Brief History Of

April 3, 1974, Tornado (2)

This is one of many sections that contain information, documents, letters, newspaper articles, pictures, etc. of the St. Matthews Fire Protection District. They have been collected and arranged in chronological order. These items were collected, organized and entered into a computerized database by Al Ring. Last revised in 2023.

There were many people who helped with this project over the years, however 3 deserver special mention. Rick Albers, John M. Monohan, Jr. and Jack Monohan.

All graphics have been improved to make the resolution as good as possible, but the reader should remember that many came from copies of old newspaper articles. This also applies to other items such as documents, letters, etc. Credit to the source of the documents, photos, etc. is provided whenever it was available. We realize that many items are not identified and regret that we weren't able to provide this information. As far as the newspaper articles that are not identified, 99% of them would have to be from one of three possible sources. *The Courier-Journal, The Louisville Times* or one of the *Voice* publications.

Please use this information as a reference tool only. If the reader uses any of the information for any purpose other than a reference tool, they should get permission from the source.



Until April 25 to 28, 2011 there has been no question that the April 3, 1974 Tornado outbreak was one of the largest ever. History will tell us in the future but it appears the 2011 outbreak may surpass the 1974 outbreak.

3. Wkycarcom

Claveland, Oil

Tornado outbreak saw 305 twisters in 72 hours



The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) says at least 305 tornadoes were reported during the great outbreak of April 25th to 28th, 2011.

Those are the latest statistics issued on Thursday by the agency, although the National Weather Service continues to survey storm damage throughout the southern United States.

The April 2011 tornado outbreak was the largest since the event of April 3rd to 4th, 1974, when 148 twisters occurred in a single outbreak.

Although accounts vary, there were approximately 318 to 329 fatalities reported during the entire 72 hour period, w ith 309 of these between 8 a.m. on April 27th and 8 a.m. on April 29th.

The biggest loss of life occurred in Tuscaloosa-Birmingham, Alabama, with at least 65 fatalities. The tornado that barreled through this area had a maximum width of 1 1/2 miles and a track 80 miles long according to storm survey teams.

Five states had more than 20 killer tornadoes each including in Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee and Virginia. A total of 14 states, including Ohio, had at least one tornado reported during the three day period.

NOAA says at least 2 of the tornadoes were EF5 and 12 where EF4 based on preliminary reports. An EF5 tornado can have winds greater than 200 m.p.h. and can cause total destruction as was observed in Alabama. Less than .01 percent of tornadoes ever become this severe.

A review of storm reports shows around 948 tornadoes have occurred since the beginning of 2011 with nearly 875 occurring in April alone (preliminary

Adv reports).

The most amount of tornadoes in a single year was 1,817 in 2004.

While April begins the official severe weather season in the Plains and Midwest known as "Tornado Alley", the month of May is historically the worst month ever and weather experts are predicting another severe weather outbreak on Monday and Tuesday across the Plains.

Source: NOAA, National Severe Storms Prediction Center

WKYC-TV

April 3, 1974 General Information some called "Black Wednesday"

Following is a state-by-state tabulation of the death toll following the savage onslaught of more than 100 tornadoes:

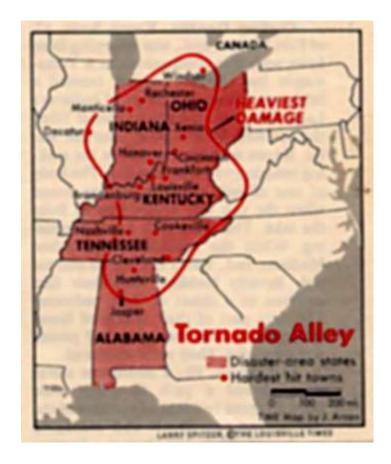
Alabama	75
Georgia	16
Illinois	2
Indiana	45
Kentucky	73
Michigan	
N. Carolina	
Ohio	40
Oklahoma	1
Tennessee	46
Total	308

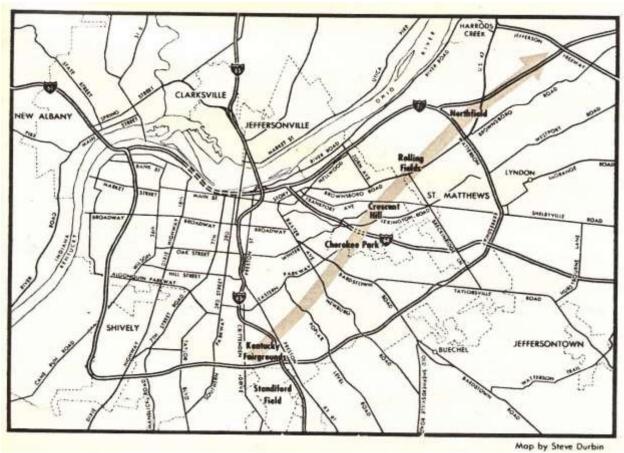


Map showing states and cities hardest hit by tornadoes on April 3, 1974. Below, stripped magnolia trees in Northfield section of Louisville, Kentucky.

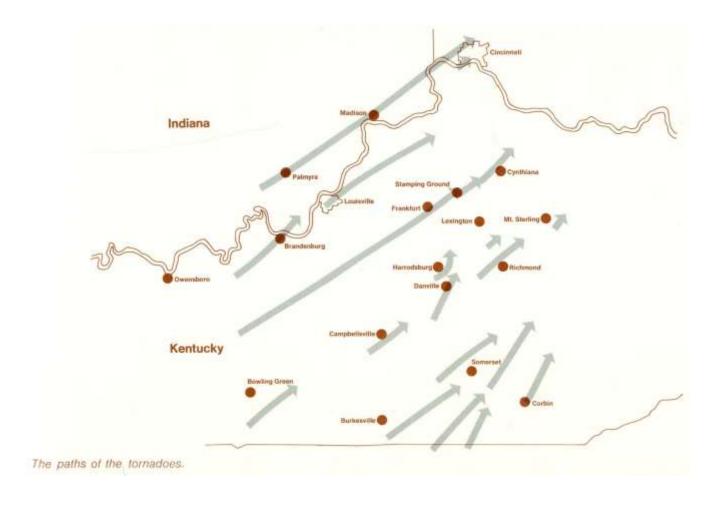
JEFFERSON COUNTY—Five dead, 250 injured; National Guard summoned; water problems resolved after 12 hours; 425 homes destroyed, 175 severely damaged; some estimates indicated 900 homes were uninhabitable.

April 3, 1974 General Information some called "Black Wednesday"





April 3, 1974 General Information some called "Black Wednesday"

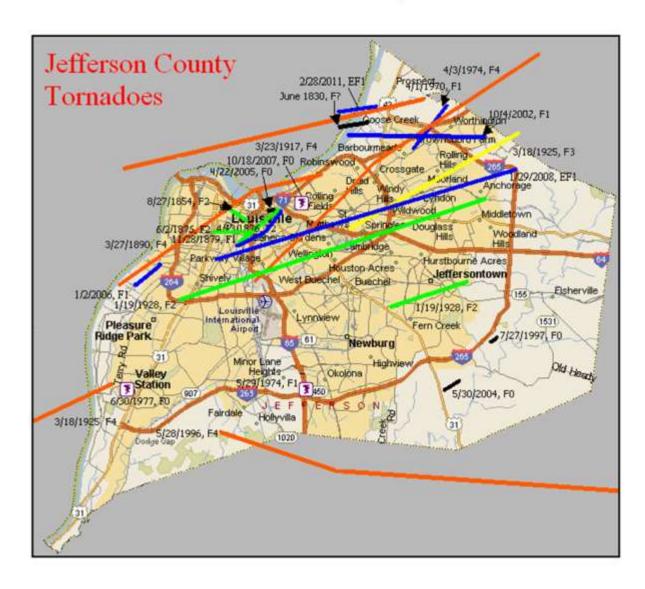


April 3, 1974 General Information some called "Black Wednesday"

Courtesy http://www.crh.noaa.gov/lmk/?n=tornado_climatology_jefferson_ky

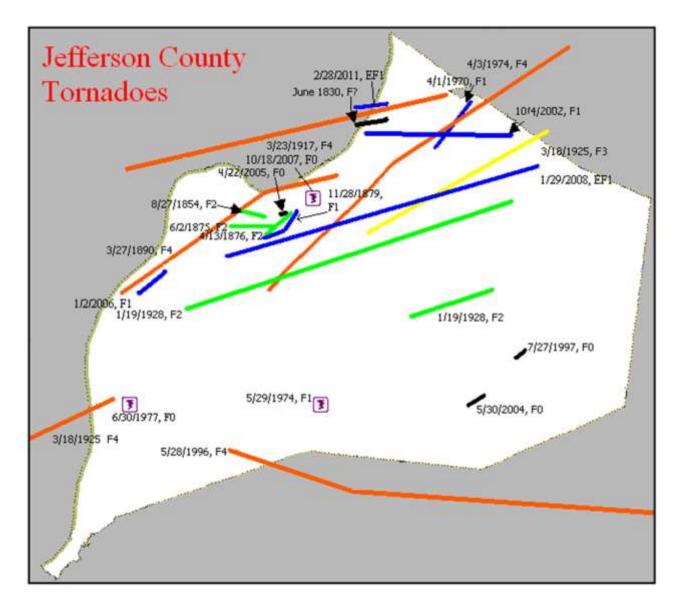


Jefferson County



April 3, 1974 General Information some called "Black Wednesday"

Courtesy http://www.crh.noaa.gov/lmk/?n=tornado_climatology_jefferson_ky



April 3, 1974

Counties: Jefferson KY, Oldham

F-scale: Deaths: Injuries:

Path width: 200 yards Path length:

Time: 4:37pm

Grazulis narrative. Moved northeast from the Kentucky State Fairgrounds in Louisville. Dozens of buildings and hundreds of frees were destroyed in Louisville. About a dozen expensive homes were destroyed in Jefferson County, and 25 were damaged in Oldham County. Losses on one Oldham County farm amounted to \$200,000.

Noted discrepancies: SPC and NCDC list three fatalities, Grazulis 2, Storm Data 6. SPC and NCDC list 225 injuries, Grazulis lists 228, Storm Data 243. SPC lists a path length of 19 miles, NCDC 18 miles, Grazulis 21 miles. SPC lists a path width of 10 yards (obviously incorrect), NCDC 30 yards (obviously incorrect), and Grazulis 200 yards.





Rest of Article missing—

Half a dozen or more tornadoes ripped and slashed through Kentucky and Indiana yesterday afternoon, leaving behind at least 112 persons dead, hundreds injured and damage estimated in the millions of dollars.

In Kentucky, where 69 were reported killed, the hardest hit areas appeared to be in Meade County with 24 dead, where Brandenburg was described as "devastated;" sections of Frankfort, hit several hours later; and eastern Louisville, where a twister in mid-afternoon tore a path up to 100 feet wide and several miles long through a densely populated area.

In Indiana, three tornado systems ripped through south, southeastern and east-central Indiana, leaving at least 19 dead in widely scattered areas ranging from Branchville, in the extreme south, to Charlotteaville, a tiny Hancock County

eastern Indiana from Perry County north along the river to Switzerland County.

In Cincinnati, five persons were reported killed as tornadoes cut northward from Kentucky into Ohio, (Story, Page A 24.)

At least 20 died at Xenia, Ohio, Gov. John J. Gilligan ordered 250 National Guardsmen into that city, where the highway patrol reported several more deaths, the total number of which remain unconfirmed.

The Price Hill and Montford Heights sections of Cincinnati, as well as suburban Bridgetown, Hamilton and Middletown were hardest hit by the tornado winds.

In Louisville, Jefferson County Judge Todd Hollenbach imposed a county-wide curfew from 7:30 p.m. to 6 a.m. today,

With power cut off to Louisville's only

Yesterday's tornadoes and their aftermath in words and pictures, Pages A 2-7, A 11, C 1 and B 16.

community about 25 miles east of Indianapolis.

Kentucky and Indiana, with at least 43 dead throughout the state, were the hardest hit of nine states in the Midwest and South raked by the tornadoes, which moved into Ontario before dissipating. All told, more than 170 persons were killed by the twisters in the U.S. and Canada.

Kentucky Gov. Wendell Ford called it "probably the most tragic day in the history of Kentucky." Ford ordered National Guard units into stricken areas of the state and said Army authorities at Ft.

pumping station, the water company was frantically trying to restore service as its reservoir supply dwindled, and there was a threat the city would be dry by morning. Officials had already announced that city, county and Catholic schools would be closed today, and Hollenbach appealed to non-essential industries to close also.

In Frankfort, a call went out throughout the state for emergency drug supplies to treat the injured.

Ford called Kentucky's plight "an extreme state of emergency" and announced that federal disaster teams were already on their way.

In Meade County, at least 24 persons were killed, according to Kentucky State Police, when a twister in mid-afternoon tore through Main Street from Broadway to the Ohio River, wiping out most of the Knox and Ft. Campbell had been authorized to move to help.

Ford said sightseers were impeding rescue efforts around the state.

Gov. Otis R. Bowen mobilized Indiana National Guard units in six counties four of them in the heavily devastated southeastern areas of the state.

Hardest hit of the Indiana communities was Madison, a city of 13,000 and the county seat of Jefferson County, Ind.

The Jefferson County, Ind., sheriff reported at least five dead and hundreds of injured, mostly in a 15-block hilltop section overlooking downtown Madison.

One death and 40 injuries were reported in the Daisy Hill Road area near Borden in northwest Clark County, Ind.

The main line of destruction stretched parallel to the Ohio River along south-

city's business district. Emergency shelters were set up for the homeless, and Louisville Gas & Electric Company announced it was cutting off gas service to the two because of the many leaks.

State reports included two persons injured fatally near Elizabethtown, 10 in Louisville, 4 in Warren County, three north of Irvington near the Meade-Breck-inridge County line, one at Samuels in Nelson County and a woman in Simpson County.

In Louisville, the twister hit at 4:30 p.m., as many persons were leaving work. It touched down at Standiford Field, ripping a roof from the terminal building and tossing it onto a parking lot, then slammed into the Kentucky Fairgrounds,

See 112 ARE DEAD Back page, col. 6, this section



Looking south from Eastern Parkway, Bardstown Road in Louisville was filled with tornado-downed poles.

LOUISVILLE: At least 10 persons killed

The toroade that drew a diagonal gash across Louisville and eastern Jofferson County yesterday killed at least 10 persons, injured more than 200 and caused a virtual drying up of the city's water

a virtual drying up of the crys water stipply. The late-afternoon twister knocked out power to the pumps of the Louisville Water Co., leaving the community with an eight-hour supply that rapidly dwin-dled to a trickle despite radio and tele-vision broadcast pleas for water conserva-

At midnight, the gauge on the water of the first near the Kentucky Fair company's water-storage facility was at & Exposition Center but reserved most its lowest reading, but there was hope of its worst property damage for the that power would be restored and the older Crescent Hill area of the city and

pumping of water restarted during the night.

About 9 p.m., the company began shut-About 9 p.m., the company began solu-ting off water mains to all areas except downtown Louisville, which a spokesman described as a "high fire risk area." Shortly after that, residents started re-porting that they were without water.

The tornade touched down about 4:30 p.m., slashing across the city from the southwest corner of the city to the north-

the expensive residential areas north of

the expensive residential areas north of Brownsborn Ruad.

Stately trees lining many of the major streets in the eastern part of the city were topoled, blocking homeward-hound workers and clogging throughfares.

Emergency vehicles had difficulties threading their way around the stalled traffic, fallen trees and downed power lines.

ines.
In an effort to keep unnecessary truffic off the streets, Jellorson County Judge Todd Hollenbach put a curfew into effect at 7:30 p.m. for the esstern part of the city. Lafer, the curfew area was widened to include the entire county.

The county-wide curfew was lifted

briefly to let night workers get to their homes, but it remained in effect in the eastern part of the city and was to have remained in effect until 6 a.m. teday.

Aldermanic President Creighton Mes-shon and Hollenbach said they will direct the city and county police to set up road blocks today at the major roads leading into the areas most heavily damaged by the storm.

They said they are encerned about looting and will direct the police to admit no one to the affected area unless they

See TEN

Back page, col, 5, this section

Rest of Article missing—

April 4, 1974, The Courier-Journal: **Rest of Article missing—**

KENTUCKY: At least 69 are dead after series of tornadoes strike

From AP and Stall Dispatches

A chain of tornadoes that ripped across Kentucky late yesterday afternoon left at least 24 persons dead in Meade County, according to state police, and cut a swath through Louisville, killing 10 and resulting in injuries to at least 300.

The twisters were responsible for at least 69 deaths in the state, most in the north-central portions. According to Kentucky State Police, among the fatalities were two persons killed near Elizabethtown, three north of Irvington, three in Franklin County, and one at Samuels. Four deaths were reported in Warren County and another at Temperance in Simpson County, where twisters also touched down.

Berea police reported that three persons were killed in the Madison County community of Cottonburg.

One person was killed at Junction City in Boyle County near Danville, and four in Clinton County, in southeastern Kentucky near the Tennessee border.

The U.S. Weather Service in Louisville reported that two storm cells moved east across the state, into the Bluegrass and mountain areas.

Meade County were taken to a makeshift morgue established in Central Elementary School at Brandenburg. The fatalities ranged in age from tiny babies to the

More than 40 other persons were reportedly taken to a clinic in downtown Brandenburg, where many injuries were

described as serious.

Some of the more seriously injured were taken to hospitals in Louisville and Ft Knox.

Ft. Knox public information officer Lt.

The bodies of those persons killed in Col. Frank Wasko said at 10:30 last night 48 persons from the Brandenburg area had been admitted to Ft. Knox's Ireland Army Hospital, He said most of the injuries were lacerations or broken bones. In addition, he said 51 persons were treated and released and one person died at the hospital and another was dead on arrival.

Wasko said the Army transported the injured from Brandenburg to Ireland by

> See AT LEAST Back page, col. I, this section

The calm after the storm

Furnished by the National Weather Service

LOUISVILLE area-Partly cloudy and cooler with a slight chance of showers today, also cloudy and cooler tomorrow; high today near 60, low tonight in mid-30s, high tomorrow in mid-50s. Precipitation probability, 20 per cent

KENTUCKY-Portly cloudy and cooler through temerrow; high in 60s, low in 30s.

INDIANA-Much cooler with chance of showers; high near 50, law in 30s.

High yesterday, 79; low, 53. Year aga yesterday: High 53; law 41. Sun: Rises, 6:24 p.m.: 101s, 7:09 p.m. Moon: Rises, 5:06 p.m.; sets, 4:46 p.m.

Weather map and details, Page C 12.



MRS. BARBARA JAGGERS stands stunned in the remains of her family's home on Stannye

Drive in northeastern Jefferson County while her younger daughter, Leigh Ann, 7, cries in disbelief.

Tornadoes killed 26

Over the past 20 years, the U.S. Wea-ther Service has reported more than 135 storms that bore tornadoes in Kentuciy. Between 1943 and 1974, 25 persons have been reported killed by tornadoes in the state.

The most serious recent outbreak of tornadoes occurred on April 27, 1971, when funnel clouds touched down in sev-eral south-central Kentucky counties, leaving 10 persons dead.

In 1968, another series of killer torna-does struck Northern Kentucky.

The most devastating storm in the state's history touched down in Louisville on March 27, 1890, killing from 78 to 120 persons, according to newspaper estimates of the time. An undetermined number of others lost their lives in that same storm in other portions of the

According to reports at the time, the tornado come from the southwest as did yesterday³. It cut a large swath of destruction from the Portland area of Louisville to Sixth Street and then moved along the Ohio River, hitting Jefferson-ville, Ind., and destroying the Louisville water works tower.

Property damage ran to almost \$2.5 million.

The 1890 storm created a refugee prob-lem with more than 4,000 citizens left homeless. But funds raised through pub-

lie subscription and contributions from the ci

Without the Red Cross or federal funds, the work of restoration was virtually complete two months after the dis-

The storm streck at 8 p.m. and in vary little time destroyed a railroad station, five churches, two public halls, three schools, 324 manufacturing plants, 10 to bacco warehouses, and 532 homes, according to one source.

1890 was the year in which Laulsville's first skyscraper, the Columbia Building at Pourth and Man streets, was completed. The torsado missed it by two blocks. It was also the year that the city passed a parks set, paving the way for Iraquia, Cherokee, and Shawnee parks.

Contemporary reports said excursion trains were run to Louisville from several points in Kentucky and Indiana, bringles thousands to witness the lorsade scene.

According to Weather Service statistics, April is the most likely month for turnadoes to occur in the Bloograss state, and the most frequent time period for such storms is between 4 and 9 p.m.

The statistics also show that, although tornapoles are possible at any elevation or in any terrain, 30 to 30 per coed of them have occurred in western and central portions of Kentucky.

Tornado victims: Partial list of the known dead

Here is a partial list of the known dead from yesterday's tornado:

Walter Brooks, no age given, of 6404 Glenwood Road, died of an apparent heart attack, according to Deputy Coroner Robert M. Adams Brooks, who was dead on arrival at General Hospital at 7:16 p.m., was taken to Hardy's Shively Funeral Home, 4101 Dixie Highway. Charles Floming Speecer 3r., 64, of 3924 Old Brownsboro Rd, died instantly of severe head injuries, according to Chief Deputy Corner Billy G. Wilkey, Wilkey said he learned that Spencer had been pinned in his car when a tree, which was blown over by the tornado, fell on top of the car on Brownsboro Road near Chenoweth Lane. Spencer's body will be at Pearson's, 140 Brecknridge Lane.

Mark Lawson, 4, of Hanover, Ind., and Bernice Orr, of 1824 Knollwood, were dead on arrival at General Hospital.

David Copple, 13, of Lexington, Ind., Rt. 2, died after being taken to General Hospital. These persons were treated at Norton-Children's Hospitals:

Basel Ticheer, of 2320 Westers, breated and re-leased. Jamine William and Nor describer, Cellin, of Police.

At 12:30 a.m. today A. G. Dierks, di-rector of General Hospital, released this list of patients treated as a result of the

Pholips Adams, Harmore, Ind. 81, 9 Source Andrews. 48, Harmore, Ind. 81, 2 Source Andrews. 48, Harmore, Ind. 81, 2 Delete Cognetic, 51, 252 Ward Melmo 31, James Changell, 5, Paircore, Ind. 5 James Changell, 5, Paircore, Ind. 5 James Changell, 6, States 1, 11, 2 James Manageller, 53, Harmore, 1m. 81, 2 James Pariock, 45, Scottillers, 1m. 81, 5 Melec Pariock, 45, Scottillers, 1m. 81, 5

Search Colon. 262 Locardate 65

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LG&E gives top priority to restoring power to emergency-connected units

A Louisville Gas & Electric Co. official said last night the company is giving top priority to restoring service to agencies that perform critical services.

The spokesman, H. Curtis Craig, said that after yesterday's tornado, workmen first concentrated on three out-of-service hospitals.

The Veterans Administration Hospital on Zorn Avenue got electrical service back at 7 p.m., and Suburban Hospital's power was restored at 8 p.m., he said.

Workmen were still trying to restore service to Our Lady of Peace late last night. Craig said he hoped that its service would be restored today.

Craig said the company has received about 4,000 calls from customers, adding that many homes will need new wiring and gas piping to get their service restored because of extensive damage.

Craig, a vice president of LG&E, said top priority was given to reaching the down and gas lines had popped.

Louisville Water Co, with makeshift

LG&E also serves the extremely hardhit Brandenburg area, where, according to Craig, crews were dispatched to cut off the flow of gas and electricity.

Craig said company crews, normally off duty at 3:30 p.m. yesterday, were working through the night and helping police and firemen in areas where live wires were

Searchers...Hunt for buried tornado victims to start at dawn

By GLENN RUTHERFORD

Courier-Journal Staff Writer

At dawn today Jefferson County Police officers will begin a house-to-house search for tornado victims who may be buried under the rubble of their homes in devastated eastern sections of the county.

And according to County Police Chief Russell McDaniel, there's "a good chance" the search will reveal additional casualties.

"Our men made quick preliminary searches during the daylight hours righs after the tornado hit," McDaniels said last night at the county police command post at the Broadway Baptist Church, 4000 Brownsboro Road.

"There was just no way we could make a thorough search really quickly," Mc-Daniel said, "We checked all the houses for injured people, but we didn't have time to move the rubble and really search thoroughly. And after nightfall, it was just too dangerous to go poking around in the debris with hot wires down all over the place."

McDaniel, who took an aerial tour of hard-hit housing developments off Brownsboro Road in the county police helicopter, said the tornado's path was "about a half-mile wide and five or six miles long."

"I've never seen anything like it," he said. "It's like you'd take your finger and make a path down a blackboard, just skipping in a few places."

"There were some houses that we saw
... well, if anyone was in them, they're
probably dead," he said.
The hardest hit areas in eastern Jef-

The hardest hit areas in eastern Jefferson County appeared to be the subdivisions of Rolling Fields, Northfield, and Indian Hills.

In various sections of each of these subdivisions, houses were totally destroyed some left without so much as a foot of bricks remaining together.

Though a curfew was in effect until 6 a.m. today, most area residents chose to stay with neighbors who escaped the hell that came shortly after 4 p.m. yesterday.

. "We.ve got shelters set up at Ballard and Trinity High Schools, and here at the church (Broadway Baptist), but most of these people have already been taken in by friends and neighbors," McDaniel said

By 6 p.m. yesterday, county police and National Guard patrolmen were stationed at various points along Brownsboro Road and inside the leveled housing develop-

ments, in an attempt to keep looters out of the mangled homes.

"The looting started shortly after dark, and when the people saw the police cars arriving, they dropped what they were carrying," McDaniel said. He said that as of 11 p.m. last night, he knew of no arrests of looters.

County patrolman Jack Coan said last night that he and several other patrolmen had checked homes on Club Lane that were almost totally destroyed, but were unable to find any injured people.

"We went to one house in particular after we got a call asking us to check there for an elderly lady," he said. "We found where she'd taken the telephone into a closet, and the rest of the house was pretty much destroyed, but that closet wasn't touched. So if she did go in there, she's all right, but we couldn't find her."

County police officials said 80 per cent of the 404 patrolmen on the force were patrolling the tornado-stricken area, and 120 National Guardsmen were also on hand.

"We've pretty well sealed the zero area," McDaniel said, referring to the area hardest hit. "This is a tragedy, but we were lucky in many ways. If the storm had hit a couple of hours later with a crowd in Freedom Hall, we'd have had 3,000 people killed or injured. And if it had hit 30 minutes later, it would have caught us right in the middle of the peak rush-hour traffic."

A restaurant on Brownsboro Road was considerably damaged by the storm and, in an effort to buoy the spirits of those who may have seen their homes damaged or destroyed, opened its bar for free drinks shortly after the storm had passed. And several people in the well-to-do areas off Mockingbird Valley Road were mixing drinks in their yard outside their demolished homes.

"My mother was pulling at the basement door, trying to get downstairs, but the pressure from the storm wouldn't let her get it open," said C. S. Radford Jr. "She never did get the door open and when she looked up, half the house was sone."

Radford's mother, Mrs. C. S. Radford Sr., was lucky, as were most of the people in the storm's path. Most people weren't injured. But a few were, and McDantel said he thinks the death toll from the storm may go higher after this morning's house-to-house search.

"I fear there may be more victims buried in the rubble," he said.



Yesterday's storm flattened this section of woodland in Louisville's Cherokee Perk, along Cherokee Boad.

Louisville-area hospitals treat 225 victims of tornadoes

By PAUL BULLEIT Courier-Journal Staff Writers

An estimated 225 persons had been taken to Louisville area hospitals late last night with injuries suffered in the tornado, and the handling of patients went smoothly despite the heavy load.

All hospitals have an emergency-alert system which they practice in the event of a real disaster. Most off-duty personnel got to their hospitals despite the difficulty of travel,

Security guards at hospitals were hard pressed to contain visitors seeking word of relatives or friends. Many persons went from hospital to hospital in search of word.

About six hours after the storm struck, 50 persons had arrived at Suburban Hospital, about 50 at St. Joseph Hospital, 45 at Louisville General, 30 at Kentucky Baptist, 13 at Methodist Evangelical, 9 at Norton-Children's, 25 at Jewish, and one at SS. Mary & Elizabeth.

More patients were arriving late last night. Of those coming to hospitals, some

of Mrs. Chapell's daughters, Tanimy, suffered a skull fracture and was in serious condition last night at General Hospital. Mrs. Chapell's husband, Jeff, was at work in Louisville at the time.

Dr. Don Thomas, director of emergency services at General Hospital, couldn't reach the hospital from his home in St. Matthews, but he set up an emergency station in that area, a hospital spokesman

Dr. James Bacon, of General's emergency services, estimated there were from 25 to 30 physicians available for duty at the hospital shortly after the storm struck. Many persons appeared at the hospital to volunteer their services.

General, the principal teaching hospital for the University of Louisville School of Medicine, can call in dozens of faculty, interns and residents at a few moments

Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Turley, of 103 Crescent Court, were in their apartment watching the Gomer Pyle television show

were treated and released, and some were admitted for surgery and other treat-

Paul Gross, administrator of Suburban Hospital, the newest in the Louisville area said he could see the tornado coming as he looked from an upper-floor window. Through the loudspeaker system, all employes were asked to pull draperies and take other precautions.

The tornado missed the hospital, but damage in the area was heavy. Gross said off-duty nurses and other personnel were called in. The hospital is in the St. Matthews area at 4001 Dutchmans Lane

"This was our first real test in a disassituation, and everything smoothly," Gross said.

Among the patients at Jewish Hospital was James Linton, 43, of 614 S. 43d St. Linton was driving on 1-71 near the Jefferson Freeway when he saw the storm coming. He leaped from his car and got into a culvert, but a tree limb struck his leg. Extent of his injury was not known last night.

when suddenly "glass was all over the place." Both were treated for cuts at General Hospital.

Pearlie Waterman was doing yard work at a house on Lexington Road late yesterday afternoon when the tornado touched down there. The workers "ganged around a hig tree" for protection but as they hugged it desperately, the tree split wide

Pearlie and her cousin Adam Hensley, of Floyd Street, ran away, but Hensley's arm was injured. He was treated at General Hospital last night.

Yesterday Randall Andrew was standing in his yard in Hanover, Ind., when he and some of his neighbors saw a "twister"

His neighbor, the minister of the Hanover Hill Pentecostal Church, suggested that they seek shelter in the church three miles away. They followed the minister into the basement of the Bedford stone church building. As Andrew, his wife Bonnie and their 16-year-old son Bud stood in the southwest corner of the

Steve Copple, 14, of Lexington, Ind., was one of about a dozen 30 children who fled from a bus taking them from Scottsburg Junior High School to their homes near Lexington.

Steve, treated last night at Jewish Hospital for an arm injury, said he and the others jumped from the bus and attempted to seek shelter in ditches along the road. Flying debris struck them, injuring Steve and some others.

"It semed like it would never go away," he said, speaking of the storm.

The pilot dog of Mrs. Carol Ann Chapell, who is blind, may have saved the lives of her and her three young children two miles east of Palmyra in Harrison Coun-

Mrs. Chapell said she gathered her children in a corner of her trailer when she heard the wind. The dog, a retreiver, pushed closely against them. storm hit, the dog, Jan, was blown or jumped on top of the huddling figures. An air-conditioner fell, striking the dog.

The dog was not hadly injured, but one

church, it came down in a heap on their heads. Down the road, the Andrew's house stood untouched.

"I picked a bad time to go to church," Andrew said last night as he and his son waited at Louisville's General Hospital to learn about the condition of Mrs. Andrew. "I hope I wake up after a while and find this didn't happen.

Andrew described the tornado: "It just looks like the whole world is mad at you and it's going to do something about it."

David Colebank, 27, of 2065 Eastern Pkwy., was just about home from the store when the storm struck his neighborhood at 4:50 p.m.

He jumped out of his car and "wrapped himself" around a tree between two buildings only a hundred yards from his apartment. As he held on he saw the wind tear the backs off of several houses.

"It was like looking into a row of doll houses when it was over." Colebank was cut on the head by a falling roof tile and was treated at General Hospital and re-

Twister spares Jeffersontown, but water supply is scarce

Jeffersontown was spared yesterday by the tornadoes, but Mayor Herbert S.

Meyer said radio messages asked would have "a serious emergency" caused by a depleted water supply.

Meyer said the largest of the city's three storage tanks had fallen from 22.5 feet to 15 feet seven hours after the tornado hit the Louisville area, Meyer said this was because "our people are filling their bathtubs and other extra containers

because they've heard we have a problem."

Mayer said radio messages asked people to be very frugal with the water because we might have to get along for quite a while on what we've got.'

He said the city's two smaller storage tanks were "even lower" than the largest one. He said Jeffersontown has little hope of getting more water "as long as the Louisville pumping station is ruined."

Aged woman's eyes focus on what's left: Nothing

By DICK KAUKAS

Courier-Journal Staff Writer

The old woman stood in the middle of Glenwood Road late yesterday afternoon, her face flushed, her voice quivering, her eyes focusing on nothing.

Electrical wires cut acros sthe road near her feet. On both sides of her were the houses that had once made a neighborhood, a street lined with places where people had lived.

By 6 p.m. yesterday, it was not like that anymore.

The old woman had a small suitcase in her hand. She was leaving her house. She wasn't sure when she'd be back.

The tornado had hit it sometime after 5 p.m. She said she had felt it coming.

"It just seemed to go calm for a sec-

ond," she said, "I was out on my front porch, and I saw the debris coming, fly-

Her house was like the others in the 6400 block of Glenview Road, just east of its intersection with Lime Kiln Road. They looked as if they had been submerged in a surging wave that had lifted huge sections of roof and wall, leaving

Brick had been ripped from the sides of buildings, chunks of roofs were gone or lying in neighbors' yards. Windows and inside walls were missing, and inside the rooms chairs and tables had been smashed into corners,

Dirt and fine pieces of yellow or red insulation coated the wreckage, sheets of newspaper and twisted pieces of metal were lying against shrubs, like an ocean had left them behind when it

ground over there," William Lippy said. "The estate with the columns. It's gone."

Lippy walked up the street to his house at 6415 Glenwood. He stood beside it, picking up some of the debris that had been hurled into the ground, wondering how anything could have been strong enough to tear down the walls, rip off the roof, lift the swimming pool liner from the water onto the side of the hole that

He said all the clothing in the house

ing everywhere.

"I got back inside and when I reached the bottom of the basement stairs, I heard

the windows breaking, smashing. I never heard such a noise. It was terrible. It was just trrible."

only debris and shells behind.

"There's a \$150,000 house on the

Shelters set up at churches and schools

Emergency shelters were set up at several area schools and churches last night in the aftermath of the tornado that cut through Louisville, but apparently most people from the devastated areas resolved to stay with friends or relatives or to remain in their battered homes.

was gone. "It just took them and threw them off somewhere."

His wife and their children, Tina and Kevin, had been driving home from the grocery store just before the tornado hit.

Mrs. Lippy said she thought there was something strange about the sky to the east. "I said, 'Kevin, look at that funny cloud. It was so low." All three of them made it to the basement. Her husband was at work.

"I didn't think to open the windows," she said.

"It's the scariest thing I've ever been through," Kevin Lippy told a friend standing beside him.

Dr. D. P. Hall of 6414 Glenwood was walking down the road, walking slowly,

and then he turned to look back at his house. It wasn't as bad as the one beside but there still had been a lot of

Hall said he had just got home before the storm hit. 'I heard it roar, and my wife went to the basement. I just sat there in my library, sat there thinking that I had just got home and that I didn' want to go down there. Then I couldn't get the basement door open.'

He said they hadn't been hurt.

By 6:30 p.m. last night, police had covered the damaged area with patrolmen and squad cars. Firemen were cutting through the trees that bad failen onto Lime Kiln Road just south of Glenwood.

Shelters included the Southern Bap-tist Seminary and Ballard and Waggener high schools and Highland Junior High.

Early in the evening, the shelters were used mainly as gathering points for families looking for children or other rela-

A Red Cross worker at Ballard said more than 100 people came to the school offering their own homes as shelter for the homeless.

Mrs. William F. Lippy, of 6415 Glen-wood in the hard-hit Northfield subdivision, was at Ballard looking for her children. Only two of her seven children had been home with her when the tornado hit.

She said that after coming upstairs from the lower level of the house she though the front doors had been blown off. Instead, the whole upper level of the house was gone - the livingroom, kitchen and four bedrooms.

Another emergency shelter was established at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, 2825 Lexington Road.

By about 10 p.m., 21 persons had gathered at the shelter. They were fed meals of peanut butter and milk by wives of students. The food was contributed by seminary students, since electricity was off at the shelter and refrigeration was

Gilbert Sanders, head of custodial services at the seminary, said there were 180 to 200 beds made up and ready for people in the community who were home-

Sanders said the short supply of water was his biggest worry. He said a caterer privides meals "into the hundreds every day" on the campus and assumed that he would supply food for the homeless,

An emergency medical clinic had been set up on the ground floor of a seminary building and two University of Louisville medical students were staffing it.

Mike McCall, one of the two UL medi cal students, said that persons with serious injuries had already been taken to General Hospital. The only injured person there around 9 o'clock last night was woman who had slipped down some stairs.

Warren Hickman, a volunteer emergency medical technician, said he had taken two seriously injured persons from the seminary to General. "A broke shoulder tonight is not a serious injury "A broken he said. One of the persons he evacuated had "glass impaled in his skull."

Tornado – 10 miles of ruin, misery by Martin E. Biemer, *The Louisville Times*.

By MARTIN E. BIEMER

Louisville Times Staff Writer

Louisville picked herself up, brushed herself off and rolled up her sleeves to-day—and began a massive cleanup after the city's most devastating tornado in more than half a century.

President Nixon today declared Kentucky, Indiana, Ohio, Tennessee and Alabama national disaster areas, making them eligible for a wide range of federal disaster-relief benefits.

Almost miraculously, only three deaths were attributed to the Louisville twister, which swept a 10-mile-long path across the city and its eastern suburbs yesterday afternoon.

In addition, two people injured in storms in Indiana died in Jefferson County hospitals, and a man suffered a heart attack and died in his yard in Louisville after the storm had passed.

In a day of storms from Alabama to Ontario at least 337 people died nationally. It was the country's worst tornado disaster since twisters killed 271 people on Palm Sunday, April 11, 1965.

For Kentucky, it was the worst tornado disaster since March 27, 1890. At latest count 87 people had died because of yesterday's tornadoes in Kentucky, according to Civil Defense authorities in Frankfort. In 1890 at least 76 lost their lives in Louisville alone.

Indiana's death toll in yesterday's tornadoes stood at 62—far fewer than the 141 deaths reported on Palm Sunday 1965.

In Louisville, 44 people were admitted to hospitals yesterday for treatment of storm-related injuries. Many of them

Storm section

Coverage of yesterday's storm is concentrated in a special section, which begins on Page B1.

came from Indiana and from the Brandenburg, Ky., area, where damage was severe.

Louisville hospitals reported they treated nearly 150 more people for relatively minor injuries.

Property damage in the city and county was extensive; the only estimates were stated as "millions of dollars."

One official said it appeared that about 700 homes were "damaged beyond repair."

As the cleanup got under way, there were these major developments:

City and county officials announced that a curfew will be reimposed in storm-damaged areas from 7 p.m. today to 6 a.m. tomorrow. Only those people who have businesses or homes in the areas will be admitted. Guards will be posted to prevent looting.

The Louisville Water Co., which couldn't meet water demands last night after the tornado demolished electric

See TORNADO Back page, col. 1, this section

Tornado plows a field of woe through the city and county

Continued From Page One

lines leading to the Crescent Hill pumping station, hoped to have normal service restored to most of the county by midafternoon. Water company officials urged citizens to continue conserving water and warned them to boil or purify all drinking water until further notice.

Gov. Wendell H. Ford met with federal, state and local officials to plan how to administer special federal disaster relief programs.

(LG&E) restored electric power to the water company pumping station and had crews at work around the clock to try to restore power to damaged as well as undamaged areas. Utility officials said it might be several days before all the damage is repaired.

 City, county and parochial school officials said they would try to reopen most elementary and secondary schools tomorrow. They said arrangements would have to be made to take care of students who attended the schools that were damaged or destroyed by the storm.

Street and road crew officials said. it might take three days to clear all the roadways blocked by debris.

 ✓ Telephone service was still disrupted in areas touched by the storm, and restoration of service appeared to depend to a large extent on the progress of other cleanup efforts.

Control Board declared a storm emergeney, which allows open burning of storm debris if the fire is approved in advance by the Fire Department.

✓ LG&E 'said there were scattered' natural gas service interruptions in areas that suffered storm damage. Restoration of this service also depends to a large extent on the progress of other cleanup ef-

The tornado that struck Louisville during yesterday afternoon's rush hour apparently was the same one that hit Brandenburg a few minutes earlier, killing 30 people.

John Burke, meteorologist-in-charge at the National Weather Service station at Standiford Field, said the twister was tracked on weather-service radar.

He said it apparently lifted into the air after leaving Brandenburg, passed over West Point and Kosmosdale, and may have clipped the top of the hill in Iroquois Park,

"It touched down in the parking lot right here at the airport," he said, "A

terminal blew off."

Then, Burke said, it continued to swirl "along the ground or very close to it" in a northeasterly path across the city until it appeared to lift into the clouds somewhere northeast of Brownsboro Road and Lime Kiln Lane.

Burke said the swirling winds in the funnel probably reached "200 to 300 miles per hour" as it smashed across the

The extensive damage began at the Kentucky State Fairgrounds and continued through Audubon Park, Calvary Cemetery, along Eastern Parkway to Cherokee Park, through the park and over or past the Interstate 64 tunnel, up Grinstead Drive, past the Louisville Water Co.'s filtration plant, and then through the suburbs of Rolling Fields, Indian Hills, Northfield and areas between them.

More damage was reported northeast of Northfield, near the entrance to the Barbour Manor subdivision near Barbour Lane and Brownsboro Road.

Guardsmen help police

Kentucky National Guardsmen joined all available police officers in helping with rescue operations and in patrolling the damaged areas last night.

County Judge Todd Hollenbach and County Works Director Scott Gregory took a helicopter tour of the city and county today, and Gregory estimated that 700 homes were damaged beyond repair. He said by a rough count 380 of those were in the county and a little over 300 in the city.

Hollenbach said it looked as if someone had taken a sickle and cut a swatch across the community. He pledged that "every citizen is going to be given very personalized concern to every problem directly or indirectly related to the tornado."

"We're going to rebuild this com-munity," he said. "We're going to design a program that will enable us to make contact with every citizen that's been af-

Hollenbach said that the county will continue to provide "maximum security in all areas affected" and continue to maintain roadblocks cordoning off the areas at least through today and "probably longer than that.

As of this morning, Hollenbach said that the primary consideration was to keep all lines of communication open between governmental and service agencies. He said that pending the development of a more complete plan, all residents needing help with problems or information should contact Civil Defense head-quarters at City Hall, 589-4230.

Hollenbach praised the public's re-sponse to the disaster, saying it was "great and encouraging." He also praised

piece of roof from the west wing of the the performance of the community's utility companies in acting quickly to restore basic services.

Local officials met with Gov. Ford and federal officials this morning to discuss what sort of disaster aid is available. Later, all city and county department heads were to meet to coordinate their

Aldermanic President Creighton E. Mershon, acting mayor in the absence of Mayor Harvey I. Sloane, echoed Hollenbach's comments.

"We're in pretty good shape in that we've got every conceivable department out working," he said.

Mershon said the city also will secure the damaged areas as well as possible. One of the first priorities, he said, will be get major city streets reopened. "We

can't clean it all up immediately, but at

least we'll try to get every artery open."

Search for victims continues

Sloane, who is vacationing near Quebec City, Canada, was expected to return to the city later today. Mershon said efforts to arrange for a plane to fly the mayor home last night had failed.
Acting Civil Defense Director Elden

Durand said the main task today will be the continuing effort to clear the streets and the rechecking of the damaged areas for tornado victims

Durand said trucks, other equipment and manpower have come from many sources, including the city departments of sanitation, works, street repair and parks. About 70 volunteers from the University of Louisville, the Red Cross, the Kentucky Rescue Association, the Salvation Army, and the U.S. Coast Guard are helping out in the emergency, he said.

Durand said that temporary Civil Defense headquarters are operating at the County Works Yard on Hubbards Lane just south of U.S. 42 and at the Broadway Baptist Church, on U.S. 42 near Chenoweth Lane. Another was scheduled to be in operation later in the day further north on U.S. 42.

A Red Cross shelter unit has been set up at Highland Junior High School, 1700 Norris Place.

Ron Taylor, director of disaster ser-vices for the Kentucky Division of the American Red Cross, said the Red Cross also has four or five mobile feeding units cruising the hardest-hit areas in the city and county to provide food to victims, police and military personnel.

Taylor added that the Red Cross is surveying the damage done by the tornado so that a decision can be made where services are needed most and how best to provide them.

Shortly after the storm, police began to receive scattered reports of looting. One person was arrested—a 19-year-old man stopped at Frankfort and McCready avenues about 10:20 p.m. and charged with disorderly conduct and with violating a 9 p.m. emergency curfew.

Two new developments caused additional concern, but apparently little damage after the tornado struck the city. A 20-second earth tremor shook many parts of the city and another twister was sighted near McNeely Lake in the southern part of the county.

The tremor was part of a shock felt over an area of some 70,000 square miles in the nation's midsection and was not

connected with the weather.

The twister sighted at McNeely Lake apparently never touched down in Jef-

ferson County.

Mcteorologist Burke said the tornado that hit Louisville was first sighted at 3.49 p.m. yesterday at Hardinsburg, Ky. He said it moved "very rapidly — about 60 miles per hour" to Irvington, then to Brandenburg, and then to Jefferson County.

"We blew the sirens about 10 minutes before it hit here," he said.

Burke said a tornado does not look like a funnel cloud unless there is a lot of moisture and debris in the swirling column. He also said the twister may have touched down before he saw it outside the weather-service station at Standiford Field.



Photo by Charles E. Bailey Jr.

Storms did this damage to a railroad crossing at Frankfort and Hillcrest avenues in Crescent Hill.

Residents warned to purify water

By RICHARD KRANTZ Leuisville Times Staff Writer

Water was expected to be restored to most Louisville-area homes and businesses by midafternoon today. But health officials warned area residents to boil or purify their drinking water at least until tomorrow morning.

The warning to boil or purify water came from the Louisville and Jefferson County Health Department, and is effective until tests of water purity can be completed.

(Instructions on how to purify water appear on Page B11.)

Meanwhile, all industries and schools were asked by the Louisville Water Co. to shut down today in order to help rebuild the water supply. Schools were closed.

Water-company officials said industry might be able to resume full operation after 7 p.m. today. They said the water company now has full electric power to resume its full pumping capacity.

Electrical power also remained out in many tornado-struck areas of Louisville and Jefferson County. It may take days to restore service to all homes left standing, according to a spokesman for Louisville Gas and Electric (LG&E) Co.

Police said all main roads in Louisville were passable by this afternoon. Traffic in tornado-torn areas was being restricted to residents of those areas, however.

As dawn broke over Louisville, the crippled city seemed to face several days of struggle before its daily life returned to a semblance of normality.

Water shortage was the most critical problem that threatened the city immediately following the devastating tornado. Louisville Water Co.'s pumping facili-

> See PURIFY Back page, col. 1, this section

Continued From Page One

ties shut down totally for nearly 12 hours, as the storm severed all electrical power leading to the central pumping facilities at 3018 Frankfort Ave. in Crescent Hill.

Crews from Louisville Gas & Electric Co. worked through the night in an effort to restore power to the pumps through a temporary electric line.

Power restored at 4:25 a.m.

Power finally reached the pumping facilities at 4:25 a.m., and the first water pump went back in operation at 4:47 a.m., according to spokesmen for the water company

The electrical power was enough to bring 50 per cent of the pumping capacity back to the water system. But that capacity had to be restored slowly during the morning hours in order to keep water mains from breaking under a sudden restoration of pressure, a water-company spokesman said.

Boiling of drinking water was described as a precautionary measure made necessary because the water lines went dry dur-

ing the night.

Without pressure in the lines, impurities could seep into the system and be carried in the water as it began flowing again, said a company spokesman.

Water was to be tested during the day as it left the pumping facilities. Until the testing is done, the water purity is uncertain, said Frank Campbell, a water-com-

pany vice-president.

With three water pumps in operation, 120 million gallons per day could be pumped. This is about equal to the city's normal daily water use, a firm spokesman

Industries can't operate

But industries cannot begin operating again until all the city reservoirs and storage tanks are refilled, said Paul Coulter, the firm's assistant chief engineer,

Almost all the reservoirs and tanks were depleted during the night, as many persons apparently stored available water in bathtubs and other containers, said a firm spokesman.

As water is restored to houses today, the residents are advised to delay flushing their toilets until a steady stream of water first comes out of household faucets.

The sudden pressure of flushing a toilet could "blow commodes off the wall," said one of the water firm's engineers.

Most disruption of electrical power was to households in the eastern sections of the city and county, rather than to business and industrial areas, said a spokesman for Louisville Gas & Electric Co.

Curtis Craig, an LG&E vice-president, said six electrical substations were knocked out of service, including two in Crescent Hill and one each in the Highlands, Audubon Park, the Harrods Creek area and Skylight, Ky., in Oldham County.

Some of these areas will get electricity restored by switching current around the affected substations, said Craig. But cer-tain streets may be without service for days, as new poles must be erected and new lines strung, Craig said.

He said he could make no accurate estimate of how many customers now lack

electrical power.

He acknowledged that some grocery stores and homes will suffer spoilage of perishable food, and that some persons

will be unable to cook meals.

Other homes will be without heat, he said. Even gas furnaces cannot operate. because their thermostats require electricity, Craig said.
Craig said that past storms in Louis-

ville have deprived a greater number of customers of electricity, but service restoration probably will be slower this time because of the severe damage.

He said that a stockpile of 1,000 power poles will likely be used up in the effort

to restore service.

Some workers from utility firms in other areas will help in Louisville, Craig said. But this outside help will be minimal because areas surrounding Louisville were also hit by storms, he added.

Telephone service to an estimated 21,-000 customers was interrupted, according to a spokesman for South Central Bell

Telephone Co.

The eastern and southern sections of town were the hardest hit, with 53 cables which serve entire areas torn down. Many wires to individual homes also were down.

Full service was not expected to be restored today, but phone crews will continue working around the clock until the job is complete, said a spokesman.

The firm asked that phone calls be

limited only to those necessary

Many customers who thought they had disrupted telephone service were mercly experiencing the effects of overloaded circuits, said a spokesman. This made it difficult to get a dial tone to place outgoing calls, he said.

Long-distance calls jumped by an estimated 300 per cent last night, a spokes-

man said.

700 work to clear streets

Efforts to clear Louisville streets last night involved about 700 men in the city departments of public works, sanitation and parks.

"Our main thrust is to get the main traffic arteries open first through the city street system, followed by the main arteries in the parks," said Lawrence Mat-tingly, city director of public works.

"It will be a three-day operation to make streets passable," Mattingly estimated. The whole cleanup operation could take "weeks and months," he said.

Mattingly advised homeowners to clear up debris in order to make their houses accessible, but don't throw debris in the curbs, he said.

He said homeowners should keep debris piled in their yards until notified that cleanup crews can pick it up.

Mattingly said many volunteers have offered to help with the cleanup work. He called it a "marvelous response.

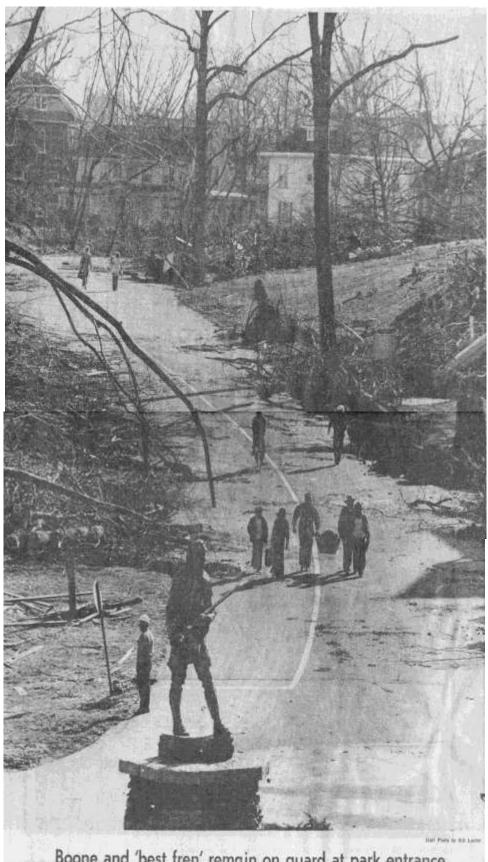
Contractors have called in offering use of their heavy equipment, and truckrental firms have also called in offering trucks, he said.

Scott Gregory, director of public works in Jefferson County, said he expected about 100 volunteers to work with his 75 employes.

He said he couldn't estimate how long it might take to get trees and other debris cleaned up in the county.

He noted that last year it took three weeks to clear up storm damage in only a small section of Audubon Park.

"It looks like an atomic bomb in the eastern portion of the county," he said.



Boone and 'best fren' remain on guard at park entrance

The status of Daniel Boose, briding the rifls he called "my best fren." stands unscathed as if guarding the Cherokee Road-Eastern Parkway entrance to ternado-splintared Cherokee Park in the castern section of Leuisville. In this photo-looking east up Cherokee Road, most of the fumber

that blocked the must has been cleaned to the sides and residents of the area appear to be corrying belongings from their damaged bones. We in-ments belinets give evidence of massive road- and debra-cleanance efforts under way throughout the day.

Kentucky, Indiana declared disaster area

By BILL PETERSON and EDWARD BENNETT

Louisville Times Staff Writers

President Nixon today declared Kentucky and Indiana major national disaster areas, making them eligible for a wide range of federal assistance to areas in the two states struck by tornadoes.

The White House, responding to requests from the states' governors, announced the action as the President was being briefed on tornado damage by federal officials.

Ohio, Alabama and Tennessee were also declared disaster areas.

The action makes individuals and communities in the five states eligible for emergency housing, food stamps, low-interest business and housing loans and a host of other types of assistance.

The President had no plans to visit the disaster areas.

Gerald Warren, deputy White House press secretary, said the President had made arrangements to leave early Friday to attend memorial services for French President Georges Pompidou before the disaster struck.

Later visit not ruled out

"I'm not ruling our a trip at a later date," Warren added.

The White House, he said, set federal disaster machinery into motion at 7 p.m. yesterday just after the tornadoes slashed through Kentucky and the other states. By 2 a.m. today, disaster officials were either on the scene or en route to the hardest-hit areas.

There was the possibility that other states, including Georgia, Illinois, North Carolina and Michigan, might be declared national disaster areas later today, Warren said.

Sen. Marlow W. Cook, R-Ky., briefed the President on tornado damage in the Louisville area and throughout Kentucky.

Also attending the meeting with Mr. Nixon were Sen. Robert Taft Jr., R-Ohio; Thomas Dunn, administrator of the Federal Disaster Assistance Administration, and James Lynn, secretary of the U.S. De-

partment of Housing and Urban Development.

After the meeting, Lynn said Mr. Nixon had ordered him and FDAA administrator Dunn to fly to the disaster areas tomorrow. They were instructed to see that "all the resources of the federal government" are marshaled to aid relief efforts.

"He assured us there would be adequate financing available for whatever assistance is needed." If federal funds run short, the President said he would request a special appropriation from Congress, Lynn said.

Lynn said he and Dunn would arrive in Louisville tomorrow. "We want to be in a position to make as many decisions in the field as possible to get things moving," he said.

The President, Lynn added, "had a great concern about housing. He said whatever housung is available, let's get it."

Dunn said federal disaster officials will concentrate on opening up "one-stop service" centers in hard-hit communities. He estimated there would be 30 or 40 of these in various places throughout the disaster area, one in each community where possible.

"We told the President these centers will be opened by noon on Saturday" in some localities, said Dunn.

Earlier, Kentucky Gov. Wendell H. Ford also said he was "taking a hard look" at what state funds will be available to victims.

He said the Kentucky Housing Corp, may be able to help finance home rebuilding. A newly created school-disaster fund of \$1 million will aid communities in the reconstruction of educational facilities once the systems' own insurance and bonding capabilities have been explored.

He said he would consider calling a special session of the Kentucky General Assembly to appropriate state funds, but added, "I'm not really interested in doing that until all other resources have been completely exhausted."

The governor praised the speed with

See KENTUCKY

Page B10. col. 4

Kentucky, Indiana declared disaster area

Kentucky, Indiana termed disaster areas

Continued from Page B1

which emergency aid was organized last night, saying National Guard command posts were set up in Louisville within 30 minutes after the first strike of the tor-

He said every state highway employe had been called out and dispatched to help clean up. He added that even state foresters were called for duty.

Ford arrived here at about 9 a.m. today via helicopter, accompanied by an aide and state Adj. Gen. Richard Frymire.

The governor and his entourage flew over the damaged areas of Frankfort, the rural areas between here and the capital

and large sections of Louisville and Jefferson County.

He said the purpose of today's meeting was to coordinate governmental efforts and to begin pinpointing just what sort of services and money would be available,

Frymire said 750 National Guardsmen are on duty today all over the state, with about 300 in the Louisville area and 200 hard-hit Brandenburg in Meade County.

said the Guard's efforts locally would be to secure the damaged areas from looters. He called tonight the "critical time" for establishing a firm boundary of security.

Federal officials explained today that when a major disaster has been declared, all available resources of federal agencies can be marshaled to provide a wide range of relief.

These include:

 Making federal equipment, supplies, facilities and personnel available to state and local governments,

 Distributing medicine. food and other emergency assistance through such agencies as the Red Cross and the Salvation Army

Donating federal equipment and supplies.

Performing emergency work on public property

Even when you see it's hard to believe it

By BICHARD DES RUISSEAUX Louisville Tirony Staff Writer

The sky is laced with invisible potholes as the single-engine plane bounces south-west from Bowman Field.

It is the morning after.

The sun glints off the muddy, curling Ohio: the haze is fading. Ten miles ahead at the river's bank is a small, rural town. Brandenburg. Or what is left of it.

You can see the carnage clearly from the air. It is an awesome, frightening visage. Seeing what a ternado has done is not necessarily to believe it.

as not necessarily to occure it.

It is as if Paul Bunyan had been on a
drunken rampage. Mammoth trees
knocked flat, pointing in opposite directions on either side of the path of fury.

A mangled pickup truck sits on top of an overturned auto in the middle of a large pend. They are there, it cannot be denied. But how?

A home, flattened to its foundation by the swirling funnel, is nothing but a junk-pile. In the center of what was the first floor, a blue pickup truck has been parked by the twister.

At the golf course, electric carts have been spun around like toys, and a glant chunk of roofing is draped over a tele-phone wire. From the air, it looks like a silver sheet hung out to dry

The town's main street has been demol-ished. The tornado came down the road heading for the river, and buildings on both sides were leveled.

When the funnel reached the river it probably popped up and skipped over to the Indiana side, where it set down

Cherokee park is dead.

asunder.

buses marked the route.

The tornado that touched down at Standiford Field yesterday afternoon and sliced northeast across Jefferson County was merciless.

again briefly and deposited a little debris and uprooted a few trees.

The marauder's trait was 200 to 300 yards wide and at least 2 miles long. Crumpled cars and trucks and school

Rubble was strewn everywhere -bricks, boards, fencing, window frames,

water heaters, walls. Even the dead were not spared; the tornado cut through the graveyard, tearing up tombstones

A thousand feet below, the little men and women gathered with their midget machines, wedded to a monumental task, to put together what the tornado had torn

Once proud, stately and unbending, the park's sentinels now look like victims of a firing squad, executed swiftly, callously and efficiently.

Hogan's Fountain and the shelterhouse still stand, but not much else does, It is a heartbreaking sight.

In the Indian Hills area off Browns-boro Road, solid, expensive brick homes have been destroyed as easily as a child knocks down wooden blocks.

In one oval block, a house at the north end is almost untouched, save for an up-rooted tree. All the rest have been shredded.

The Northfield area, just beyond the Watterson Expressway, looks like a pile of matchsticks from the air. Swimming pools are filled with boards; the houses are mangled beyond belief.

From the Fairgrounds to I-71 and U.S. 42 it runs. A 10-mile furrow of disaster.

It is an unforgettable sight, caused by an incomprehensible force, a furious buzzsaw that gouges, chops, chews and spews its way across the earth.

You are lucky if you were not in its

You are luckier if you were in its path and lived to see the morning after.

On the job

In addition to the reporters writing bylined stories, Louisville Times staff members Teresa Morris, Valerie Wright, Ellen Schuhmann, Clay Ryce, Clarence Matthews, Pat Howington, Richard Halverson, T. C. Jefferson, Ken Neuhauser, Logan Shaw, Meredith McGrath and Larry Keefe helped gather information in The Times' storm coverage.

Aftermath of memories . . . Excitement, gratitude and a saved

Louisville Times Statt Write One legacy of the storm will be hun-freds of individual, unforgestable mem-

ories.
At the time, they seemed all but lost amid the greater tragedy of the day. But the torsado touched many Louisville lives separately — and in vastly different

Some things that supposed when the tornade struck, and in its aftermath:

Gerhard Bockborst Jr. was wearing a poif cap and holding a drink as be sat on his terrage. His back was toward his dev-astated home at 170 Westwind Road. "To hell with material possessions," he said. "We made it, didn't we? We're still Four-year-old Joseph B. Gathright III found excitement in the storm. He was almost gireful. "Waler was running out of all the pipes," he said. Moments after his mother dashed to the cellar with him his home at 1827 knollwood Road was hit. The room in which they had been sitting was destroyed.

Bruce Longacre will be 10 today. And he will have a cake.

no will have a case.

He and his father, William M. Long-serre, were bringing the cake home in their car when a heavy timber pierced the ear. Then a panel truck soared over the car. Father and son were on the floorboard and all the car windows were knecked out. Longacre came out of his ear to

drag a woman from another car and got a cut on his hand. They'll evidenate Hruce's birthday to-day at the home at 4042 Mamie Ave. The cake is a little the worse for the

trip.
"I think we can eat it," Longacre said.
"I don't think there is any glass in it."

Don Clifford went for the floor of his bonne at 118 Stilz Ave. He pulled a couch down over him. Then crawled out safely,

A few people stopped to look at a ockingbird, lying dead in a yard in the

Larry Menow was playing golf at the Larry Menow was playing golf at the Cherokee coarse with two companions. They dived for a ditch. Menow admits, "We were too stared to move. Trees were coming down all over. It's just a mirnele we weren't hit by septiding."

Mrs. Frances Wilander and her son, Richie, were in their home at 1900 Stevens Are. They foll the house shift off its foundation. It rained all the way across the room," Mrs. Wilander said. Then she went outside. Homes were destroyed; trees were down. Said Mrs. Wilander: "It was seen a shock to come out and see all this destruction in such a short period of time. Well, I'm just thankful to be alive."

birthday cake

A man, not identified, was in the bar in Nardy's Sherwood Inn, 1516 Bardstown Road. Bricks from the side of a three-story house fell through the roof and pinned him to his chair. It took firemen about an hour to free him.

Joshua Oyekan, a student at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary from Nigers was driving on Grinstead Drive with his wife, Beatrice, and their son, Julius, 4. He saw trees flying through the air. "I knew it was crazy to get out," he said, so they stayed in the car. Oyekan

See TORNADO

Page B10, col. 1

Tornado etched many indelible memories for some

Continued from Page B1

recalled: "Being scared or not being scared didn't come to me. I saw God in action."

Amid the hustle at Louisville General Hespital one woman was brought in and quietly taken to another ward. She was a maternity case.

Passersby noticed that Daniel Boone's statue at the intersection of Eastern Park-way and Cherokee Boad remained upright and apparently unscathed. But behind

Mrs. Lynn Seiller and her dog, Zipper, hiked this morning along badly ravaged Cross Hill Road, in one of Crescent Hill's nicest sections. She stopped to stare across the tops of Cherokee Park's splin-tered tree trunks, and listened to the white of chain saws and the growl of buildeness. bulldozers.

She was amazed that, for the first time in the four years she and her husband, Bill V. Seiller, have lived at 2316 Cross Hill Road, she could see downtown Louis-

'It's very sad," she said. "The park will never be the same."

Laura Gividen, 14, of 308 Westwood Drive, Middletown, was riding along Frankfort Avenue. In the car were her mother, Mrs. Sarah Gividen, and her two sisters Leslie, 12, and Lisa, 9. Laura remembers:

"I saw black clouds in the sky. They were moving in a circle; they weren't shaped: Shingles from bouses started flying at the windows of our ear, Then the ear turned over. We ended up sitting on the ceiling of our car."

Then her mother started "taking roll cell. She said, 'Laura' Lisa' Leslie'.
Everyone answered, 'Mom.'"
Then they climbed out with only minor

A social worker, Virginia Klapheke, 22. A Social worker, virginia Kiapanee, 22, of 1210 Everett Ave, heard that people were being admitted to Sahurban Hospital. "When there is a disaster, people are upset and very distraught, so I camo to the hospital to help out by calming down the friends and relatives of the virginia." As ead tims," she said.

Rebecca Oak, 26, of 216 Chenoweth Lane, was driving home from her job downtown. "I was driving forward on Brownsboro, The wind picked the car up Brownshoro. The wind picked the car up and I started to go backward. I turned it off and tried to open the door, but I couldn't because the wind was too strong." When the wind subsided, she still couldn't get out for awhile because of falling electric wires. "So I huddled under the dashboard. I thought I was going to die."

Then her car was picked up by a second blast of wind and carried into a front.

then her cat was practiced into a front yard. She got rides in a police car and with a passing motorist, trying to get bome to her son, John.

She finally got home, but had to go to a hospital for treatment of a knee injury.

said, "Our shoe clerk said his mother had just called and said, 'Don't come home, There's a tornado in St. Matthews.' "He saggested everybody go upstairs where there are no windows. Customers went upstairs, the lights went out. Emergency lights came on. When the customers came downstairs, they found the doors locked. A policeman let them through a door into

Then her car was picked up by a second ast of whold and carried into a front off. She got rides in a police car and the a passing motorist, trying to get here to her son, John.

She finally got home, but had to go to hospital for treatment of a knee injury.

Swope sad. Swope's home suffered minor damage. "I was doing my income tax, sitting at my living room table," he said. "All of a sudden the glass blew out and the paper and forms went everywhere."

Kentucky, Indiana termed disaster areas

which emergency aid was organized last which emergency ain was organized tast night, saying National Guard commund poets were set up in Louisville within 30 minutes after the first strike of the tor-

He said every state highway employe had been called out and dispatched to help clean up. He added that even state foresters were called for duty.

Ford arrived here at about 0 am to-day via belicopter, accompanied by an aide and state Adj. Gen. Richard Frymire.

e governor and his entourage flew the damaged areas of Frankfort, the rural areas between here and the capital

ed large sections of Louisville and Jefferson County.

He said the purpose of today's meeting was to coordinate governmental efforts and to begin pinpointing just what sort of services and money would be available.

Frymire said 780 National Guardsmen are on duly today all over the state, with about 300 in the Louisville area and 200 in hard-hit Brandenburg in Meade County.

He said the Guard's efforts locally would be to secure the damaged areas from looters. He called tonight the "crit-ical time" for establishing a firm boundary of security.

Federal officials explained today that when a major dissister has been declared, all available resources of federal agencies can be marshaled to provide a wide range of relief.

These include:

Making federal equipment, supplies, facilities and personnel available to state and local governments.

✓ Distributing medicine food and other emergency assistance through such agencies as the Red Cross and the Salvation Army.

Donating federal equipment and

supplies

Performing emergency work on pub-

Audubon Park: City's 1st residential area hit by wind is a tangle of broken buildings and trees

By EDWARD BENNETT

Don Schwartz had heard the warnings on radio and just managed to get back inside after freeing the two dogs tied up at his tool and construction equipment rental business on Preston Highway.

J. P. Barnett, a co-owner of the General Rubber & Supply Co. a few doors down, was out on a business call. But, having seen tornadoes in Oklahoma, he had a premonition when he learned of the alerts and called to warn his employes.

and called to warn his employes.

Up the street, Jerry Steler was in the service station where he works. He looked out the window toward the Fairgrounds and saw the swiring cloud and pieces of tin flying through the sir. Next door, while he and a coworker fled to a back room, his mother was huddled in their beasured.

About five blocks away at the corner of Hess Lane and Delor Avenue, Mrs. R. A. DuVall was trying to open her back door to let in one of her dogs. The door wouldn't hudge against the rising wind. Then she heard "this whistle" and the

sound of shattering glass.
All of these people were among the first to see or suffer the ravages of yesfirst to see or suffer the ravages of yea-terday afterneon's tornado. They were living and working in the Preston High-way and Audubon Park area just east of the Fairgrounds. And, like the bulk of their neighbors, they were among the group that can count itself both cursed and blessed by the storm: Their property suffered, but they and their employes were spared.

Immediately after beginning its course at Freedom Hall, the tornado swept

across the North-South Expressway and spread a swath of destruction about a block long on Preston Highway. It turned neighboring Audubon Park into a littered neignoring Auduson Park into a little of maze of uprooted and broken trees, scarred homes and smashed garages. Then the tornade dipped again to attack homes, churches and schools along a stretch of Hess Lane.

Schwartz' Southern Rentals, Inc., at 3120 Preston Highway, was about in the

on the tornado's path.

From the rear of his lot, standing on a large conveyor belt that was lifted and moved about 100 feet by the wind, there was a clear, straight view of the heavily damaged Freedom Hall and of the portion of Interstate 65 where trucks and cars had been overturned. been overturned.

Signs are scattered

Scattered nearby were signs that once rested in the Fairgrounds complex along with once-prominent expressway bill-boards, now bent into squat teepees of twisted metal.

twisted metal.

Across the street was a long line of damaged shops and stores, their plateglass windows shattered, their facades marred, their owners and their friends beginning the clean up with boards, hammers, brooms and boxes. In the telephone wires above, pieces of guttering

ere tied in knots. Down the street a bit, at 3140 Preston Down the street a bit, at 3140 Preston Highway, was the southern edge of the destruction, lying on the property of the Edw. Oehrie Coke and Coal Co., some-where between the firm's truck garage that was leveled and its large silos that were left standing.

Not far up the street was the northern edge, just about at 3034 Preston where Steier's mother huddled. The only sign of destruction there was a hole in the roof, where one of the heaters from Barnett's rubber company at 3118 Preston had landed. Next door, at the gas station, where Stein works, only some station where Steler works, only some litter in the service area bespoke any-thing unusual.

Schwartz's business was a sprawling one, a small rickety frame office in front with a two-story concrete-block building stretching out behind for nearly the length of a football field.

length of a football fleed.
"I heard on the radio that it was on its
way and I went out to let the dogs loose,"
Schwartz recalled. "I didn't want them

trapped out there.
"It happened so fast. The noise got real terrific and high, and I no sooner got back inside than the windows started popping in-pop-pop-pop-poptime, starting at the back and coming

time, starting at the back and coming towards me.

"I just jumped in there, and every-thing was flying past me. I got down on the floor and figured everything was

going to come down on me."

But he was lucky. Schwartz had chosen as his refuge the one portion of chosen as his fetuge the one portion of his leng building whose ceiling was re-inforced. When the winds finished, the top story of the building had been knocked completely off, all the windows were blown in and equipment both inside

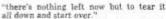
and out was strewn about.

But he came out unharmed. "I didn't end up with a scratch on anything," he

said.

The rental company represented 18 years of his life, Schwartz said, and

rea hit by wind buildings and trees



all down and start over."

Although twisted, deformed and sag-ging, the old frame front office is ironically still standing.

"I was going to have it torn down next month anyway, and it's the only one left standing," Schwartz said.

Similar luck shope on Barnett's employes following his warning call, he said. Most of his workers were told to come to the firm's front office after he telephoned, and they did, although some were laughing at all the fuss, he said.

Afterward, surveying his collapsed, 300-foot long, 25,000 square-foot building and the cars buried under the rubble, Barnett noted, "The only thing that sur-vived was the office, where most of the people were Nobody got hurt, except for one fellow who got cut on the face.

"Everything else was totally demolished," he said, including an inventory worth about \$500,000 that was ravaged by both the wind and then water from broken fire sprinklers.

"We'll just have to race the whole building."

From the Preston business district the From the Presion business district the winds went on to assault Audubon Park, the heavily treed residential area across the street. Trees, either uprooted or broken, were everywhere. Gutters and storm windows were ripped off, screened porches gone, windows shattered and garages smashed in several blocks.

At the western end of Audubon Parkays virtually nothing second town days.

way virtually nothing escaped some dam-age. But again, according to police and firemen in the area, there were no seri-ous injuries reported.

Fred Allen Jr. and his family were watching TV in their living room at 939 Audubon Parkway shortly before the winds htt. They heard the warnings and the power went out. Then, after what Allen said was a "beck of an argument" with one son, they headed toward the basement

When they emerged, the front windows of their house were shattered, the chimney was gone and several trees were up rooted. The garage was smashed by one tree and the screened front porch was tree and the screened front porch was ripped apart, with the ceiling lifted into an arc and one of the pieces of wood

an arc and one of the pieces of wood sticking through the window at which Allen had been sitting. "I couldn't care less," he said. "I'm just so glad everybody's all right and that we had enough sense to go to the basement. "I can tell you one thing though, I'm in the insurance business and this is one claim that'll be processed quick."

Hess lane is hit

The tornado then roared over to Hess Lane, where, after collapsing many garages and tearing at roofs and gutters, it hit homes, schools and churches.

One side of the roof of the Audubon Baptist Church, at 1946 Hess Lane, was lifted off, but somehow the underlying sanctuary and its ceiling remained unscathed, although windows on both sides of the building were black.

of the building were blown out.

Across Hess Lane one of the John J.

Audubon Elementary School's two wings
was demolished. Its roof, mixed with
assorted books and papers, was scattered
in a playing field and its rooms were full
of subble and tiles of decker. of rubble and piles of desks.



Across Pindell Avenue the tornado tore off nearly two-floors worth of a corner of St. Stephen Catholic School, after damaging the church's roof. The storm then continued its course through George Rogers Clark Park and on east to where its destruction became even more com-

The Duvalls' home was hit just before the schools and churches. Mrs. Duvall described her home as "what used to be 2929 Delor Ave."

Mrs. DuVall had just returned home and had heard the warnings on the car radio. Everything "got real still," she said, and she decided to feed the dogs. Then came "this whistle, like a plane," the wind that kept her from opening the door and the dog from moving and the sound of shattering glass.

"I went down and got in the corner of

"I went down and got in the corner of the basement like you're supposed to do," she said. "I was all right until it was over, then I was like a dishrag."

When she came up, the roof of her house was gone along with many of the belongings in the frunt rooms of the house. A shoigan had been snapped in haif and glass fregments from a window had slashed through a closet door. A Ray Harm print was gone, but books in a living room bookcase were unmolested and a family heirloom—a pewter mug from treland—was untouched.

"All in all, we were really fortunate," said Mra. DuVali, "All the material things can be replaced, but life can't be, I guess something like this brings you to your senses about what's really important." Her Basset hound also survived. The dog was found about a block from its home.

The Highlands: Only Pearl Harbor was worse than this, veteran says

By DENNIS POLITE

Nothing was left of parts of Cherokee Park except memories of what it had been like. The once lush green forest stood

Bardstown Road between Eastern Pork pay and Bonnycastle Avenue was strewn with telephone poles, trees, roofing and other debris.

At the corner of Fernwood and Stevens avenues a woman cried almost uncontrollably. Her house was hard hit. There was nothing she could do but point to it.— broken windows, missing doors and all-and cry even louder.

This was what was left of some of the tornado struck. The door to the basement

The streets were littered with people's dream houses. Cars were smashed by trees that once gave shade. Garages were leveled.

Owen T. Gilbert, a man in his 60s, said his years in the Navy and experience with hurricanes and typhoons had not pre-pared him for this.

He said only Pearl Harbor had been

"I was standing in the front door when y wife says we better go to the basemy wife says we be ment," Gilbert said.

Before he could move to join her, the

Highlands yesterday after tornadic winds flew off and went down the hasement and rains swept through.

A tree in the front yard of their house at 1828 Stevens Ave. fell across the lawn; a utility pole fell perpendicular to it.

Last night the Gilberts could look through the ceiling of their bedroom and see the dark sky.

see the dark sky.

When the tornado struck, Gilbert said,
so much plaster fell from the walls and
ceiling that he had to call to his wife.

Monica before he could determine where she was.

Alta Avenue was a disaster. Trees came to rest against the houses on the

usually quiet atreet.

Bonnycastle Avenue was crisscrossed by fallen trees.

Some people walked around in a daze. They had seen nothing like it before, they said. They shandoned their cars along the streets, alleys and avenues of the area. Some people tried to drive through, but there was almost no way out.

Along Eastern Parkway from Bards town Road to the entrance to Cherokee Park, at least half a dozen cars were flattened.

A young woman sat on the porch of one house and told how she abandoned her car eight blocks away and walked home

She spoke in disheller of what she had

Mrs. Thomas Bernardi, of 1849 Bonny-



nis, veteran says

eastle Ave., said she and her husband had the television set on and the movie was interrupted for a tornado warning.

The kitchen window was up, her husband asked, "What's that

"The wind," she said she replied

He said they had better get to the base-ment, and suddenly the lights went out. They crouched in a closet under the basement steps. There was a sudden stillness and then a "horrible, horrible noise of many freight trains; then another si-lence," which gradually gave way to more noise.

Their living room, front bedroom and

upstairs were damaged.

When they came up from the basement, someone's roof was on their lawn and wires were across the front of the house.

Other assorted junk littered the front of the house.

"I can't get over the quickness of the destruction," Mrs. Bernardi said.

Yesterday morning she said she read about the people in Campbellsburg, Ky., and was feeling sorry for them because of the tornado that ravaged that Henry County town Monday night

"You don't think of it happening to you," she said.

The family is lucky no one was hurt, she said. Their four children who still live

at home were all away.

A tornedo "makes you stop and think about what the real values of life are," she said.

Families leave area

As night closed in and Louisville police and firemen secured the area, families started leaving their homes. They moved quietly through the dark-

ened streets with their essentials in bun-

dles or in small packages.
Younger people helped older people over wires and tree limbs.

Lights were nonexistent in the area. Candles, lanterns and flashlights flick-

ered here and there.

Earlier, people stood in lines to get to one of the few phones in the area that still worked.

Gene Paulin said he and Charlie Kramer were working at Althaus Brothers, a plumbing firm at 1523 Bardstown Road, when the tornado struck.

Road, when the tornado struck.

They heard a noise at the back door
that didn't sound right, Kramer said, and
they went to investigate.

"That was it," he said. A sign on top
of the building flew off. A storefront
that had just been finished earlier in the day was hit.

There was the sound of glass shattering and the wind started blowing inside.

There was no time to think of what was happening, said Kramer, "It was too fast." He had not seen anything to equal

that in his 59 years, the Louisville native

said.
"It looked like a bomber went through," when he looked at Bardstown Road after the tornado.

Tennis center is hit

The courts at the new Tennis Center at Bellarmine College on Newburg Road were filled with players when the to-

hit.

Glass partitions were sucked inward

by the wind. One girl was cut on the leg.
Players took shelter next to the nets.
The wind ripped away the aides from
two areas of the center. Lights fell from

the ceiling.

Across the road at Our Lady of Peace

Across the road at Our Lady of Pesce Hospital an occasional window was blown out, and a few trees were downed.

"We were lucky," W. D. Collins, administrator, said.

The wind cut a path from the hospital to the Tennis Center.

At Ed's Market, 1613 Norris Place, Mary Taylor, wife of the owner and clork Lois Pluckehaum were on daty.

They heard the Civil Defense strent, Mrs. Taylor said, and she asked her clerk what the sound was. The clerk said it probably was the Fire Department.

They walked over to the front door.

They walked over to the front door.

"I said, "Look at the sky, it looks like it's on fire," Mrs. Taylor said. Then there was a "roaring like an ocean."

The two women run to the middle of the store and stooped. There was a loud pop. The front window was gone.

The noise was so intense that it made her ears pop, Mrs. Taylor said.

When it was over, they walked to the front door. Except for the window, the store wasn't damaged.

The neighborhood, however, was devas-tated. Roofs were wrapped around trees. Telephone poles stood askew.



Northfield: Most homes torn apart but no serious injuries are reported

By JOHN FETTERMAN Louisville Times Staff Writer

In the Northfield-Glenview Manor area, which sat in the northeast corner of where U.S. 42 and the Watterson Expressway meet, most of the homes were torn apart.

Apparently, most of the people in that area when the storm hit were women and children. It was not yet coming-home time for the fathers. But there apparently were no serious injuries in and around the many new or nearly new homes.

Mrs. Lloyd A. Terrell, of 2302 Glenview Ave., cradled her 7-month old daughter, Katherine. Their house was wrecked.

'We went to the basement," she said. She nodded toward her infant daughter. 'She slept through the whole thing.

Didn't even know it was happening." Next door, Mrs. Joe Weaver gingerly led her black poodle, Rags, through the rubble of her yard. Mrs. Weaver also went to her basement when she heard a telecast tornado warning.

She also heard the wind approaching,

"Here it comes, I thought. For ages, it from yard to yard, usually with the same

"I looked out the basement door and thought, 'Boy, that's really churning now. I just barely got back inside the basement

She looked at the shell of her house as if in complete disbelief. "My husband is coming in from Ohio this evening. What a shock."

Across the road at 2303 Glenview Ave. Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Emmerich clambered out through the uprooted trees strewn across their yard. They stood and looked up and down the street.

"We're all right," Emmerich said. "We were in the basement. I went to the front window and saw the funnel coming. We went to the basement."

Soon after the funnel passed, he dashed outside. "It blew my gas meter off." He looked down at his soiled sport shirt and slacks. "I had to dig out to get the gas shut off. The fumes. I smelled them."

Neighbors wandered apprehensively

question:

"Is everybody all right?"

The question was repeated by the suburban fire department and emergency units that flocked to the area.

Some people poked among the debris listlessly. Then they'd pick up a possession, carry it for a brief time, discard it and repeat. A book here, a piece of clothing there.

Mrs. A. H. Espich stood for awhile with a rolled up blanket under her arm. Her house was a tangle of bricks and wood half buried by pieces of trees. She had a cut on her head and another on her leg. I was home alone. I didn't get to the basement."

Then her husband joined her, "I feel kind of shaky," Mrs. Espich told him.

Police tried, with some success, to keep people who did not live there outside the area. The residents steadily became a growing parade of quiet people walking back and forth studying the havoc

Helicopters buzzed overhead. Dogs

no serious injuries are reported

whined, looking for doors that were no longer there.

"Duke" was a casualty of the holocaust that struck the 6th-class city of North-

The dog was discovered by county policemen as he sadly limped on three legs around the corner of a wrecked

His right front leg was broken and bleeding. County Patrolman Karl Anderson managed to get the large English Setter to lie down on his side, and blood could also be seen dripping from a wound in his stomach.

An elderly lady screamed for a veterinarian. She rushed off, calling back to nearby officers that one lived not too far away and she was going to get him.

Apparently she or the police were successful. Some 30 minutes later, after Duke had been placed on a wooden shutter blown away from a nearby house and wrapped in a sheet, he was carried away to a nearby home.

His owner, however, may have diffi-culty locating Duke today.

But Duke is being taken care of and probably spent a more comfortable night than did many Northfield residents.

On Newmarket Drive, Mrs. A Greene went to the basement amid the roar of the tornado. She crouched under a pool table and emerged unburt. The storm drove a large timber through her front door like a knife through hot butter.

The people you talked to quickly asked if you were going somewhere where a working phone was available. Nearly everybody had somebody to be called. "Tell them we are OK. Please."

Fourteen-year-old Daphne stood in her yard at 5 Harwood Road. She was trying to smile, but there were tears in her dark eyes. Upstairs her father, Dr. Philip Cochran, was moving about a front

Daphne watched. The front wall of the two-story house was sheared away so that Dr. Cochran seemed to be moving in a grotesque stage set.

As twilight came to the neighborhood,



many people were gone. A huge red sun set almost in the direction from which the storm had struck.

And the greater fear gave way to lesser fear. People had discovered that the shattered lumber from their homes held bare nails. A doctor gave a tetanus shot,

Police sealed off the neighborhood,

Indian Hills: The wind divested it and Rolling Fields, but not the residents' spirits

By ROB KASPER and FRANK W. CLIFFORD

Standing in front of the rubble of his \$65,000 house at 422 Pennington Lane, Peyton T. Talbott smiled.

"You know, we just mailed out the in-vitations to our Derby party yesterday, We usually have about 90 people. But it looks like that party will have to wait."

Talbott's musings seemed to be indica-tive of the mood of residents of the battered Rolling Fields and Indian Hills

The tornado struck hard here, mashing one man, Charles Fleming Spencer Jr. in his car and killing him, and leveling houses that cost \$50,000 to \$75,000.

At Lightfoot and Brownsboro roads, firemen pried open Spencer's collapsed car with crowbars to remove the body,

But last night this neighborhood looked for bits of humor amid the bricks, boards

"Not a bottle of booze was broken," quipped a clerk at Beam Liquor Inc., 3634 Brownsboro Road, as water dripped down from the store's damaged roof.

"Me and another boy just opened the back doors of the shop and held open the front doors . . . didn't have much damage," said the clerk who chose to identify , didn't have much damhimself as "just Jack."

"We were watching it (the tornado) and we were gonna make a bet on whether it would throw the VW bus into those apartments," he said pointing across Brownsboro Road.

"But it hit so fast, we didn't have time

to get the bet down."
"The way I figure it," Jack continued,
"Louisville has missed all the big snow-

storms and other tornadoes, and we were just due for this.

This morning a search for missing persons began.

In the light of day, the streets hardest hit seemed to be Canoe Lane, Pennington Lane, Country Lane and Duff Lane. Many of the houses on Canoe and Pennington lanes were destroyed.

Next to the liquor store last night, Ronald Parker, owner of Oralea's Cookie Jar, a bakery at 3632 Brownsboro Road, took a swig of beer as he showed a reporter around his water-drenched shop.

"I got three wedding cakes that are supposed to be ready for Saturday," Parker said, adding that he was "just gonna pray" that he wouldn't disappoint brides and grooms.

"We were house-sitting here while the woman who owns this house is in Flor-

ida," said George Anderson who, with his son, Ross, were examining the crumpled house in the 3700 block of Edmond Lane.

"This might be a little hard to explain when I phone her in Florida," Anderson

In addition to the quips, another kind humor, a sort of things-out-of-kilter humor, surfaced after the storm.

Grown men, for instance, looked laughable as they pedaled their children's small bicycles up and down the hard-hit

areas along Brownsboro Road.
"I just got on Old Faithful," Bobby
Hatcher, of 2603 Lindsay Ave., said, referring to the aged, pink girl's bicycle he

"I got worried about my relatives up here on Chenoweth . . and the phones didn't work . . . so I got out Old Faithful," he explained.

Later Hatcher and his daughter, Dee, sat in the kitchen of the looked-for rela-tives, and laughed with them about the bike.

Much of the joking seemed to be a sigh of relief.

"My real valuables weren't in the house," said L. P. Spears III, explaining that his wife and children were not in the family house at 420 Pennington Lane when the tornado gutted it.

Spears, a banker, said he spent 30 minutes looking for his wife and children before he found them at a relative's

As darkness moved into the neighbor-hood Talbott and Spears stood in front of their flattened homes, sipping beer, waiting for National Guard troops to guard the area and tried to keep smiling.



Crescent Hill: "I saw it all coming....Trees were falling all around. IO got trapped..."

By BERL SCHWARTZ Logisville Times Staff Writer

The rubble of flattened houses sits next to relatively unscathed residences in the Crescent Hill section of Louisville, where yesterday's tornado made one of its hardest hits.

Hundreds of structures were damaged during the storm's savage few minutes in the hilly old neighborhood.

Some were only battered by the wind, receiving broken windows and ripped roofs. Others were partially crushed by uprooted trees.

But each block in a large area of the storm's path had houses that were totally wiped out.

A stretch of 50 or more houses and small apartment buildings on Grinstead Drive between Bayly and Stilz avenues received varying degrees of damage.

The intersection of Frankfort and Stilz avenues was particularly hard hit. A railroad car was turned on its side on Louisville Water Co, property at the corner.

ville Water Co. property at the corner. Homes on Claremont Avenue at its Fenley Avenue end were brutalized as the twister swept off the Crescent Hill Golf Course on its way to the more affluent area of Indian Hills.

Crescent Court, nestled between Frankfort Avenue and Grinstead Drive, received severe damage.

Wooden homes are torn up

Large wood-frame homes at the Frankfort end of Hillerest Avenue were torn up, as they were on Pennsylvania Avenue, one block east.

A resident said the tornado hit about 4:40 p.m. It was first sighted near the Interstate 64 interchange at Grinstead Drive and Lexington Road, eyewitnesses said.

Motorists near the interchange panicked, running from their cars to seek shelter.

One driver, Charles Masterson, 38, of Bardstown, Ky., said he was on Grinstead northeast of the Lexington Road intersection when the tornado hit.

"I saw it all coming. Everybody was panicking. I couldn't drive forward, so I backed up until I realized I was backing into the eye of it.

"Trees were falling all around. I got trapped between two trees, so I ran from my car. I tried to get into two houses, but I couldn't, so I ran back to my car and laid down under my dashboard. The glass was flying over my head."

Masterson called himself lucky as he examined the damage to cars along Grinstead that were hurled off the street and onto lawns.

Many cars turned over

Other drivers returned to their cars, many of which were turned over and crushed by trees.

The tornado whipped out of Cherokee Park, wreaking destruction in hills and valleys between Grinstead and the park. At least one house was flattened on Raleigh Lane. An elderly woman was rescued from the rubble.

From Crosshill Road, observers looked down the steep hill at Grinstead. Part of the roof was ripped off of Barret Junior

High School at Grinstead and Peterson Avenue. Large trees were felled on the large lawn of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary that sits on top of the hill along Grinstead.

The seminary's 10 buildings all received roof damage, a spokesman said. Four of the campus' five steeples were toppled, numerous windows were smashed and many trees were uprooted, he said.

Trees and power lines fell across Grinstead, making it impassable for cars and dangerous for pedestrians.

When it was over, residents wandered along Grinstead, reporting their harrowing experiences.

Mrs. William Denker, whose house at 2707 Grinstead was badly damaged, said only her granddaughter's scream alerted her, her husband and three other granddaughters. She said they barely made it into the basement before their house was hit.

A dozen structures were hit on Stilz between Grinstead and Frankfort.

Large windows were knocked out the water company buildings. The massive

iron fence along Frankfort Avenue was leaning at a 30-degree angle, with debris caught along its bars.

At the Fonley end of Claremont Avenue, Debbie Burrell, 16, described her experience as she and her family saved what they could from their demolished home at 279 Claremont.

"I was in my bedroom (upstairs) sitting at my desk looking out the window," she said, "when I saw a flash of light. I started downstairs, but the walls were starting to go. I ran into my closet and stayed there."

The floor held up

Somehow, she said, the floor beneath her closet held up. When it was over, she said she slid down what was left of the stairs to the rubble below.

A two-story house at 273 Claremont belonging to Cathleen M. Mulkern was demolished. She was with neighbors down the block when it happened.

Edith Sampson said she was pinned beneath furniture on the first-floor of her brick house at 275 Claremont when the



top floor was torn away. She said two boys rescued her.

Businesses along Frankfort received varying degrees of damage. The Head Rest Restaurant, at Frankfort and Stile, was gutted but left standing.

Decision expected tonight on pupils in damaged schools

By LES WHITELEY Louisville Times Staff Writer

Most public and parochial schools in Lonisville and Jefferson County will reopen tomorrow, but school officials had still not decided at 2:30 p.m. today what to do with some 2,100 elementary pupils left without schools by yesterday's tornado.

County school officials announced that all county schools, with the exception of Audubon. Chenoweth and Dunn elementaries, would reopen tomorrow after having been closed today.

Those three schools were either demolished or so devastated by the tornado that school officials said they could not be reopened before next fall, if then.

School officials met today to decide how to accommodate the 1,700 students attending those schools and suggested that parents listen to radio or television for an announcement tonight.

City school officials said Longfellow Elementary, a school of close to 400 pupils which incurred damage to its roof and boilers, would remain closed tomorrow, but that most other city schools would reopen.

At 2:30, they said they were still discussing with Civil Defense officials the possibility of keeping some schools in Crescent Hill closed because of extensive storm damage in that area.

Like county school officials, they said announcements will be made on radio and television tonight.

Father Thomas Casper, superintendent of Catholic schools, said Catholic schools, with the possible exception of St. Stephen, Martyr and St. Agnes, would reopen tomorrow. They were also damaged by the twister.

Classes at the following post-secondary schools, which were closed today, were to resume tomorrow: Spalding College, Bellarmine College, Jefferson State Vocational-Technical School, Spencerian College, Sullivan Business College and Jefferson Community College. A University of Louisville official said at 2:30 that UL planned to reopen tomorrow unless asked not to by city or county officials.

Remaining closed tomorrow will be Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Presbyterian Theological Seminary was still without electricity at 2:30 today and a spokesman said no decision on reopening had been made.

Dunn Elementary, at 4299 Brownsboro Road, received the most damage. The \$1.4 million school was opened in the fall of 1972.

It had an enrollment of approximately 650 students:

Ramsey estimated damage to Audubon Elementary, 1051 Hess Lane, at "between 60 and 70 per cent."

"It is completely useless now," he said.

"We may be able to save one wing, but it will essentially have to be rebuilt from the ground up."

Audubon had an enrollment of about 550 students.

Chenoweth Elementary, 3622 Brownshoro Road, was "not as badly damaged as Audubon," Ramsey said, "but it is beyond use the remainder of this year, I'm afraid. It will require extensive rebuilding."

Chenoweth had 560 students.

Audubon, which cost \$435,000, and Chenoweth, which cost \$427,000, were opened in 1954.

Replacement costs at today's prices for each of the three schools probably would be close to \$2 million, Ramsey said.

City school Supt. Newman Walker said that Longfellow Elementary, 1925 Duker Ave., suffered "considerable roof damage" and that its boilers were inoperable,

Because the heating season is almost over. Walker said, the boiler damage is not too worrisome for now, but that the school will have to be closed for some time for roof repairs.

Longfellow, with an enrollment of between 350 and 400 students, was built in the early 1900s, Walker said.

Two city junior high schools—Barret, at 2361 Grinstead Drive, and Highland, at 1700 Norris Place—suffered minor damage from the storm, but probably are usable, he said.

A second-floor classroom at St. Stephen, Martyr, at 2931 Pindell Ave., lost two walls to the tornado, but did not otherwise appear to be heavily damaged, a spokesman said.

He said the roof above the damaged classroom is being supported by a "single thin column."

"It (the school) will have to examined for structural damage," he said. "I think you can say we definitely won't reopen tomorrow, but we should know for sure by then if we can use the rest of the building safely."

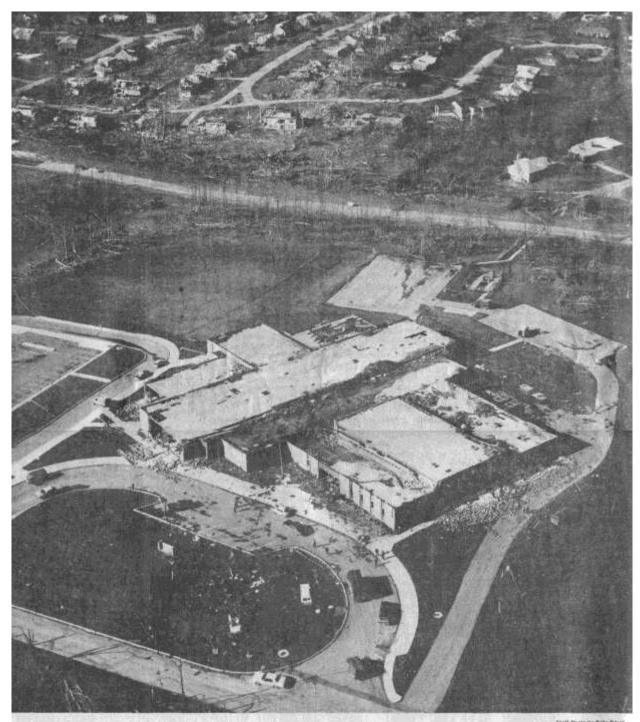
The school has 408 students in grades 1 through 8.

Library rooms and the gymnasium at St. Agnes, 1800 Newburg Road, were extensively damaged, a spokesman said, and windows were blown out of most classrooms.

She said there appeared to be no major structural damage to the classroom area, however, but a large amount of rubble — glass, roofing and gutters — must be cleaned up.

She said she doubted whether the school could be reopened tomorrow, but probably could be back in operation by Monday. The school has an enrollment of about 475 pupils in kindergarten through the 8th grade.

Between 60 and 70 persons — adults and children — were in the building when the tornado hit, but were able to get into a hallway during the storm, she said. No one was injured.



The county's \$1.4 million Dunn Elementary School at 47.99 Brownsboro Road received extensive storm damage.

Note: The son in this article "Edwin" was a graduate of Waggener High School and was murdered in Louisville in 1976.

Pastor sets up aid center despite personal tragedy

By FRANK FOX Louisville Times Staff Writer

While converting his church into an overnight Red Cross refugee center last night, the Rev. Edwin F. Perry and his two sons, Carl and Edwin Jr., paused briefly to reveal a personal tragedy.

Mr. Perry, who has been pastor of the Broadway Baptist Church at 4000 Brownsboro Road for the last 25 years, arrived at his home in Rolling Fields yesterday evening to find his wife, June, just barely conscious, lying on the floor in what used to be a den on the first floor of the two-story parsonage at 3717 Edmond Lane.

The minister and his two sons all arrived at the house within minutes of each other, coming from separate locations in the city.

Mr. Perry was on his way home from Kentucky Baptist Hospital where he had been making his daily rounds when he heard on the radio that the city of Rolling Fields had been struck by a tornado.

Had warned his mother

His older son, Edwin Jr., had talked to his mother earlier yesterday afternoon. He had warned her that weather conditions looked ominous.

It was just minutes after he talked with

her from his apartment at 175 N. Keats Ave., in Crescent Hill, that Carl Perry estimated the tornado struck his parents' home.

"She was conscious long enough to tell us that she hadn't had time to get to the basement," Carl Perry said. "She said she heard it coming and crawled under the dining room table. We found her in the den."

According to Mr. Perry, his wife suffered a crushed right arm and cuts all over her body. She was taken to Suburban Hospital unconscious, but Perry said he understood she was resting well the last he heard about 8 p.m. yesterday.

The house is gone, leveled as were seven others on the dead-end street, Mr. Perry said.

"All that's left is a couch. We found the dog sitting on it, scared but unharmed. Everything else is gone. Twentyfive years of records, sermons, irreplaceable things," Mr. Perry said.

"Our biggest task now is to provide for others who need help. The best thing we can do now is to make this as comfortable a facility as we can. We have a lot to do," he said.

Kentucky tornado-death toll is

By JERRY HICKS Louisville Times Staff Writer

A hombardment of tornadoes lashed through Kentucky yesterday, killing at least 87 persons and injuring hundreds

State officials speculated that more bodies would be discovered today as rescue workers search debris and rubble left by the devastation.

The tornadoes brought death in at least 13 counties in Kentucky, Hardest hit was Meade County, with a reported 40 dead, mostly in Brandenburg, the county seat.

Both State Police and Civil Defense officials placed the early death total at 77 and the Brandenburg toll at 30. But State Police listed fatalities in 15 counties, while the Civil Defense figure was 13.

Civil Defense revised the figures before noon, and reached a new total of 89 deaths.

That included 5 in Jefferson, although Times reporters could account for only 3.

State Police had reported these figures: Jefferson County, 10; Madison, 7; Clinton, 8, Pulaski, 4; Franklin, 3; Breckinridge, 3; Wayne, 3; Warren, 2; Hardin, 2; Nelson, 1; Cumberland, 1; Lincoln, 1; Rockcastle, 1, and Simpson, 1.

Revised Civil Defense figures show 10 deaths in Madison County; Lincoln, 6: Clinton, 4; Pulaski, 4; Franklin, 4;

Civil Defense figures show no deaths in Simpson or Rockeastle counties.

State Police, Civil Defense workers and local law officials began at dawn today

the arduous task of searching for others. Gov. Wendell H. Ford, working by candlelight in his Frankfort office last night as he directed the state's efforts to aid the victims, called the Kentucky di-lemma "an extreme state of emergency" and announced that federal disaster teams were already on their way to the state from Atlanta.

The secretary of the Army has authorized the use of helicopters and other aircraft from Ft. Campbell and Ft. Knox by Kentucky authorities for disaster relief.

State officials worked through the night trying to supply hospitals with needed generator energy, after the tornadoes left large sections of the state without power.

King's Daughters Hospital in Frankfort had to send most of its injured to hospitals in other counties. More than a hundred victims were rushed to Frankfort after a series of tornadoes struck south of the city about 5:45 p.m. Many were taken to Lexington and Shelbyville, often in station wagons driven by volunteers.

Most of the Brandenburg victims were taken to Ft. Knox's Ireland Army Hospital. Most hospitals in that section of

Breckinridge, 3: Cumberland, 3: Wayne, 3; Warren, 3: Hardin, 2, and Nelson 2. drugs for treatment, and that they had drugs for treatment, and that they had no room for all the injured.

Almost all state agencies with uniformed manpower, such as the Parks and Fish and Wildlife departments, were on duty all night long helping with traffic, aiding victims and making an attempt to

enforce the curfew ordered by Ford. Ford called for the National Guard soon after the first tornadoes made a swath through the state, Guardsmen are stiil on duty today and will aid with searches and cleanup.

Many county roads were blocked most of the night with fallen trees, downed telephone poles and debris.

Major highways in the state remained clear.

State Civil Defense staff member Larry Arnett said highway crews were busy all night trying to clear other roads. Roads that could not be cleared were simply blocked off by police.

The destruction of property was so widespread that state officials believe it will be some time before a close estimate of the dollar value of damage is known.

In several counties, twisters many times leveled all the houses along a road or in subdivision. One state official said house trailers seemed to be the first to go. But tornadoes also destroyed brick and stone houses, uplifted churches and smashed cars beyond repair.

put near 90 by Civil Defense

Veterinarians in these counties were kept busy during the night, one official said, tending to injured livestock.

One man who lives just southwest of Frankfort said a twister uprooted every tree in a 50-acre field of evergreens near his house.

Churches, public buildings and schools were converted into shelters for victims whose homes were destroyed.

The American Red Cross helped find shelter for many, and established food centers and provided bedding.

Lack of communications during the troubles added to the misery of many. Hospitals were unable to give immediate reports on patients to friends and family waiting outside the emergency room

For several hours after the first tornadoes struck the Louisville area, around 4 p.m., no calls could be made into the city except for extreme emergencies.

State officials say that the power failure in many of these communities caused some panic.

There was no power in Frankfort until about 11 p.m., although the Civil Defense office in the Capitol, where the state's efforts were centered, had generator

Ford barked orders from his office on the first floor of the Capitol, showing irritation when his outer office became crowded with people who were there simply because they had no place else to go. Newsmen also used Ford's offices as a center for information.

Phone calls could be placed to the governor's office, but the phone didn't ring, stifling communications between Ford's workers and the stricken areas.

The huge, majestic Capitol was like a dark dungeon, the only sources of light coming from the Civil Defense office in the basement and from candles in the governor's offices.

Few cars were on the streets in Frankfort. State Police had blocked roads into the city in an effort to get people to comply with the governor's curfew.

National Guardsmen were responsible for preventing looting, and there were no reports of widespread looting in stricken areas. Many homes were demolished and none of their furnishings or valuables could be recognized.

The paths of tornadoes in the Frankfort area ran parallel to Interstate 64 and crossed Versailles Road (U.S. 60) in the eastern portion of the county.

Heaviest hit were the community of Jett and Tierra Linda Subdivision (both on the southeast side of Frankfort) and a large section of roads about 4 miles southwest of the city, along Lawrenceburg Road.

Many people wandered around in front of their homes half in a daze, wondering what they would do.

Paul Wooldridge, who lives on Jones Lane in that area, said he had lost every thing he owned - house, barn, cars (he races stock cars) and a pen of deer.

"I don't have anything left. There's no sense going back to try to salvage something. There's nothing to salvage," Wooldridge said.

Elbret McMaine and Marshall Harley were extremely fortunate last night. By some fate, their homes were spared when a twister destroyed virtually everything else for six or seven blocks along Evergreen Road in the Frankfort area.

But their neighbors across the road, Richard and Arlene McKinley, found dead, blown more than 500 yards from where their house had stood.

Harley and McMaine found the bodies by following the path of debris. And they found the McKinley children, both less than 2 years old, lying on the ground, crying loudly.

"It was the most pitiful thing that you could possibly imagine," McMaine said. "I don't know why we were spared, really. The thing came right over our house and hit the McKinley house, just picking it right up.

There was plenty of warning that Central Kentucky might have been facing tornado danger. At 2:20 p.m. yesterday, the U.S. Weather Service reported heavy hail near Kentucky Lake in Western Kentucky, with high winds moving eastward. Only this page had information on tornado.



April 3, 1974, The Kentucky Tornadoes, by C. F. Boone







The Northfield area of Louisville suffered massive damage in the twister's havoc-wreaking winds.

April 3, 1974, The Kentucky Tornadoes, by C. F. Boone





The most destructive series of tornadoes to hit the U.S. since 1925 claimed more than 300 lives and caused property damage estimated at 8500 million, in eleven states. Louisvillians woke to scenes of unbelievable devastation and counted themselves fortunate that more people were not killed in the storm's holocaust.

April 3, 1974, The Kentucky Tornadoes, by C. F. Boone

At Bauer's Restaurant (below) on Brownsboro Road, and at a residence on Blankenhaker (right) the freakish, mindless character of tornado destruction can be easily seen. In both pictures heavy doors seemed to withstand the furious winds better than roofs.



April 3, 1974, The Kentucky Tornadoes, by C. F. Boone



Mrs. Fielding Woodward of 20t Travois Road had just driven hom that Wednesday from shopping is preparation to receive Derby guests parked her car in the garage, and en-tered the house when she heard wha sounded to her like a freight train.

sounded to her like a freight train.

Her son, Bucky, was upstairs asleet in his room; he had stayed home from school with a cold. The noise his mother heard waked him also but he decided that it was too loud to be train noises, it must be a jet plane. He looked out his bedroom window to see trees bending over from the force of the wind, just as his mothe called out, "Bucky, wake up. This is it."

Mrs. Woodward and her son made their way to the basement in time to crouch in a corner while they hears wood splintering, glass breaking, all the terrible noise a tornado makes at thurls debris in its twisting funnel.

it hurls debris in its twisting funnel. The pressure on their ears was tre mendous as plaster and dust fell of them. It was over soon, but to Mrs Woodward and Bocky — as to most people who are hit by tornadoes — it seemed to last an eternity.

When the noise subsided, Mrs Woodward began to inspect the damage. She and her husband, a Louis

Woodward began to inspect the dam age. She and her husband, a Louis ville attorney, had lived in their comfortable home for 15 years. She was heartsick at what she might find a she left the basement, even as she was grateful that she and her so were unharmed.

Walls had collapsed, plumbing fixtures ripped out, doors blown far from the rooms they once closed off Most of the furniture in the living room was intact, but the china cabinet doors were gone, neatly removed.

inet doors were gone, neatly removed.

Upstairs, the mattress on Bucky bed had been blown from his room out the window, and into anothe bedroom. Incredibly, the sheets wen downstairs and the bedspread wa found tangled in a tree two house.

See next page



Outside, more than half the bricks had been blown off the house, and littered the yard along with debris from nearby houses. The Woodward's trees, beautiful old trees, were broken and stripped, limbs scattered in sickening piles of rubble.

The garage had collapsed onto Mrs. Woodward's car. She shuddered to think how narrowly she had escaped being inside it. A longer wait at a traffic light, a slow moving truck, anything that could have delayed her reaching the house would have meant certain injury and possible death.

The Woodwards were lucky. Their house can be repaired. For many Louisville and Kentucky residents, there is nothing left to call home.





Construction on Ruth Dunn Elementary School in Louisville had only been completed two years ago, Luckily, no children were inside when tornado hit.

Upholstery stuffing clings to trees like heavy snow in Louisville. This is an area along Travois Road.







Chenoweth Lane Elementary School, left, took only minor damage compared to Ruth Dunn, above and top left.

Crossing over Interstate 264 in Louisville, the Black Wednesday tornado saved its hardest knocks for the affluent subdivision of Northfield and Glenview Manor. Most of the \$65,000-and-up houses were devastated, proving once again that nature is no respecter of persons.







Indian Hills along Blankenbaker, Newmarket Street in Northfield, and Travois Street all resembled European villages bombed during World War II.



Expensive homes fared no better than modest ones in the tornado's awesome winds. Below, along Inter-state 71 heading toward Louisville.





The parking lot of a shopping center on Brownsboro Road was awash with automobiles after furious storms struck. 2317 Sta hibits gr awful ta:

Louisville

For the third time in 84 years, Louisville was struck by a lethal tornado. On the afternoon of April 3, 1974, two lay dead in the wake of the vicious storm that moved from the Fairgrounds through the city and eastern Jefferson County. Miraculously, only 207 people were injured, considering that almost 900 homes were literally torn to shreds.



April 3, 1974, Tornado!, by *The Courier-Journal/The Louisville Times* Rolling Fields—



April 3, 1974, Tornado!, by *The Courier-Journal/The Louisville Times*Northfield—



April 3, 1974, Tornado!, by *The Courier-Journal/The Louisville Times* Northfield—



April 3, 1974, Tornado!, by *The Courier-Journal/The Louisville Times*Northfield Stannye Drive—





April 3, 1974, Tornado!, by The Courier-Journal/The Louisville Times



Tornado passing west of Bowman Field.

April 3, 1974, Tornado!, by The Courier-Journal/The Louisville Times











Northfield with Louisville in the skyline.

April 3, 1974, Tornado!, by The Courier-Journal/The Louisville Times



Rolling Fields.



April 3, 1974, Tornado!, by The Courier-Journal/The Louisville Times



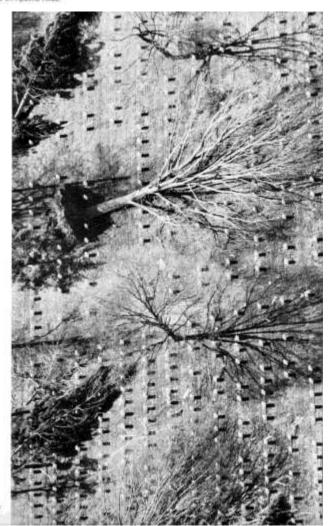
Newmarket Drive, Northfield.



April 3, 1974, Tornado!, by The Courier-Journal/The Louisville Times



National Websin Landmuck: Zachary Taylor's home on Anache Board



Fallent hear smild the gravestones of Zauthers Taylor National Certifiers.

April 3, 1974, Tornado!, by The Courier-Journal/The Louisville Times





Mrs., Gone Jaggers and her family returning to the wreckage of their home on Stannye Drive.

April 3, 1974, Tornado!, by The Courier-Journal/The Louisville Times



Mrs. Ralph Graves sits in the rurse



April 3, 1974, Tornado!, by The Courier-Journal/The Louisville Times



Ed Mitchell, of Stannye Drive, Northfield, was left a message that his family survived the storm.



April 3, 1974, Tornado!, by The Courier-Journal/The Louisville Times





por Bennie Balani, of Womeland Court.

April 3, 1974, Tornado!, by The Courier-Journal/The Louisville Times



Dennis Bryant was also a STMFD firefighter:



Louisville Traffic Engineering Depar workers Dennis Bryant, foreground, and Kim Goss at Bardslown Road and Bonnycastle Avenue.

April 3, 1974, Tornado!, by The Courier-Journal/The Louisville Times



Mrs. Gus M. Griffin, on Country Lane, Rolling Fields.



April 3, 1974 and on—-

1974: From Jack O'Toole private collection.

All of the Tornado













"Lil" Bill Andriot, Tim Golden & Bernie Karem

Northfield below also









































April, 1974 Photos taken from video by Wiley Brewer STMFD member:













April, 1974 Photos taken from video by Wiley Brewer STMFD member:













April, 1974 Photos taken from video by Wiley Brewer STMFD member:













April, 1974 Photos taken from video by Wiley Brewer STMFD member:













April, 1974 Photos taken from video by Wiley Brewer STMFD member:













April, 1974 Photos taken from video by Wiley Brewer STMFD member:













April, 1974 Photos taken by Al Ring but damned if I can remember the location.



Kentucky's tornado casualties

Here is a list by counties of persons known to have died from the tornadoes that smashed through Kentucky Wednesday:

Clinton

Rex Hoover, 38, of Piney Woods. Florence Hoover, 65, of Piney Woods. Bradley Ooten, no age listed, of Green

Effie Wells, 64, of the Seventy-Six com-

Cletus Boils, 41, of Ida. Betty Boils, 36, of Ida. Michael Boils, 10, of Ida. Ellen Brown, age unknown, of Up-

church.

Franklin

Charles McKinley, 21, of Frankfort. Arlene McKinley, 21, of Frankfort. Charles Travis, 73, of Frankfort. Levina Curry, 73, of Frankfort.

Hardin

Brenda Pendleton, 2, of Elizabethtown. Herman Klein, 55, of Elizabethtown.

Charles Fleming Spencer Jr., 64, of

Bernice Orr, 60, of Louisville. Jimmy Smith, 51, of Louisville,

Lincoln

Vernon Newton, 52, of Danville.

Madison

Barbara Long, 16, of Cottonburg, Mary Long, no age listed, of Cotton-

Dan Long, 58, of Cottonburg. Lutha Lainhart, no age listed, of Richmond.

Carol Pearson, 31, of Richmond. Bennie Pearson, 30, of Richmond.

Nelson

Liza Bogard, 56, of Coxs Creek.

Pulaski

Robert Johnson, about 75, of Piney

Minnie Johnson, about 75, of Piney

Clara Johnson, about 65, of Piney Grove

Clifford Weddle, no age listed, of Piney

Noble Weddle, 57, of Piney Grove.

Simpson

Mabel Krantz, 57, of Franklin.

Warren

Barbara Payne, 38, of Claypool, Ewing Duckett, 69, of Oakland.

Wayne

Sam Turner, no age listed, of Parnell. George Dale Phillips, 4, of Delta. Carey Denny, 54, of Delta. Laura Southwood, 89, of Parnell.

Meade

(This list was compiled by Meade County Coroner Kenneth A. Hager and released by State Police.)

Peggy Williams, 20. Diane Williams, 20. Mrs. Emma Wilson, in her 80s. Angela Wallace, 4 months. Richie Wallace, 12. Robert Dale Manning, 19 months, Louis O'Bryan, 80, Mrs. Louis O'Bryan, 80. Martha Son. 38. Terry Son, 14. Larry Son, 11, James Russell Son, no age given. Patty Wallace, 16. Regina Yates, 15.

Charles Fleming Spencer Jr.

ville Drying Machinery Division of Cus-

tom Dryers, Inc.

and a grandchild.

tist Church.

Spencer was president of the Louis-

He was a Winchester, Ky., native and

Survivors include his wife, the former Patsy Hensley; two daughters, Mrs. Henry S. Hankla Jr. of Frankfort, Ky., and Mrs. Emory D. Burgess of Atlanta,

The funeral will be at 11:30 a.m. to-

services at 2:30 Winchester (Ky.)

morrow at Pearson's, 149 Breckinridge Lane, with graveside services at p.m. tomorrow at Winchester

Cemetery, the family will be at the fu-

neral home from 7 to 9 p.m.

a member of Louisville's Broadway Bap-

Robert Dressel, 56, of Muldraugh, where he was a city councilman. William Gilliland, 70. Glenn Adair, 16. Eleanor Craycroft, 50. Alta Dugan, 54. Catherine Thomas, 50. Mrs. John Bircher, 85. Larry Jupin, 12. Columbus Skillman, 55. Florence Skillman, 62, Barbara Skillman, 29. Mrs. Ada A. Mercer, 84. Carrie Lynn Lucas, 3, of Irvington. Dessie Shumate, 64, of Guston. Lynn Chitwood, about 70, of Guston.

Dead, missing in Ohio's storms are reported

Here is a list of the known dead in Wednesday's tornadoes in Ohio, the victims being at Xenia unless otherwise stated:

Theresa Cross, 2 Diana Hall, 22 Dorothy E. Rowland Oscar Rebinson, 41, at Wilberforce Halen Wilson, 55, at Peobles Bill Armstrong, 7 84. at Bridgetown Albert McMurray, 84, at Marilyn Miller, 13 Sherry Lyen Graham, 3 Leura Mail, 30 Richard Adams Bryan Blakely, 7 Paul W. Wisecum Evelyn Reckhold, 50

THE MISSING

The American Red Cross furnished this list of persons missing at Xenia:

ISL OI POTSONS MISSING
Ray Anderson
Ray Anderson
Bob Babb
Deisy Babb
Janet Barryhill
Pat Lowell
Eleanor Bastin
Sandy Harris
William Harrison
Della Huddeten
Sherry Reed
Julie Skoses
Julie Skoses
Julie Skoses
The U. B. Cole family
Barbara Wrice and family
Gene Walker
Fluty Walker
Charles Wood
William Wood
Horry Madden

Mrs. Clark Orr

Mrs. Orr was the former Bernice Nieport and a member of St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, the Woman's Club of Louisville and Clear Creek Garden Club.

Survivors include a son, Clark Orr Jr.; a daughter, Mrs. Douglas McMichael; her mother, Mrs. Estelle Nieport, and two grandchildren.

The funeral will be at 1 p.m. tomorrow at Pearson's, 149 Breckinridge Lane, with cremation to follow. The family will be at the funeral home from 5 to 8 p.m. to-

Expressions of sympathy may take the form of contributions to the Kosair Crippled Children Hospital.

Mrs. Orr's son graduated from Waggener High School and was well known to STMFD in sales.

April 5, 1974





April 5, 1974

April 5, 1974:

The Louisville Times, photo by James N. Keen

Even the street sign is down at this intersection in Rolling Fields. In contrast, some of the shutters remain intact on one of the tornado-wrecked houses in the background.



April 5, 1974:
Storm damage
throughout state, Associated Press

Jefferson County—Three persons killed, water problem Wednesday night but most service restored; National Guard on duty, about 250 injured. About 700 to 800 homes destroyed.

April 5, 1974: Death stayed away, by Clarence Matthews, *The Louisville Times*.

The sounds of heavy equipment straining to remove debris and other obstacles permeated the street. National Guardsmen and police questioned those seeking to enter the area. Uprooted trees lay draped over littered lawns and houses. Where stately homes once stood, trucks cleared away rubble.

It was the day after the tornado struck Rolling Fields, a middle-class neighborhood northeast of downtown Louisville, just north of U.S. 42 and west of Chenoweth Lane.

Residents were drifting back to their shattered homes to salvage what they could. Sometimes it wasn't very much.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Brooks, their son and friends picked through what was left of their two-story home at 403 Coun-try Lane.

"Mom, what do you want me to do with this wet stuff?", the son asked of Mrs. Brooks, a teacher at Engelhard Elementary School. "Is it salvageable?" she replied. "Just put it into the (plastic) bags until we can take it to the cleaners." That's the way it went for the Brooks family as they attempted to pick up the pieces. No one was home when the disaster struck and the family escaped injury. The family has been staying with in-laws a few blocks from their home.

Still numb: The Brooks home is uninhabitable. The family, still numbed from the chaos that followed the tornado, is uncertain of the future.

At present, they will continue to stay with relatives. What's left of their furniture will be stored by a brother of Mrs. Brooks. Many of their belongings were damaged beyond repair. It will be days before the family is able to sift through the rubble and pick out what can be used again.

"I had just finished giving an order for covers for the porch chairs," Mrs. Brooks said, looking over the smashed porch.

Food from a former neighbor: At about that time, a former neighborhood resident arrived, carrying a bag of sandwiches and other food for the family. "Oh, thank you," Mrs. Brooks called out to the visitor.

Even with all the devastation, the Brookses feel they were fortunate be-cause none of them was injured. "We are all right," Mrs. Brooks said, stepping around a fallen piece of roof. "I guess that is the main thing."

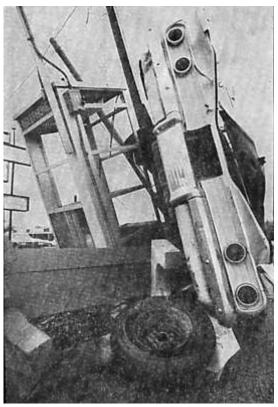
The Brookses, also the parents of two married daughters, planned to return to their home today to search through the debris. "There is no use going there (to work) tomorrow, there is just too much to do here," Mrs. Brooks said.

Whether the home can be made livable again is not known. The family will face that question later, after the impact of the disaster has subsided, she said.

April 5, 1974

April 5, 1974: Photo by Paul Schuhmann

An automobile and a telephone booth take the same slant, the way Wednesday's tornado left them in the 3600 block of Brownsboro Road.



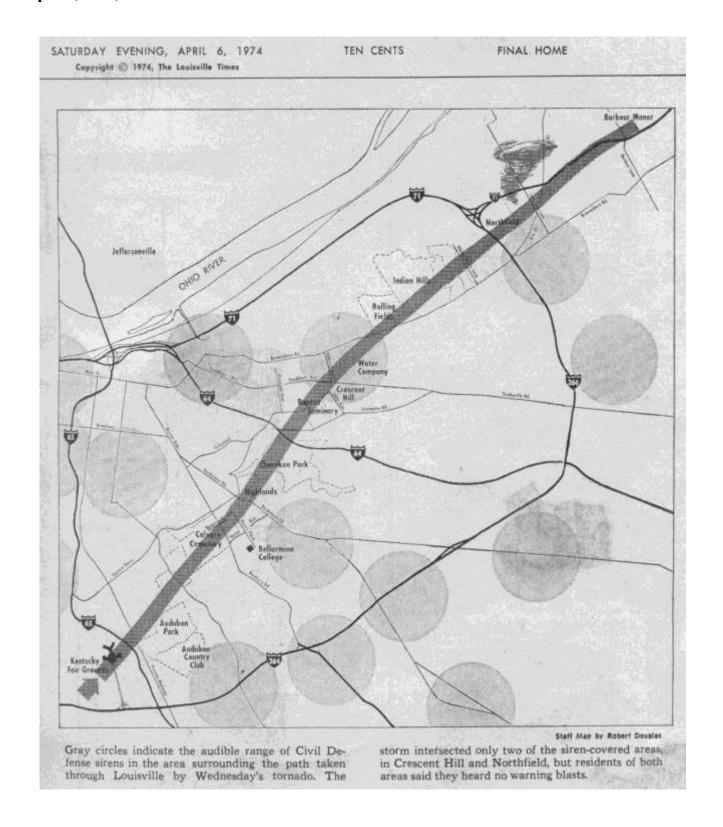
April 6, 1974 Disaster Admittance Slip

Disaster Admittance slip, 4/6/1974: Used to get into the Tornado area to help, from John Walling private collection.

DEPARTME	NT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
JEFFERSON COUNT 208 SOUTH FIFTH STREE	Y POLICE DEPARTMENT T • LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY 4020? NE: 582-2281 MUSSELL M.DANIEL FREE OF POLICE
DISASTER AREA ADMITTANCE SLIP DATE: 4-6-74 NAME: CARR DAVIS	NAME AND ADDRESSES OF PERSONS VISITING DISASTER AREA.
ADDRESS: 77 Julia Hell Za. ISSUING OFFICER'S NAME AND RANK White Costs Officer's NAME AND RANK	X John Walling. 122 Faumeode RP.

April 6, 1974,

April 6, 1974, The Louisville Times:



Most of area hit by the tornado was out of range of storm sirens

Continued From Page One

resents the location of one of the 39 sirens. The circumference of the circles represents the maximum range of each siren. In reality, the circles are about a mile and a half wide. There is a lot of space outside of those circles.

It is obvious from the map that the tor-ado's "dead alley" was not the only one nado's available

To make the circles contiguous, "to cut out all the dead space," as DuRand put it, "it would take another 75 sirens, at least," he said. "Each one costs about \$4,000."

"This city and county doesn't have that kind of money to spare, even with the federal government paying half the tab," he

DuRand explained that the Department of Defense traditionally has paid from 40 to 50 per cent of the cost of each new siren.

Eight more in planning stage

Eight dotted circles also drawn on the map show the proposed locations of eight more sirens, as yet not purchased.

"We have money for two of them now, and I think next year's budget will make room for three or four more," DuRand

However, discussions with DuRand and with spokesmen for several neighborhood groups revealed that lack of money isn't the only factor contributing to the short supply of sirens.

For example, there might have been a siren to alert residents of Eastern Parkway, Sherwood Avenue and other Highlands streets in the path of the storm were it not for a quarrel between the Civil Defense office and a volunteer fire

That quarrel reportedly involved Du-Rand and Robert Martin, chief of the Mid-dletown Volunteer Fire Department. Neither man was in a mood to talk about it yesterday, but people who had knowledge of the situation were willing to discuss the dispute.

More than a year ago, the Civil Defense office picked Middletown to be the recipient of a new dual-purpose siren, designed to summon fire fighters with one tone and to warn citizens of dangerous weather with another.

"The area's existing siren, located at Eastern High School, on Old Shelbyville Road, was to be moved to the intersection of Bardstown Road and Rosewood Avenue, in the Highlands.

But DuRand and Martin could not agree on how the new siren was to be constructed. So, it was never installed.

The single-purpose siren at Eastern was left in place, so that the people of Middletown would have a tornado-warning device.

It hasn't done them much good.

Because of construction work at East-ern, the siren's "electronic controls" had to be moved, said Principal George Morrison. As a result, the siren has been inoperative since prior to the beginning of the 1973-74 school year.

emerged between DuRand and the area's ticularly wind, can easily distort a siren's volunteer fire chief, Reginald K. Back.

'As far as I can tell, the chief in PRP just doesn't want to be a part of the sys tem," DuRand said yesterday, "That's all I can figure."

Back contended that the Civil Defense office has never made contact with his department to discuss the installation of a "We'd be more than willing to talk to DuRand," he said.

Back also said that the sirens already installed at the four fire stations serving the Pleasure Ridge Park area are a lot more powerful than the Civil Defense

But Back admitted they didn't do much

good Wednesday.

He said none of the sirens was activated because no one in the volunteer fire department was notified of the tornado until

after it had passed.

Would get radio signal

If those sirens were part of the Civil Defense system, an dif there were no malfunctions within that system, they would have been activated by radio signal transmitted from the Louisville Fire Alarm

Personnel in that office are instructed to transmit the signal upon receiving a telephone call from the Louisville office of the National Weather Service reporting the threat of a tornado.

The city of St. Matthews lay perilously close to the path of Wednesday's tornado,

but it, too, lacks a Civil Defense siren.

DuRand said he began negotiating to locate a siren in St. Matthews in April 1971. Initially, he said, he was unable to install the siren at the recommended location, City Hall, because of wiring problems. Later, he was dissuaded altogether from doing it by the actions of a group of citizens protesting the noise of an existing fire siren, which was used to summon volunteer fire fighters.

DuRand said the Civil Defense siren would have been much louder, and further attempts to install it merely would have intensified the protest.

In discussing the shortcomings of the current siren system, DuRand hastened to point out that it was quite possible for people to be in the areas designated by the 39 circles and still be out of earshot of a siren.

He said that weather conditions, par-

range, causing it to be shorter in one direction than in another.

Tall buildings, the noise of heavy traf-fic, and outdoor industry are among a number of elements that can obstruct a siren's normal range, he said.

The siren noise signifying dangerous weather conditions is a sustained monotone continuous for 3 minutes.

DuRand was asked whether, in light of the risks of distortion and obstruction, it is advisable to reactivate the sirens more than once during an emergency, since their normal warning cycle lasts only 3 minutes.

I should think they ought to be repeated once a tornado has touched down,"

he said.

Didn't happen Wednesday

However, that is not what happened Wednesday, according to the man in charge of the Louisville Fire Alarm of-fice, Maj. W. J. Vollmer.

"We could have blown 'em a dozen times," he said. "But we didn't. We blew em once.

Vollmer said his office did not have authorization to repeat the 3-minute warning.

"I wouldn't repeat it unless someone at the Weather Service, or Civil Defense, or the mayor, or someone in higher author-ity told me to do so," he said.

DuRand said he was under the impression that Vollmer's office was free to act on its own. "They can do it again, It's completely optional," he said. At the National Weather Service office

here, Doyle Cook, deputy meteorologist in charge, conceded that "no procedure has been worked out" for authorizing repeated siren warnings.

He said that the Weather Service telehoned the fire alarm office at 4:18 Wednesday afternoon with information that a tornado had been sighted and that the sirens should be sounded.

But Cook said the fire alarm office was not called again with instructions to repeat the alarm.

As did DuRand, Cook said he thought the situation Wednesday justified repeated warnings.

"Obviously, the whole warning procedure is one of many things that should be reevaluated in the light of what we just went through," he said.

DuRand said he did not install the new dual-purpose siren at Bardstown Rosewood because there is no need for its second function in an area served by professional firemen who don't need to be summoned to work. There is a fire station at 1330 Bardstown Road, near Rosewood.

None in Pleasure Ridge Park

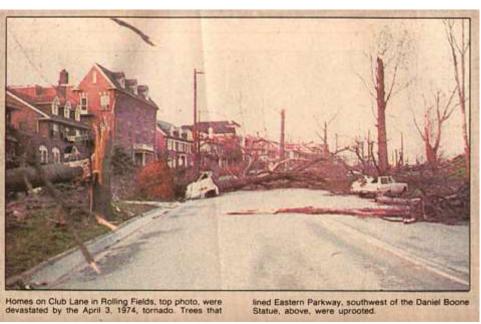
The county's largest fire protection district, Pleasure Ridge Park (PRP), also is without a Civil Defense siren.

In this case, too, a difference of opinion



April 6, 1974





April 6, 1974

April 6, 1974, The Courier-Journal:



The Stevenses' home: A scrapbook torn apart

By IRENE NOLAN Courier-Journal Staff Writer

Dick Stevens came home last Thursday afternoon to the house in which he had grown up. He held his tearful mother for several minutes, and then he picked up his suitcase and walked up the driveway.

He stopped at the house, where his sis-ter, his cousin and friends were tossing rubble off what had once been his room.

"Since I didn't have anything else to do," he shouted, "I thought I'd come home. Looks like you had a hell of a party here."

The sound of laughter was barely au-dible over the roar of nearby bulldozers, but it somehow seemed to ease the ten-sion, the sadness and the heartbreak of the moment.

While Dick Stevens' parents huddled in each other's arms in their basement last Wednesday afternoon, their 35 years of life together were quite literally blown

Sidney and Jean Stevens came to the house on Edmond Lane on top of a hill in Rolling Fields subdivision 20 years ago. It

was there that they and their two chil-dren celebrated birthdays and Christ-mases and marriages and anniversaries. It was there that the grandchildren visited.

Around the house, they planted small trees that grew tall. In the dining room, Jean Stevens displayed the china her mother-in-law gave her: Sidney Stevens mounted the prize fish he caught and put it in the den. His daughter Sally kept her treasured letters from friends and boy-friends and the spoon collection that had been her great-grandmother's in her old been her great-grandmother's in her old bedroom.

That house held the pictures of Jean and Sidney Stevens' wedding and the pictures of Dick Stevens in his playpen. It held the mementos of their trip to Eu-rope and the hundreds of treasures that two people collect over 35 years of mar-

Last Wednesday afternoon, Jean and Sidney Stevens were both at home. He was in their second floor bedroom and she was reading in Sally's bedroom, also upstairs. They heard the tornado warning on the radio at 4:34 p.m. They each called

a neighbor and then ran for the base-

"We leaned against the dryer and put we learned against the dryer and put our arms around each other," Mrs. Ste-vens recalled. "There was a large cabinet where I kept flower pots and things like that. It blew over on me and he put his hands out and held it up. All of a sudden it was over. We came up the stairs and, my God, you could see the sky. I came apart at the seams."

They did not hear the sound, they said, of their house blowing away. But on Ed-mond Lane, a tiny cul-de-sac on a hill, the houses were demolished.

The Stevenses' second-floor is almost completely gone. Sally's room and Dick's room are completely gone. All that remain are the hardwood floors. Some walls are still standing in the Stevenses' bedroom and the clothes were still hanging in the closets.

Downstairs, the refrigerator was push-ed through a door into the den, but the dishes in the kitchen cabinet were not

See TREASURES Page 14, col. 1, this section



April 6, 1974, The Courier-Journal & Times:

Treasures are saved from the rubble

Continued from Page 1, this section

even cracked. In the dining room, all the china was smashed, but the chandeller was still swinging in the wind. The front porch was gone, as were all the windows and window frames. But the kitchen door was intact with the tiezed curtain in place, and in the hall closet, the hats were still hanging on racks and the neatly pressed linen tableclothes were hanging from the rod. ing from the red.

Sally Stevens left her home in Nash-ville, where she teaches school, at 7 the next marning. And Dick Stevens, a pilot based in Memphia, arrived in early aftur-neon. Priends and friends of friends and secretary's boyfriend

And the cleanup began, Jean and Sid-nry Stovens' wedding pictures were in a neighbor's yard. Sally Stevens' letters were in the living room. The baby pic-

tures were under the rubble in the front yard. And the green and gold Royal Doul-tou chins and the crystal goblets were smashed on the dining room floor.

The Stevenses rented an apartment off Zorn Avenue, where Mrs. Stevens mother, Mrs. Raiph Thiele, lives, They berrowed and rented trucks and storted the painful task of moving what was left.

"This is agonizing," said Jean Stevens, "After 25 years of a happy marriage, it's roully hard."

As the day progressed, the treasures of lifetime began turning up in hits and

Mrs. Thiele uncovered framed gold charms bearing pictures of the Stevens children. A ball from the telephone com-pany. The linerary of the trip to Europe. The Christmus tree skirt. The vase from England. The smashed lamp from Italy. The spread from Sally's bed. In the kitchen, with its mud-snighteend

In the kitchen, with its mud-splattered

walls, Jean Stevens packed up food and

"I really can't believe I'm walking out

"I really can besieve I in wasang on on this," she told a niece, Mrs. Richard Zabriskie, who came from Indianapolis with her husband to help in the cleanup. "My husband is a fisherman," she said, "and I have found his mounted fish. It's all broken, but I haven't shown it to him we?"

Stevens found the fish lying in the china cabinet. He picked it up and held it and tald his son, "Why, we'll get another one. That's all."

Through the ferrur of Wednesday and the heartbreak of Thursday, the Stevens family never seemed to lose their per-spective, their sense of humor. They were gracious hosts to the friends and relatives who came to help. They gri-muced and they laughed, and only a few times did Jean Stevens go off by herself and put her head in her hands and, per-haps, erv.

haps, cry.
"I love life and I'm so damn grateful.
I've got my kads," she said.

The cleanup west on late into the af-ternoon, and the wind blowing over the debris ecutioned hill became chilly. Bull-decess rurared across the street and mov-ing vans went up and down the streets. A police helicopter overhead blared down instructions to the storm victims and or-dered sightseers out of the area.

The wind blue into the book of the

The wind blew into the back of the Stevenses' house and out through the front. Someone brought in fried chicken front. Someone brought in fried chicken and soft drinks. Dick Stevens found a torn page of haby pictures and his moth-er laughed and passed them around. Sally Stevens found another of her let-ters. "Tim really going to get in trouble with those letters," she chuckled.

Jean Stevens remembered the hird feed-er, that hours outside her bitshe window.

er that hung outside her kitchen window and the mockingbirds that used to come for raisins. Sidney Stevens, who is man-ager of the national advertising contract sales division at General Electric, remem-bered how he had planted every tree in the yard. Not one is still standing

A broken doil luy on the kitchen floor. "It just blew in through the window," said Mrs. Stevens, lumenting about the little girl who was probably missing it. Sally Stevens had already walked up and

grandmother, Mrs. Ralph Thiele, who lives in Louisville.

Dick Stevens talks

down Edmond looking for more of her

parents' belongings.
"I can't find Grandps's picture," Jean Stevens told her son. "And I sure wish I could find my mink stole."

"Where are we going to find the things from the attic?" she wondered,

"I'll give you a title for your story," said Sidney Stevens. "Call it, 'From Bull-dozer to Buildozer.' This used to be a cornfield. They came in with buildozers in subdivide."

And now the bulldozers were back. 'I guess they'll just level everything,' said Jean Stevens.





April 6, 1974, The Courier-Journal & Times:





STAFF PHOTOS BY PAM SPAULDING

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Stevens was destroyed by Wednesday's tornado, and the next day the salvage operation began. During the day the treasures of 35 years of marriage began turning up in bits and pieces. Above, Mrs. Stevens shows her son's baby pictures to a niece and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Zabriskie, Below is the view from the Stevenes' dining room across the subdivision. Far left, Sidney Stevens thanks Gregg Myer, left, and Ross Harbaugh for their help. "I've never seen you before and I'll never see you again, but thanks," he said.





The Stevenses' two children came home to the house in which they had grown up to help with the cleanup. Above is Mrs.

Stevens with daughter Sally, a teacher in Nashville, and son Dick, a pilot who lives in Memphis with his family.

Nixon aide vows fast tornado relie

Continued From Page One

Jefferson County, and Meade County High School, in Brandenburg.
The centers will take applications for

low-interest rebuilding loans for homes and businesses, dispense federal and state aid such as food stamps and free housing, and offer other services ranging from debris removal by local governments to help with tax problems.

The centers also will be open in In-diana by Monday. Similar help is being offered in parts of four other states that have been declared major disaster areas: Ohio, Tennessee, Alabama and Georgia.

Robert McFerren, deputy federal disaster-relief coordinator for Kentucky, said four more centers will be open in Ken-tucky next week, probably in Campbellsburg, Frankfort, the Elizabethtown-Bards town area and Stamping Ground, in Scott

Lynn said mobile assistance centers will be set up in smaller towns for several

In other developments:

Gov. Wendell H. Ford announced that funds are available for persons left jobless in 14 counties, including Jeffer-son. Ford designated the state Department for Human Resources to take ap-plications from individuals who lost jobs or were prevented from getting jobs be-cause of the storms.

The department also announced that it would open its social insurance offices from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. today and tomorrow in 11 counties, including Jefferson. Foodstamp and service workers will be available at each office.

The department's newly opened om-budsman office also will offer assistance to victims whose problems cannot be

solved locally. The toll-free telephone number is 1-800-372-2973.

tornado victims, ambulatory care, salaries for doctors and nurses and equipment for transporting persons from one hospital to

A \$300,000 federal Office of Economic Opportunity grant for emergency food and supplies will be split among Kentucky, Tennessee and Alabama. Louisville officials said the city will clear "heavy rubble" from private property, if owners sign waivers. "Hazards," such as trees that may fall, will be cleared first, they said.

A county official said the county has

no plans at this time to undertake similar

County Works Director Scott Gregory said his work crews will remove only debris that restricts public access and trees on private property.

By BERL SCHWARTZ Louisville Times Staff Writer

President Nixon's personal emissary assured local officials yesterday that federal red tape won't delay relief for home-less tornado victims in Louisville and Jefferson County.

James T. Lynn, U.S. secretary of housing and urban development (HUD), made the promise as he released HUD figures showing that at least 914 homes had been rendered uninhabitable in Louisville and Jefferson County by Wednesday's tornado. For Kentucky including Jefferson County, total for 18 counties was put around

Meanwhile, an insurance-industry estimate put the dollar damage at \$81.5 mil-lion in Kentucky and around \$407 million nationally from Wednesday's storm.

Federal relief began today with the opening of two "disaster assistance cen-ters" locally and one in Meade County, Kentucky, where an estimated 150 homes were destroyed in Brandenburg, a com-munity of less than 1,700. Four more centers have been promised in the state.

Lynn and Thomas P. Dunne, administrator of the Federal Disaster Assistance Administration, toured damaged Kentucky areas by helicopter after making similar forays into Ohio and Indiana, then held a downtown news conference.

Told by Louisville Mayor Harvey Sloane that the city doesn't want to be hampered by having to "dot the i's" in paperwork to get federal help, Lynn said: Before Dunne and I left the White House, President Nixon made it clear to us that this is not going to get bogged down in red tape.

"We don't have any real idea what it will cost, but the President said whatever it takes, we'll spend. So I've been given my sailing orders very clearly.

Dunne said relocating homeless victims will take the most time, adding that a free rental program for which all victims are eligible will be widely used.

He said government-owned mobile homes undoubtedly will be set up in Brandenburg, where rental housing is less available than in Jefferson County

A "mini-repair" program will be used to put houses into livable shape rapidly, he said.

HUD's damage estimates distributed by Lynn were based on a driving tour by inspectors. A HUD official said a more accurate estimate will be made by a block-by-block survey on foot.

The estimates show

At least 18 Kentucky counties received some damage to property, with Jefferson County hit the hardest, fol-lowed by Meade.

₩ 626 homes were made unlivable in an area from Lexington Road starting at Interstate 64 into Indian Hills; 177 in Northfield; 30 in an area from the Fairgrounds to Calvary Cemetery and 81 from the cemetery to Lexington Road.

More than 1,000 homes were destroyed in Indiana,

Other hard-hit areas in Kentucky were Franklin County, with 134 destroyed homes; Lincoln County, with 100 homes knocked down and Scott County, with 82 wrecked homes.

The \$81.5 million estimate for Ken-tucky was made by the American Insur-ance Association, a Chicago-based group. Indiana claims so far have amounted to \$93 million.

Obio was in worse shape, with \$150

ware to open at 8 a.m. today and stay open until 9 p.m. Starting tomorrow, the hours will be 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. until further notice.

The locations are Bellarmine College Gymnasium, 2000 Norris Place, in Louis-ville; St. Matthew's Episcopal Church Parish House, 330 N. Hubbards Lane, in

> See NIXON AIDE Back page, col. 2, this section

LG&E restores power in more areas, but many homes will face a long wait

By MARTIN E. BIEMER Losigville Times Staff Write

Louisville Gas & Electric Co. line crews made "significant progress" toward crews made "dignificant progress" toward restoring electric power in storm-damaged areas of the city and county last night, but much remains to be done before many cold and dark homes can have their power restored.

Temperatures dipped to the low 30s fremperatures, dipped to the low 30s lost night, and many people who live in siess hear where Wednesday's tornade affect still had no electricity for furnaces nod lights. Those with gas stoves counted themselves lucky; natural gas service was normal in practically all areas not touched

H. Curtis Craig, LG&E vice-president for sales and public relations, said today that line crews still are concentrating on the high-vallage wires knocked down.

He said it may be several weeks before power can be restored to each individual

Ctaig said last night's progress re-stored power to "quite a few" homes, but said he couldn't estimate how many custemers still lack electricity.

Yesterday's estimate of 7,000 homes without power was reduced somewhat overnight, he said.

The company also had a reminder for the public Continue to treat all stray wires as electrically hot. As power is re-slored to some areas, it may reactivate when that are lying on the ground and cheste a bazard.

As the high-voltage lines are repaired, restoring service to large areas, the company will concentrate on smaller and

smaller lines in turn until power is re-stored to individual homes.

"When we say we have restored power to an area," Craig said, "it doesn't mean we've gotten electricity to every home in

that area."

Cruig said high-vultage power was restored to several areas last night, in-

The vicinity of Bardstown Road and Murray Avenue in the Highlands.

The vicinity of Barbour Lane and KY 22, near Barbourmeade.

Fire started by candle damages apartments near Cherokee Park

Living by candlelight can be hazardous. City firemen said several apartments in a two-tory brick huilding at 2122 Batinger Ave, were damaged early today when candles started a fire in the apartment of John Thompson. The apartment building is near Cherokee Park in an area steuck by Wednesday's tornado.

Piremen said the building was without electricity and that some candles being used by Thompson apparently fell off a table onto the floor.

apartment was extensively Thompson's apartment was covered and ascertal damaged by fire, they said, and several other apartments incurred water and smoke damage. There were no injuries. The Fire Department received the call at 3.06 a.m. It took about an hour and a

half to put the fire out.

Along Blankenbaker Lane near Robinswood, north of Indian Hills.

A large area in the St. Matthews vicinity, along Chenoweth Lane and east along Westport Road, Massie Avenue and Brownsboro Road.

Parts of Audubon Park.

Craig said there are still major outages in the area around Eastern Parkway and Bardstown Road, where damage was extremely heavy, and in a large portion of Crescent Hill.

He said it may take until the latter part of next week to restore all the highwolfage lines.

South Central Bell Telephone Co. also reported progress oversight, but said about 26.700 customers still are without telephone service.

Robert L. Eubank, district manager, said some large cables severed by the storm have been repaired and that work continues on others.

He said it is difficult to tell if a hephone is working simply by dialing the
number, because different types of
trouble could result in a busy signal of a
tone that sounds like the bell is ringing
— even if there is no telephone to ring
on the where and on the other end.

Water and natural gas services were in good shape today.

Full water service was restored yester day. Natural gas service was restored in all areas except those severely demagnd sections, where lines to many burnes have



Thomas P. Dunne, administrator of the Federal Disaster Assistance Administration, looked over storm-torn Louisville from a helicopter yesterday. He was one of several federal officials visiting the city.

Storm-hit area is like a war zone, with troops, police and passes

By JERRY HICKS Louisville Times Staff Writer

One policeman munching a Salvation Army-procured doughnut said it reminded him of Vietnam-areas blocked off by the military, people having to show passes and identification cards, a command post in operation nearby, M16 rifles scattered about, patrol cars roving around to make sure activity was of the proper kind.

But it was actually a rather affluent section of eastern Jefferson County, just north of Brownsboro Road and just outside the Louisville city limits.

Families who live in areas victimized by Wednesday's tornado damage had to face the fact yesterday that they couldn't get into their neighborhoods without proof to police and National Guardsmen that they actually lived there.

Visitors to stricken areas had to get passes from the Jefferson County Police command post set up on the parking lot

at the Broadway Baptist Church at 4000 Brownsboro Road—and had to have a good reason for wanting one.

Persons wanting to go into stricken areas in Louisville and other parts of the county were faced with the same restric-

City and county officials have imposed an 8 p.m. to 6 a.m. curfew for tonight and tomorrow night in the areas heavily damaged by the storm, They announced that anyone found outdoors in these areas during curfew hours would be subject to

The county also has imposed 24-hour

travel restrictions in the area where storm damage is the worst.

It was two days after the tornado strikes, and the damaged areas buzzed with recovery activity.

Telephone linemen around the clock. So were Louisville Gan Electric Co. linemen, trying to make a dent in the power breakdown problem.

Neither the darkness nor the spitting rain stopped tornado victims from carrying on with the rebuilding job last night. A few could be seen hammering away by flashlight. Others were still attempting to move out what was not damaged. Some were bent on staying the night at their homes, police said, despite the lack of power for heat.

Some people who had more damage to their yards than their homes were seen

personnel were helping some.

National Guardamen were kept busy at the command post distributing nails, plastica, and other cover materials to vic-

There were long atreams of sightseers during the day, although police say fewer than on Thursday, probably because of the cold and rainy drizzle.

The police were faced with so many persons seeking passes at the church-site that they couldn't hear their police radios.

They decided to get up a smaller trailer for distribution of passes, but the plan was dropped because of power problems. The main trailer was running only on generatur power.

Cut off posses at S p.m.

At 8 o'clock last night the police cut of giving passes because of the curfew, in effect in stricken areas until 6 a.m. today. After 8 p.m. they allowed only residents into these areas, plus haulers who accompanied revidents

Movers by themselves who tried to obtain passes after 8 p.m. were turned away. The heavy military and police guard did make the areas seem semething of a WAC mone.

But il had to be that way, according to Asst. County Police Chief Robert Grant, in charge last night.

"We have to guard against losters," Grant said. "Many people have left their hunes for the night and it's up to us to

proceed their property."

flut Grant admitted it wasn't likely any leoters would get past the stringent restrictions at the entrance roads,

As an added precaution, the county police had two helicapters hovering over damaged areas.

It was a long day

It was a long day for National Guards men, and it showed on their dirt-smudged faces and in their rad-stained eyes.

"Aw, it's not so had," one Guardsman said. "We're supposed to work 12 hours on get 13 off, and it ends up more like 16 on, but it could be a lot wome. Nobody gives us any hassis (meaning his superiors) and the people (meaning tornado victims and others) are all pretty decent about it. It's obvious, though, that people does it. don't like having to show identification just to get to their own homes.

One thing any ex-Army man would notice about the Guardsmen would be the I with of the har on most of them, well over the ears and shargy in back Not long by some standards, but clearly a

victation of military grooming.

Low to they get away with it a reporter asked. One Guardsman smiled and reaction into the pecket of his fatigue jacket. He pulled out a crumpled man's

Wig.

You just tuck it all under your wig when you to to Guard meetings and staff," the young min said. "Out here, notody cares that much, but I carry this with me just in case."

minded about their hair, but nobody ar tuelly enforces grooming rules.

The Guardanen and policemen were thunkful that the basement of the Broadway. Baptist Church, where they could take breaks, had an around the clock Sal-

vation Army food operation, with plenty of coffee and barrels of hot, fried chick-

The Salvation Army workers said they would be on hand as long as the command post was in existence.

That will be at least today and tomor-

row, according to Grant.

"A lot of people are just getting into Jefferson County from other states," he said. "I imagine they'll be streaming in here again the next couple of days. We'll probably have so many sightseers Sunday that we'll have to continue using passes for people who have legitimate reasons for going into these stricken areas."

Many just carried messages

Some people were turned away yesterday because the police simply did not believe their reasons for going into restricted areas were sufficient. But most got passes, even if they just wanted to get messages to people living inside the guarded neighborhoods.

Two women who also kept long hours last night were Mrs. Robert Kelsey and Mrs. Robert Stocker, county health nurses working at the command post.

They were the only nurses working restricted areas equipped to give tetanus shots. They weren't too busy last night. The most serious injury was a sprained ankle suffered by a small girl helping her family load belongings on a truck. But the nurses were going to stay until morning in case they were needed.

Mrs. Kelsey recalled that Thursday night they had treated a couple, both in their 70s, who had received minor injuries while crawling through debris searching for the mather of one, who was

more than 90 years old. Not having found her, they were in near hysteria, Mrs. Kelsey said. But while they were being treated, word came that someone at another emergency post, the Second Presbyterian Church, had seen the older woman.

"Many people have come in simply be-cause they've been in shock," Mrs. Stocker said. "Mainly we just let them sit down for a while and do what we can to help calm them.

Workers don't grumble

Despite the constant commotion, and oftentimes confusion, at the command post, there was little grumbling by workers who had gotten very little sleep since

Wednesday's tornado,
"Whenever I think how had it is being here, I stop and think how had it is for some of these people who lost everything they had in the tornado," one freekled-faced Guardsman said, his M16 rifle leaning up against an old piano in the church

"Hell, if those Salvation Army people keep bringing in that fried chicken, I won't mind stayin' the rest of the night."

April 7, 1974



Staff Photo by James N. Keen

RECEIVING assistance at a relief center at the St. Matthew's Episcopal Church on Hubbards Lane, are several victims of the tornado that hit the Louisville area. From left are Mrs. and Mr.

David French of 1909 Dale View Lanc, Mrs. C. O. Van Antwerp of 4322 Comanche Trail, and Mrs. Richard Reames. Workers, right, fill out forms for the victims.

Insured tornado damage is put at \$500 million

Associated Press

Federal officials who toured six tornado-stricken states said yesterday that damage to insured properties hit by last week's storms was more than \$500 million. They estimated that 6,000 to 7,000 homes were destroyed or uninhabitable.

Housing and Urban Development Secretary James T. Lynn led a group that visited the six states that President Nixon declared federal disaster areas. The six states are Kentucky, Indiana, Ohio, Tennessee, Georgia and Alabama.

The storms swept through 11 states in the South and the Midwest and up to Canada last Wednesday and early Thursday, leaving 304 dead and thousands injured.

In Xenia, Ohto, one National Guardsman was killed yesterday and another was missing as a result of a fire in a furniture store where a guard relief center had been set up. Two other guardsmen were burned.

Lynn, who promised speedy relief to help tornado victims rebuild their homes and communities, said the \$500 million figure did not include uninsured damage to private property or damage to government buildings and equipment.

Part of budget promised

Thomas Dunne, head of the Federal Disater Assistance Administration, provided the estimate of the number of homeless.

Dunn said his budget for this year was \$170 million, of which part already has been promised as a result of previous disasters.

But he said the President assured him that if there was not enough money in his fund more would be requested.

Dunne said federal officials will be providing homes for those whose homes have been destroyed, but added that "it's not going to happen in a day or a week."

He said the government would provide a variety of housing, including mobile homes now stored in federal warehouses. He said there are nearly 7,000 trailers available for such use and that no more than that number would be needed.

Lynn noted that the delay in moving these homes into affected areas is related to difficulties in locating needed water, sewage and power hookups.

Lynn said he was astounded at the destruction he saw during his two-day trip by airplane and helicopter. "You can see pictures of the kind of havoc that a tornado wreaks, you can read about it, but you can never feel the full impact until you see it. It's unbelievable," he said.

Hastily organized neighborhood relief programs sprang up by the hundreds yesterday. Every available truck in stricken areas was pressed into service and each volunteer was assigned a truck and a piece of property.

Disaster relief centers were set up yesterday in the Georgia cities of Dawsonville, Dalton and Calhoun to help an estimated 1,000 persons left homeless by the storms. Officials said about 50 families had been processed by early afternoon.

Cincinnati, Ohio, residents banded together to help their own. The Red Cross reported that although 2,200 homes in the Hamilton County area had been destroyed or damaged, only 30 persons spent the night in Red Cross shelters. The other victims apparently stayed with friends or neighbors; some moved back to damaged homes to protect their property.

"Our work has been light because the generosity has been overwhelming," said Red Cross volunteer Dick Bollman. "The good old Cincinnati Dutch come through every time."

Here is how the tornado death toll stood as of yesterday. Alabama reported 72 dead, Kentucky, 72, Tennessee, 46, Ohio, 38, Indiana 40, Georgia, 16, North Carolina, 5, Michigan, 3, Illinois, 2, Virginia, 1, West Virginia, 1, and Ontario, Canada, 8.

Volunteers give time and strength to lift problems of storm victims

4-7-74

By BILL COX
Courier-Journal Staff Writer

They are elevator repairmen, salesmen and grocery elerks manning chain saws for the first time in their lives.

They are college students who haven't slept more than 12 hours in three days.

There are 10 of them on the streets for every workman drawing overtime pay.

They are the volunteers. The devastated East End neighborhoods are filled with them. Sweaty, noisy "do-gooders" who are straining to remove trees and repair houses for people they haven't even met.

Jack Ferron is one of them. Early yesterday he came to Louisville from Cave City with a pickup truck and a chain saw.

"A few years ago, we had a big tornado in Cave City and people came down from Louisville to help. I decided to come up here this weekend to help pay them back." he said.

Dave Juergens, who lives in the South End, services elevators for a living. He's big enough to be a lumberjack. Yesterday, he was sawing trees in a yard on Eastern Parkway.

"I think the people in this part of town would help my neighborhood if this had happened to us," he said. "I came over because I believe in helping people."

A few houses to the south, a unit of Navy Seabees was clearing trees leaning against a house.

"I felt stranded on an island until the men came by this morning," Mrs. James Voyles said. "All up and down this street, the volunteers have given everybody a real lift."

The Seabees, Detachment 514 of the Reserve Mobile Construction Battalion, 23, recently were designated the top Seabees reserve unit in the United States. Their reward is a two-week assignment in Puerto Rico, scheduled to begin this week.

"The men want to stay in Louisville and help with the storm cleanup," Lt. Cmdr. Gerald Hubbs said. "We are pulling every string we can to get the Puerto Rico assignment changed. Believe it or not, we aren't having much luck. There's a lot of red tape."

Yesterday, almost every damaged house in the Crescent Hill area had at least one volunteer from the Southern Baptist Seminary — some 300 students were out working vesterday

napitst Seminary — some 300 students were out working yesterday.

The seminary dispatched students to help anyone who asked. The school also sent out "scouts" to look for people who need help.

Civil Defense officials said the seminary students have been the backbone of relief and aid efforts in Crescent Hill, beginning about half an hour after the tornado passed through the area's narrow streets.

Yesterday they chopped at trees, moved furniture, hammered on new shingles and brought food to families without electricity and water.

One seminary student had to cut short her aid to storm victims. She fell, injured her knee and has been hospitalized. "I walked through live wires, under broken trees, stepped on boards with nails and didn't get hurt. Then I slipped in the mud and here I am in the hospital," said Kathy Waters, a first-year student from Atlants.

She is a patient at St. Anthony's Hos-

You can close your eyes and still know which storm-damaged neighborhood you are in.

The cleanup efforts have distinctive sounds.

On Eastern Parkway, where many houses had tile roofs, it's the constant sound of clay breaking as it hits concrete driveways. The broken tiles are being thrown to the ground. Each shatter, sending still more fragments down the driveways to shatter again like echoes.

Hammering tells you you're in Crescent Hill. Most of the houses are wooden and have lost their second floors. Temporary roofs are going up on almost every house. Thousands of nails were being driven yesterday. In the hardest-hit areas, north of

In the hardest-hit areas, north of Brownsboro Road, the unmistakable grinding and groaning of bulldozers drowns out all other sounds.

And everywhere, the ear-gouging sound of chain saws. When they start up, they gnash and tear at the wood. In a few seconds, at top speed, they scream. It is an efficient-sounding noise. You know when you hear it the saws are doing their job.

A child's view

ua sview y-7-7

Devastation and consideration

By JAMES NOLAN Courier-Journal Staff Writer

Not all of the stories stemming from Wednesday's tornado deal with damaged property and lives.

Witness this letter that was handdelivered to The Courier-Journal newsroom yesterday:

"To all the people that ain't got nowhere to live and ain't got no food: "We feel sad about it. You can come to our school if you want to. To find our school the color is red and black and gold. It is called Roosevelt School.

"From Room 102, Kindergarten, first and second grade."

The words in print can't convey the wobbly hand-lettered message and the misspelled words, but teacher aide Mike Miller thought enough of the letter to send it on to the newspaper.

"I hope it will give faith and hope to those whose homes have been destroyed by the tornado," Miller said in an attached note.

"The spirit of children is beautiful. Their sensitive minds and hearts are always at work changing and renewing. We have hope as long as there are children."

Roosevelt School is at 222 N. 17th St., in the heart of western Louisville's Portland area, which was missed by the tornado.

Miller said last night in a telephone interview that the idea for the class letter grew out of a class "sharing time"—a daily ritual in which the students discuss how they feel about various things.

"These kids weren't affected by the storm at all," Miller said, "but one girl had a friend who had moved to the country. His house was destroyed."

Miller's parents' house received some storm damage, so he took the class on a car trip out Brownsboro Road to look at what the tornado had done to parts of castern Jefferson County.

"They were just amazed at the physical damage," Miller said, adding that he had a difficult time explaining that "a big wind" could do so much damage.

Miller said the students wanted to let the storm victims know how they felt about the damage, so he suggested the letter. "I wrote down what they wanted to say, and then they copied it."

Police gaining in battle with gawkers

Gawkets, those misguided hirds of prey who last week descended in droves on Jefferson County's tornedo disaster areas, haven't been so reduced in num-bers that they're candidates for the esdangered species list.

They were still out there yesterday, still trying to sneak and con and push their way into the ravaged neighborhoods, still apparently oblivious to appeals through the media, scoldings from authorities and even threats of arrest by noise.

police.

Happily, however, city and county
police reported late yesterday that they
finally may have turned the corner in
their war acainst algebrers, thus they
are doing a more effective job of keeping
them from interfering with the serious
and difficult jobs of recovery and recenstruction.

"The situation was not as had as I had anticipated," said Louisville Police Chief John Nevin. "It was bad enough, but there was some reduction. Maybe some people took to heart the statements made Friday."

Yesterday turned out to be another gorgeons spring day. Perfect for repair work. But, unfortunately, also perfect for getting in the family car to do a little gawking.

Early on, the situation promised to

Here is a list of key locations and

If you need a meal: Salvation Army stations at the Second Presbyterian Church, 3701 Old Brownshoro Road; Broudway Eaptist Church, 4000 Brownshoro Road; at Grinstead and Lexington Road; at the St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 2822 Frankford Ave.; and at the Crescent Hit Christian Church, 117 Crescent Ave. Red Gross meals at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and at the Highland Junior High School, 1700 Norris Place.

If you need foodcomps: At the FDAA easter Assistance Centers or through a Bureau of Social Insurance of the entitiety Froman Relations Department rectly, 790-0220.

If you have non-perishable food to

News commentary

be as bad as it was Thursday, when hordes of sightseers tramped through the damaged areas, taking pictures and rubber-necking at the buildings and generally making an awful nuisance of themselves

The area hardest hit by gawkers was Cherokee Park, Eastern Parkway and Bardstown Road.

"I raised hell early this morning," said Daniel E. Dowdie, a supervisor in sain Daniel E. Downle, a supervisor in the engineering department of the Louis-xille first & Electric Co.—"Civilian cars were coming through steadily. I saw one City of Louisville car with a city official and his family in it. And some broad came zooming through hore at about 40 miles an hour when I had 100 men in

"All they wanted to do was drive through and look and gawk."

Early in the afternoon, the police and National Guardsmen, who patrolled the area with long wooden sticks, clamped down. They refused to let in any civilian cars, even those belonging to residents of

"A few people got mad about it." said a patrolman, "but that's all we could do. A

lot of people had been lying to us, saying they lived in there."

The police also expunded the occupied zone, extending its boundaries to Eastern Parkway, Newburg Road, Cherokee Road, Spring Drive, the Bellarmine campus and Douglass Boulevard.

"We moved further out, trying to get a better traffic nattern," said Col. Nevin. By late yesterday afternoon, the area looked like a war sone. Gone were all the cars and the amateur photographers. The noly people in the streets were the Na-tional Guardsmen, the police und the electrical workers in their yellow hard-

"We're getting something done now," said Dowdle of Lokk. "I wish they would let us set up our own roadblocks. We'd keep 'gon out. But we just don't have enough men.

enough men."

Even so, a couple of young gawkers managed to evade a patrolman who had ordered them out and worked their way onto Bardstown Road, where the damage

was worst.

Why did they do it?

"Curiosity," said a boy, giggling.

Didn't they take the pleas and warnings

'Oh, I guess it makes sense," he said, "but it was daytime and we figured we could walk through without much trouble."

Gawkers also appeared to be at a mini-mum around Freedom Hall and in the

Audubon Park area, and they were vir-tually nonexistent in the ravaged suburbs of Rolling Fields, Indian Trail and North-

"Some of the county areas are relatively casy to seal off," Nevin said "They have a lot of streets in those subdivisions but not ton many entrances. In the city, we have a lot more alleys and side streets

to worry about.

Near Rolling Fields, Sgt. C. T. Yatos of the county police said traffic sn Brownshorn Road had been beavy, but

Brownsboro Road had been besty, but not too many gawkers had been able to get back into the ambdivisions.

And at Northfield, a county patcolorus said "we've established a pretty good checkpoint" at the subsrban city's entrance so no gawkers were setting inside.

Northfield readgets questioned by a reporter tended to agree with the police. They wild they were easing about the best.

They said they were going about the hisi-ness of cleaning up and carting away with a minimum of interference. It was much better than Thursday, said

Mrs. Watson Dabney, whose daughter, Mrs. Thomas Wakefield, lived in the home that is now a pile of rubble at 2463 Northfield Drive.

That night my daughter came her and she saw a mother and her five chil-dren standing in front of her house, tak-ing each other's picture," said Mrs. Dab-ney. "She was furious. I thought she would explode."

Strange birds, these gawkers

donate: West Louisville United Church of Christ, 245 S. 41st St., 778-1522, and the Shawnee Presbyterian Church, 101 S. 44th St., 776-6280.

Louisville and Jefferson County Health
Department First Aid Stations, open 9
a.m. to 7 p.m., for the treatment of minor
injuries and for tetanus shots: basement
of Fuller Hall, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary: Second Presbyterian
Church, 3701 Old Brownsboro Road;
Northfield Nursing Home, 6000 Hunting
Road; Crescent Hill Christian Church, 117
Crescent Ave. and Bardeslown Road Pro-Crescent Ave.; and Bardstown Road Pres byterian Church, 1722 Bardstown Road

Assistance for bed-ridden and aged: City-county Health Department, 584-5281.

Temporary repair materials collected and redistributed by the city: Broadway Saptist Church, 4000 Brownshoro Road; Pryor's Restaurant parking lot, Grinstead

Drive and Lexington Road; Louisville Zoo parking lot, Trevilian Way.

Debris removal from private property: In Louisville, City Hall, 589-5230; in Jeff-erson County, County Works Department, and the county works Department,

Insurance advice for homeowners: Louisville Board of Independent Insur-ance Agents, 585-5617.

Home building contracting services: Home Builders Association of Louisville, 636-5581.

Free apartment space for two months: Robinwood Apartments, 5319 Rangeland Road, 964-6488,

donate temporary housing: Amer-Red Cross, Louisville chapter, 589-

Mavind volunteer trucks, available at the Dum Elementary School, 4799 Brownsbore Road, 803-7928; American Red Cross, 589-4450, extension 304.

Free stgrage: Louisville-Jefferson County Air Board, 458-1575.

General services:

Louisville chapter of the American Red Cross, Louisville Area Disaster Relief, 580-4450, extension 363. Salvation Army, 583-5391. Louisville Lefferson County Civil De-fense, 589-4230.

fense, 589-4239
Kentucky Beson Association, 366-6430, Disaster Assistance Centers, of the Federal Disaster Assistance Administration; Bellarmine College Gymnesium, 2000 Norris Place, 582-5985 tisruugh 7; St. Mathews Episcopal Church Partsh House, 330 N. Flutbands Lanc. 582-6268 and 9 and 582-6260.



TORNADO

Why storms begin, what happened last week and how science is trying to fight back



The fishhook shape on a radar screen is the telltale sign of a tornado.



LOUISVILLE



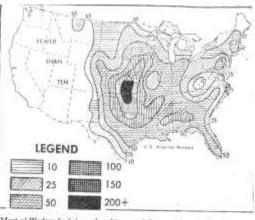
BRANDENBURG



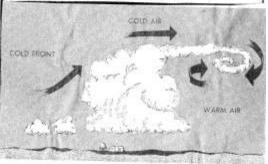
WINDSOR, ONTARIOCINCINNATI



Wednesday's tornado wenn't the first for Louis-ille. This was the come in 1890 at Market and



Most of Wednesday's tornadoes hit east of the most frequently struck po-tion of the exentry. The map above shows where the heaviest concentra-tion of tornadoes has occurred over a 40-year period.



A collision of air, part of it cold and part of it warm, set up turbulent storm centers Wednesday, That and other factors created areas of low pressure in the midst of warm most air, and the warm air began to swirl, eventually so strongly that tornadoes formed.

LAST WEDNESDAY afternoon a massive storm boiled out of the West and smashed through a dozen states from Alabama to Michigan, spawning scores of savage tornadoes. They left more than 300 people dead, 4,500 injured and caused damage running into the hundreds of millions. Kentucky suffered more than 70 dead and an estimated 30 more missing.

Laboura had 72 dead, Indiana 52, Ten-

nessee 46, Chio 27.) The small town of Brandenburg, Ky., was almost oblit-erated. Areas of Louisville were cruelly scarred and slashed by savage winds that at times exceeded 200 miles an hour and left stunned residents to wonder at the

wind's erratic frenzy.

It was clearly the worst weather dis-aster suffered by Kentucky in half a century, and was among the most damaging in the nation in recent years. President Nixon declared parts of Kentucky, Indi-ana, Ohio, Alabama, Tennessee and Georgia to be disaster areas, eligible for federal aid.

How many deadly twisters sprang to life along the advancing squall line no one will ever know; there were probably at least a dozen in Kentucky alone. Some smashed open woodland, tore the roofs from a few barns and spent their fury on rivers or ridges that helped to dissipate their strength. Others, such as the one that devastated Eastern Jefferson County, burst to destructive life in the middle of an urban area.

When a tornado strikes a populated area, the people can only hope that they have warning and time enough to hide. Tornado warnings issued by the Weather Service undoubtedly helped to keep the local death toll gratifyingly low, But the lingering suspicion was that, despite the shocking property damage, Louisville was lucky. Had the tornado struck at a different hour, or taken a different path, the toll could have been much higher. For while science is seeking ways to detect or even combat such a storm, survival under the storm's fury still depends greatly on the human element, and the Louisville experience showed how fallible that can be.

The storm:

How it began and what it did

FROM THE MOMENT it was born, the storm had the mark of danger on it. By the time Allen Pearson, head of the National Severe Storm Forecast Center, got to his office Tuesday morning in Kansas City's Federal Building, Center weathertrackers had already noted a marked low-pressure system developing over Wyoming. The Center alerted weather offices throughout the Midwest, warning of the system and advising them to get their radar sets calibrated and ready. "We started then to marshal our forces for Wednesday," mays Pearson, "which seemed likely to be a bad day."

By Tuesday night, the system was deepening over Colorado, "a primary area of cyclogenesis" in Weather Service terminology, meaning it is a frequent spawning ground for severe storms. It was obvious something was on the way.

At 7 o'clock Wednesday morning the Center sent its regular teletype message and facsimile weather map to its stations,

to newspapers, radio and television stations subscribing to its \$50-a-month advisory service. This message warned that conditions were ripe for severe thunderstorms within 24 hours in the northern part of Alabama, two-thirds of Mississippi, the upper one-third of Georthe boother! of Missouri and all of

Tennessee, Kentucky, Ohio and Indiana.
Through the day, tornado watches —
less intense alerts than the tornado warnings that signal imminent danger - were issued for large areas, including the Southern Indiana, Brandenburg and Louisville areas.

"We have three categories of weather-severity warnings," explains Pearson.
"This was sort of 'on your mark.'
Throughout the day we issued a series watches. which is more than an alert, but not a positive warning that a tornado is actually approaching At 7:30 a.m. we warned that severe conditions would be expected in Northern Kentucky until 2 p.m. Then, about 2:35 p.m. we issued Tornado Watch No. 98, for a strip 70 miles on either side of a line from Jackson, Tenn. to Covington, Ky. to run from 3 to 8 p.m. This amounted to 'get set.' And that is where the National Center bows out. It is then up to the local offices to issue the 'go, the warning that a tornado is a real danger. I saw some of the warnings issued for Louisville and they looked good."

IT WAS the complex nature of the storm, Pearson explained, that gave it its lethal power. As the low-pressure system pushed rapidly eastward, a large warm-air mass was pushing up from the Gulf of Mexico, bringing the threatened area its usual southwest-to-northeast wind pattern. The air from the Gulf was unusually wet and warm; the Gulf water is about 75 degrees, and moisture from it carried great amounts of heat skyward, and the gathering power of the low-pressure area to the north helped suck up moisture and stream it northward, building up incredible energy within the northward-moving warm air mass.

As the warm air moved to the north, it began to encounter the colder air from the low-pressure system. This by itself was enough to create fierce turbulence along the storm's edge, since the low was moving counter-clockwise while the warm air was moving clockwise. To add to the developing danger, the Jet Stream was moving very rapidly to the east-southeast at a height of 65,000 feet, and its speed served to pull pressure out of the area directly in the path of the warm-air mass. The barometer was often a full inch lower, along the area in front of the storm than

in nearby areas, and this lower pressure also helped to suck the now-colliding air masses forward at greater speed, while creating even greater turbulence along its edges. As the air in front of the low pulsed eastward, it picked up speed, heat and moisture. And as it reached the Alabama-to-Michigan line, the turbulence started spewing out tornadoes that did their devil's dance across the country in front of the storm mass.

The warning:

How system works; is it adequate?

NINE TIMES before the tornado struck Louisville, the warning beeper squealed on the Emergency Action Notification Signal teletype at radio station WHAS. And nine times—at 10:28 a.m., 1:19, 2:34, 2.54, 3.38, 3.47, 4.02 and 4.26 p.m., a severe-weather warning was broadcast. The last two messages were strong: Tornado in Jefferson County.

WHAS is a critical link in the local warning system because, with its 50,000 watts and clear channel, it can reach farther-four states, its officials claimthan other less powerful stations. As a provision of approval of its 50,000 watts the Federal Communications Commission, WHAS is obliged to install and monitor an Emergency Broadcast System (EBS) teletype, and to air weather mess-

ages received. After its first warning at 10:28 a.m., it activated its Emergency Action Notification Signal. By turning its transmitter on for five seconds, then off, then on and off again, the station produced a signal that was sent to numerous schools, businesses, hospitals and other radio stations.

Unlike most of the numerous weather alerts received in the area, this was no false alarm. But, says Ed Shadburne, WHAS executive vice-president, "We trigger the alert, but people have a ten-dency not to pay attention." Agrees news director Tom Dorsey, "When you do 2, 4, 5 or 10 watches a week, nobody pays attention. It gets annoying.

In the pre-dawn hours of Wednesday, officials at Standiford Field's Weather Service were aware of the ominous con-ditions. The general weather pattern, they knew, was similar to the one that had produced a tornado that struck Campbellsburg two days earlier. And they had othe flow of warning reports from Kansas City. Anxiously they monitored the radar set that helps them serve Kentucky and four Indiana counties across the Ohio River from Louisville.

Their aging radar, a modified piece of Navy equipment dating from World War II, covers a radius of more than 100 miles and supplements a national radar network, helping the local office keep an eye on severe weather developments. Though the base of the antenna was damaged by the tornado, meteorologist Doyle Cook said it "worked like a charm" on Wednesday. In fact, as the disaster developed, the overall warning system seemed to work better in Louisville than in most places.

THE FIRST radar sighting of what proved to be a tornado came at about 2:45 p.m. Wednesday, when the screen showed a thunderstorm formation with a "fishhook" shape near Palmyra, Ind. Perhaps two-thirds of such formations turn out to be tornadoes, according to Cook, but do not ordinarily prompt a tornado warning unless associated with other signs of a twister. In the Palmyra case, the Weather Service issued a severe-thunderstorm warning. As it turned out, the fishhook reflected the tornado that skipped over Southern Indiana, visiting death and desolation on Borden, Madison, and other communities.

Then came another radar fishhook, spotted near Irvington, Ky, and headed toward Brandenburg, the tornado confirmed this time by a state trooper, who called the station. A tornado warning was

issued at 3:55 p.m.

This was 15 minutes before the twister hit Brandenburg, but that does not mean that Brandenburg had 15 minutes' warning. Such warnings are sent over a Weather Service teletype system, called the Emergency Broadcast System (the information sent over EBS comprises what is known as the Emergency Action Notification Signal). EBS is available to radio and TV stations and newspapers for \$50 a month, but neither the radio station nor newspaper in Brandenburg subscribed.

Station WMMG in Brandenburg was served by United Press International, which subscribes to and sends out bulletins from EBS. But a UPI spokesman in Louisville said the 3:55 tornado warning wasn't sent out from Louisville because it came at a time when the news service, operating on a rigid teletype schedule.

was transmitting national rather than local news. Unless they were listening to a Louisville radio station that carried the warning, people in Brandenburg had practically no warning. The tornado struck at 4:10, levelled more than half the town, killed at least 29 of the town's 1,500 people and loff an uncounted number of injured.

Because the Brandenburg ternado seemed headed for Louisville, the warning was relayed by EBS through station WHAS at 3:55 p.m. At 4:18, a red telephone in the Weather Service office was used to activate the Louisville area's Civil Defense sirens. People began to take cover,

THE TORNADO that hit Brandenburg dissipated before reaching Louisville, but it served to put the city on alert. At 4:37 p.m. another tornado formed at Standiford Field, before the eyes of meteoroloist John Burke, who was scanning the sky while talking to a newscaster from WHAS. "My God," Burke yelled suddenly, "it's right here. I've got to go..."

And the tornado of April 3, 1974, began its grisly dance across the city of Louisville.

The work of local radio and TV stations in the moments immediately before the storm is generally credited with alerting most of those who took cover. Unfortunately, the tornado struck as many city workers were driving home, and some local radio stations with wide car-radio audiences failed to go "wall-to-wall," — that is, give constant coverage — breaking in on the record-playing with only occasional warnings.

The moments immediately before and after the tornado struck served to show the important role radio plays in such disasters. However, WHAS's Dorsey says, "We feel that TV was the exciting part." There was some exciting TV coverage; WLKY-TV's meteorologist Carl Nichols, a cameraman, and director stayed on the air while the rest of the staff headed for the basement. At 4:40 p.m., Nichols reported he could see the tornado. Five minutes later he was still on the air as the storm passed overhead, then WLKY went black.

One trouble is that the stations depend on electricity; when power goes, they are off the air. Fortunately, nearly all local stations managed to stay on the air. WAVE did not lose power, though it had some shaky moments. WHAS lost power when its transmitter at Eastwood, 26 miles away, was hit by the storm, but was able to switch to auxiliary generator power.

THE CIVIL DEFENSE siren system has no such auxiliary back-up, and none of its 38 sirens (16 in the city, 22 in the county) is any good if it loses power supply. But, says Elden E. DuRand, acting director of the city-county Clvil Defense office, "Nobody has come up with anything better. We just don't have enough sirens."

DuRand admits that practically all of the 38 sirens have misfired once or twice. The system is more than 20 years old, and \$28,000 was spent last year to revamp it. But in emergencies, the potentially short life of the two-note sirens is a disadvantage, and the cost of self-starting generators that would power the sirens in case power fails would run between \$7,000 and \$8,000, money which the CD office doesn't have.

With its existing handicaps, officials of the local CD office feel that the organization generally did a good job. One question that arose in the wake of the storm, however, has not been completely resolved: How well would the schools react if such a storm hit during school hours?

There is no firm answer. City schools depend on EBS, successor to the old Conelrad warning system that dates from the 1950s. In the principal's office of each school is a receiving set with a green

light constantly showing. It relays wea-

County schools have no such system, having dropped their old Conelrad warning system about five years ago. Now, in case of an emergency, says Mrs. Rose Abell, administrative assistant to County School Superintendent Richard Van-Hoose, the Weather Service notifies Van-Hoose's office immediately. Van-Hoose then calls his five associate superintendents, who call their captains, who then call the principals of schools previously assigned to them.

How well would this have worked had Wednesday's storm hit at 1:30, when schools were full, instead of three hours later, when most children were at home? "Usually we get a warning before the siren on top of our building goes off," says Mrs. Abell. But the sirens did not sound until almost 4:20 p.m.; the tornado touched down at 4:37, and within two minutes had battered Audubon Elementary School (the three schools hardest hit by the storm, Dunn, Chenoweth and Audubon, are in the county). As one county school employe admitted, "We probably couldn't have saved Audubon."

HOWEVER EFFICIENT—or deficient—the local warning system proved to be Wednesday, the storm showed that improvements are needed on many levels. In a press conference here Friday, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration chief Robert M. White said his agency wants to replace 66 obsolete local warning systems, including Louisville's. Indiana Senator Vance Hartke, who attended the conference, vowed to fight for a \$16 million budget increase asked by the agency to make the improvements, which would include automated equipment to help weathermen keep up with fast-changing information.

The storm also indicated many failings at the individual level. As one local official noted, "Every boat owner knows that the three things you need in case of emergency are a transistor radio, a flashlight and a first-aid kit. And very few people had them."

People also showed a tendency to relax after the first storm was over, wandering around the streets to view the storm damage, even as local radio stations were broadcasting warnings that a second tornado was approaching.

The future:

How science is reacting in the fight

ONCE a tornado strikes, there is little that humans can do about it except to huddle in the basement and hope the house is strong enough to withstand the, beating. So the question naturally arises: Isn't anything being done to prevent such storms or lessen their savage power? The answer seems to be: Not much.

The only hope lies in the futuristic science of weather modification. Unfortunately, say officials of the government's National Severe Storms Laboratory (NSSL) in Norman, Okla., taming a tornado is a dream still far in the future.

"There is really no art for this," says

See TORNADO

PAGE 4, Col. 1, this section

1

Continued From Page 1

Dr. Edwin Kessler, NSSL director. "We've just got an enormous, long way to go."

The basic dilemma, says Kessler, is that scientists still don't understand the mechanism of the tornado — why some thunders to rms produce tornadoes while others don't. And there's the problem of coming up with some weapon powerful enough to counteract one of natures mightiest forces. "The energies involved in a storm are enormous, relative to anything we can deliver," says Kessler.

ONE theoretical possibility would be to cool the warm surface air, which is essential to the formation of thunderstorms and tornadoes. As Kessler explains, "If you cool the surface air, the lower 5,000 feet of the storm structure, by 5 degrees, that would turn off almost any tornado." But, he adds, that would take energy on the order of that put out by the sun and "that's not practical."

crystals to precipitate the formation of raindrops. This technique, he declares, will also control tornadoes.

Krick's system involves a series of ground stations 30 to 40 miles apart, each of which has a powerful electrical transformer that passes electricity in an arc over silver iodide and thus generates trillions of silver iodide particles an hour. These particles are picked up by wind currents of an approaching storm and carried into the storm clouds, where they help produce rainfall over wide bands rather than intense storms in one locale. The action of the particles on the water content of the clouds, he said, "enables us to release the energy laterally instead of vertically."

OFFICIALS at the NSSL, however, are skeptical of Krick's claim. Krick claims to have protected thousands of acres in Oklahoma, but this, too, is doubted at NSSL. "I don't think his statement would be supported by the scientific community," says Kessler. "It's not supported by me. There is no theoretical basis and there's no evidence that seeding is accompanied by the absence of tornadoes."

"Until we know more about what produces a tornado," says Lee, "it's impossible to produce a theory that says seeding at a particular time will do something or won't do it."

Currently, says NSSL research meteorologist J.T. Lee, the laboratory is working in three areas of tornado research direct observation, computer models, and creation of small twisters in the lab. But he agrees with Kessler that actual tornado control is "way down the line."

"After we know what produces a tornado, we may find how to mitigate the undesirable aspects while keeping the beneficial," says Lec. "We want to mitigate the rotational aspects but not deplete the rain. Right now, we feel that the knowledge is not at hand."

But Dr. Irving P. Krick, president of Water Resources Development Corp. of Palm Springs, Calif. says he has not only the kowledge but an operational system for fighting tornadoes. Dr. Krick, who worked on the successful weather forecast for the Normandy invasion of World War II, has had a long career in weather modification, including an operation involving seeding clouds with silver iodide The government has been experimenting for years with seeding as a means of taming hurricanes, and on at least one occasion, Navy hurricane-hunter planes claimed to have "blown the side out of" a hurricane that, Navy officers said, never reached land. But, says Lec, "the results are far from conclusive, One problem, he noted, is that Atlantic storms are often too close to populated areas to allow seeding because of the uncertain effects; it might divert a hurricane ashore, or cause torrential rains on a city. Accordingly, he says, the research is being moved to the Pacific.

FOR THE PRESENT, the NSSL is concentrating on improving methods of identifying and forecasting tornadoes in order to give the public better warning.

"We are not sure of the success we have had in fighting hurricanes," admits Forecast Center chief Pearson. "And we don't have any real plans for fighting tornadoes. They're almost impossible to fight. A tornado forms, lives and dies within an hour. We would have to bave a fleet of jet planes, ready to fire silver iodide rockets, or a battery of artillery

ready to fire shells into the tornado to have any hope of dissipating it.

"And, like any weather-control effort, this has legal ramifications. What if you fired rockets into a twister south of Louisville and it skipped over and devastated Indiana? Who would be legally responsible?

"We do have one weapon," he adds, "now in the development stage, that would help, and this is the Doppler radar, which measures the velocity of the wind within a storm." (He explains that it does this by recording the intensity of the radar return, which indicates the nature of the target storm mass.)

"The tornado which occurred Wednesday passed near a Doppler radarequipped station at Decatur, Ill., and station officials report that they were able to calculate the wind velocity with considerable accuracy. But to install a Doppler radar system would cost in the hundreds of millions. A system to serve only the major cities would cost over \$100 million."

And this, Pearson warns, is just to detect storms, not to fight them. "I know of no progress being made to fight tornadoes," he says. "We can't get into the things. You can fly into the eye of a hurricane. You can't fly into the eye of a tornado. At least, if you fly in, you don't fly out."

The best bet, it would seem, would be for those hit by the tornadoes of April 3 to hope that it doesn't happen again, and, to be on the safe side, to keep a flashlight, transistor radio and first-aid kit handy. And to head for the basement at the first warning and stay there until someone in authority says the danger has passed. Even so, should there be another. it is likely that in the aftermath we will once more see a dazed woman sitting amid the rubble of what was once her home, clutching a key for which there is no door, or hear another respond plaintively to words of sympathy by saying, But my home is gone."

April 7, 1974



Xenia, Ohio, where at least 30 persons were killed and scores injured in Wednesday's tornado.



lower left.

Despite widespread destruction, cleanup progress is 'remarkable'

By EDWARD BENNETT Louisville Times Staff Writer

The Kentucky National Guard began scaling down, its troop strength in the tornado-devastated areas of the city and county today following what one official called "remarkable" progress by both governmental crews and citizen volunteers in clearing major roads and hard-hit neighborhoods during the weekend.

But both city and county officials predicted that the tight security and nighttime curfew in damaged areas would remain in effect, at least through Wednesday in the city and perhaps through the weekend in the county.

Also, local officials said they probably will ask that some National Guard troops be left here beyond the tentative Wednesday withdrawal date set by Guard officials. Elden DuRand, acting director of the city-county Civil Defense agency, said today that weekend progress by city and county crews and thousands of volunteers was "just remarkable" in getting major roads and badly damaged areas cleared up.

"They're getting into the back streets now, opening them up to where LG&E (Louisville Gas & Electric Co.) can get in." he said LG&E reported that about 3,500 customers still are without electricity, and that the majority of those should have service restored by the end of the week.

Because of the improvements and restoration of power, Kentucky National Guard officials cut back their troop strength in the areas. The Guard had

> See STORM Back page, col. I, this section

Already, he said, Ford has arranged for part of the state's emergency fuel allocation to be sent to Brandenburg, where 30 persons are known to have died in one of the tornadoes.

Locally, police officials said restrictions on traffic and access would remain about the same as they were over the weekend, although they intended to ease up some during daylight on the prohibition of travel through damaged areas.

Several major city streets remained closed today, but Louisville police Maj. Edgar Paul, stationed at the police command post at Lexington Road and Grinstead Drive, said there was a possibility some roads would be reopened tomorrow.

City Hall officials said road reopenings now depend almost entirely on the progress LG&E makes in completing its work on downed electrical lings

Continued From Page One

been operating two shifts of 350 men each.

But state Adjutant Gen. Richard Frymire said that was being reduced to a 150man force to work a 6 p.m.-to-6 a.m. shift as of today.

As the power company and governmental agencies have restored services, "people have come back (to their homes) and we're able to pull back on our perimeter and scale down," he said. Frymire said tentative plans were to

Frymire said tentative plans were to withdraw all troops as of Wednesday, but said this was subject to reevaluation depending on local needs.

Both county Police Chief Russell McDaniel and Louisville officials said they probably would request that some troops be left here past Wednesday, with McDaniel saying he probably would ask for 50 men to stay through the weekend

Both the city and county assigned additional policemen to the affected areas today to beef up the patrolling force.

 McDaniel said access to the damaged areas would remain restricted and the 8 p.m.-to-6 a.m. curfew in the neighborboods would remain in effect through the weekend.

A City Hall spokesman said the same would be true in city areas at least through Wednesday and possibly longer.

Previously announced plans by the city and county to provide debris-removal services bit an apparent snag today.

While city officials continued planning a bid-letting to contract for debris removal in certain neighborhoods, County Judge Todd Hollenbach met with federal officials to try to iron out questions about what sorts of activities the federal government would pay for.

ernment would pay for.

He said the federal officials have said that the county could be reimbursed only for so-called "lump sum" contracts with

private firms, under which the contractors would clear certain amounts of land for

But he said the "major, reputable" contractors in the county had indicated to him that they would not be interested in bidding on such a contract because they wouldn't be able to estimate the cost adequately. He said they favor contracts that would cover their actual costs for clearing property.

Hollenbach said federal officials have said they wouldn't reimburse the county for such contracts.

Thus, he said, he feared only "fly-bynight and jackleg" contractor would bid on lump-sum projects.

Hollenbach said he has not authorized the county to enter into any contracts with private firms for debris removal and that earlier statements by other county officials that the county would provide such privately contracted work were unauthorized.

On the front of the aid to victims, the two federal disaster assistance centers set up locally were doing a heavy business early today after getting off to a slow start during the weekend.

The centers are at the Bellarmine College gymnasium, 2000 Norris Place, and at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, 330 N. Hubbards Lane, and are open from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily.

The two centers reported that 1,300 to 1,400 people visited them during the weekend, a relatively small figure that had federal officials somewhat concerned.

However, people were waiting in line at both centers when their doors opened today and business was brisk.

"People are becoming aware of the center and that assistance is available here," said Ernest Ford, manager of the Bellar-

Several federal, state and local governmental agencies, as well as service organizations, have representatives at the centers offering a wide range of help. The services include immediate provision of food stamps and temporary housing, information on low-interest home and business loans, tax help, legal advice and counseling.

A spokesman for the Federal Disaster Assistance Administration (FDAA) today urged people not to call the centers for information or help, but rather to use a toll-free number set up specifically for informational purposes.

The centers themselves cannot provide any help by phone and calling them only hinders their operations, he said. Victims must come personally to the centers for aid, he said.

The FDAA's informational number is 800 292-6586.

Even as the relief and cleanup efforts picked up steam, tragedy again struck. A 16-veri-old girl died of apparent carbon-monoxide poisoning from a private electric generator being used to power a refrigerator and a freezer.

Theresa M. Smith was found dead in her bed about 10:30 a.m. yesterday at her home at 2144 Baringer Ave. in the Cherokee Road area of the Highlands. (Story on Page 86.)

Jefferson County officials subsequently issued a warning concerning the use of gasoline-operated generators, saying they must be properly grounded and vented and suggesting that qualified electricians should be called to check all generators.

Gov. Wendell H. Ford's press secretary, Thomas L. Preston, said yesterday that energy shortages could pose a new problem for statewide recovery efforts, causing a lack of gasoline and diesel fuel. However, he said, "We have received

However, he said, "We have received verbal assurance from the Federal Energy Office that additional gasoline and diesel fuel will be available for the cleanup operations."

528 were severely damaged and 752 were slightly damaged, survey shows

4- 8-78 By JERRY HICKS

Legisville Times Staff Writer

At least 360 homes in Jefferson County were destroyed by last Wednesday's tornadoes, according to a house-to-house survey conducted by the Louisville-area chapter of the American Red Cross,

The survey shows that an additional 528 homes had major damage and another 752 had slight damage.

William Crabdree, disaster chairman for the Red Cross, said the survey could have missed some streets.

"We think we were pretty close, though," he said.

Several streets with considerable damage were not included in the survey lists given to The Times today. But Lewis Bondurant, information director for the Red Cross chapter, thinks these streets are included in the totals. Some volunteers who conducted the survey may have inadvertently kept their sheets after the figures were compiled, Bondurant said.

The Red Cross does not have a monetary assessment of damage to private property.

But Crabdree said losses would average about \$60,000 for each house destroyed. He said insurance figures show houses destroyed or heavily damaged ranging in value from \$20,000 to \$120,000.

The Red Cross is sending a team of building inspectors into stricken areas today to begin a monetary assessment of losses. Bondurant said that in about two days the Red Cross should have "a pretty good idea just how much damage was done" in the county.

The Red Cross total of 888 homes either destroyed or with major damage is close to the estimate of 914 made last

Friday by James T. Lynn, secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development,

John Coleman, information director for the Federal Disaster Assistance Administration (FDAA), said Lynn's figures were a "windshield estimate" made before any accurate figures could be compiled.

"I'm sure the Red Cross figures are the more accurate," Coleman said.

The Red Cross will send its survey data to the FDAA, Bondurant said.

The survey was conducted last week by 75 volunteers. The volunteers were instructed only to list houses as alightly damaged, with major damage or destroyed. In most cases, estimates of the homes' conditions were based on inter-

views with residents or neighbors, according to Crabdree.

"There were some cases, though, where our volunteers were the only people around, except maybe utility linemen or people cleaning up debris," he said. "In those cases, our volunteers just had to give their own estimate of damage."

Coleman said 255 persons had applied for housing assistance. This would mean their houses were destroyed or damaged to the point of being uninhabitable.

Under provisions of the Federal Disaster Assistance Act, these people could get rent-free housing from the government for up to one year.



'A little rest kills you,' LG&E cable crewman says

By MARTIN E. BIEMER Louisville Times Staff Writer

"I'd say the tiredest you get is the last four or five hours before you go home," said Joe (Juney) Meffert. "The time just crawls.

Meffert is a Louisville Gas & Electric Co. foreman. He and his crew and many men like them have been working 36-hour "days" since the tornado struck Louisville Wednesday.

These days - 36 straight hours of work - have been relieved by 12-hour "nights" every other night, and there's no telling when the schedule might ease up.

"After you're so tired, you just forget about it. Your momentum keeps you going," Meffert said. "But once you get a little rest, it kills you."

("Would you believe I went to sleep with a steak and a beer sitting on the table right in front of me?" asked another

LG&E crews work around the clock to "get those meters turning" as costs soar. Page B18. Other storm-related stories on pages B2, B3 and B6.

foreman. Bud Sch. fenberger. "My wife had to wake me back up to eat.")

Meffert's crew - six linemen, a driver and the foreman - was stringing wire at U.S. 42 and Lime Kiln Lane yesterday afternoon.

They were working with a reel of cable that had been set as de for junk. Because of the emergency, the "junk" became a temporary high-voltage line to carry electricity to the area around hard-hit 6thclass city of North ield.

No one ever thought the cable would be used again, so it wasn't wound care-fully. At times, it looked like a snar! on a gigantic fishing reel. Meffert's grunted and groaned, but didn't swear

very much, as they tugged and pulled and pried at the snarl

The cable is made of strands of aluminum wire wrapped around a core of a single strand of steel wire, which pro-vides strength. It wasn't strong enough, however, to resist winds that broke poles at their bases and left electric lines lying

along the ground like discarded toys.

Meffert's men wrestled the cable off the reel and guided it around and around two large drums, which act as a brake.

From the drums the cable rose up to a new pole, where two linemen guided it through a pulley.

"They've got it made up there," Mef-rt joked. "They're just leaning back fert joked.

and resting."
Slowly, the cable was Slowly, the cable was being pulled through that pulley, and the pulley on the next pole, and the next. Somewhere along the line of poles, the cable was attached to a rope. And 2,000 feet away, on the east side of Interstate 71, Scharfenberger's men were reeling in the rope.

Meffert used a portable two-way radio

to keep in close touch with Scharfenberger's crew, letting them know when to pull and when to stop.

At Scharfenberger's end, the rope came through the pulley on the last pole, guided by two more linemen. Then it came down through the trees and through the hands of George Merriweather, who guided it around a small powered reel on the side of a line truck. rope made four or five turns around the reel, then went over to a trailer with two large reels.

Linemen Earl Harbin and Woody Hutchens were turning the large reels by hand, winding up the used rope.

"Tell the people LG&E has got us working with 1915 equipment," Harbin joked. "No, don't tell them that," he added. "I might lose my job.

(The real story, Scharfenberger said, is that LG&E is using all of its equipment - some of it not quite suited to the job

See REST

Page B2, col. 1

Work

'Rest kills you,' LG&E crewman says

Continued from Page B1

at hand. "We're doing this the old way," he said. "You ought to see the new way.")

Harbin and Hutchens were somewhat giddily. Hutchens said he'd decided to let his whiskers, which he hadn't shaved since the storm, grow into a fullfledged beard. Harbin expressed reservations about the effect on Hutchens' face.

How did they feel about working 36 hours at a stretch, with only 12 hours' rest in between?

"The first 36 were the worst," Hutchens said. "Then it got a little easier. You just get used to it."

"After a while, you get like zombies," Harbin added.

As for food: the men seem rather well supplied LG&E, the Red Cross, the Salva-Army and other volunteers have been bringing meals and snacks, they

"As long as they keep bringing the

food," said lineman Marvin Clements, 'T'll keep working.'

H. C. Stevens, "the dynamite man," was kept busy the first few days after the storm blasting holes in bedrock to set new poles.

In the valley between Indian Hills and Indian Hills-Cherokee Section, where the storm knocked over a tall steel tower that held up one of LG&E's main high-voltage power lines, Stevens had to set off dozens of explosions to make holes for two poles that will be temporary replacements for the tower.

"They got all sorts of calls from people who thought they were (natural) gas explosions," Stevens said, "It was just me."

(B. Hudson Milner, president of LG&E. said it is almost amazing that there have been no natural-gas explosions around the wrecked houses. "We have been very fortunate that nobody has lit a match,

berger's crews could be repeated time and again; LG&E officials say their men have done a tremendous job in responding to the worst disaster the company has ever suffered.

"They're working their tails off," said Douglas Blakeman, senior supervisor for overhead construction.

The main goal, he said, is to restore the high-voltage lines so that power can be supplied to the areas where the lower-voltage lines are intact.

How long will the 36-hour days contin-

"Hopefully we can do this for a reasonable length of time, and get the main circuits restored," Blakeman said. "Then we can reduce the work schedule.

But Blakeman said be doesn't expect a return to a schedule of eight hours a day, five days a week for quite some time.

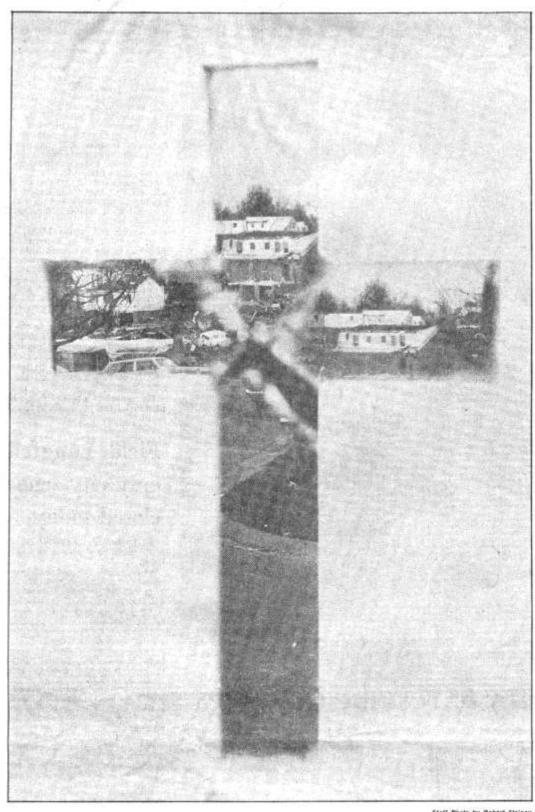
The men seem prepared for the long

We're pacing ourselves," said Meffert e said.)

"You have to pace yourself. You'll kill
The story of Meffert's and Scharfen-yourself if you don't."

The Courier Journal:

LOUISVILLE, MONDAY MORNING, APRIL 8, 1974 Copyright © 1974, The Courier-Journal



PALM SUNDAY, 1974, was a day for the members of Louisville's Second Presbyterian Church to reflect on their deliverance from the fury of last

Wednesday's tornado, as a window of the church's door, cracked by wind-driven debris, reflected the storm-shattered homes of Rolling Fields.

ne week later.

4-10-74

By BECKY HOMAN

Henry Bright pulled the nails out of boards with quick, angry motions of his hammer.

He and a few coworkers are salvaging lumber from a brand new home that they recently put together in the 6th-class city of Northfield and that a tornado tore

apart a week ago today.
"I just wish I hadn't put so many nails in to begin with." he said, and then mus-

tered a grin.

Others in this and a half-dozen neigh-borhoods ravaged by the storm are still recovering what items they can this week and, like Bright, are doing it with a sense of humor and strong doses of pride.

Take Ramon Diaz. On a piece of plywood that covers one of his smashed win-dows at 18 Glenwood Road is rough lettering in black spray paint. It reads, "COM'G BACK."

Elsewhere in the shattered sections of eastern Jefferson County are flags propped up on the hulks of demolished eastern Jefferson homes. A sign that says simply, "We Be-lieve," is flanked by two American banone Confederate flag and pom pons that probably cheered a high school team to victory.

Closer into town the torn neighborhoods seem a bit more somber, but prideful

Kate Clarke and a neighbor talked yes-terday about a "communal Derby-eve

party" that would be in the house of a Crescent Hill neighbor who knew few around him before the storm. And they said that as soon as debris is removed from their Crescent Court area, new trees would be planted by a group of residents.

Indeed, lost trees are being mourned as much as lost housing by residents of the older areas Many say they moved to the Highlands, Crescent Hill or Audubon Park precisely because of the lovely old

A few indicated yesterday that they may move since yards have been stripped

bare of greenery.
What shape the neighborhoods will take in the months to follow is still specu-

Many of the suburban residents, especially young families, say they want to rebuild on their lots. Others, like Walter and Betty Jobson of 2300 Newmarket Drive, are unsure. They hadn't updated the insurance on their 15-year-old house and Johson says, "Moneywise it'll prob-ably be cheaper to sell the lot and start somewhere else." Perhaps in a much smaller bome, adds Mrs. Jobson, now that their three sons are grown and away from

In Crescent Hill one young woman said she's fiercely determined to stay. But she worries about other properties along her

One badly damaged apartment building

already sports a "For Sale" sign. "It seems to me a big developer could buy several of those lots, and build one big ugly apartment complex. . . . How could How could we begin to fight the zoning for such a

Says Dinz of his neighborhood, the 8th-class city of Glenview Manor, "It would mean a lot if the same ones returned. It's very doubtful that it will be quite the samé again."

Landscapes of the affected areas remain littered and brutally stark. The bare scenes are broken here and there by utility workmen, held aloft by giant metal arms bent slightly at the joints. Other elements also make things look

Bits of carpeting and drapes hang in trees and flan in the wind. Yesterday two young men in a mud-splattered sports car gingerly transported a damaged canoe along an empty suburban street. Houses in Northfield bear their owners' names and street numbers in heavy black letter-ing: "36 Adams," "Vogel 29," "8 Taylor,"

If you stand for long in the Jobsons' yard, bits of wooly fiberglass insulating material begin to sting your eyes and the weet smell of pine sap rises from a twisted tree to greet your nose.

Says Jobson, who's been back to sift through the rubble each day since the storm, "That insulation. Our clothes are full of it. Things get mighty itchy

UDUBON PARK

BY KELLY COCANOUGHER Lauisville Times Staff Writer

Stacks of tree limbs, not the blossoming dogwoods, are the dominant scene in Audubon Park this week. Chain saws, not hirds, are the dominant sound.

Surely but slowly, the old residential city in southeast Louisville is recovering from last Wednesday's tornado, a storm that proved mightier than the oak. Pin oaks were the chief victims among the trees strewn across yards and streets.

Yard cleanup has progressed visibly. Street cleanup awaits a federal inspection required for U. S. aid.

The inspection may be made this weekend, with the cleanup to follow, said M.

Brooks Senn, chairman of the 6th-class city's Board of Trustees. Some 200 Boy Scouts, he said, are to be

in the city this weekend, cleaning off some open areas and yards of some of the older residents of the city, which is east of Preston Highway and north of the Watterson Expressway.

Because of the tornado damage, the Audubon Garden Club has canceled its annual Festival of the Dogwood, sched-uled for April 26 and 27, and has set aside funds for the restoration of trees.

Workmen are marking split trees that may be hazardous by tying cloths around the trunks. Some will be cut later, Senn said.

Downed trees, especially the big oaks that were torn out by the roots, con-

stituted most of the damage. Very few

In North Audubon an adjoining residential area, damage was moderate to homes and heavy to trees. There, recovery has been slower

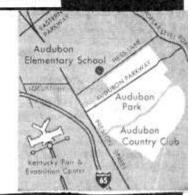
Power in both areas has been substantially restored.

Across Preston Highway, at the Kentucky Fair & Exposition Center, recovery also is making good progress. It is now expected that Freedom Hall and a por-tion of the East Wing will be in use again next week. The roofs of both were extensively damaged.

Many wrecked recreation vehicles here for a show - have been removed. The destroyed horse barns are still the most highly visible evidence of the tornado there. Eight of the 10 still are dumped flat on the ground, just as they were after the big wind struck. They await insurance adjusters and inspectors, and may be cleared next week, said George P. Meagher, director of the exposition division.

Fairgrounds officials still have made no estimate on damage other than to say it is in the millions of dollars.

At George Rogers Clark Park, just east of Audubon, downed trees lie where they fell, with splintered stumps seemingly standing as monuments to the destruction.



CRESCENT HILL



By JERRY HICKS Louisville Times Staff Writer

Betty Taylor waved at the neighbor hood around her home in Crescent Hill, lawns strewn with debris and piles of tree stumps and limbs, houses battered and wrecked.

"Why, this is clean," she grinned.

But she was comparing it yesterday with the Crescent Hill of a week ago, just after the twister made a shambles of much of the scenic, tree-studded neighborhood.

For 24 hours after the tornado struck, it was impossible to travel many of the streets in Louisville's Crescent Hill neighborhood because of felled trees and debris from damaged homes.

But now the streets are clear, due to long hours of chain-sawing and hauling by city workers and the residents them-

Hundreds of piles of tree limbs remain in front yards, waiting for trucks to haul them off. But now the area has some sem-blance of order. Many damaged homes show signs of the beginnings of repair work. Most of the cars destroyed have been hauled away.

Still, sections of Crescent Hill look little better now than a week ago, mainly because the residents have abandoned their destroyed homes for other shelter, and have been spending their time seeking assistance from various governmental and private agencies

For Ralph and Betty Taylor and their four children, who live at 210 Pleasantview Ave., yesterday was an eventful day, Their power was restored. Now they are awaiting telephone service.

The Taylor home, a two-story house on the crest of a hill, was not as badly damaged as many. But Mrs. Taylor and her children have worked all week trying to clean up.

"It's just a mess, but we've got a lot done in just a week," Mrs. Taylor said.
For many, the joy of living in Crescent

Hill rather than somewhere else was the

Karlene Bush, who works at the onestop disaster relief station at the St. Matthew's Episcopal Church on North Hubbards Lane, said many people from Cres-cent Hill applying for assistance lament the loss of the trees as much as the damage to their homes.

"Some have said they don't really care to live there any more, because they don't think it will be the same without all those beautiful trees," she added.

But there are some, such as Bruce Pellham, of 323 Birchwood Ave., who have more on their mind than the trees.

The second floor of the Pellham house looks as if it had been caved in by a wrecking ball. Pellham fears that damage to the entire house is too extensive to be repaired, but building experts have told him the house is repairable.

"Many of the people along this block won't be able to do anything with their houses," Pellham said. "We were luckier than some.

Pellham, like many, still faces the deci-sion of just what to do about his house,

One spokesman said more than 300 persons a day have sought some kind of assistance at the Hubbards Lane one-stop center, about half coming from Crescent Hill, an older neighborhood defined

roughly by Lexington and Brownsboro roads and Clifton and Fenley avenues.

Vernon Blain, who is working at the center, believes mnay whose Hill homes were destroyed will not try to rebuild.

"Some we've talked to say they want to get away from the area and for-get the whole thing," Blain said. "They remember the night of the tornado too well."

Most of the center's patrons are applying for food stamps, Blain said.

"It's a little embarrassing for some, because these aren't the kind of people who would normally qualify for stamps," he said. "But I think most figure that this is what they pay taxes for, so they might as well make use of it when they do qualify.

THE HIGHLANDS

By DENNIS POLITE Louisville Times Stall Writer

Rita Buehner stood on the sidewalk in front of her house at 1835 Deerwood Ave., talking to a neighbor and a reporter esterday, when she remarked: "At least you can look up the street and not see trees (in the street) for as long as you look."

And, indeed, you could look up the street and see a path where cars and trucks could go. Or on the sidewalk where pedestrians could walk.

David M. Shouse stood on the lawn of his house at 2125 Eastern Parkway, which overlooks most of the neighborhood, and said, "It looks better today than it did yesterday."

The fallen trees and other debris had given way to roofers, cleanup men and other people.

A reporter who had toured the area right after last week's devastating tornado and again yesterday could see the difference all over.

Bardstown Road between Eastern Parkay and Bonnycastle Avenue had been littered with utility poles; yesterday they had yielded to workmen who had put new poles up and were stringing the lines that would bring power back to the area.

Stevens Avenue, which had taken on a

look of Berlin after World War II began to resemble its old self as a quiet residential street.

There was at times a strange quiet about the Highlands in some places yes-terday. The bustle of the Bonnycastle corner was gone, and most of the stores were closed.

You could hear a dog barking a block away, and the now familiar drone of the saws was punctuating the sentences of workmen.

But in less than a week after the area had taken it on the chin, it was washing its face, putting powder on its nose and beginning to smile again.

Mrs. Buchner's neighbor, Maria Pow

ley, said, "Thank goodness." Only moments before, power had been restored to her modest frame home and the roofers were beginning to repair its roof.

Even the mailman was early, the women noted. Signs of normality again.

Mrs. Buehner said there was more traffic on the quiet street, but that was due to the trucks carrying repair materials The mothers with their babies in strollers hadn't come back yet, she said.

rucks of all sorts were everywhere, with workmen clamoring over roofs, porches and houses.

On Alta Avenue, which had had trees standing every way but straight, all that

remained of that was stumps, and a few late leaners.

All over the area there were stacks of wood cut from the massive trees that fell over the neighborhood.

At Deerwood and Norris Place, the grocery store owner smiled and said things were coming back.

Behind all this, there were still the garages that lay in ruins behind some of the houses; some people had moved out of their houses - maybe never to return.

But there was sunshine in the temperature-chilled neighborhoods; women were seen again talking on the porches and men swept in front of their houses.



NDIAN HILLS

By ROB KASPER Leoisville Times Staff Writer

The angry funnel rearranged life for the residents of Rolling Fields and Indian

Now, a week later, they are trying to reconstruct some semblance of the way they were.

Daniel and Bunny Abbott, for example, who lost their eight-room house on Penmington Lane, said yesterday they will soon leave for their planned Florida vaca-

There won't be much we can do about our house," Abbott explained.

A family living nearby, whose home received severe damage, is already in Pforida, on vacation, Abbott said.

Dave French, who yesterday was wrapping his punctured home at 1909 Daleview Lane with plastic sheets, said he probably will go back to work next week.

And Pat Spencer, whose husband, Charles, was killed in the storm, pridefully told visitors yesterday of the recent accomplishments of her 20-month-old granddaughter.

For most of the victims of the twister, the past week is remembered as a vague conglomeration of hunts for sentimental treasures, moves and discussions with insurance agents.

"I'm looking for my engagement ring," Mrs. Abbott said yesterday, Before the wind whipped away her house, she had

taken her engagement and wedding rings off to do housework. She found the wedding ring and has been searching for the engagement ring each day for the past

The moves seemed to follow a pattern. Right after the tornado, victims stayed with relatives or in motels. A few days later, they rented apartments. And now, as they move into the apartments, they are pondering the question of where they will move next.

Insurance settlements haven't been completed for most residents. But nonetheless, the majority seem anxious to rebuild their homes.

"Oh, we'll stay here," said Joe Fadell,

surveying the damage inflicted on the dian Hills Trail.

"We've got two acres here. It's a paradise for us," he said.

R. B. Beale, a retired General Electric Co. executive and his wife, Margaret, said they had little hesitation deciding to build a \$75,000 house to replace the remnants of their home on 408 Club Lane.

"There was nothing else we wanted to do," Mrs. Beale said. "We don't want an apartment. We don't want a small house. And we have a swimming pool."

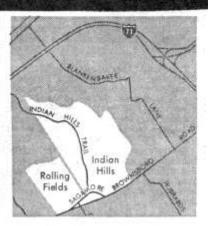
But the wife of another retired GE executive said she thought they might move to a neighborhood with more trees.

"We love trees," said Dorothy Biggs, family home and tennis court at 127 In- standing among the fallen timbers in her yard at 403 Rolling Lane. "And it is going to be pretty desolate for the next five years."

> Only one homeowner said he had received an offer to buy his lot and ruined house. He said he turned it down.

Lunchtime at a relief center in the Sec-Presbyterian Church, Brownsboro Road, has served as a gathering point and font of information on how to recover from a tornado.

One tornado victim, who preferred to remain unidentified, offered this warn-ing: "Don't get that scratchy fiberglass insulation on your clothes. . . It's really tough on your undies."



NORTHFIELD .



By FRANK FOX

Louisville Times Staff Writer

The sentiment is plainly expressed in large stenciled block letters in the city's bulletin box, just past the police blockade inside the city's main entrance off U.S. 42

The message: "NORTHFIELD WILL RISE AGAIN!"

It was posted yesterday, six days after a tornado ripped a path of destruction through the north-central section of the 6th-class city.

Northfield, a city of mostly \$50,000plus homes, was hit hard. According to an estimate by Phil S. Crutcher, city clerk, as many as 60 of the city's 246 homes were leveled. At least 15 more were damaged seriously enough to prompt occupants to move.

Crutcher thinks the philosophy will be to return, to rebuild. At least no one has indicated to the contrary, he said yesterday.

But amidst the rubble of his two-story brick home yesterday afternoon, Walter Jobson was still visibly stunned.

He and his wife, Elizabeth, lost nearly everything.

There's an even chance, he said, that they may be forced from the city and their home for the last 15 years.

"Our staying depends on the SBA (the Small Business Administration)", Jobson

"If I can get a loan, a small-interest

one, we'll stay, we'll rebuild the house," he said.

If not, Jobson theorizes that his homeowner's insurance coverage will amount to enough to pay off his mortgage. He'll sell the lot for what he can get and move, although he doesn't want to.

Fastened to what remains of the front section of Jobson's home is an American flag, one of several visible in the city.

Jobson said his children found the flag in the attic over the weekend and put it up.

While he spoke, Johson crumpled the only edition he recovered of a 40-year collection of "Johson's Journal," a pamphlet printed by his father. It was dated September 1915. He let the mild breeze blow it from his hand.

The realistic aspect of what occurred in Northfield is visible on an empty lot in the northwest section of the city overlooking the Watterson Expressway.

On it is a motor home serving as headquarters for a team of 10 insurance adjusters.

Ken Yeager, a district-claims manager from the firm's regional office in Memphis, Tenn., is coordinating his company's effort.

The motor home was set up last Saturday afternoon. Since then, according to Yeager, his company has paid out more than \$1 million in claims.

Yeager said the Northfield location was selected because the area has a heavy concentration of policyholders. Former residents couldn't be located yesterday. Virtually every person working in and around the devastated homes were repairmen, roofers, drywallers, carpenters, plumbers and electricians.

One construction worker, who asked not to be identified, looked out at what seemed to be hundreds of others engaged in similar tasks and said that at the current level of (construction) activity, "this place is goin' to resemble a livable place damn soon at this rate."

His observation seemed to get support from at least one person leaving the city yesterday afternoon.

Pasted on the car's rear windshield was the same stencil-lettered message: "NORTHFIELD WILL RISE AGAIN!"



STATE PARTY DV ABOUT SECTION

Help by the truckload for storm victims

Hippes for termsdo victims are being made brighter in an atmosphere dimmed for lack of electricity at the Securid Presbyterian Charch, 3791. Old Brownshore Roat. Mrs. George Wombwell, left, helped to ant the ratifing and household goods in the mammath collection at the church.

Donations still are needed because the Salvation Army is using part of the charch's collections to replenish its stock, which was depleted after the storm. Workers ask that anyone—not just tornacio critims—who needs clothing come to the church and choose what is needed.



PERMETE VARIA AVENUE, just north of Frankfurt Assess in Crescent Hill, burs the bosts of the stocks ("West, Each of the 26 norms pictured shaws were age of temple.



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... stories to tell your grandchildren

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A disaster often is a distant event written in the newspaper. But last week disaster came home. Stories and pictures are throughout this issue.

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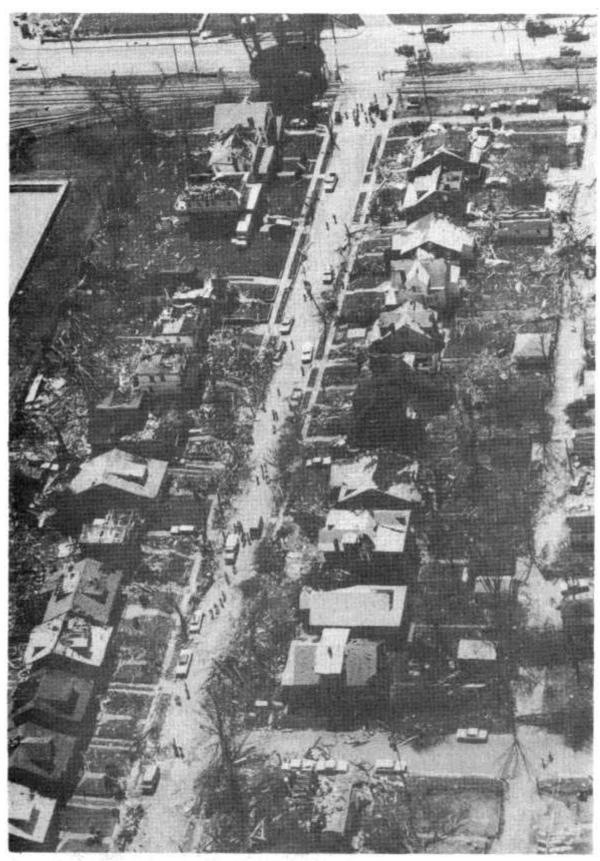
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April 11, 1974, *The Voice*—(See separate pages)



PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, just north of Frankfort Avenue in Crescent Hill, bore the brunt of the storm's wrath. Each of the 26 homes pictured shows some sign of tornado damage.

April 11, 1974, The Voice—(See separate pages)



AS THE TORNADO crashed through Crescent Hill, it was photographed from Thierman Lane in St. Matthews by amateur photographer James Harrod. The storm did not have a clearly-defined funnel at this point, but winds at the base of the cloud were estimated at over 200 miles an hour. Harrod took the picture from the second floor of his apartment at 162 Thierman Lane, looking west over the St. Matthews fire station.



IN ROLLING FIELDS, Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Adams Jr., trudge through debris surrounding the wreckage of their home at 402 Rolling Lane.

TORNADO

... stories to tell your grandchildren

A ferocious tornado dropped out of a grey and blustery Jefferson County sky last Wednesday at 4:30 pm and tore a path of near-total destruction across the East End from Cherokee Park to Glenview.

In the estimated 15 minutes it took to rip its way through some of the state's wealthiest residential sections, the storm left at least 360 families homeless, another 1,300 homes damaged, four schools in shambles, five persons dead and dozens injured.

It was the county's worst disaster since an 1890 tornado killed over 100. Many residents are still without electricity and telephone service — eight days later.

Churning with winds estimated at from 200 to 300 miles an hour, the tornado moved at a speed of about 50 miles an hour northeast from Standiford Field across Bardstown Road, through Cherokee Park, Crescent Hill, Rolling Fields, Indian Hills, Northfield

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ughout this issue.

and Glenview Heights before it lifted off to the east.

This week it looked as if huge sections of Cherokee Park and Crescent Hill had been chopped to their knees.

Mark Thompson, a UL College student and photographer for The Voice-Jeffersonian, was at home on 2749 Cliffwood, just off Grinstead Drive when the tornado arrived.

"Lady, our dog had been frantic for about an hour before it happened," he remembered, He had been listening to WLRS radio all afternoon, but had heard no warnings.

At about 4:30 he was about to start out on his paper route when he saw the cloud, He called his brother Alan to come out and look at it, ran upstairs for a camera, but never had a chance to take any pictures.

"As I was going back into the living room, the wind hurled a sofa across the room, We heard windows breaking, so we hit the floor and covered our heads with our hands,

"Then there was a calm period, We made it to the basement and huddled in a corner, I thought the whole house would fall in on us when I heard the foundation shift and saw soot falling, I heard a tree fall on the kitchen and heard others whip around the house as they gouged the weather boards and armashed windows;

After the storm passed, they ran upstairs and saw "what we really couldn't believe. The whole concept of the neighborhood had vanished. Homes that used to rest in a grove of trees were in shambles and the trees were flattened. "The girl across the street was screaming in horror and two thors away a family of four was climbing out of their roof because their house

was lying on its side,"

Among the many persons in Louisville who heard and heeded the tornado warnings early Wednesdayafternoon was Jack Ammerman, director of the Crescent Hill Children's Center at 2822 Frankfort Ave.

As a result, the 25 or so children had been in a basement play area of St. Mark's Episcopal Church for over an hour when the lights went out and the tornado blew over.

"It blew out the (small, ceilar-type) windows in the basement and our ears popped from the pressure," said a harried Ammerman shortly after the storm. He had watched its approach as he listened to a radio in a first floor room of the church center.

"When I first spotted it, I got all the adults downstairs and it seemed we were there for about two minutes before it actually hit," The teachers and about 25 children huddled in the center of the room and were unhurt, As soon as it was safe, all moved upstairs to the dining room and a light supper was being served by candlelight until worried parents could collect their children.

Immediately outside a tree had blown over crushing the second floor of Roy White's house at 110 1/2 Kennedy Court

White's frame home does not have a basement, so when he heard "things breaking" he ran from the second story closet where he was changing clothes, grabbed their baby daughter and ran downstairs to lie flat in the livingroom. He lay there for about five minutes until he felt it was safe to move.

As White was dashing downstairs, their cat fied the doomed tree and made it indoors safely.

Further west on Frankfort, on the fringe of the tornado's path, Earl Thompson was already sweeping up glass from his antique store windows, assisted by David Freedlander, about half an hour after the tornado struck, "I heard an eerie, high-pitched sound and went right for the basement," Thompson said. "I then went up to close the front door, but the wind came up and I ran back to the basement.

In Crescent Hill, the storm hithardest on Pennsylvania Avenue, opposity the Louisville Water Company. Mrs. Charles Hess and her husband

I think that open door saved my store,"

Mrs. Charles Hess and her husband live at 123 Pennsylvania and today they believe in miracles.

When the tornado came, they barely had time to make it to the basement steps, Mrs. Hess recalled:

"I was afraid we weren't going to live through it. My husband fell on top of me, I remember hearing the roar of the noise, the sounds of the twisting metal and flying glass. I wasn't worried about losing my house. I just kept saying, 'God save us, God save us,' "

Windows in all 12 rooms were broken; crippled trees filled the back yard and landed on the two Hess cars, Several inches of broken possessions and glass covered the floors, A two-by-six-inch beam was driven through a concrete

But a family heirloom dish, made in 1784 and handed down from generation to generation was still intact. So were some precious vases.

And the Hess spirit lives. They will

Continued to Page 6

r PAGE 4. THE VOICE-JEFFERSONIAN, THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 1974

the opinion page

The Voice-Jeffersonian

109 Chenoweth Lane, St. Matthews, Ky. 40207

Bruce B. VanDusen, Editor & Publisher

John D. Chalek, Jr., Gen. Manager

EDITORIAL

Our unheard warning system

Those of us who listen to the radio much know that the broadcasters have a very slick system for warning us of rockets from Russia. They used to call it "Conelrad" and now call it the Emergency Broadcast System (EBS) and they regularly interrupt their duller programs during the week to tell us how it will work.

In the umpteen years they've had the system functioning, we've yet to see our first Russian rocket. But we've had a hundred or more tornados and after every one there's a hot debate over whether the warning was adequate or not.

The moral of this is clear; our Department of State, and Air Force, which have kept us at peace with Russia, should replace the National Weather Service and take control of domestic radio broadcasting. The result would be a cadre of well-mannered, pin-striped pilots who would predict nothing but gloomy weather.

Which, for all its fantasy, would be a distinct improvement over the warning system we had last week. The miracle of the April 3 tornado is that so many escaped death and injury without having been warned by anything but the wind itself. And had we not been sensitized by the Campbellsburg tornado of the previous week, the results

There were warnings. Some people, like the director of the Crescent Hill Children's Cen-

might have been much worse.

ter, had his radio tuned to a station which carried a warning. He moved his day care charges into the basement of St. Mark's Episcopal Church in plenty of time. But most of us were neither so lucky nor so conscientious.

Most of us don't listen to radio. Those of us who do are not necessarily tuned to the right station. Many stations don't subscribe to EBS because it costs money to do so. Most of us are not within earshot of a civil defense siren. Those of us who are, either did not hear it (because we were too far away or because it did not sound) or did not recognize what we heard as a take-cover warning. The warnings, in brief, didn't warn very many of us in time to be effective, or in a way which compelled our attention.

It is sure that, for a while at least, we all will be very sensitive to tornado "watch" or "warning" notices. That's human nature. But this will wear off in a year or two. Unless something in the warning system changes, soon we will be right back where we were on April 3, with no community-wide warning system of any real value, and an overwhelming

feeling that "it can't happen here -- again." That, too, is human nature.

It is high time our police, fire, civil defense and weather authorities began to deal with realities of human nature. We are, fundamentally, an apathetic bunch. A warning system should be designed to reach the masses in a manner which cannot easily be ignored or confused. It seems reasonable, for example, that any broadcasting station using the public airwaves be required to air these warnings as a condition of its right to broadcast at all. At present, only the biggest stations are required to do so.

If any community is ready to reassess its weather and disaster warning system, we are. And in these days of federal revenue sharing milk and honey, we probably can afford the needed improvements.

What we need first is government's commitment to act, and then a region-wide analysis of the problem and potential solutions.

LET

Dear Editor: Following the delivery of his sermon on busing (reprinted in

Firefighters, police do 'super' job

Search and rescue work by volunteer firefighters and Jefferson County Police officers went smoothly Wednesday, April 3, according to observers,

County Police Chief Russell McDaniel said the only thing he would change if another tornade hit would be to issue police and fireflighters cans of paint to mark homes that have been searched.

"That way we could avoid some of the duplication that unavoidably took place Wednesday night,

"We had at least 100 units in the area in the first 30 minutes and some of the men went over the same areas, There was just no way to let them know those houses had already been searched.

"Within four hours, we felt we were in pretty good shape. We felt we had found everybody who was alive and transported all the injured persons to the hospital," he said. But he and other police officers wor-

But he and other police officers worried that victims of the storm would be found in the rubble of the East End on Thursday merning. McDaniel said about 80 percent of

McDaniel said about 80 percent of his 404-man department was on duty in the disaster area about 8 pm Wednesday, By Thursday, about 500 National Guard troopers were patrolling, according to major Tom Underwood,

A miracle

"It was just a miracle," said Lt, Al Ring, a St, Matthews Volunteer firefighter, who took a pumper truck to Northfield and found himself under the command of Capt, James Murphy of Harrods Creek, About 50 St, Matthews firefighters

About 50 St, Matthews firefighters took part in the search and rescue work, Ring said, Some worked in Northfield, others worked in Rolling Fields and Indian Hills directly under St, Matthews Chief John Monoham, "When I got to my position, I was told to take some men and search houses on, I think it was, Glenwood Road," said Ring, "We climbed in those houses expecting to find dead people and injured people. "But on that entire street, we didn't

"But on that entire street, we didn't have one injury. We had some older people going into shock and we comforted them.

"But it is an absolute miracle that only two or three died in the whole thing, I still don't understand it," said Ring.
(A total of five known dead had been

(A total of five known dead had been accounted for by April 10.) Much of the credit for organizing the

Much of the credit for organizing the search and rescue activity that centered on the U.S. 42 and Lime Kill Lane intersection went to Murphy. He works for Harrods Creek on days he has off from the Louisville Fire Department, Harrods Creek Chief Jack Dayton said Murphy had a command post set up within five for ten minutes after the tornado ripped through the district,

Volunteer units from Worthington, McMahan, St. Matthews, Middletown and Jeffersontown were arriving in the disaster area as fast as county and St. Matthews police arrived with stretcher cars.

Murphy, according to Ring and Dayton, manned the radio in the fire truck and directed rescue workers to streets that had not been searched, He remained on the job from about 5 pm until after 9:30,

By that time, coordination of rescue work had been taken over by Jefferson County Police. They had a command post set up at Broadway Baptist Church and an emergency medical post was operating from the Second Presbyterian Church in devastated Rolling Fleibis.

Rescue activities

McDaniel credited Detective Ed Dunnegan and Heutenants Richard Cartyuvelles and James Perry for coordinating the early rescue activities and Capt, Sam Tucker and Fred J. Roemele for coordinating the overall county police activity as the evening were on and the full extent of the disaster became widely known.

Electric power was out in the entire area but Fire Chief Bob Martin of Middletown had a powerful generator working near the command post and Harrods Creek had lights on several smashed residential streets.

Some St. Matthews police officers used their stretcher cars to transport injured persons to Suburban Hospital and then return to man chain saws to open streets to allow fire and rescue vehicles to pick their way in to obliterated areas in Rolling Fields and Indian Hills.

Harrods Creek firefighters and police, accompanied by firefighters from other volunteer departments chopped and sawed their way down Lime Kiln Lane, As a house was searched, somehow

As a house was searched, somehow the natural gas lines were turned off, Ring said lireflighters sometimes used pieces of debris to dig up gas lines and shut them off, Lt, Cartyuvelles said he watched po-

1.t. Cartyuvelles said he watched police burrow into bomes in Northfield, lead people out and then return again to locate clothes or important personal possessions. Chief Dayton said his two sons, Kent and John, and a doctor who was not identified, attempted to revive Walter Brooks, of 6404 Glenwood Boad, who had suffered a heart attack during the storm. Brooks was pronounced dead by Deputy Coroner Robert M. Adams.

Body recovered

In the Cherokee Section of Indian Hills, rescue workers searched the home of Mrs. Bernice Orr, 1824 Knoll-wood Rd., twice without finding her, it was not until the next morning when a buildozer lifted away the kitchen wall of her home that it was discovered she had been trapped when it fell, according to Lt. Col Robert Grant of the county police. An autopsy later placed the time of her death at about midnight - after the two searches.

Chief McDaniel reported "maybe ten or 20" police officers stepped on nails during the rescue effort, He also said many stayed on duty through the night Wednesday and into Thursday,

"We had to almost force some of them to go home because we knew we were going to need them for night work Thursday and over the weekend," McDaniel said,

"I'm just real proud, our people were super. And I can't say enough about those volunteers who came and worked without asking any questions," he said.

Lt. Col. Grant said about 70 citations had been issued to motorists on Watterson Expressway who slowed down to view the damage in Northfield, Louisville Police issued about 50 citations along 1-64 to motorists who slowed to view a section of Cherokee Park that was wiped out.

Officer Bob Yates, of Jefferson County police, said a motorist rammed into the rear of another on the Watterson near Brownsboro Boad Sanday morning, Both were listed as at fault for not watching where they were going, he said.



EIGHT CHARISMATIC REVIVAL SERVICES START EASTER SUNDAY

April 14 - 21

Sunday: 10:50 a.m. & 7 p.m. Tuesday thru Friday 7:30 p.m.

MIRACLES OF

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HEALING
 DELIVERANCE

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'Miracles' save many lives

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r PAGE 6, THE VOICE-JEFFERSONIAN, THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 1974

'Miracles' save many

Continued from Page 1

rebuild and stay on Pennsylvania Avenue, This week they welcomed help from friends who patched the roof, boarded the windows and joined them for peanut butter sandwiches eaten by kerosene lamps.

Elmer Vogel, 112 Pennsylvania Ave., was taking a bath listening to quartet music on a portable radio.

At first, he thought the noise outside was a freight train.

But it became louder and louder, "When I heard a tremendous roar, I stood up, opened the window, and saw the tornado," he said, "It was right on top of me and looked like a greyish black mass of turbulent air."

Vogel just had a second's look before the wind threw him up against the bathroom door.

"I threw my hands above my head because the windows and the roof were coming down on top of me, naked as a Jay bird," he explained. "I don't believe any streaker could have run across campus as fast as I ran down the steps (to the basement)."

Vogel said he remembers hearing the final crash, then the deadly silence. He found some clothing, then went from house to house to see if everyone was alright,

He and some of his neighbors helped to rescue 78-year-old Edward Ficks, who had been pinned in his house at 100 Pennsylvania, and was admitted to Suburban Hospital.

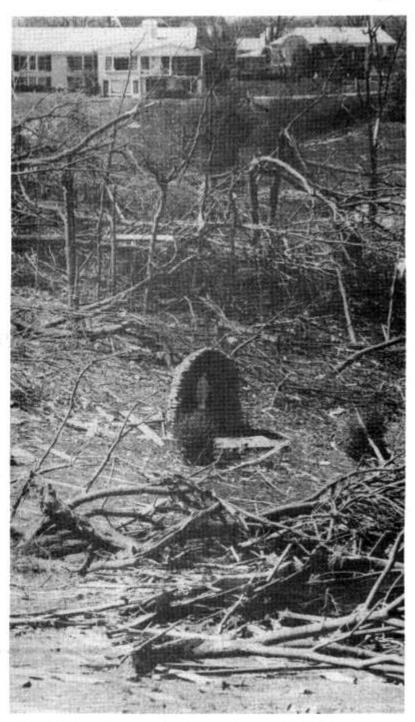
"I've never been so scared in my life," said Virginia Klapheke, 22, of 1210 Everett, who was driving east on Brownsboro Road past Crescent Hill Golf Course while the tornado was ripping through the golf course. "Tree branches were whipping at the car," she said, "and I didn't know if I'd get out or not,"

The twister, Virginia said, "appeared as huge dust clouds, Like a huge dust storm on the plains must be, Huge trees were just flattened, over on the golf curse, as if by explosions,

"And I was wondering, will I get out alive or not,"

After the tornado passed, Virginia -- a volunteer social worker -- decided to drive over to Suburban Hospital to offer aid in calming the families of storm victims.

On the way to the Dutchmans Lane hospital, after detouring through side streets, she spotted the tornado a second time as she circled around Interstate 71.



A RELIGIOUS grotto stands untouched amid the storm's debris, behind the home of Mrs. Rita Wells at 3 Indian Hills Trail.

'Tm going to save my golf card because I was the last person to play the course as it is," said Tom Marzolf, 14, of Westwood.

He and four other members of the Westport High School golf team barely made it safely off the Crescent Hill golf course before the tornado hit. Seeing the storm approach, the teens climbed into the car and driver Louie Bronson headed home. They didn't know the tornado was headed in their direction. But approaching the Louisville Water Company's "water-works," they saw the funnel and turned around, heading west on Frankfort Avenue.

Spotting a business building, the five rammed down the door to get inside, but then realized there was no basement. So they fled to the nearest house and "plowed through the door," according to Tom.

The boys scrambled to safety with the family. When the storm was over, a tree had crushed part of the home on Crescent Court.

With Tom and Louie were Mike Twobey, Kevin Burks and Eddie Hodein.

After the storm, they joined others in making sure everyone in the neighborhood was alright and then headed for home.

Rolling Fields

Leaping over Brownsboro Road, the fury of the twister descended next on the sixth-class city of Rolling Fields, a community of 250 homes. It slammed Chenoweth Elementary School south of Brownsboro, making it useless, and ripped the roofs off dozens of homes and apartments north of Brownsboro. With a characteristic freight-train roar, it raged across Indian Hills, a hilly section of more expensive homes to the east.

Airborne observers later had a difficult time describing the swath of destruction. It looked bombed, mauled, ravaged by war, with huge trees uprooted and thrown into heaps in the valleys. A main utility line tower was chewed apart, cutting power to a vast area.

Mrs. Rita Wells stayed barefoot at the bottom of her besement stairs, and recited her rosary.

Upstairs, the tornado literally ripped her elegant Southern Colonial home at 3 Indian Hills Trail in half. The den that once graced her second floor last week lay twisted in the yard, and the side porch is gone.

The home, built in 1950, boasted a bomb shelter installed during those years of Cold War fear. But Mrs. Wells couldn't reach the shelter. "I had the radio on," she recalled,

"I had the radio on," she recalled, "We've had those warnings before, but I didn't go, This time, something told me to go to the basement.

"Even in the basement, windows and everything were blowing around, Itried to get to the bomb shelter, but just stayed at the bottom of the stairs, "I heard all this crashing noise. I looked out, and thought "Yy God, no front porch," If I'd really known what it was, I'd have fainted."

Just last month, Mrs. Wells' nephew, Father Gordon Prady, a Carmelite

priest, had blessed a religious grotto in the spacious back yard on Indian Hills Trail.

Thursday morning, the statue of Our Lady of Grace remained standing in its natural stone shelter, untouched by the Surrounding desolation.

"It's like a miracle," Mrs. Wells said.

C. Maxwell Brown, the lawyer who helped form several East End cities, sat in his car at the corner of Indian Hills Trail and Arrowhead, and watched the twister gobble up most of the third floor of his colonial mansion.

"The eye of the storm just passed right through," Brown said, "Window sashes and doors were flying 50, 100 feet in the air, discolored with dirt in the huge wind.

'I couldn't come up Arrowhead Road for fear the falling trees would hit me,"

Finally, Brown reached the basement, where his wife had waited out the storm, "If we'd been in the bedroom, we'd both have been killed," he said.

Two high brick chimneys crashed through Brown's roof into the master bedroom and the garage, Afront screen door passed through the entire house, turning up on the opposite side,

George was lucky, A schnauzer, George spent Wednesday night buried under a pile of rubble at the Bob Watson home at 127 Arrowhead Road,

Watson said be beard George making a noise when he got to his home at 6;30 am Thursday. "I threw back about 300 bricks and out popped his head. Not a scratch on him," said Watson. The second Watson pet, a "Heinz variety" dog named Frank was outside

The second Watson pet, a "Heinz variety" dog named Frank was outside when the tornado hit, Eut Frank came out of the trees when Watson arrived Thursday morning.

Only the dogs were home when the tornado hit Wednesday afternoon,

Watson arranged for a moving van so he could put his salvageable goods into storage. Thursday morning, two teens, Pat Masterson and Fred Ramsay, volunteered their time to clean out rubble so the van could get near the door.

door, While he was waiting for the van, Watson swept off the driveway.

At 125 Arrowhead Road, Morey Booth said, "One tree came through the back window, went across the floor and poked a hole in the closet door on the other side of the room.

"I don't know where that tree came from but it wasn't from our yard," be said.

Mrs. Booth said the lights went out in the house and she went to find a flashlight. Then came "that terrible noise and we went for the basement without any light just as it hit," she said.

They came up to find the entire roof and first floor gome, Parts of it were spread across the front yard but most was hanging from trees two or three bones down the street,

The grass in yards in Indian Hills in the tornado's path looked as if it had been bent smooth to the ground by a powerful and fast moving wave of water, Shattered fragments of mudcaked wood were matted on mullboxes, cars and homes, plastered there as if by a mad painter.

"I said, 'what's here, what's here?"
"Then I looked down, and there it
was, it was big and gray and it had
boards flying around in it. Just like
a big funnel."

(The boys actually were about a quarter-mile south of the twister's path as it crossed Blankenbaker Lane near Apache and Knollwood Roads.)

"The treehouse itself didn't shake; the tree was shaking," Bruce recalled, "But the treehouse was kinda stretching -- the nails were pulling out of the tree.

"We came down and ran as fast as we could. By the time we got home, it was over."

Cindy Tandy, 4, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gene Brown Tandy of 4610 Brownsboro Road, didn't know quite what to make of all the excitement. She thought the tornado was "scary." "It just blew a big bag of cement right through the window," Cindy said. "I don't know how that happened.

"It was a tornado!"

Ruth Dunn School

Leaving Indian Hills, the tornado crossed Blankenbaker Lane, rocking the family home of President Zachary Taylor and tearing off part of its roof. Gales on its fringes ripped up trees in the nearby Zachary Taylor Cemetery, but the full force pounced on the new Ruth Dunn school and blew much of its insides out.

"That business about your whole life flashing in front of your eyes is just baloney," said E. V. Sprowl of 206 Blankenbaker Lane.

"We were just numb,"

Sprowl and his wife Gladys had no warning of Wednesday's tornado that ripped the roof off their house. Sprowl was napping in the bedroom, and his wife was at work in the kitchen without the radio or television on.

"It happened very suddenly, as far as we were concerned," Sprowl said, "My wife came to call me, and I looked out the window, and saw a maple tree about one foot thick fly by. "We didn't get to the basement --we ran to the hall, where there were four walls around us," Flying glass and debris whirling in the living room blocked their path to the basement

steps, he said.
"It was one steady, big roar, with tearing timbers and all just mingled together in one huge sound.

"I held on to Cladys, and we both were just numb."

Ballard High School was one big clearing house last Wednesday night, according to school principal Pat Crawford. About 200 homeless tornado victims "went through" the Red Cross facilities based at the Old Brownsboro Road school.

The Red Cross operation set up at the school was able to close down by 11:30 pm Wednesday night, having found private shelter for all those who came for help.

Many of Wednesday's victims came to the school in a state of shock, many were children looking for parents and parents looking for children. Some just didn't know where else to go.

Crawford, who stayed in the building until almost midmight, said that those residents of the area whose homes had not been affected came "in droves" looking for friends, or just for anyone who needed shelter for the night.

Twelve-year-old friends Pruce Tandy and George Mercke rode out part of the storm in a huge treehouse behind Christ Church United Methodist Church at 4614 Brownsboro Road.

Bruce, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gene Brown Tandy of 4610 Brownsboro, recalled he and George hadn't believed neighbor friend Scott Haggi, when Scott ran out Wednesday afternoon and told them of tornado warnings on the radio.

"We were working in the treehouse, putting some carpet in." Pruce said. "It was just raining a little bit, so we just said 'oh yeah,' and kept on working.

"Then it started to rain a lot harder, and all of a sudden George hollered "tt's here, it's here!"

"T said, 'what's here, what's here?"
"Then I looked down, and there it
was, it was big and gray and it had
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"We came down and ran as fast as we could. By the time we got home, it was over." The coverage of any news story of the scope and complexity of last week's tornado must necessarily be a group effort.

The stories and pictures in this edition are the work of our news staff: Robin Garr III, Susan Manne, Mary Bridgman, Nancy Garling, Roger Auge and Sandy Hinton. They were assisted by Mark Thompson, Anne Calvert, Janie

Garretson and Melinda Auge.

Above all, our thanks to scores of tornado victims who, even in times of extreme personal discomfort, were willing to share their experiences and feelings with our reporters.

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"I don't know how that happened,

"It was a tornado!"



BY WEDNESDAY, debris was piled high in places where homes once stood in Northfield. Work crews of volunteers and professional home repairmen worked long hours to patch homes damaged by the April 3 tornado.

Northfield

With no loss of power, the storm center jumped the Watterson Expressway and proceeded to flatten a broad path through the sixth-class city of Northfield, just north of Route 42 and the Holiday Manor shopping Center.

Of the 194 homes in Northfield, most were either destroyed or received major damage. The neighboring Glenview Manor subdivision also was hard-hit. From above, it looked as if the storm had hunkered down on the little community and kicked, stomped and pounded it to bits. Debris from that was hurled in all directions, some of it leaving pock-marks of damage on the facade of the new Glenview East high-rise apartment across Route 42.

A stand of trees behind the apartment had been whipped to look like a cole slaw salad in the bottom of a dirty clay bowl.

Three-year-old Greg Player made it from his upstairs bedroom to the main floor of his home just as the tornado struck his Northfield Court home and demolished the second floor. His thankful parents, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Player, aren't sure how he

Mrs. Player was vacuuming the bedrooms when the warning came. She gathered Greg and five-year-old twins Jake and Brett and began herding them downstairs. In the confusion Greg ran back to his bedroom and by the time his mother deposited the twins in the basement, it was all over.

Gregory stood crying in the living room. He had a broken arm, a few cuts and a bad scare, but told his mother "spiderman" had brought him through safely. Ballard High School students tell of a fellow student, long noted for an irrepressible sense of humor. As the story goes, he emerged from the basement of his Northfield home, minutes after the tornado had almost leveled his street.

Conditioned no doubt by repeated television airings of The Wizard of Oz, he just did what came naturally.

He took off down the street, calling frantically, "Auntie Em! Auntie Em!"

"Our address was 2306," said Estelle Greenberg as she stood on Glenview Drive in front of her demolished home about 7 pm Wednesday. She held a small suitcase and a few hastily grabbed pieces of clothing still on hangers, Mrs, Greenberg found clothing for herself and her husband, but most of her son's clothing was hanging in the trees,

The Greenbergs were walking down the street to stay with a neighbor. But first, Ralph Greenberg went back in the house to look for his wife's purse -- it was by the kitchen sink before the storm hit. Police had sealed off the hit areas to prevent their and vandalism and Mrs. Greenberg was afraid she'd have trouble getting was afraid she'd have trouble getting and her nome without identification.

The irony, she said, is that they were ready to put their home up for sale.

gave a hint of the disaster.

Further east on Brownsboro, at a service station, a man stood tearfully beside the telephone -- one of the few phones in service. He explained that he had been in Atlanta on a business trip. "I got this call to come home, that there'd been a tornado. Now they won't let me go in there to see what's happened."

Outside in the parking lot was a mass of National Guardsmen and sevgral jeeps,

A map of the area was spread out on the hood of a car and the unit commander was giving orders to his men to seal off every side street east on Brownsboro and Old Brownsboro Road and "let absolutely no one in,"

They checked ammunition, "This thing is loaded and I'll use it if I have to," said a guardsman,

Further down Brownsboro, the county policeman assigned to a crossroads post, told us there were stray gunshots and he could not let us in,

"Just please do not get out of your car," he warned. He didn't know if the gun shots were coming from looters or from shocked homeowners trying to protect what was left. The police and guardsmen weren't going in to find out, either.

Meanwhile, back on Roden Court, Mrs. Rhodes went into the family room and found Amy watching Sesame Street. There were no interruptions in the program and she saw no reason for alarm. She lay down on the couch and took "just a little sneaker nap" while Amy continued watching TV.

Her husband rushed into the house minutes later and the peaceful scene was too much for his over-wrought nerves.

Intending to punctuate his verbal admonishments with a few husbandly bangs of his fist on the family room door, he missed the door and put his fist through the window.

He is the only known tornado casualty in Fincastle.

By midnight, the crists was laid to rest for further assessment until daylight, but the devastation still loomed. The silence was almost deafening, eerie.

Those left homeless by one of nature's most horrible disasters, had obtained refuge with friends and relatives. Those who still had a roof over their heads and a bed to sleep in, had turned in for the night, or at least pretended to.

The only signs of life came from the police and National Guardsmen, with their blue lights flashing a rhythmic beat signaling the troubled scene they guarded.

The reporters and the cameramen had gone home hours earlier. Not even residents were being allowed in or out of the most heavily-damaged areas.

"Lady, you're arousing a lot of suspicion around here. Why don't you just go home and come back tomorrow?" an officer told a Voice-Jeffersonian writer. He explained they were expecting looters and thought it was best to impose a street curfew.

The path of the tornado was clearly visible, even with no moon to light the tragic scene. In its wake, the tornado left homes on one side of a street perfectly leveled, or their second stories neatly sheared off.

On the other side of the street only broken shutters and trees blown over.

Last blast

The tornado left as suddenly as it came, pounding a few more acres of land south of Route 42 and east of Holiday Manor Shopping Center before the funnel winds lifted back into the sky.

Its last slap at the earth in Jefferson County can be seen just west of the Jefferson Freeway. A barn seems to have caught the eye of the tornado, which squashed it like a bug and then disappeared. The folic ing day, holstein cows were contactly munching the hay which had been ripped from the barn and strewn smoothly about the pasture.

A tornado-related injury in Fincastle Wednesday night required no hospital treatment -- only a little sympathy and window pane repair.

Bill Rhodes, an engineer at the Louisville Water Company, headed for home on I-71, just before 5 pm Wednesday. He saw the tornado moving in the direction of his Fincastle home and searched frantically for a telephone. He woke up his napping wife, Peggy, and told her to take the transistor radio and two-year-old daughter, Amy, and to stay in the family room.

He continued on home, his state of agitation not helped by the sight of swing sets and other debris flying through the air.



SRUCE TANDY, 12, repairs his treehouse on Thursday. Bruce was inside the treehouse near Christ United Methodist Church when the tornado roared through nearby Indian Hills.

April 11, 1974, The Voice:



More volunteers than victims

'This never happens to you'



Disaster center of feet and fe

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Anxiety, depression may follow



Photos by Melinda Auge

DESOLATE, Fran Dukes stands in the debris of her house at 2406 Northfield Court.

More volunteers than victims

There are more volunteers helping with recovery operations than victims of the April 3rd tornado.

People are walking into volunteer coordination centers and asking 'T want to help. What can I do?"

Volunteers are working not only through help-oriented organizations such as the Salvation Army, Red Cross and Kentucky Rescue Association, but also as individuals, church, scout and business groups.

Although they got off to a slow start Friday, one of the busiest places over the weekend was Christ United Methodist Church on Brownsboro Road at Biankenbaker Lane.

Mrs. Ruth Cousins estimated around 150 volunteers organized into work crews of four and five, were sent from the church into the stricken area over the weekend.

In addition, 100 volunteers from the United Methodist Women organization which is coordinating volunteer efforts at the church, and other volunteers from Holy Trinity Church, Calvin Presbyterian and St. Matthews Episcopal have pitched in to help at Christ Methodist.

At times, there were 40 women from the churches working together in the kitchen, but Mrs. Cousins said at least four have been there working from the very beginning - Esther Weddington, Hart Thurman, Rosella Leach and Betty Bryan.

Also working are Boy Scout leaders and their troops, whose assignments for this coming weekend will be coordinated at the church. Persons desiring their help in small debris removal should leave their names and addresses at the church.

addresses at the courter.
It all started lest Thursday, when
Mrs. Cousins, Pat Adams, Patsy
Watkins, Patti Ford and Ruth Hein all
showed up at the Brownsboro Road
church.

They opened a day care center, with a trained babysitter, had not food and coffee ready and began coordinating offers of belp and need.

But by Friday, things were still slow. A handful of children were in the child care center, a few chain saws, plywood and plastic had been secured and a few cups of coffee dispensed. So, Friday morning, the ladies Cousins, Watkins, Ford, driven by Jean Busch, made up lists of church members in the stricken areas and went off to find them and offer help.

"We're dying to help," said Mrs. Cousins, "but the problem is letting people know we're here."

On their rounds that morning, the women found one way they could be of help -- packing china and glassware so it could be moved. Harold Irick, a widower who lives on Knollwood, thought the women would do a better job of packing china than the movers he hired. Later on, many others used the volunteers for this same task. So the women moved right in.

From then on, and over the weekend, the volunteer efforts were non-stop. Besides distributing sandwiches, taking care of 50 to 60 children Saturday and Sunday and organizing work crews, Mrs. Cousins said the volunteers biggest contribution has been "decision making,"

She said one elderly couple, in a state of shock, came in. They had made no decisions, didn't know what to do or where to go. "Our people moved right in," Mrs. Cousins said. She said once the decisions start being made, the people are then able to "see their own way."

Friends and strangers also turned out to help the stricken homeowners. Like Mrs. Barbara Bowling of Crescent Hill, who helped the Peyton Ray's of Indian Hills clean out. Or Pat Masterson and Fred Ramsay of St. Matthews, who helped Bob Watson of Arrowhead Road clean out the rubble.

Some of the Indian Hills residents had work crews from their businesses help with the debris cleaning,

Men from the L & N Railroad sawed trees overhanging the garage at the Prime Osborn home on Sagamore Road. He is president of the railroad.

General Electric maintenance men were at the home of Joseph Gaus on Knollwood Road, He is a vice president of the company,

Brown-Forman workers cleared debris at the William N. Lucas home at 2 Indian Hills Trail. Lucas is chairman of the board of the Blue Grass Cooperate Co., the barrel-making division of Brown-Forman.

Anxiety, depression may follow

When the initial shock of the April 3 tornado is over, anxiety and depression may take hold, said Dr. Kent Hicks of River Region Service Center.

River Region has psychologists on duty at three emergency centers to help people with storm-related emotional problems. But, there has not been much call for help yet.

Dr. Hicks said the initial shock for those who suffered through the tornado and even those in the area "whose property was not affected, is comparable to battle faticue.

"They are totally blunted now, detached, relieved they have fived through it. They just can't yet take in the full perspective of what has happened.

"In possibly two to six weeks, the real thrust of what has happened will manifest itself in real severe depression and anxiety for some," Dr. Hicks sald.

Small children will tend to weather the emotional results better than their parents, he said, but each individual case will be different.

If a child exhibits symptoms such as sleeplessness, anxiety, increased dependence on the parent, nightmares or dremms, the parent should seek some type of professional help for him, br. Hicks said.

"All people here will have a new respect for thunderstorms and children are liable to come up with a severe fear of them," be said. A parent should give the child more attention and let him express his fears, ventilate them, Dr. Hicks continued.

Dr. Hicks continued.

"Above all, a perent should not push them away and say that's stilly to be alruid of storms! -- they need extra security at this time to lessen future anxiety," be said.

If a child asks why this has happened, it is not necessary to offer a small child a full explanation. The child, when asking, is merely calling for support and security and should be given some reinforcement, Dr. Hicks said, "An explanation is superficial so long as be knows More and Dad will protect him," he added.

People, still in a state of shock, some or later will have to face up to an integrated life where material possessions are important to them, he said, Some property is sentimental to people "such as grandfather's old chair, or they have worked very hard for their things, it just depends on how materialistic a person is, as to whether he will encounter emotional problems be said.

River Region employees will be stationed at St. Matthew's Episcopul

River Region employees will be stationed at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, Broadway Baptist Church and Bellarmine College as long as the emergency senters are open. Then, compaling may be sought by calling my one of the River Region centers throughout the county.

Zachary Taylor home suffers storm damage

The Springfield, historic home of 12th U.S. President Zachary Taylor, suffered major damage in Wednesday's storm,

The 189-year-old dwelling, now the residence of Courier-Journal editorial cartoonist Hugh Haynie and his wife Sam, remains standing, though battered and partially roofless. It is on Apache Road, one block east of Blankenbaker Lane.

The Haynies have moved to an East End motel until the Taylor home can be rebuilt. Mrs. Haynie emphasized on Friday, they will return.

It will take more than a little wind to drive us out," she joked. Though the building has walls an estimated foot thick, she added, there is evidence of floorboards separating, and large cracks have appeared in the walls.

A side porch was pulled away from the wall and demolished, and numerous hand-hewn beams that supported the roof are lost, Mrs. Haynie said.

Two landmark cypresses were destroyed, and every tree on the place is down." she added.

I just don't know how we're going to replace it," Mrs. Haynie continued. "It's just too much history to be replaced." Financial cost of replacement was "well covered" by insurance, she said, but the historic hand-crafted parts are irreplaceable.

"It was home to us, but much more than that," she continued, "We've talked about giving it to the government, but now we don't know which way to turn,

•• We have a special problem, in that you just can't call in anybody to tell you how to fix it. You have to get experts in."

Mrs. Haynie asked any residents who may have special knowledge or expertise in this area to contact her husband at the Louisville newspaper.

Mrs. Haynie, a Kansas native, said "it's kind of ironic, to have to come out here to be involved in a tornado." It was her experience in the midwestern "tornado alley," she added, that taught her what to do when the twister hit Louisville.

"I'd just gotten out of the car," she recalled, "when I saw the trees starting to go. I ran inside and opened the windows and doors to protect the house."

In a word, she concluded, "it was frightening,"

Zachary Taylor, born in Virginia in 1784, came to Kentucky as an infant and grew up in the Springfield home.

According to William G. Kaiser, superintendent of Zachary Taylor National Cemetery nearby -- where Taylor and his wife are buried -- the 12th President betrothed his daughter to Jefferson Davis, later president of the Confederacy, at Springfield.

The new Mrs. Davis died only three months after the wedding, Kaiser said. A general and hero of the Mexican War, Taylor was elected president in 1848, and died in office in 1850.

Disaster center offers one-stop help

At first, Mary Laura Weber of Northfield, like others, didn't want to go to the disaster assistance center. But, like others, she left with a smile on her face, "Everyone's been so help-ful," she said.

One of two Louisville Disaster Assistance Centers opened Saturday at St. Matthews Episcopal Church, 330 North Hubbards Lane, A second center is located at Bellarmine College,

With one-stop at the center, residents of the disaster areas can get information on housing, food stamps, employment, debris removal, tax de-ductions and loans for rebuilding, Over the weekend, 300 persons took advantage of the center's service.

The center is open from 10 am to 8 pm seven days a week,

On-the-spot answers on the amount of a rebuilding loan could not be given, Loan officers explained the loans available, through the Small Business Administration, and gave the home-owners applications to fill out and return. When the applications are received, another loan officer will in-spect the site to make a recommendation on the amount of the loan,

Jack Ireland, chief of financial assistance for the Louisville Small Busi-ness Administration, said Monday he thought a great many of the homeowners are unusually well-covered -they were just caught by the escalation in prices.

One who was caught in the escalation of the past 20 years told a loan officer he had \$10,800 insurance on two apartments and a store in Crescent Hill, The structures were heavily damaged and a preliminary estimate for repair was \$40 a square foot, which worked out to \$140,000,

Others were more fortunate -- they'd just upped their coverage, Leo Broecker, who lives on Travois Road in In-dian Hills - Cherokee Section, had raised his insurance coverage from \$40,000 to almost \$45,000 on the advice of his insurance agent after the recent re-evaluation of property. Brocker said he will rebuild,

E. L. Snyder of 2705 Grinstead Drive tast year increased the coverage on his home from \$10,000 to \$17,000. His son-in-law, R. B. Walker, said the insurance would cover the loss, but would not be enough for rebuilding, Some older persons, including Soy-der and Mrs. A. B. Clark of South Bayly, wanted to know if the loans could used for rebuilding on other property. One loan officer said money is not usually available for this, but wouldn't give a definite answer without an application and visit to the homeowner.

Edward Sommer of Indian Hills Trail sought information on a loan to make up the difference between present costs and his insurance. Just five months ago, he'd raised his insurance, but it still wouldn't cover the replacement

The same is true for the Tom Ernst's who have been in their home at 2401

Northfield Court for only five months, Without a Small Business Administra-tion loan, Mrs. Ernst said rebuilding could pose a financial hardship on her family, But they are going back to Nordifield, "We can't afford not to --we've got the lot," she said, Wednesday, a contractor had just be-gun digging a swimming pool in the

Ernst's back yard,

Generally, the Small Business Administration makes loans to cover rebuilding expenses above any reim-bursement the property owner will receive from his insurance company, The loans are available at 5 percent

interest for 30 years without regard to the age of the applicant, Up to \$55,000 is available for both property personal damage compined, or \$50,000 on property damage alone or \$10,000 on household goods only,

Within two or three days, a homeowner should know whether or not his appli-

cation will be approved.

At no cost to the homeowner, the county will remove debris from the right-of-way, driveway access or if the debris poses a health hazard, There is no reimbursement for homeowners who have bired private contractors for debris removal,



THE SHELL of the Dukes' house is no longer a home.

THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 1974, THE VOICE-JEFFERSONIAN, PAGE 7 r

'This never happens to you'

By Melinda Auge

Fran Dukes heard the tornado warning on the kitchen radio. It had touched down in Indian Hills and was chewing its way east.

Quickly, she sent her children, Kathy 9, and Greg, 11, to the basement along with a playmate, Linda Konoval, 7, and three dogs. They had orders to stay put no matter what happened to the two-story brick home at 2406 Northfield Court.

Outside it kept getting darker. Fran ran to the second floor for a better look. She became convinced it was coming her way but still she thought it would go around her home.

"Even if it hits, it will go around my house. After all, this kind of thing never happens to you," she remembers thinking.

Harboring that optimistic view, she shoved a roast in the oven. The storm would be over soon, Dr. Bennie Dukes would be home from his job as chief of dental services at the Veterans Administration Hospital on Zorn Avenue and they could have a drink and swap stories about the day.

When she looked out the window again, she saw Ruth Dunn Elementray School flying all over the sky.

She raced for the basement. She huddled against the basement wall with the children and dogs.

"I kept saying 'This is it kids. We're really going to get hit. This is it." she said.

Then came the incredible sound of a million freight trains. All the glass in the windows went first. Chairs, tables, lamps, rugs -- some old, some less than three weeks old -- swirled through the upstairs smashing into walls and ripping them open.

ripping mem open,

Then it was over.

"It seemed to last forever. Wood and debris started flying through the basement windows." It seems impossible, the windows are so small.

'I kept thinking 'why doesn't it just take the house? Why is it leaving part of it here. We'll all be killed when the house collapses and falls into the basement."' she said.

She looked up for an instant only to see Greg up on a table watching the house next door blow away. She screamed for him to get down. She was certain he would be killed by something flying through the narrow little window. She would see him killed and then be killed herself, she thought.

Fran thought she smelled gas. She ran up the basement stairs and slammed against the basement door with her shoulder. She couldn't budge it.

"All I could think of was getting the kids and the dogs out before the basement blew up," she said.

The only other way out was through the small, narrow basement windows. She pulled a table under one opening, removed the remaining slivers of glass, shoved away debris and told the kids to climb out. They were to find a patch of grass and stand on it and scream for someone to come free her from the basement.

She could see them standing there in the rain hollering for someone to come get their mother out of the basement. It was too much. She decided "the hell with it," she was going to squeeze through the small opening no matter what.

She doesn't remember how, but she

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'This never happens to you

got out. Her arms and legs are covered with cuts and splinters, but she got out.

There she stook with the children and the dogs, muddy, terrified, alone beside what once was a home.

"I was looking around to see if anyone else had made it out alive," she said, "From the looks of things, I couldn't see how anyone else could have lived. I thought we were the last

Just then a well-dressed man in a clean, fairly new car stopped in front of Fran Dukes's ex-house, He wanted to know if they were all right and if he could do anything.

Fran said she had three children, two of them crying, and three dogs, All were wet and muddy and cold and without shoes. It would help if they could sit in his car until she could find help. "Gee, I'm really sorry but you all are so dirty and wet and my car is all clean, I'm afraid I can't let you sit inside," he said to Fran.

When it finally came to her what he had said, she screamed for him to just get the hell out of there. She said she'll never forget the look on his face

Writer offered aid

When the tornado struck Wednesday and I heard Northfield was hard hit, I wanted to see if there was anything I could do.

As I rode my bicycle toward the remains of Northfield Court the next day, the scene looked like a birthday cake which had been stepped on by a large man. His foot, was gone, and only crumbs remained on the cake plate.

As I got close to the Dukes' home, I could see Frances bent over, fingering the rubble. Someone had loaned her a pair of huge rubber fishing boots and a

We walked into the house through what had been a wall of the family room, We climbed over a color television that had just come back from the repair shop with a \$250 repair bill,

In the smashed kitchen, the roast from the night before lay battered on the floor. In the distance, across the Watterson Expressway, we could see the ruins of Dunn School. The clock on the stove had stopped at 4:50 pm. Fran and Bennie Dukes had lived in

the home on Northfield Court about a year and a half, maybe two. They thought they would be here in Louisville a while. Financially, they could see the time when all the big debts would be paid and they would be able todopretty much as they pleased.

They spent about six months deciding on furniture. It was a big step, a lot of money. They wanted it to be just right. After long deliberation, they ordered everything at once.

Over about 8 months, the furniture arrived, piece by piece until it was all there. The final pieces were delivered two weeks ago.

But now, Thursday morning, April 4, the place was a shambles. In the dining room, the new china cabinet was without its back and partially without its doors. The dining room table top had been ripped from its legs.

Wires hung from the ceiling where the chandelier had hung. One of its spangles was wedged in the mesh of the china cabinet door. That was all that was left of the chandelier.

Two French arm chairs had smashed arms and legs. A wing chair, covered in \$50-a-yard Fortuny print fabric just moved in that morning was slashed to bits. Two overstuffed yellow lounge chairs looked as if a huge animal had chewed on them.

Dr. Dukes was working upstairs trying to clear some debris and find anything he could.

He said he first saw the devastation r from his car as he drove on Watterson s Expressway Wednesday about 5:15 pm. s He knew his home was one of the ones

struck but he didn't know how bad it was until he drove up to it.

"When I drove up in front of the house, Wednesday about 5:30 pm and the kids were standing out front, That's all that mattered," he said.

He pointed to a shattered piece of dresser that was one of the first pieces of furniture they bought after being married. They were poor at the time, like most medical school students, But there had been a close-out sale on solid cherry furniture.

"We kept thinking we were crazy to do it but we went ahead and spent the money," he said, Again he laughed,

Garage smashed car

In the backyard, belongings from other houses were scattered around. The garage had collapsed smashing her car. Bill Luster, a news photographer, happened to see an American flag twisted among the lumber that had been the garage. He untangled it carefully and handed it to Fran.

She wrapped the flag around her arm and turned toward the house, Luster took her picture with the flag.

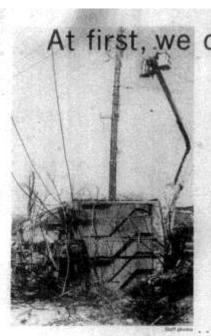
She turned her head just enough to wipe her eyes without her tears being noticed. Then she talked about how nice the backyard had been before it was plowed up and bulldozed into oblivion.

She looked down and picked up a briefcase from among some pieces of wood. She flipped through the papers and discovered it belonged to a neighbor, whose home, about 100 yards away, had been destroyed. She tucked it under arm and started walking toward the neighbor's home.

As Fran picked her way across the remains of Northfield, I said in what sounded like a corny way that she should call me if I could help her.

What else can you say?

April 11, 1974, The Voice:



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At first, we could only stare . . .

It was a block party, only all the blocks had fallen. In a daze, the people walked the streets, looking at the destruction . . .



TOM COSDON, sessed jet the earth at Frankfast Annius and Bits Annius matched parkers sed markets. Cordon towns the Handrest, the right skip, through the open dear self-of-time to be and to a color self-ord SEC COS Annius.

... but some kept a sense of humor ... and found a memory-a dollhouse, a guitar ...



PANE WELLER carrier has different History the dwell at her harm of \$225 Statetye Drive



THE PURMEN MESIDENTS of the house at 2423 foundational Court kept their humor with a "made"

... and then they began putting the blocks back together to make a house.



FIGUR LINDERNESS THE No. 1 to be brown and, from Foundation and a getter without a second on it. The parties to long to Pay ton Tay to the of tendes tests Texts. Here's faster



stippe CESSELL and Stress Kays (right), rightly the right of Kay's blanc on Cappanal Accesses. The stress topic off all the shirights.

April 11, 1974, The Voice:



The story of Dunn Elementary School does not lie in piles of debris, crumpled walls and roofless rooms left in the wake of last week's tornado, it cannot be told in insurance figures which indicate a \$1.7-million loss -- almost total destruction.

It reached its culmination, perhaps, Monday morning when more than 750 first through stath graders alighted from buses in Douglass Hills to resume their year's schooling in the newlycompleted Crasby Middle School.

completed Crosby Middle School.

The real story of Dunn School lies somewhere in between. It is about people, people with sore backs, aching muscles, people who had little sleep over the weekend but who stood smilling at the door of Crosby School on Monday morning -- people who accomplished the "impossible."

The beginning was swift and terrifying to Mrs. JoAnn Ryland, plant operator at Dunn School, Mrs. Ryland had worked her regular shift during school bours April 3, but stayed late when one custodian failed to report for the afterschool shift. She and custodian Jane Murphy were in the hall walking toward the roar of the building when they heard a loud noise. At the same time the lights went out and the alarm on the Honeywell box began to ring.

"I felt a sudden draft," said Mrs. Ryland," and I turned to the other girl and said, 'help me close that door', Her co-worker said, "It's raining on me,"

The women looked up and the roof was coming in,

"We ran toward the front of the building, and when we got there, --it was

Librarian Jim Norsworthy was working late also, After misking sure the women were all right, he ran for help, He located a phone and called the home of County School Supt, Richard Van-Hoose, He was not home but Mrs. Van-Hoose took the call and drove immediately to the school to pick up the three "survivors" whose cars were twisted masses, tossed many yards from their original parking places, Mrs. James Steckert, president of the

late Wednesday night,
"My husband and I went to the school
early Thursday morning and we were
amszed to find how much had
been accomplished by the county board

Dunn PTA did not get the news until

crews.

Maintenance workers had arrived at the school within hours of the storm and begun removing records, file cabinets and locker contents. Norsworthy had remained in the library almost all night, packing books and trying to protect what remained from rain damage. The library walls were gone, but most books were intact on the shelves, A small display of paper animals made by the children stood unmoved on a shelf.

Mrs. Stuckert went home and began to telephone.

"The only working phones were in Hunting Creek," she said, "so I began with them," Hunting Creek parents contacted other areas and by late morning parent crews were in business.

While county trucks transported boxes of records, plastic bags of locker contents, books, and salvageable room decorations to Cresby School, parents began sorting, identifying and reconstructing classrooms.

Locker contents provided comic relief, County boardofficials had directed their workers to clear out all student lockers, putting the contents of each in a separate plastic bag and labeling it with the locker number, But bags were wet and many labels were missing by the time they reached new quarters. PTA workers began identifying

contents.

"We needed a lough about then," Mr.,
Stuckert said. They found it was they
emptied one bag and removed five moldy
lunches, three rotten apples and a
thermos of sour milk, As many as three
coats and jackets were found in some
locker contents.

"Their mothers had probably given them up as lost," laughed Mrs. Stuckert.

Friday morning a full staff of teachers, aides and office staff reported for work at Dunn. In the large resource room, teachers Frances Gwinn, Helen Freepartner, Martha Greene and aide Pat Racque began the salvage process.

"Peewee," the resource room's pet gerbil, had made it through the storm and was safe in his cage, Two glass terrariums were intact, A paper timeline of the Middle Ages had come through the tornado age with no damage and the large burlap map of the world was ready to move to new walls, Books were accounted for but a few test papers left on the teacher's desk ware gone with the wind, a loss destinat to upset no one.

By Sunday, fathers and teen-agers joined in the settling-in process at Crossty School PTA fathers constructed temporary book shelves in the new library and books were arranged. Teachers attempted to reconstruct their classrooms to resemblished rooms at Dunn as closely as possible, Salvaged art work was bung on walls, desks were arranged in familiar patterns and each teacher wrote welcoming words on their transported blackboards.

ported blackboards,

"When I looked at Crosby school
Sunday morning I thought there was
no way we could get that school ready
for classes on Monday morning." Mrs.
Stuckert said. The fact that it was
done she attributes to "superhuman"
effort by staff, parents and the Board
of Education who did an "incredible"
job.



"We are all quick to criticize the board when we aren't satisfied with things," she said, "But words just can't express how wonderful they were in this emergency."

The feeling of gratitude many held for Dunn principal Mrs. Barbara Smith, who worked side by side with her staff and parents during the four-day reconstruction project, were expressed by one parent whose gift of a dozen long-stemmed roses sat on Mrs.

Smith's new desk at Crosby School Monday morning.

Mrs. Smith greeted Dunn students Monday morning. She told them she was, above all, happy that they were all there, and that no Dunn students had been seriously injured in the storm. Then she made another announcement which was greeted with a cheer that almost raised the roof on the new school.

"Construction workers are beginning this morning to rebuild Dunn School," she said.



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Tornado causes five deaths, one bad rumor

Deaths caused by the Wednesday, April 3, tornado climbed to five Sunday when Theresa Smith, 16, of 2144 Baringer Avenue, died of carbon monoxide poisoning.

Her home, near Cherokee Park, had been without electricity since the tornado struck about 4:30 pm Wednesday, Louisville Police said fumes from an electric generator in the basement apparently seeped through the bouse. She is survived by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Otis Smith and her maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Fillatreau, of Bardstown, Miss Smith was a junior at Atherton High School, Funeral services were Wednesday at St. James Catholic Church, 1430 Bards,

Others dead are;

town Road,

-- Mrs. Bernice Orr, 60, of 1824 Knollwood Road, Indian Hills-Cherokee Section, who was crushed when a wall of her nome was blown on top of her as she attempted to run from her car to the house about 5 pm Wednesday.

Deputy Coroner Robert G. Carter said Mrs. Orr died early Thursday morning of multiple injuries. A bulldozer was needed Thursday morning to uncover her body, police said.

to uncover her body, police said, She was a member of St, Matthews Episcopal Church,

She is survived by a son, Clark Orr Jr., a daughter, Mrs. Douglas Mc-Michael and her mother, Mrs. Estelle Nieport, all of Louisville,

Funeral services were Saturday, April 6. at Pearson Funeral Home, 149 Breckinridge Lane,

-- Charles Fleming Spencer Jr., 64, of 3924 Brownsboro Road, was killed when his car was blown into a tree near Lightfoot Road on Brownsboro Road, He died of head injuries, according to Deputy Coroner Billy Wilkey.

St. Matthews Volunteer Fire fighters pulled Spencer from the wrecked car. He was dead on arrival at Surburban Hospital.

Mr. Spencer, a member of Broadway Baptist Church, is survived byhis wife, Patsy Hensley Spencer: daughters, Mrs. Henry Hanchiar Jr., of Frankfort; and Mrs. Emory D. Burgess, of Atlanta, Georgia; and one granddaughter.

Funeral services were Saturday at Pearson Funeral Home, 149 Breckinridge Lane.

-- Walter Brooks, 47, of 6404 Glenwood Road, Glenview Manor, who died of an apparent heart attack during the storm Wednesday evening, according to Deputy Coroner Robert Adams.

Brooks was a self-employed accountant.

Efforts by Harrods Creek fire fighters and Jefferson County police to revive Mr. Brooks failed, He was dead at his home, police said.

He is survived by his wife, Donnie, sons Stephen and Robert; his mother,

Mrs. Leona Brooks, of Louisville; sisters Mrs. Carl Dohn, and Mrs. Aaron Lee Lankford and Mrs. Thomas Baldwin,

Funeral services were Saturday at W. G. Hardy Shively Chapel, 4101 Dixie Highway.

-- Nathan Bornstein, 71, of 2217 Woodbourne Ave., was found dead Wednesday, April 3, by Louisville Police where he had been working in his yard. He was a retired electrician.

Mr. Bornstein was a member of Anshei Sfard Congregation and St. George Masonic Lodge. He is survived by his wife, Hannah.

Funeral services were Friday, April 5, at Herman Meyer and Son Funeral Home, 1338 Ellison Avenue, Sympathy can be expressed in contributions to Hadassah or the Anshei Stard Endowment Fund,

One death turned out to be nothing more than a "rumor that was floating around here pretty heavy over the weekend," according to Jefferson County Police Officer Robert Yates.

The rumor had it that an elderly woman in one of the hardest hit areas could not be found by searchers Wednesday night or Thursday morning, Finally, a neighbor told police the woman was on vacation, She was contacted by police and flew back to Louisville Thursday afternoon, Police advised her to walt a day

Police advised her to wait a day or two before going to view the remains of her home, which by that time had been further devastated by a buildozer being used to search for her body.

The woman, however, insisted police take her immediately to see her home and attempt to retrieve any salvageable belongings, Finally, accompanied by a neighbor, police escorted the woman to her home.

She got out of the car, looked at the remains of her home and collapsed in the grass and died of a

heart attack, according to the story. The story was related through Chief Russell McDaniel and Asst, Chief Robert Grant and several other police officers. When it could not be confirmed through police or hospital records or coroner records, police labeled it "a disgusting rumor,"

April 11, 1974, The Voice:

Suburban treats injured

At Suburban Hospital, Wednesday's torrado could have provided a real test of the East Endinstitution's emergency preparedness.

But, some officials believe, because of a false report on WAVE radio that Suburban's emergency room was overflowing, relatively few injured appeared.

About 8 pm Wednesday, hospital administrator Paul Gross estimated "about 50 people came to the emergency room, and about 15 or 20 percent were admitted." The majority, said Gross, were treated for minor injuries and released.

Later, Suburban's records indicated 44 patients appeared on Wednesday evening, and 19 more came to the hospital on Thursday, presumably after a night's rest falled to improve their symptoms.

Only nine patients were admitted for an overnight stay, with only one of them in serious condition.

Those were:

-- Edward Ficks, 78, of 100 Pennsylvania Avenue, serious condition with multiple injuries.

-- Joannie Baumeister, 23, of 2402 Stannye Drive, dislocated right shoulder.

-- Mary K. Becht, 64, of 1905 Alfresco Place, leg, forearm injuries, -- Charles Craft, 53, of 2100 Redleaf Drive.

-- Patty Ford, 22, of 3604 Fountain Square, arm and head injuries.

-- Dr. Franklin Hoffman, 58, of 207 Blankenbaker Lane, severely lacerated wrist.

June Perry, 57, of 3717 Edmond
 Lane, elbow injury requiring surgery.
 Greg Player, 3, of 2407 Northfield
 Court, head injury.

-- Dr. Clarence Van Antwerp, 71, of 4322 Comanche Trail, wrist laceration, According to hospital administrator Gross, when word came that a tornado was possible, draperies were ordered closed in all patient rooms, as a protection against possible flying glass.

Hospital personnel stood by each room to monitor patients in critical condition. At 5:15 pm, when the tornado had

passed, Suburban put its disaster plan

into effect.

As Gross outlined the disaster plan, administrative procedures were streamlined. A "triage" system was set up, in which a surgeon assumed command of the emergency room, quickly viewing incoming patients and assigning them.

All elective surgery for Friday was canceled, off-duty staff was called in, and area surgeons were paged and alerted.

In fact, Gross said, more excitement resulted at Suburban from the electrical power outage than from emergency putient flow. Commercial power was out for about two hours, Gross said, during which time the hospital relied on its own auxiliary generators.

Since the generators can power only one elevator, a "bucket brigade" of nurses and staff had to be set up to pass dinner trays up and down the hospital's seven floors.

Suburban's Dutchmans Lane location also provided a grandstand view as the killer tornado ripped acress the area north and east of the hospital.

Gross spotted the twister from the third floor and admitted it made him feel "queasy," Definitely queasy,"

"It looked like it was coming right at the hospital," he said. You could see the funnel zero in, sort of dissipate, then zero in again."

Suburban security guard Lt. Elbert Thomas watched the storm rip through town from a seventh-floor vantage point.

"I've always been under the impression tornados take a funnel shape," Thomas observed, "but this was more like a big, black cloud floating by.

"Every now and then a funnel would shoot down from it, and dirt would go flying in ever direction."

flying in ever direction."
"It was scary." Thomas concluded,
"I wouldn't want towatch another one."

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