ALTA TORNADOES 1988

APR 29 HAY LAKES

APR 30 BLACKFALDS

MAY 29 CARMANGAY

JUNE 4 [illegible], MILK RIVER

JUNE 5 CAYLEY, ALDERSYDE, GLADYS RIDGE
LANGDON, E of DIDSBURY, S of OLDS
DUHAMEL, W of CAMROSE, ARMENA
BITTERN LAKE NEW NORWAY
HILLIARD, WILLINGDON, VILNA

JUNE 6 WIND PROVOST, HAYTER

JUNE 27 STONY PLAIN

JUNE 28 BLOOD RESERVE, RAYMOND, TABER

JULY 3 N of RIMBEY, CALMAR, W of EDM.

JULY 5 RAYMOND & MAGRATH

Tornado

JUNE 4 1988 1920 MDT

Milk River

2 Observed a SW to N while driving N on Hwy 4 between Milk River and Warner Estimate to be near the junction of the N and S branches of the Milk River TWP 2 Rge 18 W4

Cloud on South side of tube shaped like hamburger bun with float bottom. ~~Rope like~~ col Thin rope like column extended from cloud base to ground.

Observer George ~~H~~ Harker, Edmonton

Ph 427-7178

Photo taken. Phone again in fall to see if it turned out.

TORNADO N of RIMBEY
LATE NIGHT JULY 2/88

MEDICINE LAKE GRAZING
RESERVE ~ 5 miles W of WINFIELD
+ 3 miles south (to end of road
which leads into HQ of reserve)
Area struck thought to be
west of HQ — strip of crop
damage - funnel seen
reported by RCMP

From Bruce

July 11/88

Mini tornado rips Athabasca farm

An Athabasca-area woman woke to find a tornado destroying her farm Thursday.

Brenda Nalesnik, 30, heard a noise outside her Perryville home, went downstairs and looked out the kitchen window, and saw a small tornado ripping across her farm.

"I was just amazed, I just stood there and watched," Nalesnik said.

She said the tornado flattened two granaries, destroyed a horse trailer and then ripped away half the house roof.

"It just took everything up into the sky and it all disappeared,"

Mosquito clouds loom on horizon

The bane of the backyard barbe-

To be effective, 10 days of combined air and ground spraying are-

APRIL 29

TORNADO

APRIL 29 1988

REPORTED BY CAMERON HAGE

WHILE DRIVING NORTH ON HIGHWAY 21 BETWEEN ARMENA AND HAY LAKES

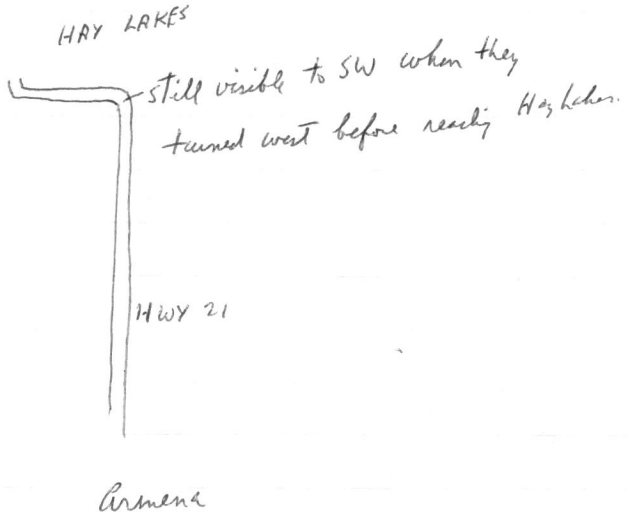
APPROX 3 PM

SNAKELIKE COLUMN FROM CLOUD BASE TO GROUND. IMPRESSIVE BUSH OR DUST WHIRL IN FIELD

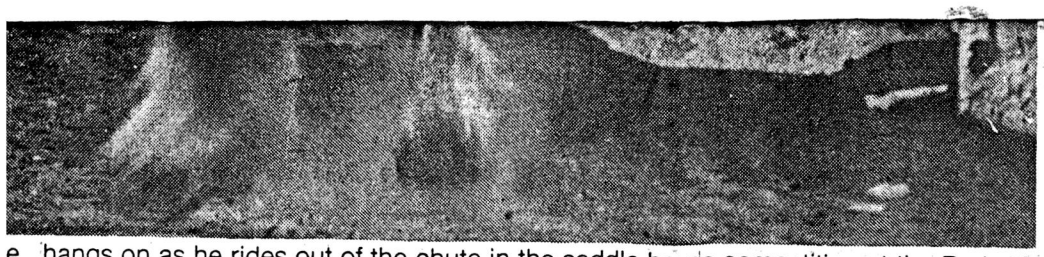
ESTIMATED 1-2 km to SW

DISSIPATED in 1-2 min after first seeing it

Assoc with band of Cu, Cb.? which came across Edm region fm SW in mid afternoon.



RED DEER ADVOCATE MON. MAY 2 1988 APRIL 30 1988



e., hangs on as he rides out of the chute in the saddle bronc competition at the Red on was fast and furious at the rodeo, held at the Westerner Altaplex. *For complete*

Photo by JERRY GERLING

Browning ho as skater of y

By IAN McKINNON
of The Advocate

Will success spoil Kurt Browning?

"Time will tell but I don't think so. I love what I'm doing and I'm being successful. Why should I change?" said the 21-year-old figure skater from Caroline.



KURT BROWNING

The potential men's world figure skating champion was in Red Deer Saturday night to be honored as skater of the year by the Alberta section of the Canadian Figure Skating Association.

He was presented with a special pin, a gold skate blade containing four diamonds and the words Budapest 88.

The pin commemorates Mr. Browning becoming the first person to successfully land a quadruple jump in competition, which he did in March at the world championships in Hungary.

Michael Jiranek, his coach of eight years, said the record-setting event has changed his student — for the better.

"I don't think it has changed his personality, but I can see he is much more confident about himself.

"The more successful he is, the easier it is to coach him. I think it goes hand-in-hand with his confidence. He is more confident and is more willing to listen," Mr. Jiranek said.

There is no arrogance or pretension about Mr. Browning. He willingly signed autographs, accepted co ted with who wan be champ

Mr. B chance to courage y

"I rer Barry Fr and the ti was reall it's a cha remembe meant to

Finishi gary Olyr world cha Mr. Brow famous. media and to handle.

"It's not a responsi responsibi driver res dren's live sible for s the slight

Retirem and Brian male skate ing Mr. B world char

Mr. Bro with press tions is h sport.

"It's par makes the and . . . ve ing. I love much that way to deal use it in a p

Just bac tour and American was glad to

After a serious tra

Two held for murder

LETHBRIDGE (CP) — Two men have been charged with the murder of a Blood Indian near Lethbridge in Southern Alberta.

Darcy Lee Watmough, 20, of Fort Macleod and Albert David Morin, 24, of Lethbridge were charged in connection with the death of Bernard Tallman Jr., 23, Lethbridge RCMP said.

Watmough and Morin are being held in custody and will appear in Lethbridge provincial court today.

Tallman's body was found in a ditch beside a rural road 10 km southeast of Lethbridge on March 31.

Band officials have complained about how police have handled investigations of recent deaths, and requested an independent inquiry.

Dust devil gives a lift

By IAN McKINNON
of The Advocate

BLACKFALDS — A fundraising effort by Grade 6 students in Blackfalds received an unexpected lift Saturday.

A dust devil threw a scare into about 15 adults and students holding a rummage sale on Westview Crescent to raise money for a class camping trip.

Shortly after noon, the whirlwind picked up a truck canopy, tossed it five metres into the air then dropped it a short distance away from the students.

"It was a little bit windy all day. I guess it was just after noon when we saw the cone and it lifted a topper into the air," said teacher Trish Starchuk.

"It wasn't big, maybe seven to 10 feet (two to three metres) tall, and it was very vague. It wasn't a big and distinct one like the tornado in Edmonton but it was the same thing."

Al Wallace, an Edmonton-based expert on severe weather, said dust devils are caused by the ground becoming very hot and the heat rising into the atmosphere.

Usually just swirling sand or dust, Mr. Wallace said dust devils can be strong but are rarely as powerful as a tornado.

"Although they are both rotating winds, it's the strength of the thunderstorm that gives the tornado its destructive power," he said.

When the excitement was over, the rummage sale continued and raised $170 for the camping trip.

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gain/1C

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t was 14-year- Rocky Moun- dn't train and re legs after

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finish. I was quer it," said sher. -old brother 21st. He was ffort. rk because I was a lot of the flushed

OSPHERE 2A

bec Liberals open new wound for T

nadian Press

John Turner was d again Sunday, just l CBC-TV that he re- mp him last week be- ls and supports him.

ecutive members of wing refused to pass a lesigned to end inter- out Turner's leader-

Local Liberals concerned/1B

resolution, 10 against it and one abstaining.

The vote came shortly after Turner told the network he is the linchpin that is holding the party together on the divisive issues of free trade and the Meech Lake constitutional amendment.

had a duty to stay for the party to fulfil the mandate that Liberals everywhere gave me."

Turner, under criticism since his party was whomped at the polls by the Conservatives in September 1984, faced the worst crisis of his political career last week when 22 Liberal MPs signed letters asking him to quit.

He says the storm now is over. And

The dissident M ished, nor will pa Robert, said Turne some MPs were ma named party membe

Robert attended t but said he did not bate or the vote on tion.

After rejecting th the Quebec executi

RED DEER
ADVOCATE
MON MAY 2 1988

VULCAN ADVOCATE
WED. JUNE 8, 1988
p. 1 MAY 29



TOTALED. This is all that remains of the Anderson's quonset west of Carmangay after a severe wind storm Sunday the 29th. Mrs. Lisa Anderson, pictured above, said it was the worst storm she's ever seen. Besides flattening their quonset, the wind and hail storm also broke windows on the Anderson's chicken coop, made holes in their window panes on the house, broke tree branches, ruined bedding out plants, lifted shingles and moved a grainery.

Lake McGregor

Race meet to ru this weekend

VULCAN ADVOCATE
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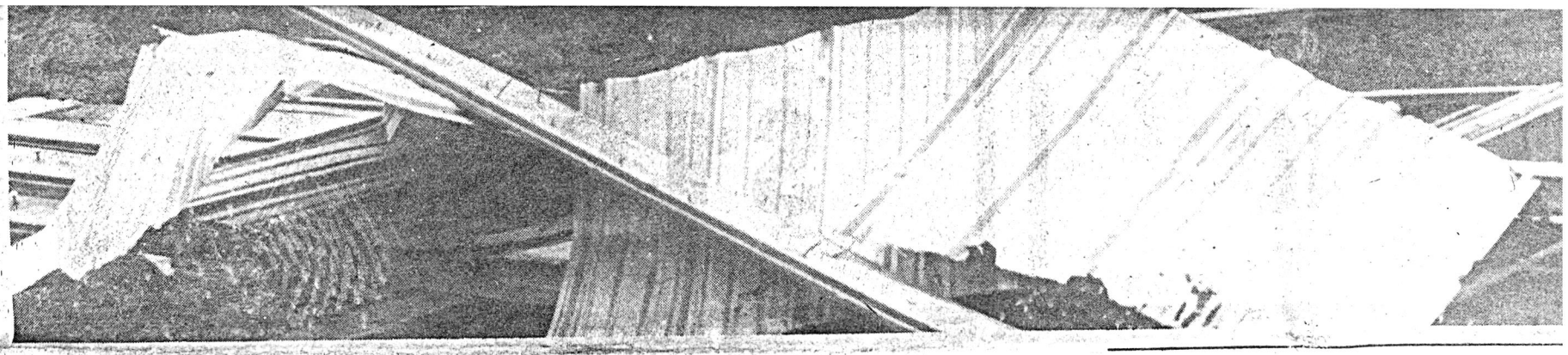
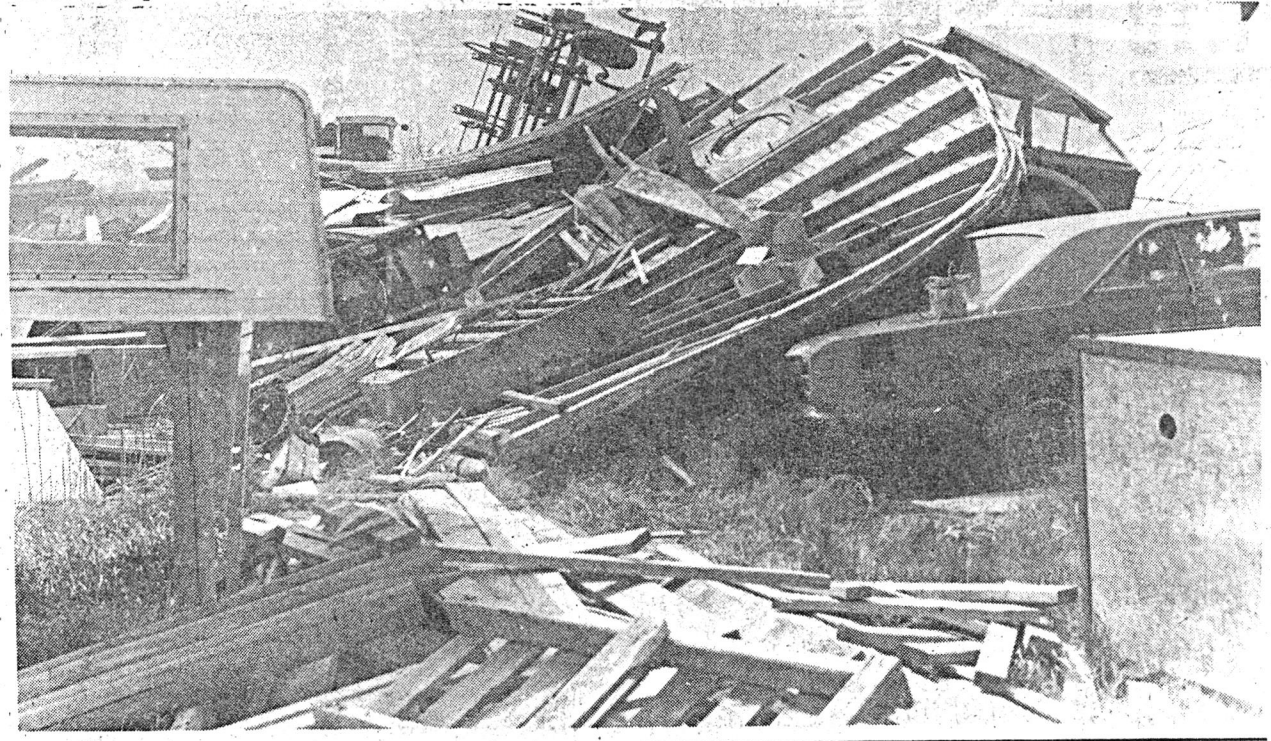
VULCAN ADVOCATE WED. JUNE 8 1988 p.1

MAY 29





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75th getting closer . . . . .

The weeks are running down for the committee working on 75th anniversary preparations for Vulcan. The party is set for Friday, Saturday and Sunday, July 1, 2, and 3 and it's going to be a busy and varied program.

One highlight will be the Friday - not Saturday - parade that will have a changed route to try to accommodate hospital and nursing home patients. As in past years it will form up at Hazel Cameron Elementary School at 9:30 a.m. leaving at 10:30 a.m. but will depart down Elizabeth Street past the arena turning left on 2nd Avenue and past the Extendicare Nursing Home. It will continue downtown past the Post Office and at the main intersection will turn left up to the swimming pool corner at 5th Avenue where it will turn right a block and wind up going by the Peter Dawson Lodge and then back to the

Lake McGregor

Race meet this weeke

(by Louise Karl)

Hundreds of people from in and around the County will be heading out to the Milo area this weekend for the 34th annual Lake McGregor Race Meet.

The meet will kick off Saturday, June 11 with a parade at 11 a.m. Parade participants should assemble at 9:30 a.m. and judging will take place at 10 a.m. in the following categories: best entry, agricultural section, fraternal and service club section, commercial section, children's novelty, comic section, western mounted section, open glamour, best children's pet, best decorated automobile, best antique automobile and the old timers section. Once again parade marshal for this year will be William Deitz.

The parade will be followed at noon by the Milo Lions foot races and the open gymkhana events will then begin at 1 p.m. Participants in the gymkhana will compete in the stake race, junior stake race, cowgirls' barrel race, children's keg race, junior pole bending and pole bending races, 100 yard boys' race, 100 yard girls' race, one-quarter mile Indian race and the open barrel race events.

Ten pari-mutuel races will be run daily with post time set for 1:30 p.m. All race inquiries should be

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P1 cont'd

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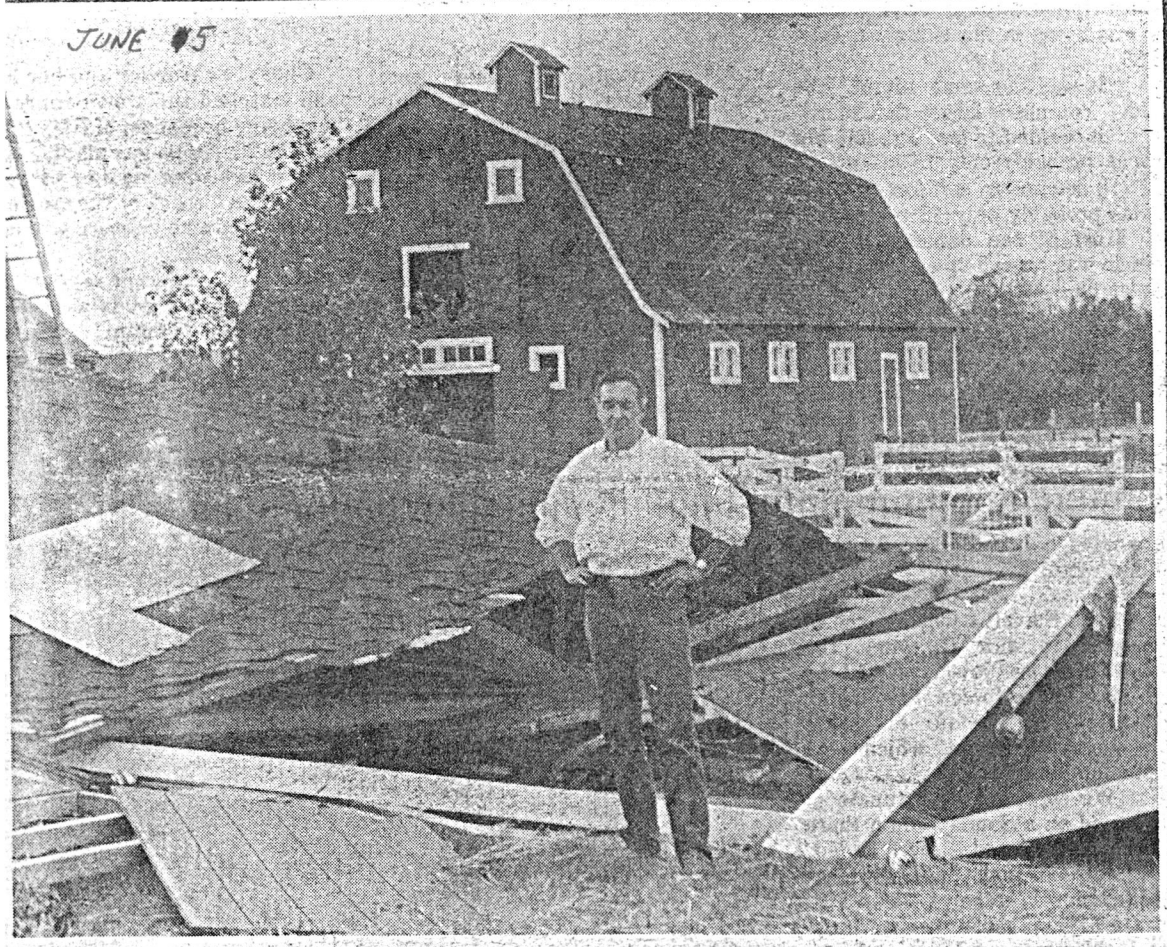
JUNE #5



Bob Hoover inspects the damage at his farm on Gladys Ridge. Photo by Tammy Meadows.

Storm tears through town

By Frank McTighe

A wind storm with gusts of more than 100 km/h whipped through the High River district early Sunday morning leaving a trail of destruction in its wake.

The storm knocked down three TransAlta electrical towers north of town, leaving half the residents in High River and Nanton without power for four hours.

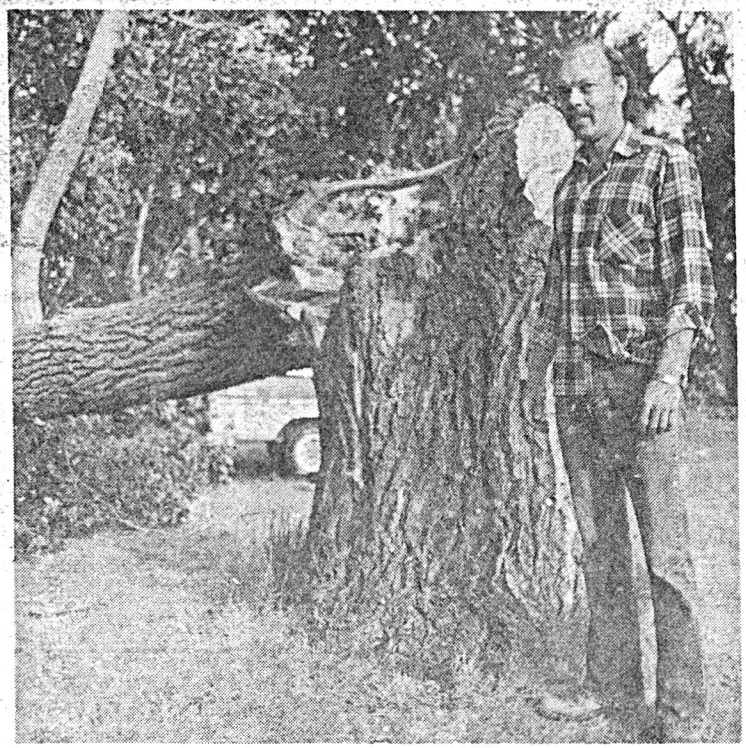
The storm is also reported to have demolished trees, ripped roofs off farm buildings and tossed grain bins and hay bales around like children's blocks.

"If it wasn't a tornado, it's as close as we ever want to come to it," said Millie Moncrieff on the family farm two miles west of Cayley.

The storm ripped through their farm yard, which is in a valley, and snapped three large trees which crashed down on her son Ray's Bronco. The vehicle was demolished.

The noise woke Ray and his family about 2:30 a.m. Sunday, and brought back memories of a tornado

Continued on Page A2



Ray Moncrieff beside the tree which destroyed his Bronco. Photo by Frank McTighe.

Ottawa's pow in trade legisl

By Doug Bailie

Provincial objections to the free trade legislation are trampling on Ottawa's power, says Bow River MP Gordon Taylor.

Taylor says the clause in the legislation which requires the provinces to conform to the free trade deal is necessary to uphold Ottawa's power.

"I think the federal government has to have the power to enter into an agreement with a foreign power," said Taylor in a telephone interview from Ottawa.

"If each province is going to act as a nation then we're in very serious trouble in Canada."

Following the introduction of the legislation two weeks ago, some premiers expressed their opposition to the clause which could interfere in areas of provincial jurisdiction, such as liquor pricing and regulation.

Even strong supporters of the free trade deal, like Premier Don Getty of Alberta and Robert Bourassa of Quebec, expressed some degree of reservation.

Premier David Peterson of Ontario, who has opposed the trade deal for some time, has threatened to challenge the constitutionality of the legislation in court.

"I don't think one premier should be able to stop free trade," Taylor says.

He says he is confident problems under free trade in specific areas, such as the grape growing industry in Ontario, could

Dry spell sig

By Doug Bailie

The current dry weather in southern Alberta isn't just an isolated event, but is part of a long term trend, according to a University of Calgary professor.

Lawrence Nkemdirim, professor of hydrology and climatology, says the greenhouse effect can be linked to the problems farmers are suffering.

The greenhouse effect refers to the gradual warming of the earth's climate, due to carbon dioxide and methane being sent into the atmosphere by humans.

Nkemdirim says that while the level of precipitation may not change, the increasing temperatures will cause more evaporation.

"Drought is going to occur

High River Times
Wed June 8/88

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JUNE 5

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Ray Moncrieff's Bronco was a target for the toppled trees.

Wind gusts knock-out electricity

Continued from Front Page

which ripped through Cayley when he was living in the village in July, 1986.

"It was the same sound," he said. "You never forget that roar."

"It seemed to last forever, but it was probably only 15 minutes.

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Most of the damage to the vehicle was caused by a 60-year-old poplar tree which snapped in half and crashed down on the truck. The Moncrieffs count themselves fortunate that the tree hit the truck and not their nearby mobile home.

Frank Dyck, assistant district manager for TransAlta, said Monday the storm not only knocked down the three towers on the Spitzee Ranch, but it also eliminated the reserve power source.

Dyck said the reserve substation at Stavely, which is programmed to kick in when the normal lines are down, was hit by lightning. That forced the TransAlta crews to reroute to power through another line, which took about four hours.

"We were very fortunate it happened on a Sunday when there wasn't a heavy load," Dyck added.

Darr Maqbool, supervisor at the Calgary Weather Office, said the storm came into Alberta around the Lethbridge and Pincher Creek area, with clouds moving at 80-90 km/h.

The storm was not termed a tornado by the Weather Office, but Maqbool said there is little point in arguing over semantics.

"With winds like that it doesn't matter whether you call it a tornado or not," said Maqbool on Monday. "Damage is damage and those winds are going to do it."

Maqbool said the area east of Calgary around Cheadl, Carsdale and Langdon was hardest hit by the storm in this area. A thunderstorm also ripped through central Alberta Sunday morning.

Elaine Bird said the roof of an 80-foot cattle barn on their farm near Aldersyde was torn off by the wind and deposited about 100 feet away.

"It had to be a twister of some sort," she said, noting there was other damage to buildings and trees.

"I heard a kind of whistling and thought it was some of the windows still open, but when I got up and closed them I could still hear the whistling," she added.

Margaret Kinzell said 36 poplar trees in a shelterbelt on their farm north of town were snapped by the wind. The wind also tore plywood sheets from the roof of the cattle feeder and shifted the grain bin.

"It felt as if we were being sucked up by a giant vacuum cleaner," she said.

Cheryl Schroeder and her husband watched the storm approach their home northeast of High River near the Mazeppa gas plant.

The lightning flashes allowed them to keep track of the storm as it approached a neighbouring farm.

"My husband kept saying 'this looks like those clouds we saw in the Edmonton pictures," Shcroeder recalled.

A tornado hit Edmonton last July, killing 71 people and injuring hundreds of others.



Grain bins were tossed around like children's blocks. Photo by Tammy Meadows.

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Election call doubtful — Taylor

High River Times
Wed June 8/88
p 2

JUNE 15

Tornado winds leave damage on Gladys Ridge

By Tammy Meadows

Gladys Ridge residents were surprised when strong winds wreaked havoc with their property early Sunday morning.

Although there had been no official tornado report from the weather office, farmers said nothing but a tornado could have caused the type of damage they experienced.

Gladys Ridge farmer Bob Hoover couldn't believe the amount of damage the storm caused in such a short period of time.

The tornado whipped a path through his farmyard four miles northwest of Gladys Hall, uprooted a 20 foot tree, demolished his garage, and hurled and twisted an empty grain bin close to a mile away leaving it flattened.

"It was about 2 a.m. when the storm woke me up and I looked outside. It was pitch black, and I couldn't see or hear anything except this terrific wind. When the sky cleared I could see through the lightning flashes something white scattered all over my lawn — then I realized it was the garage," Hoover said.

"The thing that really amazed me was that both vehicles were inside the garage at the time and I expected to see them crushed, but all they had were a few dents and scratches."

At the time Hoover said he hadn't realized it could have been a tornado.

"I was more interested than scared at the force of the wind — but I knew it was more than the wind that could pick up and throw things around like this," he added nodding to the mangled roof of his grain bin lying at his feet, "and after the wind died down there was an eerie silence and a lot of lightning."

Among the corral debris were 6 x 8 posts that were snapped in half like twigs.

Hoover mentioned that although the corrals and barn did have some damage, he was grateful his house, the old Connell homestead which he has spent several years renovating and restoring, had not been touched.

Florence Bowles, a neighbor of Hoover's said she and her family were very frightened by the winds.

"When the storm woke me up I went downstairs to shut the back door and the wind just about sucked me outside, so I grabbed the inside of the door and my husband John helped me to shut it," she said.

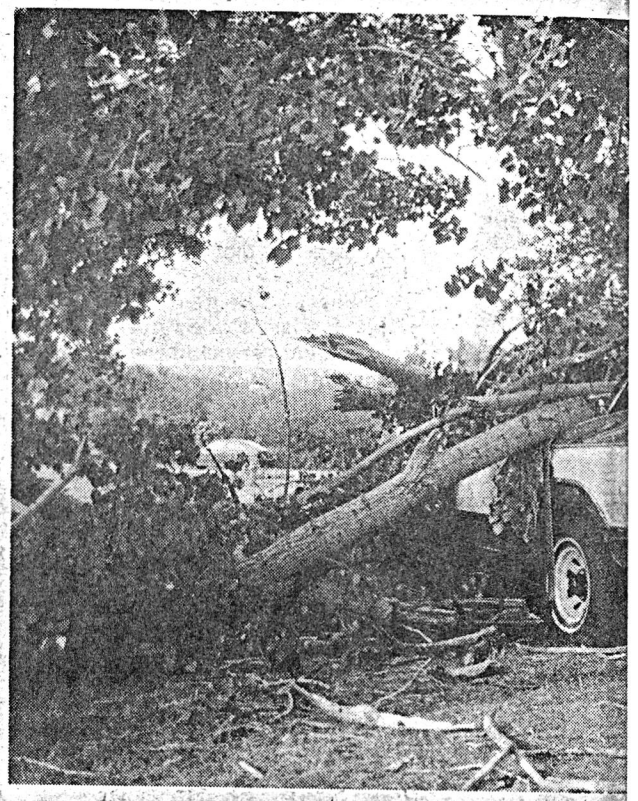
"Whatever it was," Bowles said, "it picked up the roof of the shop straight up and threw it into the horse pasture about 100 yards away."

"My son Edgar was upstairs and when he looked outside, he spotted the funnel cloud heading toward the northeast."

Bowles estimated the storm lasted approximately 15 minutes.

"The wind was really roaring here. It was so strange. It did a lot of damage to the trees, and just snapped 12-foot pine trees like toothpicks," she added. "But what was really strange was all that dead silence afterward — we're still reeling from the shock."

The district is dotted with series of damaged trees, downed fences and damaged out-buildings and grain bins.



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Wind gusts knock-o

Continued from Front Page

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Margaret Kinz
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High River Times
83rd Year, No. 23 High River, Alberta

LOOK FOR THE

Sections

Classifieds A20-27
Entertainment A16-17
Sports A9-12
Religion A19

LUCKY SLEEPER: Peter Hushley was asleep when pool was lifted by his house at Willingdon, 105 km northeast of Edmonton. Hushley was not hurt.

Storm gives city bit of a licking

By Carol Harrington and Sheldon Alberts
(Herald staff writers)

About 3,500 homes in northeast Calgary were without power for up to five hours Sunday after a thunderstorm brought wind gusts of 100 km/h.

The storm uprooted small trees and caused only slight property damage in Calgary, but brought havoc to farmyards and fields southeast of the city.

The wind uprooted 15-metre-high trees, demolished small buildings, tossed grain bins as far as one kilometre and hurled mammoth hay bales around on a farm about 12 kilometres east of Okotoks.

"I was hoping for rain, but I sure didn't want this to happen," Bob Hoover said Sunday as he scanned a pile of broken wood and a twisted piece of steel that had been a garage and grain bin on his farm until about 2 a.m. Sunday.

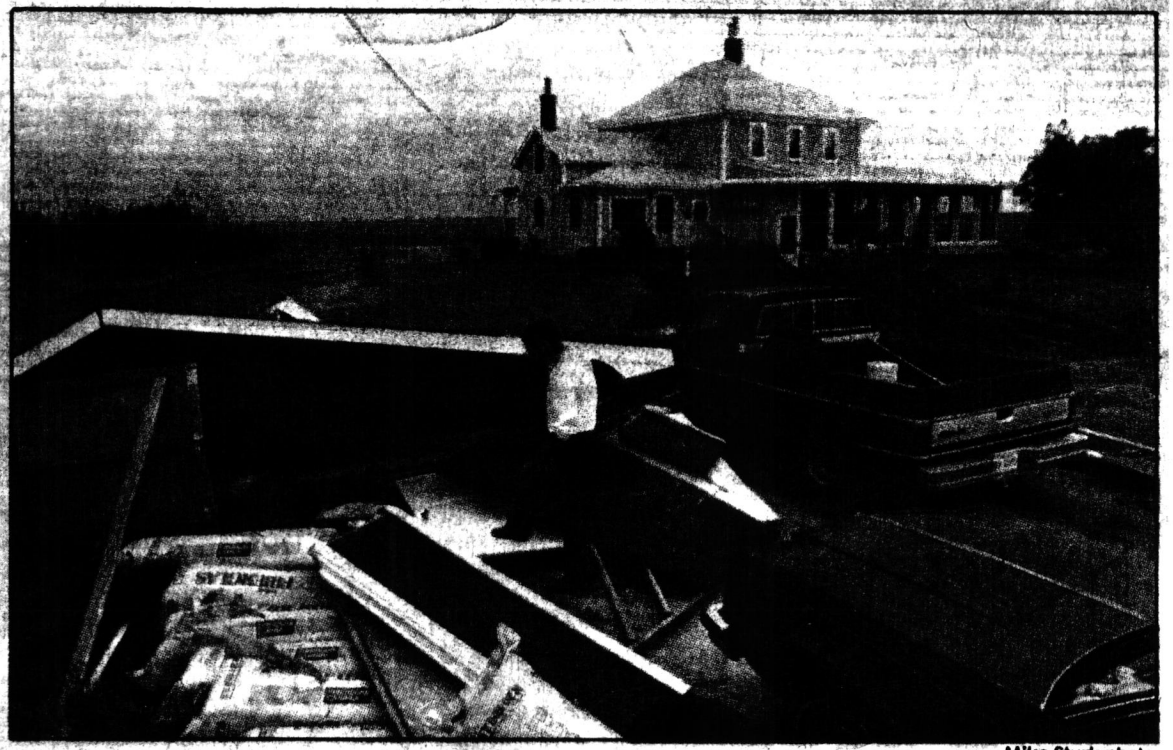
"We've had some freak weather out here before, but nothing like this," Hoover said, adding the grain bin flung a kilometre across summerfallow fields "was twisted like a pretzel."

Hoover's neighbor Edgar Bowles blamed the damage on a twister.

"The minute I saw the tunnel effect I knew it was a tornado," he said. "It had to be."

Bowles said it was lucky the

See MANY AREAS, Page A2



Mike Sturk photo

WRECKAGE: Bob Hoover's property, east of Okotoks, took a drubbing from the storm

No elevators traps seniors

By Joe Greene
(Herald staff writer)

A 12-storey apartment building in northwest Calgary — without working elevators since Thursday — has several older and handicapped residents worried about being trapped in their homes.

"People are running low on groceries," said Heather Anderson, an asthmatic tenant who has tried to help several seniors up the stairs at Holly Acres.

"I can't stand it anymore," she said Sunday.

Fran Stronach, 63, and her husband Mel, 72, were trapped in a fifth-floor stairwell Friday night when the the door leading to their floor jammed.

"We were really frightened," she said. "I



68 die in trai

MOSCOW (AP) — Three railway freight boxcars packed with 120 tonnes of explosives blew up near a train station, killing at least 68 people, injuring 230 others and throwing cars into the air like feathers, the official Soviet media reported Sunday.

The blast Saturday in Arzamas, 385 kilometres east of Moscow, carved a crater 25 metres deep and 54 metres wide and destroyed or damaged more than 400 buildings, the official news agency Tass and the government newspaper Izvestia said.

The reports, some of th detailed Soviet accounts filed so soon after an ac said some of the injuries serious. They said the ca the explosion was not know

"Hospital personnel are their best to save the life ery person," Tass reported spite the wide scope of the dy, the situation in the c mains calm."

More than 80 doctors flown to Arzamas, an ind

Captives held in Ho

CALGARY HERALD MON. JUNE 6 1988 pA1

Carly Hoy
Mon June 6 '88
P A I

ound $400. Attendants wear pink mp suits."

●

Some environmentalists now have kind word for offshore oil and gas roduction platforms, reports the Wall treet Journal. As long as they don't eak, the platforms become habitats for

ney Houston, Natalie Cole, Joe Cocker, Miriam Makeba, Hugh Masekela, Ashford and Simpson, the Fat Boys, Sly and Robbie, Gregory Hines and Chrissie Hynde.

●

Here's the line-up (so far) of Hollywood celebrities and their presidential

Dennis Weaver and Valerie Harper.

Jane Fonda will support whoever wins the Democratic nomination.

●

He got around: Baseball Hall of Famer Frank Robinson hit home runs in 33 different parks, a major league record.



Mike Sturk photo

GOOD THROW: Hoover with granary bin hurled into a field

Many areas without power

(Continued)

twister did minimal damage on his farm — only ripping the roof off a shed and flinging bales of hay into a ditch.

Four members of the Bowles family said they awoke when the wind began to howl and the house started to shake.

Pat Bowles and Charles Stenhouse were sleeping in a bus, just metres from the damaged shed.

"I thought people were rocking the bus," Stenhouse said. "It was very spooky."

The storm knocked out electrical power to several farms.

"In total we may have had 10 or 12 (power poles) down," said Matt Hawkins of TransAlta Utilities, who added that power was restored in all areas by noon.

In Calgary, the storm knocked out power in Castleridge, Martindale, Taradale and Falconridge for up to five hours. Regular service was restored by 8 a.m., said Eric Cameron, spokesman for the city's electrical department.

"We had a pile of minor problems but they were basically routine," he said.

Darr Maqbool, supervisor at the Calgary weather office, said wet and windy weather will continue until the middle of the week.

"If you've got something outside, tie it down," he said. Another 15-20 millimetres of rain is expected in some areas by midnight, he said.

The weather office received several reports of twisters south of Calgary, but Maqbool blamed strong winds for the bulk of the damage.

Little hail damage was reported in Calgary. Hailstones were as large as grapes, but were soft and quite harmless, Maqbool said.

Rainfall varied from 15 mm in Calgary and 22 mm in Red Deer to only a trace east of Strathmore.

Sunday's storm developed south of Lethbridge and gained force as it moved north.

"All we got was some loud noises," said Rick Shewchuk, information officer at the Lethbridge weather office.

Whereabouts of hosta

(Continued)

building, which flies an Iranian flag, the newspaper said.

Waite, 50, is believed to have been kidnapped, like other British, U.S., Irish and West German hostages, by radical Muslim groups.

His captors have not publicly set any conditions for his release.

Three French hostages were freed May 5, sparking accusations in London that France had struck a deal with Iran. But Paris denied making any concessions.

Both the United States and Britain say they will not negotiate with hostage-takers.

The British Foreign Office said it had no comment to make on the newspaper report.

"The situation remains that we have no concrete evidence on the hostages' circumstances or whereabouts," a spokesman said.

Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe denied Sunday that Britain has been trying to buy the release of a British hostage in Lebanon by settling a long-standing Iranian financial claim.

"Our policy on hostages is absolutely clear — no deals," Howe told a television interviewer.

A four-member Iranian delegation arrives in London on Tuesday seeking funds to restore the Iranian Embassy, which was burned out in 1980 when British commandos stormed it to rescue hostages held by opponents of Tehran's revolutionary Islamic

Herald p

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en Soviet media said people were killed after train collided with a train in southern Rus-

't say how many people

nts were never reported detail before Mikhail v came to power in the in March 1985, but ories of incidents have nore common and specifially since the Chernoear power plant accident oviet Ukraine in April

and Izvestia said a spevernment commission an investigation into 's rail accident.

are taking measures to those who suffered from ident," Izvestia quoted y Vedernikov, head of stigating commission, as

newspaper said military nd local civil defence are directing the relief A mobile hospital unit t up near the accident zvestia said.

ides Vedernikov, deputy n of the council of ministhe 14-member inquiry sion includes representaf the health ministry, poe defence ministry, the utor's office and other es.

thorough investigation is conducted into the causes explosion," Vedernikov oted as saying. "I cannot y anything about the re-

lown and would have been an emergency.

e felt trapped," said Deb.

e was also concerned for Crotteau, a wheelchair t on the third floor. Alh unable to leave his apart-Crotteau said the Rapleys l him with his laundry.

me tenants said they could contact the landlords or unable to get answers con-

CALGARY HERALD MON. JUNE 6, 1988 pA2

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Mon June 6 / 88
p A2

Wednesday June 8, 1988 Vol. 12 No. 45 Bag 9, Okotoks, Alberta T0L 1T0 SECTION I 25¢

OKOTOKS WESTERN WHEEL JUNE 5

Twister leaves trail of damage in Aldersyde

by Mel Duvall and Kathy Hebson

Aldersyde area homeowners oke Sunday morning to find heir world had been tossed round during the night in a vio- ent storm.

Trees were uprooted, roofs ere torn off buildings, trailers ere tossed about and grain bins ere carried as far away as one ilometre, as high winds and mall twisters ripped through the rea.

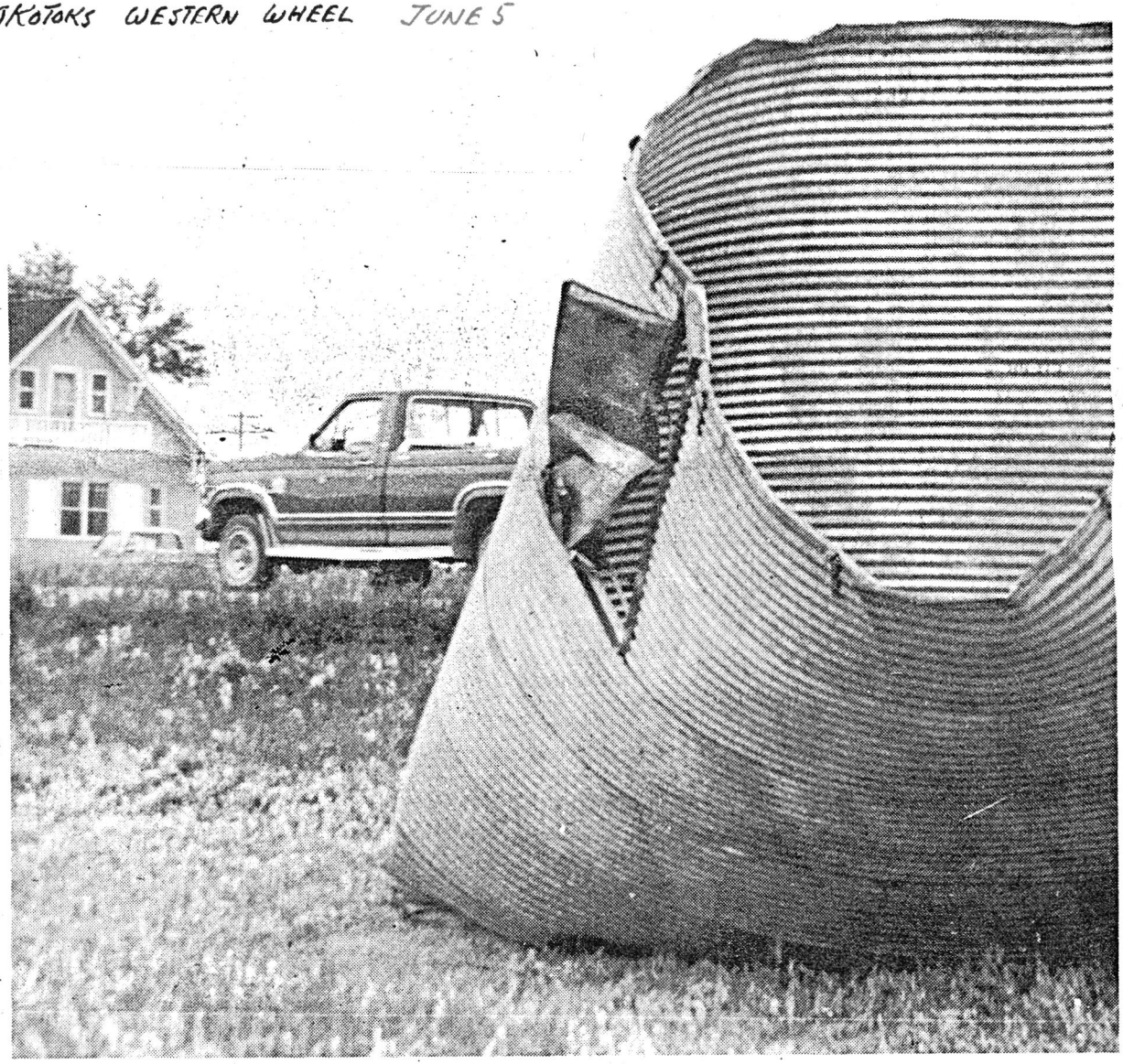
Elaine Bird said she was star- led awake at about 2:30 am by the ound of crashing hailstones out- ide her bedroom window. She hut the house's windows but could still hear a loud whistling noise.

"It was just terrible. But it didn't seem to be coming from the windows," she said. "The whistling sounded like it was right above the house."

She went back to bed thinking it was just a bad storm, but the following morning she and her husband Ernest found out just how bad a storm it was.

An entire roof which covered an 80 foot long cattle shed had been torn off, carried over a stand of trees and dumped on a road in

Continued on page 2



Small twisters and strong winds played havoc with buildings in the Aldersyde area Sunday morning. A number of grain bins were hurled across fields, including this one which ended up on Secondary Road 547, just east of the junction of Highways 2 and 2A. photo by Mel Duvall

Pre-construction work begins on Cargill plant

by Mel Duvall

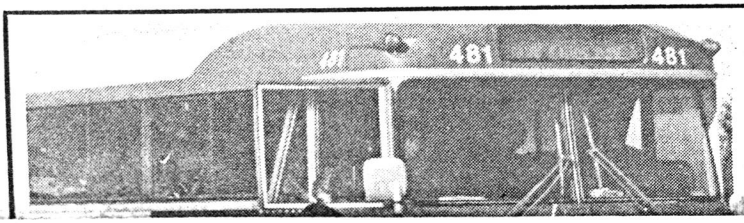
Dry clouds of dust billowed astward last week as crews egan clearing ground to start onstruction on the new Cargill eat processing plant.

In a phone interview from argill's head office in Winnipeg, pokesman Ian Gillies said Cargill ad obtained all necessary per- its to begin construction.

Crews are now preparing the land and construction will follow immediately afterwards. Gillies said construction will continue through the fall and winter and it is hoped startup will be in June of 1989.

A total of 300 person-years of employment will be created during the construction stages and once the plant begins operations,

Continued on page 2



Commuter busing further reduced

by Kathy Hebson

Pacific Western Transportation has been authorized to further reduce its commuter bus service to the Oilfields.

on such an increase until PWT has posted its intended increase for a period of 30 days.

PWT originally submitted its request to reduce

Okotoks
Western Wheel

JUNE 5

Twister leaves trail of damage in Aldersyde

Continued from front page

pieces. A support for the shed, which was cemented into the ground, was torn out and trees around their acreage were blown over.

"We really didn't know anything had happened until we looked out the following morning," Bird said.

Across the highway from her property, which is located at the corner junction of Highway 2 and 2A, a grain bin lay twisted in the ditch of Secondary Road 547. It had been carried several hundred metres to greet motorists in the morning.

Just down the highway at Mullen Trucking, 22 cars belonging to company employees were damaged by blowing debris, most with broken windows.

Kevin Mullen, son of company owner Rowland Mullen, said winds also managed to drag a large trailer 100 feet from where it was housed, then flipped it on its side.

The storm's damage didn't end that night. While Aldersyde residents were sorting out their wind-swept yards Sunday, Kathy Hill was out doing her regular chores at 7:30 am on her acreage directly south of Okotoks.

It appeared to be a typical morning until, as she described it, a sudden gust of wind whisked through and lifted a 16 x 8 foot shed, shifted it six or seven feet, then dropped it on top of her prized angora goat.

"It was just dreadful to see," she said.

The valuable goat, used as her breeding buck, had been out behind the building and was crushed by the structure.

Okotoks RCMP reported a number of calls were made regarding storm damage over the weekend, with the majority of damage occurring east of Okotoks. Fortunately, no injuries resulting from the storm were reported.

The Calgary weather office reported several twisters had been reported south of the city, along with short bursts of hailstones, but most of the damage reported was minor.

More serious damage occurred in north central Alberta.

The storm developed south of Lethbridge and gained force as it moved north.

Pre-construction work begins on Cargill plant

Continued from front page

Gillies said just over 200 employees will be needed immediately for slaughtering and management.

The next stage of production, involving boxed beef, will employ about 260 people.

"We could go into double shifts after some time, but that depends on the markets," Gillies added. "We're very confident at this point."

About 15 people have been hired already for the plant, many of whom have bought homes in Okotoks, Gillies said.

The company is presently working on finalizing plans for the sewage treatment facility which will be built as part of the plant. At the moment Gillies said discussions are going on with the Municipal District of Foothills and the towns of Okotoks and High River to decide how big the line to Frank Lake should be.

Treated sewage from the plant and towns will be pumped to Frank Lake, which has been dry for the last 10 years.

Gillies said the company hasn't heard any real objections to the Frank Lake plan. Cargill plans to hold a public meeting in the future to go over sewage disposal plans and to go over employment figures with residents in the Foothills.

Commuter bus service further reduced

Continued from page one

way," said Elaine Dafoe, Okotoks' representative on the committee.

But Esther Rogers, who represents the Oilfields area on the ad hoc committee, said they are losing a vital service by reducing the commuter service to only one bus morning and night.

"I'm not happy about it," she said. "It's going to affect a lot of people."

Rogers expects that the arrival and departure times will not please many people and foresees many of them not continuing to ride the bus.

Rogers also predicts this as the "beginning of the end of the bus service," and believes that PWT will pull out of servicing the Oilfields altogether.

Some of the senior b
will be able to use the
but Rogers said the mi
expensive and furtherr
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mini bus is not going to r
she said.

"I think people are go
fairly surprised that we lo
added. "People shou
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Effective June 27,
schedule will be: Depart
Turner Valley 6:40 am and
in Calgary 7:45 am, d
Okotoks at 7 am and ar
Calgary 8:05 am, d
Calgary at 4:30 pm and ar
Okotoks at 5:25 pm and d
Calgary at 5:10 pm and ar
Turner Valley at 6:30 pm.

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Wed June 8/88

JUNE 5

WED. JUNE 8 1988

Viewpoint

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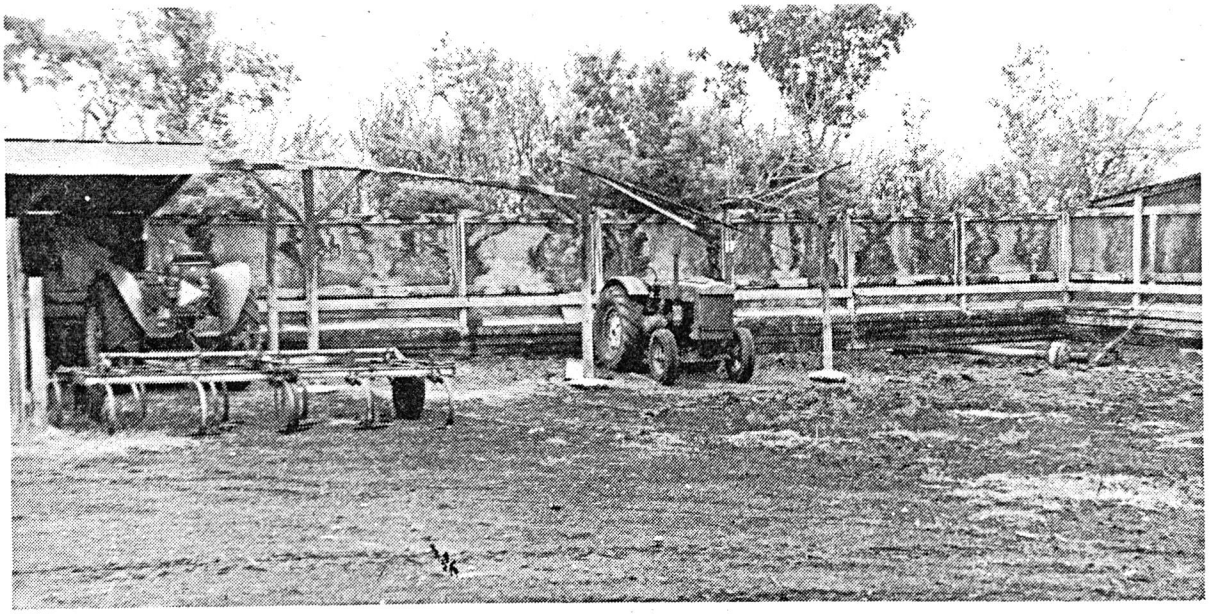
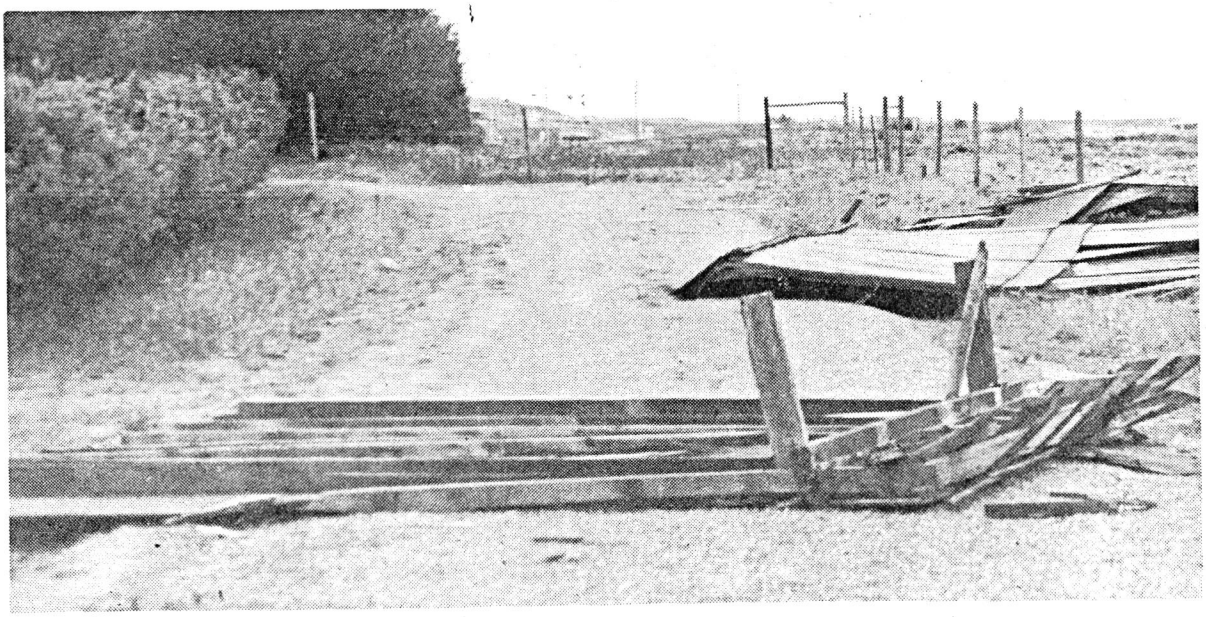


The roof on this 80 foot long cattle shed was torn off and carried over the stand of trees at the back of the shed before being dumped in pieces on a nearby road early Sunday. *photos by Mel Duvall*



Committee proposes changes to music festival

by Einar Kumlin

The executive of the High River Lions Music Festival met on May 16 to evaluate the recent festival and to consider changes for next year.

As the first festival was held and individuals carried them out successfully.

During and following the festival, members of the executive were contacted with questions and suggestions. They are planning on

mum charge for group entries would still remain at $10. This should simplify things at the door; leave the cost to the parent about the same and, perhaps, encourage more people to drop in to listen.

Wed June 8/88

JUNE 5

THE STRATHMORE STANDARD

Volume 79, No. 23, Wednesday, June 8, 1988 50¢

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JUN 10 88
EDMONTON

Strong wind peels off mobile home roof

By Laura Crandall

The roof was peeled off a mobile home, five sheep were crushed under a collapsed barn and large power poles were snapped in three pieces by winds that cut a path across the south-west corner of the County of Wheatland early Sunday morning.

The storm, which many eye witnesses described as a whirlwind resembling a tornado, cut a path from Cayley in the south to Smoky Lake in the north. Most of the damage was sustained in the Camrose area.

Terry and Crystal Lenhart were awakened around 2:30 am in their double wide mobile home south of Langdon by the high-pitched sound of the wind followed by a loud crack.

The crack was the south side of the roof lifting off the trailer. Crystal Lenhart said Monday that she and her husband ran to find their sons, Khale, three and Jade, one month.

"By that time it was raining and hailing inside the house," she said. Her husband found clothes for the family to keep warm, but some of Crystal's clothes were later collected from a nearby field.

She said the roof was destroyed and remnants deposited along the road near their home. Some of the ceiling board had come down but no heavy boards had come with it and no one was injured.

Julia Chalmers, who lives near Dalemead, heard the wind at about the same time. She went to check on her eight-year-old grandson who was staying in the house with her. The boy was sleeping so she left him and did not know that the roof of her attached garage had been partially torn off.

"I was going to take my grandson downstairs but he was asleep. I'll never hesitate again, whether he's sleeping or awake," Chalmers said.

Ron McKinnon lost a ewe and four lambs when a shelter was demolished by the wind at his farm southeast of Dalemead. Another shelter was tipped over against a fence, a 25-year-old poplar in the yard was snapped in half, shingles were blown off the roof and a fiberglass water tank was rolled into a field.

Graham McKinnon, who farms

Continued on Page 2



Town approves irrigation fee

By Joy Gregory

Disgruntled irrigation users and those who simply don't want the service, will have to pay $30 to have it disconnected.

Strathmore council approved an amendment to the town's waterworks, sewer and irrigation bylaw at its June 1 meeting.

Cllr. Roy Brown voted against the amendment.

He said he had checked with the town's legal advisor and was told the turn-off fee is legal. Brown had

Even though that appears to be legal, there could still be a problem with charging those who have moved to town in the last year or who have moved to another home, said Brown.

Prior to approving the amendment, council accepted Brown's motion to change one section to read that consumers who request disconnection of the service and are liable to the $30 fee, are those who have "previously used irrigation service at that location."

continues to be very poor.

Town Manager Doug Plamping said the idea of refunding irrigation fees in areas such as Maplewood Park would open the door to those who would like refunds on past years.

System users do have the right to appeal the $30 charge in instances where poor service prompted the decision to discontinue using the system. Cllr. Wally Freeman said the appeal process offers users a viable option.

JUNE 5

... Wind destroys sheep shed

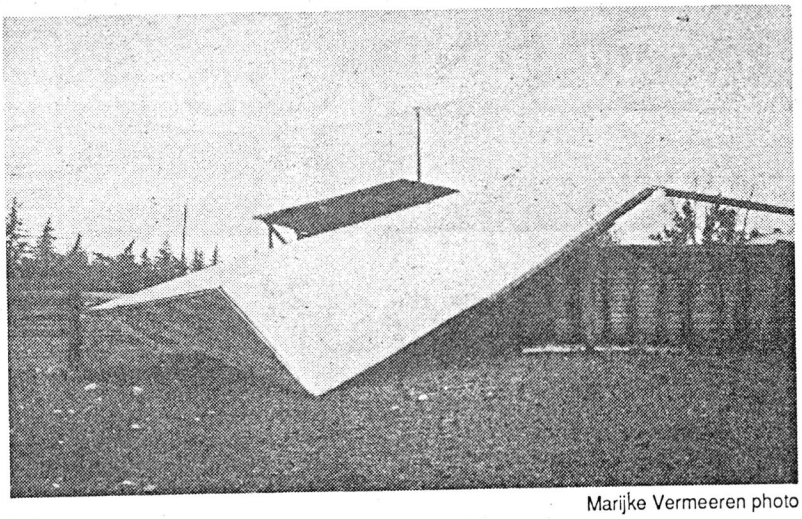
Continued from Page 1

with his father, said the shingles were blown in one direction, the tank in another and the sheds in yet another, indicating the wind was blowing around rather than in one direction.

The Cominco fertilizer plant between Dalemead and Carseland was without power for nearly 12 hours and without water from 2:15 am to 11:30 pm Sunday.

Operations superintendent Keith Clayton said water is essential to the plant and TransAlta was more than helpful in getting the power back on and the pump working. Five power poles which supply power to the plant were broken, some of them in two places.

Cominco also suffered damage to irrigation pivots and lost siding on some of the buildings.



Marijke Vermeeren photo

Strong winds lifted the roof off this shed owned by Lance Wheeler south of Dalemead during a storm early Sunday morning.

Despite the ferocity of the storm, Strathmore received only 3 mm of rain. Reports from the District Agriculture office say areas west of town received a bit more and areas east received none at all.

... News disrupts lunch

Continued from Page 1

ner. My wife and her friend had to go into the washroom and scream, they were so excited."

Zarakostas' oldest son, Barry, couldn't wait to test drive his new Cavalier Z24 sports car Thursday, after an admonition from dad to keep the music down. Son Mike was also understandably excited about the win.

The family was also able to pick up their new Chev Blazer, on order before the lottery win. Zarakostas has also ordered another new car for his and JoAnn's use.

But other than helping his brother with his Calgary restaurant and JoAnn's mother and other family members, the Zarakostas family will remain pretty much the same as it has always been, said Zarakostas.

"For me I'm happy the way I am. We live very comfortably and we are happy living in Strathmore."

Zarakostas sold Villa Pizza, the restaurant he had owned for several years, five months ago for health reasons. He recently returned from spending three months in his native Greece, which he visits every year, often taking his wife or the entire family.

Because of the recent trip he is not planning another vacation in the immediate future.

He said Strathmore is now his home and he has no intention of leaving.

"You can't change everything when you have a change in money. You can't change your friends and your neighbors, you still need them," Zarakostas said.



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STRATHMORE STANDARD WED. JUNE 8 1988 p.23 JUNE 5

esel fuel storage tanks should be ch

By John Chang,
Energy Engineer
lberta Agriculture

spring, before field work s a good opportunity for a neck of stored fuel.
ticular, fuel stored from the l price war last April should ked to avoid engine prob- om fuel contamination.
Notes from Alberta Agri- Engineering Services out- e procedure for testing bulk uel.
el fuel temperature should be)° C when sampled. Draw off two litres into a clear glass

ng a clean stick or rod, agitate el in the tank from the top and second sample from the filler

el should be clear, clean and t. Purple dye in the fuel makes ent or haziness harder to de- nd prolonged exposure to light s the dye darker. But it should ossible to see any insolubles nt in the fuel when it is held up good light source and swirled. t the jar stand eight hours or e and check for sediment or r accumulation on the bottom. the first sample is contaminated help of a fuel dealer should be ed to remove the entire contents he tank. Farm Notes suggests a unteer fire department may be rested in the fuel for use in train- . A sample should be saved for oratory analysis of contaminants l the tank should be cleaned. If the first sample is clear and an, but the second has sediment, e or remove the fuel in the tank rough the hose. Wait at least a day ter agitating the fuel to allow sedi- ents to settle before removing any. he tank should be cleaned.
If the second sample is clean, the el may be used directly from the nk.

Cleaning

When the tank has been emptied as far as possible through the filler ose, the rest may be removed from the drain plug at the lowest point of the tank. The tank should then be flushed out with 10-20 litres of clean fuel.

If a water soluble contaminant is identified in the fuel, the tank may be washed out with high pressure water before flushing with fuel. It is best to dry the tank after the water wash with compressed air.

For ease of taking future samples without removing and replacing the drain plug each time, a shut off valve may be installed in the tank drain. The tank should be refilled with clean fuel as soon as possible after cleaning.

To guard against engine problems from fuel contamination, slope storage tanks so the hose end is higher than the drain end.

Farm Notes suggests a few litres should be drawn from the bottom of the tank twice a year to remove dirt and water, until the fuel comes out bright and clear. A farm tank filter at the outlet helps to trap insolubles.

Tanks should be checked regularly or checked by a fuel dealer with water detector paste.

Engine fuel filters must be watched for premature plugging. Plugged filters should be saved in plastic bags so water does not evaporate. Filters and fuel can be analysed by private, government or oil company laboratories. Filters should be replaced as recommended by the engine manufacturer.

Alcohol-based fuel additives should not be used and diesel fuel should not be stored in a galvanized tank or one previously used for gasoline storage.

Fuel storage tanks and other fuel-handling equipment must be com- patibl Non- tamir erode Al moly 6% 400 are s dies nick bras S age fuel app wri



Marijke Vermeeren photo

Snapped in half

Sunday morning's storm snapped several power poles near the Cominco plant at Carseland. Some of the poles were broken in two places.

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Strath Standard
Wed June 8/88

p 23

Didsbury REVIEW

SERVING THE COUNTY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW

Vol. 3, No. 7 WED., JUNE 8, 1988 Published Weekly by Contemporary Graphics Limited

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EDMONTON

DIDSBURY REVIEW p1 JUNE 5

Storm cuts destructive path





Fallen trees filled the yard at Barry Gale's following Sunday's early morning storm. Part of the house was also damaged. A number of trees were also felled at the home of Warner Harms (right).

By Peter Crosby

A weekend thunderstorm blasted its way through south-central Alberta -- including the Olds-Didsbury area --uprooting trees and causing considerable damage to a number of buildings.

"We feel it was something approaching a weak tornado," said a spokesman at the Alberta Weather Centre in Edmonton. "But we're still assessing the situation."

Barry Gale, who lives just east of Didsbury, said it had to be a twister. More than 40 big trees on the west side of his house came crashing down about 1:30 a.m. Sunday.

"I was sleeping and the next thing I heard was 'thump,

See Storm page 13

June Jamboree ready to roll



DIDSBURY REVIEW WED. JUNE 8 1988 p. 13

JUNE 5

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Didsbury & District Men's Fastball League Schedule

THURSDAY, JUNE 9
Cremona at Westerdale
Sundre at Westcott Jrs.
Cochrane at Didsbury
Westcott at Airdrie
Carstairs at Olds
Water Valley Bye

TUESDAY, JUNE 14
Didsbury at Westcott Jrs.
Airdrie at Westerdale
Olds at Cremona
Water Valley at Sundre
Cochrane at Carstairs
Westcott Bye

THURSDAY, JUNE 16
Didsbury at Airdrie
Westcott Jrs. at Olds
Westerdale at Water Valley
Cremona at Carstairs
Sundre at Westcott
Cochrane Bye

Storm continued from page 1

thump, thump, thump.' I just ran for the door. I thought the whole house was coming down. I figured they were going to be building me a pine box," he said.

While the Edmonton weather official was reluctant to call it a tornado, he did say thunderstorms can produce very strong winds.

"This was more than a strong wind," said Mr. Gale, assessing the damage.

Some of the trees hit the west side of the house, causing considerable damage to the roof and fireplace chimney.

"I think I got off lucky," he said.

A few miles north, David Pochapsky was counting up the damage to a tent-trailer that lay torn and twisted on his lawn, while in the next lot, a mobile home he rents to Kevin Lockheed and his family had the roof blown off.

"We were camping at Westward Ho (near Sundre) and I didn't hear about he damage here until 10 o'clock Sunday morning," said Mr. Pochapsky. "We got some hail (at Westward Ho) but there wasn't that much wind."

He doesn't know whether the Lockheeds were home when the roof was blown off the mobile home.

Didsbury RCMP Sgt. Bob Curiston said there had been no reports of injuries.

At Warner Harms' farm, halfway between Olds and Didsbury, a number of big trees were either blown over or uprooted.

A grain bin was carried about 400 feet from the back of his place, through two corral fences, past his house and up the driveway where it was stopped by trees.

In Olds, the roof of the Olds and District Sportsplex was damaged and two cars parkned nearby were struck by falling debris. Shingles and tin were torn from about one-quarter of the roof and the insulation sucked out.

Everyone seemed to agree the wind blew very hard for about five to 10 minutes, starting at 1:30 a.m.

Didsbury Review
wed June 8/88
p 13

y at Olds, Alberta

1988 Issue No. 23

EDMONTON 1988 8 8

OLDS GAZETTE
WED JUNE 8 1988
p. 1
JUNE 5

s town & district



ctured left to
ıen Houston,
ırs, and Carol

The damage report is not all in but the cost of Sunday morning's windstorm will be substantial.

A major loss was experienced by the Town of Olds when part of the flashing and a portion of the roof on the main arena was torn away. Pieces of the roofing material were deposited near Niemeyer's Welding Shop.

Two major losers on farms were Erik Nielsen and Gerald Dodd. Nielsen lost seven out of nine metal grain bins. Dodd lost a concrete staved silo about 70 feet tall.

That silo cost $25,000 to $30,000 and replacement value is calculated at $45,000. At the Werner Harms farm south of Olds three grain bins were destroyed as well as a big water tank. One grain bin smashed through the corral fence while a 1500 gallon water tank was destroyed.

At the Olds-Didsbury airport two toilets were made into kindling wood. Both had been recently repaired. Chemical containers from a nearby collection dump were scattered about on the airport property.

At the former Gale farm just east of Didsbury part of a house was torn away.

The trees along Murray Alm's property on Highway 2A were pruned and knocked over. At the Mel Cipperley farmstead just south of Alm's large spruce and huge poplars looked like they had been knocked over by bowling balls. At the Olds Cemetery, the brick sign was knocked over as was a large spruce tree. Along the town's industrial park trees were stripped of their branches and some were toppled. On the Auction Mart property large trees fell across the fence and the highway.

The wind, which many feel was a many-tongued tornado hit the town at 1:29 a.m. Sunday. The intense winds lasted for only a few minutes but the damage, measurable in dollars and clean-up time still has not been assessed.

The west side of Olds seems to have been hardest hit but Green Way Farm Supply in the south part of Olds lost two metal storage bins valued at about $6,000 when built. The firm's railway spur also became the depository for another bin believed to have originated at Les Statham's farm about a half mile west.

Trees, fences, signs, garden sheds and a camper were toppled during the onslaught. Lumber and building materials at Oldbow Lumber and at Home All Building Centre were tossed around like match sticks. One shed was rolled across the street and deposited against the west wall of the TransAlta Utilities building. Sheets of metal from Stirdon Systems were carried like kites into tractors on Jim Waiting's farm machinery lot. In the housing development to the north two large aerials were lifted and crushed. Many television antennas hang at right angles to their masts.

Sam Burnside's newly painted fence was pushed over as if by a bulldozer. The fence at the swimming pool was

Continued on Page 3

Didsbury council introduces by-laws

Didsbury Council gave first reading to three by-laws calling for expenditures of $340,000 for paving projects in the town at the regular council meeting on May 31. Two by-laws (one for $119,000 and one for $125,000) are classed as local improvements and the funds will be recovered by way of frontage tax. The third is a general by-law payable by the town for work on 19 Street. It is for $96,000.

Council also accepted a tender of $15,300 submitted by North Fork Developments, a Didsbury firm, for 9.04 acres left over from property acquired for the extension of 20 Street. The land is north of the AG Food Store in Didsbury.

Council also adopted the 1987 census figures for 1988. That establishes the town's population at 3,184.

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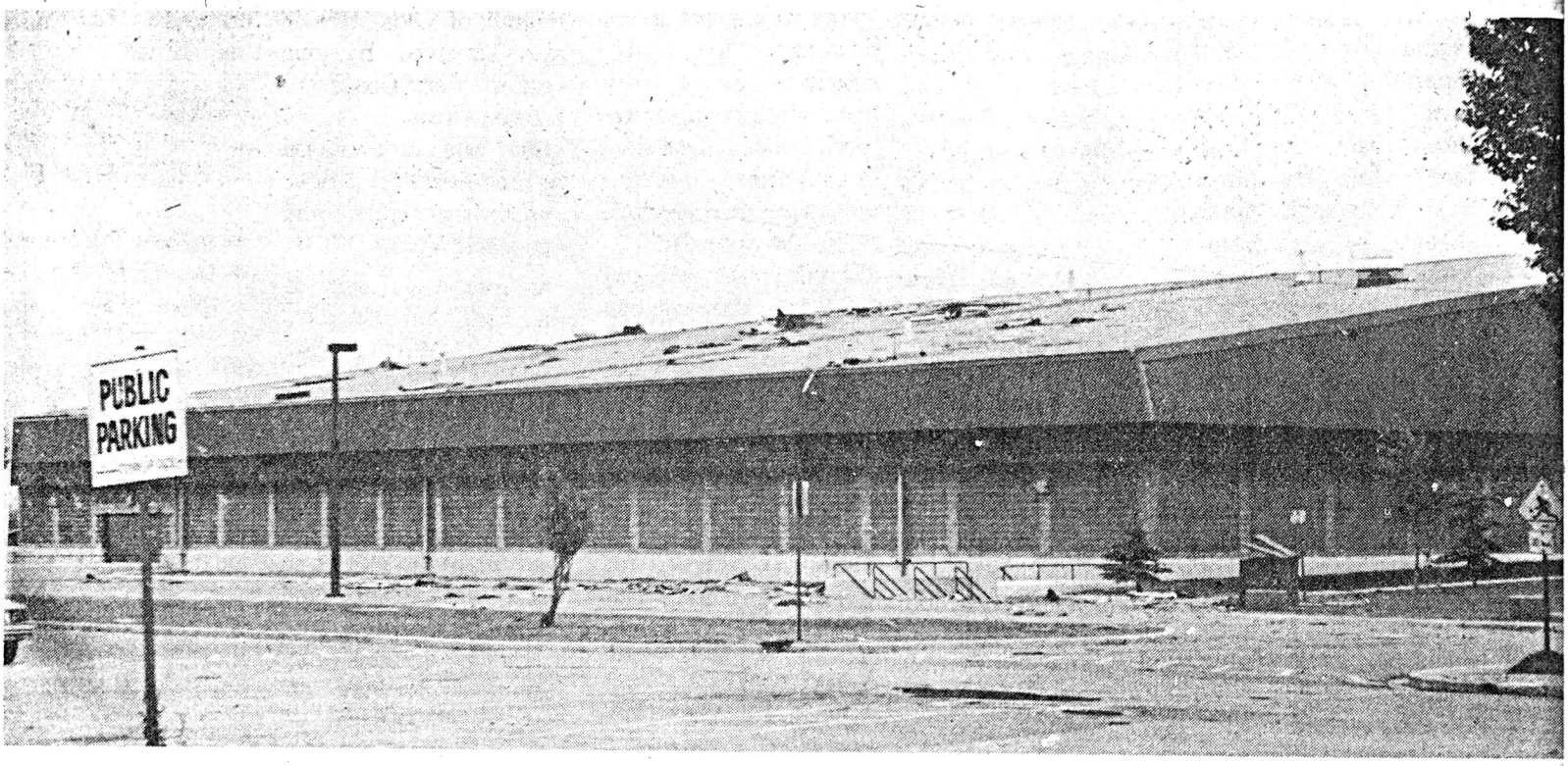
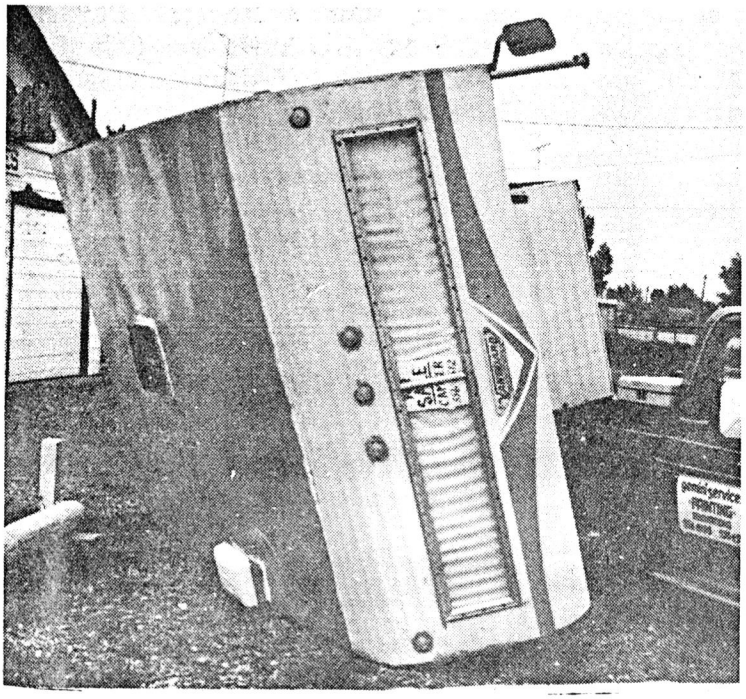
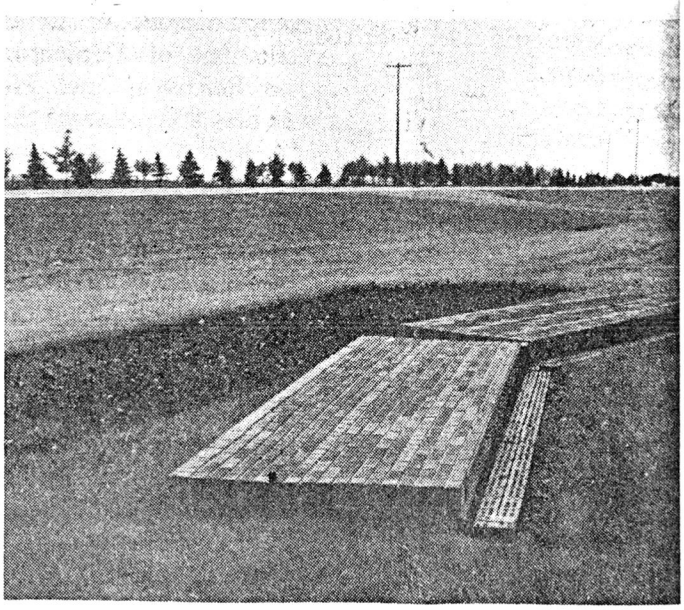


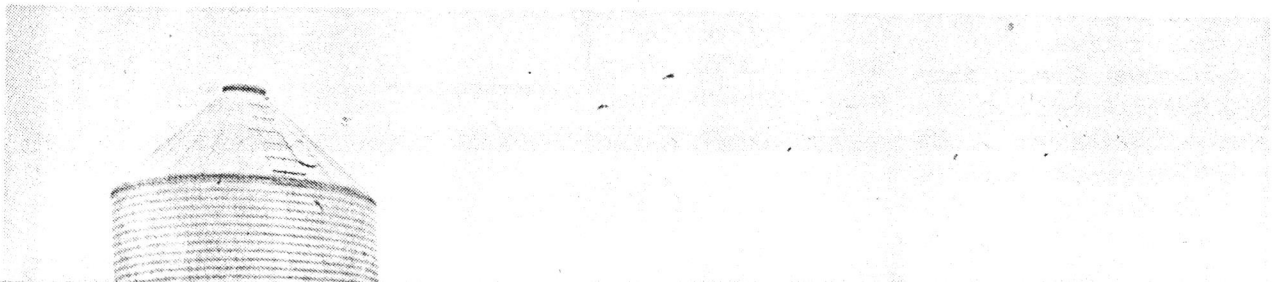
The top left corner of the arena was torn away and holes were punched in other parts of the roof. Damage estimate was not available.



This camper was toppled off the truck parked just north of the Merit Store on Highway 27.



The brick cemetery sign erected by the IODE was laid over



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p 3

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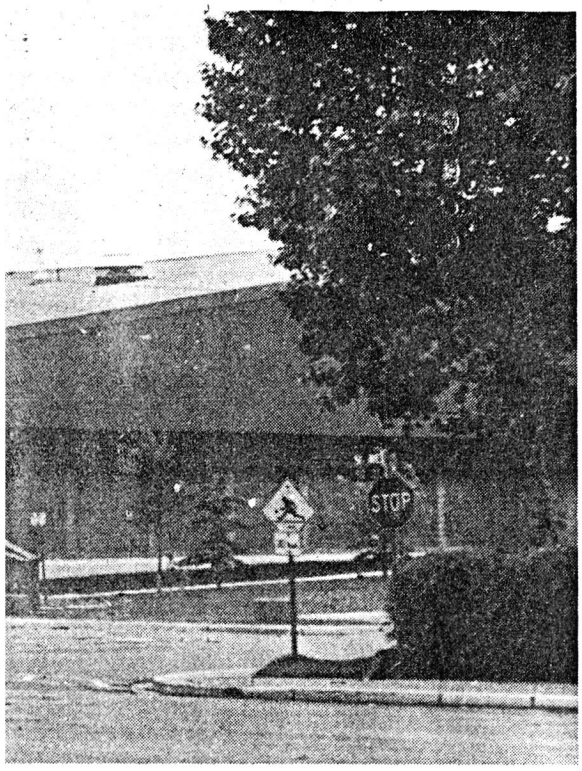

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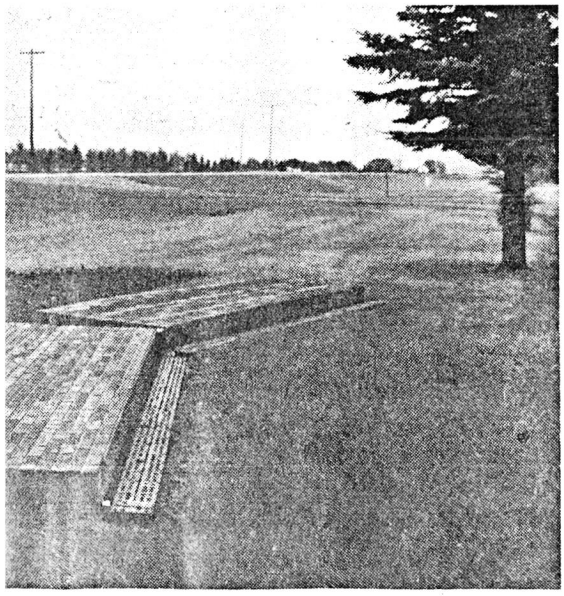
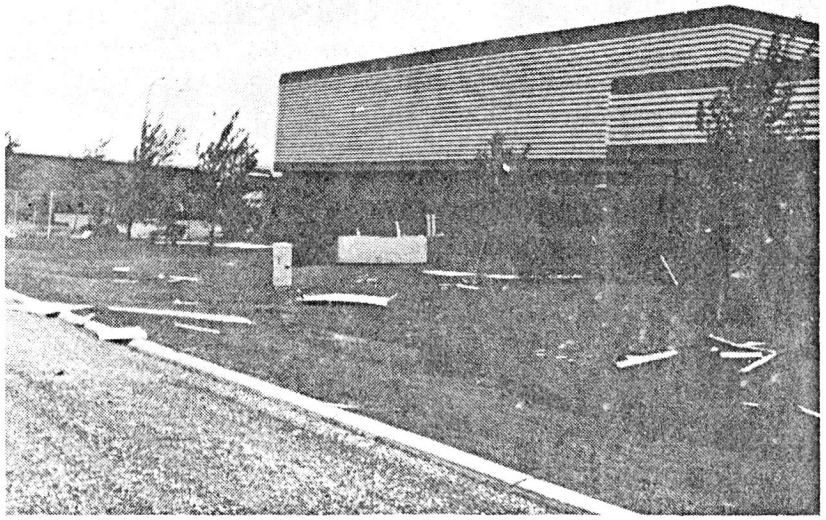


d by the IODE was laid over in two neat halves.



A portion of the flashing was ripped from the roof of Dave's Barber Shop and was bent around the light standard beside the Heritage Ladies Wear store.



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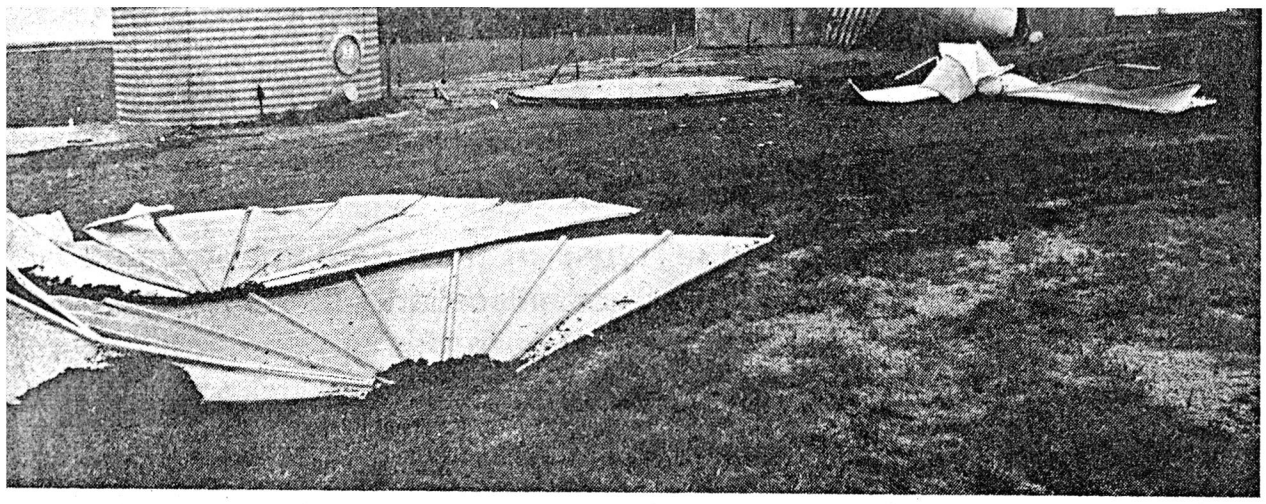
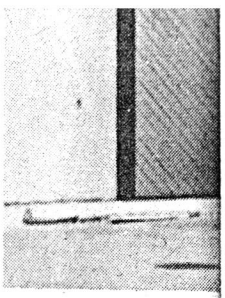
p 3

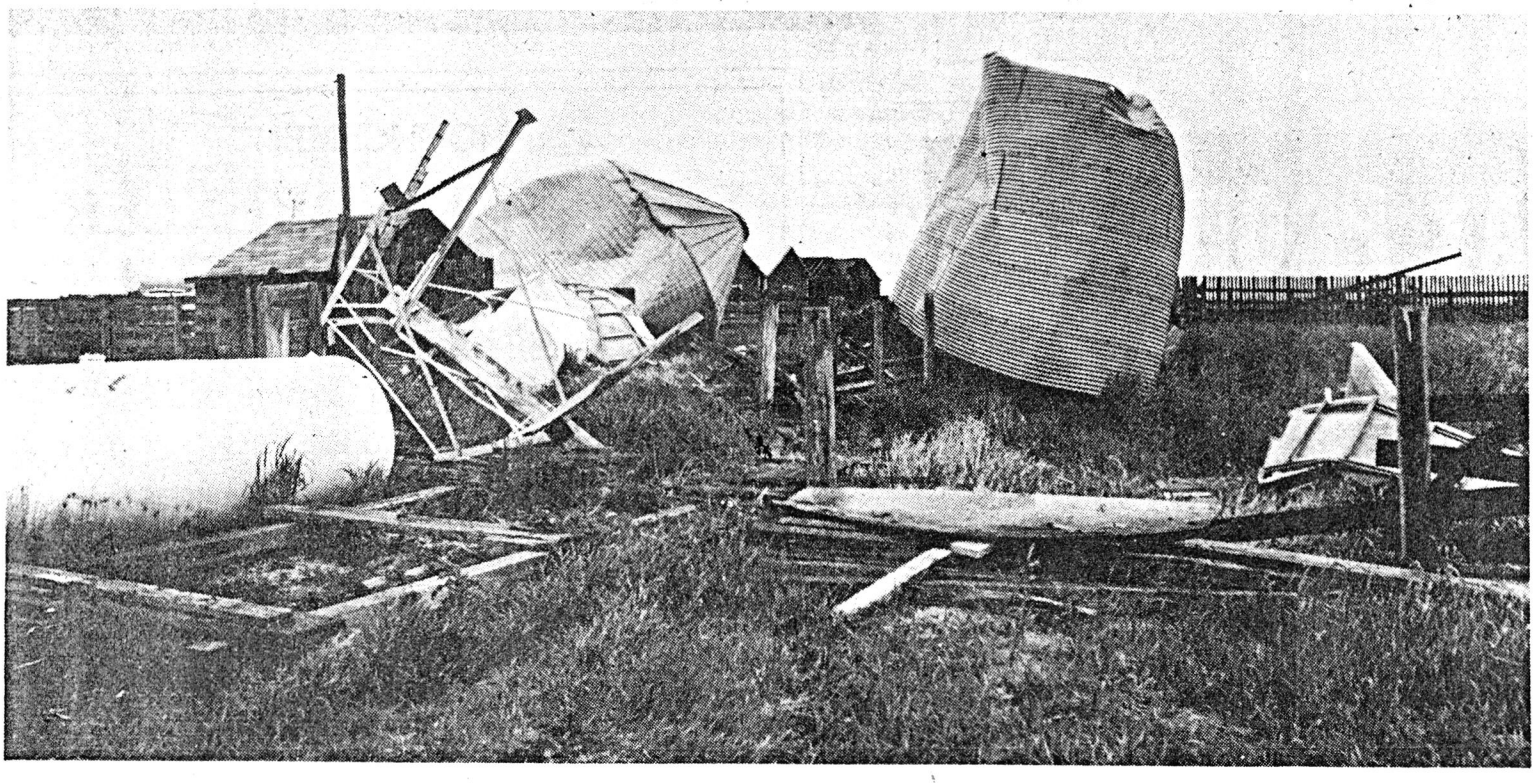


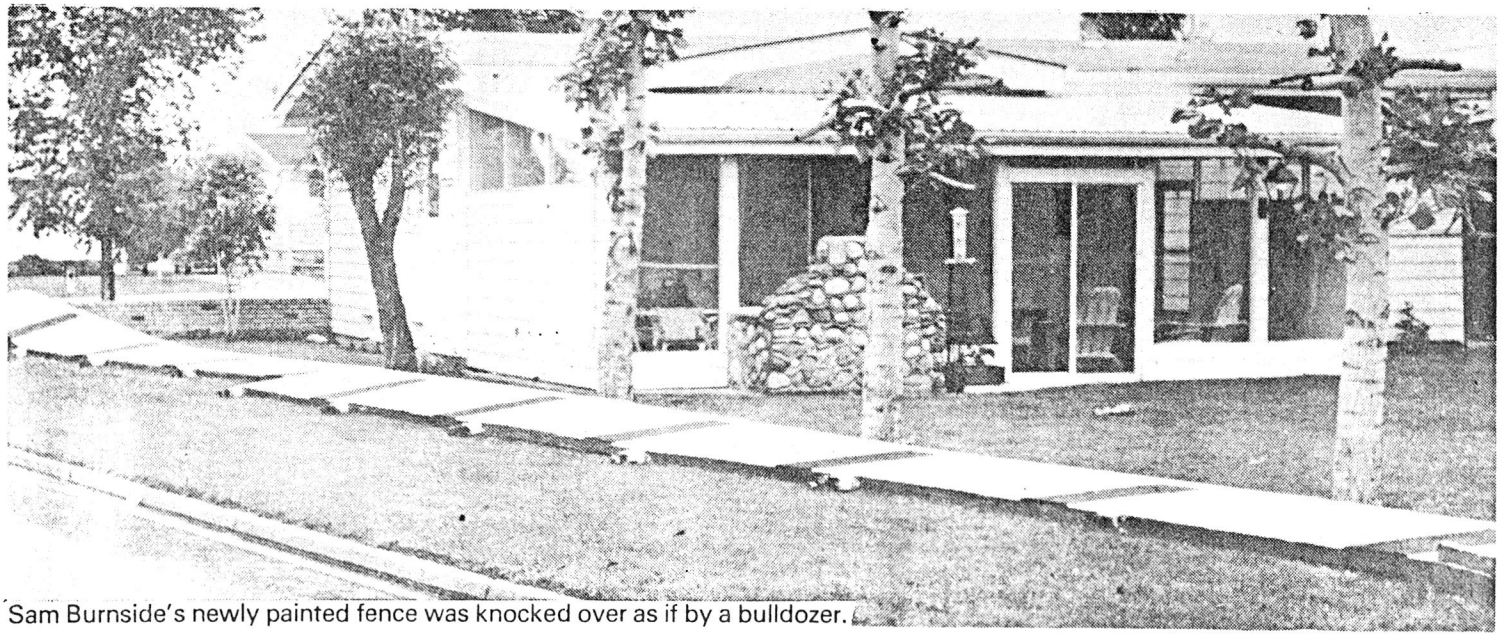
Three of nine steel grain bins remain standing at Erik Neilsen's farm.



A shed was up
building at Home

OLDS GAZETTE
WED. JUNE 8, 1988
p. 3 LOWER LEFT
JUNE 5





Sam Burnside's newly painted fence was knocked over as if by a bulldozer.

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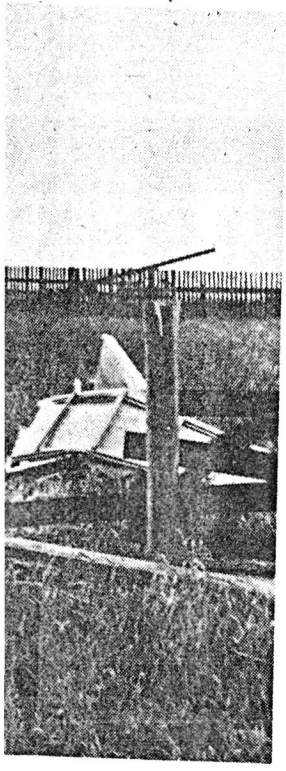
A shed was upended and lumber and building supplies hurled east across the street into the TransAlta building at Home All Building Supply Centre.



A huge poplar tree, accompanied by several small spruce, fell across the mobile home and car owned by Mrs. Freda Ekiss, south of Olds.





shattered by a falling tree. A garden shed was lifted and crushed in an alley near 57 Street. The contents were undamaged.

Doug Gooding, northeast of Didsbury is reported to have lost a granary. Mrs. Freda Ekiss, away on holidays, had a huge poplar blow across her mobile home and the powerline. A smaller tree smashed the back window of her car.

Discussing the damage with Graham Blundell, Director of Communications with the Public Safety Branch of the Department of the Environment, the Gazette was told Monday that those who suffered property damage should take three steps:

1. Report the damage to the local municipality since the municipality has the first response in the case of a disaster.
2. Report the damage to your insurance company.
3. Make a photographic record of the damage.

Blundell said that there is "no doubt" about the fact that a tornado struck several times in the area from Cayley to Camrose.

If a government program for financial assistance is put into place, those who suffered damage, he said, must make sure they have taken the three steps indicated above.

Roy Brassard, MLA for Olds - Didsbury contacted in Edmonton said that he reported the storm damage to Hon. Ken Kowalski, Minister of the Environment on Sunday. Mr. Kowalski and officials from his department, said Mr. Brassard, were in the Camrose and Olds areas Monday.

A statement from the minister is expected.

JUNE 5

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explodes

MOSCOW (AP) — Pravda said today that residents thought war had broken out when a freight train packed with 120 tons of explosives blew up at a rail crossing in a city near Gorky, killing at least 68 people and injuring 230.

"First I saw a high column of flames shoot up,"

The official Communist party daily quoted a witness, V. Dormidontov, as saying. "Then I heard a rumbling, and then a great mushroom cloud rose."

Published Soviet reports said Saturday's blast in Arzamas, an industrial city about 385 km east of Moscow, flattened several city blocks and tossed railway cars and other vehicles like feathers.

Dozens of doctors were rushed to the city and rescue workers continued today to dig through the debris and Pravda said the true death toll may never be known. In some areas, all that was left from the blast were car wheels or rubble from multi-storey apartment buildings, today's paper added.

Soviet media said the blast involved three boxcars packed with industrial explosives and destroyed the homes of 600 people. At least eight children were among those killed.

The official media's reporting of the disaster was among its most detailed and rapid ever about such an accident — an apparent sign of Mikhail Gorbachev's policy of glasnost, or greater openness.

The newspaper quoted one unidentified, weeping woman as saying: "The first thing that came to my mind was, has it started?" an apparent reference to war.

Grad party crash kills two friends

EDMONTON (CP) — A time of celebration ended in tragedy Saturday when two childhood buddies died in an automobile accident on their return trip from a graduation party.

Leroy Eldon Figel, 19, and Bradley Allan Iwaskow, 17, were killed when the pickup truck they were driving rolled over on a highway near the Edmonton city limits. They were returning from nearby Allen

STORM BASHES BUILDINGS, KILLS CATTLE by SHERYL NIXON



FIRE INSPECTOR DAVID FRIESEN AND TEACHER BUD MORRISON IN LACOMBE
. . . the two were inspecting damage after a storm destroyed the school roof in the town

of The Advocate

Roofs were ripped off buildings, grain bins overturned and cattle were killed by lightning as a storm pounded through Central Alberta early Sunday morning.

"I thought our roof was leaving," Albert Wagner said of the winds, rain, lightning and hail that battered his farm east of Lacombe.

"The winds were really terrific — water was coming through windows that even wind doesn't usually get through."

The rural area was in the path of a very unstable low pressure system that moved into Alberta from the northwestern United States, said Steve Watson of the Alberta Weather Centre.

The intense weather system moved northwest, cutting through Olds, south of Red Deer, east of Lacombe near Clive and on towards Ferintosh and Camrose.

The worst damage appeared to be in rural areas around Camrose and Mundare, east of Edmonton, Mr. Watson said.

The storm left a large machinery shed a crumpled mess and blew a double garage about 15 metres through the air at the Clive area farm of Jerome and Bonnie Wildeman.

Olds had some building, tree and fence damage, while farmers in its path saw granaries overturned and precious topsoil washed away.

"Part of the roof of the sports complex decided to

Storm cuts path/2A
Fire hazard reduced/1B

leave," said Olds town manager Ron Hilton. About 15-square-metres of the roof was ripped off when the storm hit around 1:30 a.m. It will cost about $15,000 to repair, he estimated.

A brick wall at the cemetery was blown over, lots of trees were broken off at the roots and lumber yards and farm equipment centres look messy with outside equipment and materials strewn about, Mr. Hilton said.

The most intense portion of the storm lasted only about five minutes, but rain and some hail came in its wake.

The rain, up to 22 mm in the Red Deer area, was a "blessing in disguise," said Dave Shoemaker, manager of the Pioneer grain elevator in Olds.

"The rain was very, very much needed," he said. "It'll be enough to start the crops.

"But it's a pretty costly rainfall when you lose some grain bins," Mr. Shoemaker added.

Most metal bins, worth about $5,000, aren't usually insured and may be largely unusable after a storm overturns them.

"There was quite a bit of damage in this (east of Lacombe) area," Mr. Wagner said.

One neighbor lost at least eight cattle when they were hit by lightning, he said.

Lacombe school roof crashes to gym floor

By MICHAEL LAU
of The Advocate

LACOMBE — County school officials are relieved there was no one in the room when the aging roof of the junior high gymnasium collapsed during Sunday's early morning thunderstorm.

The 470-square-metre room was empty when the 39-year-old roof crumpled at about 3 a.m. sending heavy wooden beams, metal rods and drywall plummetting to the floor.

But Mervyn Kurtz, superintendent of county schools, said he's glad the collapse happened when it did, instead of this Thursday when a "farewell" to Grade 9 students was planned.

one was in it," Mr. Kurtz said. "It was a miracle because if students were there, it would have been a disaster."

A technical consultant said the heavy rain could not be blamed for the damage because rain could not collect on the convex-shaped roof.

"The strength of the wooden trusses was more than adequate to bear the various loads, including a heavy rain. Therefore, the structural engineer has speculated the collapse was caused by a lightning strike or an exceptionally loud thunder clap."

Caretaker Don Rose said rain was pouring into the unprotected gymnasium when he arrived shortly after the

STORM BASHES BUILDINGS , KILLS CATTLE
by SHERYL NIXON

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PETER FUSHTEY OF THE WILLINGDON AREA STANDS BESIDE WHAT USED TO BE HIS HOUSE . . . tornado sightings were reported during the storm which cut a swath from Camrose to Smoky Lake

Photo by The CANADIAN PRESS

Rain storm cuts 200-km swath

CAMROSE (CP) — Albert Lensink's four children, camped on the lawn in a small tent, slept through a tornado-like storm that tore a path of destruction through a narrow rural strip of Central Alberta early Sunday morning.

No one was injured as the storm system, which officials said probably included a tornado, demolished farm buildings, stripped crops from fields, uprooted trees, snapped power lines and tossed about heavy machinery.

Most of the damage, which amounted to hundreds of thousands of dollars, was confined to a narrow path 200 km long and 40 km wide stretching from Cayley, south of Calgary, to Smoky Lake, northeast of Edmonton.

A tornado in Edmonton last July 31 killed 27 people, injured hundreds of others and caused hundreds of millions of dollars in damage.

But Frank Letchford, a spokesman for Environment Canada in Edmonton, said Sunday's storm "wasn't anything of the magnitude of the Edmonton tornado."

Lensink's 10-acre farm is located southwest of Camrose about 50 km south of Edmonton. He finds it difficult to believe his children were not awakened by the violent winds that tore apart his barn and left the carefully planted trees, lawn and garden that won him a landscaping prize two years ago in ruins.

He said a half-ton windmill located less than four metres from his farm house was tossed like a toy over the children's tent and landed 50 metres away.

Lensink sadly surveyed the remains of his landscaping efforts — shattered trees, pieces of his demolished barn dangling from the branches of the few trees still standing, a lawn covered in muddy debris and 'dead chicken strewn everywhere.

The big, middle-aged farmer lost more than 300 chickens and estimates it will cost him more than $50,000 to remain his damaged property. But he considers himself lucky. His children escaped injury and, except for a few broken windows, his house was still in one piece.

Alan Wilson was not quite as fortunate.

Wilson was sleeping in a second-storey bedroom of his wood-frame farmhouse a few kilometres southwest of Camrose when furious winds woke him about 3 a.m.

"All I could hear was the wind — this high-pitched whining," he said. "I ducked under the covers and sort of instinctively covered my head with my hands. The next thing I know, the blankets have been sucked right off me and I could feel it lifting me up."

Wilson said he scrambled out of bed and down to the ground floor. The storm plucked the roof off his house and scattered it across his 700-acre ranch.

More than 30 neighbors chipped in to build a temporary plastic and tarpaulin roof for Wilson, who lost at least one calf to the storm and 12 large elm trees lining the driveway to his home.

Andy Zetsen of Bittern Lake, a village with 170 residents about 75 km south of Edmonton, said he saw what he described as a tornado funnel early Sunday morning from his bedroom window.

"I saw a funnel near the ground every time the lightening lit up the sky," he said. "I was watching from my bedroom window and told my wife 'There's a tornado, you can see it.' We were watching it for five to 10 minutes — I didn't realize it was so close to my home."

Zetsen said the funnel, which he estimated at 100 metres high, raced past his farmhouse — it was less than 15 metres away — toward the city of Camrose.

The storm tore down power and telephone lines but touched only the outskirts of the city of 13,000 and caused police only minor damage.

Environment Canada, which announced about three weeks ago that an improved communications and weather-warning system had been implemented, hesitated to label the storm as one that packed a tornado.

Garry Atchison, a severe weather assistant, said department personnel would not be able to say for sure if there was a tornado in the storm until an aerial survey of the damaged areas is completed.

Atchison said the tight pattern of the damage and the apparent power of the winds made it "most likely" a tornado touched down during the storm.

Grahame Blundell, a spokesman for Alberta's safety services branch, said Environment Canada issued a severe thunderstorm warning at 12:20 a.m. — before most of the damage was done. The warning included a statement that a tornado could develop.

Environment Canada officials said the Edmonton weather office sent out warnings as quickly as possible, but was hampered by power failures in the areas affected by the storm.

Labor law targeted by CUPE

CALGARY (CP) — The second largest union in Alberta is launching a last-ditch lobby to alter Alberta's proposed new labor laws.

About 150 local leaders of the 25,000-member Alberta division of the Canadian Union of Public Employees adopted a resolution to that effect at a wage bargaining conference here.

Division president Dolores Viney warned the province "can't possibly expect we'll have labor-management harmony under a law that wipes out basic human rights."

She said the union lobby intends to get at least the most detested sections deleted or changed in a bid to avert "massive government intervention in the free collective bargaining process," under Bill 22.

CUPE represents municipal, school board, hospital and nursing home workers in 163 Alberta locals.

CUPE regional director Jack Murray charged Bill 22 "is about the worst labor legislation anywhere in North America. We could have a real workers' revolt on our hands, unless the minister makes some drastic changes."

But when questioned further, Murray acknowledged the chances for major revisions appear slim at this stage.

Union lawyer Yessy Byl said so far Reid has only indicated he may remove a section that bans any union sympathizers from joining legal picket lines during a strike, which would even bar politicians from showing their support.

"We understand the minister has obtained a legal opinion which confirms such a prohibition would be totally illegal under the Charter of Rights," she said.

Change eyed in rental law

EDMONTON (CP) — Landlords and tenants will have more legal rights if the province accepts rental-law amendments to be proposed by advisory boards this fall.

The Landlord and Tenant Act should prevent landlords from asking for a damage deposit unless they complete an inspection report, says Mary Harasim, executive director of the Edmonton landlord and tenant advisory board.

The boards will likely propose that landlords hold damage deposits in trust to ensure tenants are able to collect the money in case landlords go into receivership, Harasim said.

Among the proposed amendments will be a recommendation that landlords should not be able to waive their rights, something which tenants are already prevented from doing.

In ambiguous situations, Harasim said, some landlords agree to relax certain conditions of rental agreements and later forget or regret that they have done so. The change would protect landlords by ensuring they follow agreements.

She said the Edmonton advisory board received 83,520 inquiries last year, many of them dealing with such problems as inability to collect damage deposits, lack of maintenance, landlords who enter property without proper notice, tenants who skip out without paying rent and tenants who fail to give enough notice.

Harasim said thousands of tenants were unable to collect damage deposits when the Alberta economy went bust from 1982 to 1984 and many landlords went into receivership.

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LEGISLATURE LIBRARY JUN 9 1988 EDMONTON

ry joins v party ideals

JIM LOZERON
The Advocate

ian two months after Red Deer federal Con- nomination, Dan Law- s joined the Western- orm Party of Canada.



DAN LAWRENCE

wrence of 120 ho at- public ion for the onday. y has upport disen- former tive, Social nd Western Canada embers.

Thompson of Spruce ormer WCC organizer or the new party said: definitely have a nomi- eting within the next

ecutive formed/1B

he meeting, Mr. Law- ormer city councillor, and his wife Phyllis ed for membership in onth-old party led by anning.

farmer and auction- the Reform party's political philosophy tune with his free en- deals and he cannot candidate Doug Fee, called "very socialis-

who defeated Mr. by a mere 201 votes to he Tory nomination, has any socialist lean-

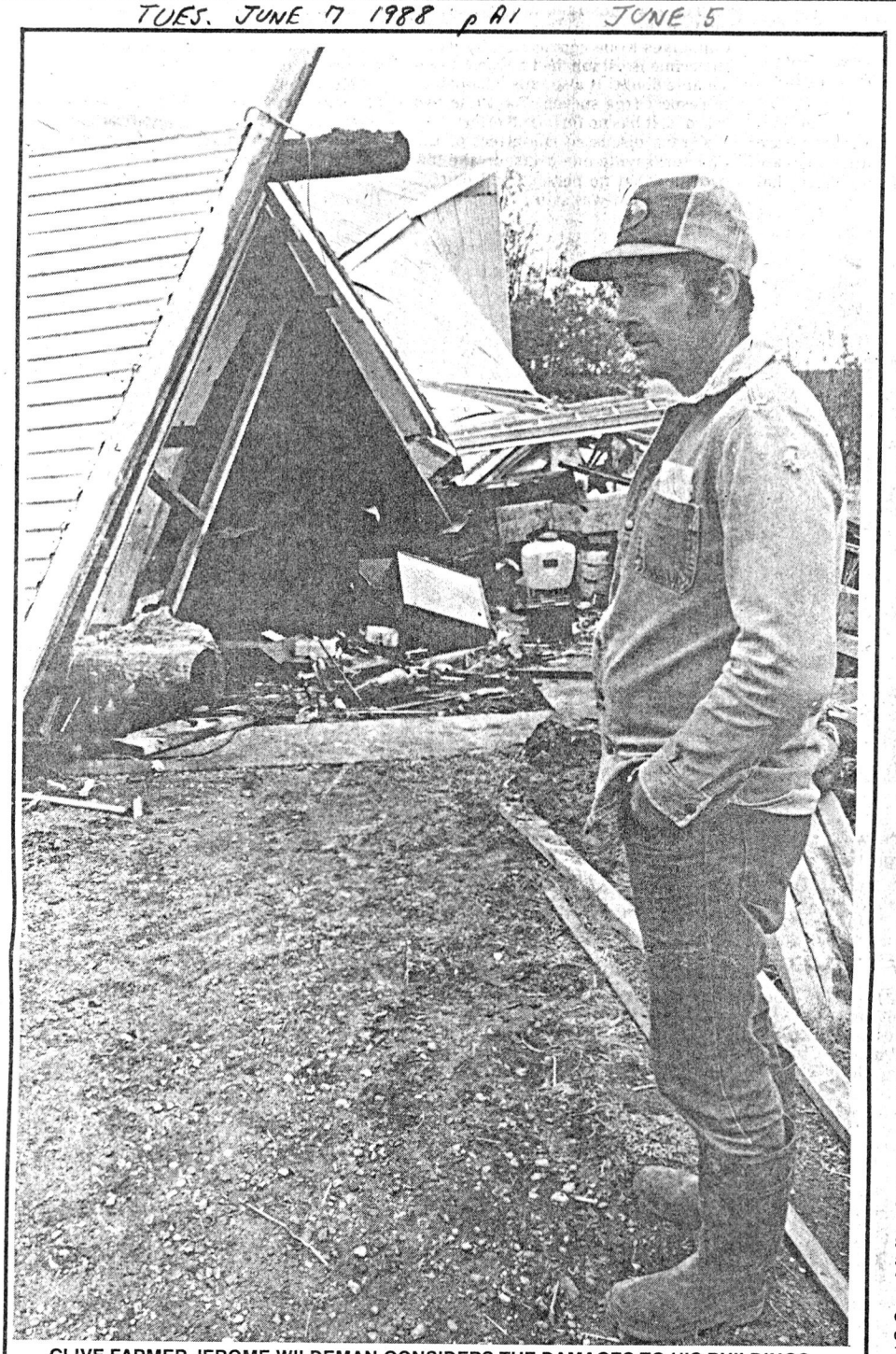
the man is digging hing to slam me with it," Mr. Fee said orm party is devoted ative virtues and deep of the East which it ols the economic and system. It wants a Senate and its eco- cy is to the right of roney-led Conserva-

question whether the ndidate people have is truly a Conserva- Lawrence said. "I we need another so- ttawa."

Lawrence said the on by Innisfail town take over ambulance m a private operator e's role in negotiat- ts for teachers while e-principal raise seri- ons about Mr. Fee's t to free enterprise. said he's surprised inted that Mr. Law- een fit to switch par-

s the action of a dis- onservative who is d he didn't win the

said he agrees that ies have no business lance business, but was already heavily the private opera-



CLIVE FARMER JEROME WILDEMAN CONSIDERS THE DAMAGES TO HIS BUILDINGS
. . . Wildeman and his wife, Bonnie, estimate wind and hail did $50,000 damage to their property

Photo by GREG NEIMAN

Claims blow in with storm

By SHERYL NIXON
of The Advocate

Sunday's thunderstorm left a flurry of insurance claims in its wake, as farmers and townspeople cleaned up the damage from high winds, heavy rain and hail.

Co-operators Insurance Services in Red Deer had more than 80 claims filed as of Monday afternoon, said adjuster Brenda Briltz.

Most of the claims were from the Camrose and Olds areas, hardest hit in Central Alberta as the storm churned up a narrow path from Banff northeast to Lac La Biche over a 12-hour period.

Overall storm costs may top a few million dollars, said Dave Burnett of the Alberta Weather Centre.

"Damages weren't particularly severe, but over a 200-km track, it mounts up," he said.

Tornadoes were confirmed in at least two areas, around New Norway and northeast of Edmonton, near Willingdon and Vilna. The storm drew its energy from the very hot 40 C-plus air over Saskatchewan, Mr. Burnett said, adding that the storm could have been more intensive if it came through earlier in the day.

Strong winds, estimated at over 100 km/h, accounted for much of the reported damage.

Vehicles were bashed by flying debris and some were pitted by high-speed gravel whirling through the air, Ms. Briltz said.

Some farm buildings, including machinery sheds and grain bins, were overturned or torn apart. The roof was ripped off a mobile home and light equipment was tossed about. Large hail stones also pounded cars and broke windows.

Storm victims promised aid/2A

Please see FARM, Page 2A

Keegstra in appeal

CALGARY (CP) — Jim Keegstra's 1985 hate-mongering conviction was thrown out Monday when the Alberta Court of Appeal ruled the law under which he was charged violates the Charter of Rights.

The three-man appeal court said Section 281.2 of the Criminal Code, which bans dissemination of hatred against an identifiable group, is too broad and relies too heavily on prosecutorial discretion.

Decision causes concern

By ADRIENNE TANNER
of The Advocate

The woman who lodged the initial complaint against Jim Keegstra six years ago said she is disappointed the Court of Appeal has quashed his conviction on promoting hatred.

But what's more important, Sue Maddox of Eckville said, is that the province's 1984 decision to revoke Mr. Keegstra's teaching certificate has been upheld.

"That was the main thing — that he would no longer be able to teach to a captive audience."

Mrs. Maddox said she doesn't care if Mr. Keegstra wants to stand on a street corner or hold meetings to discuss his anti-Semitic and anti-Catholic views.

"He's free to do that."

What she said she fought for and what she still has is the assurance that Mr. Keegstra will never again be able to teach children.

"I wasn't on a crusade," she said, explaining she merely reacted to teachings she felt were "totally inappropriate."

Mrs. Maddox pulled her son out of Mr. Keegstra's Grade 9 social studies class in October 1982.

Mrs. Maddox's subsequent complaint to the Lacombe school board sparked the move which ousted Mr. Keegstra from his teaching position and eventually landed him in court on charges of spreading hatred against an identifiable group.

Carmen Wallace, a Blackfalds councillor and member of the Holocaust Remembrance Association, was distressed by the appeal court decision.

"I feel that this has got to be the darkest day for justice that I've ever seen," he said.

Mr. Wallace said Mr. Keegstra had the right to stand on a street corner "spouting" his views but did not have the right to teach them to school children.

Sandra Weidner, chairman of the Lacombe County schoolboard, said Mr. Keegstra will not be rehired.

Mrs. Weidner said Mr. Keegstra was fired for disobeying the board's orders to stop teaching the Jewish conspiracy theory and for not following the school

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The ju Keegstra school te students many of th well have a less-swe

Jewish called for preme C Horsman, general, been mad

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JIM KEEGSTR

Keegstra, after compl Semitic co social studi school in E

His visio conspiracy national ev of a sens trial, the lo tory. He w his convicti

The case three thin movies and two books.

The cour deal with th nor with a grounds ra lawyers, Do can McKillo hearing last point, thou stra's opinio nant or ill- tected by th guarantee in

In 1983, th Keegstra's son's noteb cussed Keeg teachings. S complained then the sch

In the en stra was fir teaching cr seek work as feated in a 1984, he wa brary of an was seized by

The case w packed court in the spring

TUES JUNE 7
P I A

RED DEER ADVOCATE TUES JUNE 7, 1988 p A2 JUNE 5

"Our first task . . . is to pronounce not upon the Crown's case against Keegstra but rather his case against Parliament. In my view, that case has been made.

Kerans discussed the effect of the Charter, saying one clause in the law provides that no person shall be convicted if what was said is true. But it reasons, it has no force and effect."

free speech. Several justifications were offered, not all of which I accept. Section 281.2 fails, however, the last test under Section 1 (of the Charter). It is not demonstrably justifiable be-

though it is possible that he could have been convicted by a jury under a valid law that does not contain the imperfections in Section 281.2."



IMPROMPTU CONCERT — Chris Tweedie, 13, left, and Curtis Hanson, 13, had just finished performing in the Red Deer Catholic Schools Band Finale, at the Arts Centre, Monday evening, and were waiting in front of RDC for their ride home. The two Grade 6 students, who play for the St. Patrick School band, decided to exchange instruments while waiting. They put on a very experimental, unpolished, impromptu concert for anyone willing to listen.

Photo by JERRY GERLING

Opposition launches stall tactics

EDMONTON (CP) — The opposition NDP began using stall tactics Monday in a bid to force the Conservative government to improve a proposed labor bill.

Shortly after the Employment Standards Act was introduced in the legislature for second reading, NDP labor critic Bryan Strong proposed an amendment, one of at least 20 the New Democrats plan to introduce in hopes of prolonging debate.

Other amendments were introduced later.

The New Democrats are prepared to debate the bill around the clock, House Leader Pam Barrett told reporters earlier in the day.

Bill 21 proposes standards for non-union employees in such areas as overtime, vacation entitlements and acceptable hours of work.

But Barrett said the bill doesn't go far enough to improve working conditions.

Getty concedes Lubicon tribunal not discussed

EDMONTON (CP) — The Alberta government did not present Ottawa with a formal proposal for a tribunal to help settle the Lubicon Cree land claim, Premier Don Getty conceded Monday.

"We didn't do it in writing, but I think it's far more effective to do things personally," Getty told reporters.

Attorney-General Jim Horsman insists he discussed the tribunal proposal with Indian Affairs Minister Bill McKnight by telephone several times before leaving the matter to government lawyers.

But Pam Forward, a spokesman for McKnight, said the minister stands by his earlier statement that a tribunal proposal was never presented to McKnight or the federal government either through Getty or Horsman.

The premier has proposed a tribunal consisting of one Lubicon representative, one government representative and a mutually acceptable third party be struck to speed settlement of the northern Alberta band's 48-year-old land claim.

"I'm not going to argue the point with him now," Horsman said of McKnight after sparring with the opposition over the issue during question period in the legislature Monday. "I know what I said to him and I know what he said to me."

Horsman said he discussed the issue with McKnight over the weekend, but would not reveal what was discussed.

Farm buildings wrecked; lightning kills cattle

Continued from Page 1A

In Olds, wind tore off a roof section from the sports complex — causing an estimated $15,000 in damages. Insurance should also cover the $4,000 loss for Stirdon Systems, where seven-metre-long steel building sheets were mangled.

"About a dozen of them were picked up and blown over the fence and across the street," said owner Stirling McLeod.

The building supplier next door, Home-All, had about $2,000 in damages, as two small garden sheds and a greenhouse tumbled across the yard.

Northeast of Clive, farmers Jerome and Bonnie Wildeman estimated damages at $50,000, as the 2:30 a.m. winds and hail crushed a large machinery shed, blew a double garage 15 metres through the air and damaged about six other buildings.

They're still sorting out what is covered by insurance.

Not far from the Wildemans, lightning struck and killed eight cattle belonging to Len Oro.

The three cows, four calves and purebred bull were standing along a fence, which likely carried the jolt along its length, Mr. Oro said. The cattle dropped where they were standing, he said.

Grape-sized hail also flattened crops and two quarters of hilly fields were "washed pretty bad."

Although he hopes the young barley plants will revive with the 33 mm of rain they got, it won't make up for the $6,000 in cattle losses.

"Hopefully the moisture will be more beneficial than the hail was damaging," said Dwayne Campbell of Alberta Hail and Crop Insurance Corp. "The area was excessively dry — we would have liked to have a slow rain but this is better than not having any."

The Crown corporation offices were busy taking claims on wind, rain and hail damage.

"It's too early to get an indication of the amount of damage," the director of country operations added, saying some farmers may reseed.

The rain, up to 36 mm in some places, will help fill in patchy germination and sustain growth for another week to 10 days, said Alberta Agriculture crop specialist Wayne Jackson.

It wasn't a drought-quenching downpour, especially since many areas on the edge of the storm got less than five mm.

Pastures and hayland also will need much more to get them back on track, although land west of Red Deer should start greening up within the week.

Disaster relief promised for storm victims

EDMONTON (CP) — The Alberta government will provide disaster relief to victims of the weekend storm that struck southern and central Alberta, Premier Don Getty said Monday.

He told the legislature his ministers and public safety officials were assessing the damage and their report will determine what kind of assistance the government will provide.

"We are going to do everything we possibly can to help," said Getty, adding aid will be offered to those who were hurt or had their homes or businesses damaged.

Most damage from the storm was along a narrow path 40 km wide and 200 km long from southeast of Calgary to Smoky Lake, northeast of Edmonton. Weather officials said it probably included a tornado.

In some of the hardest hit areas offices were to be open starting today so people could report property damage. Alberta Public Safety Services announced Monday county and village offices in several communities would gather information to help the government decide on financial relief.

"Quite frankly we don't know the extent of the damage or loss of property that people have suffered," said Grahame Blundell, department spokesman. "If there is to be government assistance it will be based on what people tell us."

Solicitor General Ken Rostad, whose Camrose constituency was hit hard by the storm, toured the area in a helicopter Monday with Agriculture Minister Peter Elzinga.

Rostad said there was devastation in some places while others escaped unscathed.

"I don't think there's any doubt the province will participate," said Rostad. "It's a matter now of trying to do inventory and determine exactly what the damages are."

Red Deer Advoc
Tues June 7 '88
p 2 A

JUNE 5



Halkirk News

Melody Kent
Halkirk Correspondent

Bingo winners at the Senior Centre on Tuesday, May 31 were: Beattie Godbersen 2; May Anderson 2; Ida Bailey; Anne Cherry 4; Dot Rowland—May Anderson—Ethel Ronalds—Flo Sterling — all tied; Ethel Ronalds; Katie Schultz—Ethel Ronalds—Ella May Taylor — all tied; Cis Creasey; Elsie McColeman; Laura Wells. Blackout — Anne Cherry. The next bingo is June 14 at 2 p.m. at the Senior Centre. Everyone welcome.

Bingo winners at the Community Hall on Thursday, June 2 were: Mary Beer; Marion Burke—Mrs. Sterling—Gladys Dahl — tied; Rose Koenraadt; Alice Rowles; Laura Wells 2; Dot Rowland 5; Thelma Davits; Katie Schultz; Vera Bullington; Mrs. Ronalds; Marion Burke. Happy H — Rose Koenraadt— Katie Schultz — tie. Bonanza — Julia Schnell—Mrs. Davits — tie. Comeback draw — Katie Schultz.

A large crowd of friends, neighbors, relatives and guests gathered at the Community Hall on Saturday evening to honor a very special lady, Patti Hronek, who has received the Medal of Courage from the Canadian Cancer Society. MC for the evening was Councillor Gord Taylor. Kjerene Engel was the first speaker and she gave a little history on Patti. The next speaker was Maureen Losing of the CanSurmount group of Castor who gave an excellent talk about Patti based on the song "It's Hard to Be Humble." Two ladies of the CanSurmount group of Stettler, Kate Saunders and Margo Rusk spoke briefly on their association with Patti over the past seven years. Kjerene Engel then read congratulatory letters from Premier Getty, MLA Brian Downey and Elaine McCoy, Minister of Consumer and Cultural Affairs.

MP Arnold Malone congratulated Patti on her achievements and her brave battle against cancer.

A group of local ladies led by Cathy Schaffner sang a few songs, the last of which was composed especially for Patti.

Mayor Don Engel on behalf of the Village of Halkirk presented Patti with a plaque and a bouquet of flowers. HRL Shirley Poirier on behalf of the Halkirk OORP presented her with a ceramic owl — Patti collects owls.

Patti then thanked everyone for the lovely evening and read an article on a "Typical Day on the Farm" — a piece she had written for the CanSurmount paper of which she is publisher.

Lunch and coffee followed the program. Congratulations Patti from the whole community for receiving the Medal of Courage. Patti and Allan fly to Montreal this summer to receive this award.

The Halkirk community west and north of town suffered severe damage to buildings, trees, etc. when a small tornado struck Saturday evening. Power poles were snapped off and people were without power for 14 hours. The fire truck was called to put out several small fires west of town that were caused by falling power lines. The hardest hit were Jess and Fran Clark who were not home at the time of the storm.

The Halkirk OORP held Royal Purple Day in the Community Hall. When they served ice cream, cake and strawberries to the community.

Several friends and relatives gathered at the Dahmer farm on Sunday afternoon to honor Peggy Dahmer who celebrated her 75th birthday on June 1. Harry and Hazel Duncan of Calgary were able to come for the occasion.

The Halkirk OORP held their June meeting on Monday, June 6, Twenty-seven ladies were treated to supper out at the Tasty Mill in Castor. Everyone came back to the hall for their regular meeting. Visitors this night were ladies of the Endmoor Lodge. Thank you ladies for coming.

A miscellaneous shower will be held for Tracy Kneeland, whose marriage will take place in July, on Friday, June 10 beginning at 8 p.m. A pool has been set up in the store. Everyone welcome.

The Halkirk Elks are hosting a slowpitch tournament on June 17, 18 and 19. A fun-filled weekend for everyone.

Anniversaries: Ernie and Clara Sorensen — June 10.

Birthdays: Ella May Taylor, Fred Schilling, Doug Duke, Frankie Hronek,Roy Haeberle — June 9; Peggy Green, Alexis Duncan — June 10; Matthew McKnight, Teena Thorkelson — June 14.

Get well wishes to Fred Schilling who is a patient in the Castor hospital.



Westwoods News

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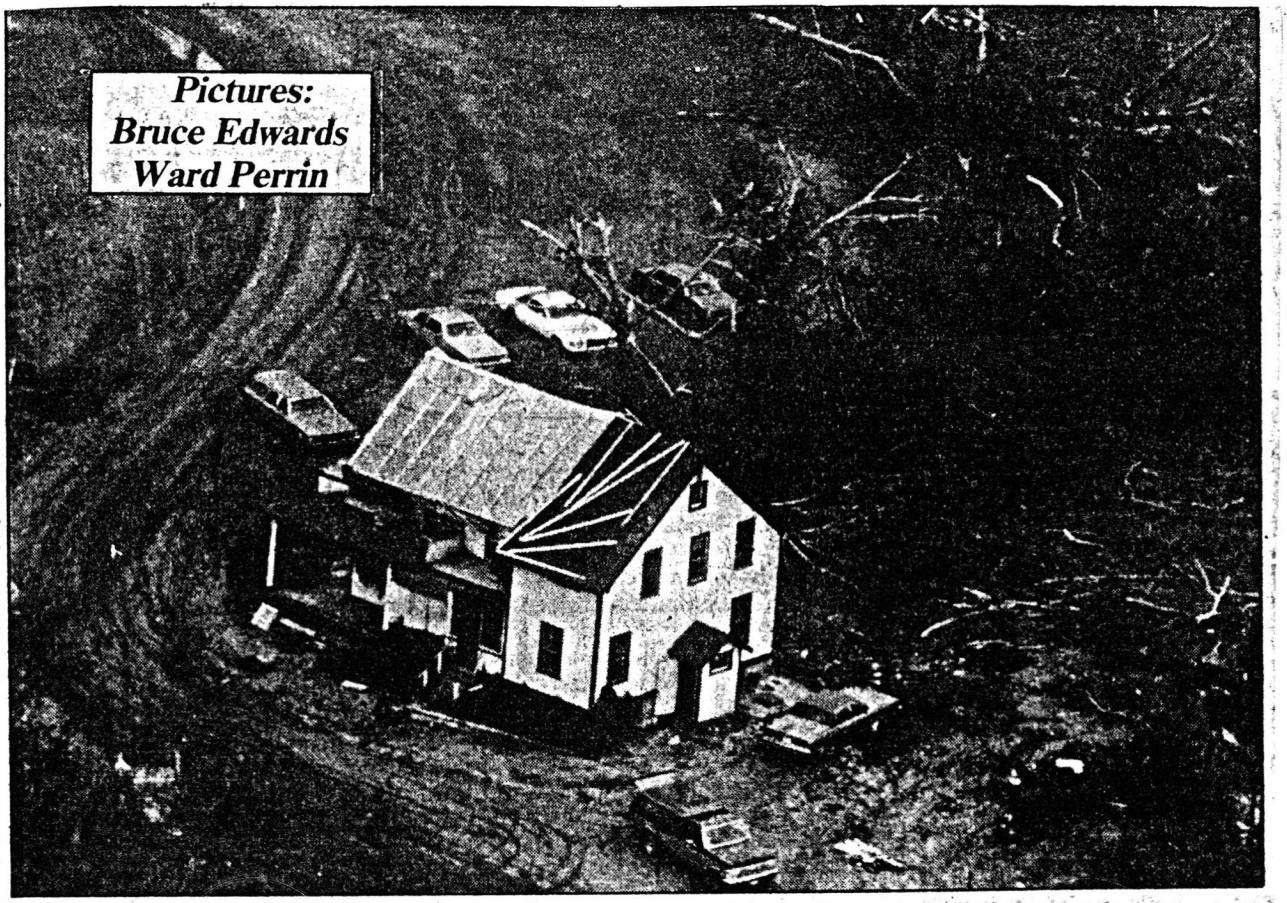
EDMONTON JOURNAL MON JUNE 6 1988 p A4



Trees were uprooted and the roof stripped at this farm house near Duhamel

EDMONTON JOURNAL MON JUNE 6 1988 p A4

Storm leaves Camrose in dark

Journal Staff Writers

Provincial safety officials are surveying the damage from Sunday's storm as the government considers aid to victims.

Grahame Blundell, director of communications for Alberta Public Safety Services, said two field officers were sent to the scene Sunday to survey the damage.

A preliminary report will be available today, he said.

People with property damage should notify their municipalities and their insurance companies and then take pictures of the destruction to help support their claims, he said.

"The minister (Environment Minister Ken Kowalski) knows what's happened," Blundell said. "No one's in a position to say we're going to allocate any money for this, we've got to find out the extent of the damage."

About 20,000 Albertans, most of them in the Camrose area, struggled through Sunday without electricity after the storm flattened transmission towers.

Activity in Camrose ground to a halt as the power outage shut off street and traffic lights and closed service stations, restaurants and other businesses.

Camrose's St. Mary's hospital was limping along on auxiliary power, with medical services like X-rays severely hampered.

Cpl. Dennis Quarin, spokesman for the Camrose police department, said the town was coping well without power.

"We haven't experienced any major problems, but if we'd had a fire or people injured we would have been in trouble," he said. "We've just been saying 'thank goodness' about that."

TransAlta Utilities spokesman Wayne St. Amour said power was lost in the Camrose area about 3 a.m. Sunday.

Two main transmission lines carrying power to Camrose and surrounding towns and farms were damaged by the storm, said St. Amour. In all, 33 wooden transmission structures were toppled, he said, cutting off power to customers within a 16-km radius of Camrose.

Crews were dispatched to the scene and power was being restored Sunday.

In Edmonton, Sunday's severe storm left some Evergreen Mobile Home Park residents fearful that another tornado could strike.

"If there's even a stiff breeze out here, it makes some of my tenants a little nervous, justifiably so," said Chico Bulmer, the park manager.

The tornado last July 31 killed 27 people in Edmonton, 15 of whom lived in the Evergreen park. It was considered the hardest hit area.

Betty Bartelds, 52, was there when the twister touched down. She and her husband Lambert, 55, were flung 30 metres through the air and landed near a clump of trees. Nothing was left of their home.

"This morning, after hearing the news, I thought about last July and it gave me the shivers," Bartelds said.

"I have a feeling that something bad is going to happen this summer. The weather has been unusual."

Bartelds and other survivors interviewed Sunday say they extend their sympathy to residents of Camrose, where the storm did considerable damage.

One of the concerns after the Edmonton storm was a lack of adequate warning.

Blundell said that before Sunday's storm, the Atmospheric Environment Service issued a severe thunderstorm warning at 12:20 a.m. Sunday that mentioned the possibility of a tornado developing.

Blundell said the warning was issued because all of the conditions for a tornado were present: high humidity, thunderstorms and cold winds aloft.

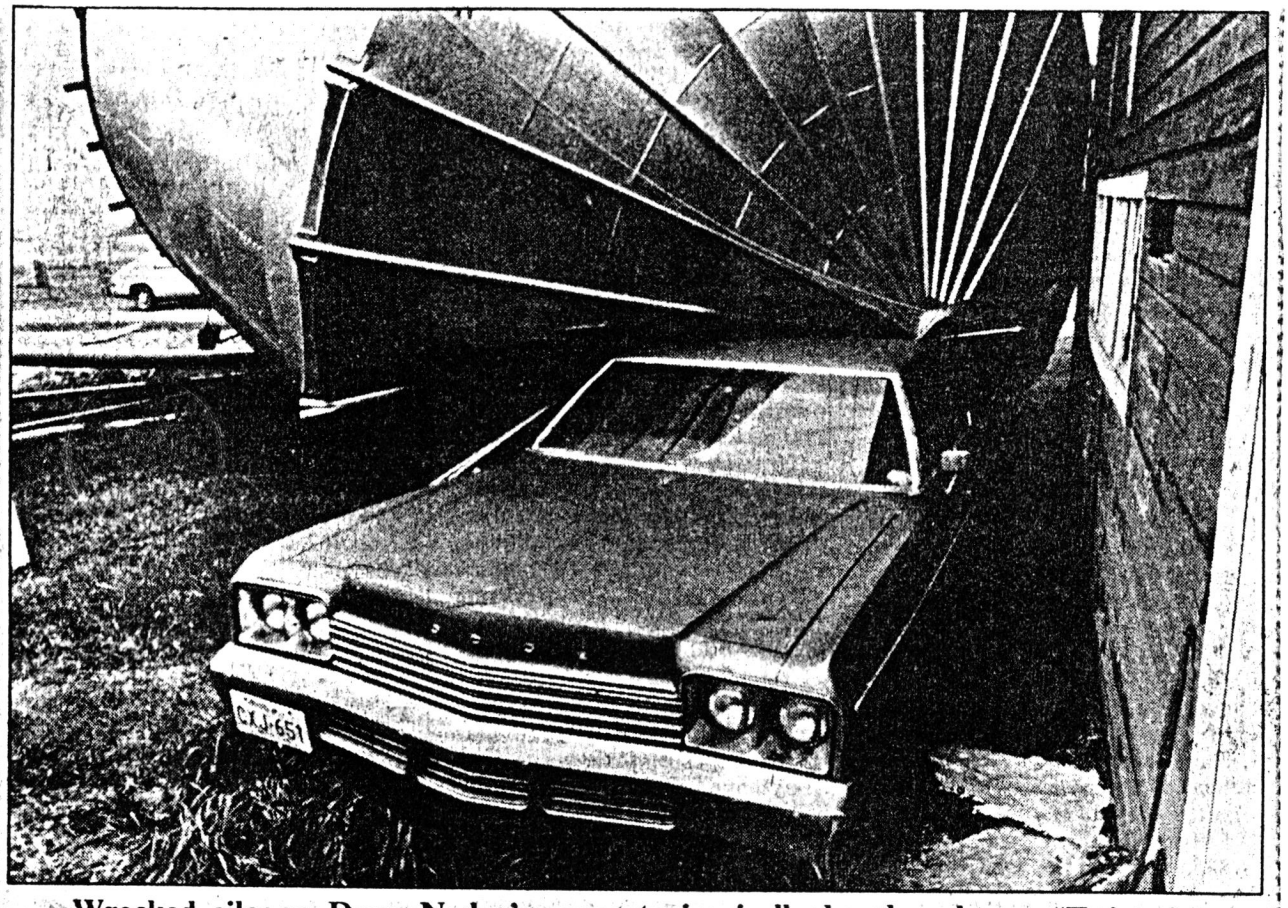
However, he said it is unusual for a tornado to strike at that time of the day.

As the storm swept through central Alberta, the old saw that every cloud has its silver lining proved true for farmers who got badly needed rain.

Pat Kyle of Environment Canada said 22 mm. of rain in the Red Deer area is "pretty good." And 40 mm. in the Camrose area is a good rainfall.

"I even hear reports of puddles in some fields in the Camrose region."

The storm also dumped rain ranging from 14 mm. in Calgary to 10 mm. in Edmonton and 18 mm in Lac la Biche.



Wrecked silo on Doug Noden's property ironically has brand-name 'Twister'

Shauna fears for her house

For children near Camrose who have been learning about tornadoes in school, Sunday's storm was a confusing and frightening experience.

"I hope this doesn't happen to my house," said six-year-old Shauna Welda, looking at the shattered remains of Sigrun Lyseng's garage.

Shauna, who goes to Hay Lakes Elementary School, said her teacher showed her class pictures of tornadoes, telling them what to do if they see one coming.

"She told us that if you have a basement you should go in it," the little girl said softly.

Apparently uneasy with the effects of a tornado up close, Shauna asked her father if she could go to a friend's house to spend the night.

She wasn't taking the risk that another tornado might strike her own home.

EDMONTON JOURNAL
MON JUNE 6 1988
PG4

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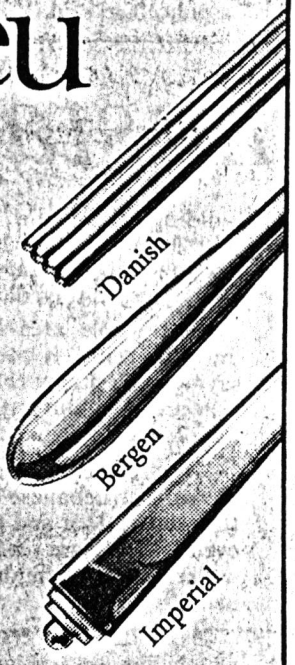

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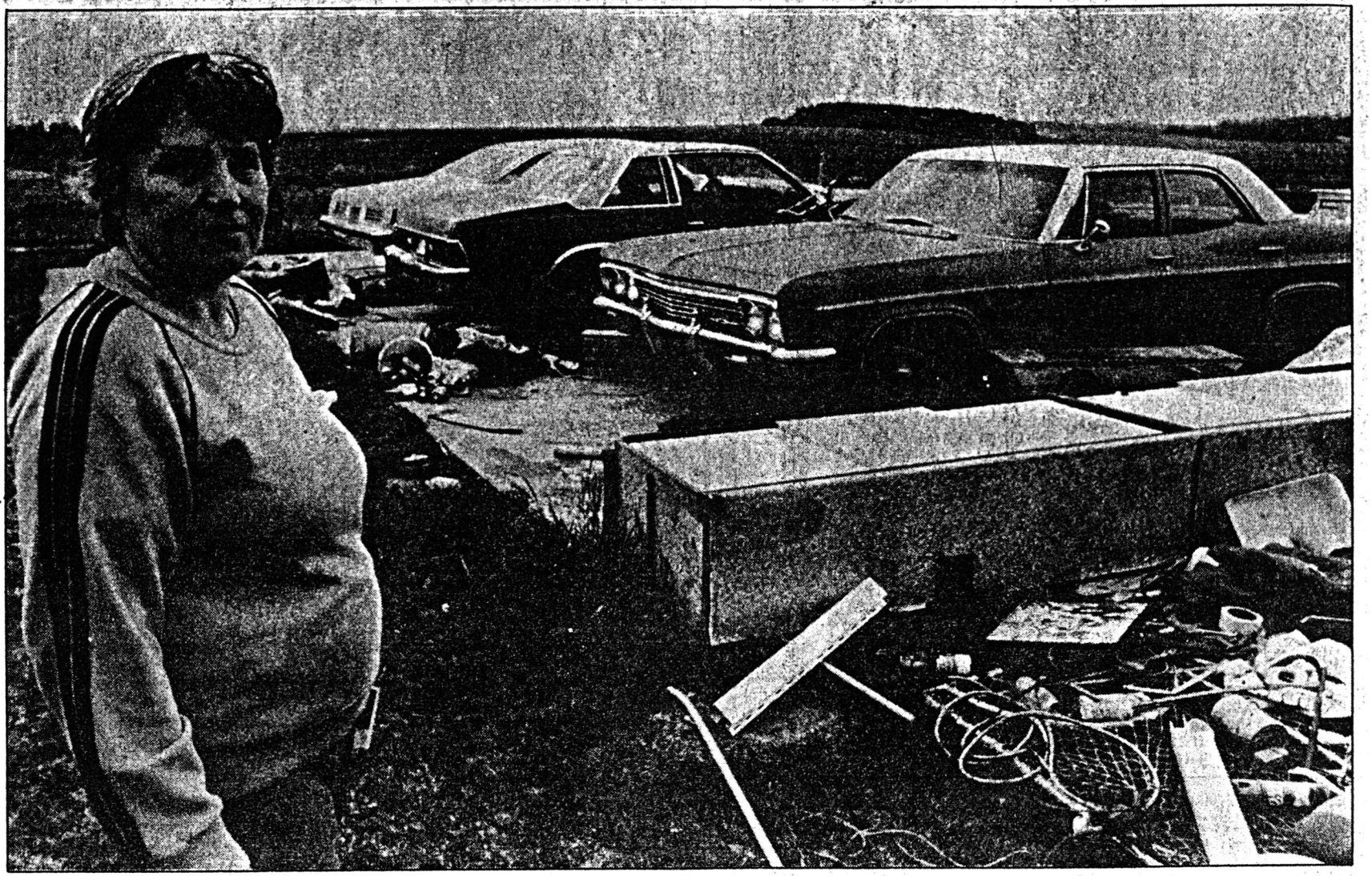
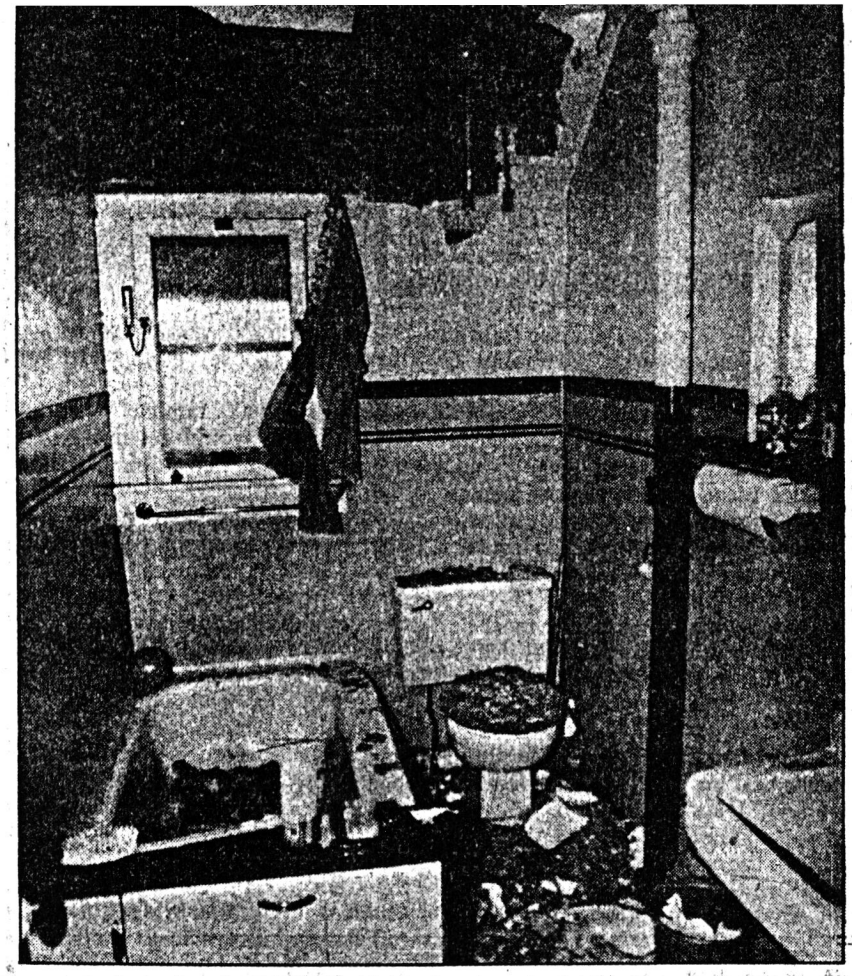
Twister

Debris, heartbreak left b



Sigrun Lyseng found her cars but the garage went missing when high winds hit her property near Camrose



Debris in bathroom at Alan Wilson's home near Duhamel

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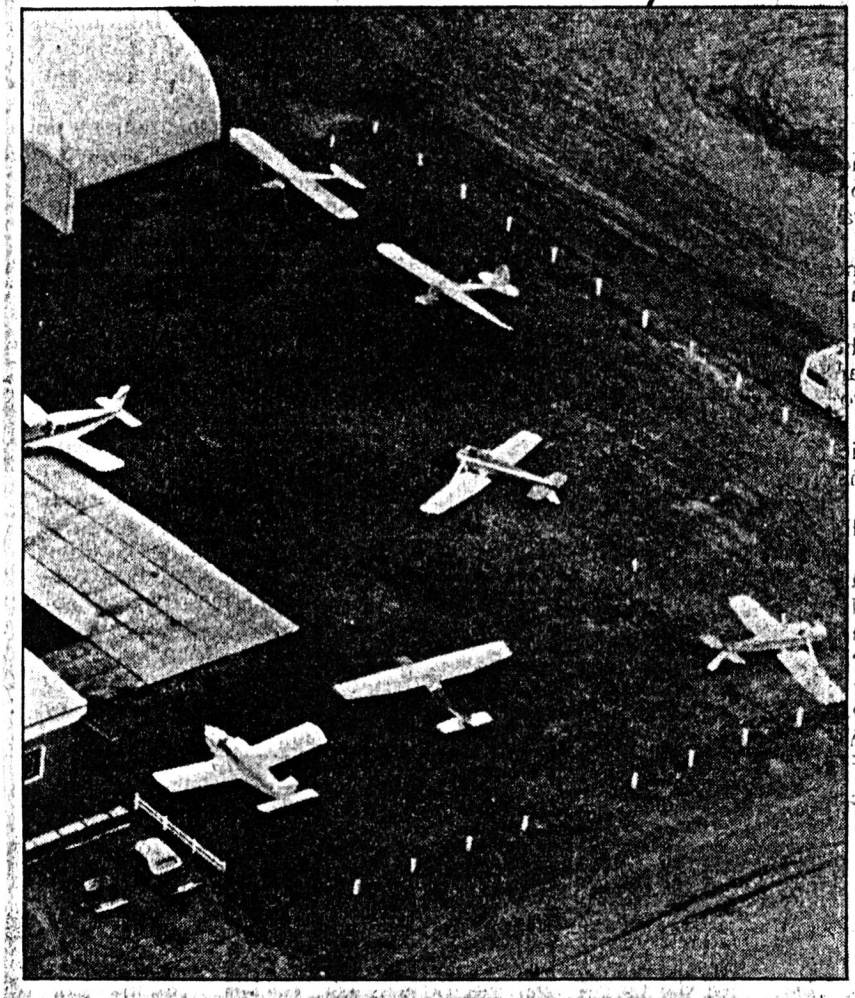


Small aircraft at Camrose airport were overturned

Hole in the roof just over his bed

By GORDON CLARK
Journal Staff Writer

When the dust and lumber settled, Alan Wilson could almost count his lucky stars.

If it hadn't been for the cloud cover, he would have seen them twinkling at him through a massive hole the storm ripped in the roof above his bed.

"I was sleeping in that room when I woke up from the wind," the lanky farmer said Sunday. "When I got up, I was just starting to feel the wind in the house."

Stories, pictures A4

Wilson, who has lived in the 70-year-old home since he was a child, felt it shaking at about 3 a.m. and was blinded by objects flying around the room.

He covered his head with blankets for protection, he said.

"Before I got out of the room they were pulled out of my hands," he said. "I couldn't hold on to them."

As Wilson struggled downstairs, most of the roof was ripped away — shingles, joists and siding — and strewn across his fields for half a kilometre.

"It just tore the God-damn roof off," he said.

"I said a little prayer and got out of there."

The wind did extensive damage inside Wilson's house, smashing windows, knocking doors off their hinges and blowing insulation everywhere.

"I went downstairs and the kitchen door was jammed, I had to use my shoulder," he said.

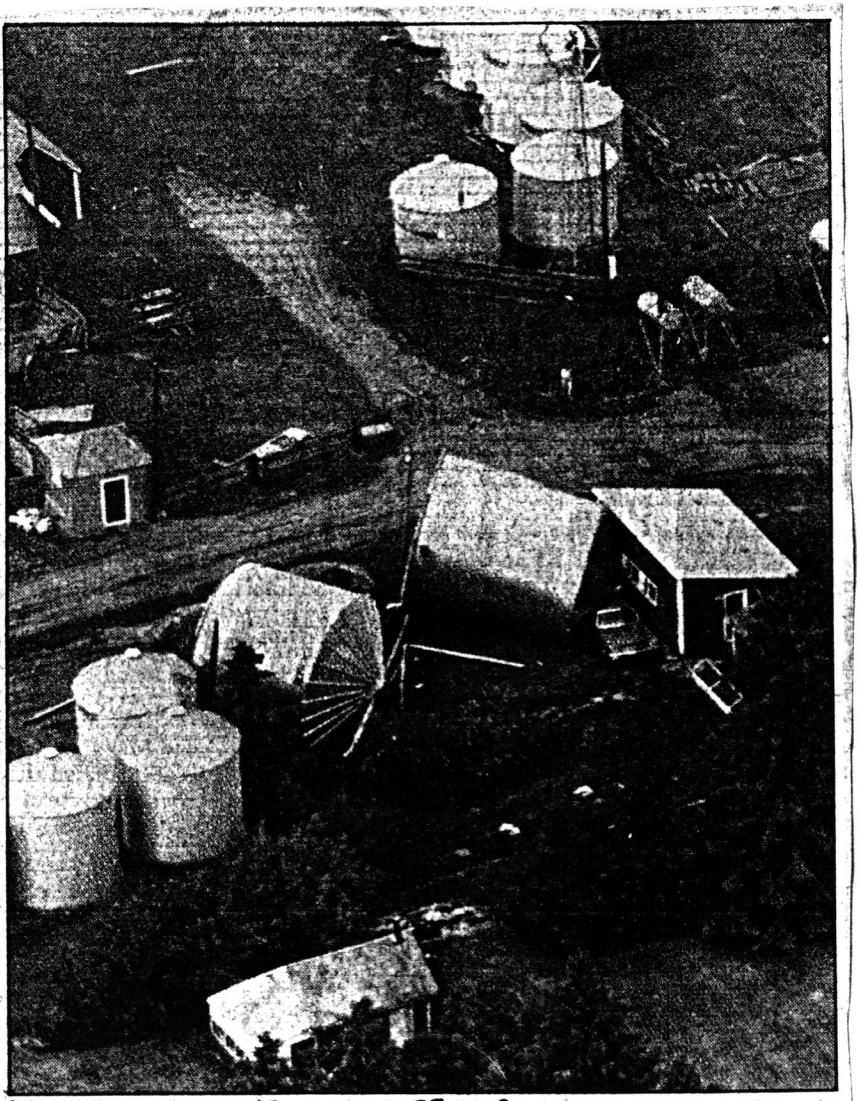
By 4 a.m., Wilson's neighbors started to arrive at the 950-acre mixed farm, helping him erect a temporary roof with tarps. "We've had a tremendous response from our friends and neighbors."

Wilson also had damage to his livestock feeder but couldn't say if any of his 340 cattle were injured.

The only mystery that remains is where his false teeth went. He put them by his bed when he went to sleep, but he hasn't seen them since.

"The joke of the day is that I can't find my teeth," he said. "When I left I didn't worry about them."

Wilson couldn't say whether he would repair the old house or knock it down.

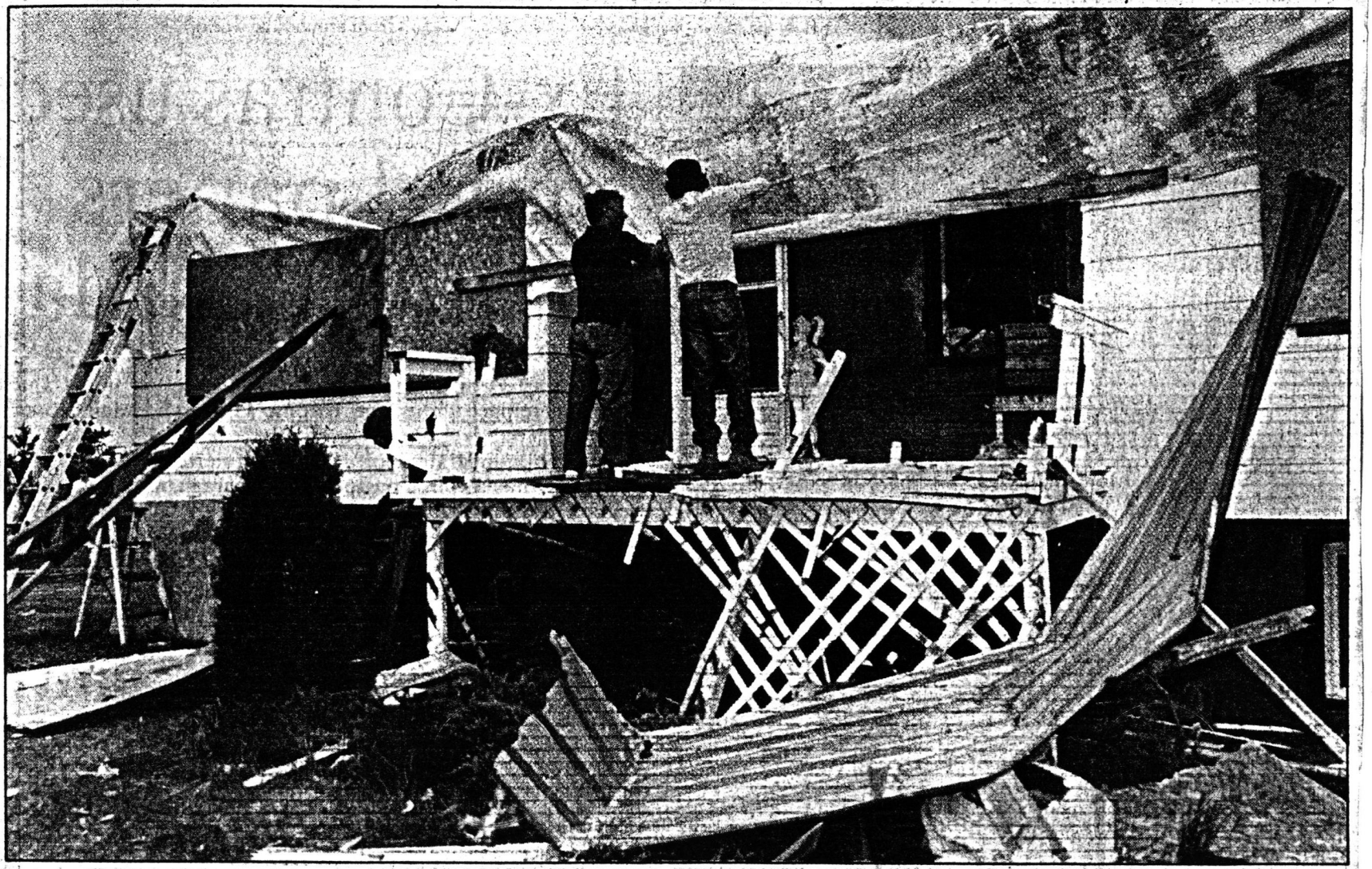


EDMONTON JOURNAL MON JUNE 6 1988 pA1

PICTURE: Bruce Edwards

EDMONTON JOURNAL MON JUNE 6 1988 p A1

Twister blitzes Cam



PICTURE: Jack Bagley/ St. Albert Gazette

Battening down tarpaulin replacing roof of Peter Fushtey's farm house near Vilna are Lenny Dmetruik (left) and Nick Rogosa . . . *(below) grain silos were sent tumbling when gusts ripped through Alan Wilson's farm near Duhamel. Wilson also lost part of his roof. (Story at left).*

EDMONTON JOURNAL MON JUNE 6 1988 p A1

By BOB GILMOUR and GORDON CLARK
Journal Staff Writers

A violent thunderstorm that spawned a tornado near Camrose ripped through central Alberta early Sunday, causing millions of dollars damage.

The six-hour storm accompanied by high winds, heavy rain, intense lightning and sporadic hail was most destructive from Stettler north to Vilna, flattening houses, barns, granaries, sheds, trees and power poles.

The path of damage was 20 to 30 km wide. But the storm, flanked on each side by rain, was 100 to 150 km wide, said Patrick Kyle of the Edmonton weather office.

The violent winds moved houses and barns off their foundations, tore off roofs, upset trailers and blew granaries hundreds of metres.

No deaths or injuries were reported in the storm, which covered about 400 km beginning in Banff about midnight and ending in Lac la Biche about 6 a.m.

The Alberta Weather Office issued a severe thunderstorm warning to the public as the storm moved from Banff and updated it county by county as it moved along.

A decision on government help for farmers and homeowners will not be made until the damage is assessed, said Grahame Blundell, director of communications for Alberta Public Safety Services.

Kyle said there was apparently a tornado near Camrose in a five-km-wide microburst (a downdraft with wind speeds which can exceed 100 kmh triggered by a thunderstorm).

"I guarantee there was a tornado because I saw it," said Andy Zetsen, 55, a Camrose contractor, who lives on a farm 16 km west of the city.

Zetsen said he saw the tornado funnel for five to eight minutes during lightning flashes while looking out his bedroom window about 3:10 a.m. Sunday.

The funnel stretched from the ground to the clouds, he said. It seemed to have touched down some 200 metres away.

The tornado made an eerie sound — a whizzing or whistling — and the wind seemed to come from every direction, Zetsen said. It blew down trees in his yard and the shingles off his house, barn and garage.



EDMONTON JOURNAL GRAPHIC

Weather

Showers and thundershowers with 10 mm. of rain. High near 22, low 12. Tuesday: cloudy, scattered showers. High near 19. Details C6

Canada

Stephen Lewis, Canada's ambassador to the United Nations, denounces the Mulroney government's defence policy in a fiery Montreal speech. A2

Sportsweek

The Edmonton Roadrunners place second in the Banff-Jasper Relay Race for the second straight year. D1

Coming

The storm snapped off power poles "like matchsticks" and broke off most of the top of a farmer's forage silo, he said.

Environment Canada specialists were in the Camrose area, Kyle said, inspecting the damage to determine wind speed and if a twister had touched down.

He said reports of wind damage from the storm were received from around Calgary, Stettler, Bashaw, New Norway, Bittern Lake, Tofield, Holden, Willingdon, Smoky Lake and Vilna.

Damage will total millions of dollars alone in the Camrose, New Norway and Bittern Lake areas — which also received hail and were the hardest hit because of the tornado, Kyle said. They received 40 mm of rain.

The farming communities around Camrose were the hardest hit. The storm left 20,000 people in the area without electricity.

Sigrun Lyseng, who owns a quarter-section, five kilometres east of Armena, lost her three-car garage, which was ripped from its foundation, leaving the cars sitting on a concrete slab. The wind was so strong it broke bolts connecting the walls to the foundation.

The wind ripped the structure apart, strewing shattered boards as far as 200 metres away.

"It took the pipes of the furnace but the rest of the house is OK," she said. "I was sleeping right through it. I didn't hear a thing."

Other damage reports included hail stones as big as golf balls in the Canmore region.

Kyle said the main path of the storm passed 40 to 60 km east of Edmonton but still dumped about 10 mm of rain on the city and produced thunder and lightning.

"Hopefully not," he said when asked if the storm heralds the start of a bad tornado summer.

EDMONTON JOURNAL TUES JUNE 7 1988 p B8

After the storm

Camrose farmers assess damage

By GORDON CLARK
Journal Staff Writer

CAMROSE — Lorenz Wenig opened the twisted lid of one of his overturned grain bins and peered into the chaos inside.

"We had five grain bins moved," the tall, husky wheat farmer said. "The wind blew in from the east. If the half-ton hadn't been there this one would have blown into the house."

Like dozens of others living around this farming community, Wenig was picking up the pieces Monday and trying to assess the damage left by the violent storm that cut across central Alberta on Sunday.

Wenig, 43, who runs a 560-hectare wheat farm near Armena, about 55 km southeast of Edmonton, had five bins thrown around his property by the storm. Two of the 2,000-bushel containers flipped and skidded about 100 metres into a field.

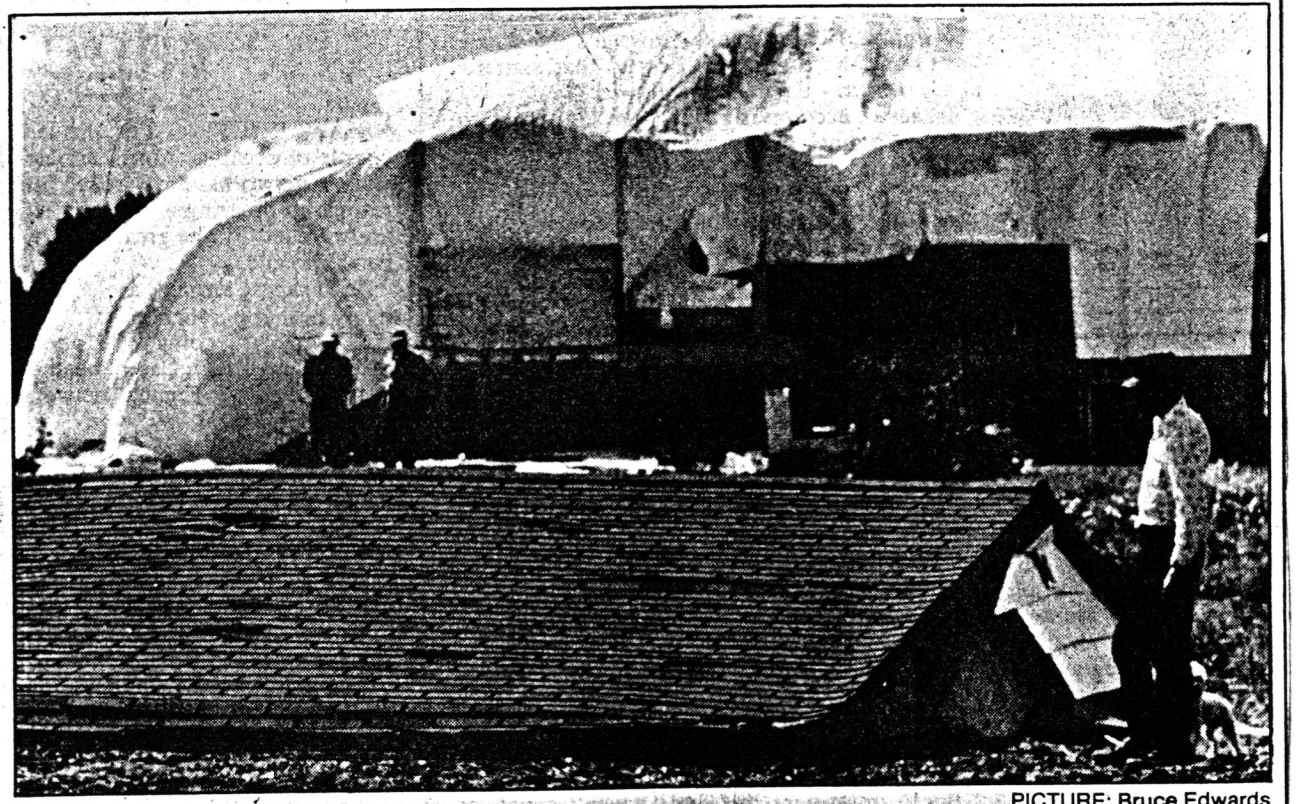
Another of the 10-metre-high bins was blown over one way before being rolled into a pickup truck in the opposite direction. "The wind went in both ways so it's hard to figure," Wenig said, examining the caved-in metal structure.

"I need another one to blow them all back," he said with a laugh.

The storm also destroyed a cattle pen, blew down a tree that hit the house, knocked over fences and ripped shingles from his roof.

"I couldn't tell you what this will cost," he said. "There's lots of man-hours. We'll start pretty quick."

Wenig's neighbor, Crowfoot MP Arnold Malone, looked out across his once-thriving berry fields, knocked flat by the storm. Aluminum irrigation pipes on his 24-hectare operation lay on the muddy soil like pickup sticks.



PICTURE: Bruce Edwards

Peter Fushtey examines the roof of his house lying in a field some distance away

. . . his neighbors gathered to help with the massive clean-up job on his farm

until about 3:15 Sunday morning," said his wife, Susan.

The freak winds tore down 14 spruce trees on the property, moved sheds in several directions and tore shakes off the roof. One empty barrel was flung about 200 metres.

Malone didn't know how much it would cost to repair the damage. He dragged away several large trees Monday that had fallen, and videotaped damage to show his insurance agent.

On the eastern outskirts of Camrose, about 70 km southeast of Ed-

vehicles at a car lot. "Our total will be between $80,000 and $100,000," said sales manager Gint Arnold of Norseman General Motors.

Many cars suffered chipped paint and cracked windows but one pickup truck was apparently lifted and had a small shed driven under its tires.

Some cars were found with windows completely cracked but not broken. "When you opened the door the window just blew in," Arnold said. "A vacuum builds up inside, I don't really understand it though."

Arnold said he'd contacted the dealership's insurance company and was told the repairs were covered by its policy.

At Camrose airport several light airplanes were damaged after being blown on to their backs. Two were not worth fixing, said Jack Braden, operator of Rebuild Air.

Braden said the planes were worth about $10,000 to $15,000 each but couldn't estimate what total repairs would run.

All the planes were tied down when the storm hit but winds were strong enough to snap one-cm-thick rope.

EDMONTON SUN MON. JUNE 6 1988 p50



Kim Undin sits on steps of her farm home.

Chico watches from Evergreen

By RICHARD WATTS
Staff Writer

Chico Bulmer sat up half the night waiting for a repeat of his worst nightmare.

The manager of Edmonton's tornado-ravaged Evergreen Trailer Park felt a tornado was brewing Saturday night because of the extreme humidity.

So he took no chances — sitting up until after 3 a.m. watching and listening for the "jet-engine" roar that would signal the arrival of another tornado.

"I remembered humidity was a factor last time," said Bulmer. "I just wanted to be up and on my toes if we were going to get hit again. That noise, I know I will never forget. I think I could tune into it again pretty quickly."

The Evergreen Trailer Park, in northeast Edmonton, was the hardest hit last July 31 when the Black Friday tornado ripped through the city.

Of the 27 people killed 15 were from the trailer park.

Bulmer said since that day he and the other tenants become very uneasy during thunderstorms.

"I had one tenant come around and ask me why I didn't set off the siren at 4 a.m." he said.

But Bulmer says he is caught in a dilemma — he does not want tenants to be taken by surprise again, but he also does not want to cause a panic.

Evergreen residents are devising an emergency plan where people will head for a nearby ravine for shelter if a tornado is thought to be heading their way.

—Photo by Keith Zukiwski



Shop gone

Peter Fushtey (facing camera) and a friend survey the remains of Fushtey's shop north of Willingdon, which is 105 km northeast of Edmonton.

Airth ready to help out

Edmonton's Queen of Scrounge says she's ready to help anyone hit hard by the vicious storm.

Emergency Relief Services spokesman Heather Airth said last night her outfit will respond quickly to anyone needing clothing, food, furniture or bedding.

"You know me, I'm the Queen of Scrounge, I'll find a truck and get it there," said Airth, who was one of the founders of the Edmonton organization established to help fire victims.

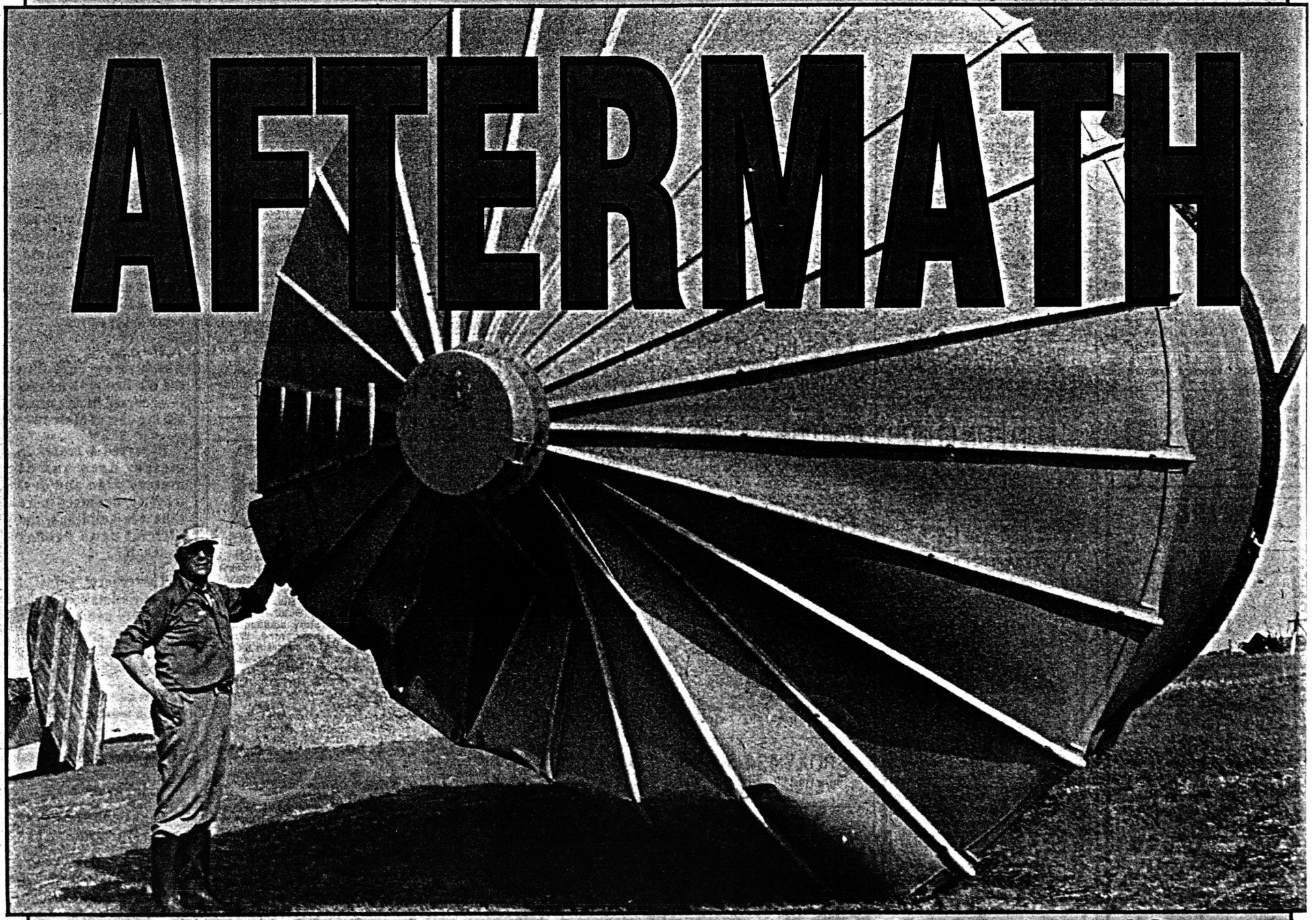
The work of the service changed dramatically when the July 31 tornado ravaged Edmonton last year.

Airth said the outpouring of generosity by Edmontonians after last year's Black Friday tornado may be repeated now that a severe storm — including tornadoes — has struck rural regions.

Airth said she is maintaining contact with RCMP and Red Cross officials working in the wake of the storm's path.

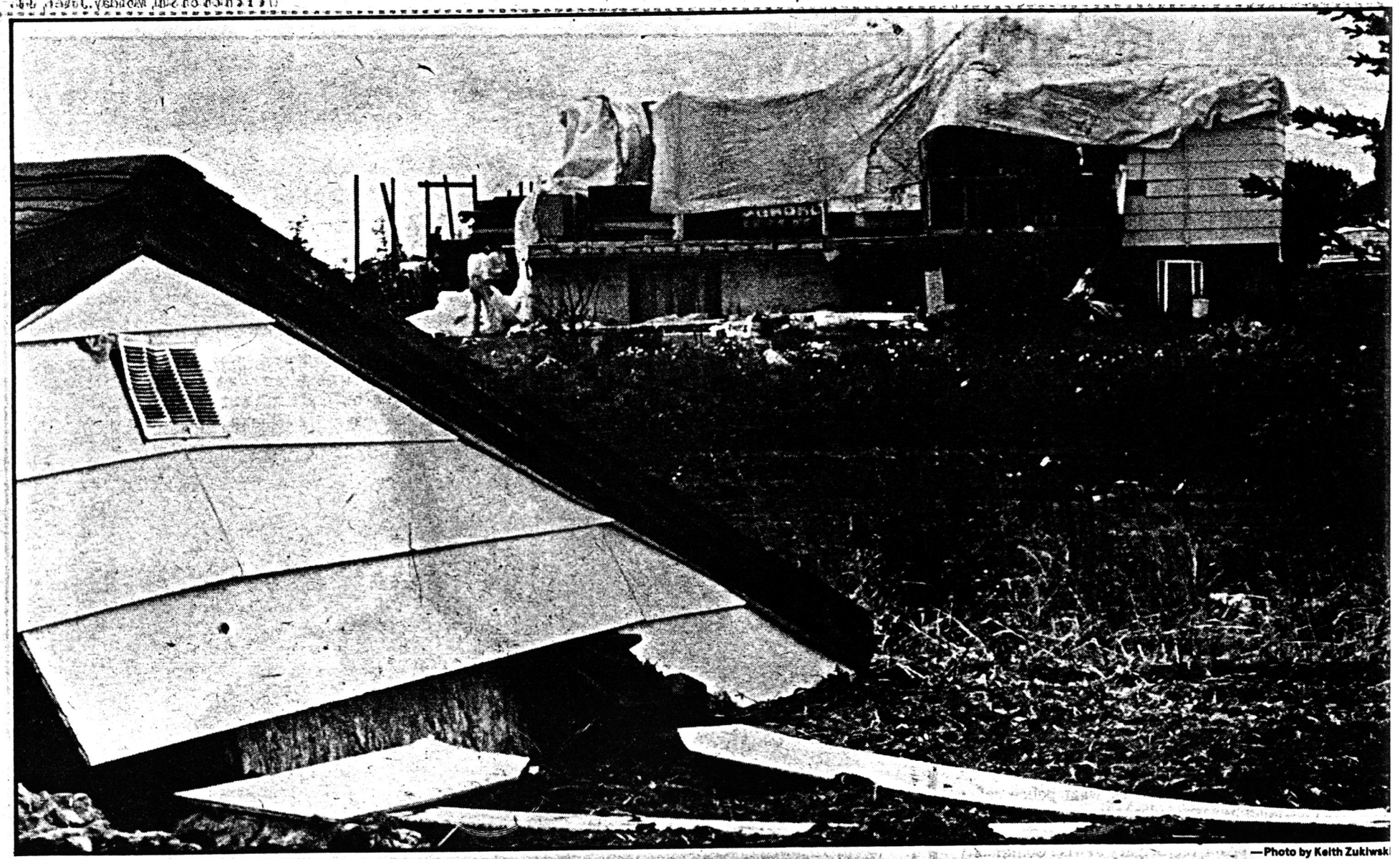
—Photo by Doug Shanks

AFTERMATH



Farmer Rudy Undin stands in front of a granary on his land 15 km northeast of Camrose.

—Photo by Doug Shanks



—Photo by Keith Zukiwski

The roof of Peter Fushtey's house, left, was blown off early yesterday morning, landing more than 30 metres away. Weather officials are blaming tornadoes for a swath of devastation across Alberta. Damage began near Canmore and swept eastward. The Camrose area was the hardest hit.

EDMONTON SUN MON JUNE 6 1988 p4

Tornadoes, storms rip central Alberta

By RICHARD WATTS
Staff Writer

Tornadoes mixed with severe thunderstorms are being blamed for millions of dollars damage as they raced across Alberta early yesterday smashing buildings, uprooting trees and snapping power poles.

Yet despite widespread destruction no one was reported seriously hurt.

Edmonton weather briefer Tim Aldie said environmental experts had virtually concluded much of the damage was caused by one or more tornadoes.

Flashes of lightning revealed funnel

"Our latest opinion is there was probably some tornadoes in there," said Aldie.

And several people phoned the weather office with reports they had spotted a funnel cloud illuminated during flashes of lightning.

The storms cut a narrow 300 km swath after beginning in the Canmore area near Banff which was battered with golf-ball size hail beginning in the early evening Saturday.

The storms then swung eastwards and north, by midnight hitting Red Deer, dumping 22 mm of rain on the city within two hours.

The worst damage came between 3 a.m. and 4 a.m. when reports of twisters touching down came in from the Camrose and Smoky Lake areas.

Grahame Blundell, spokesman for Alberta Public Safety Services, said the damage will cost millions of dollars to repair.

"Property damage was very extensive," said Blundell.

And there may be more weather trouble in store as Environment Canada last night issued a severe thunderstorm watch for the St. Paul and Lloydminster areas and southwestern Saskatchewan.

Andy Zetsen of the village of Bittern Lake, 75 km south of Edmonton, saw the funnel of a tornado from his bedroom window.

"I saw a funnel near the ground every time the lightning lit up the sky. You could see it twirling," said Zetsen.

Zetsen, 55, said a funnel he estimated at 100 metres high raced past his farmhouse, less than 15 metres away and headed toward Camrose.

Blundell said his office received about 50 reports of damage in the Camrose area — the hardest hit region.

He said wreckage ranged from a few smashed windows and ripped up shingles to silos and granaries tossed about and roofs ripped off houses.

Wayne St. Amour, spokesman for TransAlta Utilities, said power to 15,000 homes in a 16-km radius surrounding Camrose was knocked out.

Crews were working late last night to restore power to the area.

St. Amour said a total of 33 power-line structures taking electricity into Camrose were snapped off.

Lines down as far as High River

He said power lines were downed as far south as High River. But the southern damage was quickly repaired.

Donald Saunders, city manager for Camrose, said the worst problem for town residents was their inability to use water. Without electricity to power pumps the sewer system was in danger of backing up.

"That's the worst of our problems. It was the rural people who got hit the hardest," said Saunders.

Camrose Flying Club spokesman Glenn Lyseng said two Cessna airplanes were flipped and severely damaged.

Blundell said Environment Canada issued a severe thunderstorm warning at 12:20 a.m. MDT — before most of the damage was done.

Included, he said, was a statement that a tornado could develop.

Enviroment Canada was criticized last year following the Black Friday tornado in Edmonton for not warning the public quickly enough a twister was on its way.

Last July 31, 27 people died, hundreds were injured and $300 million damage was caused when tornadoes hit.

Although Edmonton was hit by thunderstorms yesterday no serious damage was reported.

● More photos and stories — Page 50.

Storm pumps business

The violent storm that slammed rural areas was a blessing in disguise for one Camrose business.

The Shell gas station in the city's west end was the only outlet in town with the power to pump and dozens of motorists lined up waiting to fill their tanks.

"This is like Christmas in June for the company," said one pump jockey, who was kept busy by a steady stream of gas-hungry drivers.

Although the storm left the city without power, quick-thinking Shell staff hooked up a portable generator to run the pumps.

Drivers faced a 15 to 30 minute wait to fill up, but no one seemed bothered by the inconvenience.

"I just decided to come for a Sunday drive and see what all the tornado excitement was all about," said Edmonton resident Malcolm Beland.

as a much-needed downpour turned into a savage wrecking machine.

"I was glad when it started to rain — we sure needed it. Then all of a sudden, this terrible wind came up," said Louisa Undin, whose family farm 15 km northeast of Camrose was one of the hardest hit by the tornado early yesterday.

Louisa and her husband Rudy were awakened about 3:30 a.m. by high winds and thunder over their farm.

As they looked outside, they saw wreckage and debris swirling in the farmyard.

"I thought it was going to come right through the wall. But luckily the house held," said Undin.

Scrap metal covers farm

After the storm passed, their farm resembled a scrap-metal yard with one machine shed demolished and seven granaries crumpled and tossed about — two coming to rest a kilometre away.

Peter Fushtey, who farms near Willingdon, 105 km northeast of Edmonton, was left in shock after what he believes was a twister tore the roof off his house, destroyed a huge equipment shop and shattered other outbuildings and equipment.

Fushtey was alone in the basement when he was awakened just before 5 a.m. by a violent hailstorm.

"All of a sudden, I heard a terribly loud noise.

"I got up and looked out the basement window and saw my combine sitting there — but the shop it had been in wasn't there anymore.

Didn't have time to think

"I didn't know what to think was going on. It all happened so fast I really didn't have time to think," said Fushtey.

"One blast and it was gone," he added, speculating the damage will easily top $100,000.

Alan Wilson was asleep in a second-floor bedroom of his wood-framed house near Duhamel, a few kilometres west of Camrose, when strong winds awakened him about 3 a.m.

"All I could hear was the wind — this high-pitched whining. I ducked under the covers and sort of instinctively covered my head with my hands.

"The next thing I know, the blankets have been sucked right off me and I could feel it lifting me up."

Wilson said he scrambled out of bed and down to the ground floor. The storm plucked the roof off of his house and scattered it across his 384-hectare ranch.

David Bartel, who has a mixed farm just west of Camrose, lost the top two-thirds of a 25-metre-high concrete and steel-reinforced feed silo.

"We really got a whopper there," said Bartel, pointing to what was left of the silo.

"I think it was a twister, because it didn't just blow things down, it spread them all over the place," Bartel said, adding that the storm, which also flattened one of his metal-walled barns, will probably cost him more than $70,000.

"I sure hope the government or someone will help me out on this one. I don't think my insurance will cover this.

"It came up pretty suddenly. I noticed the wind was picking up and up. During the night, I could feel the wall of the house moving for a couple of moments at the brunt of it.

"I've never felt or seen wind that strong."

'I ducked under the covers . . . The next thing I know, the blankets have been sucked right off me — and I could feel it lifting me up.'

Barter's six-year-old son Aaron slept through the worst of the storm.

Jim Lewis, who farms just west of Camrose, was forced to destroy three head of cattle because their legs were broken in the storm. One of his horses was seriously injured when it was thrown against a fence.

Lewis said the storm flung about 20 large bales of hay — each weighing about 540 kg — more than 200 metres away. It also picked up a horse trailer and set it down undamaged three metres away, he said.

"It could've been a lot worse. Some people could have been hurt."

Another Camrose-area farmer had no doubt a tornado had caused the damage.

"I would call it a tornado. Our five granaries were all blown in different directions and a strand of bush was taken out and blown in another direction," said farmer Joyce Wenig, 42, who lives eight kilometres northwest of Camrose.

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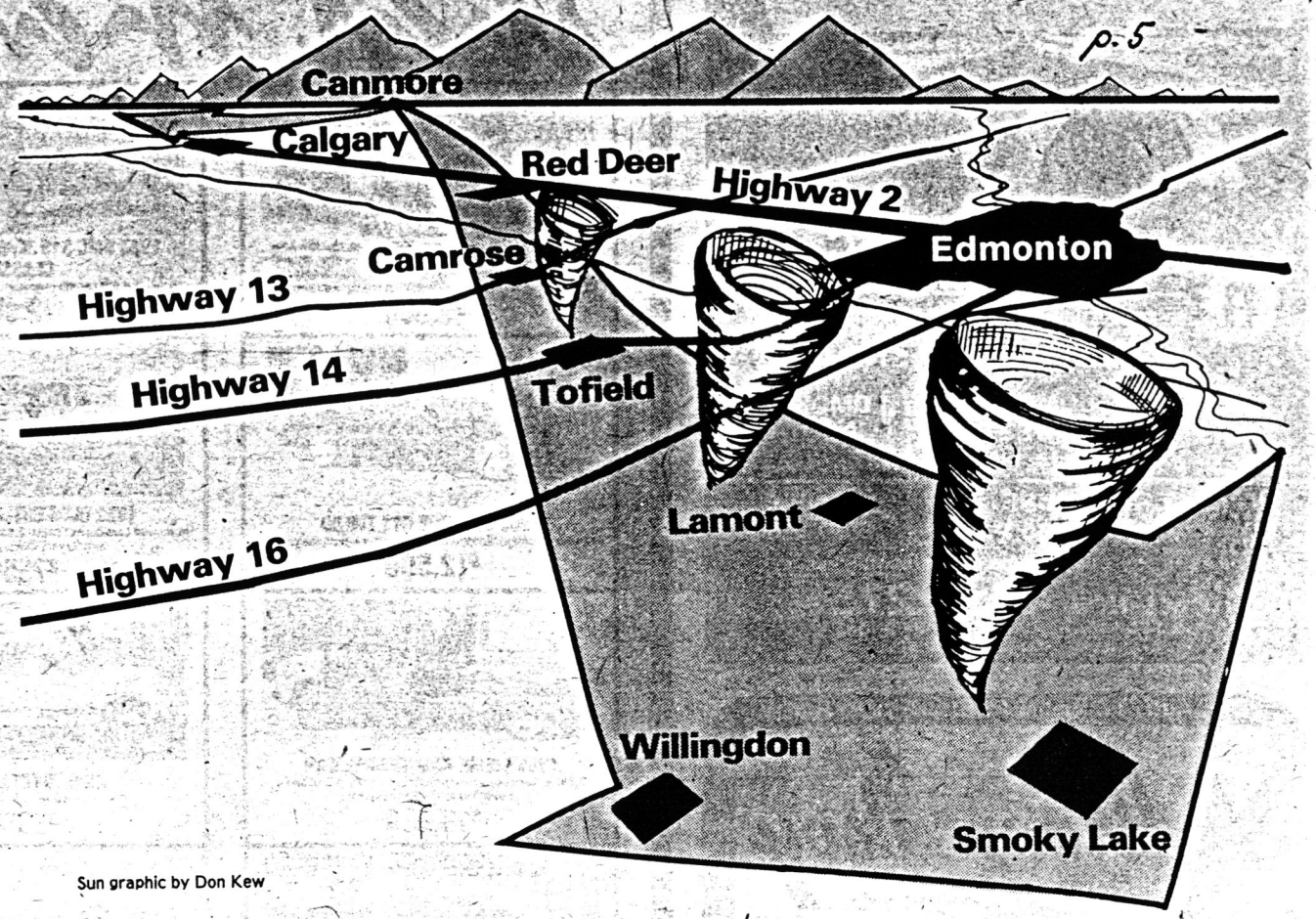
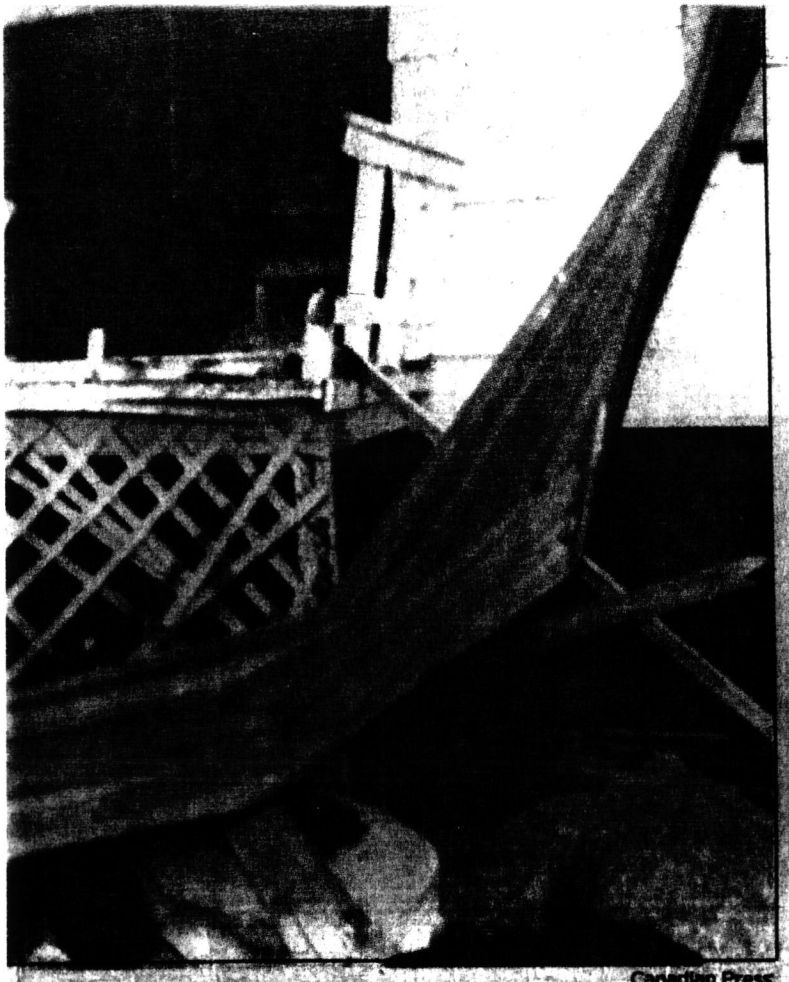


Sun graphic by Don Kew

Map shows the path of the tornadoes from the mountains to Central Alberta where they hit farms.



Canadian Press

105 km northeast of Edmonton. Fushtey was not hurt.



Mike Sturk photo

property, east of Okotoks, took a drubbing from the storm

A tornado in Edmonton last July 31 killed 27 people, injured hundreds of others and caused hundreds of millions of dollars in damage.

But Frank Letchford, a spokesman for Environment Canada in Edmonton, said Sunday's storm "wasn't anything of the magnitude of the Edmonton tornado."

The storm snapped trees and telephone poles like twigs as it wove an erratic course, touching down along a 200-kilometre path through this cattle-ranching area.

Andy Zetsen of the village of Bittern Lake, 75 kilometres south of Edmonton, said he saw what he described as a tornado funnel early Sunday morning from his bedroom window.

"I saw a funnel near the ground every time the lightning lit up the sky," he said. "I was watching from my bedroom window and told my wife 'There's a tornado, you can see it.'

"We were watching it for five to 10 minutes — I didn't realize it was so close to my home."

Zetsen said a funnel he estimated at 100 metres high raced past his farmhouse — it was less than 15 metres away — and was headed towards the town of Camrose, less than 10 kilometres away.

Witnesses said the storm skipped through the outskirts of Camrose, touching down mainly on nearby farms and ranches. It tore down power lines and telephone lines in the area and the town was stripped of its power.

The storm, which severe weather assistant Pat McCarthy of the Edmonton weather office said began near Banff, tore the roof off one farmhouse in Duhamel, a few kilometres southwest of Camrose.

It almost took owner Alan Wilson with it.

Wilson said he was sleeping in the second-storey bedroom of his wooded-frame house when furious winds woke him at about 3 a.m.

"All I could hear was the wind — this high-pitched whining," he said. "I ducked under the covers and sort of instinctively covered my head with my hands.

"The next thing I know, the blankets have been sucked right off me and I could feel it lifting me up."

Wilson said he scrambled out of bed and down to the ground floor. The storm plucked the roof off of his house and scattered it across his 384-hectare ranch.

More than 30 neighbors chipped in to build a temporary plastic and tarpaulin roof for Wilson, who lost at least one calf to the storm and 12 large elm trees lining the driveway to his home.

Jim Lewis, whose 485-hectare farm west of Camrose lay directly along the storm's path, said he lost several buildings and equipment worth $40,000.

CALGARY HERALD

MON. JUNE 6 1988

pA1

68 die in train blast

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The Canadian

VOL. 80—No.36 CAMROSE, ALBERTA, WEDNESDAY, June 8, 1988

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CAMROSE CANADIAN
JUNE 5

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JUN 13 1988
EDMONTON

150 km winds

Camrose area struck b

by DOUGLAS STINSON
The Camrose Canadian

A severe thunderstorm accompanied by tornadoes with winds estimated in the 150 km (96 mph) range hit Camrose district at approximately 3 a.m. June 5.

Environment Canada spokesman Dave Burnett said wind damage was reported over a 200 km (130 mi.) range starting near Lacombe and ending in the Vilna region.

"The hardest hit areas were the New Norway/Duhamel region, areas northwest of Camrose and a long swath near Vilna. Two Environment Canada inspection units were assessing damage and wind speeds June 5 and 6," Burnett said.

Tornadoes in the county started in the New Norway/Duhamel area cutting a 8 mile by 35 mile swath northeast across the county. Camrose miraculously missed the full impact of the tornadoes although electricity was out from 3 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

The senior TransAlta Utilities power line man said June 7 a substation located 1½ miles northeast of Camrose was immobilized when both 138,000 volt feeder lines were crippled. "We have one line as backup for emergencies, but both were hit. The south line from Wetaskiwin had 27 powerpoles down and the line running north from Edmonton had five down. We got the five poles up Sunday night, but it'll be a week or two weeks before the Wetaskiwin line is going again," Dave Hagen said.

Director of disaster services for the county of Camrose Ted Matson said the county office was swamped with 170 telephone calls June 6. "The preliminary estimate of damage is between $1 million and $1½ million excluding the TransAlta Utilities damage. The damage claims ranged from a couple of hundred dollars to $100,000. Three homes were severely damaged with the remainder being granaries, shelters and sheds. There were lots of shelter belt damage reports," Matson said.

"A registration office will be necessary, but we haven't established the times and dates yet. There's going to be a real rush. We'll set up names starting with A through F for a certain time period and so on. Other offices have been set up in Ryley, Lamont and Ponoka," Matson said June 7.

Agriculture minister Peter Elzinga and Camrose MLA and Solicitor-General Ken Rostad made a helicopter tour of the county June 6. The provincial government has suggested funding for affected residents will be made available.

Many rural regions in the Camrose area and the Duggan Park section of Camrose were relatively unaffected by the power outages.

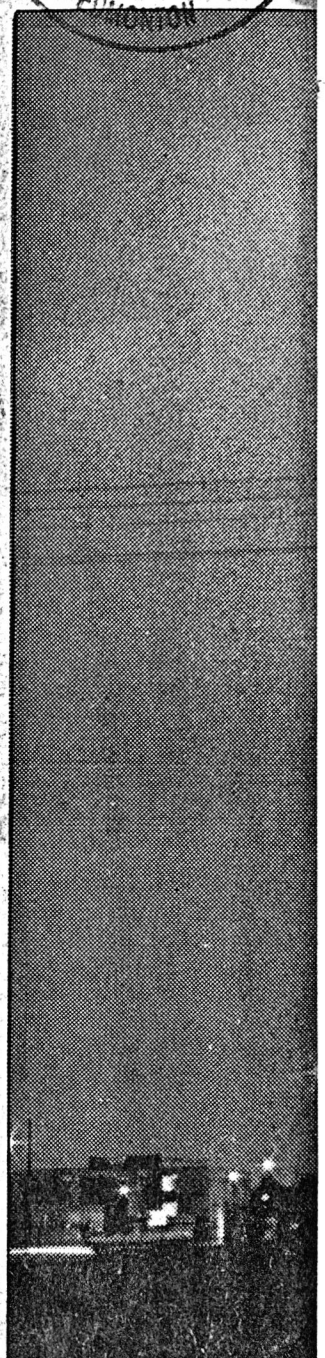
"Duggan Park was fed by the 25,000 volt New Sarepta line. Most rural regions outside Camrose were fed from other similar lines. The New Sarepta line didn't have enough power for Camrose. In fact, it could have been worse than no power. We might have been able to supply 90 volts, but electric motors and the like would be damaged," Hagen said.

The water treatment plant and the Dried Meat Lake station were kept running by the Sedgewick line. Round Hill was fed by the Holden line.

Farmers south of the Battle River suffered the same fate as Camrose residents until power was restored. TransAlta did a feasibility study about using the Bashaw line, but concluded the voltage was too low.



The Gospel Meeting tent, erected as part of Jaywalkers Jamboree was one of a number of structures knocked down by the force of the June 5 storm. Organizers of Jaywalkers expressed relief that the storm occurred after the annual celebration had ended.



A spectacular display the arrival of the stor The storm, that brought also brought pounding nado that caused mor

THE CANADIAN SALUTES

MICHAEL LOHNER

by KEN BONNETT
The Camrose Canadian



Michael Lohner has an unusual combination of interests, music and aviation.

The young man is a violinist

Cam Can
Wed June 8/88
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UPPER LEFT

JUNE 5

—The Tornado—
Savage storm ravages farm

by DOUGLAS STINSON
The Camrose Canadian

Many of Sigrun Lyseng's possessions are either scattered across her property, or are in the Imperial Dam 100 metres north of her farm located four miles N.W. of Camrose.

Sigrun awoke at 3:00 a.m. June 5 to note that her three-car garage was missing. Her moderately damaged cars remain parked where the garage had been, before the early morning tornado tore it from its concrete pad. "I ran downstairs to wake up Lloyd who rents in the basement. The fellow from the Journal said I slept right through the tornado, but that's totally wrong and silly," Lyseng said.

Many pieces of the garage are currently floating in the lake west of the dam. Other large sections were driven into the mud of the lake's bottom by the force of the winds.

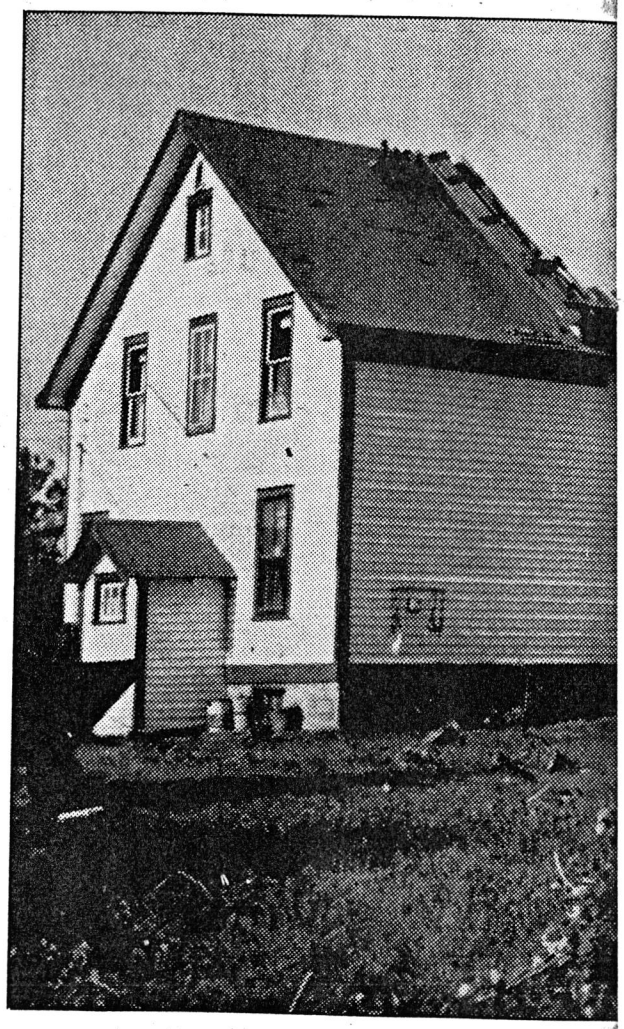
In total Lyseng's garage, a hog and chicken barn, two granaries and a 32 ft X 48 ft cattle shelter were ripped to pieces by the fierce winds. Two of the garage's doors have been located, while a third has yet to be found.

Power lines paralleling the road, south of the dam, were fused together when remants of the garage forced the lines together. Trans Alta Utilities employees repaired the damage at 6:30 a.m. June 5.

The tornado touched down 200 ft northwest of the Lyseng house, leaving a trench, two feet deep and one foot wide. Large sections of shingled roof were embedded into the ground two feet deep. "The guy from Alberta Safety Services said it wasn't a tornado, but I don't know how this could have cut into the ground with only high winds. The vacuum produced must have lifted up the ground like sod in the three or four minutes it lasted. Elzinga and Rostad flew over in a helicopter, but they didn't stop here. If they wanted to see tornado damage, they could have seen it here," Lloyd Yukoski said during a tour of farm.

Five granaries were destroyed on the property of Lorenz Wenig about one-half mile west of the Lyseng farm.

Yukoski claimed seven inches of rain fell on the property, accompanied by hail which flattened four inch high barley crops in an adjoining field. "At 3:45 a.m., I went outside and it was like a sauna. It was so hot and muggy that early in the morning. We have one sow and four piglets. They're usually so dirty, but they were clean as a whistle," Yukoski said.



Trag

The home of Alan Wilson was one of the worst hit June 5 tornado. The residence, built originally in struck by the winds at 3:10 a.m. ripping off most and scattering Wilson's possessions across his pr

New Norway area farmers feel

by KEN BONNETT
The Camrose Canadian

The tornado that tore up the countryside during the early morning hours of June 5 dealt two New Norway area farms a particularly hard blow.

The wind demolished 11 granaries on the farm of Doug Nodin four miles north of New Norway, according to Erma Nodin. But she is still at a loss to explain some of the consequences of the wind.

"We've got 11 bins completely destroyed, somewhere. We started looking for one bin and found it in the opposite direction from the wind," she said. Another bin and a grain auger ended up on top of a car, but the farm house itself suffered only minor damage.

The residence of Ken and Norma Braim eight miles north of New Norway was not spared, however.

The wind tore off much of the new roof over their trailer and its addition, leaving a 14 foot patch of open sky over the kitchen. The storm managed to cause only minor damage to the contents of the trailer however, according to Norma.

"I was up feeding the baby and it happened in front of
Her two other pre-s
were also in the trail
while her husband Do

"The wind died
quickly after that,"
roof was found 100
down the hill later th

Erma Nodin said

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Cam Can
Wed June 8/88
p A2

UPPER RIGHT

CAMROSE CANADIAN.

WED. JUNE 8 1988

pA2 JUNE 5



Tragedy in Duhamel

n Wilson was one of the worst hit during the The residence, built originally in 1913, was nds at 3:10 a.m. ripping off most of its roof ilson's possessions across his property. His neighbors in the Duhamel area rallied to his assistance and helped him start to put the pieces of his disrupted life back together.

—Photo by Mike Lorente

ners feel full fury of tornado

en and Norma north of New ed, however. uch of the new and its addi- patch of open n. The storm only minor s of the trailer Norma. he baby and it happened in front of me,'' she said. Her two other pre-school children were also in the trailer at the time, while her husband Doug was asleep.

''The wind died down pretty quickly after that,'' she said. The roof was found 100 to 200 yards down the hill later that morning.

Erma Nodin said the storm was extremely severe and very strange all at the same time.

''There were flashes and lightning and no thunder. I thought that was really strange. Lightning was coming in all the windows. Then the house just lit up, it went black, and it was all over,'' she said.

Now with much of their grain storage space gone and their yard in a shambles, she said they could use some help.

''We need all the aid we can swing. But who do you get when everybody's in the same boat,'' she said, at the same time she was thankful nobody was hurt.

''We're here, we're safe, we're thankful,'' she said. ''If you had lived through it you'd know what I mean.''

Cam Can.
June 8/88
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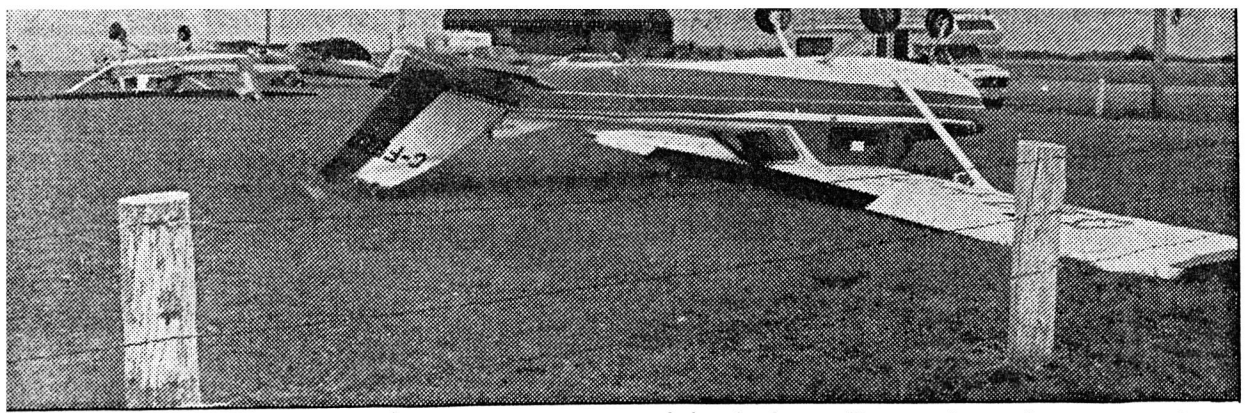


'our aircraft at the Camrose Municipal Air-
ort were damaged during the June 5 storm.
'his pair of Cessna 150s were flipped over,
'ven though they had been securely tied the night before. Two other aircraft received relatively minor wing damage from the fierce winds. —Photo by David Holmes

CAMROSE CANADIAN - LOWER LEFT
WED. JUNE 8, 1988 p A2

JUNE 5

There was no stopping annual Flying Club pancake breakfast

by DAVID HOLMES
The Camrose Canadian

The weekend storm may have caused some damage in Camrose, but it could not dampen the spirits of the Camrose Flying Club, whose members successfully carried out their annual Fly-In Pancake Breakfast June 5.

Glenn Lyseng, an organizer of the annual event, said the turn-out was better than originally anticipated. "With the storm, we didn't know how many people would come out for breakfast. But when it was all over, we had more than 530 people for breakfast. With a gas-fired grill and generators for the coffee pots, we were one of the few places in the city serving breakfast Sunday," he said.

The Camrose Flying Club was formed in 1958, and the Fly-In Breakfast was introduced shortly after. "I'm not sure if this is our 30th year for the breakfast or not, but it's probably close to 30 years for the Fly-In Breakfast. It is always a popular event," Lyseng said.

The purpose of a fly-in is to encourage pilots from other areas to 'fly in" to an airport and to take part in whatever actvities are being planned there. High winds reduced the number of visiting aircraft for Sunday's fly-in to 17, far short of last year's figure.

"Last year we had really good weather and had over 100 planes arrive and served over 900 breakfasts. But considering the storm and everything, I don't think we did too bad," Lyseng said.

As in past years, the pancake breakfast was served in a hangar, donated to the event by local aircraft enthusiast Ed Eivinsen. This year the donation could have been a costly one.

"To make room for the pancake breakfast Ed had rolled his two airplanes out of his hangar the night before, and left them outside all night. I'm sure glad that nothing happened to them during the storm. We would have felt terrible if they had been damaged by the winds," Lyseng said.

Not all aircraft owners at the Camrose Municipal Airport were so lucky. Four light airplanes parked at the airport were damaged by the June 5 storm.

Jack Braden of Rebuild Air, based at the airport said the strong winds generated by the storm caused two of the parked machines to flip over.

"We have four airplanes damaged at the airport. Two Cessna 150s were extensively damaged. Even though they were tied down, they still flipped over. We also had a damaged wing on a Cessna 120 and a Cherokee 180 suffered some minor wing damage during the storm. The amazing thing was that the damaged airplanes were parked among other airplanes that escaped without any damage at all," Braden said.

No estimate of damage for the aircraft is known but Braden suggested the two flipped Cessnas might be total losses. "Both planes are probably write-offs. Anything can be fixed of course, but their owners may decide that the cost of repairing them is just too high. The Cessna 120 has a fabric wing, which is fairly inexpensive to fix, so it will probably be repaired," he said.

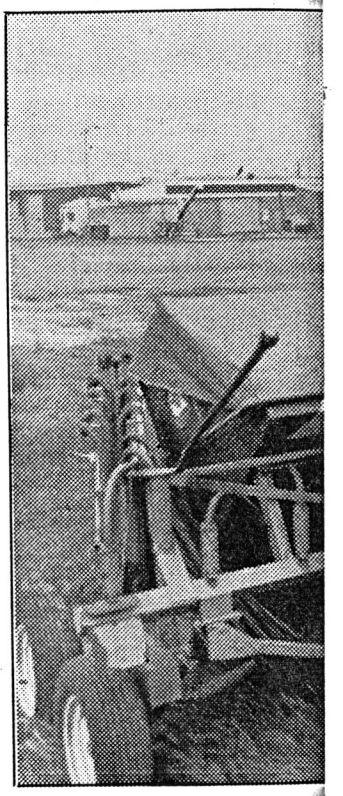
Braden wouldn't speculate on whether a tornado was responsible for the damage at the airport. "I don't want to say if it was a twister or not. But the way the airplanes were tossed around would indicate that it was a very severe, but short-

by KEN BONNETT
The Camrose Canadian

A lack of electricity did not st
least two Camrose businesses
staying open throughout a 16
black out June 5.

Nizar Mohamed, owner of M
Mini Mart, left the "Closed" si
the window when he went to
store Sunday morning, but he
couldn't keep the people away.

"A lot of our regular custo
wouldn't look at the sign, they'd
walk in. They'd say, 'I need ba
bread,' this and that," he said.
they were in the store he said he



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**A Scamper trailer in th
Resources in Camrose
against a sturdier farm
Sunday's high winds.
believed to have reacl**

Government phones kept operating

by DAVID HOLMES
The Camrose Canadian

Despite the worst that nature could throw at it, it was business as usual for Alberta Government Telephones (AGT) in Camrose during the June 5 storm.

AGT's Central Office Manager for Camrose, Dale Toogood said the weekend tornado created no disruptions of telephone service in the city. "All of our lines are underground, so there were no poles to be knocked over. Our stand-by diesel generator kicked in to provide power were able to keep the service going without any major problems," he said.

One of the few problems the storm created for AGT occurred at its New Norway office. "We had to take a small plant (generator) to our New Norway office to keep its batteries charged. Aside from that, things went very smoothly," Toogood said.

Toogood said the storm actually gave the company some good experience. "The storm was sure one hell of a good test of our back-up

Consumer offers serv

by DAVID HOLMES
The Camrose Canadian

The Red Deer office of A
Consumer and Corporate Affai
offered its assistance to victi
the tornado June 5.

Evelyn Storm, a represen
from the Red Deer office, sai
organization can offer variou
vices to storm victims. "We
authorize payments of mone
repairs or anything like that, b

Carn Carn
June 8/88
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...s north of New ...spared, however. ...ff much of the new ...ailer and its addi... ...foot patch of open ...chen. The storm ...se only minor ...tents of the trailer ...g to Norma. ...ng the baby and it

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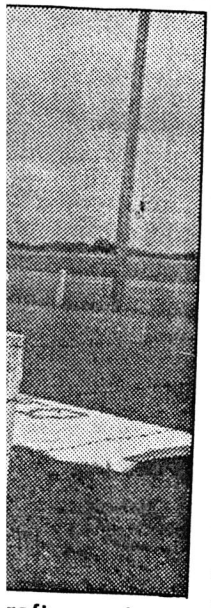
"We need all the aid we can swing. But who do you get when everybody's in the same boat," she said, at the same time she was thankful nobody was hurt.

"We're here, we're safe, we're thankful," she said. "If you had lived through it you'd know what I mean."



...raft received ...om the fierce ...David Holmes

Despite storm some shops managed to remain open

by KEN BONNETT
The Camrose Canadian

A lack of electricity did not stop at least two Camrose businesses from staying open throughout a 16 hour black out June 5.

Nizar Mohamed, owner of Marler Mini Mart, left the "Closed" sign in the window when he went to his store Sunday morning, but he still couldn't keep the people away.

"A lot of our regular customers wouldn't look at the sign, they'd just walk in. They'd say, 'I need bacon, bread,' this and that," he said. Once they were in the store he said he felt obligated to serve them.

"What could I do, turn them away?" Because his cash register wasn't working, he said he had to write down the prices and calculate them all by hand. When he opened the doors to let in some additional light, that was the sign for more people to enter the store.

"That kept us busy continuously all day. At the end of the day we had seven pages of calculations," he said.

Doughboy's manager Vera Peterson had a similar story. She said when she took her husband to the restaurant to cook on its gas stove and char broiler Sunday, they left the doors open and people started showing up. Some staff were called in and Doughboy's, too, was open all through the black out.

"Everything had to be done in the oven or on the grill, even the coffee," she said.

The pizza had thawed and the beer was warm, but most of the menu could be served. Peterson said she was just about to close due to darkness in the kitchen when the power came back on, so they kept their regular evening hours.

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...or the pancake ...rolled his two ...angar the night ...em outside all ...d that nothing ...ring the storm. ...terrible if they ...y the winds,"

...owners at the ...airport were so ...lanes parked at ...maged by the

...uild Air, based ...: strong winds ...m caused two ...s to flip over. ...anes damaged ...Cessna 150s ...maged. Even ...d down, they ...e also had a ...essna 120 and ...d some minor ...e storm. The ...the damaged ...among other ...without any ...said



CAMROSE CANADIAN WED. JUNE 8 1988 P A2 JUNE 5

Scamper takes a dive

A Scamper trailer in the yard of Esso Resources in Camrose finds itself up against a sturdier farm implement after Sunday's high winds. The winds are believed to have reached up to 150 kilometers per hour in Camrose June 5. The estimate of damage in the county of Camrose is not fully known, but is believed to be in excess of $1 million

—Photo by Ken Bonnett

Cam Cam
June 8/88
PA2

WETASKIWIN TIMES-ADVERTISER TUES JUNE 7 1988 p.1

JUNE 5

Tornado hits area

BY GEORGE BROWN
Staff Writer

A destructive tornado touched down in farmyards east of Wetaskiwin at the height of last weekend's thunderstorm, shaking homes, tossing granaries and leaving scattered debris and broken trees in its path.

The tornado struck the Donald Greenwall farm at about 3 a.m. Sunday, uprooting trees which nearly fell on the three-storey, wood-frame home, tearing off the barn roof and snapping power poles in two, said Karen Greenwall.

"The wind and the rain was so hard we couldn't get to sleep," she said. "With the thunder and the wind and the hail and rain against the windows, there was quite a racket.

"I'm surprised the house stood it when you see the willows that are uprooted. I was a bit concerned that we might all go up with it," Mrs. Greenwall recalled.

The Alberta Weather Office reported that a tornado touched down in the Camrose area in a five-kilometre-wide microburst--a downdraft triggered by a thunderstorm with wind speeds which can exceed 100 km-h.

Mary Reistad, Duhamel correspondent for the Wetaskiwin Times Advertiser, said the storm caused "extensive damage in the Duhamel district."

"My husband and my son lost six granaries and my neighbor across the way lost nine grain bins."

Reistad said the area received over 25mm of rain and hail.

"There was some hail damage to crops but it'll come back," she said. "It wasn't up too far."

Power to the 77-year-old Greenwall farmhouse was cut off when the twister broke two power poles and tossed them into a grove of trees.

The Greenwalls are using a light plant for electricity and have a fresh water supply in a 300-gallon storage tank.

Continued on Page A4

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TORNADO DAMAGE is inspected by Sam Johnson after the weekend twister tore the roof off a barn and uprooted trees on his family's farm east of Wetaskiwin. Many farms suffered damaged as the storm passed east of the city. Photo by George Brown.

Wetaskiwin Times Advertiser
Tue June 11/88
p 1

JUNE 5

Boyco honored for bringing sona

BY BEV RUDOLFSEN
Staff Writer

Wetaskiwin's fish and wildlife officer was honored recently for his part in introducing Alberta to a new method of detecting illegal fishing nets.

Daniel Boyco was named Fish and Wildlife Officer of the Year at the annual conference of the fish and wildlife division in Red Deer. The division is a department of Alberta Forestry, Lands and Wildlife.

Boyco was honored for his initiative in bringing sonar detection into the province to help find illegal fishing nets. Graphic sonar units are being tested in different divisions throughout Alberta with good results, Boyco said.

The echo-sounder units have been used in the province for the past two years. Boyco first read about the units in a magazine. "It just hit on me that this would be a good place to try it out, and it worked."

The whole program of utilizing sonar detection to find nets was started by Illinois officers, he said. Boyco is working to expand the use of the units throughout the province.

The units cut down on manpower and time needed in the current popular method of finding nets--dragging a hook through the water.

"It takes two guys to drag a hook around a lake and at extremely slow speeds to keep the hook at the bottom. If you're not really looking, you're not going to hook onto anything."

The new sonar units only take one man to operate, and the boat can move much faster, with a better chance of finding nets.

The unit operates through a transducer that is attached to the boat. The transducer is hooked up to the sonar unit, which sends a soundwave through the water, The waves bounce off what they hit and the impulses come back up and are recorded by a needle in a display unit on the boat.

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Roof torn from barn

Continued from Page A1

When Mrs. Greenwall's father, Sam Johnson, worked the farm, the barn was used for milking cows and for horse storage. Since then, it has been used to store some machinery and straw bales.

The storm tore the roof off and dropped in onto a truck and a tractor parked beside the building. The strong winds also twisted a metal windmill near the barn and strewed debris a field away.

"It hit pretty good," Donald Greenwall said. "It's all junk there now. It never touched the gas tank over there near the barn, but look at the bloody barn."

"The old wind sure was a howlin'," said Johnson, who built the barn in 1925. "I've lived here all my life and I've never seen a storm do damage like that."

The Greenwall's youngest daughter, Arlene and Mr. Greenwall's father, Ed were at home during the storm.

Deanna Greenwall missed the excitement. She was out of town celebrating her graduation from Wetaskiwin Composite High School when the storm hit.

"When I was driving home I could see the barn and I was worried for everyone else," she said. "We were lucky.

"I didn't see the Edmonton tornado except for in the papers. This makes it all the more real."

Local man injured

A Wetaskiwin man was seriously injured when he lost control of his vehicle and rolled over into a ditch near Millet last week.

Ernest Jensen, 31, was injured when the car rolled and then burst into flames four kilometres west of Millet on Secondary Road 616 June 1, Wetaskiwin rural RCMP said Monday.

The car, a Pontiac Sunbird, was destroyed, police reported. The incident is under investigation.

A Salu to Wil Litt

A Salute to Will

Submitted by L and Jo

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FINALLY,
A PRESENT YOU CAN REALLY USE.
REGISTERED RETIREMENT

LAMONT TRIANGLE

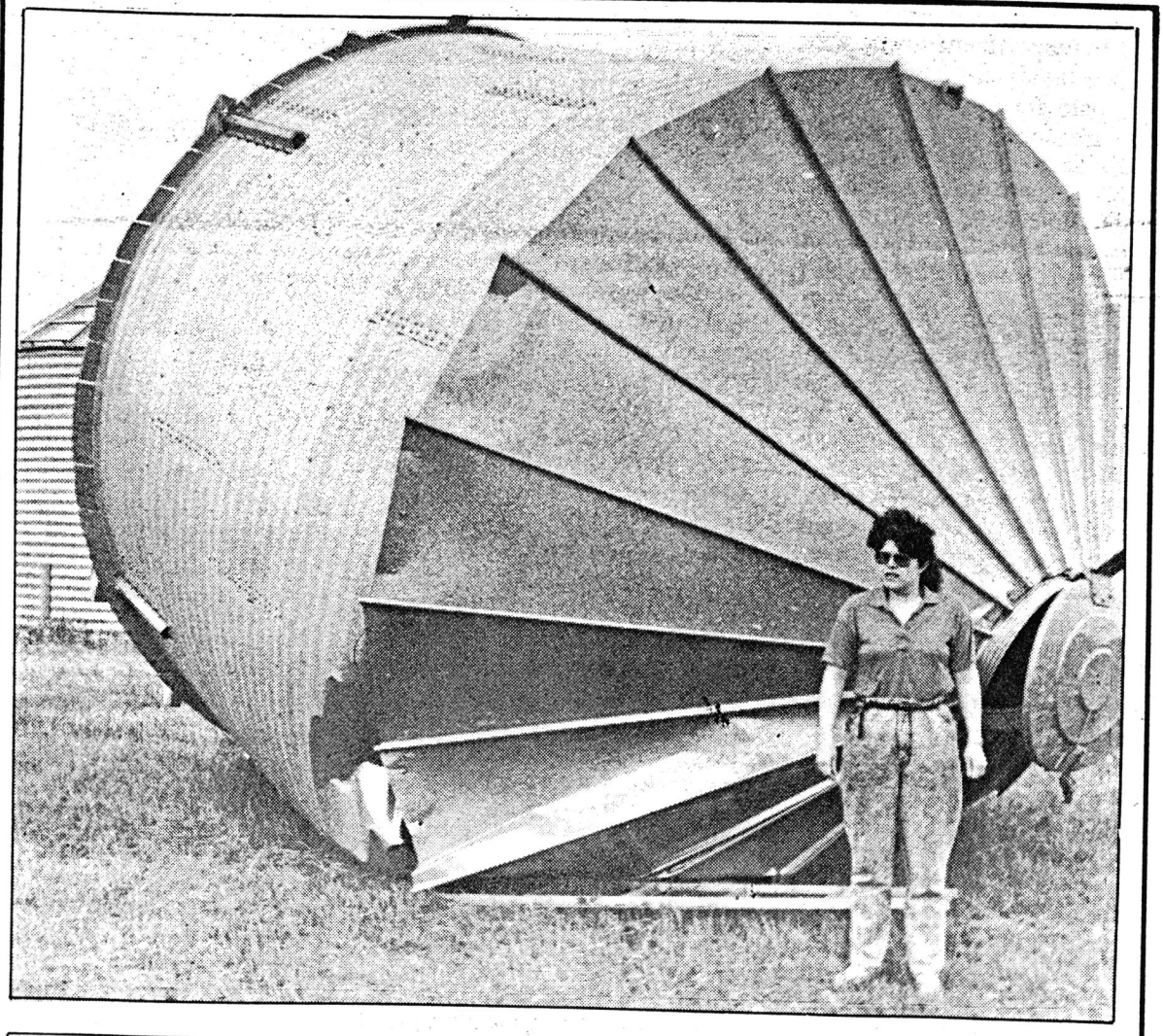
JUNE 5

The Triangle

EDMONTO

serving Lamont County and surrounding area since 1977

Vol. 11 No. 39 • Wednesday, June 8, 1988 •





Tornado storms through county

First a drought, and when the rains come, the winds came with them. Many residents saw tornado-force winds pick farm buildings up and smash them to the ground. Top, Darlene Fill surveys the damage to one of the grain bins on her farm south of Hilliard on Highway 16. Bottom, a mile west of the Fill farm, Leonard Mulholland's farm lost seven cow sheds and a number of other buildings. There was no insurance on the Mulholland farm, hit by last year's tornado. "We'll build it all new, and it'll be better than new" said Leonard. Bill Mulholland is pictured surveying the damage.

taxes

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Requisition passed on

BRUDERHEIM — "Th people of Bruderheim ar going to feel the direct tax c the school requisition" sai Clr. Len Falardeau at the Jur 1 council.

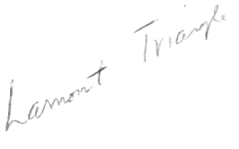
At a special meeting hel Thursday, May 26 at 5:0 p.m., council passed thei budget and set the rates c taxation for 1988.

Total revenues, includin requisitions, are up fron $1,134,534 in 1987 to an esti mated $1,148,382 in 1988 With estimated expenditures c $1,148,370 in 1988, the tow has budgeted for a surplus o $12.

Taxes are up from $641,009 to $670,826, ar increase of $29,817. The school requisition increasec $20,905, or 70% of the tota increase in taxes, and othe requisitions will take anothe $1,858 from town taxpayers. The provincial School Foundation Program will take $414 less than 1987, but the provincial Planning Fund requisition will add $218 more to the total tax bill. The County of Lamont Seniors Foundation will requisition $2,054 more in 1988 than it did in 1987 from the town.

The lax levy for municipal purposes rose $6,578.

According to the minutes of the ten minute meeting May


Lamont Triangle

VEGREVILLE OBSERVER JUNE 5

Tornado rips through farmstead

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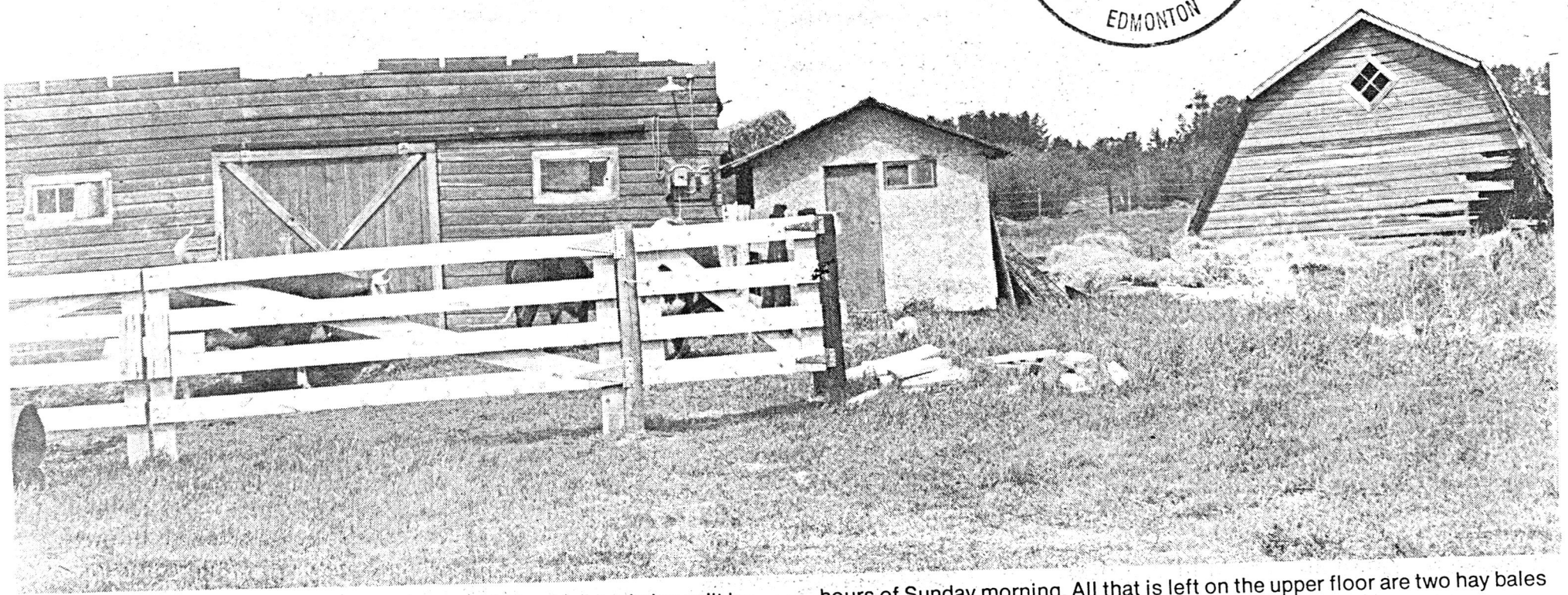


AL ROPCHAN, who lives near Willingdon, never counted on his barn being split in half, but it happened during a tornado attack on his farmstead in the early hours of Sunday morning. All that is left on the upper floor are two hay bales and a family of kittens, who survived without a scratch.

Al and Carol Ropchan and their children have a lot to be grateful for following a tornado that went through their farmstead in the early hours of June 5th.

At 4:30 in the morning, a tornado struck the farmstead, located approximate-

moved on to new territory, it stripped the shingles off half the roof, bent the television antenna onto the power lines, ripped the roof off the barn, collapsed the machine shed and moved it over so that a plough that was previously outside the

foundations and relocated a storage shed, uprooted a couple of 20 year old trees and reparked a holiday trailer sideways.

Miraculously, no lives and no livestock were lost in the storm.

Al Ropchan explained

The dog was also unscathed.

Al wasn't sure how much rain fell with the tornado — the rain gauge he nailed to the corral last week disappeared.

The thing that Al finds ironic in this situation is

some landscaping. They were the only two buildings on the property that weren't touched or harmed.

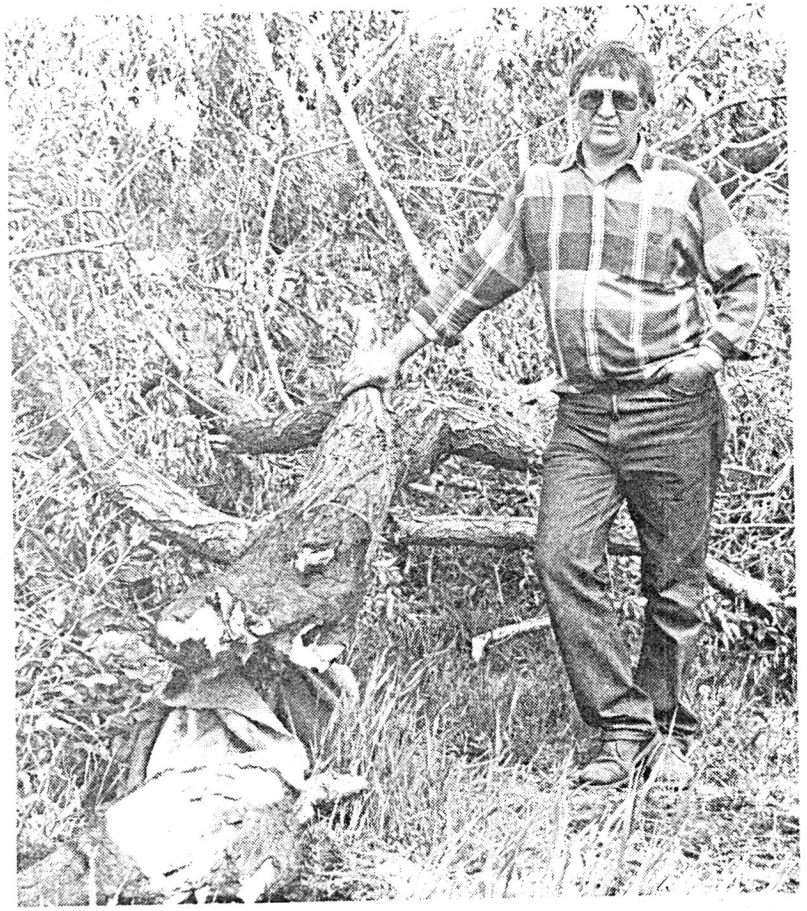
Al says he's not sure what he's going to do next, only that he knows he's out a lot of money, and that he's going to miss his barn.

All things considered, it

half, but it happened during a tornado attack on his farmstead in the early

Al and Carol Ropchan and their children have a lot to be grateful for following a tornado that went through their farmstead in the early hours of June 5th.

At 4:30 in the morning, a tornado struck the farmstead, located approximately 45 kilometres northeast of Vegreville. Before it moved on to new territory, it stripped the shingles off half the roof, bent the television antenna onto the power lines, ripped the roof off the barn, collapsed the machine shed and moved it over so that a plough that was previously outside the shed was now inside it, ripped the chicken coop off its foundations and relocated a storage shed, uprooted a couple of 20 year old trees and reparked a holiday trailer sideways.



AL ROPCHAN poses beside one of two trees uprooted during the storm. He says he doesn't have a tractor on his place large enough to uproot the 20 year old tree, but the tornado did a quick job of it. His neighbour's trees were twisted like matchsticks.

Miraculously, no lives and no livestock were lost in the storm.

Al Ropchan explained that he and his family had gone to Edmonton to attend a memorial dinner for a deceased aunt, then proceeded to Sherwood Park to take in a fair. By the time they left, it was late in the night, so the family decided to remain in Edmonton overnight.

At 6 o' clock the following morning, the Ropchans received a telephone call announcing that a tornado had struck their farmstead. As Carol explains it, "Two miles from home, we wanted to turn around and go back to Edmonton."

One of the family's main concerns was for the animals and livestock, particularly one of the two family dogs locked in a garage and a new family of kittens that made their home in the hayloft of the barn.

When the family returned home, all that was left in the top half of the barn were — two bales of hay and the family of kittens, in perfect shape.

The dog was also unscathed.

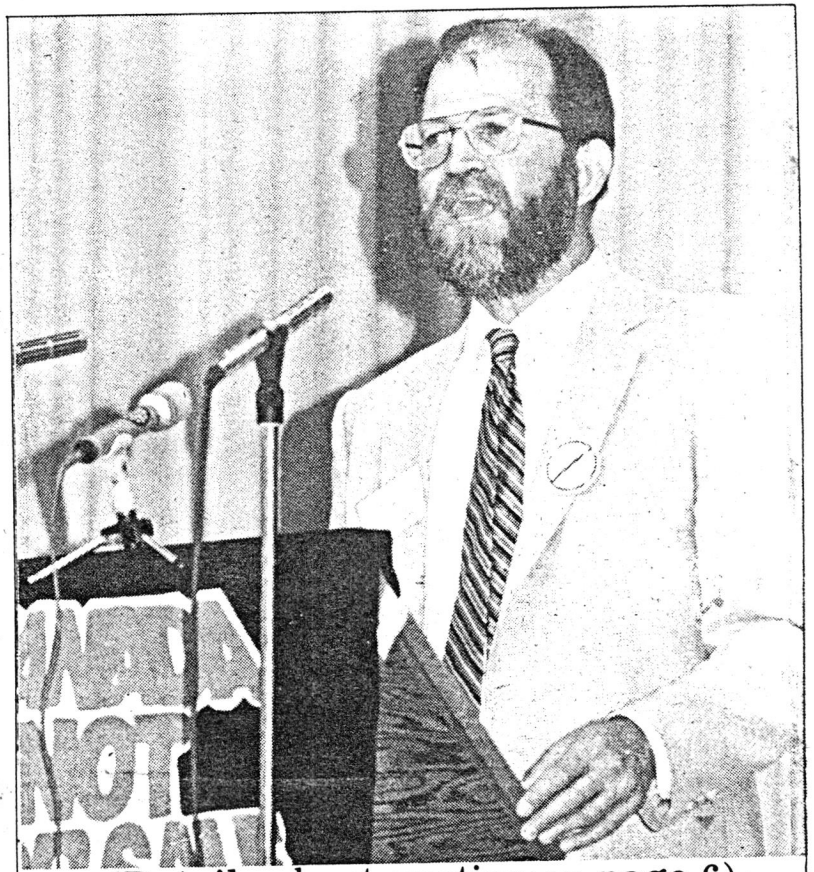
Al wasn't sure how much rain fell with the tornado — the rain gauge he nailed to the corral last week disappeared.

The thing that Al finds ironic in this situation is that he was planning to relocate two older, unused buildings in order to do some landscaping. They were the only two buildings on the property that weren't touched or harmed.

Al says he's not sure what he's going to do next, only that he knows he's out a lot of money, and that he's going to miss his barn.

All things considered, it could have been worse. Just ask Al and Carol Ropchan.

Auction raises $4,800 for campaign



(Details about auction on page 6)

VEGREVILLE OBSERVER TUES. JUNE 7 1988 JUNE 5

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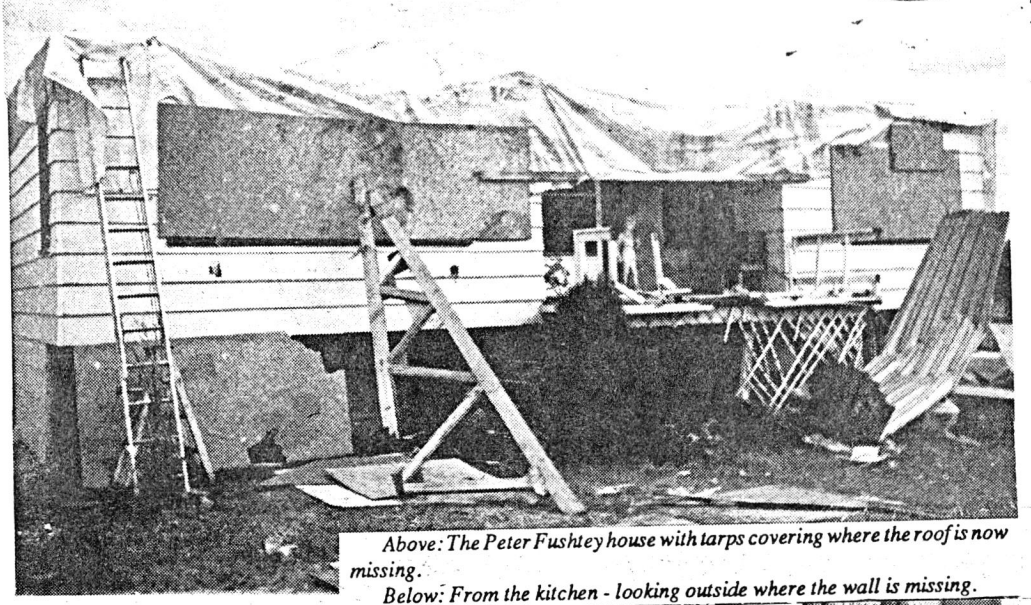
SMOKY LAKE SIGNAL WED. JUNE 8 1988 p.1 JUNE 5

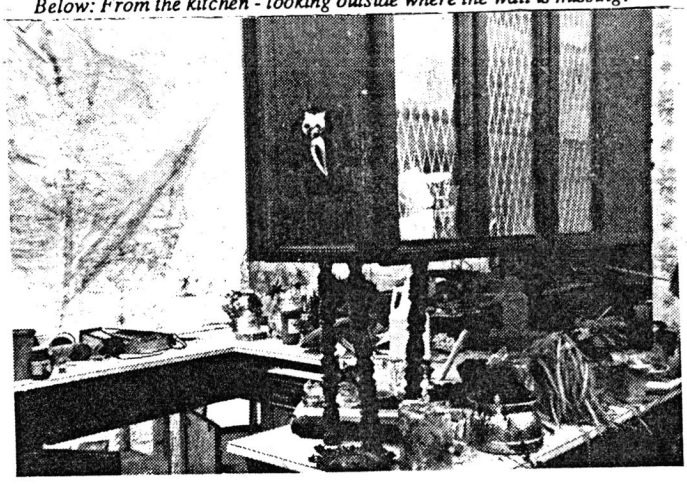
Twister

VILNA AND AREA HIT BY TWISTER



Above: The Peter Fushtey house with tarps covering where the roof is now missing.

Below: From the kitchen - looking outside where the wall is missing.



Unlike the large tornado of last year, Sunday morning's storm involved a series of small tornadoes.

The storm, which began with hail at Canmore, west of Calgary, moved north passing Red Deer around 1:00 a.m. with severe thunder storms, and leaving a swath of intermittent damage between Camrose and Smoky Lake.

Storms of that severity are rare at that time of night in Alberta, said a weather office official. They would more likely come in the late afternoon or evening.

The storm left 15,000 people without power, barns blown to the ground, power poles down, airplanes flipped, campers flipper, parts of houses and farm buildings blown off.

by Vincent Farkas

A tremendous wind and rain storm twisted its way through the Vilna and area district at 5:00 a.m. Sunday morning. Plywood from the Vilna Lumber Yard flew like a deck of cards. Numerous trees were snapped and T.V. antennas badly damaged not to mention some houses which had shingles missing, and a power line in town was also down. At Family Corner Drive-in Restaurant the fibreglass roof on their deck was torn off. It was also reported that another resident in Vilna had a tent trailer crushed by a wind struck tree. Other than that no major damage was reported.

Unfortunately in the countryside there was severe damages 2 miles south of town at the Donald Bodnar residence. An open garage was moved about 2 feet off its footing slamming into a truck. Trees were down all over smashing some old cars, and the fenced area of the chicken-coop. One wood grainery was totally destroyed with pieces lying all over a field, and another steel grain bin was twirled hundreds of feet away being damaged beyond repair. Fences were also broken as a result of the strong winds.

In the same area trees were snapped off half way, and some were chopped off at the bottom. Back roads all around Vilna were just filled with trees and some area farmers needed powersaws to come to town. Still in the same vicinity 2 miles south of Vilna extensive damage was done to powerlines which were pushed right out of the ground.

At the old Vilna airport an airplane hanger was totally destroyed, and the house trailer was separated from the adjacent porch.

Probably the most extensive damage in the county happened southwest of Vilna near Shandro Bridge at the Peter Fushtey residence where they lost their home, machine shed, and pig barn. Their place was a disaster.

con'd on page 5

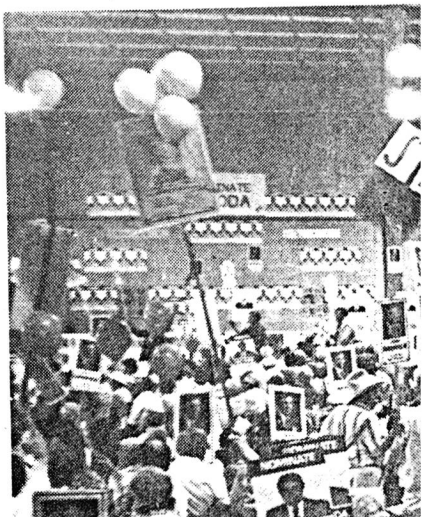
107 votes, John Dahmer was able to pick up the support in the third ballot to win the nomination for the Progressive Conservative Association for Beaver River. The meeting was held in Smoky Lake, Saturday, June 4th.

As the candidate for the Progressive Conservative Association for Beaver River Mr. Dahmer promised to be committed, accountable and accessible. "I am a good listener, I will listen to your views and will act according to your wishes," he said in his campaign speech.

For the first ballot 1360 votes were cast, requiring 681 votes for a win. Dave Broda came in first with 536, John Dahmer 378, Laverne Noble 250, Ron Young 104 and Jan Kozina 92. Jan Kozina was automatically out for the second ballot.

On the second ballot 1310 votes were cast. Dave Broda received 545, John Dahmer 438, Laverne Noble 244 and Ron Young 83. Ron Young was out of the voting and Laverne Noble also withdrew leaving Dave Broda and John Dahmer for the third ballot.

The meeting began with Mrs. Shirley Ennis, President of the Beaver River Progressive Conservative Association welcoming all the people present to the first ever nomination meeting for the Beaver River constituency. She then expressed her pleasure at having some special guests present - Guest Speaker Jack Shields, MP for Athabasca; Lorraine



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Edmonton, Alta.

VILNA AND AREA HIT BY TWISTER

Smoky Lake Signal
Wed June 8/88
p 1

Spring Oil Change Special only $19.95 Smoky Lake

By-law Enforcemnt

Until the County of Smoky Lake hires a by-law enforcement officer there's little they can do about complaints such as Lillian and John Gregory's that RVs are tearing up the trail beside their lot at Mons Lake.

The Gregorys wrote the County of Smoky Lake saying the sandy land is being eroded because the kids on trikes and quads are using the trail as a race track. Some as young as five years old are riding trikes over the wash board trails.

The Gregorys have found they can't even sell the lot because of the dangerous traffic along side it. The sandy soil covering must be protected.

They wanted the County of Smoky Lake to do something about it. Without a by-law enforcement officer there's little the County can do. Previously they drafted up a by-law to control everything from RVs to camping in the environmental reserves, but didn't pass it because they knew there was no one to enforce it.

Last week, a joint delegation of councillors for the county, Town of Smoky Lake and Waskatenau travelled to Wetaskiwin to see how their by-law enforcement program is working.

Results were favourable.

Smoky Lake resident Ed Oranchuk May 17th met with Smoky Lake town council to again offer his services as a by-law enforcement officer for the town. He's taken the courses and received the training and is willing to be the town's dog catcher. Mr. Oranchuk has also approached the County of Smoky Lake to work as a joint by-law enforcement officer for the whole area.

con'd from page 1

The home was built by the Fushteys with many details put in the woodwork and finishing touches making it a lovely house. The roof and ceiling of the house was thrown approximately 200 feet into a nearby field. Also the east and part of the south wall were totally torn off including some kitchen cupboards. The house was in a shamble. The machine shed was totally demolished damaging the combine and tractor. There were nearly no remains of the pig barn.

Officials from Environment Canada were on the scene early Sunday afternoon.

At the Andruchow's not far from Fushteys place the roof of the garage flew off and the walls blew apart with no damage occurring to the car sitting in the garage at the time.

Four grain bins of Graham and Sherene Crawford were destroyed. Three of them were tipped over near where they had been. The other was carried 1/2 mile east and logged in the trees around the home of William and Donna Petrushka.

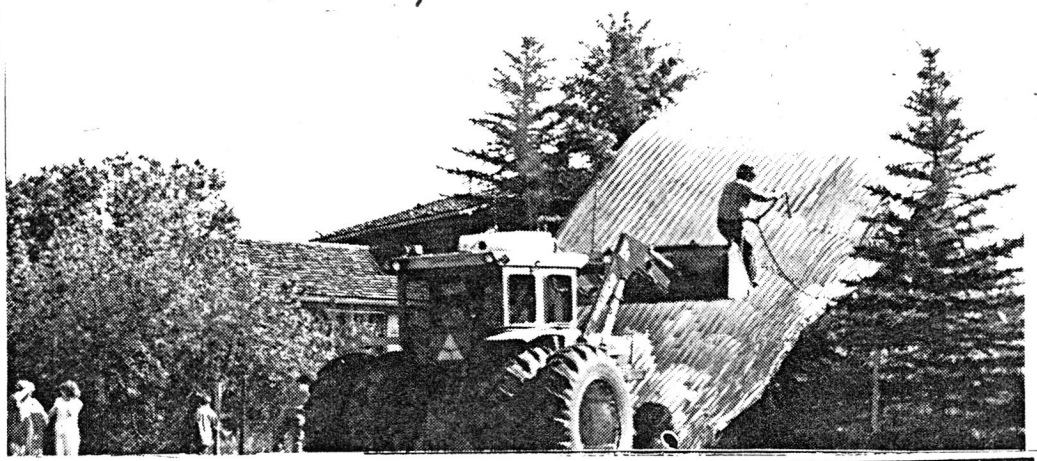
At the Nick Gerlywich farm north of Vilna two cattle sheds were destroyed and other property damage occurred. Across the road at Nick's son's place a shed which covered a round baler flipped over and was damaged.

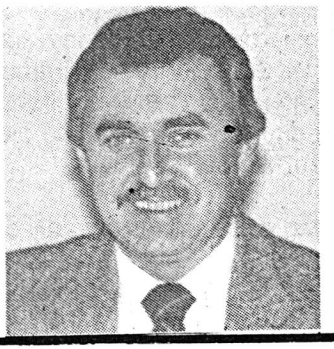
Many more people in the Vilna area had property damage. Some people had insurance on their buildings. Some were not so fortunate.

It was a night that will be remembered with fear and for some a nightmare. For the Fushteys it was lucky for them they lived in the basement or else who knows it could have been worse.



SMOKY LAKE SIGNAL JUNE 5
WED. JUNE 8 1988 p.5





I would like to thank the residents of Smoky Lake and surrounding area for their help and support during the campaign and at the nomination on June 4th in Smoky Lake.

Dave Broda

UFA

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Smoky Lake Signal

Wed June 8/78

p 5

STORM DATE JUNE 6

— MACKLIN — HAYTER — BODO — PROVOST — CADOGAN — METISKOW — CZAR — HUGHENDEN — AMISK —

THE PROVOST NEWS

"THE DISTRICT PAPER"

Volume 78, No. 13 PROVOST, ALBERTA, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8, 1988 50¢

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DEC/88 LEGISLATIVE LIBRARY 216 LEGISLATIVE BLDG. EDMONTON AB T5K 2B6

Storm Wrecks Granaries; Uproots Trees in Area

A severe wind storm accompanied by lightning and rain hit the Provost, Hayter and western Saskatchewan area early Monday morning beginning between 2:30 and 3:00 a.m.

Some residents in the area took refuge in their basements when they discovered the intensity of the high winds.

The winds were reported to The News as coming from the south, the west and the north during the storm.

In the Hayter area, Leo Carter reported that a shed with 175 pigs inside had its roof and one side tore off. Carter said that none of the pigs were injured.

At the Bill Carter farm a 3500 bushel grain bin was moved 25 to 30 feet over top of a tree belt, winding up in a field. Five bins were moved in the storm with one destroyed. The Carters hope to salvage the others.

Three bins were blown over at Mrs. Wright's farm and one disappeared.

Two steel grain bins were destroyed at the Grant Giggs farm and large spruce and poplar trees were smashed. A grain auger was found upside down and wooden bins were stood on end and destroyed.

At Ernie Hager's farm shingles were ripped off many granaries. As well, the corner was ripped off a barn and shingles were ripped off a lean-to on the barn. Trees were uprooted in the pasture and around the yard. In addition, an auger, hopper bins and a small utility barn were destroyed.

Meanwhile at the Blume places nearby, a cattle shed was blown down while steel bins were moved into trees. A swather was moved in the yard but not damaged and four other buildings sustained wind damage, including shingles torn from the house.

At the Bob Hillis farm, apple trees were damaged with branches ripped off. Dust and dirt was blown around and stuck to the side of the house. At the Dave Hillis farm, trees were knocked onto the road and a small tractor was blown over.

In Hayter, the Pioneer elevator annex lifted and one side was crushed.

The storm hit many other locations in the country including the Hager farms, Ruth's, Schneider's Murray's, Thunbergs, Larson's and Nelson's yards.

Other damage reported in the area included small shacks at oil pumping sites being smashed and blown away, walls of quonsets blown out and many other granaries damaged when moved by the high winds.

80 Bales Burn as Lightning Strikes
P. 6

Metiskow Has 17th Annual Sports Day
P. 16



Fire, Theft, Crash and Wilful Damage Keep RCMP Busy

Local RCMP have been busy the past several days with investigations into a fire, break-in of a vehicle, the stealing of diesel fuel, a single vehicle crash and stop signs knocked over.

police had a report of a break-in of a vehicle and a theft of cassette tapes. The truck, parked near 47th Street and 51st Avenue in Provost had the back window pried open

motor vehicle accident that was reported to police on June 4 at 11 p.m. A 1984 GMC half ton truck was north bound on the Hayter-Bodo road about four kms south of Hayter being

Storm hits local farm equipment

By Phil Melnychuk

STONY PLAIN — A terrifying reminder of last summer's Edmonton tornado descended on residents southwest of town last Monday, uprooting trees and tossing farm equipment around like miniature toys.

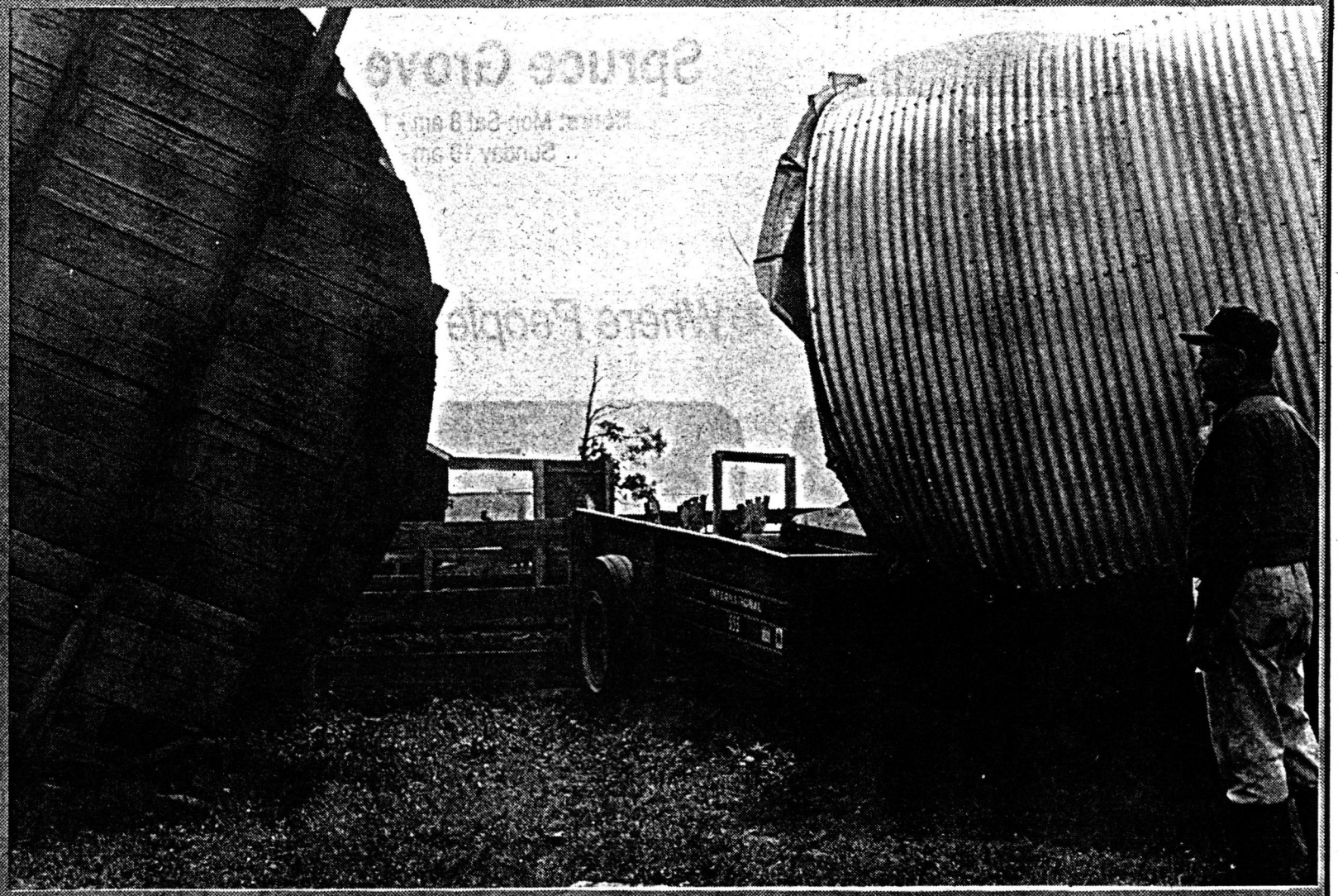
About 7 p.m. June 27, what may have been a small twister turned on a handful of farms on Range Road 12, a few kilometres south of Hwy 627.

Farmer Elmer Trautman was in a farm shed a couple hundred feet from his house when the storm hit.

"I heard the roar, I said to my wife, 'It's coming,' " he recalled.

He'd been watching a dark storm cloud in the west when he saw it start heading towards his farm. He dashed to his barn, on the way to tak-

(Continued on Page 3)



Howard Burger looks over the sorry state of two of his grain storage bins knocked into a fence following the storm.

TORNADO ? JUNE 27 1988

the reporter stony plain

50¢

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Death corner may be remedied by force

STONY PLAIN — Alberta Transportation and Utilities Minister Al "Boomer" Adair has agreed with all but one of the recommendations put for-

of collisions recorded over the past three years involved northbound traffic. Permitting the traffic turning east to move more continuously and smoothly through the in-

STONY PLAIN REPORTER WED JULY 6 1988 p.3
TORNADO? JUNE 27 1988







Elmer Trautman's yard is strewn with debris. Next door (inset) a grain bin flew.

(Continued from Page 1)

ing shelter in his house.

But, "We never had a chance to get to the house, it was here," he said.

As he watched from the barn he could see fence boards and pieces of a livestock self-feeder flying through the air. "All you could hear was things crashing and things breaking. I tell you, it was something else."

The storm seemed to come from the southwest, residents say.

In minutes, heavy rain and hail pelted crops and blocked vision to a few metres. Tall, trees were snapped off at their tops and at the roots. Farm equipment was damaged. Miraculously, few buildings were hit as the wind seemed to tiptoe through settlements.

Howard Burger's family was at home when their farm caught the southern edge of the storm.

Heavy rain blocked the view from the house to a paddock, a distance of about 100 feet.

"It was raining so hard at the time, you couldn't see anything," Burger said. But his son noticed shapes moving in the gloom. They turned out to be two grain bins that were pushed 50 feet into a fence.

"It was raining so hard, you couldn't see this far," Burger said pointing to the house nearby.

Nevertheless, shingles and soffit were ripped from his house. Insulation was sucked from under the eaves and strewn on to the side of the house in a mucky mess.

The wind so frightened Burger's seven Heiffer calves, they bolted through a barbed wire fence to the other end of the farm.

"They haven't come home yet," he chuckled.

Environment Canada's Edmonton weather office couldn't confirm what kind of storm struck.

"It's possible that there could have been a small tornado . . . I hesitate to say that," severe weather coordinator Al Wallace said.

More likely it was a microburst, a small area of high winds associated with heavy rain and hail, Wallace said.

"They can produce winds up to tornado strength."

At Cecil LaFond's house, most of the damage was in a stand of trees, in a gulley away from the house. Wind snapped off two foot-wide tree trunks yet spared fragile outbuildings and a precariously-parked motor home.

Hail levelled a wheat field.

"We had two and one-eighth inches of rain in about 20 minutes," LaFond reported after he checked his rain gauge.

"We got off lucky, it's just trees."

Trautman says he saw a similar storm several years ago in 1964 or 1965, although he didn't call it a tornado.

"It picked up a 16-foot by 24-foot building and lifted it over a four-foot fence and never touched the fence," he remembered.

"It's an act of God. You don't have to have fear of it. Sure there has to be respect but you can't get away from it. You can't run, you can't do anything.

"They come so quickly that you just can't get away from it."

"We're lucky to be alive, that's all I can say. To heck with the mess."

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STONY PLAI

EDMONTON JOURNAL WED. JUNE 29, 1988
pF7

No injuries as two storms rag[e]

Tornado rips Lethbridge-ar[ea] home

LETHBRIDGE (CP) — A three-bedroom mobile home on the Blood Indian Reserve was destroyed Tuesday afternoon as thunderstorms carried tornadoes across the Lethbridge area, witnesses said.

The two storm systems, about five hours apart, brought high winds, hail and heavy rains to a broad area south and west of Lethbridge, about 220 kilometres south of Calgary.

The mobile home, owned by Bernard Tallman Sr., and located about 50 kilometres west of Lethbridge, was torn apart by high winds, RCMP at Cardston said. There were no injuries.

"You could hardly see anything," said Tallman as he picked his way through the debris. "The hail started coming and then the whole trailer was thrown all over."

He said it flipped in the air and landed a football field away — about 91 metres.

Several farmers said they saw a funnel cloud before the first storm hit at about 1 p.m.

Elbert Paxnan, a Glenwood farmer, was at a neighbor's when he saw a funnel cloud. "I was a little concerned when I saw it," he said. "I was going 'good grief,' it looked like it was going to hit Glenwood."

He said the funnel lasted about two minutes, and wasn't as small or concentrated as the six tornadoes he saw as a youngster when he lived in Kansas for about six months.

Al Wallace, severe weather co-ordinator for Environment Canada's Edmonton office, said two thunderstorm systems swept across the Lethbridge area. He said there had been reports of tornadoes.

"The leading storm system developed in the foothills and moved northeast, through the Blood Indian reserve," he said. "Behind it we had this second storm system, which is the one that caused the tornado reports."

Wallace said reports of funnel clouds near the towns of Raymond, 30 kilometres southeast of Lethbridge, and Taber, 50 kilometres east of the city, prompted a tornado warning, issued at about 6:30 p.m. for the areas east of Lethbridge.

The tornado warning was later cancelled when Environment Canada reported a gradual weakening of the storm system. But thunderstorm warnings were issued for areas east of Edmonton, including Lloydminster, Sask.

At Glenwood, 65 kilometres southwest of Lethbridge, hail the size of thumbnails ripped through the village and surrounding farmland, breaking windows and flattening grain fields during a 20-minute storm.

Four steel grain bins were torn apart and their contents strewn across a field on a farm owned by Lyman Reed.

"It must have been a twister," said Alice Reed, who takes care of the farm with her husband Dlance for their son Lyman, of Calgary. "We've got four bins twisted in the field and our fall wheat is 100 per cent gone."

She said she and her husband held pillows against the windows o[f] [h]ome when the storm hit, to keep them fro[m] [b]reaking, but "they still broke."

Two hours later, hailstorms still littered her yard, she said.

Ron Archibald, whose farm is next to the Reed's, said neighbors told him they had seen a funnel cloud.

He said his crop "is pretty well hailed-out. Five minutes before it hit, we could see it coming and we started moving all the machinery inside. We just got the last one into the shop when it started coming down."

"I don't think I've ever seen anything like that."

An employee at the Glenwood Village office said gardens were flattened by the hailstones, which she estimated at being an inch (2.54 cm) in diameter.

"It was piled up three or four inches from the ground."

A less intense hailstorm also hit Blairmore, about 100 kilometres west of Lethbridge, but RCMP said they had no reports of damage.

On June 5, severe thunderstorms which witnesses also said packed tornadoes passed through much of Alberta, causing millions of dollars in damage. No one was hurt.

Last July 31, a tornado struck the eastern edge of Edmonton, killing 27 people and injuring hundreds of others. Damage reports are expected to reach $250 million.

EDMONTON JOURNAL MON JULY 4 1988 pA1

Funnel clouds reported as heavy storm hits city

Funnel clouds were spotted close to Edmonton early Sunday morning, but they did no damage, the weather office says.

However severe storm and tornado warnings were carried on radio and late-night television shows.

The funnels were sighted in Devon, north of Rimbey and west of the city.

Hail stones the size of peas pelted areas west of Edmonton.

The city was hit with an early morning deluge accompanied by spectacular thunder and lightning.

Environment Canada spokesman Reinhold Winterer said there were no reports of the funnel clouds touching down, and no reports of building or crop damage.

Tornado warnings were issued about midnight for the Rimbey area and the storm moved northeast through Wetaskiwin and Leduc counties.

Thunderstorm warnings were issued for Edmonton.

Flood threat in northwest B1

About 16 mm of rain fell in the city during the storm.

The storm dumped 72 mm of rain on Stony Plain in one hour, four times as much as Edmonton received during all of May.

It was a continuation of one of the wettest Junes on record.

The municipal airport recorded 158 mm of rain last month — double the normal June amount and eight times as much as May.

Since precipitation levels were first recorded in 1880, the highest June amount was 216 mm in 1914.

Environment Canada is predicting a similarly wet first half of July.

Winterer said he thinks the extreme conditions are a natural balancing of the weather and not the result of the Greenhouse Effect, which is believed to be warming the earth's climate and changing weather patterns.