

Highlights

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- Local Weather Uncooperative - Electra Heads North
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The Daily Plan-it

*The TexAQs 2000
Field Study Newsletter
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Local Showers Today Dampen Nearby Flight Plans

("(D)ouble, double toil and trouble; Fire burn and cauldron bubble. **MacBeth**). All this suggests that our forecast should be twice as good today as yesterday when only two forecasters were present.

For those of you that think hurricane intervention is an unusual occurrence, you might want to consider that on this date in 1998, the remains of Tropical Storm Charley dumped over 17 inches of rain on Del Rio, Texas - by far the largest one day total rainfall record for the city.

Important Phone Numbers

- The NOAA/NCAR Electra message phone number is 281 929-1134.
- The Aldine Monitoring Station voice phone number is 281 227-6115.

TNRCC Web Site to Go Down

NOTICE: The TNRCC Web site, including the **Monitoring Operations** pages, will be down August 26 and 27, and will not be back up until sometime during the day, August 28.

We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause. Please contact our Call Center at 512 239-0911 if you have questions.

Weather Wizardry

Four meteorological forecasters were in attendance this morning (Stephanie, Karl, John, and Dick). I notice that they tend to congregate for support during unsettled conditions and shake their heads and frown in unison as mendicant witches peering into the meteorological miasma



Today there will be isolated thundershowers developing over the Gulf and moving across the coast in a southeast to northwest direction. The winds aloft are weaker and more southerly than yesterday. While the chance of more thunderstorms remains through tomorrow morning, there should be a general drying trend through the weekend and a return to conditions more conducive to the production and accumulation of secondary air pollution. Beyond that, we'll have to wait and see where tropical storm/hurricane Debby goes.

this morning to tip-toe through the showers on their way north. The estimated 5 to 6 hour flight should remain in the mixed layer at levels of 2000, 3500, and 5000 feet above the ground.

The Electra will not fly tomorrow in deference to the media day event.

G-1 N701BN

The G-1 is not flying today and will not fly tomorrow in order to participate in media day.

Electra N308D

Today's Electra flight plans call for a urban characterization study over the Dallas-Fort Worth area. According to the forecast models, the urban plume should move northwest of the city. The Electra lifted off at approximately 11:30

DC-3 N56KS

The DC-3 is not flying today and will not fly tomorrow in order to participate in media day.

Twin Otter N153BU

The Twin Otter is not flying today and will not fly tomorrow in order to participate in media day.

However, we do have some interesting data plots on page three which cover a high ozone day - Monday, August 21st. The first figure, depicts the 10:00 AM flight measures fairly uniform levels of ozone (20 to 30 ppb) near the surface - below 1000 feet - over both bay and land. The second figure depicts the ozone data from the 3:00 PM flight where ozone levels have increased everywhere but particularly over downtown and the western portion of the ship channel where a maximum short-term ozone concentrations above 200 ppbv were observed. The Aldine, Houston Regional Office and Crawford sites recorded hourly averages in excess of 150 ppbv in the early afternoon.

Media Day Tomorrow



Commissioner Ralph Marquez, TNRCC

Texas Natural Resource
Conservation Commissioner

(TNRCC) Ralph Marquez will be joined by Houston Mayor Lee Brown, Harris County Judge Robert Eckels, EPA Region 6 Administrator Gregg Cooke and other officials Thursday to officially kickoff the Texas 2000 Air Quality Study, the most extensive study of air quality ever conducted in Texas.

The official kickoff will be at 2:00 PM on Thursday, August 24th, at Hangar 594 at Ellington Field, 12000 Aerospace Avenue in Houston. The media should come to Southwest Services, Building 493, to gain admittance to the hangar.

The study, which will cost as much as \$20 million, is a comprehensive research project designed to shed new light on the complicated issues associated with air quality in the Houston-Galveston area and throughout East Texas.

Six research aircraft are being used in the study. Several of these aircraft will be on display during the press conference.

Upcoming Events

Aerosol Group Meeting - Tuesday at 2:00 PM (29th Meeting at Place to be determined)

LaPorte Team Meeting - Every Tuesday at 3:00 PM (29th Meeting at Place to be determined)

Media Day - Thursday, **August 24th** - 2:00 PM (Ellington, Southwest Services)

TNRCC/EPA Region 6 Data Analysis Meeting Tuesday, **August 29th** - 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM (Ellington, CapRock Conference Room)

VIP Day - Wednesday, **August 30th** (Ellington, Southwest Services)

Restaurant Review - Perry's Meat Market

By Jenni Sweet - Two words: Casual Carnivore! Perry's Meat Market, located at 12830 Scarsdale, is a sure-fire perfect choice for a laid-back, relaxing, and most important, full-FILL-ing meal.

The menu is fairly broad; just about everything you would expect from a Bar-be-que "joint:" ribs, sandwiches, steak, even some seafood. The best part, the meat is pulled right from the meat counter in front of you. The wait staff (I mean the one waiter) was just as friendly as he could be and the ambiance, well, imagine red checkered plastic tablecloths and a roll of paper towels right on the table (which you WILL use, I might add). Although I didn't order it (I went with the chopped beef sandwich and onion rings-Yummie!), let me suggest their signature pork entree; it looked AMAZING! One word of caution: it is a small place, so it might be difficult to seat a group larger than six!

Overall, I reckon' I'll give it two Texas "Ya-HOO's"!

Thought for the Day

"Grant that I may be given appropriate difficulties and sufferings on this journey so that my heart may be truly awakened and my practice of liberation and universal compassion may be truly fulfilled."

-Tibetan Buddhist Prayer

"Never argue with an idiot, they drag you down to their level then beat you with experience."

-Dilbert's Words of Wisdom

