The storms began about 2 p.m. Tuesday in the D.C. region and continued for more than six hours. During the evening commute, District streets turned into rivers. Cars were slicing through the waves. It rained so hard that water poured down off the flooded streets and into the Metro station at Cleveland Park. The Washington Post's Faiz Siddiqui spoke with Metro spokeswoman Sherri Ly, who said that "the station is prone to flooding because it is at the bottom of a hill." The Red Line trains bypassed the Cleveland Park station during the flooding, and the station was closed for nearly two hours until the water could drain. Former National Weather Service climatologist Bob Leffler told The Post that he experienced seven distinct periods of thunder through to p.m. in Damascus, Md., which broke his location's previous record of five thunderstorms. He recorded 3.38 inches of rain on Tuesday. Leffler has been recording and reporting weather in Damascus for 45 years. In Petworth, a personal weather station reported rainfall rates of more than four inches per hour — meaning that if it had continued to rain at that clip for one hour, more than four inches of rain would have accumulated. The Petworth station recorded three periods of heavy rainfall — the first came at about 2 p.m., then another wave hit the station in the 3 o'clock hour followed by the "big one" at 6 p.m. At a personal weather station in Bethesda, rainfall rates spiked to more than two inches per hour about 3 p.m., and then shot up again to	The Washington Post Capital Weather Gang The torrentia Metro stop in			at turned	the Cleve	eland Park
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Weather Underground activoxir reported 1.63 inches through midnight. The majority of the personal weather stations on the Weather Underground activoxir reported rainfall totals of more than one inch. Radar-estimated rainfall shows the northern and eastern authorbs in Frederick, Montgomery and Prince George's counties received the most rainfall. Areas around Germantown, Aspen Hill and Boxie racked up over two inches in Tuesday's storms. Tom Caxingor Tom Caxingor Tom Weinnesday WMATA started a new service todayl WMATA started a new service todayl W 151	rain at that clip for one hour, more than four in heavy rainfall— the first came at about 2 p.m.	inches of rain would have accumulant, then another wave hit the station	ated. The Petworth station in the 3 o'clock hour follo	recorded three periods of wed by the "big one" at 6 p.m.		
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	Angela Fritz is an a	atmospheric scientist and The Po	ost's deputy weather edit	tor. Y Follow @angelafritz		