

Hurricane damage not limited to coastline

A hurricane has many facets, but regardless of its size or intensity, when it strikes the coast of Texas, it affects the lives of thousands and possibly millions of Texans.

"Besides the obvious physical damages due to storm surge, high winds, and high tides there are also damages due to large

amounts of rainfall that may extend inland for many hundreds of miles," said TAMU meteorologist Dr. Dennis Driscoll. This rainfall sometimes helps relieve drought, but more often it causes widespread flooding, harmful erosion and ruined crops.

"This huge swirling storm covers thousands, sometimes hun-

dreds of thousands of square miles," he said. "Peak winds may exceed 200 miles per hour. It is the most destructive weather phenomenon known to man."

"In one respect, hurricanes are like snowflakes: no two are exactly alike," Patrick McCormack graduate researcher said. "They can form anywhere from off the

West Coast of Africa to about 150 miles off the coast of Texas.

"Tropical cyclones form only during certain seasons of the year and only in certain regions of the oceans," he said. "Since 1871, which is as far back as our records extend, no tropical cyclone has hit the coast of Texas before June or after October.

"This doesn't mean that they can't form or strike Texas during other months," Driscoll said, "because, new weather records are established almost every day. Hurricanes have formed as early as February and as late as December, but for Texas the season of vulnerability has been from June through October.

sections of the city." "Many people evacuated but an estimated 6,000 to 8,000 people died: about 90 per cent of the people who remained on the island," McCormack said. "This makes it the worst weather disaster in U.S. history.

"Beulah in 1967 was another unique Texas hurricane," he said. "Not only did it drench the state with the greatest amounts of

rainfall, but it also spawned more tornadoes—over 100—than any hurricane on record. Some areas received 30 inches of rain in less than four days.

"On the average, one tropical storm or one hurricane occurs every year," Driscoll said. "But everyone must be aware that hurricanes do not understand averages and each behaves without regard to previous cyclones."

Tests to provide tire standards

By January everyone in the U.S. will be able to tell just exactly what they're getting when they buy a tire.

It's happening as the result of tests being done in San Angelo by a group of TAMU researchers and the Department of Transportation.

Tires are going to have three ratings — the 3-Ts: Treadwear, Traction, and Temperature.

"Equipment calibration and traction tests started Monday, and data will be collected in time to begin rating the tiremakers who expect to begin tests in July," researcher Bob Galloway said. "The tests are being run on special surfaces we've laid down at Good-

fellow (AFB). One surface is portland cement and the other asphalt.

"The way it works is that each surface is subdivided into segments," he said. "Each day, the Safety Systems Laboratory of the Federal Highway Administration will prepare a segment for test by representatives of the rubber companies.

"A 12-foot wide by 300-foot pad will be divided into 10 strips 14 inches wide," Galloway said. "The DOT (Department of Transportation) has a standard trailer that uses standard test tires. Tests at 40 miles per hour will produce a locked-wheel skid num-

"The equipment will run on one strip, then move over and run again on the next until the ten sub-segments are used," he said. "A full series of tests will take two weeks."

Galloway said the test will use a tire-rotation system set up by the DOT. "The test trailers will have an internal watering system that applies 0.02 inches of water on the pads," he said. "Skid characteristics on both pads will be used to produce tire skid ratings. An O will represent the least amount of friction and two stars the highest."

The testing procedures for treadwear are set up to match the manufacturer's products

against the DOT standards.

All manufacturers who want to sell tires in the U.S. must have their tires graded in the San Angelo tests. Manufacturers then must mold the ratings into the tire.

Dinner theater tickets still on sale at box office

Some choice seats remain for the dinner theater production, "What The Butler Saw," starting Thursday at TAMU.

It's a first-time entertainment offer.

The Aggie Players, Food Service Department and Memorial

"The costliest, in terms of lives lost, ever to hit the Texas coast was the great Galveston hurricane of September 8-10, 1900," Driscoll said. "More than 3,600 homes were completely razed as storm surge tides of 15 to 20 feet swept the first two to five blocks of the east, south and west

Student Center summer directorate combined efforts for the dinner and play.

A buffet meal featuring MSC food-service smorgasbord specials starts at 6:30 p.m. The Aggie Players' production follows at 8 p.m. The dinner theater is planned for Thursday, Friday, Tuesday (July 1) and Wednesday (July 2).

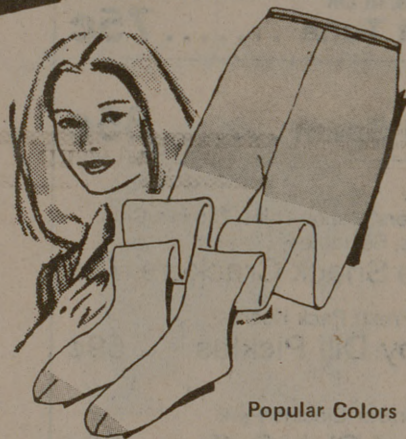
All tables are reserved for the entertainment. Tickets, at \$5 per student and \$7 for non-students are available at the Rudder Tower box office.



WED., THURS., FRI., SAT.

OPEN DAILY 9:30 - 9:30; CLOSED SUNDAY

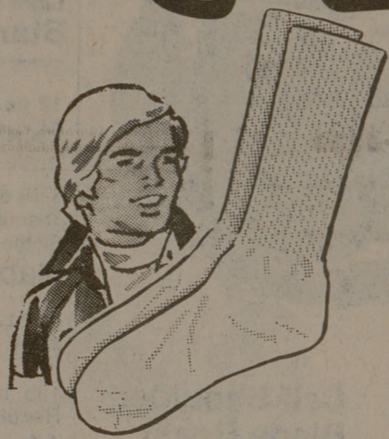
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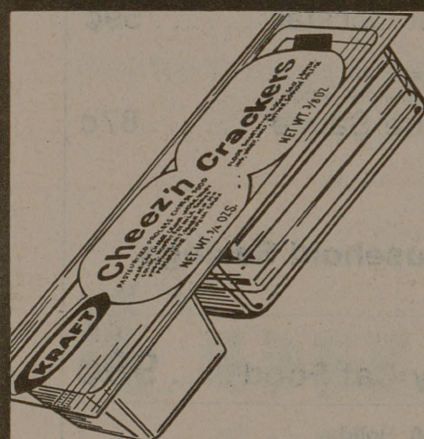
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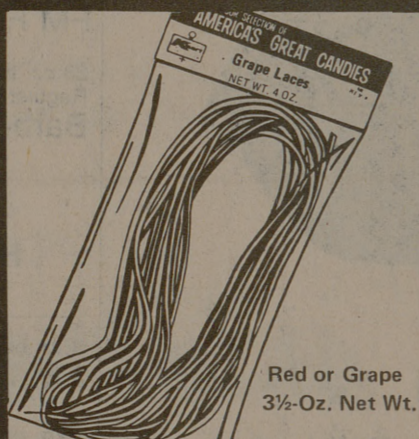
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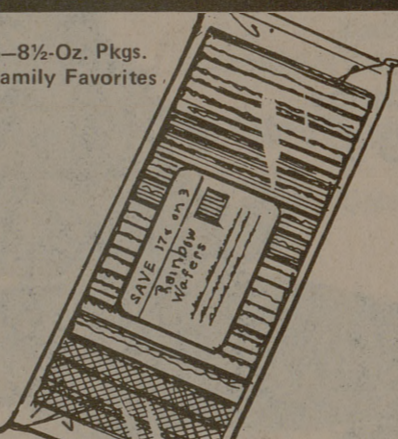
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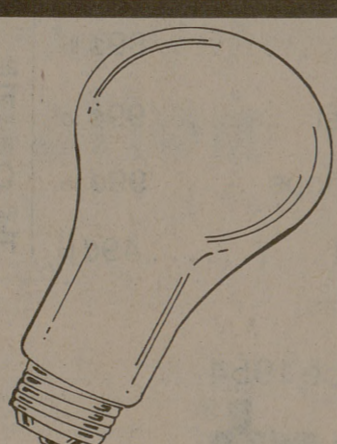
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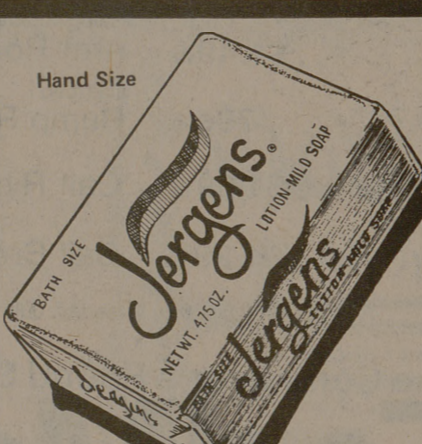
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