

Mo. River Tops 1993 Levels In Several Places

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — The Missouri River is already higher than it was during the 1993 flood in much of Nebraska and Iowa, and the water is still rising.
The river is expected to crest next week 5 to 7 feet above flood stage in Nebraska and Iowa. And the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers says the water will remain at that high level at least into August.

Midcontinent Communications Expanding

SIOUX FALLS (AP) — South Dakota-based Midcontinent Communications is buying the Minnesota and Wisconsin cable systems of New Jersey-based US Cable, which serve about 33,000 customers.
Midcontinent President and Chief Executive Officer Pat McAdaragh says the networks are within 100 miles of one another and will be connected, expanding Midcontinent's reach eastward.

Plattsmouth To Dump Wastewater In River

PLATTSMOUTH, Neb. (AP) — Plattsmouth is planning to begin dumping its wastewater into the Missouri River because flooding has damaged some of the southeast Nebraska city's sewer mains.
The Nebraska Department of Emergency Management announced the decision Friday afternoon, so people are being warned to stay out of the Missouri River floodwaters.

Lincoln Woman Convicted Of Biting Man's Ear

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — A Lincoln woman who claimed self-defense has been convicted of biting off part of man's ear during a fracas at a birthday party.
KOLN-TV in Lincoln says a Lancaster County jury on Friday found 22-year-old Anna Godfrey guilty of first-degree assault. Sentencing is set for July 25. She faces the possibility of prison time.

Deficit

From Page 1

have ranked as the highest ever for a full year. Instead, this year's deficit will likely exceed last year's \$1.29 trillion imbalance and nearly match the \$1.41 trillion record reached in 2009. The budget year ends on Sept. 30.
For May, the monthly deficit was \$57.6 billion. That compared to \$135.9 billion deficit for the same month last year. But much of that improvement came from a \$45 billion write down in the estimated cost of the financial bailout program.

ted \$2.41 trillion through May. And one of the fastest growing parts of the budget is the interest on the national debt. That rose 13.6 percent to total \$165.3 billion.
The government is at risk of defaulting on those debt payments. That would likely happen if Congress fails to raise the nation's \$14.3 trillion borrowing limit by early August. A default on the debt would rattle markets and send interest rates soaring, making mortgages and other consumer loans more expensive.
The increase in the debt limit is being held up by Republicans, who want President Barack Obama and Democrats to first agree to deep spending cuts equal in size.
A Washington Post-ABC News poll showed that a large majority of Americans believe the country could suffer serious harm if Congress fails to broaden the government's borrowing authority. But barely half of those polled said they support such an increase.
The White House and Democrats want to trim the deficit through spending cuts and also by ending tax cuts for the wealthy,

Mighty Missouri Puts On A Show

BY CHET BROKAW
Associated Press

PIERRE — As a younger man, Jean Ries used to fish the shoreline of the Missouri River near Pierre, trying for walleye and the other fish that make the area a favorite with anglers. The river back then was far more sedate than the sight the 93-year-old this week traveled for three hours to see: a raging, thundering torrent pouring through the Oahe Dam at a rate that rivals Niagara Falls.
"This is unbelievable," Ries said as he marveled at the water gushing from the rarely used emergency outlet tubes. Ries said the close-up view of the racing, foaming, spraying water was worth the ride from his home in Sioux Falls and his slow walk from a nearby parking lot aided by a wheeled walker.
"I'm really impressed," Ries said. "I can't imagine how much water is coming out of this."
The display at Oahe, and at other dams along the swollen Missouri, is drawing hundreds of sightseers keen to see and photograph



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Thousands of people have flocked to Gavins Point Dam near Yankton to see the record discharges at the spillway. This photo was shot June 4; the crowds were so heavy that Corps officials needed to do traffic control.

the unprecedented spectacle. The fast water is a result of heavy rains last month in Wyoming, eastern Montana and western North Dakota and South Dakota. The rain, plus heavy snowpack beginning to melt in the Rocky Mountains, has the Army Corps of Engineers increasing water releases through the six Mis-

Nebraska Supreme Court Vacates Man's DUI Sentence

MARGERY A. BECK
Associated Press

OMAHA, Neb. — A Columbus man convicted of fourth-offense drunken driving has had part of his sentence vacated and will get a new sentencing hearing under an opinion released Friday by the Nebraska Supreme Court.
Eleazar Ocegüera Jr., 31, was sentenced last year to seven to 15 years in prison for the enhanced DUI conviction and another year

and eight months to five years for fleeing police to avoid arrest. Court documents show that Ocegüera's latest troubles began when a Colfax County Sheriff's deputy spotted him driving erratically on U.S. Highway 30 near Columbus on New Year's Day in 2010. When the deputy attempted to pull Ocegüera over, Ocegüera fled, leading the deputy on a high-speed chase.
Ocegüera eventually stopped his car and fled on foot, but was quickly caught by deputies. They

entered his pleas knowingly and voluntarily. She later sentenced him based on three certified copies presented by prosecutors of prior convictions, and Ocegüera did not object during the hearing to the use of those copies to enhance his sentence.

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