce the deduction to 18 percent and save just \$47 million. Now, for \$1 earned, benefits are reduced by 30 cents. The rejected change would have reduced benefits by 31.5 cents per \$1 income in fiscal 1983 and by 32.5 cents in fiscal 1984. In another compromise, the Senate dropped a provision that would have required recipients to repay double the value of stamps received by fraud or misrepresentation.

Israel attacks electrical site

BEIRUT, Lebanon (UPI) — Israel launched a major sea and airborne commando attack late Thursday on a key electric installation south of Beirut, ending a brief lull in the border war, the Palestine Liberation Organization charged.

The initial report said the commandos destroyed two cars and killed three civilian passengers. The Palestinian News Agency Wafa said a large Israeli force landed at Jiyeh, 16 miles south of Beirut, at 11:30 p.m. (4:30 p.m. Iowa time). The Israeli force reportedly withdrew at 2:15 a.m. Friday (7:15 p.m. Thursday). At the United Nations, just when the Israelis were withdrawing according to the PLO report, Secretary General Kurt Waldheim submitted his report to the U.N. Security Council in which he reported a "de-escalation" in the violence but admitted that fighting continued. The Council took no further action but planned informal meetings for Friday. The Israeli strike force used helicopters, a submarine, two naval vessels and eight landing craft, apparently directed at an important thermo-electrical installation, Wafa said. It made no mention of damage to the plant. Earlier Thursday, Israel's U.S.-made warplanes bombed Palestinian guerrilla targets in south Lebanon and destroyed a key bridge. Both sides also traded artillery fire.

Inside

Youth employment

Iowa City's Mayor's Youth Employment Program helps disadvantaged 14- to 18-year-olds find jobs.....page 2

Weather

Partly cloudy and more humid Friday with highs 85-90. Low Friday night in the low 70s.

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Waiting for PAL volunteer may prove to be worth it

By Elizabeth McGrory
Special to The Daily Iowan

Eleven-year-old Mike waited two years for a PAL, and his mother said "it was worth the wait." Waiting is an inevitable part of the Johnson County PALS program that matches youths with volunteers to establish long-term, one-to-one relationships.

PALS coordinator Jan Peterson said, "We strive to increase the child's self-esteem and to develop the child's interests and talents." She said the volunteer helps the child develop new skills and find positive ways to spend his energy. The goal is to please child, parent, and volunteer.

There are 150 children involved in PALS, including 55 on the waiting list. The waiting list for boys is twice as long as for girls.

PALS case worker Diana Miller-Jones said most single-parent families are headed by women, so the sons need a male role model. She said women are more likely to volunteer time to social services. "Men volunteer for boards and activities that are not directly involved with the child."

"Since there are all kinds of families, all types of volunteers are needed," Miller-Jones said.

"It takes dependability and flexibility," said Miller-Jones. "The volunteer must know what it means to make a real commitment." Often the child has had a painful relationship before so the volunteer must be dependable. He or she must look for the child's positive qualities, Miller-Jones said.

Time is also a factor and a minimum of three to five hours per week is required for the relationship, Miller-Jones said.

PETERSON said the success rate among students is low because they often do not have as much time as they thought they would for PALS. Students often go away for the summer or lack transportation, she said.

But Marilyn Wroblewski, UI student, has had a PAL for more than a year. "I realized that time would be a problem but you have the promise to the kid. The first month is rough. After that it is so worthwhile. I love it," she said.

The volunteers are carefully interviewed. "It's a rather arduous process," Peterson said. The case worker tries to match the values of the parent and volunteer and the interests of the volunteer and child.

Wroblewski said, "I thought I was going through

an adoption." The interview and all-day training session are designed to ensure that a volunteer is not matched with a child whose parent has different values.

"WE WAITED a long time for a match, but it was worth the wait," said Ann Rohan. Her son Mike has had a PAL for almost two years.

"I knew exactly the sort of a person I wanted for my child," Rohan said.

Mike Rohan has a PAL who became involved in school, family and individual activities. "They have a great rapport," Rohan said.

Mike's PAL is a UI student, but even when he is gone for holidays, he remembers Mike's birthdays and special occasions, she said. "I think it's great to be remembered by a male if a child doesn't have frequent contact with a father."

Mike said he likes to go swimming, shooting and to build things with his PAL. "Right now we are working on a go-cart," he said.

MIKE'S MATCH is counted in the 80 percent PALS success rate. A successful match continues at least a year and satisfies the parent, child, volunteer and the agency, Peterson said.

The most common reason matches break-up is due to someone moving. "Iowa City is a transient community," Peterson said.

Miller-Jones said if a relationship has problems, they try to resolve the differences. "If it doesn't look workable, we try to find a re-match," she said.

"If I have a situation that I'm not sure how to handle, I can call up somebody at the office," Wroblewski said. Rohan also said the agency is agreeable and willing to help.

The PALS children were referred by school counselors, psychologists and teachers. About half were brought in by parents, Peterson said.

PALS is an affiliate of Big Brothers-Big Sisters of America and the program is a combination of the former Uncles and Big Sisters programs in Iowa City.

The program is funded by Johnson County, Iowa City, the Jaycees board of supervisors and Coralville. PALS advocates also donate funds, Peterson said.

PALS is growing rapidly, she said, and it is not fair to pass the bills on to the government. "It is time to turn to the community for help," Peterson said.

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- Bikes left in racks around residence halls after summer session.
- Bikes stored in other racks throughout the campus between July 31 and August 14 (left in place for 24 hours).
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AGENT

Student finds out graffiti not a joke to everyone

By Rochelle Bozman
Staff Writer

There will be no more pranks involving graffiti for UI sophomore Paul Priester.

Priester found he made some enemies when he posted neo-Nazi and anti-Christ signs on his Daum dormitory door.

Instead of taking the signs in the spirit he said they were intended—as a joke—Daum residents burned the signs off of his door and issued verbal and written threats.

Priester retaliated by writing an obscene slogan on the door of the resident who burned his sign.

"I hold none of the values of a Nazi," Priester said. "It was just a joke."

Robert Jehli, head resident at Daum this summer, was not amused.

Jehli sent a letter to Priester which said his office received complaints that Priester had been involved in incidents of vandalism and asked Priester to proceed to Jehli's office within 48

hours.

THURSDAY morning Priester went to see Jehli. "He came in this morning and we discussed some of the implications of his actions. He admitted to some of the graffiti and he said he would clean that up some time this week."

"He didn't mean to offend anyone. He said it was a real silly thing to do," Jehli said.

Priester said he did write on one door, but said he is not responsible for the graffiti which has appeared in the shower room, in the elevators and in the hall.

"I went in to talk to them and they told me to clean off the one door I wrote on. I'm going to clean that off and the kid who burned the sign off my door is going to clean that off," Priester said.

Jehli said, "We talked and I think we came to an understanding that we can make it to the end of summer school without any more incidents."

Group wants field campus open

By Jackie Baylor
Staff Writer

A group met Wednesday night and discussed its role in preventing the UI administration from closing the Lake Macbride Field Campus.

The administration has slashed the field campus's operating budget almost in half for the coming academic year and in May it explored the possibility of ending its lease with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on the property before its scheduled 1984 expiration.

The group of approximately 10 plan to show community support for keeping the campus open. The organization also plans to study ways to reduce the field campus's dependence on the UI

general fund.

The group will meet July 28 with Kenneth Moll, acting UI vice president for Academic Affairs, to discuss the future of the group.

The field campus is used by several groups and individuals for hiking, birdwatching and outdoor activities. UI Hospitals, zoology and botany classes share the campus with visitors from public schools and an archery club.

The field campus is one of the services UI administration had to reduce because of cuts in government appropriations slated for the 1981-82 academic year. The field campus's approximate \$80,000 1980-81 budget was cut to around \$40,000 for the coming academic year.

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