



The Dryline



The Official Newsletter of the National Weather Service in Amarillo

Active Spring Brings Record-setting Tornadoes and Flooding

By J.J. Brost, General Forecaster, and Roland Nuñez, Senior Forecaster

After experiencing one of the earliest major severe weather events, the Texas and Oklahoma Panhandles continued be hit with hazardous weather through the spring months as the weather pattern remained active. The most notable events occurred on 21 April, 23 May, and 19-20 June.

21 April 2007 Tornadoes

This event was quite similar to the 28 March 2007 event. A large upper-level low pressure system was positioned over Arizona, providing southerly flow in the upper levels of the atmosphere. This is why the general storm motion was from south to north. Southeasterly winds near the surface were pumping moisture into the Panhandles. Meanwhile, the dryline was positioned along the Texas/New Mexico border while a Pacific cold front was pushing through eastern New Mexico. The combination of abundant moisture, strong lift and favorable shear set the stage for a significant tornado outbreak.

The final storm assessment confirmed 13 tornadoes across the Texas Panhandle with this event. According to the new Enhanced Fujita Scale, three tornadoes were classified as EF-2, seven tornadoes were EF-1 and three were EF-0 tornadoes (Table 1). The Cactus Tornado generated the most attention (Fig.1). This EF-2 tornado was



Fig. 1. Security camera captured tornado approaching Swift processing plant and the city of Cactus. (Image courtesy of Mr. Raymond Brady.)

SUMMER 2007

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a very strong tornado, with maximum winds estimated to be around 130-135 mph, and carved a ¾ mile wide path through the town of Cactus. Over the northwest half of Cactus, nearly every home and business received some damage as a result of this tornado. At least 10 mobile homes were demolished and many more left uninhabitable. According to local officials and residents, the early warnings gave residents (especially those in mobile homes) enough time to seek more substantial shelter. Therefore, casualties were minimized.

Tornadoes	EF Rating	Path Length (miles)	Maximum Width (yards)	Time		Fatalities/Injuries
				Start	End	
Oldham and Hartley Counties near Boys Ranch and Channing	1	17	880	6:51 pm	7:27 pm	0/0
Moore and Sherman Counties including Cactus	2	27	1320	7:16 pm	7:52 pm	0/14
Moore County near Four Way	2	12	704	7:50 pm	8:15 pm	0/0
Moore County - East of Dumas	0	1	50	8:06 pm	8:08 pm	0/0
Moore County – South of Sunray	0	1	100	8:19 pm	8:23 pm	0/0
Moore and Sherman Counties - East of Sunray and Stratford	1	9	1320	8:36 pm	8:50 pm	0/0
Armstrong County near Wayside	1	3	440	8:45 pm	8:55 pm	0/0
Moore County – Northeast of Dumas	1	12	440	8:45 pm	9:00 pm	0/0
Moore County near Valero Refinery	1	2	704	8:59 pm	9:02 pm	0/0
Randall County – East of Canyon	1	11	880	9:00 pm	9:15 pm	0/0
Armstrong and Carson Counties – Northeast of Claude and near Groom	2	13	440	9:35 pm	10:10 pm	0/0
Armstrong County – East of Claude	0	4	50	9:40 pm	9:45 pm	0/0
Gray County near Kingsmill	1	13	50	9:50 pm	10:10 pm	0/0

Table 1. Tornado statistics for 21 April 2007 event.

The second EF-2 tornado developed near Four Way. The only visible damage was limited to five single power poles snapped, fences downed and large round hay bales tossed around. The eastern Carson County Tornado also packed a big punch. This EF-2 tornado plowed through a storage area for tractors and other farm equipment. Tractors, turbines, vehicles and cotton presser box cars, similar to railroad cars, were moved and thrown about in the tornado for considerable distances. Power poles were also damaged.

23 May 2007 Tornadoes and Flooding

The 23 May 2007 event brought a variety of severe weather to the Panhandles. Storms began to form just after 4:00 pm in the northeastern Texas Panhandle as a large low pressure trough approached from the southern Rocky Mountains. With a warm front stretching across the northern Texas and eastern Oklahoma Panhandles, there was plenty of lift present to sustain thunderstorm development.

This severe weather outbreak included 14 tornadoes (e.g. Fig. 2), large hail (up to hen egg size) and widespread wind gusts exceeding 60 mph across much of the eastern Oklahoma and



Fig. 2. Tornado touched down briefly near Wolf Creek Park. (Photo taken by Wolf Creek Park ranger.)

northeastern Texas Panhandles. Of the 14 tornadoes in this event, two tornadoes were EF-2 strength, two were EF-1 and ten were EF-0. However, the big story associated with this event was the extremely heavy rain and major flooding, which occurred across Ochiltree and Lipscomb Counties. Storms across this area continued to redevelop and remained nearly stationary for several hours, resulting in copious amounts of rainfall.

The brunt of this heavy rainfall was concentrated over the Wolf Creek basin that flows across southern and central Ochiltree and central Lipscomb Counties. National Weather Service Doppler radar estimated widespread rainfall totals ranging from two to six inches with a maximum estimate of one foot of rain (Fig. 3)! As a result, major flooding ensued.

The first report of flash flooding came in just before midnight, but the widespread flooding began shortly after 1:00 am on the 24th and continued to worsen during the overnight hours. When morning came, the extent of the flooding became evident. Roadways were closed due to the excessive runoff into creeks and playa lakes. There was so much water flowing on the south tributary of the Wolf Creek that Highway 83 and Farm to Market Road 759 were closed for a short time, but Highway 70 across central Ochiltree County was closed for nearly two weeks! At the Lipscomb river gauge site (Fig. 4), the Wolf Creek surpassed flood stage (9.5 feet) at 7:05 am on 24 May and remained above flood stage for 30 hours.

This event is unprecedented because it is rare to see a Texas Panhandle river stay above flood stage for more than a few hours. The river crested at 15.30 feet (ft) on 24 May at 10:45 am, shattering the previous record crest of 12.44 ft set in September 1996, according to the current period of record. According to the U.S. Geological Survey, water discharge at the Lipscomb site was registered at 25,862 cubic feet per second (cfs). The maximum discharge during the 1996 flooding was measured at 10,300 cfs.

19-20 June 2007 Wind Storm

While the days of spring were winding down, severe weather never let up. During the late afternoon of the 19th, thunderstorms developed west of Amarillo in Oldham and Deaf Smith Counties. These storms produced some large hail, but no significant damage. However, the worst was yet to come.

Late in the evening, additional storms moved into the Oklahoma Panhandle from Kansas. These storms formed a line and produced strong winds and more large hail up to the size of golf balls. Wind speeds from the storms maxed out at 86 mph in Texas County in the Oklahoma Panhandle, with multiple reports of wind speeds between 65 mph and 75 mph!

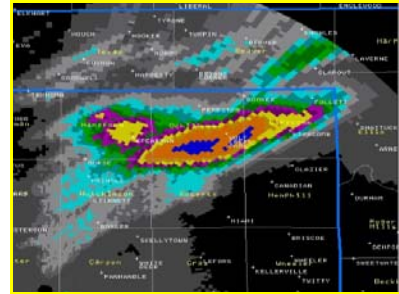


Fig. 3. Three-hour rainfall estimates from WSR-88D radar in Amarillo between 9:00 pm and midnight. The dark blue areas over southern Ochiltree and western Lipscomb Counties indicate 4 to 6 inches of rain.



Fig. 4. Flood waters along Wolf Creek at Lipscomb.



Fig. 5. Remnants of a lumber yard in Miami, Texas.



Fig. 6. Ripped frame from Wellington bus barn thrust into neighboring property.

As these storms continued to move south, wind damage became widespread across the central and eastern Texas Panhandle. The most intense damage occurred in Miami and Wellington, Texas. In Miami, part of a lumber yard building was destroyed (Fig. 5). The roof from this building then blew into the street and knocked down power lines, causing power outages. There was widespread structural damage in Wellington, Texas where numerous homes and businesses experienced significant damage as 80 to 90 mph winds blew debris throughout the city shortly after midnight (Fig. 6). Many power lines were snapped or knocked over. As a result, numerous power outages were reported across the eastern Texas Panhandle during this wind event. The storms moved south of the Texas Panhandle after 1:00 am, but the winds did not let up. Damaging winds were reported as the line of storms moved into southwest Oklahoma and north Texas. The highest wind gust from this line of storms was reported in Wichita Falls, Texas where an observation station recorded a 94 mph gust!

Summary

Severe weather started early this year and remained active through the spring. While the events on 21 April, 23 May, and 19-20 June were the most prominent, the remaining spring events combined to make 2007 one of the most active spring severe weather seasons in recent years. As of the end of June, the frequency of severe weather resulted in an unofficial record number of 60 tornadoes for the NWS Amarillo county warning area. The previous record of 46 tornadoes dates back to 1995 during the same year of the infamous Pampa tornado. (These statistics correspond to the three counties in the Oklahoma Panhandle and the 20 northernmost counties in the Texas Panhandle.) NWS Amarillo would like to thank all local emergency managers, storm spotters and contributors involved in the warning process. The combined efforts saved lives!

Steve Bilodeau April 2007 Employee of the Month

Steve is one of our Hydrometeorological Technicians, and has been working at NWS Amarillo since 1995. Before arriving here, he served in the U.S. Air Force for 4 years, and worked at NWS Kalispell, MT and Worcester, MA. Steve is our Marketing and Outreach Team Leader, coordinating special events at your school and city functions. He oversees our NOAA Weather Radio programming, and ensures all routine, hazardous and civil emergencies broadcast properly. Also, Steve is co-focal point for our Climate program. In his free-time, he enjoys traveling, card playing, coin collecting, stock watching and sports.

KVII Chief Meteorologist and United Supermarkets Receive NOAA's Mark Trail Award

By Steve Drillette, Warning Coordination Meteorologist

Steve Kersh (KVII-TV Chief Meteorologist) and United Supermarkets were awarded the Mark Trail Award on 21 June 2007 in Washington, D.C. The Mark Trail Award honors individuals and organizations that use or provide NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards receivers or transmitters to save lives and protect property. Eighteen individuals and organizations were recognized nationally this year. This makes the second straight year a Mark Trail award recipient was from the Texas and Oklahoma Panhandles. BWXT Pantex Department of Emergency Management received this award in 2006.

In February 2006, Steve Kersh at KVII-TV and United Supermarkets began a promotion to increase ownership of NOAA Weather Radios through a vigorous campaign at substantially reduced unit cost. The promotion was extremely successful and substantially increased the number of weather radios in homes and businesses throughout their viewing community of 300,000 residents.

Steve Kersh, his staff, and the management of KVII-TV have gone the extra mile to make this campaign a success. Not only do Steve and his staff regularly publicize this campaign as part of their routine weathercasts, but on numerous occasions the KVII weather staff have manned weather radio programming booths at local United Supermarkets. In some of these weather radio programming ventures, they teamed up with representatives from NWS Amarillo. On 8 April 2006, KVII and NWS Amarillo co-sponsored a public Severe Storm Spotter Training class where radios were sold and programmed on site. KVII was a co-sponsor of, and helped promote, the 2007 NWS Amarillo biennial Severe Weather Workshop. This regional event was attended by more than 400 people. Nearly 100 weather radios were sold and programmed on this day alone, and many more citizens were exposed to the benefits of NWR. Finally, KVII donates space on their television tower for the Amarillo NWR transmitter, and has done so since the transmitter was established in the mid 1970s.

United Supermarkets have also been a key player in this campaign. Not only have they carried the radios in every store in the Texas Panhandle that are within the NWR coverage area, but they have willingly participated in the programming and outreach events previously noted. In addition, they have trained representatives within each store on how to program the radios when customers request assistance.



Fig. 7. From left to right, NOAA Administrator Vice Adm. Conrad Lautenbacher, Mark Trail Writer and Illustrator Jack Elrod, KVII Chief Meteorologist Steve Kersh and Acting NWS Director Mary Glackin.



2007 Fire Weather Customer Meeting

*By Ken Schneider, Fire Weather Program Leader/IMET trainee**

The National Weather Service Office (NWS) in Amarillo holds a fire weather customer meeting every year, usually in late winter or early spring before the fire season becomes active, in order to ensure the meteorological needs of our fire weather customers in the Texas and Oklahoma Panhandles are being met. It is imperative that the customers understand what NWS products and services are available to them. The other purpose for the meeting is to engage in meaningful dialogue and ensure that reliable communication between the customers and NWS Amarillo has been established and maintained. This year's meeting took place on 28 March 2007 at the NWS Amarillo office. In attendance were several representatives of local, state and federal fire agencies in the Texas Panhandle: Mike Dunivan, Richard Gibbs and Shane Brown of the Texas Forest Service; Derrick Holdstock and Hi Newby of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department; Fire Chief Kim Powell, Firefighter Jerry Tomaschik, and the Pampa/Gray County Emergency Manager Ken Hall of the City of Pampa; Fire Management Officer Mike Bland and Steve Fisher from the National Park Service at Lake Meredith; Curtis Brown and Steven Yeager of the Dalhart Fire Department; and Deaf Smith County Emergency Manager and Fire Marshal Dean Turney of the Hereford Fire Department.

The Texas and Oklahoma Panhandles had a very active fire weather season during the spring and summer months of 2006, particularly the record-setting 12 March 2006 wildfires. Given the enormity of this event, a thorough report was spearheaded by NWS Amarillo and resulted in the NWS *Storm Data* Outstanding Storm of the Month. It was determined that the fire weather products being issued by NWS Amarillo meet the customers' needs. Information was presented regarding the NWS Fort Worth Experimental Weather Planner tool found on their web site at <http://www.srh.noaa.gov/forecast/wxplanner.php?site=fwd>. This tool has proved useful during prescribed burns and for other fire related events. The tool requires the user to input the parameters for the planned prescribed burn, and a weather forecast is generated quickly. As a result of this discussion, a link to this Experimental Weather Planner tool was added to the NWS Amarillo Fire Weather page.

The 2006 Red Flag Warning statistics were also shared at the meeting. For NWS Amarillo, the average lead time was about 6 ½ hours, the Probability of Detection was 93 percent, the False Alarm Rate was 32 percent, and the overall skill score was 65 percent. In addition, there was a 10 percent increase in the number of spot forecasts requested in 2006.

With the NWS becoming an "All Hazards" agency, customers were informed that NWS Amarillo would respond to any hazard, such as HAZMAT incidents, wildfires, oil spills, hurricanes, and tornadoes. Many thanks go to everyone who participated.

** Ken Schneider assisted the Texas Forest Service in College Station, Texas in September 2006 and, after completing all the necessary training, officially became an Incident Meteorologist trainee a month later. This training is preparing him to provide on-site weather support.*

New Guymon NOAA Weather Radio is Broadcasting

On 8 May 2007, the Guymon NOAA Weather Radio (NWR) transmitter officially began to broadcast from the Tri-County Electric Cooperative tower on a frequency of 162.500 MHz. This new transmitter, also identified as KJY96, became the first to broadcast from the Oklahoma Panhandle, and the fifth to be hosted by NWS Amarillo. This 1000 watt dual Crown transmitter was provided to the Government via the gracious contribution of the State of Oklahoma Department of Public Safety through a private grant. Guymon NWR, like the Amarillo, Borger, Miami and Perryton transmitters, provides a 24-hour source of weather forecasts, watches and warnings from NWS Amarillo. For a detailed signal coverage map, go to:

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr/ok/guymon.gif>.

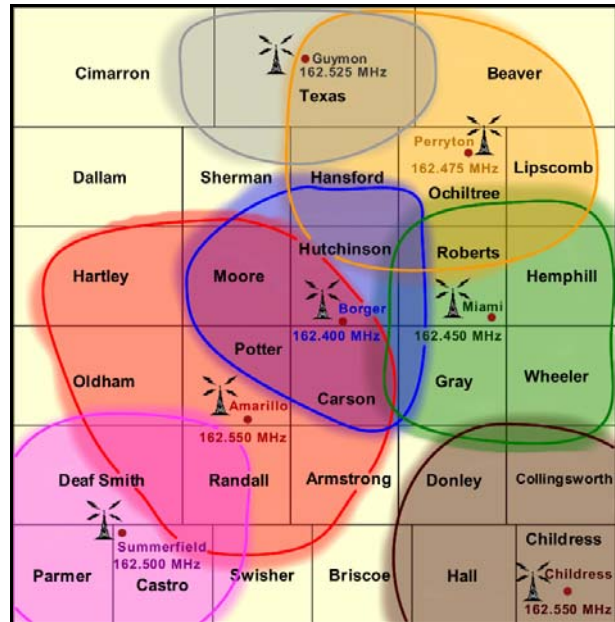


Fig. 8. NWR transmitters hosted by WFO Amarillo.
(Image produced by J.J. Brost)

The transmitter was officially dedicated on 19 June during a ceremony at the Guymon Activity Center. NWS Amarillo Meteorologist-In-Charge José Garcia and Warning Coordination Meteorologist Steve Drillette conducted the ceremony, which was attended by 30 local officials, including Texas County Emergency Manager Harold Tyson, who represented Texas County in the ceremony. KGYN radio conducted a live broadcast during the ceremony.

Many thanks go to Gene Thaxton, Oklahoma Department of Public Safety; Harold Tyson, Texas County Emergency Management; Clark Purdy, Guymon Fire Department; Tri-County Electric; Phil Shideler, Steve Davis, Don Allen, NWS Amarillo, and other contributors for making this station possible.



NWS Amarillo Receives Bronze Medal Award

The Department of Commerce, during an 11 May 2007 ceremony in Washington, D.C., presented NWS Amarillo with their Bronze Medal Award for Superior Federal Service. NWS Amarillo was awarded this Bronze Medal Award for providing warnings and forecasts to emergency managers and firefighters battling the Texas Panhandle wildfires of March and April 2006, which resulted in the largest wildfire acreage ever in Texas.

August-October 2007 Weather Outlook

By Richard Wynne, Science and Operations Officer

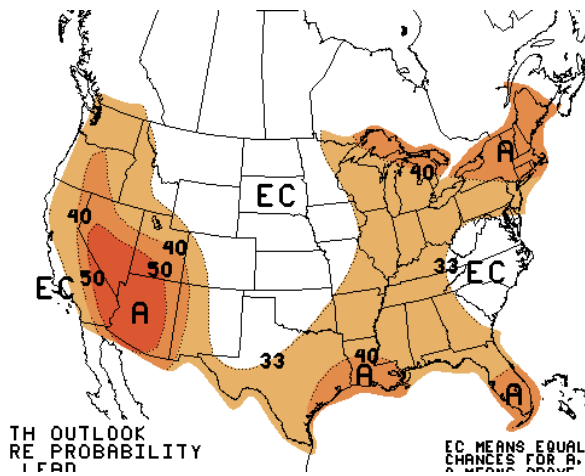


Fig. 9. August-October 2007 Temperature Outlook.

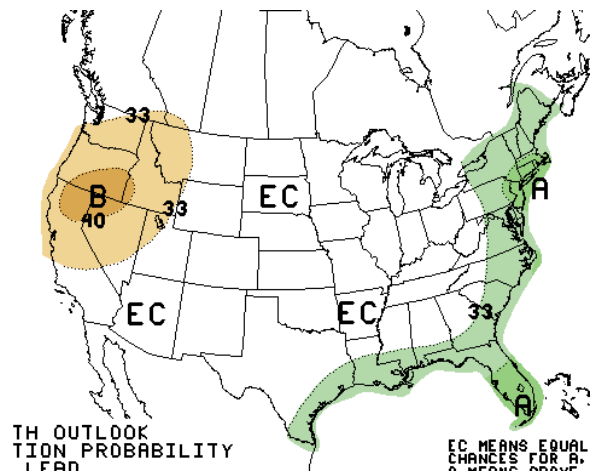


Fig. 10. August-October 2007 Precipitation Outlook.

Temperatures

The latest 3-month outlooks issued by the Climate Prediction Center (CPC) covers August, September and October (ASO). Both the temperature and precipitation outlooks call for “equal chances” over the Texas and Oklahoma Panhandles during the 3-month period. Equal chances means that the particular weather element is just as likely to be above-, near- or below-normal. What this means is that the models and other tools that the experts use to look ahead, are not providing us any strong indications as to a near-term climate trend. Normally, the maximum temperatures start out near 90 degrees during August then drop to the lower 70s in October, while the minimums are in the mid and upper 60s in August and then fall into upper 40s in late October as cold fronts make their return in force and the sun’s effect becomes less.

Precipitation

For precipitation, we are normally near our peak rainfall for the year in the month of August (over 3 inches), then followed by a decrease in the fall season. Unfortunately, the current climatological indicators do not appear to be favorable for above-normal precipitation during the next three months for the Texas and Oklahoma Panhandles.

El Niño/La Niña

The CPC notes that we are in a “neutral state” right now as far as the El Niño/La Niña effects are concerned. Earlier forecasts anticipated that we were to evolve into a La Niña episode by now, but the data suggests we are transitioning much slower than expected. As a result, the forces of El Niño/La Niña will be mostly in balance during the 3-month period of August, September and October.

Cooperative Observer Spotlight

By Tabatha Tripp, Hydrometeorological Technician,
and Chris Kimble, Meteorologist Intern

The Cooperative Observer Program (COOP) is a nationwide climate monitoring network of approximately 12,000 volunteer citizens and institutions that observe and report weather information on a 24-hour basis. These observations form the backbone of temperature and precipitation records used in determining the climate of the United States.



These observations include 24-hour maximum and minimum temperatures, 24-hour liquid precipitation, snowfall, and snow depth. Climatic atlases for the U.S. are based on decades of observations from COOP observers across the nation. These observations support many other applications, including drought assessment, crop yield forecasts, recreation, flood zone determination, and insurance industry needs.

This Cooperative weather network is a vital part of the nation's infrastructure, and is one of the most comprehensive observing networks for monitoring these weather elements anywhere in the world. NWS Amarillo would like to thank and recognize the following weather observers for their many years of dedication and commitment.



Fig. 11. Lefors, Texas: Judy Morriss receives her 25 Year Length of Service Award on 27 April 2007. From left to right in picture: José García—Meteorologist in Charge, Robert Morris, Judy Morriss—Lefors observer, Tabatha Tripp— Cooperative Program Leader, Chris Kimble—Meteorologist Intern.



Fig. 12. 11 WNW of Perryton, TX: Grady and Colleen Year receive their 35 Year Length of Service Award.



Fig. 13. Dumas, Texas: KDDD Radio receives a 50 Year Length of Service Award on 4 June 2007. Pictured above are José García (left)—Meteorologist in Charge and Jim McCarty—Program Director at KDDD. Previous observers include Steve Bayless, Joe Milbern, Richard Hamilton, and Al Tremble. Mr. Tremble took observations for over 30 years from September of 1957 through February of 1988. Jim McCarty has been recording the weather in Dumas since April 2001.



Fig. 14. Umbarger, Texas: Robert Friemel (back center in picture) receives his 30 Year Length of Service Award on 1 June 2007. NWS Amarillo attendees: José García—Meteorologist in Charge, Tabatha Tripp—Cooperative Program Leader, John Cockrell—Senior Forecaster, and Noah Seymore— aspiring meteorologist.

***Tabatha Tripp
May 2007 Employee of the
Month***

Since 1996, Tabatha has been serving as one of our Hydrometeorological Technicians. She spearheads our Cooperative Observer program, training and recruiting observers, and maintaining observation equipment. Tabatha spends a lot of time traveling across the Oklahoma and Texas Panhandles, ensuring a quality observational network. When off-duty, she enjoys spending time with her family and her pets. Her hobbies include riding horses, particularly her Palomino Quarter horse, and cross-stitching.

***Mike Johnson
June 2007 Employee of the Month***

Mike is our newest Journeyman Forecaster and has been with WFO Amarillo since 2006. Before joining our office, he served at WFO Corpus Christi for 3 years first as a Meteorologist Intern then as a Journeyman Forecaster. Aside from the weather watch, Mike leads the Smart Tool development for our gridded forecasting, is a co-leader in the NOAA Weather Radio programming, and assists in the website maintenance. He graduated from the University of Oklahoma, where he earned a Bachelor of Science in Meteorology with a minor in Mathematics. This Sooner native enjoys spending time with this family, plays golf and actively follows Oklahoma Sooner football.

In YOUR Community...

The National Weather Service in Amarillo has participated in numerous outreach events since our last *Dryline* was issued in May 2007. We would love to participate in an event ***In YOUR Community!!*** To schedule the NWS in your next community event, please email Steve Drillette at steve.drillette@noaa.gov, or call him at 806-335-1121.

May 2	Top of Texas Career Day Canyon, TX	Thousands of high school sophomores descended on WTAMU for the Top of Texas Career Day. NWS Amarillo participated in the annual event.
May 4	Mesa Verde Elementary Amarillo, TX	NWS Amarillo participated in career day activities for 5 th graders at a local elementary school.
May 5	Botanical Gardens Amarillo, TX	Senior Forecaster Ken Schneider staffed a booth at the annual Gardenfest celebration.
May 8	Business Connection 07 Amarillo, TX	NWS Amarillo staffed a booth as part of the Amarillo Chamber of Commerce Business Connection at the Amarillo Civic Center. Thousands attended the event.
May 10	Sheppard's Crook Nursing Agency Pampa, TX	WCM Steve Drillette provided a severe weather safety presentation to the staff of a "mobile" nursing agency stationed in Pampa.
May 11	United Supermarket Amarillo, TX	HMT Steve Bilodeau teamed up with TV Meteorologists from KVII to program weather radios.
May 14	Tascosa High School Amarillo, TX	Forecaster JJ Brost conducted two weather presentations to science classes at a local high school.
May 15	First Baptist Church Amarillo, TX	WCM Steve Drillette provided a severe weather safety presentation to the office and volunteer staff.
May 16	Vega Elementary Tour Amarillo, TX	Vega Elementary 3 rd and 4 th grades toured the NWS Forecast Office.
May 16	South Georgia Elementary Amarillo, TX	Forecaster Lance Goehring conducted a severe weather safety program for a local elementary school.
May 17	Health Fair Borger, TX	HMT Steve Bilodeau staffed a booth at a local health fair.
May 18	Caprock High School Amarillo, TX	IT Scott Plischke and HMT Steve Bilodeau participated in the Caprock Cluster Elementary Science Fair. 1600 students attended the event.
May 18	Rogers Elementary Amarillo, TX	WCM Steve Drillette participated in career day activities at a local elementary school.
May 21	Lake Meredith Fritch, TX	SOO Rich Wynne and HMT Steve Bilodeau participated in Water Safety Day for area 3 rd grade students at Lake Meredith.

May 24	Highland Park Elem. Amarillo, TX	NWS representatives Steve Drillette, Steve Bilodeau, & JJ Brost presented the Kids' Weather Hour raffle winner a bike as part of the school's award ceremony.
June 1	HOBV Conference WTAMU Canyon, TX	WCM Steve Drillette participated in the Hugh O'Brien (HOBV) Youth Leadership conference. 50 area high school sophomores attended the event.
June 5	Science Teacher Tour Amarillo, TX	ITO Scott Plischke led a tour for 26 area high school science teachers at the NWS Forecast Office.
June 14	M.K. Brown Scout Ranch, Mobeetie, TX	Senior Forecaster Roland Nuñez taught the Weather Merit Badge to Boy Scout campers.
June 16	Pampa Business Expo, Pampa, TX	NWS representatives Steve Drillette, Mike Johnson and Tabatha Tripp hosted a booth at the Pampa Business Expo.
June 17- 21	Camp Don Harrington, Amarillo, TX	Senior Forecaster Roland Nuñez participated in the National Youth Leadership Training course.
June 19	NWR Dedication Ceremony, Guymon, OK	MIC José Garcia & WCM Steve Drillette conducted a NWR Dedication Ceremony for the newly installed Guymon Transmitter.
June 21	M.K. Brown Scout Ranch, Mobeetie, TX	SOO Rich Wynne taught the Weather Merit Badge to Boy Scout campers.

2006-2007 Kids' Weather Hour Bicycle Winners

Fourteen elementary schools, 20 teachers and 482 students participated in this year's Kids' Weather Hour. All participants were automatically entered into a drawing for a free bicycle, which was donated by the Wal-Mart Superstore, located on Canyon Drive in Amarillo. At the end of the year, one girl and one boy were selected to win. In addition, each school received a free NOAA Weather Radio courtesy of BWXT Pantex.



Fourth grade student Sarah G., from Hinger-Reeves Elementary in Canyon, TX, receives her bicycle. Her teacher is Ms. Linda Herde.



Steve Bilodeau (left), WCM Steve Drillette (center) and J.J. Brost present a bicycle to fifth grade student Matt B. from Highland Park Elementary. His teacher is Mrs. Jamie Rydberg.

Pampa Business Expo



Martha Drillette, spouse of WCM Steve Drillette, helped staff the NWS Amarillo booth at the 2007 Pampa Business Expo. Outreach is a family commitment!

Amarillo Business Connection



WCM Steve Drillette test drives Segway at the Amarillo Business Connection. A future chase vehicle?

Join Us at the Appreciation Picnic and Blood Drive!

**Saturday, 11 August 2007
11:00 AM – 2:00 PM
at the National Weather
Service Amarillo Office**

Please join us for free food, beverages, and door prizes to be provided for NWS Amarillo Storm Spotters, Cooperative Observers and other valued partners and volunteers. Families are welcome to join us!



Coffee Memorial Bloodmobile will be on site for those eligible and willing to donate blood. All blood donors will receive a FREE pet tornado and a free T-shirt.

RSVP to Steve Bilodeau or Steve Drillette at (806) 335-1121. For more information, visit us at www.srh.noaa.gov/ama.

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