



# National Weather Service

## Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



February 2004

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

**NDZ001>005-009>013-017>023-025-031>037-042-045>048-050>051**     **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 - Grant - Sioux - Emmons - Logan - La Moure - Mcintosh - Dickey**

10	1100CST		0	0		Winter Storm
	1449CST					

A strong low pressure system over Alberta Canada moved rapidly southeast into eastern North Dakota resulting in strong northwest winds and snow over western and central North Dakota. Wind gust to 50 mph were reported over various locations of the region. Conditions deteriorated rapidly in the early afternoon hours on the 10th when visibilities lowered to less than a quarter mile (>1/4) producing "white out" conditions. The winter storm warning was upgraded to a blizzard warning by mid afternoon on the 10th

**NDZ001>005-009>013-017>022-025-031>037-040>048-050>051**     **Divide - Burke - Renville - Bottineau - Rolette - Williams - Mountrail - Ward - Mchenry - Pierce - Mckenzie - Dunn - Mercer - Oliver - Mclean - Sheridan - Foster - Golden Valley - Billings - Stark - Morton - Burleigh - Kidder - Stutsman - Slope - Hettinger - Grant - Bowman - Adams - Sioux - Emmons - Logan - La Moure - Mcintosh - Dickey**

10	1449CST		0	0		Blizzard
	1200CST					



*Railroad snow removal between Minot and Williston. Amtrak train had to stop near Epping North Dakota backing up to Williston North Dakota, 15 miles to the southwest. Photo taken by Tim Pederson, Williston Daily Herald.*

The winter storm warning for western and central North Dakota was upgraded to a blizzard warning in the afternoon of the 10th. Strong winds of 50 mph combined with snow had reduced visibilities to zero at times by the late afternoon hours and remained at or near zero through the night. A gradual improvement began in the morning of the 11th. Snow drifts to 20 feet were reported in the northwestern areas of the state. Local and county snow removal equipment was not sufficient to move the snow and local and county governments requested state assistance. Many roads and parts of Interstate 94 were closed stranding numerous motorists and bringing travel to a standstill. The railroad system in the northern parts of the state were also halted due to the large snow drifts. A Amtrak train became stuck near Epping North Dakota and had to backup to Williston North Dakota, about 15 miles to the southwest. Numerous vehicles went into ditches, stalled out or became stuck in the heavy snowdrifts. Only minor injuries (indirect) were reported. Snowfall from the storm only amounted to around an inch, however snowpack from previous snow events combined with the strong winds created blizzard conditions throughout western and central North Dakota. Conditions rapidly improved by the late morning on the 11th as the storm system exited the region.



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February 2004

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					Killed	Injured	Property	Crops	

### NORTH DAKOTA, Central and West

NDZ012-018>019-021-031>033-040>041-043      Mchenry - Dunn - Mercer - Mclean - Golden Valley - Billings - Stark - Slope - Hettinger - Bowman

<b>28</b>	<b>1800CST</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Winter Storm</b>
<b>29</b>	<b>1800CST</b>			

An area of low pressure intensified over Colorado moving northeast into the plains. The winter storm system brought a band of heavy snow from southwest to central North Dakota. Snow amounts ranged between 6 to 9 inches. Gusty northwest winds accompanied the snowfall resulting in decreased visibilities to a quarter (1/4) mile at times in blowing snow. The combination of snow and winds made for difficult travel and several County Sheriff's offices advised no travel. One fatality (indirect) was reported in north central North Dakota when a 19 year old female lost control of her vehicle and slid into a parked vehicle. The North Dakota Highway Patrol reported the accident was caused by icy roads combined with blowing and drifting snow sticking to the pavement. The same accident resulted in four other injuries (indirect). There were over a dozen other vehicles and several semi-trailers that lost control and went into ditches.