

Flood Waters Spill Into Mountain View After 5-Inch Deluge

5-Inch Deluge Sends Flood Water Into Mountain View

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niles per hour blasted through a rural area west of Blackwell as the storm passed.

Enid was hit by winds of 54 miles per hour accompanied by pounding rain. Power was knocked out at Vance Air Force Base and in west Enid, killing the radar at the base which was being used to help track the storm.

Trees were uprooted in Enid and other damage was inflicted. The heavy rain flooded U. S. 81 in places north of the city and water was reported over U. S. 64 between Jet and Nash. Some county roads were washed out and bridges carried away by the roaring flood of water from the storm.

Tornado reports came in almost as big a flood as the rain as the line of thunderstorms stretching the length of the state from north to south moved eastward from a turbulent beginning around Strong City near the western edge of the state in Roger Mills County.

Twisters were reported sighted near Strong City, ~~Wagon~~ Seiling, Fairview, Okarche, Union City, Binger, Eakley and numerous other places. There were no reports of damage but residents of the areas were sent scurrying for storm shelters as tornado warning sirens sent out their shrill warnings. The warning signal also was sounded at Blackwell which has suffered some of the state's worst death tolls and damage from tornadoes in the past.

Highway patrol units were sent to Binger and Eakley in Caddo County after reports were received that tornadoes had hit. Under Sheriff T. L. Stuart reported in Anadarko at midnight that he had contacted officials in both towns and confirmed they had not been hit by tornadoes. He said both had been drenched with heavy rain, however, and some damage was expected.

The highway patrol office

at Lawton said its unit could not reach Eakley because roads were blocked by up to eight feet of water. Both Binger and Eakley were still without power or outside telephone service.

The Chickasha Agricultural Research Station reported all creeks and low areas flooded around Gracemont, located south of Binger. Four inches of hard rain had fallen and it was still raining.

Hydro to the north had more than 7 inches of rain and large hail. Three inches of the rain fell in an hour and a half between 9 and 10:30 p.m. and was continuing. Hail also was reported at Buffalo and some other places.

The Tulsa area was alerted for flash flooding in low places and underpasses as the storm front moved through, dumping heavy rain. Oilton and Drumright to the east of Tulsa reported some damage from winds up to 50 miles an hour and driving rain.

Some rain also fell Monday on the already-drenched southwestern part of the state. U. S. 283 was closed at the Red River crossing to Vernon, Texas, 14 miles south of Altus. Water was reported backed up two miles as the river flooded the area. U. S. 62 had the southbound lane heavily damaged for more than 200 yards by flooding 2½ miles

west of Altus and was open only to one-way traffic. Up to 10 inches of rain had fallen in some parts of Jackson County since Saturday.

The severe thunderstorms moved across while much of the state was under a tornado alert. Virtually every section of Oklahoma felt some effects of the storms. The activity was moving north-eastward early Tuesday with continuing heavy rain.

Thunderstorms are forecast for 60 percent of the central and eastern portions of the state again Tuesday. The same forecast was issued for the Oklahoma City area.

Oklahoma City had a high of 82 Monday and 83 was predicted for Tuesday after an overnight low of 63.

Rains in Oklahoma City were sporadic. At Lake Hefner 2.15 inches fell and winds were clocked at 60 mph. The lake ranger reported many boats filled with water and said many would sink if they did not get attention.

WKY-TV received 1.42 and 1.15 fell at Lake Overholser. The north sewage disposal plant reported .31 and the Pennsylvania Ave. filtration plant got .17.

A trace fell at Tinker Air Force Base while the weather bureau at Will Rogers World Airport measured only a trace and reported winds gusting to 45 mph. There were no reports of damage.

River Forces Some Families Out of Homes

Violent Storms Isolate Towns, Close Highways

Serious flooding was reported early Tuesday at Carnegie as the Washita River went out of its banks and a warning was issued for evacuation of low lands in the Carnegie, Fort Cobb and Anadarko areas.

By Shorty Shelburne Of the State Staff

The most violent thunderstorms of the pre-autumn season ripped areas of Oklahoma Monday night, leaving at least one town flooded and reports of a twister knocking down utility lines that isolated two more. Widespread damage also was reported in other areas from wind, driving rain and lightning.

The Washita River flooded the northern part of Mountain View in Kiowa County after 5 inches of rain fell in a downpour. The Oklahoma Highway Patrol reported several families were being evacuated from the flooded area as the river continued to rise at midnight.

Highway Closed

The highway patrol reported a number of main highways, including U. S. 66, closed due to flooding early Tuesday at some points. U. S. 66 was closed to westbound traffic out of El Reno and to eastbound traffic from Weatherford.

U. S. 81 was closed to the north of El Reno and to all southbound traffic out of Kingfisher. Traffic was being re-routed on S. H. to Guthrie.

The Sugar Creek bridge washed out on U. S. 281 north of Binger, closing the highway indefinitely.

Flash flood warnings were issued for Kingfisher and Logan Counties after unofficial reports of up to 8 inches of rain. Municipal authorities at Kingfisher and Guthrie were alerted for flooding along the lower Cimarron River.

City Soaked Again

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Mountain View, Carnegie, Binger and Eakley were without power or outside telephone communications. A lineman for Public Service Company said several main poles had been smashed to the ground four miles east of Gotebo by what appeared to be a twister.

The poles fell across utility lines, downing a 66,000-volt power cable of the Western Farmer's Electric Cooperative.

Highways Blocked

The high voltage hot line blocked highway patrol units and others seeking to enter Mountain View to give aid after City Marshal E. O. Peters reported by police radio the town was flooding. The lines later were cleared to let the units through.

The city marshal told the Kiowa County sheriff's office water was running two feet deep in the streets of Mountain View after the torrential rain and that his own home was about to flood.

Lightning struck several oil tanks and set them on fire near Blackwell across the state to the north. Winds reported unofficially at 90

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Heavy Rains Flood Wide Area Of City

By BILL STEWART

Flooding streams cut high-
way travel in several areas
of Oklahoma Tuesday morn-
ing, wiping out at least one
bridge.

The U. S. Weather Bureau
issued flash flood warnings
for Logan and Kingfisher
counties after a heavy
thunderstorm, barely brush-
ing Oklahoma County,
dumped as much as eight
inches of rain in the Lower
Cimarron watershed.

Two men were killed in a
collision with a city truck
during heavy rain. Their car
slammed into a city street
department truck which was
on its way to MacArthur Road
and Britton Road to place
some barricades. One of the
three city employees was in-
jured.

Kingfisher and Guthrie of-
ficials were warned to ex-

pect major overflows
during Tuesday and early
Wednesday.

Highway Patrol officers re-
ported that U. S. 81 was out
north of El Reno and at King-
fisher, U. S. 66 was closed
west of El Reno and US 281
north of Binger was closed
after the Sugar Creek bridge
was washed away.

Communities adjacent to
streams in Kingfisher and
Logan counties were alerted

to expect flooding of low-lying
areas and agricultural areas.

The first storm, which
knocked out power to down-
town Edmond, skirted
through the northwest part
of Oklahoma City, teasing
Midwest City areas with only
a trace until the second storm
hit.

A number of tornadoes
were spotted aloft by Civil
Defense teams in the Pied-
mont area moving toward
Edmond but failed to touch
down.

Towns from Chickasha to
El Reno to Stillwater and Tul-
sa reported heavy rains from
the slow moving clouds.
Sugar Creek, which washed
out the bridge north of
Binger, was swollen by rains
of over four inches in many
areas.

The rains came on the
heels of Sunday night's rains
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Twisters

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which dumped as much as
nine inches of water in Kiowa,
Jackson and Greer Counties.

As a second storm moved
across Oklahoma City Tues-
day morning police battled a
new wave of flooding and
stalled cars. One section of
NE 23 was flooded so badly
that officers called for
special barricades, to keep
unsuspecting motorists from
joining drivers already
stranded in the high water.

In downtown Oklahoma City
water topped the curbs and
entered furniture stores on
Reno.

Several homes in the
Rolling Wood Addition were
reported flooded twice. W.
Ray Newman, 4704 NW 62
Terrace, said his home
flooded twice before the mid-
night storm. Water was re-
ported over a foot deep in
the home and several other
homes in the area also were
flooded.

The second storm to cross
the city killed all power at
the Weather Bureau at Will
Rogers World Airport at 1:15
a.m.

A water department
spokesman in Edmond esti-
mated rainfall as 2½ to 3
inches during the brief
storm. A fireman blamed
the water for a power
failure that left much of Ed-
mond's Main Street dark.

FILE: FLOOD
LOGAN COUNTY
KINGFISHER COUNTY
OKLAHOMA COUNTY
CADDO COUNTY