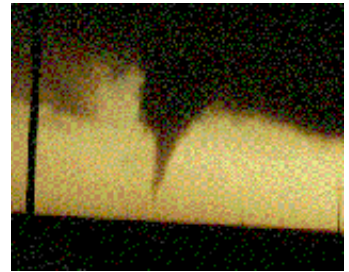




The West Texas

TWISTER



SUMMER 2000 NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE FORECAST OFFICE LUBBOCK TEXAS

A Record Wet June for Lubbock

Drought Has Ended over the South Plains

Over half a foot of rain was recorded during the month of June at the official observation site at the Lubbock International Airport. 8.48 inches of rainfall fell, which surpassed the previous record for the month which was 7.95 inches set back in 1967.

The rain was more than welcome for area cotton farmers, who are now hoping for a warm July and August with plenty of sun and heating degree units, for optimum plant growth.

All of the major drought indices are now near normal for the South Plains and the Rolling Plains region, including the Palmer Index and the Crop Moisture Index, according to the U.S. Drought Monitor.

Precipitation averaged 2.0 inches above normal for South Plains area communities during the month of June.

The long range forecast from the Climate Prediction Center for the months of July, August, and September are for near normal conditions in terms of both temperature and precipitation.



What's In This Edition...

A Look At Our Heritage

Record June Rainfall

Project Impact

Recap of 2000 Severe Weather Season

NWS "Storm Ready" program

Andy Anderson Retires



The NWS has initiated a new program to help communities prepare themselves to handle hazardous weather. The program is called **StormReady** and consists of a series of steps that will help the community respond to tornadoes, floods, winter storms, etc. Larger cities need to accomplish many steps to be StormReady. However, medium and smaller towns with fewer resources do not need to do quite as much to be given StormReady status.

Any community that earns StormReady certification will be part of a press briefing and media event to announce their accomplishment. Also, the NWS will supply two StormReady road signs that the community can use to proudly show off their accomplishments. If you are interested, please contact Larry Vannozzi at 806-745-3916 ext. 223 for more details.

A soggy June !!



SOUTH PLAINS TEMP AND PRECIP SUMMARY FOR JUNE 2000 NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE LUBBOCK TX

THE WEATHER ACROSS THE TEXAS SOUTH PLAINS DURING THE MONTH OF JUNE 2000 WAS COOLER AND MUCH WETTER THAN NORMAL. TEMPERATURES AVERAGED 1.8 DEGREES BELOW NORMAL AND RANGED FROM 3.3 DEGREES BELOW NORMAL AT LUBBOCK TO .2 DEGREES ABOVE NORMAL AT OLTON.

MAXIMUM TEMPERATURES AVERAGED 4.8 DEGREES BELOW NORMAL AND RANGED FROM 7 DEGREES BELOW NORMAL AT SPUR TO 2.4 DEGREES BELOW NORMAL AT OLTON. THE HIGHEST TEMPERATURE REPORTED DURING THE MONTH WAS 103 DEGREES AT SEMINOLE ON THE 24TH.

MINIMUM TEMPERATURES AVERAGED 1.2 DEGREES ABOVE NORMAL AND RANGED FROM .3 DEGREES BELOW NORMAL AT LUBBOCK TO 2.8 DEGREES ABOVE NORMAL AT OLTON. THE LOWEST TEMPERATURE REPORTED DURING THE MONTH WAS 50 DEGREES AT SILVERTON ON DAY 17 .

PRECIPITATION AVERAGED 2 INCHES ABOVE NORMAL AND RANGED FROM .95 INCHES BELOW NORMAL AT PADUCAH TO 6.39 INCHES ABOVE NORMAL AT TULIA. LUBBOCK INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT RECORDED 8.48 INCHES OF RAIN WHICH SET A NEW RECORD RAINFALL FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE... SURPASSING THE OLD RECORD OF 7.95 INCHES SET IN 1967.

The beginning of the National Weather Service

we know today started on February 9th, 1870, when President Ulysses S. Grant signed a joint resolution of Congress authorizing the Secretary of War to establish a national weather service. This resolution required the Secretary of War

"to provide for taking meteorological observations at the military stations in the interior of the continent and at other points in the States and Territories...and for giving notice on the northern (Great) Lakes and on the seacoast by magnetic telegraph and marine signals, of the approach and force of storms"

After much thought and consideration, it was decided that this agency would be placed under the Secretary of War because military discipline would probably secure the greatest promptness, regularity, and accuracy in the required observations. Within the Department of War, it was assigned to the Signal Service Corps under Brigadier General Albert J. Myer. General Meyer gave the National Weather Service its first name: *The Division of Telegrams and Reports for the Benefit of Commerce*.



Ulysses S. Grant



Heat Wave Safety Tips

Slow down. Strenuous activities should be reduced, eliminated, or rescheduled to the coolest time of the day. Individuals at risk should stay in the coolest available place, not necessarily indoors.

Dress for summer. Lightweight, light-colored clothing reflects heat and sunlight, and helps your body maintain normal temperatures.

Put less fuel on your inner fires. Foods (like proteins) that increase metabolic heat production also increase water loss.

Drink plenty of water or other nonalcoholic fluids. Your body needs water to keep cool. Drink plenty of fluids even if you don't feel thirsty.

Spend more time in air-conditioned places. Air conditioning in homes and other buildings markedly reduces danger from the heat. If you cannot afford an air conditioner, spending some time each day (during hot weather) in an air conditioned environment affords some protection. Don't get too much sun. Sunburn makes the job of heat dissipation that much more difficult.

Andy Anderson Retires

On July 3, an era came to an end at the Lubbock NWS office when Meteorologist-in-Charge Walter R. "Andy" Anderson retired.

Andy lead this office throughout the 1980s and 1990s, overseeing dramatic changes in personnel and technology. He helped plan and implement many improvements, including relocating the NWS office from the airport to the Science Spectrum location in 1993, the arrival of the sophisticated WSR-88D Doppler radar in 1994, and the new computer system in 1998. Through his ability to fill personnel vacancies with top-notch employees, Andy was instrumental in keeping this office staffed with talented and friendly people, which in turn made this a great place to work.

Andy will be replaced this month by David "Rusty" Billingsley. A Texas A&M graduate with two master's degrees (Meteorology, Computer Science), Rusty is transferring from the NWS Office in Boise, Idaho where he served as the Science and Operations Officer.

Andy has been the leader of this office for nearly two decades and will certainly be missed. Everyone at the NWS Lubbock office wishes Andy and Rosalie much happiness in the years ahead!!

A Rich Heritage - the National Weather Service



Weather Bureau DC-6 personnel during Project Storm Fury. Storm Fury was a hurricane cloud seeding experiment. Location: Miami, Florida Photo Date: 1966



SCR-658 radio direction finder used to track radiosonde balloons. Woman observer indicates WWII or just after war time frame. World War II expanded the opportunities for women in the Weather Bureau. Photo Date: 1945-1946

National Weather Service history is rich with images of scientific accomplishment, technological innovation and community service.

The photos in these archives help tell the stories of our people and their service to communities across America, from telegraph operators of the Army Signal Service in the 1870s to the women who joined our ranks during World War II; from pioneers early in the 20th century who took advantage of the development of aviation and wireless radio communications to the highly-educated scientists and engineers of today who are coupling radars, satellites, networks of observing systems and advanced computers to deliver the world's best weather and climate services to our nation.

We hope you enjoy these snapshots of the heritage of the Weather Bureau and today's National Weather Service, the source of official forecasts, warnings and climate outlooks that help us all plan our daily lives.



The Weather Bureau Forecast Office. Location: Washington, D.C. Photo Date: 1926

These pictures were taken from the NWS Historical Image Collection. More pictures like these can be seen online at: www.photolib.noaa.gov/lb_images/historic/nws/index.html



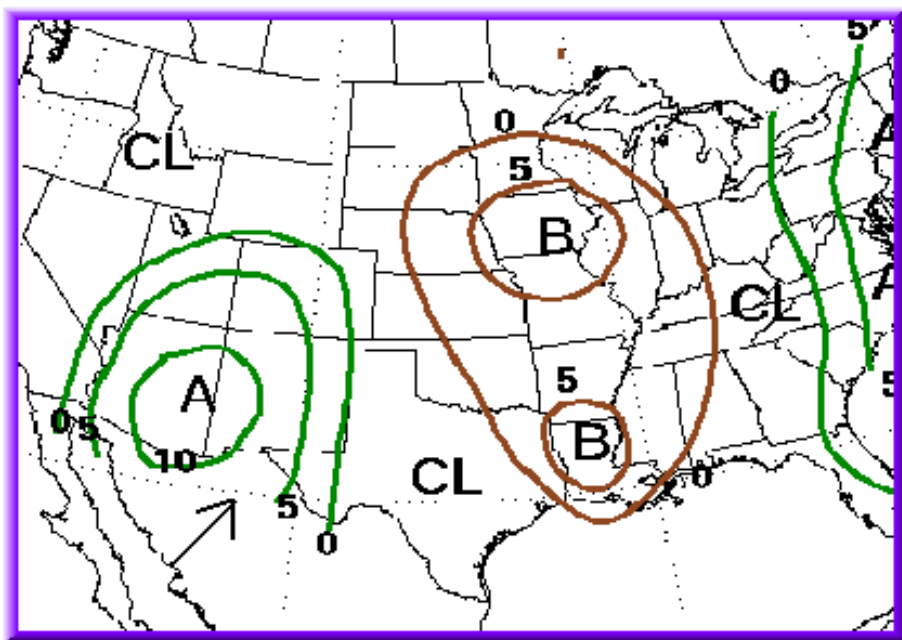
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In This Issue...

StormReady program, Project Impact, June Rainfall Stats, and more...

90 Day Precip. Outlook from NCEP's Climate Prediction Center



Outlook for Rainfall for July, August, September from the Climate Prediction Center. Above average rainfall is forecast to our west with near normal amounts across the South Plains, and drier than normal weather over the Mississippi valley region.

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