



National Weather Service

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



December 2002

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons		Estimated Damage		Character of Storm
					Killed	Injured	Property	Crops	

NORTH DAKOTA, Central and West

NDZ001>005-009>013- 017>023-025-031>037- 040>048-050>051					0 0				Winter Storm
Divide - Burke - Renville - Bottineau - Rolette - Williams - Mountrail - Ward - Mchenry - Pierce - Mckenzie - Dunn - Mercer - Oliver - Mclean - Sheridan - Wells - Foster - Golden Valley - Billings - Stark - Morton - Burleigh - Kidder - Stutsman - Slope - Hettinger - Grant - Bowman - Adams - Sioux - Emmons - Logan - La Moure - Mcintosh - Dickey									
		17 1452CST 19 1600CST							

A low pressure system developed over southwestern South Dakota, intensified and moved northeast to northwestern Minnesota during the day on the 17th of December. A band of heavy snow fell across north central and parts of east central North Dakota. An upper level system dropped south out of Canada bringing bands of snow from north central to east central North Dakota on the 18th and 19th of December. In addition to the snow, winds of 25 to 40 mph caused considerable blowing and drifting of the snow. Areas of freezing rain preceded the snowfall. The heaviest snowfall occurred over north central North Dakota where 12 to 19 inches accumulated and drifts over 6 feet reported in some areas. Over east central North Dakota 6 to 8 inches of snow fell and in the far west and far south central North Dakota 3 to 5 inch snowfall was common. After a relatively mild autumn, it was the first major arrival of winter weather to affect the region.