

weather



### Yesterday revisited

Today will be nice with plenty of sunshine. High 76. Cool tonight. Low 54. Page 8A

# NORTHWEST Herald

sports

### Pennant hopes

The White Sox and Brewers battled Wednesday, with Milwaukee clinging to pennant hopes. Page 1C



Thursday, September 15, 1988

POLLUTION

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## Sports



### Battle of CL

The Battle of Crystal Lake — Central vs. South — takes place Friday night, with both teams entering the game at 2-0 with visions of big seasons looming.

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### Skater overdoses

Former Olympic ice skater Tai Babilonia, despondent about recent perfor-

## Chemical sites stay a mess Law won't bolster two area cleanup efforts

By Tracey Berry  
Herald staff writer

CARPENTERSVILLE — A new state law to stop corporations from skirting fines when they pollute the environment will not help the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency recover the cost of cleaning up two local contaminated sites.

The recently passed legislation closes loopholes that corporations have slipped through to avoid prosecution and fines of up to \$500,000 a day for causing toxic and chemical pollution.

But the law, drafted by Attorney General Neil Hartigan, only applies to companies that violate criminal provisions of the state

Environmental Protection Act.

"I'm not aware of any instance in which we identify violations of regulations that would be in a criminal vein," said IEPA spokesman Stan Black, referring to chemically contaminated sites in Carpentersville.

"If violations are found to have occurred, it (the law) could be more applicable."

Local companies may still be responsible for cleaning up the Carpentersville waste site and the chemical spill at Rockwell International's Maple Avenue plant.

"We want to get remedial action carried out, rather than trying to place the blame. We don't, in general, try to place the blame in a criminal sense, but liability is

a different issue," Black added.

The IEPA has been investigating contamination at the 62-acre waste site along the Fox River for about three years.

Tests on soil, leachate and river water revealed the presence of various chemicals including xylenes, toluene, ethylbenzene, PCB's, and other contaminants.

The study indicated that some of the companies responsible for contaminating the area are still operating at the industrial park.

The waste site is bordered by the Fox River to the west, Williams Road on the east and Day Lane to the north. The site is owned by about 20 property own-



Paul Valade / Herald staff

A sign at a waste site near Cottage Avenue in Carpentersville warns local residents about its contents.

See SITES, page 2



## STATE

### Bacteria closes trauma unit

CHICAGO (AP) — Cook County Hospital's trauma unit was closed for about 16 hours after an outbreak of bacteria that threatened severely injured patients, officials said Wednesday.

One of seven patients in the trauma unit at the time of the Tuesday outbreak later died, but Dr. Charles Kallick, the head of the unit, said the death was due to the man's injuries and not the bacteria.

The trauma unit handles emergencies like burns, shootings or vehicle accidents in which the patient has been severely injured.

The unit was reopened at 10 a.m. Wednesday, after one of its two rooms was disinfected and painted, he said.

"It doesn't cause much trouble in normal people," Kallick said. "But when a patient gets banged up in the kind of accident we see in the trauma unit, it's big trouble."

The bacteria can cause pneumonia, blood infections or meningitis, Kallick said.

### Winnetka shooting survivor testifies

CHICAGO (AP) — One of the survivors of a suburban school shooting spree that killed an 8-year-old boy and injured six others appeared at a hearing Wednesday to argue for new laws governing state gun permits.

Phillip Andrew, a 20-year-old University of Illinois student, said he's not a expert on gun control but is "an expert on being shot by a handgun."

He spoke before the state Senate Judiciary Committee's subcommittee on handguns, chaired by Sen. William A. Marovitz, D-Chicago, who wants to change the way the state issues gun permits.

Under the senator's proposal, people wishing to get a gun permit would have to appear at a local police station with three pieces of identification.

Then, if they get a card, people wanting to buy a handgun would have to wait seven days after the purchase to pick it up. Current law requires only a 48-hour "cooling-off period."

## FROM PAGE 1

### Sites

Continued from page 1

ers and houses Cargill Inc., McWhorter Inc., Tri-County Ready-Mix, Day Paint and several private residences.

IEPA officials expected to determine what steps should be taken to clean up the site last spring, but cutbacks in the agency's funding delayed the investigation.

The feasibility of cleaning the area and a report on the dangers the contamination poses should be complete in about a month, Black said.

IEPA representatives will hold a public meeting to discuss study results with area residents.

Rockwell officials have been working with the IEPA and an environmental consulting firm to determine the extent of contamination from organic solvents that spilled or leaked from an underground tank at the Maple Avenue

plant.

Rockwell is paying for the testing, although company officials deny blame in the incident. They contend the contamination occurred before they bought the plant in 1982.

The new law has two major provisions to prosecute companies that damage the environment. The law is aimed mainly at corporate officials who deliberately pollute or show an "intent to dump" according to a Hartigan staff member.

The law extends the statute of limitations for prosecuting corporate polluters from three years after the pollution occurs, to five years from the time it is discovered.

The law also prevents corporations from avoiding prosecution by merging or dissolving.

### Hair

Continued from page 1

Bennett said the drug is best in younger men, under 40 years old. The lotion stimulates hair growth on the crown of the head, rather than the forehead.

The wholesale cost of Rogaine to Upjohn is about \$42 per bottle—enough for one month's treatment.

Joel Nitti D

"I think it's just another gimmick racket," Gibson said.

Dr. David Van Dam a Crystal Lake dermatologist, said he has prescribed the compound for some of his patients.

The reaction has varied from complete satisfaction to no change at all, Van Dam said.

Joel Nitti D



AP Laserphoto

An airplane sits upside down in Jamaica after Hurricane Gilbert came through. Thousands were left homeless.

## Gilbert slams Gulf

By Chris Angelo  
Associated Press

CANCUN, Mexico — Hurricane Gilbert, one of the strongest storms ever, slammed into the Yucatan Peninsula Wednesday and leveled thatched homes, tore off roofs, uprooted trees and cut

mooner Sheila Fournier of Loi Island said she and her husband Pete, had been evacuated from the Villa Playa Hotel.

"It had an ocean-front view which is now washed away," she said.

Gilbert was moving west-northwest at 15 mph and winds h

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