

Clinton plans to reject Clean Water redraft

WASHINGTON (AP) — Calling it the "Dirty Water Act," President Clinton pledged yesterday to veto a Republican overhaul of the federal pollution policy.

Standing near the bank of a creek in a local park, Clinton accused Republicans of complicity with industry lobbyists in redrafting the 1972 Clean Water Act.

"The bill would let polluted water back into our lives," he said. "Some members of the new Congress, operating with the major industry lobbies, have come up with a bill that would roll back a quarter-century of bipartisan progress in public health."

Lawyers and lobbyists "were invited into the back rooms of what once was your Congress to write a bill that provides loopholes for their industries," he said.

Republicans fired back. "This is the same crude script the environmental extremists have been reading off of — and it's nonsense," said Jeff Nelligan, spokesman for the bill's chief sponsor, Rep. Bud Shuster, R-Pa.

The legislation would revamp the federal government's protection of waterways from urban, industrial and farmland pollution, giving local officials a greater say in meeting water quality standards.

The House passed the sweeping legislation May 16 after supporters argued the 1972 act was too expensive for industry and local governments, gives too much power to federal bureaucrats and is unfair to property owners.

Complaints from farmers and landowners over the impact of wetland protections prompted 45 House Democrats to join 195 Republicans in passing the bill.

Democratic and Republican moderates claimed the bill would roll back two decades of water quality improvements. The measure faces an uncertain future in the Senate, but Clinton said he would veto it "happily and gladly" if it reaches his desk.

"Our water quality would go straight down the drain," he said in an event at Rock Creek Park. Trying to find himself a political niche, Clinton has promised to veto several GOP initiatives, including bills on foreign policy and budget cuts.

The water bill would narrow the definition of a wetland, requiring that surface water be found on the land for 21 consecutive days before it can qualify for protection. The National Academy of Sciences has said that definition has no scientific basis and would leave many legitimate wetlands unprotected.

The bill also would require the government to compensate landowners if a wetland reduces property values.

Other provisions of the legislation would:

—Abandon federal efforts to control agriculture pollution into lakes and streams.

—Make it easier for industries to obtain water pollution waivers and allow factories to stop treating some pollution if it is going into a public treatment facility.

—Ease requirements for many cities for complying with so-called "secondary" treatment sewage.

Girl conceived after dad's death wins case

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — A girl who was conceived after her father's death by way of his stored sperm is clearly his child and should get his Social Security benefits, an administrative law judge ruled.

"This will be a wonderful birthday present," the girl's mother, Nancy Hart, said Tuesday.

Judith Christine Hart's fourth birthday is Sunday. She was born 10 days short of the first anniversary of her father's death from cancer.

Edward William Hart Jr. had stored his sperm because he and his wife wanted children, and doctors had told him chemotherapy might leave him sterile.

Shortly before her husband died in 1990, Mrs. Hart said, he reminded her of the frozen sperm and said, "There could always be a child for you."

All of the evidence supports the claim that Judith is Hart's child and was conceived at his wish, Administrative Law Judge Elving Torres wrote in a decision received Tuesday at the Center for Reproductive Law and Policy in New York, which represented Mrs. Hart.

Kathryn Kolbert, Mrs. Hart's lawyer, said the ruling could mean a \$9,000 or \$10,000 lump-

sum payment for Judith and about \$700 a month after that.

But the amount is not settled and the government has two months to ask the Social Security Administration's appeals council to hear the case.

Ms. Kolbert said no state recognizes a child conceived after the father's death as legitimate.

The ruling does not settle a federal lawsuit asking to have Judith named her father's legal heir in Louisiana. It was filed as a parallel attempt to win Social Security benefits for Judith; Hart's two adult children by a previous marriage support Judith's claim and there is no argument over Hart's estate.

Ms. Kolbert said no decision has been made on whether to pursue the lawsuit if the appeals council upholds Torres' ruling.

Mrs. Hart, a kindergarten teacher in Slidell, said Judith has a hard time understanding why she cannot see her father. It's even harder to explain another fact of life, Mrs. Hart said.

"Now she's telling me she wants a baby brother or baby sister," Mrs. Hart said. "I have to tell her, 'You can't do that because you don't have a daddy.' She looks at me as if I'm crazy — she doesn't have one either."

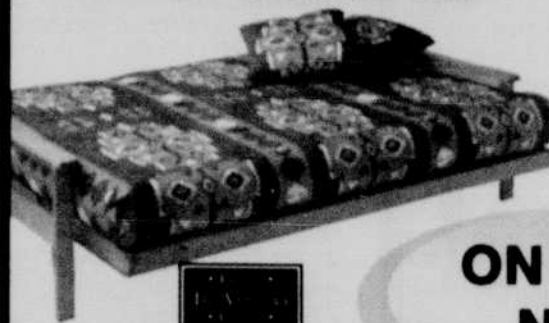
Summer Duck Call Is Here



Register now for UO Summer classes. Pick up a free summer bulletin with schedule of classes in 333 Oregon Hall.



Great Futons Unbeatable Prices



VENTURA
Full Size Frame and Futon
\$299⁰⁰

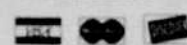
ON SALE NOW

ROCK SOFT FUTON

- Handmade Futons
- Covers
- Pillows
- Tables
- Lamps
- Delivery Available



CALGARY
Unfinished Pine Full Size Frame
\$149⁰⁰



236-0921

1231 Alder • 686-5069

Pitch in! Recycle your copy of the ODE.