

## OKEENE, FAIRVIEW AREAS FLOODED

# 10-Inch Rain Hits Northwest

By Ron Fulkerson  
Of the State Staff

OKEENE —Highways were flooded, bridges were inundated and activity was almost at a standstill in Major and Blaine Counties Wednesday night after a cloudburst dropped up to 10 inches of rain over a wide area within two hours.

Lightning which accompanied the storm reportedly struck a granary and hay barn north of Okeene, causing damage estimated at \$5,000.

Unofficial rainfall estimates in the Okeene and Fairview areas ranged from seven to 10 inches. Most residents in the rural area reported rain gauges measuring up to six inches overflowed.

Hardest hit was the community of Isabella, seven miles northwest of Okeene. Lightning and flooding caused by the heavy rains all but sealed the area off and many telephone lines were down in the area.

Flood waters from Deep Creek five miles north of Okeene were reported flowing across S. H. 58 more than a foot deep. Nearly all bridges in the area were under water and rural roads were inaccessible due to deep water and muck.

"You can't even see the bridges," one area resident said.

During the height of the storm, lightning struck a hay barn and granary on the farm of Roy Westfahl, nine miles north of Okeene.

The family was reportedly away from home when the building caught fire. A neighbor telephoned an alarm to the Okeene Fire Department, but fire trucks were unable to reach the farm because of flooded roads.

Lost in the blaze was 500 bushels of seed wheat and 400 to 500 bales of hay. The building burned to the ground, and damage was estimated at \$5,000.

One resident said all roads in the area, especially in

(Continued on Page 2, Column 2)

## 10-Inch Rain Hits Northwest

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE  
Blaine County, were inaccessible and that some rural telephone lines were down.

Flooding in the area was severe because the late afternoon downpour followed early morning rains that dumped two to three inches in the area.

Heavy rains also were reported in other sections of the state. The Oklahoma City weather bureau reported 2.35 inches, Seminole recorded 2.60, Tecumseh 2.43, Tinker Air Force Base 1.80, Tulsa .22, Altus Air Force Base .20 and Ponca City .11.

The weather bureau late Wednesday night reported thunderstorm activity near Haskell, Eufaula, Sasakwa, Shawnee, Durant, Sayre and Erick.

Highs for the state Thursday are expected to range from 82 to 92. Wednesday's highs were from 79 at Ponca City to 89 at Guymon. Oklahoma City's high Thursday should be 88.

STATE OF OKLAHOMA  
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS  
SURVEY DIVISION  
DAILY OKLAHOMAN - SEPTEMBER 1, 1966

FILE - FLOOD INFORMATION  
BLAINE COUNTY

SURVEY DIVISION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OHS	9-2-66
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WWV	9-1-66
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WNM	9-8-66
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OL	9-3-66
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DP	9-2-66
<input type="checkbox"/> OB	