



# National Weather Service

## Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



April 1996

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons Killed	Injured	Estimated Damage Property	Crops	Character of Storm
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### NORTH DAKOTA, Central and West

**NDZ007>008-016- Cavalier - Pembina - Walsh - Nelson - Grand Forks - Griggs - Steele - Traill - Barnes - Cass - Ransom - Sargent - Richland**

**026>030-038>039-049-052>053**

<b>10</b>	<b>1300CST</b>								
<b>30</b>	<b>2300CST</b>			<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>				<b>Flood</b>

Moderate to severe flooding occurred on the Red River on the North and many of its tributaries in North Dakota. Above normal precipitation was observed over the basin for the 6 months prior to the flood. In addition, heavy snow cover, with drifts up to 12 feet, lingered into early April. This combined with a rapid snowmelt to produce a memorable spring flood, despite below average precipitation from mid-March through April. Ice jams contributed to the flooding, particularly along the Pembina River near the Canadian border. The flooding was, for many areas, the worst since 1979, which for some, was the most devastating on record. In Grand forks, the fifth highest stage was recorded. On April 19th at 7 pm, a 19 yr. old man from Warroad, MN, drowned while attempting to cross the Robin bridge over the Red River at Drayton, ND. The man unfortunately did not heed a road closed sign, which clearly marked the flooding hazard. Residents along the Sheyenne River were hit particularly hard. At Kindred, ND, a flood disaster was declared by Governor Schafer. The governor of ND activated the National Guard to assist with the flood, In Grafton, the Park River swamped a mobile home court and flooded many basements in the city. On the Red River, the most extensive damage was from Grand forks downstream. Many roads and bridges, including I-29 just north of Grand forks, were closed.

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### **Stark County**

**Belfield**

<b>26</b>	<b>2030MST</b>								
				<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8K</b>	<b>0</b>		<b>Lightning</b>

Lightning caused an oil tank to explode near Belfield(Stark Co) on the 26th. It took about an hour to bring the fire under control. The lightning bolt blew the top of the tank about 250 feet.