

Board satisfied with 5 landfill requirements

by Brian Meyer
Managing Editor
WEST UNION — The Fayette County Board of Adjustment seemed satisfied Thursday night that the county landfill operator had met the five conditions of the landfill permit given last February.

The board voted to have county sanitarian Lyle Jackson draw up findings of fact that will support the conclusion that Nishna Sanitary Service has fulfilled the five conditions.

The board will consider Jackson's written document at its next regular meeting.

The board granted Nishna the conditional permit on Feb. 4, giving the company six months to fulfill these five conditions:

1. Make an additional bore hole testing to determine the permanent water table, depth to bedrock and thickness of glacial till.
2. Add an additional monitoring well north of the site but west of the drainway.
3. Establish a program of monitoring neighboring wells within a mile of the landfill.
4. Plant trees around the site to better screen the landfill.
5. Set up an inspection program, designating an inspector to represent Fayette County, which will be in addition to the Department of Water, Air and Waste Management inspections.

Nishna handed in its report on the fulfillment of the conditions on Aug. 2, two days before the deadline.

The board reviewed the fulfillment of each condition Thursday night with Nishna owner Phil Mellott and geologist David Miller of Ames.

Miller, who engineered the additional landfill tests, told the board that tests had shown the permanent water table to be located 21 feet below the base of the landfill.

He added there were 38 feet of glacial till between the landfill and bedrock, which exceeds the state requirements by almost five times.

The new monitoring well (the second condition) was installed in July under Miller's supervision. At this time there is no water flowing in the new 25-foot well because of the dry season, Miller said, but water could be expected later this fall or next spring in the first five feet. Any leachates (water contaminated by garbage) would show up in the first five feet.

Jackson said he had inspected the new well Thursday and "liked the looks of it." Jackson will test the new well in October.

Monitoring of neighboring wells (the third condition) began in April by Jackson. This week, the board of supervisors officially designated Jackson as monitor of these wells, plus the three landfill monitoring wells and a private well on the landfill farm.

Nine neighbors' wells were sampled in April — all on a voluntary basis. The neighbors' wells will be inspected twice a year by Jackson.

Jackson said he found problems with some of the wells after April's first testing, but none that could be linked to the landfill. Some nitrates and bacteria were found, but could be explained by agricultural chemicals and proximity to feedlots, Jackson said.

The tree planting plan (the fourth condition) was made with the help of the Soil Conservation Service, Mellott told the board.

Actual planting will probably be done in the spring, with poplars placed on top of the landfill hill and other trees around its perimeter. Mellott promised the board trees would be planted and growing well a year from now.

The last condition — a county-designated inspection program — will be handled by county engineer Bill Moellering and his office. This week, the board of supervisors officially designated Moellering to do unannounced landfill inspections.

Moellering told the board he inspected the landfill this week, after the rains, and said there was good drainage. "They're doing an excellent job regarding drainage," he said.

After discussion of the five conditions' fulfillment, the board members' comments showed satisfaction with the reports.

The members are LaVerne Swenson of Clermont, Ray Bodenstener of Waucoma, Donna Robinson of Hawkeye and Robert McClain of Oelwein. Everett Mueller of Aurora was absent Thursday night.

The board originally granted Nishna a landfill permit in October 1982, but local landowners took the board to court, saying it did not have enough information on the site south of Fayette to grant it. After a summer of '83 trial, a district court judge ruled in February 1984 that the board must hold new hearings on Nishna's permit.

The hearings were held in October 1984 and January 1985. The board approved a conditional permit Feb. 4, giving Nishna six months to fulfill the conditions.

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BUBBLES — The days of summer are drifting by. Sort of like the bubbles being blown by Sara Shaw, who spent part of Thursday afternoon making the soapy orbs on Fourth Avenue SE. Sara is the daughter of Kirk and Marilyn Shaw of Oelwein. (Photo by Gwen Granberg)

Tutu lashes Botha's speech

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (AP) — Bishop Desmond Tutu lashed out today at President P.W. Botha's long-awaited speech on apartheid, saying the lack of concrete steps to end apartheid made the chance of peaceful change "virtually nil."

Tutu, the black Anglican cleric who won the 1984 Nobel Peace Prize, told reporters that he was considering calling for immediate economic sanctions against the white-minority government.

He charged that Botha, who addressed his National Party late Thursday, was acting like a "hack politician."

"I think the chances of peaceful change are virtually nil. We are on the brink of a catastrophe," Tutu said. "Short of a miracle, short of intervention by the international community, we are for the birds," said Tutu.

"I don't think Mr. Botha is interested in peaceful negotiation. He is aware of his military strength," Tutu said. "He is interested in bludgeoning blacks into submission."

He castigated President Reagan, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher of Great Britain, and West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, saying, "They have decided that blacks are dispensable."

In nervous trading, the South African rand hit 38.50 cents, well below its previous 41.90 low in January. South Africa's

mainly white anti-government Black Sash organization said "the whole country will pay" for Botha's stance.

"The armed struggle continues," said Tom Sebina, information officer for the country's main black guerrilla organization, the African National Congress.

Botha rejected equal voting rights for all races, saying it would be suicidal for the ruling white minority.

He also ended speculation that he might free Nelson Mandela, the jailed black leader of the outlawed ANC. Botha reiterated he would release Mandela only if he denounces violence, which Mandela refuses to do.

The one man, one vote principle for all racial groups "would lead to domination of one over the others, and it would lead to chaos," Botha declared.

"I am not prepared to lead white South Africans and other minority groups on a road to abdication and suicide," he said.

Under the system of racial segregation called apartheid, 5 million whites rule 24 million voteless blacks.

Botha called for consultations with blacks about their future status, he promised more money to improve underdeveloped black communities, and he said a commission was working to change laws restricting the migration of rural blacks to white areas to find work.

Lottery begins Aug. 22

DES MOINES (AP) — Iowans can begin scratching and matching their way to a potential \$5.8 million jackpot next Thursday.

At a news conference this morning, Lottery Director Ed Stanek announced that date as the start of Iowa's first lottery game, which will be played by matching numbers on coated tickets.

Tickets will go on sale at noon next Thursday, and special opening ceremonies will be held at the Iowa State Fair in Des Moines and at seven other Iowa cities.

At the fair, 5,000 lottery tickets will be given away, compliments of Hy-Vee and DrugTown stores.

Similar ceremonies with smaller numbers of free tickets will be held in Cedar Rapids, Davenport, Dubuque, Waterloo, Mason City, Sioux City and Council Bluffs.

Stanek said the first official sale of a lottery ticket will be made at the State Fair to Sam Rhatigan of Monticello. Rhatigan is president of the Association of Iowa Fairs, and Stanek said Rhatigan requested

back in April to make the first purchase.

The Iowa lottery was approved by the Legislature and signed into law by Gov. Terry Branstad in the spring. Lottery officials have been shooting for a starting date before Sept. 1, which they have said would make Iowa's lottery start-up the quickest of any state in the nation. Washington's 1982 lottery implementation is currently the fastest on record.

In a move to build anticipation for the game, Stanek has been releasing lottery details in a piecemeal fashion all summer. Earlier this week, he announced that the first lottery will be called "Scratch, Match and Win." It will last about 10 weeks and feature instant prizes ranging from \$2 to \$5,000, in addition to a jackpot prize that could reach \$5.8 million.

Stanek said variations on that instant prize game will continue through at least December, when Iowa is likely to begin a "Lotto" game similar to the game played in Illinois. Players select their own numbers in that game and wait for a drawing to see if they have won.

Earlier, Stanek released a list of about 3,000 retail outlets that will sell lottery tickets. The tickets will cost \$1 each and be available to anyone 18 years of age or older.

Hell's Angels boss denies Gosch connection

WEST DES MOINES (AP) — FBI agents working on the Johnny Gosch disappearance case rushed to Buffalo, N.Y., Thursday in hopes of interviewing a man who claims to have guarded the newspaper carrier after he was kidnapped three years ago.

Robert Herman Meier II, 19, of Saginaw, Mich., also known as Samuel Forbes Dakota, was to be arraigned in Buffalo today on charges of wire fraud. He is accused of taking \$11,000 from Gosch's parents, John and Noreen Gosch, of West Des Moines, as a down payment for retrieval of the newsboy.

Meanwhile, the head of the Hell's Angels motorcycle club denied any involvement in the case. Meier claimed to be a member of the club and said in a letter to the parents that he

helped guard Gosch and other children who he said were sold into child slavery.

"That's the most ridiculous thing I've ever heard of," said Sonny Barger, of Oakland, Calif. "The guy is probably an FBI agent."

"It's totally false. You know (expletive) well it's false, and if you write anything else, I'll probably be out there to break your nose," said Barger, who then hung up the phone.

Meier surrendered to federal authorities at the Canadian border at Buffalo Thursday evening, the FBI said.

FBI spokesman Mike Kogut said agents in Buffalo have found Meier reluctant to talk. "We tried to interview him, but he's really not very willing to speak about things at this time," Kogut said. Kogut said

agents from Des Moines and Omaha, Neb. would make their own effort later in the day.

Kogut said he was the one who arranged Meier's surrender to the FBI on Thursday. "It was my charm, I guess."

But Kogut also said Meier wanted protection from the Hell's Angels.

"I'm sure that's what prompted the surrender," Kogut said. "He did indicate he'd like to be in our custody if he's going to be in custody."

Meier was being held at the Erie County Jail until the hearing before U.S. Magistrate Edmund Maxwell.

Philip D. Smith, special agent in charge of the Buffalo FBI office, said Meier was accompanied by a woman who identified herself as Meier's mother and a boy who identified

himself as his brother. They drove to the Rainbow Bridge linking the twin cities of Niagara Falls, N.Y. and Niagara Falls, Ontario, at about 5 p.m.

FBI agents then brought him to Buffalo, 20 miles south of Niagara Falls.

Smith said the FBI had no reason to detain the two people who identified themselves as Meier's mother and brother.

As he was being led to the jail, Meier, when asked why he turned himself in, said it was "better than running."

Meier had told authorities he would surrender Wednesday but then went to Canada and did not meet FBI agents. The agency said it could do little to get Meier until he decided to cooperate or Canadian officials took steps to return him.

A letter Meier purportedly wrote to Johnny's parents claimed he was a "guard" in a motorcycle club when Gosch disappeared three years ago and that Gosch, then age 12, was taken as part of a large child-slavery ring operated by the club.

Mrs. Gosch released the letter Thursday, saying she wanted to put pressure on the FBI to track down leads in the letter. She hotly criticized the agency, saying its news release Tuesday about the warrant on Meier destroyed her and her husband's credibility with anyone who would take the couple's offer to pay ransom for their boy.

"We expected confidence with this letter, and they (the FBI) blew it," Mrs. Gosch said from her office in this Des Moines suburb. "The FBI has ruined chances for getting our son back from information from the public. Why would anyone talk to us now?"

The letter, dated July 23, was signed by Samuel Forbes Dakota.

Mrs. Gosch said she got the man's letter Aug. 9, several weeks after she met him in Kansas City and sent him checks totalling \$11,000. She said he promised her a written explanation of what happened to Johnny, who disappeared from his paper route on Sept. 5, 1982.

Right brain, or left?

IRVINE, Calif. (AP) — The ability to create mental images seems to originate in the left side of the brain, according to studies that cast doubt on the commonly held belief that this function is performed by the right side of the brain.

"A lot of people have assumed mental imagery is carried out by the right hemisphere because the right hemisphere is important for recognizing complex visual patterns," psychologist Martha J. Farah of Pittsburgh's Carnegie-Mellon University said Thursday.

But her recent studies show "the process of forming images from memory seems to be carried out in the left hemisphere of the brain," Farah said after presenting her findings to the annual meeting of the Cognitive Science Society.

The studies were carried out by Farah and her colleagues at Cornell Medical College and Harvard University.

Rick Granger, the society's program chairman and a psychologist-computer scientist at the University of California at Irvine, said "Popular left brain-right brain kind of books (which advocate the theory that mental images are formed in the brain's right hemisphere) for the most part are not based on recent scientific work."

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News in Brief

State

Cave-in —

COLUMBUS JUNCTION, Iowa (AP) — A six-ton slab of limestone fell from an underground ceiling Thursday, crushing to death veteran miner William Gilchrist, an official of River Products Co. said. "He probably died instantly," said Dr. Terence McCormally, acting Louisa County Medical Examiner. "He wasn't suffocated or anything like that." River Products General Manager Tom Scott said U.S. Mine Safety and Health Administration inspectors from Rolla, Mo., would be arriving at the mine this afternoon to begin investigating the accident.

Super bull —

DES MOINES (AP) — A Chianina bull named Black Power Play set a record Thursday in winning the "super bull" competition at the Iowa State Fair. Black Power Play, shown by Paul Clapp of Searsboro, weighed in at 3,000 pounds, the top weight ever entered at the fair, officials said. The winner beat its nearest competition by more than 500 pounds.

A 'miracle' —

IOWA CITY (AP) — A boy accidentally shot by a companion has emerged from a month-long coma in a "miracle" recovery, according to his mother, who at first prayed for him to die. "I don't regret those prayers," said Jerry Albright, 40, of Monmouth, Ill. "I was only asking that he would at least get some peace." Her 12-year-old son, Dale, lapsed into a coma June 26, shortly after a companion shot him in the head with a .22-caliber rifle owned by the friend's older brother. The boys thought the gun was unloaded.

Back pay —

SPENCER (AP) — Five Clay County sheriff's deputies are suing the county for compensation for on-call and overtime hours worked since February 1983, and a judgment that would allow them to continue to collect the pay. The five deputies based their suit on a recent U.S. Supreme Court decision that said all state and local government jobs are subject to the Fair Labor Standards. Because of that ruling, the deputies say they are entitled to compensation for all on-call hours and overtime since 1983. They also asked for interest on the money and attorney fees and court costs.

Missing —

By The Associated Press
Classes will begin as usual this month at the Glenwood, Iowa, Schools, despite the disappearance of Superintendent Eugene Nasalroad. Nasalroad, who has headed the southeast Iowa district for 12 years, has been missing since Aug. 5, when he reportedly withdrew \$30,000 from a family savings account, loaded a pickup truck with his clothing and personal items and drove away. Betty Nasalroad said she has not seen or heard from her husband of 31 years since the day he left. She said he had seemed depressed and unhappy with his work.

Refutes charges —

DAVENPORT (AP) — Davenport Mayor Charles Peart says reports that three off-duty police officers had sex with prostitutes at a truck stop, then collected protection money are a farce. Peart said Thursday the allegations are based on rumors and are not backed up by any evidence. However, Peart said the department would conduct an internal investigation into the reports. Every complaint involving police officers is investigated, he said.

Farm discussion —

DES MOINES (AP) — Gov. Terry Branstad will lead a discussion of the farm crisis at next week's Midwestern Governors' Conference meeting at Mackinac Island, Michigan. Appearing with Branstad will be Varel Bailey of Anita, president of the National Corn Growers' Association, and Orville Sweet, executive vice president of the National Pork Producers Association. But according to Branstad's press secretary, Susan Neely, the governors are not planning any major farm policy action at the conference.

Old Creamery —

GARRISON, Iowa (AP) — Officials of the Old Creamery Theatre hope their recent plea for donations brings in enough funds to allow Iowa's only non-profit professional theater company to stay in business. "We're shooting for \$35,000 within the next six weeks," said Tom Johnson, founder and executive director of the theater. Johnson said if the theater survives financially until the end of the month, it will make it to the end of the year. And if it makes it to the end of the year, it will probably survive for another year, he said.

National

Danny dies —

LAFAYETTE, La. (AP) — Flash-in-the-pan Hurricane Danny left power failures, downed trees and minor flooding in its wake today, and emergency centers were quickly abandoned by people one official said "have been through this so many times before that they've got it down to science." There was one death. No other injuries were reported Thursday and none of the immense property damage left by such killer storms as Audrey in 1957, Betsy in 1963, Camille in 1969 or Hilda in 1964.

Alzheimer suicide —

EL TORO, Calif. (AP) — Reid Logan made a promise to the woman he loved, and he had to kill her to keep it. Years ago, Logan, 78, promised his wife, Edith, also 78, that he would never send her to a rest home. Then Alzheimer's disease crippled her mind and he found himself unable to care for her because his own health was failing due to a heart condition. Investigators say he kept his promise by killing her and taking his own life. They had been married 48 years. "It appears to be a murder-suicide situation," Lt. Richard Olson of the Orange County Sheriff's Department said Thursday.

Disappointed —

SANTA BARBARA, Calif. (AP) — Top Reagan administration officials and congressional critics said they were disappointed with South Africa's failure to take decisive steps away from apartheid, a decision that will put new pressure on the president to revise his policy toward the white-ruled nation. Asked by reporters whether he was unhappy the South African government had failed on Thursday to lift a state of emergency, Reagan's national security adviser, Robert McFarlane, replied: "Yes."

Launch set —

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — Space Shuttle Discovery will have better heat sensors when it blasts off Aug. 24 than those that cut off one of Challenger's engines last month, almost aborting the flight, NASA says. Shuttle managers gave the go-ahead Thursday after examining the status of the shuttle and all mission aspects during a four-hour meeting. Aug. 24 had been the tentative target. Liftoff was set for 8:38 a.m. EDT.

Wiretaps —

BALTIMORE (AP) — A judge ruled today that prosecutors at John A. Walker Jr.'s espionage trial may use information from wiretaps on his telephone. U.S. District Judge Alexander Harvey II said there was probable cause to believe Walker was operating as an agent of a foreign power when his telephone was tapped from mid-April until his arrest May 20. The tap had been approved by a judge under the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act. Harvey also denied a defense motion to suppress evidence gathered with search warrants at six locations in Virginia and three in Maryland.

Irrigation —

SIoux FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Iowa's objections to the proposed Lake Andes-Wagner Irrigation Project show that it doesn't understand what the project is all about, said project manager Marc Goldhammer. And Gov. Bill Janklow said Iowa has selfish interests at heart. The \$140 million project would divert Missouri River water into Lake Andes to provide a consistent water supply for irrigation. William Crews, the Missouri River coordinator for Iowa Gov. Terry Branstad, said the project will set a bad precedent. It will allow states to proceed with water projects along the Missouri River without concern for the impact on other states along the river, he said.

International

Beirut jet —

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) — Three American crewmen left today with the TWA Boeing 727 that had been at the Beirut airport since it was hijacked by Shiite Moslem extremists in June. The plane left shortly after noon for the 25-minute trip to Larnaca, Cyprus. Airport officials said the three Americans had arrived from Larnaca aboard a regular flight of the Lebanese national airline, Middle East Airlines. It identified the crewmen only as Capt. Valix, First Officer Corley and Flight Engineer Seeland. The plane was hijacked June 14 on its way from Athens to Rome with 153 people aboard. The hijackers shot and killed a U.S. Navy petty officer, and held 39 Americans until July 1, when they were released in Damascus. The hijackers had sought the release of more than 700 prisoners, most of them Shiite Moslems, from an Israeli jail.

Waterloo city audit reveals violations

DES MOINES (AP) — The Waterloo City Council has been accused of violating the state open meetings law and of bypassing competitive bidding procedures to purchase services from private businesses run by city officials, according to a state audit released today.

The audit, which had been requested by a group of Waterloo residents, raised numerous questions about the city's purchasing guidelines.

It said the City Council approved a lease-purchase agreement of a street sweeper at a cost of \$87,402 at a closed meeting on April 24, 1984.

"It appears the open meeting law was violated," said Warren Jenkins, deputy state auditor.

Jenkins added that a "potential conflict of interest" was found in the payment of \$286,303 in insurance premiums to Brown and Diekmann Insurance Agency. City Councilman Frank Dowie is a vice president and director of that firm, according to the audit.

Also questioned was a payment of \$38 to the Credit Bureau of Waterloo for a credit report. Councilman Tom Pomaluna is a partner in that firm.

Jenkins said the Black Hawk County Attorney will be asked to determine whether to charge the city with violating state law designed to curb conflict of interest in such purchases. "We believe that a conflict may exist," Jenkins said.

The county attorney has also been asked to review nine other city expenditures, including the payment of \$28,354 to Young Plumbing and Heating. City Councilman Tom Pomaluna is listed as an officer in that company.

The audit also asks the city to establish a policy for keeping records of the dismissal of parking tickets. "In developing this policy, the city may wish to consider a reduction in the number of authorized individuals able to void tickets," the audit added.