

Cleanup Starts Across State; Three Missing

From Staff Reports

The tedious process of cleaning up and assessing losses continued Monday throughout the state in the wake of the deadly weekend deluge.

At least one person has died and another three are missing, all victims of the flooding in Oklahoma City.

High water on Monday continued to block roads and highways throughout many parts of the state and forced a dozen public school districts to cancel classes.

Those were: Stillwater, Perkins-Tryon, Coyle, Wellston, Guthrie, Dover, Geary, Bixby, Skiatook, Sperry, Davenport and Leonard.

In northwest and north-central Oklahoma:

Blackwell firefighters and police late Monday were rescuing residents from dozens of homes in low-lying areas as floodwaters from the Chikaskia River rose rapidly.

The river level was 34.3 feet, more than eight feet above flood stage, authorities said. The river, thought to be at a record-high level already, still was rising.

Most of the residents being evacuated lived on the east side of Blackwell, just north of town, firefighter Jim Inmon said.

The river began rising quickly about 4 p.m., catching many residents in low-lying areas off-guard, he said.

"It came up so fast and the people waited," Inmon said.

A shelter was set up at Blackwell's youth center.

The flood-swollen Salt Fork River also continued



The Cimarron River surges out of its banks Monday between U.S. 81 and Guthrie. It normally follows the S-shaped course on the left. — Staff Photo by George R. Wilson



Robert Benson, 62, keeps watch Monday over Guthrie floodwaters. — Staff Photo by Paul Hellstern

Walters Expects Quick Aid

A federal disaster declaration for Oklahoma may be issued as early as today on the heels of a tour of flood- and wind-damaged areas Monday by federal officials, Gov. David Walters said.

"If that's the case, we hope to have victims assistance centers set up very quickly this week so

assistance they need," he said.

Federal officials toured Kingfisher, Guthrie, Dover, Stillwater and south Oklahoma City on Monday.

A disaster declaration would produce 75 percent matching funds from the federal government to help rebuild roads and

Mom Awaits Word On Swept-Off Son

By Lillie-Beth Sanger
Staff Writer

Mary Wanner drove up to a curb by Brock Creek in a hurry and jumped out, trying to get a glimpse at what clues a crane had uncovered Monday about her son, who was swept down the south Oklahoma City creek in Saturday's floods.

Wanner stayed in the background, away from a crowd of onlookers, but she watched cautiously as a crane pulled up the trees and roots that formed a natural dam and caused a flood along Brock just north of SW 22.

The Moore resident wanted people to know more about the man who was torn by high waters from his car with a child, about 5 years old, as would-be rescuers tried to chase him and toss him a rope.

"I don't want him to be identi-

son," Wanner said, fighting back tears.

"He just liked people," she said about her son, James Brian White, a 26-year-old drywaller.

One man and a young boy were swept down the Brock Creek Saturday, and a woman, struggling to get out, drowned in the car left behind. A 3-week-old infant swept out of a car in Lightning Creek also remained missing.

Officials hadn't given up hope Monday but they feared they may never find the three victims.

Police have identified the man and boy, but are not releasing those names publicly until relatives are notified. The youngest child has not been identified.

Wanner said her son, who went by his middle name, was not related to the woman or the child, and she did not know who they were.

Mess Could Set 32-Year Record

By Carla Hinton
and Randy Ellis
Staff Writers

As floodwaters receded Monday, Oklahoma City workers inspected what could add up to the worst damage due to flooding in 32 years, city spokeswoman Karen Farney said.

Heavy rainfall pounded central Oklahoma during the weekend, causing floods that washed motorists off the road and out of their vehicles. Roadways and bridges were damaged or destroyed and many residents were rendered homeless or blocked from their homes.

Community leaders, the Red Cross and county officials began their initial appraisals Monday, but it could be days before the total damage is known and evaluated.

Oklahoma City engineers and street maintenance workers spent much of Monday inspecting streets, bridges and drainage ditches for damage sustained from weekend floodwaters.

Meanwhile, city water crews continued to respond to the more than 250 sewer backup calls.

Senior civil engineer David Todd said several inspection teams fanned across the Oklahoma City area in search of flood damage.

Todd said he assessed bridges, such as the Deep Fork River bridge at Hefner Road, where water rose and flowed over the top.

"In some places, we've got washed-out wing walls and abutments, but luckily, we're not finding a lot of damage," Todd said.

Asphalt also has been washed away from a few streets, he said.

City Public Works Director Paul Brum said the

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DAMAGE

The Red Cross' assessment of Oklahoma County damage from the weekend's storming shows:

- ✓ 261 individuals and families have applied for Red Cross assistance.
- ✓ Five homes were destroyed and 966 were damaged, at least 169 with major damage and at least 437 with minor damage.
- ✓ Three mobile homes received major damage and one received minor damage.
- ✓ 44 cases of major apartment damage and 307 cases of minor apartment damage were reported.
- ✓ Six businesses were reported damaged.
- ✓ Nine public buildings were reported damaged.

was the worst he can remember for the creek.

He said more than 100 traffic signals quit working, many because water flooded the controllers.

Some city buildings also were flooded, especially the Westwood maintenance facility at SW 22 and Pennsylvania.

This week, water department crews will work extra hours to perform the necessary cleanup at residences and at water department facilities, he

■ Oklahoma Flooding

Flood Zone Offers Some No Escape

By Ellen Knickmeyer
Associated Press Writer

Trevor Hertensen of Kingfisher is the only one of his eight-member family who has not lived through flooding bad enough to force the household to high ground. His age — 18 months — explains that.

Almost every other victim in this week's flooding in Kingfisher and Guthrie has been through this before. Civil defense directors note this round set records, and water reached houses it had fallen short of before.

Some residents say they stay because they can't sell. Others just don't want to leave.

Carol Hertensen, Trevor's mother, sides with the former.

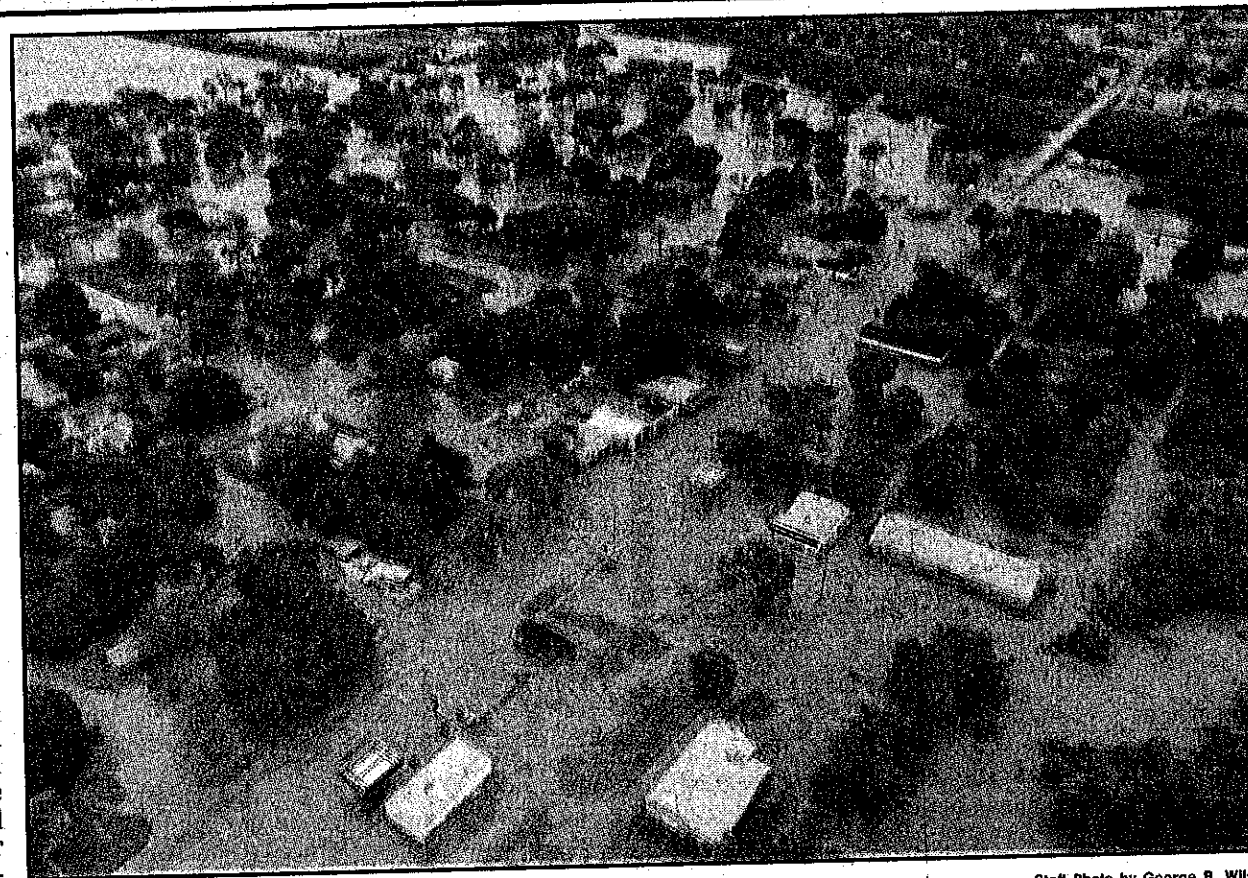
"We're stuck with it," Carol Hertensen said. "We'd sell it for next to nothing. We've already lost everything we had" in the 1982 floods.

Russell Thorpe of Guthrie leans far toward the latter.

"What if it does flood again?" Thorpe asked, standing caked in mud in his front yard among furniture similarly attired. "It flooded Noah, and he went ahead and started a whole world, didn't he?"

Guthrie matched federal grants in the 1980s to buy out willing homeowners in the flood plain of Cottonwood Creek, known as "The Bottoms" to residents. Townspeople have little sympathy for those who remain in a sinking neighborhood where Civil Defense Director Dick Carroll says "\$10,000 is a premium house."

But money ran out for the buyout program before everyone who want-



This aerial photo, taken from a helicopter, shows the extensive flooding in west Guthrie. In the top part of the photo, the flooding extends up to the viaduct, near the city's downtown and the main link to east and west Guthrie.

— Staff Photo by George R. Wilson

Victims Console Each Other, Exchange Stories of Flood

By David Zizzo
Staff Writer

Reality that swept through a working-class south Oklahoma City neighborhood last weekend, washing lives and property downstream, soaked in on dazed residents Monday.

Like refugees of a war zone, now-homeless residents milled about in lines or sat quietly on folding chairs at a Red Cross service center at Mayfair Baptist Church, wondering what was left of their past and worrying about the future.

"You work hard for everything, and everything's gone in 30 minutes," Art Sellers said.

Red Cross officials said 261 families and individuals registered for assistance in Oklahoma County on Monday. Almost 1,000 homes were affected by the flood, 169 with major damage, spokeswoman Lori Johnson said.

Allen, who lives on Social Security.

His young daughter, Charlotte recalled, "I was panicky." But she kept her head enough to rescue some clothes and a couple of favorite items — a Hula Hoop and a stuffed dog.

Sellers wasn't so lucky with his blond chow dog. The pet was swept away as angry reddish-brown waters clogged chain-link fences with debris then ripped them away like crepe paper ribbons. "I can't find him anywhere," Sellers said.

For some reason, amid the gloom and the realization that homeowners' insurance covers only water "coming down, not up," victims found humor.

"We had lakefront property," one woman said.

In damaged neighborhoods, furniture and other belongings that two days earlier had been inside homes littered fields and creeks. Residents eagerly pointed out water lines on

out. Melted ice cream oozes from the bottom of a disabled freezer.

"That thing was floating around the dadgum house," Smith's son Gary said, pointing to a new television set.

Lee Pauley said she and her husband, J.D., had endured several minor floods while living near Lightning Creek in a small frame house for 37 years. But nothing like this.

"I started to almost have a heart attack," the wife recalled. The couple had hoped the waters would pull back but decided to wade out of the rushing current when things kept getting worse.

The waters, which reached 4 feet deep in their home, poured in through the front doors and windows, down a split-level floor and roared out the back of the house, peeling the back wall outward like a tab on a soft drink can.

A long horizontal gash in metal siding 4 feet up on one outside wall

Flooding Subsides; Kingfisher Residents Begin Cleanup Ritual

By Michael McNutt
Enid Bureau

KINGFISHER — Residents and business owners in north Kingfisher began cleaning up Monday as floodwaters from two creeks went down rapidly after cresting at near-record levels.

More than 200 houses and 50 to 60 square blocks of streets were under water Sunday as Kingfisher and Uncle John creeks rose several feet above flood stage.

Most of the houses damaged by flooding were on the city's northwest side.

Officials said the weekend flooding appeared to be the highest since 1948.

By late Monday, water previously as deep as 8 feet had dropped to about 1 foot.

Residents in some flood-damaged houses went home Monday and started taking out mud-stained and water-soaked carpet and furniture. Many of them were going through the same steps as in 1987, the last time major flood-

ing occurred in Kingfisher.

"We're not used to it coming up this high," said Lori Dunn, co-owner of One Day Cleaners, where water reached depths of 3 feet inside.

"We moved everything up as far as we could," she said.

Those whose houses still were under water hung around impatiently at an emergency shelter at Memorial Hall.

Kingfisher Creek, which floods the northwest and north parts of town, and Uncle John Creek, which causes trouble for north-east-side residents, had reached depths of 23.8 feet.

Some businesses along U.S. 81 in north Kingfisher planned to reopen as early as today, but some residents don't know when they will be able to move back home.

Reba Tisdale said she and her husband planned to spend Monday night in their car instead of going to the emergency shelter.

Tim Jones said he, his wife and daughter left home in a borrowed boat Sunday. About 18 inches of water covered the inside of their house.

They had put their furniture on blocks and other items, he said. His 11-year-old daughter woke up Sunday morning on a floating couch; it had been resting on ice chests.

Jones said he paddled the boat most of the day Sunday helping other people and rescuing dogs stranded by the flood.

Those cleaning up their businesses along U.S. 81 tried to be in good spirits, and said they sympathized for those whose houses were damaged.

For Steve Hamilton, the flood came about a month too soon.

Hamilton, manager of the U.S. Soil Conservation Service office, said his agency and two others that rent a building along U.S. 81 are scheduled to move next month to an office in an area of town that does not flood.

Deluge Temporarily Closes Numerous State Highways

Numerous highways and other heavily traveled roads remained closed Monday due to flooding.

Some of the following areas are closed only for stretches of 50-100 feet and were expected to reopen today. Others were undergoing bridge repair, while others were washed out for miles.

As of late Monday, these major state and U.S. highways, listed by region, remained closed:

Central
Cleveland County: SH 9 near the junc-

east of Haskell.
Wagoner County: SH 72 west of Haskell; SH 72 south of Coweta.

Northwest
Grant County: US 60 west of Pond Creek to SH 74.

North-Central
Alfalfa County: SH 11 Driftwood south to U.S. 64; SH 11 near the Alfalfa/Grant county line (one lane open).

Kay County: SH 11 at Blackwell; U.S. 177 south of Ponca City; U.S. 77 south of Tonkawa; U.S. 77 north of Blackwell.

But money ran out for the buyout program before everyone who wanted to sell sold.

"We want out. Definitely," Debra Phillips said. "The house we're in, it's seen flood after flood. It takes our house over every time."

The last flood that came close to this week's proportions in Guthrie came in 1986.

Volunteers Help With Food Bank's Flood Cleanup

By Charolette Aiken
Staff Writer

Volunteers on Monday lined up in a human chain to lift soggy food cartons from toppled shelves left mangled after weekend floodwaters ravaged the southeast Oklahoma City Food Bank warehouse.

Water marks were three feet high inside the 15,000-square-foot building at 30 SE 17.

Damage estimates ranged between \$100,000 and \$150,000 for the building and its contents, officials said.

"This is a real blow to us," said Karen Senger, community relations director.

The Food Bank serves about 200,000 people each week with donations from food manufacturers and restaurants. More than 150,000 pounds of canned goods and cereal were lost in the flooding, Senger said.

The Food Bank delivers food to 425 agencies in western and central Oklahoma including food pantries, homeless shelters, senior citizen centers, youth homes, low-income day-care centers and mobile meal programs.

While all deliveries scheduled to leave the Food Bank warehouse this week were canceled until Thursday, most of

the agencies had secondary sources for food donations, and officials said anyone with emergency or critical food needs would be served.

"If we have nondamaged foods, we'll try to arrange a pickup time for them," Senger said.

Most of the food supplies will be relocated to southside warehouses donated by area businesses.

A concerned volunteer discovered the mess after he drove to the warehouse Saturday. The floodwaters kept him at bay, Senger said.

Many more volunteers showed up early Monday to help sift through the debris.

"It's been great. People read about us in the newspaper and showed up with their mops," she said.

Clad in work shirts, plastic gloves and grungy rain boots, the group planned to work until the center is back in shape. Volunteers were reboxing products after picking out salvageable items from water-logged cartons.

Workers scrambled to save rows of cookies piled high in the center of one wing of the warehouse. The giant boxes stacked five layers high had crashed to the floor after the bottom row began floating, Senger said.

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Red Cross officials said they were continuing to assess damage Monday, especially at apartment complexes. Vouchers for food and clothing then will be issued for victims.

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"It just wiped me out," said Lloyd Johnson said.

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Food Bank volunteers Karla Dobbins, left, and Marchelle Russworm help clean up items washed out of their storage place at the Oklahoma City Food Bank by the weekend floods.

Also severely damaged was most of the center's \$300,000 computer system. Software programs remained intact, but a Norman firm had to retrieve the hardware to clean and service it.

While telephone service was restored Monday, only partial electrical service was in place.

Some of the center's records stored in filing cabinets were destroyed. Soaked chairs were lined up in a parking area to dry out. Wooden office desks were peeling and warping from water damage.

Local demolition compa-

nies donated forklifts and wrecker trash bins to haul away the debris.

One program unaffected by the floodwaters was Second Helpings. Food Bank volunteers pick up leftovers at area restaurants and deliver to on-site feeding locations. Those were continuing Monday, Senger said.

Boatmen's First National Bank of Oklahoma has set up a fund and is accepting donations to help the Food Bank. Donations may be sent to Boatmen's Bank, care of Oklahoma City Food Bank, P.O. Box 25289, Oklahoma City, OK 73125-0189.

Donation Sites Listed to Help Flood Victims

Those wishing to make donations to aid flood victims can send contributions to the Oklahoma County Chapter of the Red Cross, 601 NE 6, Oklahoma City, 73104. Checks should be made out to the "American Red Cross Disaster Fund."

Donations from or for any county can be sent to this address. They will be combined and shared among the counties. Funds marked for specific counties will be channeled to those counties, officials said.

Red Cross officials said they cannot now handle contributions of food or clothing. Such donations can be taken to the Seventh-Day Adventist Church, 4735 NW 63, phone 721-6110, or to the McGee Center, 500 SW 15.

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Those needing assistance because of flooding can call the Red Cross at the following numbers:

Oklahoma County 232-7121
Cleveland County 321-0591
Kingfisher County 375-3883

Mom

From Page 1

the car is registered to White, of Moore.

A missing-person report has been filed on White, but no missing-person reports have been filed on the child or the woman found dead inside the car, police Sgt. Roger Wagnon said. Police said the missing man was believed to be White, but they could not confirm it.

Oklahoma City Fire Department Maj. John A. Soos said workers were digging out the area along Brock Creek because the debris had created a wall so high it would have trapped anyone drifting.

"This is the only area we haven't searched," Soos said.

One by one, a crane pulled out trees and roots that built a dam underneath the railroad tracks and caused a 25-foot overflow.

One by one, the crowd of curious people who gathered to watch or help looked hopeful, then disappointed, as nothing was uncovered.

Weary, Wanner said she received a phone call Sun-

day afternoon from Oklahoma City police to tell her that her son was the one television and newspaper reports had said was missing.

That's about all she remembers of events since hearing the news.

"I don't exactly know everything that happened. Yesterday was just a big blur," she said Monday, as a relative put his arm around her shoulders to comfort her.

Wanner didn't learn until Sunday that her son was missing because the license tag on White's car was still registered with a local car dealership, and it took police that long to find her.

Police and firefighters called off the search at the dam area late Monday after the crane picked up all the debris, Oklahoma City Fire Maj. Ted Claypool said. They planned

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■ Flooding and Tornadoes

'Granddaddy of Floods' Soaks Guthrie

By Ellie Sutter
Staff Writer

"It's the granddaddy of floods," said Robert Benson, 62, Monday as he stood on the west end of the Hamill Viaduct and surveyed the muddy water from Cottonwood Creek rushing past.

Cottonwood Creek had fallen a full six inches below its 23 foot flood stage by 6 p.m. Monday, but its floodwaters were still causing havoc.

"It was up to the bottom of the 15th post on the bridge yesterday. The highest I had ever seen it before was when the water went over the top of the fifth bridge post," Benson said.

The viaduct is on State Highway 33, which crosses the Santa Fe Railroad tracks and Cottonwood Creek in Guthrie.

A few blocks north, the waist-deep creek

water swept through the modest home occupied by Steve Nelson, his son and brother.

The asphalt road in front of the home on College Avenue was broken into pieces by the raging water.

"We lost everything," Nelson said.

Nonetheless, on Monday he was lending a hand to friends. He helped as Tony and Ingrid Willmerth waded to the Coastal Mart store, which Ingrid manages, to pick up cash from the store's safe.

"I had to get it before it floated away, too," Ingrid Willmerth said.

Nelson also waded with Robert Friend to survey what was left of the Trail's End Bar nearby.

Friend said the water inside his bar at one time was at "eyeball" level.

After floodwaters had subsided slightly,

Friend returned to his bar.

"The pool table was upside down. It looked like a tornado went through," he said, adding the bar was a total loss.

A block west from the bar, Bonnie Scott loaded her clothing and bird cage containing a cockatiel named "Pretty Boy" into the back of a pickup and left the mud behind.

She said the water ran three feet deep through her rental home Saturday night.

"I'm moving out but I have no place to go."

High water caused Guthrie schools to close Monday, and late Tuesday school officials were waiting to see if the water level would drop enough to allow school to open today.

Cottonwood Creek flooding stopped all traffic between east and west Guthrie.

Since supper time Saturday, the only way to get from downtown Guthrie on the east side of the creek to Logan Memorial Hospital on the west side was to drive north on Interstate 35 then west on State Highway 51, then south on State Highway 77 and east again on State Highway 33.

The trip takes about an hour, residents said.

It could take even longer, if efforts by the Oklahoma Department of Transportation are not successful.

The Interstate 35 bridge over the Cimarron River north of Guthrie was being attacked by floodwaters.

By mid-morning Monday, 900 tons of rock had been dumped into the water in an attempt to keep the water from cutting behind a bridge pier.

Bob Stringer, the

state Transportation Department division engineer, and his assistant, Denver Jackson, were overseeing the work.

Jackson said, "I don't know if we're going to save it but we're making every effort."

The fast-moving muddy water was streaked with oil slicks and debris being carried downstream.

At the point where the bridge crosses the Cimarron River, Jackson said the water is normally about 200 feet wide.

Monday it was nearly a mile wide and he said the river had not yet crested.

Farther west in Kingfisher, people were mopping up and swabbing out store buildings.

U.S. Highway 81, which was closed by floodwaters from Kingfisher and Uncle John creeks, still held pud-

dles of water Monday afternoon and reddish mud covered the highway as crews took down the "road closed" signs.

Intersections west of downtown were still flooded and impassable Monday.

Canoes were beached in front yards — ready to be put to use again at a moment's notice.

Stan Dennison was using a hose to clean the mud off headstones at his Kingfisher Monument Co. on the city's west side.

A few blocks away, John and Gladys Hopkins were cleaning mud out of a building.

"It's not ours," Gladys Hopkins said. "We don't sign the papers until Friday."

Her husband said they are thinking of building a recreation center and miniature golf course.

"And boat dock," he added wryly.

Aftermath and Recovery

Texas Towns Assess Tornado's Damage

DALLAS (Reuter) — Several small Texas communities Monday began assessing the damage left by a tornado that whipped through their area, wrecking a hospital, overturning mobile homes, killing one man and injuring several dozen people.

The damage cost from Sunday's twister has not been fully determined, but local officials pegged the structural damage in Wylie, the hardest hit community, at \$12 million to \$15 million. "We expect that number to go up quite a bit," said Mary Nichols, a spokeswoman for Wylie.

The tornado, with wind speeds of 120-150 mph, spun through the towns of Wylie, Sachse and Rockwall, about 45 miles north-

east of Dallas.

Nichols said about 60 people were injured by the storm.

The last major tornado to strike the Dallas area was in May 1985, said Skip Ely, meteorologist with the National Weather Service.

One man died in his mobile home in Wylie when the tornado struck a trailer park, officials said. He was identified as Thomas Stephen Jeffrey, 34.

Among the damaged buildings in the town was the Physicians Regional Hospital, which sent many of its patients elsewhere.

The Dallas area chapter of the American Red Cross issued a preliminary damage estimate of 31 homes destroyed.

Closed Bridges, Streets Listed

The following are bridge and street closings in Oklahoma City due to flood damage.

Bridges closed were on: MacArthur between SW 89 and 104; SE 104 between Peebly and Triple; SW 104, .5 mile west of Cimarron; NE 122 east of Air Depot; NE 150 and Post; 9301 S Land; SW 104 and County Line.

Road washouts include: SW 104 between

Cemetery and Frisco; SE 44 east of Luther; SW 19 and Westwood; SW 89 west of Mustang; SW 33 and Broadway; 3800 block of SW 29; 5401 S Bodine; SE 63 east of Midwest Boulevard; Henry north of NE 136.

Other roads closed due to damage include: Straka Terrace and Blackwelder; SW 29 west of Portland; SW 89 and Mustang; 10400

SE 89; 1800 block of E Wilshire; SW 27 and May; SW 104 and County Line; SE 89 between Choctaw and Indian Meridian; SE 89 between Indian Meridian and Triple; Indian Meridian between 89 and 104; SE 134 between Triple and Peebly; 8600 E Britton Road; and NE 122 between Midwest Boulevard and Air Depot.

State

From Page 1

threatening to damage Tonkawa's sewage lagoon system. It was expected to crest early today.

The river, 7 feet above flood stage at Tonkawa, surrounded the city's two sewage treatment lagoons that cover a total of 30 acres, City Manager Ed Richardson said.

Water was within 6 feet of the 13-foot-tall earthen dikes while water inside the lagoons was about 2 feet from spilling over, he said.

Officials are concerned pressure from water on both sides of the dike will cause one or more to tear, Richardson said.

"We've just got trouble

streets were reopened to traffic but several remained flooded.

Residents who voluntarily left their houses and apartments returned Monday, officials said.

Meanwhile, cleanup continued Monday in Ponca City from a storm Saturday that damaged several businesses and houses.

Estimated damage was between \$500,000 and \$1 million, City Manager Jay Johnson said.

Three people received minor injuries in the storm, which hit the southwest part of the city and then headed east, officials said.

In northeastern Oklahoma:

from a 10-block area were able to return to their homes and businesses early Monday after Bird Creek's waters receded.

About 50 homes and 18 businesses were evacuated, he said.

Pawnee Mayor Alford Majors said Black Bear Creek's flooding seemed to slow down and crest near 24 feet by Monday afternoon, with minor flooding reported. One home had to be evacuated earlier and another home's basement was flooded, he said.

Ottawa County Civil Defense Director Bob Paul in Miami, OK, said the Neosho River was expected to crest at 21 feet today but no

pected to keep flooding under control.

In southeastern Oklahoma:

Water remained high enough to keep some highways closed and rural roadways boggy as farmers and ranchers tolerated muddy conditions to tend to crops and livestock.

The Poteau River's level, while expected to start falling by this morning, will cause moderate to severe valley flooding for croplands and pastures and some rural roads along the river near Panama.

Near Caddo, rancher Stuart Freeny estimated 10 inches of rain had fallen in the last week and said it

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"We've just got trouble everywhere you look," he said. "I'm sure that we're going to have some (sewage) runoff. There's only so many places this water can go."

The water level inside the lagoons likely will rise as water that has flooded Tonkawa's sewer system is being pumped into the lagoon so that it will not back into residents' houses, he said.

The flood is causing significant sewer damage, Richardson said.

"The pressure on the sewer system has blown the top off one sewer main we know of," Richardson said. "It's actually blown the line itself, not just the manhole."

The Salt Fork has flooded fields along Interstate 35 and officials say water might spill onto a section of the highway south of the South Fork River bridge.

In Stillwater, some

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on Monday continued releasing water from Keystone Lake at a rate of 110,000 cubic feet per second, which spokesman Ross Adkins said was all the downstream town of Bixby could handle.

"Hopefully, we can hold to that without any more increases as long as the weather cooperates," Adkins said. He said Keystone would hold water to the top of the flood pool if necessary.

Terry Nowlin, Bixby fire chief and civil defense director, said a check of areas Monday showed no flooding of homes.

"We've got water standing in a lot of places, but we don't have water in any houses," he said.

Scott Hilton, Skiatook fire chief and civil defense director, said residents and business owners evacuated

major flooding had been reported.

In Owasso, Civil Defense Director Tom Schnick said Bird Creek was expected to crest at 33 feet early today, about 7 feet above flood stage.

Jim Willaford, Washington County civil defense director in Bartlesville, said the Caney River's level began to drop about 2 p.m. Monday.

In eastern Oklahoma: The water flow in the Kerr-McClellan Arkansas River Navigation System was too swift for barge traffic Monday, and Army Corps of Engineers officials said the channel probably won't be navigable for two weeks.

"We've shut off all the lakes that are feeding the river except for Keystone," said Adkins of the corps' Tulsa District office, explaining that the flow is ex-

had left many ranch roads impassable.

"We don't have any cattle in the bottom right now," he said of the Blue River area, "and it's a good thing — it's all out of banks."

In southwest and south-central sections:

Cleanup continued in Healdton, where civil defense officials say two tornadoes late Saturday skipped through the Carter County community. The first warning came 40 minutes before the funnels hit, after spotters saw one twister in nearby Ryan.

Healdton Civil Defense Director Bill Dixon said: "There's no doubt in my mind there would have been loss of life if we hadn't had such warning."

Three people were injured. The most severe was a man in his 30s who Dixon said had "one foot in the storm shelter" when an elm

Earlier in the day, the North Fork's level peaked at 18.4 feet near Headrick in Jackson County.

"That's 1 foot higher than in 1987, when the road washed out east of the bridge," said Tillman County District Commissioner Leon Wright.

In Bryan County, officials said 47 homes and six businesses were damaged by high water within the Durant city limits after the city received more than 8 inches of rain from midnight Saturday to 10 p.m. Sunday.

Nearly 150 people were evacuated Sunday.

The Blue River at nearby Blue crested at 32.5 feet, well short of the record of 44.2 feet set in 1981, said Bryan County Civil Defense Director John Shepherd.

Staff writers Michael McNutt, Stacy D. Johnson, Jim Eiler and Mark A. Hutchison contributed to this report. Showers and thunderstorms are possible over much of Oklahoma today.

City

From Page 1

Brum said a detailed report of infrastructure damage will be presented to the city council at today's meeting.

Spokeswoman Farney said garbage crews will pick up any flood debris that is left at curbside during regular garbage collection. Trucks also will follow to pick up bulky items.

Among the water-damaged city facilities was Stage Center at Festival Plaza in downtown Oklahoma City, officials said.

Oklahoma City's Neighbor for Neighbor was closed Monday after flooding damaged its headquarters at 300 SW 13.

The organization supplies clothes, food, and medicine for needy families — but now is in need, agency Director Dorothy Fields said.

Oklahoma County commissioners said Monday that several county roads were torn up and at least 10

Oklahoma County bridges were wiped out or rendered impassable by the weekend's storms.

"We're still waiting for the water to go down in some areas so we can see how much damage was done to the roads," Commissioner Shirley Darrell said.

Commissioner Fred Snyder estimated damage in his northern Oklahoma County district alone would total \$500,000.

"There are eight bridges in my district right now that can't be crossed," Snyder said, adding that most of those bridges are along Coffee Creek and can be repaired by filling in approaches, building up shoulders and doing some riprapping.

Several roads also have been washed out, he said.

"Post Road north of State Highway 66 is closed," Snyder said.

Snyder said other roads that are closed in his district include

Midwest Boulevard south of Covell Road, Air Depot near Covell, Coltrane near Danforth and Britton Road east of Midwest Boulevard.

Darrell said two bridges in her central and northeastern Oklahoma County district were wiped out — one on Indian Meridian near Sorghum Mill Road and the other on Westminster between County Line and Sorghum Mill. She estimated damage to the two bridges at \$320,000.

"A lot of roads were flooded along Wildhorse Creek," Darrell said, adding that many roads in northeastern Oklahoma County were impassable.

Commissioner F.G. "Buck" Buchanan said damage was less extensive in his southern Oklahoma County district.

"A few bridge side-walls were washed out and some bridges need some timber replaced, but I don't think I lost any culverts," he said.

"We had minimal dam-

age on the roads, compared to other parts of the county."

In Edmond, floodwaters caused extensive damage to six bridges within the city limits and two along a major sewer line leading to the Coffee Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant, city officials said.

Edmond City Manager Max Speegle said, "It's too early to get an accurate assessment, but our preliminary estimate is about \$1 million flood damage to city facilities."

Floodwaters also pushed Arcadia Lake to record marks.

Arcadia Lake's level was about 14 feet above normal Monday, said Mary Sullivent, Project Manager for the Army Corps of Engineers at Arcadia Lake. She said it is expected to crest at about 15½ feet above normal elevation around midnight today.

In Lexington, the streets are routinely flooded by storms, but

no businesses or homes were seriously damaged in the recent rain, officials said.

However, officials were closely monitoring the South Canadian River on Monday evening.

In Shawnee, the North Canadian River was at 20.7 feet at noon Monday and expected to crest at 22 to 23 feet this afternoon, a National Weather Service release said. Damage in Newcastle was limited mostly to gravel roads and bridges. Although all roads were open Monday, the areas damaged were in central and northwest Newcastle.

Cleveland County Emergency Management Director Lt. Mike Holt said three families were trapped in their homes Monday because of high water.

A bridge washed out on Flat Armadillo Road but work to repair it was under way Monday, he said.

Meanwhile, A 100-foot bridge over Bridge

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