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The Weather

Yesterday	Today
High 32	High 48
Low 17	Low 35
Rain none	Chance of rain . . none

Storm deaths now total 50

The season's worst storm battered the East Coast with howling winds, rain and snow for the second day today, aided by bitter cold that left the Midwest under a sheath of ice. At least 50 deaths were blamed on the storm.

The storm, which dumped more than a foot of snow from Colorado to Michigan, moved into the Northeast Wednesday and spread rain and snow down the Eastern Seaboard.

Arctic air, combined with fierce winds, dropped wind-chill factors down to a life-threatening 84 below in the Midwest and headed east, threatening to turn the rain and snow into treacherous layers of ice.

The storm was blamed for at least 50 deaths—eight in Iowa, seven in Illinois and New York, five in Kansas, four in Louisiana, and three each in Texas and Missouri. Wisconsin, Nebraska, Indiana and Michigan each reported two storm deaths and Ohio, North Carolina, Colorado, Oklahoma and Pennsylvania each had one.

The Arctic front swept into the South Tuesday, bringing with it wind gusts up to 35 mph and dropping temperatures 40 degrees in a matter of hours. By late Wednesday, however, skies cleared and the National Weather Service predicted temperatures would be back in the 50s by the weekend.

The front spawned violent storms in central Texas where tornadoes killed two persons. As the leading edge pushed across Matagorda Island on the coast the winds slammed into a tugboat towing barges, causing it to break up and sending its crew diving into the icy gulf waters.

Five crewmen were missing and feared dead.

In Fort Worth, two disabled men living in a wood frame house tried to keep warm by using a stove to heat their apartment. The house caught fire and the men were unable to escape.

The National Weather Service said by midday Wednesday the lower portion of the front had pushed into Mexico and the leading easterly edge was sweeping across Alabama and Georgia.

The front set record lows in several metropolitan areas and temperatures were as low as 10 degrees in North Texas.

Utility companies, fearful that fuel supplies could not be stretched, asked

large customers to curtail usage.

At Dallas Power & Light, spokesman Don Wilson said Wednesday on a normal winter day the utility would be operating at 2,000 to 2,100 megawatts at the peak of the afternoon, but that by 8 a.m. the load already was 1,900 megawatts.

He said a plea to major users and the general public gradually reduced the load throughout the day, so that by noon DP&L was operating at 1,807 megawatts and by 3 p.m. the load was down to 1,673 megawatts.

Eleven of DP&L's natural gas-burning generators switched to fuel oil during the crisis.

Snow and ice were a problem in the East Texas counties of Cherokee, Anderson and Rusk. School had to be canceled in Jacksonville because of the weather.

The cold front made a dramatic entrance into Texas, dropping the temperature in McAllen 52 degrees in one day—from 90 degrees to 38.

Long-standing record lows for Feb. 11 were broken across the state with Dallas at 10 degrees, San Antonio 17, Victoria 20, Midland 10, Austin 17, Waco 12, Beaumont-Port Arthur 20 and Wichita Falls 12.

Elsewhere in the South, the storm's appearance was just as dramatic. Tornado-like winds up to 50 mph swept through the Southeast and the middle South, resulting in millions of dollars of damages and whipping up waves that pounded away at beaches.

The temperature in Charleston, W. Va., plunged from 60 to 25 degrees in just a few hours Wednesday. The city received 2 inches of snow, while other areas in the state reported up to 6 inches.

Hundreds of accidents were reported on slippery roads in Tennessee, hit with a combination of high winds, thunderstorms, heavy rain, snow and dropping temperatures.

Heavy rains in Georgia led to a bridge collapse on U.S. 19 near Roswell, one of the major northern commuter routes into Atlanta.

The wind-chill factor dipped to 45 degrees below zero in Ohio, where snowy roads triggered two chain-reaction accidents involving a total of 50 cars in suburban Cleveland.



Staff photo by Greg Gammon

Blowin' in the wind

High winds Tuesday night virtually drained the fountain in front of the Chemistry Building by blowing water from it. Freezing temperatures and

the water resulted in icy sidewalks. University workers spread sand over the area for better traction before cleaning up the ice.

U.S. not island, Krueger says

By KAREN KALEY

Battalion Reporter

Americans need to recognize their ties with mankind in the form of foreign aid, Robert Krueger, former ambassador-at-large to Mexico, said Wednesday.

Krueger addressed the opening session of the 26th Student Conference on National Affairs, being held this week at Texas A&M.

The world is increasingly becoming interdependent, he said to an enthusiastic crowd of about 350.

"The United States is not an island," he said.

Widespread specialization in a single national export, such as oil or sugar, will force the world apart unless countries can make their resources available to other countries, Krueger said.

The United States should make technology and education available to those countries who are willing to use the knowledge, he said.

The 20th century should be the century to care, Krueger said.

In the late 1940s and 50s, America was at its high point in foreign aid, con-

tributing about \$14 billion for the reconstruction of the countries involved in World War II, he said.

However, foreign aid was cut drastically in the 1970s and will be cut again in the 80s, Krueger added.

In the 1960s social programs were set up by presidents Lyndon B. Johnson and John F. Kennedy to help aid foreign countries and their development, Krueger said.

In the 1970s, these programs started to decline in support and now in the 80s Congress wants to cut foreign aid spending again, he said.

The Reagan administration is only doing what the American people want, he said. They are increasing the defense budget and cutting foreign aid.

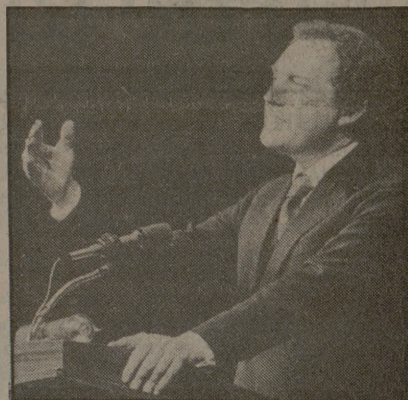
The American people and those people of other western countries are worried about their economies, Krueger said. People complain that this is the most dangerous part of history they have seen.

This is not the most dangerous time in history, Krueger said.

The Berlin airlift, the Cuban missile crisis, WWII and countless other incidents far outweigh the problems facing the nation now, he said.

Great leaders such as Mahatma Ghandi and Martin Luther King believed in the power of peace, he said.

Outward peace must first come from within—the people and the nation, Krueger added.



Bob Krueger

'Racist mentality' behind bill

Prairie View president says black schools needed

By DILLARD STONE

Battalion Staff

The president of Prairie View A&M University says a "racist mentality" is behind a move to dissolve the state's two predominantly black universities.

The bill, introduced by Rep. Foster Whaley of Pampa—a Texas A&M graduate—would close Prairie View A&M University and Texas Southern University to new students; after students currently enrolled graduate or leave, the institutions would be closed permanently.

"It comes out of a racist mentality, where people feel that black people shouldn't exist," Thomas said of the bill.

"It's just tragic that this would happen in this day and age, but it's something we're going to have to contend with, but as soon as it raises its ugly head, we're going to have to snap it off," he said.

Reaction was immediate and largely negative to Whaley's bill. "Obviously, we're opposed to this type of thing, and

all responsible people in Texas (are opposed to it)," Thomas said.

That opposition ranges from the governor's office to the Coordinating Board, Texas College and University System to Kenneth Ashworth, state commissioner of education.

The bill was introduced before the federal Department of Education found Texas in provisional compliance with Title VI race discrimination regulations. State officials now have until June 15 to come up with an acceptable plan; loss of federal funds in state institutions is a possible penalty for non-compliance.

The Education Department had been investigating Texas's system for several years, looking for continued racial discrimination in the vestiges of the state's formerly segregated system.

Thomas also said the federal government is placing too much emphasis on desegregation by race. He's opposed to division along racial lines, but he maintains that ethnic uniqueness should still be a criteria for separation.

A predominantly black institution, such as Prairie View or Texas Southern, "is essential to the progress of Texas," Thomas said. "It's essential to the democratic pluralism that we want to have.

"I think we have something to offer at Prairie View that can't be offered anywhere else, just like there's something offered at Baylor that can't be offered at Texas A&M, that can't be offered at University of Texas," he said.

Thomas maintains his concept of pluralism is essential not only to Texas' progress, but to the continued success of programs aiding Third World countries.

"We see this today in Iran," Thomas said. "We have totally no access to that kind of mind, and the Third World nations of Africa."

"One of our great allies today is Nigeria. Obvious access to Nigeria is through Prairie View and Texas Southern. That's the only way we're going to get in there."

Hilton busboy arrested for arson

United Press International

LAS VEGAS Nev. — A Las Vegas Hilton room service busboy was held today on charges of setting the hotel-casino's \$10 million killer blaze he reportedly watched burn for "sensual gratification" as eight people died.

Police arrested Philip Bruce Cline, 23, of Las Vegas late Wednesday and charged him with eight counts of murder and one of arson in connection with Tuesday night's fire. He was held in solitary confinement at the Clark County jail pending today's arraignment.

Authorities said no other suspects were being sought in the blaze, which forced the evacuation of the 30-story hotel's 4,000 guests and injured at least 242 people. Thirty-nine were still hospitalized today with three in serious condition.

A source close to the investigation

told UPI Cline apparently set the blaze for personal pleasure and not because of a grudge against the hotel.

"Investigators believe the motive was sensual gratification apparently some kind of sex hang-up," the source said. "He stood there and watched it burn."

Police said Cline, who had previously been employed at the MGM Grand and Caesars Palace, was working the night shift Tuesday picking up trays in the Hilton's east tower when the fire broke out.

Police Commander Eric Cooper said the busboy reported the first and largest of the four fires set and he indicated Cline was one of four suspects questioned at the fire scene shortly after the blaze erupted.

"Certain inconsistencies in his statements led us to question him further," said Cooper. "He was not developed as

a good suspect until he was brought into the police station."

Police said the suspect previously had been arrested for receiving stolen property resisting arrest and several unspecified felonies.

"This is the biggest case we've had because of the number of deaths and the one violent act," said Homicide Sgt. Bob Hilliard. "It was not luck he was captured."

Although Cline also was employed as a busboy at the MGM Grand which burned last November killing 84 people police said he was not being questioned in connection with that fire because it was not arson.

Clark County Fire Chief Roy Paris told reporters arson was obvious as soon as investigators discovered the fire's origin—on the eighth floor of the hotel's east tower.

Today in SCONA . . .

The 1981 MSC Student Conference on National Affairs continues today at Texas A&M University. Internationally known leaders from academia, business and politics at the three-day affair are addressing the topic: "International Society in Transition."

Today's addresses:

—Edgar Owens, development offic-

er at Appropriate Technology International, Washington, D.C., at 10 a.m. in Rudder Theater.

—Dr. John P. Holdren, professor of energy and resources at the University of California at Berkeley, at 2 p.m. in Rudder Theater.

The public is invited to attend.

Rain in Reed McDonald



Staff photo by Greg Gammon

What a mess

Julie LaPorte, a secretary in the Texas Feed & Fertilizer Control office protects herself from the "rain" on the third floor of the Reed McDonald Building. A heating pipe burst on the fourth floor heating unit Wednesday afternoon, sending a flood of water throughout the building.

Frozen pipes which had burst caused considerable amounts of water to cascade down the elevator shaft and west stairway of the Reed McDonald Building shortly before noon Wednesday. By the time books and typewriters were moved to dry places, the problem was, for the most part, cleaned up.

Physical Plant Director Joe J. Estill said the pipes on the fourth floor of the building were connected to the central air conditioning and heating unit.

At first Estill said he expected the elevator wouldn't be back in operation until today, but it was in full operation by 4:00 p.m. Wednesday. He said he anticipated some damage to the elevator because the wiring and controls were soaked.

Regarding the condition of the fourth floor's heating unit, Estill said, "We lost a heating coil and we have to locate one before the system can be fixed." He said he had no idea how long it would take to find the replacement part but that they would heat the fourth floor with the help of other heaters in the building.

"I don't know of any major damage, just a lot of inconvenience," Department of Communications Head Bob G. Rogers said. The communications department is on the third floor of Reed McDonald.

When the water made its way to the basement and near a room where year-books were being stored, the possibility of damage to the annuals was all but eliminated by Student Publications Coordinator Donald C. Johnson and a small group of students who dammed up the doorway of the storeroom with a pile of crumpled newspaper.