

B-CS hails new radar

Doppler unit used to track severe weather patterns

By Christine Johnson
THE BATTALION

The Bryan-College Station area is no less susceptible to severe weather than any other inland area, but local meteorologists say they have many ways to predict violent storms.

Bob French, chief meteorologist for KBTX-TV, said tornadoes and flooding are major threats to the area when a tropical storm or hurricane strikes the Texas coast.

The most dangerous part of a severe storm is the storm surge, which can cause flooding 10 or more miles inland, he said.

"Since we are 100 miles inland, we don't have to worry about the storm surge," French said. "However, tropical storms and hurricanes do affect the local area a couple of times every 10 years because of tornadoes and flooding."

A new KBTX-TV radar system is scheduled to be installed and in operation around mid-August and will allow transmissions in a range of around 250 miles.

Because of technology and

weather systems, severe weather will be noticed in plenty of time to prepare for safety, especially with the new radar system, French said.

Louis Wicker, assistant professor of meteorology, said Texas is one state that is most affected by severe weather.

Texas A&M's meteorology department is researching severe storm patterns and their effects.

The faculty in the meteorology department researches lightning, severe storm convection, climate, radiation, satellite meteorology, atmospheric chemistry and the ozone layer, he said.

"That just about covers the gamut of topics," he said. "There's not much left over to research."

Wicker said the researchers get information from around the world through a computer network.

The meteorology department research facilities include a Doppler radar unit on the roof of the O&M Building.

The Doppler radar is the same size as the National

Weather Service radar, which is a rare instrument for a university to have, he said.

Wicker said, "Not more than one or two other universities in the nation have one."

Marion Alcorn, a meteorologist at A&M, said satellite images and weather charts are also used to predict patterns.

Satellite images and Doppler radar both give current information on weather conditions.

In general, though, Doppler radar is more accurate than satellite images, he said.

"Doppler radar can not look into the future, however," Alcorn said. "It only knows what is going on now, which is why weather charts are used."

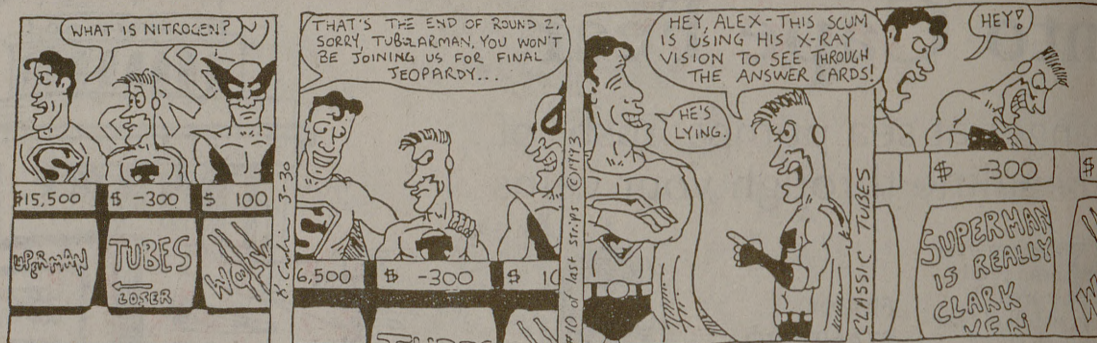
Weather charts are based on observations all over the world. The data are then entered into a computer which analyzes them and makes a forecast.

Alcorn said the accuracy of the weather charts depends on the accuracy of the data, the accuracy of the equations used in the computer, how much the data are rounded or otherwise altered from the original data and the capability of the forecaster.

"For the most part," Alcorn said, "most weather forecasts can be made within 80 percent accuracy."

Tubularman

By Boomer Cardinal



OUT THERE

By JD



Card

Continued from Page 1

gages the locks, and anyone could enter the hall."

If students lose their ID cards, Murray said they should immediately report it to the network availability center in the Teague Building, which is open 24 hours. The lost ID card will then be canceled, and a loaner card will be issued to the resident until a new ID card is purchased.

David Cox, a network operations specialist for the network availability center, said that students should report a lost ID card immediately because someone could get into their residence hall or use their Aggie Bucks.

Lt. Bert Kretzschmar, supervisor of UPD's crime prevention unit, said the card access system

is secure and cost effective.

"If students lose a conventional key, the only secure option is to change the locks, which is expensive," he said. "With card access, students lose their card, they just cancel that card."

Kretzschmar said unauthorized people can enter buildings using conventional keys. By using card access, these people can be restricted from entering.

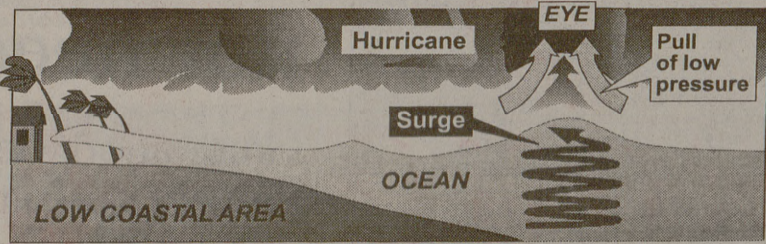
"If an unauthorized person tried to gain access entry, the computer wouldn't let that person in," he said. "But anyone can use a key."

Kretzschmar said the ID card access system makes it possible to limit the time of day certain people, such as those who stock vending machines, have access to enter the building.

Murray said the system will prevent students from being stranded because they had to lend their IDs overnight to get football tickets. Beginning this fall, the Athletic Ticket Office will no longer use ID cards when issuing football tickets.

Hurricane storm surges

Within the storm's eye, a violent drop in pressure has a 'plunger' effect on the sea where walls of high water are generated and radiate outward, flooding low coastal areas.



Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, National Climatic Data Center, AP research

WHAT'S UP

Wednesday

TAMU Women's Rugby: Practice Monday and Wednesday from 6:30-7:30 p.m. at the rugby field next to the polo field. Old and new members welcome, no experience necessary. For more info call Faye at 822-0651 or Janina at 696-0877.

TAMU Roadrunners: Will run at 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday. Meet in front of G. Rollie. Slow, lazy, out of shape, new members welcome.

For more info call Shea at 694-8000.

Center for Career Planning: How to choose a major workshop from 1:30-3:30 p.m. at Henderson Hall. For more info call 845-4427.

Study Abroad Programs: Informational meeting for Fulbright research grants for graduating seniors and graduate students 3 p.m. at 251 Bizzell Hall West.

Career Center: Career advising group session, 3:30 p.m. at 144 Koldus, that will address career issues and concerns of today's college student. For more info call 845-5139.

Off Campus Aggies: Dinner club at China Wok 6:30 p.m. For more info call 845-0688.

TAMU Sailing Club: General meeting 7 p.m. at 501 Rudder. For more info call Mike Pollard at 764-6019.

Thursday

Student Counseling Service: Workshop: Test preparation with test anxiety from 3-5 p.m. at Henderson Hall. For more info call 845-4427.

What's Up is a Battalion service that lists non-profit student and faculty events and activities. Items should be submitted no later than three days in advance of the desired run date. Application deadlines and notices are not events and will not be run in What's Up. If you have any questions, please call the newsroom at 845-3313.

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Coupon good 7 days a week. Valid only on a single in the third inning by Andujar Cedeno, and the St. Louis Cardinals routed the Houston Astros 10-0 Tuesday night for their first win since the All-Star break.

The Cardinals, who tied an NL record by blowing an 11-run lead in a 15-12 loss Monday night, had no trouble holding off Houston this time.

St. Louis had lost five in a row and eight of 10 games, and was the only team not to win since the All-Star game last Tuesday.

Palacios (2-7) retired the final 21 batters after Cedeno's leadoff single in the third.

He tied a career-high with eight strikeouts and walked one.

Mark Whiten had three hits, including a homer and a double, drove in three runs and scored three times.

Player	IP	H	R	E	BB	SO		
Unkrif cf	4	1	0	0	Bgwel lf	2	0	0
Zelle 3b	5	2	1	0	Cminiti 3b	3	0	0
Whiten rf	3	3	3	3	Edens p	0	0	0
Alicea 2b	3	2	2	2	Bass rf	2	0	0
Pignozzi c	4	0	0	0	Veres p	0	0	0
Palacios p	3	0	0	0	Dnnels 3b	1	0	0
Totals	36	10	10	8	Gnzalez lf	3	0	0
					Servais c	3	0	0
					Cedeno ss	3	0	1
					Kile p	0	0	0
					Felder rf	2	0	0
					Totals	27	0	1

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St. Louis.....010 430 020 - 10

Houston.....000 000 000 - 0

E - Caminiti (7), LOB - St. Louis 4, Houston 2, 2B - O'Smith (9), Whiten (18), Alicea (5), HR - Gilkey (5), Whiten (10).

St. Louis

Palacios, W-2-7

Houston

Kile, L-6-5

Veres

Edens

IP H R E BB SO

9 1 0 0 1 8

4.1 8 8 7 2 4

2.2 0 0 0 2

2 2 2 2 1 1

Darryl Kile (6-5) pitched 4 1-3 innings, allowing eight runs on eight hits. The Astros had won three in a row.