

Statement by the president on federal budget

From the White House

"I'm also pleased to submit the budget plan prepared by Senator Daschle which the Congressional budget office will reach balance in seven years."

President William J. Clinton

■(WASHINGTON) "Let me say that I am pleased that Congress has completed the task of reopening the federal government which was begun a few days ago. And I hope that no Congress will ever again shut the federal government down in this way. As has been said, it is morally indefensible to hold needed government services and hard-working government employees hostage in a political battle.

I'm also pleased to submit the budget plan prepared by Senator Daschle which the Congressional budget office will reach balance in seven years. This plan illustrates what we have been saying all along, that you can balance the budget in seven years and protect Medicare, Medicaid, education and the environment, and provide tax relief to working families.

I hereby submit to the Congress a plan to achieve a balanced budget not later than the fiscal year 2002 as certified by the Congressional Budget Office on January 6, 1996. This plan has been prepared by Senator Daschle and if passed in its current form by the congress, I would sign it into law."

William J. Clinton

Wildlife

Department thanks those who donated land, money

From the State Wildlife Department

"The Wildlife Department is very fortunate that the people Department employees work for, the hunters, anglers, and wildlife enthusiasts of the state, care very deeply about wildlife populations and habitat."

Greg Duffy,
Department Director

■(OKLAHOMA CITY) Many people who don't hunt or fish, and even some that do, think that the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation is funded by general state tax revenues. That's the perception but the reality is that the Wildlife Department, even though it is a state agency, receives no Legislative appropriations. It is funded by hunters, anglers and other wildlife enthusiasts through hunting and fishing license fees, revenue from product sales, and to some degree, direct donations from generous citizens and corporations. "On behalf of every sportsman and wildlife enthusiast in Oklahoma, I want to thank everyone who contributed money, land or materials to the Wildlife Department in 1995," said Greg Duffy, Department Director. "It would be impossible to list every individual, sportsman's organization or company that donated something to the Department but we do want them to know that their gift is appreciated and will be put to good use."

Duffy said that the Department receives donations in many forms, from \$10 anonymous donations to \$100 memorials to thousands of acres of land.

"The Wildlife Department is very fortunate that the people Department employees work for, the hunters, anglers, and wildlife enthusiasts of the state, care very deeply about wildlife populations and habitat," Duffy said. "The gifts we receive go to enhance and protect Oklahoma's great wildlife legacy, a legacy that owes its very existence to the people who care so deeply about it."

In 1995, The Wildlife Department received more than \$65,000 in direct donations from sportsmen's organizations, private citizens, memorials and corporate contributions. The Department's Nongame Wildlife Program received another \$12,000 in direct donations (fund earmarked for the Nongame Program) from around 100 individuals and corporations and almost \$90,000 from more than 12,000 contributors through the Nongame Program's check-off on state tax forms.

The contributions don't stop there, though. The Department also received a number of generous corporate contributions in 1995. Those contributions included funding for habitat conservation efforts and donations of materials and supplies to be used in developing wildlife habitat.

"Many of our habitat development efforts at our wildlife management areas have been helped by corporate donations of materials and money," said Duffy. "I think that's a really positive statement about these companies' attitudes toward wildlife and wildlife resources. They should be ap-

Continued on page 8.