standard fare. For details, see Page 5C

covers every week in the Journal and this week on Page 11C

Brides 12F
Frozen Food 1-5G
Food 1-4H

ST. LOUIS SUBURBAN NEWSPAPERS, INC.

142 Pages This Week

Lafayette
PRESS-JOURNAL

MEMBER: SUBURBAN NEWSPAPERS OF GREATER ST. LOUIS

Suburban Newspapers

South Side Journal	79 050
South County Journal	58 144
West County Journal	45 815
Press Journal	34 251
Neighborhood News	23 300
Jefferson County Journal	14 170
Webster Journal	13 043
Fenton Journal	7 020
Tri-County Journal	11 448
Courier Journal	37 066
TOTAL CIRCULATION	308,907

56th YEAR: NO. 38 | ST. LOUIS, MO., WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1980 | 1130 MANCHESTER RD. 63011 | 227-8464 | 481-1111 | PRICE 10

MONS 012263

PCB Ping Pong: Smash Against Monsanto Offer

By NANCY SOLOMON
Journal Staff Writer

Monsanto thought it was playing Good Samaritan last Tuesday by offering the state use of its laboratory and scientists to test the content of more than 78 hazardous waste drums dumped west of Ellisville.

An Analysis

Gov. Joseph P. Teasdale apparently didn't see it that way.

During a media conference at the Caulks Creek site on Wednesday, well-attended by a caravan of candidates this election year, Teasdale announced he had requested Monsanto to help foot the bill for sampling and analyzing and cleaning up the mess.

Monsanto, Teasdale explained, was at one time the nation's main producer of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) — a chemical believed to cause cancer. And PCBs were found in 107 drums that were hauled away from the site in August, which may indicate remaining drums could contain the same toxic chemical.

A LETTER from Teasdale, hand-delivered on Wednesday to Monsanto president John W. Hanley, assessed the chemical company's responsibility in the cleanup effort.

Teasdale made copies available to the flock of journalists who had been invited to walk through the freshly cut woods to listen to the governor issue his statement in front of the caving, ruptured drums.

"Since your company was the major producer of PCBs in the nation, I request that you help pay any cost of the sampling and analysis work, and that if PCBs are discovered that you pay for the cleanup of the site," he wrote.

"This request is extended to all potential and discovered PCB abandoned waste sites in Missouri."

Teasdale also said testing should be completed in a private or government laboratory and paid for by Monsanto.

MONSANTO'S response was pure and simple. No dice.

"We felt that was a blank check he was asking us to sign and it was pretty unreasonable," said Don Berns, Monsanto media relations manager. "We're really puzzled as to why we should be involved."

Steve Krehma, of the state attorney general's office, says the investigation of who dumped the drums in the area west of Clayton and Strecker roads, is still under way. At this time, Monsanto is not a prime suspect, he says.

"The only tie-in that I am aware of at this point is some PCBs were found in those original barrels and Monsanto was a major manufacturer of PCBs," Krehma said.

But no evidence has been unveiled to indicate Monsanto was the responsible party.

"Yeah, it's not our waste disposal site. Maybe we would have been better off if we didn't make the offer in the first place," Monsanto's Berns says.

MONSANTO offered to test the contents of the drums because its laboratory has the space and manpower to help out, Berns says. The site is "right here in our back yard, down the road," he adds.

Fred Lafser, director of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (DNR), early last week had told the Journal the state does not have the personnel or facilities to conduct the tests itself.

Bill Keffer, chief of the federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) emergency response branch, says his agency has the capacity to test the drums. The EPA laboratory serves a total of four states.

Keffer says testing was to begin on Tuesday (yesterday). He says EPA turned up some extra funds to test 10 samples of chemicals.

Monsanto still is willing to help test the samples in its own lab and will allow a state official to be on hand to watch the procedure, Berns adds.

AT WEDNESDAY'S press conference, Teasdale stressed that

(Continued on Page 7)



A FLOCK of journalists and photographers turned out to cover a press conference on hazardous wastes called by Gov. Joseph P. Teasdale last Wednesday. Fellow politicians paraded with the governor out to an illegal dump at Caulks Creek in West County. As the hamburger evolved into a media circus, the reporters heard some curious announcements by the governor on hazardous wastes.
Journal Staff Photo By Dennis Dooley

Drivers Education Class In Jeopardy

In Chesterfield Firefighters Decide

MONS 012264

Caulks Creek

(Continued from Page 1)

the site must be cleaned up immediately, a point DNR members made two weeks ago.

Teasdale also said he had instructed an armed security guard to keep a round-the-clock vigil at the site. DNR had hired a guard to perform that function two weeks ago.

Other politicians, whose names read like a "Who's Who in Who's Running for Office," joined Teasdale in what more closely resembled a media event than a fact-finding excursion.

Television cameramen instructed Teasdale to walk up to the site to look at the barrels. He eagerly complied as the film rolled.

Steve Gardner, the Democratic candidate for Congress in the 8th District and state representative from the district that includes Caulks Creek, proffered his views.

"It's a money problem," Gardner said.

GARDNER'S REPUBLICAN opponent, a representative from Willow Springs, Wendell Bailey, was not offered the chance to make a statement.

State Speaker of the House Kenneth Rothman, a candidate for lieutenant governor, joined Teasdale in citing the need for a hazardous waste law that would prevent situations like the one at Caulks Creek from occuring.

"This is not just a site in St. Louis County," Teasdale told a crowd that included Ellisville city officials, who turned out to meet the governor. "This is happening all over Missouri. It's the number one health question in our state."

While Teasdale and his colleagues were addressing the St. Louis media corps, the state House energy committee was hammering out a strengthened hazardous waste law to bring before the House this week. The measure worked its way out of committee Monday and was to be debated before the house Tuesday.

If the Legislature follows the committee's recommendation and approves both the measure and a piece of pending legislation that would finance the new law, Teasdale can chalk one up for his side in his election year battle against hazardous waste dumps.

However, if the Legislature sits on the measure until the regular session convenes in January, Teasdale probably will turn the Missouri House and Senate into his personal whipping boys.

Either way, the governor stands to harvest a good deal of political hay from the hazardous waste issue.

PET OWNERS
ATTENTION
Quality Grooming In The BEST SANITARY CONDITIONS! BEAT INFLATION AND COMPARE PRICES, SAVE 50% IN OUR SELF SERVICE DOGGIE LAUNDROMAT.
"MASTER GROOMER ON STAFF"
DOGGIE DELI "PET"
CLAYTON & WOODSMILL RD. 391-7027

Add Life To Your Menu
Read Journal Food Section

Chesterfield FPD

(Continued from Page 1)

of three years added to a $500 increase to the base salary of the firefighters. The firefighters also are to receive additional medical and vacation benefits, he says.

"There is a new spirit of cooperation between the board and the men. It's something we've been working at for three years," Mahler says.

HE AGREES with Bathe that a good rapport between the directors and firefighters has evolved.

"I think we've done a lot at the board level to find out what the problem is and solve it," Mahler says.

The director says the district has hired a management consultant and tried hard to open communication channels with the firefighters.

"I think we have a good relationship between the men and board," he says. "They were waiting to see how much cooperation they got from the board in negotiating the new contract (before changing their union affiliation)."

Bathe says the firefighters are better able to work with the board of directors because directors no longer fear unions.

"The board members would agree with this. After they worked with the union for the past three years, it was not the monster they thought," Bathe says.

The new Chesterfield union has 57 members. Membership is open to firefighters in neighboring unaffiliated West County districts such as Manchester, Baldwin and Maryland Heights, Bathe says.

Local 2665 had at one time boasted a membership of 480 of the county's 500 firefighters. The local was expelled from affiliation with IAFF for nonpayment of $6,000 in dues in August 1978.

The expulsion proved to be a test of loyalties between the international and Walther's independent organization.

Women Voters
DIAMONDS
WATCHES