

Texas Aggie Rodeo Club

sponsoring an

NIRA RODEO

April 5,6,7 7:30 pm

Snook Rodeo Arena

Beer, Hamburgers, & Tough Rodeo Action

MSC Opera and Performing Arts Society

MSC OPAS

Prospective Member Orientations

Monday
April 2

Rudder 502
7:00pm

Wednesday
April 4

YOU MUST ATTEND ONE MEETING. Applications may be picked up from Jody in the Student Programs Office, Room 216 MSC. For more information call Tad Pruitt at 260-4789, Barbara Ramage 260-0951, or Arlene Manthey 845-1515.

Tornadoes

Warm weather phenomena form nature's most violent storms

By KARI FLUEGAL
Reporter

May 18, 1902 — Tornado hits Goliad, killing 114 people.
May 11, 1953 — High winds and a tornado go through Waco, killing 114 people.

May 11, 1970 — A Tornado killed 26 in Lubbock, and left \$135 million damage.

April 10, 1979 — Killer tornado rips through Wichita Falls, resulting in 45 deaths and \$250 million damage.

Tornadoes. They strike, virtually without warning, and leave homes wrecked and lives ruined.

Tornadoes are nature's most violent storms. Wind speeds in the top-like funnel, though never actually measured, are estimated at more than 200 miles per hour. By contrast, hurricane winds are seldom more than 120 mph.

Tornadoes are caused by instability of the air when a warm moist air mass collides with a cold dry mass, Walter Henry, professor of meteorology, says.

"When a rapid adjustment is made to make the air stable, the result is this type of storm," Henry says.

Although tornadoes can occur during any month of the year, the Texas tornado season runs from April to June with the heaviest activity in May. Weather experts report that throughout the United States the month of April averages 107 tornados, May averages 155 and June averages 144.

"Tornadoes are usually a



Rosebud Police Sgt. John L. Lansford walks through the debris of a warehouse that sustained damage from a

tornado that touched down there March 23. No one was hurt in the incident.

Photo by DEAN SATO

warm weather phenomenon," Henry says.

Texas leads the United States in the tornado count with an average of about 120 tornadoes per year. Texas is second to Oklahoma for having the highest average number of tornados per square mile, Henry says.

The most active area is in Oklahoma, just east of the Texas border. In Texas, the most active area is between Wichita Falls and Dallas but the coastal area between Houston and Corpus Christi gets a number of small tornadoes.

"We are pretty fortunate in this area," Henry says. "We don't have a great number of tornadoes around here."

The last tornado which resulted in a major amount of damage in Brazos County was Nov. 19, 1983 in the southern part of the county, says Jake Canglose, county director for the Brazos County Emergency Preparedness Program.

The tornado struck southwest of Millican near the Allen Farm headquarters. The tornado, which was on the ground for little less than a half mile, injured five people. The preliminary estimate of the damage

was more than \$1 million, Canglose says.

"We may be prone to small tornadoes but that doesn't mean we can't get a big one," he says.

The first tornadoes of 1984 hit Normangee and Palestine on Feb. 11.

Between warm air coming up from the Gulf and the cold air coming down from the north, Texas is an ideal place for tornadoes to form, Henry says.

In 1983, Texas had five tornados in January, seven in February, 24 in March, one in April and 62 in May, which resulted in five deaths. There were 35 tornadoes in June.

Hurricanes, which are more familiar in southern Texas, also usually have tornadoes associated with them. Hurricane Beulah in 1967 had more than 100 tornadoes accompanying it.

The largest tornadoes are quarter-mile wide with winds about 300 mph and land tracks 100 miles long. Only 2 percent of all tornadoes are killer tornadoes, Henry says, but those tornadoes cause 80 percent to 90 percent of the fatalities.

The smallest tornadoes are usually 20 yards wide and stay on the ground for only 100 yards. Of all tornadoes, 90 percent fall into that category, he says.

Tornadoes always are preceded by thunderstorms. A darkening sky, a loud roaring noise and hail also signal the possible approach of a tornado. Most tornadoes occur in the late afternoon.

Canglose advises listening to

the radio and television for current tornado watches and warnings when conditions for tornadoes are favorable.

A tornado watch means conditions are favorable for the formation of tornadoes, but tornadoes have been spotted, tornado warning means that a tornado has actually been spotted and those in the path of the tornado should take immediate cover.

Tips for action during a tornado include taking cover in the center of a building away from windows and glass, possibly underneath something, and avoiding wide expanses like gymnasiums and shopping malls. No tornado related deaths caused by flying debris, Henry says.

In the past, people were advised to open the windows of their homes to reduce pressure. New research demonstrates that the winds whirling inside the house results in the house exploding more often than the pressure.

Another mistake many people make when dealing with an approaching tornado is to get out run it in a car.

In the 1979 Wichita Falls tornado, eight of the fatalities were people trying to outrun the tornado. Their house was unscathed.

If caught in the open, find a low spot, such as a ditch or depression, and cover the head. Do not seek protection in a car.

"Don't treat any tornado lightly," Henry says. "Just use good judgement."

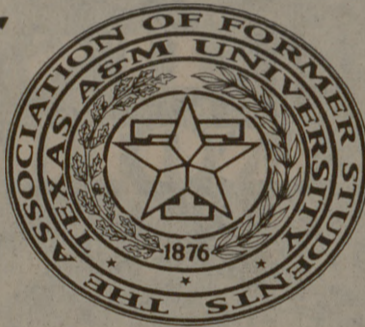
Increase predicted in teaching demand

United Press International
AUSTIN — Texas' commissioner of education told legislators Tuesday the state's burgeoning birth rate will require an increase of 14,000 new teachers a year at a time when

Texas colleges are turning out fewer and fewer teacher graduates.

Texas schools of education graduated just 9,000 teachers in 1983.

The Association of Former Students



Spring Senior Induction Banquets

Monday & Tuesday, April 9, 10, 1984
6:30 p.m.

MSC Rm. 224

All May graduate are invited to attend. Complimentary tickets will be available April 3, 4, & 5 in the lobby of the Forsyth Alumni Center. This is your invitation to attend the formal induction of all Class of '84 Graduates.

TICKETS GIVEN ON FIRST COME — FIRST SERVED BASIS

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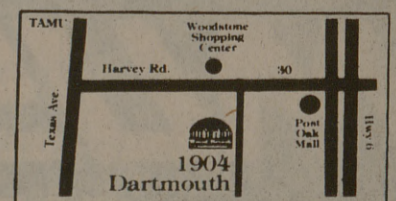
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The Atonement

(Third in a series of five ads by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saint)

As Easter approaches Christians all over the world are reminded of the precious gift of the atonement made possible through Christ. What is the atonement and how is it significant?

To atone means to free from, ransom, to make reconciliation for or to bring into agreement those who have been estranged. Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, took upon Himself the monumental task of atoning for the sins of all mankind. There in the garden of Gethsemane He suffered anguish and unknown pain while He quietly and humbly made a ransom for our sins.

Christ, later, freely gave His life upon a cross and finished His mortal ministry. No one took His life, rather He, as the Only Begotten of the Father, literally gave it up.

"No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have the power to lay it down, and I have the power to take it up again."

John 10:17-18

And so He did! The atoning sacrifice of Jesus Christ, then, is the foundation upon which redemption rests. Let's remember the gift and blessings of the atonement not only at Easter but throughout the year. By applying the principles of the Gospel every day we will be a "light on the hill that cannot be hid"