FLORIDA WEATHER HISTORY INTERACTIVE RESOURCE LIBRARY (WHIRL)

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1. INTRODUCTION

An extensive search of weather records and publications was undertaken to document the occurrence of hazardous weather elements in Florida. These hazardous weather events were then organized by day of the year with the goal of having at least one significant event for every day of the year. This resulted in a 100-page document that is essentially a textual Florida hazardous weather calendar. The authors felt this was a good method to provide training and a hazardous weather information database for a variety of users with interests in Florida. Typically, work such as this, completed at an NWS field office, is published in limited quantities by the NWS Regional Office that oversees the office. The publications generally get limited internal distribution and are rarely distributed outside the NWS. There are also limitations to the use of this type of reference document.

In the past year there has been a virtual explosion of use of the World-Wide Web (WWW) on the Internet. Software applications such as WWW browsers and Hypertext Markup Language (HTML) editors now make the conversion of traditionally prepared documents into electronic publications incredibly easy. All major on-line services now offer WWW browser capability to literally millions of subscribers at affordable prices. Most WWW browsers can also be used as stand-alone reference/information systems on individual PCs without the need for an Internet connection. This is most useful for large files systems used repeatedly, thus making access speed very fast and eliminating the need for download time and use of bandwidth resources.

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The use of the WWW and hypertext documents as training and reference tools is not new [See Straw and Walters (1995) and Wilhelmson et al (1995)]. What is new, and perhaps revolutionary, is the power and ease of use of these types of applications. It is now quite simple to produce hypertext documents with linked graphics and WWW "Home Pages." However, meaningful content and organization have understandably lagged these technological innovations. In the rush to get on the "NET" there is much duplication and empty documents out there. This will improve with time.

In our case we have converted the Florida hazardous weather history into HTML documents with hypertext linked graphics into an interactive "living document" via a WWW browser. This complete meteorological knowledge database forms a solid foundation that can support all present and future links to relevant graphics and references. Such a HTML document can be easily linked to graphics such as radar and satellite imagery and case studies and research papers relating to the forecasting and understanding of the hazardous phenomena. Additionally, hazardous events can be extensively referenced and cross-referenced with hypertext links, making such a large database very easy to use as needed by the "reader."

2. APPLICATION OF "WHIRL"

Forecasters are flooded with real-time meteorological data and models, but historical perspective is often lacking. The station reference library with case studies about a particular hazardous phenomena is often hard to keep organized and not convenient to operations. WHIRL was designed to be the historical "expert" and to reside on workstations convenient to forecast operations and for general office
Figures 1 through 8 illustrate a stand-alone WHIRL session (calling files from the local directory). The forecaster launches the WHIRL icon and is presented with the general index that has temporal (by month), topical (hurricane, tornado, hail, flood, lightning, etc.), or spatial (county, region) choices. In this case it is 18 June, and a "click" on June leads to Figure 2 that points to the daily highlight or a comprehensive list of all significant June events. The selection of "18" on Fig. 2 points to Fig. 3, a description of the effects of Hurricane Agnes on Florida. A hypertext link at the end of the Agnes discussion points to Fig. 4, which lists all the office references relating to Hurricane Agnes and where they can be found. The second reference on Fig. 4 points to another HTML document from a recent staff research paper shown on Fig. 5. Note that there is also a pointer to this paper in Fig. 3. Figures 6, 7, and 8 are hyperlinked illustrations pointed to through the text of Fig. 5. The other traditional references listed on Fig. 4 contain detailed information on Agnes, including radar and satellite imagery, upper air and surface data and soundings.

The NWS Melbourne staff has completed many publications in the past. These are too labor-intensive to convert to HTML documents. All new operational research papers and case studies are produced so that they can be simultaneously completed traditionally and easily converted to HTML hyperlinked documents. This avoids duplication of effort and promotes efficient use of resources while moving toward an interactive, visual electronic publication environment. All non-HTML references on station are indexed several ways so that WHIRL also is the station library information system.

3. CONCLUSION

WHIRL illustrates that WWW browsers can be powerful tools to organize meteorological knowledge resources on station. This approach can be readily adapted to other offices. The hard part is the initial search, collation, and typing involved in setting up the database. After initial completion, upkeep of the system is quite simple and additional applications of the system will become evident.

REFERENCES


Florida Tornado Outbreaks Associated With Tropical Cyclones

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Fig. 5

Fig. 6

Table 1: Tornado Outbreaks During Hurricanes

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Fig. 7

Fig. 8
FLORIDA HAZARDOUS WEATHER BY DAY (to 1994)

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1. Introduction

An extensive search of weather records and publications was undertaken to document the occurrence of hazardous weather elements in Florida. The hazardous weather events were then organized with the goal of having at least one event for every day of the year - in other words - a Florida hazardous weather calendar. The authors felt this was a method for a variety of users to better understand, and put into perspective, all the hazardous weather elements Florida is subject to. Initially, brief descriptions of every event that caused a weather-related fatality were included, and any other hazardous weather events that caused significant injuries or property damage, or that was of an unusual nature. Most days of the year were covered in this fashion. To have an event for each day, events that did not cause injury or serious property damage were included on some days. Many days had several major events and several days had only one minor event. In the interest of brevity not all non-fatal events could be included on days with multiple occurrences. There are literally hundreds of minor events that are not included in this document. The authors attempted to include the most significant events.

This document concerns short-term hazardous weather events ranging in time from several minutes to several days. Long-term events that cover large areas and unfold over weeks or months such as dry periods (droughts), wet periods, and hot or cold periods are not included (see Henry et al. 1994). Rip Currents have been documented by Lushine (1991) to be a leading cause of weather related deaths in Florida. Except for a few high profile events during hurricanes, rip current deaths are not documented in the literature and are largely missing from this paper before 1992.

Information on weather events was collected from a variety of sources including U.S. Meteorological Yearbooks (1933-1949), National Summaries (1950-1959), and Storm Data (1959-1994) published by the U.S. Government. Daily Weather Maps and tropical cyclone tracks from Dept. of Commerce (1993) were interpreted to add synoptic detail to some events. Other publications such as Grazulis (1993) and Dept. of Commerce (1960) documented early tornadoes. The Melbourne Hydrological Service Area database for Florida was the source of record flood documentation. Hagemeyer and Matney (1993 and 1994) and Hagemeyer and Hodanish (1995) were used to add details about tornadoes and tornado outbreaks. Dates of early freezes were obtained from Hebert (1993). Additional details regarding hurricanes were obtained from Hebert et al (1995) and Williams (1994).

Times of events are in Eastern Standard Time (EST). Estimates of damages for events are not included, except for a few extreme cases. When included, estimates are given in dollars as of the year in which the event occurred and not corrected for inflation.
JANUARY

1 1942 - noon - Washington Co. - A tornado moved from Ebro to Greenhead and destroyed six buildings injuring five people.

1 1996 - 1225 - Brevard Co., Melbourne - A small F0 tornado touched down in the Eau Gallie area of Melbourne near U.S. Highway 1. It moved east northeast about one half mile and lifted as it approached the Indian River Lagoon. The tornado blew down trees on top of houses and garages and overturned a large travel trailer with estimated damage at 40 thousand dollars.

2 1972 - about 1400 - Pinellas Co., St. Petersburg - A small waterspout/tornado moved in from the Gulf of Mexico ripping a screened enclosure and roof from a house and downsing power lines.

3 1994 - 1445 - Polk Co., Frostproof - A tornado touched down four times, damaging cars, buildings, signs, and citrus trees. Windows were blown out of vehicles and stores. A 12 year old boy was injured by flying debris. Brief tornado touchdowns were also reported in Alachua, Bradford, Baker, and Duval Counties.

4 1934 - 1207 - Escambia Co., Pensacola - A tornado damaged about 20 small homes. A young boy was killed and seven people were injured.

5 1962 - 1610 - Okaloosa Co., Crestview - Twin tornadoes, 100 yards apart, destroyed 10 homes and 10 house trailers and damaged 300 homes. A six-month old girl was killed and 65 people injured.

6 1892 - 1000 - Orange Co., Winter Garden - A tornado destroyed five homes. A woman was killed when her home turned completely upside down and fell on her. Five injuries.

6 1970 - Morning - West central Florida - Tornado outbreak - Five trailers overturned, power/telephone lines down at Apollo Beach in Hillsborough County. Other tornadoes touched down in Ruskin, Lakeland, Bartow, Mulberry, and Avon Park. Total of six tornadoes caused five injuries.

7 1976 - 1200 - Escambia Co., Pensacola - A small tornado was observed by radar northeast of the Pensacola Naval Air Station.

7 1995 - 0550 - Marion Co., Summerfield - An F2 tornado destroyed or heavily damaged 66 mobile homes with less extensive damage to another 85 dwellings, mostly mobile homes. A man received fatal head injuries while sitting in his car outside a mobile home when the car was rolled four times. Another 20 persons, mostly those in mobile homes, were injured.

8 1978 - 1720 - Hillsborough Co., Dover - A tornado destroyed four block homes, five mobile homes, six other homes and several cars. 1817 - Windermere, Orange Co. - Tornado severely damaged large lakefront home and damaged five other homes. 1835 - Lockhart, Orange Co. to Sanford, Seminole Co. - Large tornado moved through mobile home park near Lockhart destroying 17 trailers, damaging 60 and injuring 23 people, eight seriously. Tornado continued into Seminole Co., passing southeast of Sanford and causing damage to homes and boats along St. Johns River.
9 1953 - morning - Hillsborough Co. - A tornado destroyed five homes and damaged 53 from Lithia to Hopewell in southwest part of county injuring 12 people. Other tornadoes were reported in Clermont, Minneola, and Brooksville. Severe thunderstorm winds were reported in Ft. Myers and Sarasota. There were many reports of trees and power lines down and roof damage. Storm waves washed over the beach road on south Captiva Island.

9 1996 - west central peninsula - Damaging freeze - Sub-freezing temperatures severely damaged vegetable crops with losses estimated over $2 million dollars in Hillsborough and Lee counties; with minor damage to the dormant citrus crop in Pasco County. Several tropical fish farms lost over 50 percent of their harvest with the estimated loss at $5.5 million dollars.

10 1977 - 0650 - Osceola Co., Kissimmee - A Tornado struck a large apartment, ripping the roofs off 20 apartments and damaging several automobiles.

10 1986 - 1730 - Orange Co., Christmas - Thunderstorm winds destroyed two mobile homes and damaged a house. Three people in one mobile home suffered cuts and bruises.


11 1975 - 1020 - Noon - Bay, Calhoun & Jackson Counties - Tornado first reported in Panama City suburbs moved northeast through Bay, Calhoun, and Jackson Counties. A week old baby was killed in a mobile home northeast of Panama City. Ten homes destroyed, 25 damaged, several mobile homes and cars destroyed. Eighteen injuries - most (15) in Jackson Co.

11 1993 - 1750 - 1820 - Volusia Co., Edgewater - strong downburst winds damaged nine mobile homes. Trees and power lines down, awnings, carports, and family rooms ripped away. Golf ball size hail reported.

11 1995 - 1400 - Flagler Co., North Beverly Beach - 56-year-old woman tourist from Holland drowned in a rip current.

12 1886 - statewide - Severe Freeze with low temperatures of 12 degrees at Tallahassee, 16 at Gainesville, 18 at Ocala and 19 at Orlando reported.

12 1964 - morning hours - Central Florida - Tornadoes and severe thunderstorms associated with a vigorous squall line struck Duval, Marion, Polk, Volusia, Lake Counties. Many trees uprooted and antennas and signs blown down. Some damage occurred to windows and commercial buildings. No serious injuries.

12 1981- statewide - Severe Freeze with low temperatures of 8 degrees at Tallahassee, 14 at Gainesville, 11 at Ocala, 20 at Orlando, and 18 at Avon Park reported.
13 1992 - 0205 - Gadsden Co. - Downburst winds struck north of Quincy, peeling the roofs off two adjacent mobile homes.

14 1982 - 0200-1200 - Florida Peninsula - High Winds - A strong cold front sweeping across the Florida Peninsula was accompanied by high winds and brief heavy rains. Sustained winds of 30 to 40 mph were reported over most of the peninsula with gusts up to 60 mph. Tornadoes were reported in Lee and Hendry Counties. There was widespread minor damage with downed power lines, large trees toppled, and many signs blown over. Some roof damage was also reported along with damage to patio screens, carports, and tool sheds. Heaviest damage was along the Florida West Coast where onshore winds produced high tides and some beach erosion.

15 1991 - 1515-1554 - South Florida - Tornadoes struck an elementary school south of Miami airport injuring a teacher, then damaged roofs and cars at Hialeah, injuring three, and hit Broward Community College in Hollywood, injuring one.

16 1959 - Midnight - thru late PM - southeast Florida, Belle Glade, Palm Beach & Miami area. Strong thunderstorm winds to 60 mph blew down trees, disrupted power, and damaged several buildings.

17 1985 -0615 - Bay Co. - A waterspout/tornado moved through a 10 block area of Panama City damaging roofs and uprooting small trees. A small boat was blown across a highway.

18 1936 - 1900 - Washington Co. - A Tornado destroyed six homes near Vernon and eight homes near Wausau killing seven and injuring 15. Six were killed in a farm house south of Vernon. It took many hours to find the bodies. One person was killed in a home north of Wausau.

18-21 1977 - Statewide - Severe Cold Outbreak of Arctic air, climaxing one of the coldest winters ever recorded in the eastern United States, swept into Florida. Snow fell at Miami Beach and Palm Beach and was reported as far south as Homestead. The most southerly point to receive snow in Florida history. A severe freeze affected all of the State's citrus and vegetable crops.

In south Florida agricultural areas, the freeze was one of the most severe of this century. On the night of January 19-20, temperatures dropped to 27 degrees at the Florida Agricultural Experiment station in Homestead, but some farmers in this area reported temperatures near 20 degrees. Temperatures were below freezing for 10 to 14 hours, and 28 degrees or colder for 4 to 8 hours. An unusually heavy frost accompanied these freezing temperatures and extended to the immediate coast. Both West Palm Beach and Miami Beach recorded all-time lows of 27 degrees and 32 degrees, respectively. Over North and Central Florida temperatures were even lower, but not all areas had all-time record lows. Temperatures reached modern day record lows of 10 degrees at Pensacola and 20 degrees at Orlando.

A U. S. Department of Agriculture report said the following crop loss: Citrus 35%, Vegetables 95-100%, Commercial Flowers 50-75%, Permanent Pasture Land 50%, Sugar Cane 40% In addition, there was a severe loss to the tropical fish industry. It is estimated the freeze cost the Florida economy $2 billion (1977) dollars.
19 1978 - Afternoon - Florida Peninsula - Severe weather outbreak. Five tornadoes and 17 severe thunderstorms were reported from Jacksonville to Orlando and Tampa to Miami. Widespread minor property damage, but no serious injuries.

19 thru 20 1991 - Severe thunderstorm outbreak - Strong thunderstorms with a cold front moved through north and central Florida. Many mobile homes were damaged, trees and power lines were downed. At Tampa Bay Downs, a barn was damaged, two horses suffered injuries and had to be destroyed. Widespread Roof and screen damage. Five injuries reported.

20 1941 - morning - A killing frost spread to south central Florida.

20-21 1971 - statewide - Severe Freeze with low temperatures of 11 degrees at Tallahassee, 19 at Gainesville, 24 at Ocala and 28 at Orlando.

20 1983 - Midnight - late PM - Windstorm - A strong low pressure system developed in the western Gulf of Mexico and moved rapidly eastward during the night of the 19th and the morning of the 20th. As the Gulf low deepened and moved east, a very strong pressure gradient developed between high pressure to the north.

Strong winds hit the western Panhandle at the time of high tide early on the 20th, causing widespread coastal flooding that receded rapidly as the winds subsided. Schools in Gulf and Franklin Counties were closed due to the high winds and flooding.

A yacht race from Fort Lauderdale to Key West was severely disrupted by winds gusting to 70 knots and seas higher than 20 feet offshore. Many of the 169 vessels entered in the race turned back to shore, and the Coast Guard helped up to 30 vessels back to harbor, including aerial rescue of several crew members.

A woman was killed when her car was apparently blown into a guard rail on the Florida Turnpike in Broward County and flipped over. Another fatality occurred when a car skidded on wet pavement and hit a pedestrian. Most of the reported injuries were minor and were the result of automobile accidents on rain slick streets. Minor wind damage was reported across the state and was the result of trees crashing into power lines, trailer homes, windows, etc. High waves and beach erosion also damaged homes, businesses, and piers along beachfront areas.

21 1957 - all day - Broward/Palm Beach Counties - Rain and Hail - Storm effected important winter vegetable areas of these two counties. Although area of destruction limited, many observers reported 6 to 9 inches of rainfall in several hours. Several points reported rainfalls of near 21 inches in less than 24 hours, 1 report of 15 inches in five hours. Rainfall caused flooding of several truck crop fields; water completely covered some mature and growing crops. Much replanting required. Most water removed from fields by pumping, but not until considerable damage done. Quality of produce from fields pumped considerably reduced. Sunny and abnormally warm weather following storm conducive to development of disease and further general lowering of crop quality. Hail accompanying this localized storm activity caused crop damage of $1,000,000.
1985 - Statewide - Severe Cold - Florida was covered by an outbreak of cold air. Temperatures ranged from four to 20 in north Florida, 17 to 25 in central Florida, and 20 to 30 in south Florida. Six people died of hypothermia, nine others died of fires associated with space heaters. One fifth of citrus crops, two-thirds of vegetable crops, and one third of grazing pastures were lost.

1988 - 1045-1050 - Lake Co. - Severe Thunderstorm winds flipped over an airplane in Leesburg. At Umatilla high wind overturned four trailers causing five injuries. 27 trailers were damaged. 1115 - Volusia Co. - Tornado struck Ormond Beach destroying a home and downing trees and powerlines. Three people were injured at a lumber company.

1989 - Brevard, Volusia, Flagler, St. Johns and Indian River Counties - High Winds - A gale center that exhibited subtropical storm characteristics formed in the coastal waters east of Canaveral then moved slowly northeast. Sustained winds of 40 to 50 mph with gusts near 75 mph downed many trees, signs and power lines, and caused window and roof damage to several homes. High waves caused moderate beach erosion. Tens of thousands of homes were without electric power for up to 12 hours. Rainfall amounts of 4" to 6" caused ponding of water in low-lying areas, which damaged several homes and motels and caused many traffic accidents.

1973 - 1630 - Polk Co. - Tornadoes touched down in Lakeland and Lithia, destroying four trailers and injuring eight people.

1956 - afternoon-evening - north and central Florida - Severe Thunderstorm winds knocked down many trees, some landed on cars and buildings. A tree uprooted on a car injured one person. Two other people were injured by lightning.

1948 - 0315 - Manatee Co. - A tornado unroofed homes on Anna Maria Key and a packing house on the mainland.

1979 - Early Morning - Tornado outbreak in central Florida. Six tornadoes struck from near Palatka to Venice as a strong, fast-moving cold front swept across central Florida. Widespread minor property damage, but only one injury reported in a mobile home in Desoto Co.

1993 - 1230 - Gulf Co., Port St. Joe - A small tornado touched down in an open field, then overturned a mobile home. Two people in the mobile home suffered cuts and bruises.

1940 - statewide - Severe Freeze with low temperatures of 14 degrees at Gainesville, 15 at Ocala, 21 at Avon Park, and 20 at Bartow reported.

1975 - 1200 - 1220 - Suwannee Co. A small tornado unroofed a service station in Branford and moved on to Wellborn, where more roof damage occurred.

1905 - statewide - Severe Freeze with low temperatures of 17 degrees reported at Tallahassee, 16 at Gainesville, 17 at Ocala, 21 at Orlando, and 22 at Avon Park.

1986 - Statewide - A cold outbreak over Florida was preceded by strong, gusty winds on the 27th. A three year old girl was killed on I-95 near Palm Beach Gardens when the wind broke loose a sign and
hurled it into the car on the 27th. Temperatures dipped into the 20s over much of north and central Florida on the morning of the 28th. Melbourne and Orlando reported 26 degrees and Daytona Beach 22. Space Shuttle "Challenger" exploded on the morning of the 28th.

28 1973 - Afternoon - Central Florida - Tornadoes touched down in Polk, Orange, Osceola, and Brevard Counties. In Orlando hundreds were left homeless and 16 people were injured by a tornado crossing the southwest side of the city. Another tornado ripped off the beacon tower at the Titusville Airport and damaged many signs. A tornado near Dade City injured a man in a mobile home. Another Tornado struck the Ixora Park area of Northwest Osceola Co. damaging 300 homes injuring seven people.

29 1983 - 2215 - Bay Co., Panama City Beach - a waterspout/tornado moved onshore traveling 3/4 mile and demolishing 47 mobile homes, overturning 25 boats, damaging roofs, and downing power lines. No serious injuries.

30 1974 - 0200 - Gadsden Co., Hinson-Concord - A tornado touched down near Hinson and as it moved toward Concord, it uprooted trees, then destroyed a summer home and large double mobile home before finally damaging the Concordia Baptist Church in Concord. There were three injuries and 1 death.

31 1953 - 1900 - Lake City - Hail - Heavy hail damaged tobacco beds and was a traffic hazard on U. S. Highway 41 for some time.

31 1966 - Statewide - Cold Outbreak. Arctic high pressure behind a strong cold front brought record cold to much of Florida on 30th and 3lst. Record lows were set at dozens of locations, including 11 at Tallahassee, 17 degrees at Gainesville, 22 at Ocala, 24 at Orlando, 29 at St. Petersburg, 8 at Defuniak Springs, 9 at Chipley and Quincy, and 21 at Palatka. This January freeze is exceeded only by the great freeze of 1977 in extent and intensity.

FEBRUARY

1-2 1983 - All of Florida - One of the most widespread outbreaks of Severe Thunderstorms and Tornadoes in Florida history. - Unusual El Nino conditions resulted in a 180-mph jet stream in the central Gulf of Mexico that strengthened a line of thunderstorms moving eastward into the western Florida Panhandle before dawn February 1 and continued southeastward through the entire state, exiting the southeast coast and Keys around sunset February 2. At least 21 Tornadoes occurred, along with severe thunderstorm downbursts, hail, and heavy rains. Four people were killed along with several serious injuries requiring hospitalization, and about 200 people were left homeless.

1 1983 -0845 - 2200 - Western Panhandle to Tallahassee area - Seven tornadoes touched down during the day killing 1 and injuring one. Escambia County, near Pensacola - a tornado damaged trees, power lines, traffic lights, support poles, and roofs. One person was killed by a live wire that wrapped around a tree that had blown into his home.

2 1952 - nighttime - Dade Co., Miami & Miami Beach - Thunderstorms from a tropical storm crossing south Florida brought 84 mph winds to Miami Beach. Winds of tropical storm force were recorded at Miami International Airport.
2-3 1952 - South Florida - The only tropical storm of record to hit the U.S. in February moved out of the Gulf of Mexico and across southern Florida producing 60 mph winds and two to four inches of rain.

2 1983 - early morning through afternoon - Florida Peninsula - Fourteen tornadoes and 14 severe thunderstorms were reported across the Florida Peninsula, killing three and injuring 31. 0526 - Alachua Co., Hawthorne - thunderstorm winds collapsed a prefab home, killing one person. A church was demolished and several homes damaged. Other downbursts struck Gainesville and Waldo. 0845-0905 - Orange Co. - Tornado destroyed two homes in north Orlando and eight apartment units in southeast Orlando injuring nine people - 56 other apartments were damaged. 0920 - Highland Co., DeSoto City - A tornado destroyed 15 mobile homes and damaged several other homes and mobile homes. One person died of a broken neck when a mobile home overturned. 1540 - Dade Co., Miami Beach - Heavy rains and wind downed power lines. An elderly woman was electrocuted by a wire downed by wind.

2 1996 - 1815 - Putnam Co., Bostwick - A man was killed when an F0 tornado caused a tree to fall on his porch. Trees and power lines also blocked SR-100.

3-4 1917 - statewide - Severe Freeze with low temperatures of 15 degrees reported at Tallahassee, 17 at Gainesville, 18 at Ocala, and 22 at Orlando.

3 1926 - 0630 - Palm Beach Co. - Tornado moved from Lake Worth to Palm Beach damaging 83 homes. An eleven-month old boy was killed.

3-5 1963 - northeast Coast - Continuous strong northeast winds produced by a low pressure area east of the Florida coast generated high tides, rough surf and coastal flooding along entire northeast Florida coast from Nassau to Brevard Counties. Beaches sustained considerable erosion damage and some beach properties and roads were undermined. Damage was greater than expected as beaches had not been repaired from damages inflicted by a smaller storm in December 1962. Property damage was confined to the beach areas as winds inland were not sufficiently strong to cause other than minor property damage.

3 1970 - morning - Central Florida - Severe Weather Outbreak - eight tornadoes and five other severe thunderstorms were spawned ahead of a strong cold front. No serious injuries.

4-5 1958 - Statewide - Cold Outbreak - Arctic high pressure behind a strong cold front brought record cold to much of Florida. Freezing temperatures spread to south Florida. Lows reach 27 at Homestead, 28 at Belle Glade, 31 at Fort Lauderdale and 33 at Hialeah. Snow fell in Tallahassee.

5 1992 - 0400 - 0700 - Brevard, Citrus, Hillsborough, Levy, Marion, Orange, Pasco Counties - A squall line with severe thunderstorm winds and hail swept across central Florida in early morning hours causing widespread minor property damage, but no serious injuries.

5 1996 - West Central and South Florida peninsula - Extreme Cold/Severe Freeze - The coldest temperatures since the "Christmas freeze" of 1989 caused significant loss of winter fresh fruits and vegetables. Crop damage was estimated at $109 million dollars. Strong winds caused wind chill values in the teens, and disrupted electrical service to over 20,000 customers. Shelters were opened in several counties. At least one space heater initiated fire occurred.
6 1914 - 0830 - Santa Rosa/Okaloosa Counties - Tornado struck between Milton and Laurel Hill, destroying barns, killing livestock and uprooting thousands of trees.


7-10 1835 - The earliest well-documented severe freeze. Low temperature of 4 degrees was reported at Tallahassee, 8 degrees at Jacksonville and Pensacola. The edges of the St. Johns River froze and ice was reported in Pensacola Bay. The temperature was below freezing for over two days at St. Augustine. All citrus was killed.

7-8 1971 - Statewide - Severe squall lines ahead of a strong cold front ripped through Florida causing heavy rain of three to 5", several tornadoes, many reports of hail and funnel clouds, and wind gusts of 50 to 65 mph. Hardest hit was the community of Gulf Breeze in Escambia Co. where a predawn waterspout on the 7th came ashore as a tornado, destroying an apartment complex and injuring 112 people. Two more people were injured on the morning of the 7th when severe thunderstorm winds and golf ball size hail hit near Chipley in Washington County. In Tallahassee one man drowned when he fell into a drainage ditch. Another man drowned when his boat capsized while fishing in Highlands County.

8-9 1895 - statewide - Severe Freeze with reported low temperatures of 11 degrees at Tallahassee, 16 at Ocala, and 19 at Orlando. This freeze followed the December 1894 freeze and due to interveening mild weather citrus trees were greatly damaged.

8 1986 - afternoon - Central Florida - Severe Weather Outbreak -A tornado near Bartow, Polk County, severely damaged 14 homes and caused minor damage to six others. A tornado overturned a mobile home in Hudson, Pasco County, and another tornado occurring from Volusia to Pierson in Volusia County damaged a campground, then moved on to damage fern-growing sheds and cause injury to a man when a branch fell on his mobile home. In Bradenton, Manatee County, a tornado hit a flea market, severely injuring a man and slightly injuring three others. Twenty cars were damaged by high winds on the Pinellas County coast. A firefighter was injured in Manatee County when lightning struck nearby. Many reports of 0.75 inch in diameter hail were received. A boat was overturned on Lake Kissimmee by high wind and its occupant drowned.

9 1973 - 2328 - Martin Co., Port Salerno - A tornado ripped through Port Salerno just before midnight demolishing a church, twisting off roofs on houses and an apartment building and snapping power lines and trees along its path. Residents heard roaring like a freight train and felt a vacuum. One person was hospitalized.

10 1986 - 0920 - Jackson Co., Grand Ridge - A tornado destroyed a brick house. Three other houses and a barn were damaged.

11 1981 - 1015 - Lake County - A small tornado struck a section of downtown Leesburg destroying a service station, damaged several buildings, and knocked the windows out of several cars.
1975 - 2220 - Columbia Co., Fort White - A small tornado damaged two small frame houses and a service station.

1899 - Statewide - Severe Freeze with reported low temperatures of -2 degrees at Tallahassee, the all-time lowest recorded Florida temperature, six degrees reported at Gainesville, 12 at Ocala, and 20 at Orlando. Snow reported in Tallahassee.

1966 - Morning - Gadsden Co. - Thunderstorm Winds destroyed several tobacco barns, blew down trees and disrupted communications in the area.

1970 - 2005 - Palm Beach Co., Palm Beach Gardens - A small tornado struck an isolated area and downed power lines.

1939 - 1500 - Polk Co. - A tornado, reported as a "huge black funnel", moved into Bartow and destroyed a small home.

1991 - 1100 - St. Johns Co., St. Augustine - Strong winds to 60 mph downed power lines, trees, sheds, signs, roofs. The winds whipped up at least 150 brush fires in various sections of the state. The winds capsized an 18 ft boat, drowning two men.

1983 - 1508 - Broward Co., Miramar - Thunderstorm winds downed large trees, power lines, and caused roof damage.

1992 - 0920 - Gulf County, Apalachicola - A small tornado lifted a car with three occupants up and slammed it down on the road several times. It blew the hatchback door up on the roof of the car. The tornado also uprooted trees and damaged two houses.

1958 - Statewide - Cold Outbreak - Arctic high pressure behind a strong cold front brought record cold and second major freeze of month (see 2/4-5/58) to much of the state. Temperatures dipped to the teens in north Florida, twenties central, and low 30s south.

1960 - 0342 - Bay Co., Panama City - A tornado destroyed three homes and damaged 35 others.

1994 - All Day - Florida East Coast - Onshore winds of 30 to 40 mph with gusts to 55 mph caused beach erosion and minor coastal flooding. Hardest hit was the coast from Brevard to Palm Beach Co. where some beach front homes were nearly undermined.

1963 - Morning - central Florida - Pinellas, Polk, Orange, Seminole, Hillsborough, Lake and Brevard Counties - thunderstorm winds caused damage to buildings, parked aircraft, and some construction equipment. Wind gust blew small car from Sunshine Skyway into the Gulf and the driver drowned. Several small tornadoes touched down briefly in Central Florida causing minor damage.

1968 - 0500 - Dade Co. - A tornado moved into North Miami, cutting a block wide path into Biscayne Bay. Two homes were destroyed, 12 were unroofed. Over 100 homes, 44 business, and 100 cars were damaged. 21 injuries, mostly from flying glass.
19 1974 - 1730 - Pinellas, Hillsborough, and Pasco Counties - Tornado destroyed or damaged about 100 trailers and unroofed a frame home. 55 people were injured.

20 1952 - 1010 - Bay Co., - Tornado destroyed a home near Panama City and damaged 12 others, injuring four.

20 1989 - 2109 - Okaloosa Co., Ft. Walton Beach - A hailstorm dumped golf ball size hail and 3 - 6 inches of rain in three hours. The storm contributed to the crash of an AF C141B jet at Eglin AFB that killed all on board.

20 1995 - 1600 - Martin Co., Port Salerno - A man drowned in St. Lucie Inlet after being washed overboard by a large wave generated by thunderstorm winds.

21 1937 - 1100 - Hillsborough, Pasco, and Pinellas Counties - Tornado skipped through Tampa and unroofed three homes. A home destroyed between Odessa and Lutz, other homes in San Antonio damaged.

21 1989 - Midnight - Okaloosa Co., Dorcas - A family of four narrowly escaped injury when a tornado destroyed their mobile home, uprooted trees, blew a small boat across Mirror Lake.

22 1990 - 1330 - Brevard Co., Barefoot Bay - Thunderstorm winds damaged carports and awnings in mobile home park.

22-23 1998 - Central Florida - During the late night and early morning hours of 22-23 February 1998 (Sunday - Monday), the most devastating tornado outbreak ever to occur in the state of Florida, in terms of both loss of life and property damage, occurred within the county warning area of the Melbourne (MLB) National Weather Service Office (NWSO). Forty-two people died as a result of the tornadoes and more than 260 others were injured. Over 3,000 structures were damaged, and more than 700 were completely destroyed. Damage was estimated in excess of $100 million. A total of seven confirmed tornadoes occurred that night. Four of the tornadoes were unusually long-lived and produced damage tracks of between 8 and 38 miles, resulting in the majority of damage and all fatalities. Uncommon among Florida tornadoes, the estimated wind speed for three of these twisters reached 200 mph which is on the high end of F3 intensity on the Fujita scale. Although this event was of historical proportion the number of fatalities could have been significantly higher if these killer tornadoes were not accurately forecast, detected, and then warned for in a timely and professional manner.

23 1965 - morning - South Florida - Severe Weather Outbreak. Four tornadoes from Ft Myers to Fort Lauderdale injured eight. A tornado in the Ft. Lauderdale and Oakland Park area tore apart a house and seven trailers - three cars, and two trucks were also badly damaged.

23-26 1989 - Peninsular Florida - Cold Spell - A prolonged late-season Arctic outbreak broke many daily minimum temperature records throughout Florida. A hard freeze occurred in the north and central peninsula with a freeze and frost in interior south. Extensive damage, primarily to produce crops. At least three people died of hypothermia and one person died in a fire possibly caused by a heating device. Near Tallahassee, a woman was found frozen to death in her home. Two people died of exposure in Dade County.
24 1954 - afternoon - central Florida - Severe thunderstorm winds blew down trees and damaged property in Ocala, Orlando, Palatka, Crescent City, Tampa, Fort Myers, Punta Gorda and Moore Haven. Winds estimated at 70 to 75 mph in Tampa Bay area.

24 1979 -0100 - 0300 - Walton Co. - Heavy Rain exceeded 4” in two hours, damaging roads, drainage ditches, culverts and bridges. Four bridges were washed out along the Gulf of Mexico.

25 1960 - 0620 - Columbia Co., Lake City - Tornado destroyed 10 trailers, eight homes, and a factory. 0700 - Duval Co., Jacksonville - Tornado unroofed small homes and tore off the walls.

26 1934 - 0530 - Alachua Co. - A Tornado destroyed three farmhouses near La Crosse. 0615 - Putnam Co., Tornado unroofed and tore apart houses in Palatka. 0730 - Orange Co., A Tornado destroyed a church and small home at Taft.

26 1939 - 0230 - Gulf Co. - Tornado moved SW of Port St. Joe north of Apalachicola destroying crops and small buildings. 1030 - Baker Co. - Tornado destroyed five homes in a settlement south of Moniac.

26 1957 - All Day - Dade/Broward Counties - Heavy rains caused local flooding in agricultural areas, disrupting harvest operations and causing considerable damage to crops in harvest stage, particularly to tomatoes and potatoes.

26 1994 - 1430 - Dade Co., Miami Beach - Lightning killed a 20-year old student playing Frisbee on the beach. Six of his friends were shocked, but not injured. This is the earliest annual lightning death on record.

27 1947 - afternoon - Hillsborough - Tornado destroyed a home in Tampa and unroofed another injuring three. - Polk Co. - Tornado unroofed a large home and damaged others southeast of Lakeland.

27 1983 - All Day - Most of Florida - Windstorm - Gale force winds pounded the state as a strong low pressure system moved east from the Gulf of Mexico and across the Peninsula into the Atlantic. The storm's other effects included beach erosion, coastal flooding, and high tides. Thunderstorms associated with this system also dropped heavy rains and caused periods of local flooding.

27 1984 - 0835 - Lafayette Co. - Tornado destroyed two cement block homes and three trailers at Mayo.

28 1954 - morning - south Florida/Keys - Severe Thunderstorm winds damaged docks and small boats in West Palm Beach. Hail was heavy and reported as big as hen's eggs in Tavernier and Islamorada.

28 1989 - 1441 - Broward Co., Ft. Lauderdale - Thunderstorms produced 1/2” hail and 7” rainfall that caused a mud slide at a construction site that blocked traffic for several hours.
MARCH

1 1980 - 2050 - Broward Co., Ft. Lauderdale, Oakland Park, Pompano Beach - A tornado damaged apartments, businesses, schools, and homes. A woman was blown off her 6th floor balcony and killed. A fishing boat was found hanging from the power lines. Thirty-three injuries.

1-2 1994 - Okaloosa, Walton, Bay, Leon Counties - Thunderstorms produced rainfall of five to 8 inches over the Florida panhandle. The 8.22 inches at Tallahassee was the sixth highest 24-hour total in the city's history. The rain caused widespread street and small stream flooding with damage to cars, mobile homes and a school. Four vehicles in Tallahassee were swept off roads, but no one was injured.

2 1941 - morning - Freezing temperatures spread into south central Florida.


2 1994 - morning-afternoon - central and south Florida - Severe thunderstorms ahead of a strong low pressure system and cold front spread over the peninsula. Tornadoes were reported in Polk, Charlotte, Collier, Broward, and Monroe Counties. Severe thunderstorm winds were reported in Sarasota, Pinellas, Polk, Volusia, Highlands, St. Lucie, Dade, and Duval Counties. The tornadoes were weak and thunderstorm wind gusts were in the 55 to 65 mph range. As a result there was no widespread property damage. The only injuries occurred in Collier Co. when a weak tornado rolled an unanchored mobile home injuring a man and woman inside. The woman was hospitalized.

3 1960 - 0530 - Lake/Orange Co. - Tornado hit 10 homes in Orange Co. 1 small home was leveled and four people injured near Groveland.

3 1962 - Palm Beach Co., Boynton Beach - Wind driven waves washed 1 man off a fishing vessel and he drowned.

3 - Outbreaks of four or more tornadoes have struck the Florida Peninsula on March 3rd in 1971, 1978, and 1991, more than any other day.

3 1971 - Afternoon - West Central Florida - Tornado Outbreak - Severe thunderstorms and seven tornadoes touched down from Ft. Myers and Sarasota to Tampa to Gainesville as a squall line crossed central Florida. Only 1 injury directly resulted from storms. A man drowned when his boat capsized in high winds.

3 1978 - Afternoon - Central and South Florida - Tornado outbreak - five tornadoes and 13 severe thunderstorms were reported from Tampa and Ft. Myers to West Palm Beach and Miami as a squall line crossed the peninsula ahead of a fast-moving cold front. Despite widespread minor property damage, only 1 injury was reported at Belle Glade.

3 1991 - Morning to Afternoon - Statewide - Severe Weather Outbreak. Many severe thunderstorms and at least eight tornadoes struck from Apalachicola to West Palm Beach as an intense squall line ahead of a cold front swept across the State. Thirty-four severe storm reports were received, but property damage
was minor. This outbreak is noteworthy because the only injury was caused by 2.5" hail that crashed through the window of a car, knocking the driver unconscious in Volusia County at Ormond by the Sea. This is believed to be the only serious injury from hail in Florida since 1959.

4 1972 - 1459 - Broward Co., Ft. Lauderdale - Tornado damaged about 134 homes in the Pembroke Pines retirement area injuring six.

5 1970 - 1232 - Brevard Co., Titusville - Tornado ripped through two subdivisions, damaging about 35 homes injuring seven.

6 1954 - morning - northern Florida - Snow - Accumulated depths: - Milton 4 inches; Niceville 3 inches; Pensacola 2 inches; Caryville 1 inch. Southern and eastern limits of reports of snow or sleet were Panama City, Live Oak, and Jacksonville.

6 1982 - afternoon - Pinellas, Dade, Highlands Co. - A tornado moved through St. Petersburg, overturning four airplanes, damaging others, causing roof damage and downing power lines. A tornado in Miami damaged 100 homes, cars, and miles of power lines. A tornado in Sebring damaged 10 homes.

6 1992 - Early Evening - Central Florida - Hail up to 1.75" covered the ground up to a foot deep in southwest Seminole County. 1.75" hail fell in Lake County and 1.25" hail fell in Orange County. Severe Thunderstorm winds caused damage in Orange, Seminole, Brevard, and Indian River Counties. Damage ran into the millions, but there were no serious injuries.

7-9 - 1962 - Florida East Coast - Beach Erosion - Large waves generated by winds of an intense Atlantic storm pounded beaches along entire east Florida coast during three day period. Tides along the coast at time of high tide ranged two to 3 feet above normal. Superimposed wave action caused considerable erosion and several beach roads and properties were inundated. Greatest damages occurred between Melbourne and Miami Beach. One death in Miami Beach occurred while fighting an electrical fire caused when rising waters created a short circuit. Nearly all damages resulted from heavy ground swells rather than high tides.


9 1973 - 0020- Marion Co., Belleview - A tornado skipped through Belleview and Lake George, damaging 17 homes and destroying one. Six injuries reported.

10 1991 - 1030 - Seminole Co., Geneva - High winds capsized a 15 ft boat on Lake Harney, two men drowned, 1 was rescued.

10-11 1996 - Nassau, Duval, St. Johns and Flagler Counties - Winter Storm - A strong Nor'easter with winds of 50 to 60 mph caused damage from Amelia Island to Flagler beach. At Amelia Island, 6 to 12 feet of beach was lost on the island's south end. Atlantic Beach - between one-third and one-half of the sand added during the previous summer's beach re-nourishment project was washed away. St. Augustine Beach - about half of the beach re-nourishment project south of city hall was wiped out. Flagler Beach - about 100 feet of the 840-foot pier was lost. Estimated property damage was over $1 million dollars.
11 1944 - 2030 - Polk Co., Agricola - Tornado destroyed a large barn and unroofed a house. 2100 - Polk Co., Welcome - Tornado unroofed two large houses and destroyed a small one.

12 1951 - afternoon-evening - Sarasota Co., Nokomis - Waterspout/Tornado moved in from the Gulf of Mexico damaging seven homes and eight buildings. Other Waterspouts were reported off Clearwater and severe thunderstorm winds caused minor damage in Tampa area.

12-13 1993 - 2200-1430 - All Florida - Tornados, Thunderstorm Winds, Hail, High Winds, Storm Surge, Flood, Beach Erosion, Snow - The "Storm Of The Century" or "SuperStorm" roared across Florida producing a variety of severe and unusual weather conditions for about 18 hours from late Friday the 12th through late afternoon Saturday the 13th. A severe squall line raced eastward at over 50 mph ahead of an intense low producing several tornadoes and strong downbursts as it moved through the state and directly caused seven fatalities. This was followed by an unprecedented (for the Gulf Coast) winter storm surge of nine to 12 feet in Taylor County, with storm surges and/or tidal and wind driven flooding of five to 9 feet elsewhere along the Gulf Coast to the Keys. This was followed by a period of eight to 12 hours of high sustained winds of up to 50 mph with gusts to 70 mph, keeping tides much above normal along the west coast and causing severe beach erosion in many areas. As colder air poured in behind the intense low up to four inches of snow fell in the panhandle from north of Pensacola to Crestview, and a trace to 3 inches of snow fell elsewhere across north Florida. Record or near record low temperatures occurred over much of the state the following two nights. Total number of fatalities from the storm was 47, including 14 from storm surge and flooding, seven from tornadoes and/or strong downbursts, and four from high winds in the aftermath of the squall line. Eleven people drowned offshore in the Gulf of Mexico after strong winds swamped or capsized ships (including seven crewmen from a 200-ft Honduran freighter). Eleven others died during rescue operations and cleanup activities. Total property damage was estimated at $1.6 billion. Details follow:

12 1993 - 2338 - Levy Co., Chiefland - A tornado struck a home in which four people were asleep, pinning two of them under a fallen wall and suffocating them. Two others were injured. A nearby mobile home was destroyed killing its elderly occupant. The tornado went on to destroy or damage other mobile homes injuring five more people, and knocking down trees and power lines.


13 1993 - Manatee County, Terra Ceia Bay - Thunderstorm winds -A man who lived on a houseboat drowned while apparently attempting to evacuate the boat in strong winds.

13 1993 - 0020 - Alachua Co., LaCrosse - A tornado destroyed a mobile home killing 1 person and injuring four others. Trees and power lines down. A few houses destroyed, one by propane explosion.

13 1993 - 0030 - Lake County, Mt. Dora - Tornado - A small fast-moving tornado touched down near Howey-in-the-Hills and moved northeast striking Mt. Dora and continued northeast until dissipating in Volusia County. A 5-month old baby boy was killed in a mobile home 10 miles northeast of Mt. Dora at 0050 EST. The mobile home was destroyed and two adults in it were seriously injured. In all 13 homes were destroyed, 80 suffered major damage and 266 reported minor damage.
13 1993 - 0405 - Pinellas County, Clearwater - High Winds - Winds to 61 mph were recorded at the Clearwater Pass Bridge. Two boaters in a sailboat were drowned when they apparently were pushed into the bridge pilings and capsized.

13 1993 - Citrus County, N. Homosassa - High Winds - Two males were apparently washed overboard from a fishing boat and drowned. Their bodies were recovered a week later.

13 1993 - 0420 - Taylor County, Coastal Areas - Storm Surge - A 10- to 12-foot storm surge moved into the coast destroying 57 homes. Ten people were killed, nine at Dekle Beach and one at Keaton Beach.

13 1993 - 0452 - Dade County, Narrowrowanja - Thunderstorm Winds overturned a mobile home, killing one person and injuring another.

13 1993 - 0530 - Hernando County, Aripeka to Hernando Beach - Flood - Flood waters about nine feet deep inundated the coastal area with most residents in water chest deep. One person suffered a heart attack and died attempting to evacuate out of the flooded area. 61 homes were destroyed, 3,300 damaged, and 100 people evacuated.

13 1993 - 0530 - Pasco County, Hudson to Aripeka - Flood - Water at least 9 feet deep flooded homes and businesses. An elderly woman drowned in her home.

13 1993 - 0545 - Levy County, Cedar Key - Storm Surge - A 9.5 foot storm surge was reported and 120 homes were flooded. An elderly male died while attempting to evacuate the flood.

13 1993 - 0600 - Pinellas County, Honeymoon Island - High Winds - A 38-ft fishing vessel was swamped by 20-30 foot seas seven miles west of the coast. One crew member drowned and the other was rescued by the Coast Guard.

13 1993 - 1035 - Broward County, Davie - High Winds uprooted a tree that struck and killed a person.

13 1993 - 1134 - Broward County, Pompano Beach - High Winds caused a building to collapse, killing a motorcyclist who was standing near it.

14 1986 - 0400 thru 1445 - North and Central Florida - Severe Weather Outbreak - A squall line moved across North Central Florida producing at least nine tornadoes and many severe thunderstorms. In Gainesville, a tornado threw a pickup truck 100 ft - two stores were unroofed and gutted and seven others damaged. A wind gust of 85 mph reported in Taylor Co. A tornado in Orange Lake downed power poles and pine trees, and a large tree was blown over and destroyed a mobile home roof in Putnam Co. A tornado in Astor Park damaged several mobile homes. High winds blew the roof off a large equipment shed in St. Johns Co. A gust of 63 mph was reported at Daytona Beach airport. A tornado at Palm Coast damaged the roof of a shopping center and downed several power lines. A tornado in Belleview damaged a 3-car garage and barn. A tornado in Deltona destroyed utility sheds and carports, uprooted trees, and damaged roofs in a nine-block area. A 27 year old man was injured in Hillsborough Co. while working on a roof when lightning hit the roof.
14 1993 - 1000 - Highlands County, Lake Charles - A Waterspout picked up a 16-ft boat and overturned it, spilling the two boaters into the water. One drowned, and the other was rescued two hours later.

15 1960 - north and central Florida - Citrus, Marion, Lake, Seminole, Brevard, Orange, Osceola, Polk, Sumter, Hernando, Pasco and Hillsborough Counties - Heavy Rain and Flood - Generally more than 10 inches of rain fell on a large section of central Florida during this 4-day period and the area of Pasco, Hernando, most of Sumter and the northern portion of Hillsborough counties received close to 15 inches of rain. Many points reported hail, high wind and tornadoes at some point during the period. Resulting high water and river overflow wreaked havoc on roads, bridges and agricultural crops. River overflow and/or accumulated waters in poorly drained areas forced many residents from their homes in several effected counties. Flood on the Hillsborough River considered worst since September 1933. Total storm damage, including that of hail, wind, tornadoes, flood and other causes estimated near $20 million, half of which was sustained by agriculture.

16 1986 - 0850 - Hillsborough Co.- Thunderstorm winds blew over a trailer and killed a man. Hail damaged vegetable crops.

17 1928 - 0010 - Lake/Orange Cos.- Tornado moved from Lake Jem to Mt. Dora. A woman was killed when she was thrown from her disintegrating home.

17 1960 - Afternoon - Polk County, Haines City - Lightning killed one person.

17 1973 - early morning - Central Florida - Tornado Outbreak - Five tornadoes struck from Pinellas Co. to Brevard Co. as a squall line ahead of a fast moving cold front swept across the Florida Peninsula. Tornadoes struck near Treasure Island, Zephyrhills, Winter Haven, Haines City, and Sharpes. Three injuries were reported.

17 1985 - 0430 - Sarasota Co., Venice - A tornado destroyed 55 CBS houses and caused major damage to 150 houses, minor damage to 100 houses. A 65 year old woman was killed inside a camper. A 66 year old man was killed standing on his front porch. 45 people injured.

17 1995 - 0430 - Volusia Co., Daytona Beach - A Canadian tourist who had been swimming with two friends drowned in a rip current behind the La Playa Cocktail Lounge.

18 1960 - Hillsborough Co. - All time record flood crest on Hillsborough River near Zephyrhills.

18 1975 - 2140 - St. Johns Co., St. Augustine - Tornado unroofed houses, damaged a school, trailers, and an auto showroom.

18 1991 - 1014 - Polk Co., Lakeland - A tornado touched down three times. Thirteen mobile homes destroyed, 85 mobile homes damaged, 190 houses and apartments, telephone, power lines, and trees downed. Two injuries.

19 1965 - 1800 - Gadsden Co.- Three-quarter inch hail fell, damaging tobacco shades. Hail covered ground three to 4 inches deep in spots.

20 1929 - Jackson & Gadsden Counties - All time record flood crest (79.6') on the Apalachicola River at Chattahoochee, near the present day site of Woodruff Dam.

20 1964 - 0550 - Pinellas Co., St. Petersburg - Tornado damaged and unroofed 20 homes.

20 1984 - 1000 - Bay Co., Panama City - High winds destroyed a motel roof, blew down trees, utility poles, destroyed four townhouses under construction. Twenty car windows were broken.

21 1929 - Calhoun and Liberty Counties - All time record flood crest (28.6') on the Apalachicola River at Blountstown.

21 1950 - Bay Co. - Hail up to 2 1/2 inches in diameter struck the Panama City area. At Tyndall AFB hailstones ripped through airplane wings, smashed windows and heavily damaged cars. Several people suffered minor injuries. Damage was estimated at two million dollars.

21 1993 - 1400 - Indian River Co., Vero Beach - Flash flooding damaged about 50 homes and many roads around Hwy 60 were washed out.

22 1957 - 1600-1700 - Polk Co., near Waverly - Hailstones of golf-ball size hit citrus groves in 2-square-mile area, stripping trees of foliage and knocking large amounts of fruit from trees. Many oranges split open, some grapefruit completely penetrated by hail but left hanging on trees.

22 1968 - 1140 - Okaloosa Co., Destin - A tornado damaged a museum, motel, and three cars. Minor damage at Destin Airport.

23 1984 - 0830 - Hendry Co., Labelle - Lightning struck two men under a piece of equipment, killing one.

24 1983 - Morning - Central-South Florida - Severe Weather Outbreak - A strong squall line moved across peninsular Florida, producing tornadoes in Winter Haven, Polk Co., Kenansville, Osceola Co., Cocoa Beach, Merritt Island, and Melbourne in Brevard Co. Severe thunderstorm winds and hail struck Citrus, Hardee, Hernando, Pasco, Hillsborough, Pinellas, Broward, and Dade Counties. Two injuries were reported.

25 1909 - 0700 - Polk Co., Kathleen - Tornado killed a person in one of 8 homes destroyed.

25 1955 - afternoon - central Florida - Large Hail caused heavy roof damage to homes and barns in Sumter County. Large hail also fell in Pasco, Hernando, Polk, and Indian River Counties. Hail of lesser size was reported in Lake and Brevard counties.

25 1973 - 1600 - Sarasota Co., Casey Key - Lighting killed a 19 year old surfer standing near the water's edge.
25 1992 - Evening - Central Florida - Hailstorm - The worst hailstorm in Florida history struck the Orlando area just three weeks after one of the worst hailstorms in Central Florida history (see 3/6/92). Hail up to baseball size hit the University of Central Florida (UCF) and the vast greenhouse areas in western Orange County, crippling the nursery industry in the area. Damage was estimated at 60 - 100 million dollars. Smaller hail also fell in North Florida and as far South as Miami. Thunderstorm winds destroyed a citrus packing plant near Groveland in Lake County, injuring eight. The largest official hailstone recorded was 3.00" at the UCF - the third largest Florida hailstone on record, but residents reported larger hail that melted. While it will remain debatable whether the largest hail of all time fell in this storm (that distinction - 4 1/2"- belongs with the 3/30/95 Polk Co. hailstorm), it was clearly the costliest hailstorm in Florida history.

26 1964 - afternoon - Duval Co., Jacksonville - Wind and lightning caused a limb to fall, killing a man working in the yard. Lightning struck a jetliner on the ground at airport and injured three employees.

27 1946 - 1300 - Suwannee Co., Houston - Tornado destroyed some barns and unroofed a school.

28 1955 - One inch of snow fell in northwest Florida. This is the latest date of measurable snow on record.

28-31 1972 Statewide - Extended Severe Weather - A series of squall lines starting on the 28th preceded a cold frontal passage on the 31st. Thunderstorms with high winds, hail, heavy rains, and tornadoes were reported. Damage totals were in the millions. Rainfall averaged 2" to 4" during this time, with many individual stations reporting over 5". Details are reported below.

28 1972 - afternoon - Panhandle/northwest Florida - Severe Weather Outbreak - A severe squall line spawned eight tornadoes and many severe thunderstorms as it moved across north Florida. Tornadoes were reported in Altha, Milton, Tallahassee, Starke, near St. Augustine, and at Keystone Heights in Clay Co. 20 people were injured in Gainesville when thunderstorm winds collapsed a circus tent. Lightning injured several people and started several fires.

29 1972 - Afternoon-Evening - Panhandle/north Florida - Severe Weather hit area for second straight day. Several tornadoes and severe thunderstorms reported from Pensacola and Panama City to Jacksonville. A report of hailstones up to 3 1/2" that did considerable damage in the Freeport, Walton Co. area is the second largest on record for the State of Florida.

28-29 1982 - Martin & Palm Beach Cos. - Coastal storm - Very heavy rains and high winds struck the Florida Gold Coast around the Palm Beach area. Lantana, a suburb of Palm Beach, measured 16 inches of rain in 24 hours. High seas sunk a Haitian freighter and drowned 11 people. Two other people were killed because of the storm. Hundreds of homes and cars were flooded. The Lake Worth Pier sustained heavy damage.

29 1990 - 1545 - north Lake Co. - Thunderstorm winds downed trees and power lines. A 72 year old man drowned while docking his boat in high winds.

30 1939 - 2210 - Duval Co., Jacksonville - Deadliest northeast Florida tornado - killed four workers at a turpentine plant. Ten small homes were destroyed. A roof was carried for 2 miles.
30 1974 - 0200 - Gadsden Co. - A tornado struck near Hinson uprooting trees, destroying a home, large double mobile home, and damaging the Concordia Church - injuring four. A woman died of injuries several days later.


30 1996 - Afternoon - evening - Central Florida - Severe Weather Outbreak - Tornadoes were documented in Hernando, Sumter, Lake, Polk, and Brevard counties. In Brevard County, a waterspout/tornado touched down in Merritt Island and Cape Canaveral, tearing out windows and damaging roofs on six homes, destroying a small building on a used car lot, and damaging the roof of a night club and a dive shop. 25 other buildings in the area received minor damage. Windows were blown out of 30 vehicles. Damage estimates were near $500,000. Hail, most the size of baseballs, severely damaged the roofs, knocked out windows in nearly 600 homes, and severely damaged 3,000 vehicles in Lake Wales, Polk County. Softball size hail (4.50-inch) also occurred in Lake Wales, which set a new record as the largest documented hail for the state of Florida. Hail accumulated to a depth of one foot in Bartow. Golf ball size hail (1.75-inch) fell in Hillsborough, Lake, Orange, Seminole, Brevard, Osceola and Martin counties. An 86 mph wind gust at Bartow Municipal Airport caused window and roof damage to the FAA tower, severely damaged roofs and doors of two businesses at the airport, and overturned and demolished five mobile homes on wheels at a mobile home plant on airport property. Winds blew down trees in Chuluota, Seminole County, in Mulberry, Polk County, and damaged a van and injured one person in Ocoee, Orange County. Total property damage was estimated at $28 million dollars, with the storm producing the record size hail causing the majority of the damage at nearly $25 million dollars.

31 1931 - 1030 - Polk Co., Mulberry - Tornado damaged or destroyed 20 small homes and unroofed 1 large home, injuring nine.

31 1933 -2030 - Escambia/Santa Rosa Counties - Tornado moved northeast from Pensacola and destroyed three small homes. Five injuries were in a home thrown into a tree.

31 1939 - 0730 - Volusia Co., Daytona Beach - Tornado unroofed a house injuring three, then moved out to sea.

31 1949 - 0930 - Okaloosa Co., Niceville - Tornado destroyed a home, injuring one person, then unroofed another home. Trees were uprooted and twisted off.

31 1962 - 0900 - Santa Rosa Co. - Tornado - one of the deadliest in Florida History, struck northeast of Milton, destroying 75 small homes. Trailers and cars were thrown several 100 ft. About 200 other homes and buildings were damaged. About 80 injuries required treatment. A mother and three young children were killed in their home. At least 10 homes had a single death. Total deaths - 17. Tornadoes were also reported in Okaloosa and Escambia Counties in the morning and Bay County in the afternoon.

31 1972 - morning - afternoon - Central Florida - Severe Weather Outbreak. At least 10 tornadoes, and many high wind reports were received as a squall line crossed the Peninsula. Tornadoes were reported in Brooksville, Plymouth, Apopka, Longwood, N. Orlando, Tampa, Allenhurst (Brevard Co.), Kennedy
Space Center, Brandon, and Loxahatchee. Pinellas Co. and Tampa were hardest hit with several hundred homes damaged and six injured.

31 1994 - 1750 - Volusia Co., Ormond Beach - Strong winds produced rip currents that drowned a boy visiting from Louisiana.

31 1996 - Afternoon - early evening - North central to southeast Florida - Severe weather hit for the second day in a row. A small tornado blew down a few trees on S. R. 60 west of Vero Beach. Baseball to softball size hail was reported near Fellsmere, while dime to golf ball size hail occurred from Levy to Dade county, causing over a quarter million dollars damage to property and crops. Lightning struck and injured a man on Miami Beach. In Levy County, two large pine trees were snapped at the base and downed at Cedar Key.

APRIL

1 1989 - 1300 - Polk Co., Lakeland - Lightning killed a 9-year old boy riding his bicycle.

2 1959 - Morning - At least three tornadoes touched down in central Florida. 0600 -Pasco Co., Dade City - Tornado destroyed 10 buildings and damaged 28 others, causing 12 injuries - four serious. Sixty other buildings received minor damage. 0730 - Orange Co., Azalea Park - Tornado destroyed nine homes and damaged 69, injuring 20 people. A woman was killed when thrown from a trailer that was moved 100 yards. Many trees were uprooted. 0812 - Brevard Co., Mims - Tornado destroyed two homes and damaged seven, injuring one person. The tornado was described as "a fiery cloud with a black stem trailing behind."

3 1941 - central Florida - A "great hailstorm" caused more than one million dollars damage (1941 dollars). Sixteen people were also injured in a "windstorm". Most of the damage was to citrus crops in Polk County. This was the most destructive hailstorm in the nation that year.

3 1949 - 1430 - Bradford Co., Starke - Tornado destroyed 1 home and damaged six. One person was injured. Another tornado was reported in Clay County.

3 1960 - 0430 - Bay Co., Panama City Beach - Tornado destroyed a small home and garage. The one -room city hall was destroyed and a motel was unroofed. - Afternoon - Duval Co., Mandarin - one person killed by lightning.

4 1966 - 0800 - 1000 - One of the deadliest tornado outbreaks in Central Florida History. Tornadoes, some of the strongest on record in Florida, moved in from the Gulf of Mexico and tracked from the Tampa Bay area to Brevard County, killing 11 and injuring over 500. Tornadoes first struck in Pinellas county near St. Petersburg and Clearwater, damaging 36 homes, then moved across Tampa Bay through Hillsborough Co. damaging a junior high school and destroying 150 homes - killing three. Tornadoes next moved through Polk County where the most severe damage was at Gibsonia and Galloway where nearly a hundred homes were destroyed and seven people were killed. Other tornadoes were reported in Lake Juliana, Lakeland, and north of Haines City where many trailers were destroyed. A woman was killed in a trailer near Davenport. Tornadoes were next reported in Osceola Co. at Kissimmee and St. Cloud. Another tornado moved from Holopaw to Rockledge to south Merritt Island and Cocoa Beach. In
Cocoa Beach 150 trailers were ripped apart, causing over 100 injuries. Over 20 frame homes and a shopping center were destroyed.

5 1907 - 1745 - Escambia/Santa Rosa Counties - Tornado destroyed two homes and seven barns. A man was carried 200 yards in the air. Tornado described as "smoke mixed with steam and sounding like three passenger trains." Five injuries.

5 1917 - 1340 - Hillsborough Co., S. Tampa - Tornado destroyed three small homes and a church. A boy was killed in Mango as the roof fell into his house. Three injuries.

5 1925 - 1315 - Dade Co., Miami, Biscayne Bay - Deadliest south Florida Tornado - moved about 15 mph and became stationary for five minutes. The funnel was visible for almost an hour. Fifty homes were destroyed or damaged. One man was killed in the destruction of a restaurant. Four other deaths were reported on a dairy farm. 35 injuries. Large hail fell along a 12-mile path with this storm causing considerable damage.

5-14 1948 - northwest Florida - Record flooding on much of the Suwannee River and its tributaries. All-time record flood crests on Suwannee River at Branford on the 11th, Dowling Park on the 8th, Ellaville on the 7th, Fowlers Bluff, Manatee Springs, and Wilcox on the 14th. Record crests on the Ochlocknee River at Havana on the 4th, the Withlacoochee River at Pinetta on the 5th, and the Santa Fe River at Three Rivers Estates and Highway 129 Bridge on the 12th.

5 1974 - Noon - Volusia Co., Daytona Beach Shores - Lightning killed a visitor from Canada while standing on the beach.

5 1993 - morning - south Florida - Severe weather outbreak. A squall line that developed over the Gulf of Mexico on the 4th moved rapidly eastward across the southern Peninsula. At least 10 tornadoes effected eight counties during the 4-hour period it took for the squall line to pass. Severe thunderstorm winds resulted in many homes and businesses being damaged, outbuildings and screen enclosures being destroyed, cars and boats being damaged, and downed power lines and trees. Fortunately only five injuries were reported. Worst hit were the Port Charlotte, Fort Myers, and Fort Lauderdale areas where the injuries occurred.

6 1976 - 0530 - Collier Co. - Strong thunderstorm winds and a small tornado hit Marco Island and damaged an equipment compound belonging to Deltona Corp.

7 1877 - Escambia County - A waterspout/tornado destroyed several small shacks and unroofed a large home as it moved inland near Pensacola. Beams from the roof were driven four feet into the ground. A small child was killed. Three large sailing ships were also destroyed.

8 1989 - 2200 - Columbia Co., Lake City - Thunderstorm winds uprooted large trees and damaged a house.

9 1937 - 0430 - Dade Co., SW Miami - Tornado destroyed three small homes and unroofed seven. Five injuries.
9 1961 - 1700 - St. Johns Co., St. Augustine. Tornado unroofed three packing plants and four homes. Some barns were destroyed. A car was picked up and set down 60 ft away. Two people injured.

9 1983 - 1255 - Citrus Co. Inverness, Lecanto - Tornado damaged a mobile home park, demolished a service station, overturned a large truck onto two cars, blew down trees, and power lines. One person was killed when thrown from car while airborne, two others crushed to death on impact.

9 1984 - afternoon - central/south Florida - Severe weather outbreak. Tornadoes struck Inverness in Citrus Co., Tarrytown in Sumter Co., North Ft. Lauderdale and Pompano Beach in Broward Co., Boca Raton in Palm Beach Co., and Mascotte in Lake County - damaging roofs, carports, and screen enclosures. No serious injuries reported. 2.75" hail fell near Pembroke Pines in Broward County causing little damage.

9 1996 1000 - Monroe Co., 10 miles east southeast of Key West - Thunderstorm wind gusts capsized an 18 - foot pleasure boat near American Shoals Lighthouse, plunging four persons into the water. The four persons were rescued by the Coast Guard. Key Vaca - A 37 - foot sailboat was blown aground by thunderstorm wind gusts near the entrance to Banana Bay Resort.

10 1956 - 1845-1900 - Broward Co., W. Hollywood & Dania - A tornado destroyed a jai-alai building and several mobile homes and damaged the roof of the Dania Elementary School and a motel. Twenty people were injured.

10 1991 - 1000 - Pinellas Co., Weedon Island - Thunderstorm winds overturned a 17 ft boat. Two occupants thrown overboard. An elderly man drowned, his wife was rescued.

10 1995 - 1200 - Flagler Co., Flagler Beach - A 54-year-old male drowned while attempting to rescue a couple caught in a rip current 30 yards offshore Flagler Beach.

11 1955 - 1800 - Lake Co., Leesburg - Lightning killed one person in a boat on Lake Griffin.

11 1975 - morning - afternoon - north and central Florida - Flash Floods and Tornadoes - Heavy rain of four to 6" in a few hours caused local flash flooding in Jacksonville and Marion and Lake Counties. Tornadoes were reported in Putnam, Marion, Volusia(2), Lake, Brevard, Escambia, Walton, and Polk Counties between 1030 and 1830 causing primarily roof, tree and car damage. The only one minor injury occurred from a tornado at Merritt Island, Brevard Co.

12 1961 - Night - Escambia Co., Pensacola - Strong thunderstorm winds greatly damaged a pile driver, barge, fishing boats, and many homes on Santa Rosa Island.

13 1917 - 1315 - Dade Co., Miami - Tornado blew a school apart; it was not in session. Homes and businesses lost roofs and walls. The grandstand at the ballpark was unroofed.

13 1978 - 1800 - Escambia Co., Pensacola - Thunderstorms accompanied by 56 mph winds and 4" rain blew off the roof of four townhouses and a racquet club.
14 1975 - afternoon - Escambia Co., Pensacola - A Tornado moved into the western portion of Pensacola collapsing a 200-foot section of a furniture store wall, tearing the roof off a house, and damaging several other homes. Several small tornadoes were also reported in Walton, Polk, and Volusia Counties causing only minor damage.

15 1958 - Early Afternoon - Central Florida - Severe weather Outbreak - Violent squall with winds near 80mph hit Mullet Key and moved across Tampa Bay to Sun City, Ruskin, and Wimauma leaving destruction and debris not unlike a tornado. A B-47 bomber exploded and crashed into Tampa Bay just before the heaviest part of the storm hit, killing all four crew members. Polk Co., Bereah - Tornado leveled nine small homes. A 2,500 gallon water tank was found a mile away. Seven injuries. 1220 - St. Johns Co., St. Augustine - Tornado destroyed six homes injuring 8. 1309 - St. Lucie Co., Ft. Pierce - Tornado destroyed/damaged 28 homes and about 200 other buildings. Most of the destruction was in downtown business area where more than 50 people were injured by flying glass.

15 1987 - 0920 - Sumter Co., Bushnell - Tornado destroyed four homes and damaged 10. 1015 - Lake Co., Mt. Dora - Tornado killed a 68-year old woman in her trailer home. Forty trailers, 12 houses and 18 businesses were destroyed. Seven injuries.


16-17 1942 - south Florida - Extremely heavy rain caused extensive damage to vegetable crops. 19.32" of rain on 16th and 17th at Miami Airport reported as caused by "Tropical Storm" in official documents, but appears to be a result of slow moving frontal system approaching from west and low pressure center developing in the Caribbean on an old front.


17 1991 - 1315 - Brevard Co., Satellite Beach - A waterspout was observed by Florida Highway Patrol. It dissipated before moving on shore.

18 1945 - 2100 - Volusia County - A tornado was accompanied by hail as large as guinea eggs.

18 1978 -1845 - Volusia Co., Ormond Beach - A tornado rolled a large mobile home 200 ft and destroyed it. Several homes had roof damage.

18 1996 0838 - Okaloosa Co., Mary Esther - Eleven military personnel were working on an aircraft when lightning struck either the aircraft or near the aircraft. One of the airmen was killed and ten others were injured. The personnel had been ordered inside due to thunderstorms around the area earlier in the morning. The airmen were allowed back on the field at 829 am and lightning hit at 838 am. It was likely the strike that hit the airmen was the first strike out of a developing thunderstorm.

19 1901 - Dade Co., N. Miami - Tornado killed a prominent vegetable farmer as his new home was blown apart.
1869 - 0230 - Orlando, Lake Ivanhoe - Wind capsized a boat, one man drowned, five others swam to safety.


1988 - 0330 - Gadsden, Madison, Hamilton Cos. - A tornado moved through Madison destroying 17 homes and damaging 30 homes, in addition several commercial buildings, a church, and three buildings at North Florida Junior College were destroyed. Two people were killed in a mobile home and two were killed in a farm house - 18 injuries, six requiring hospitalization. About 90,000 chicks were killed. Other tornadoes hit Bellville in Hamilton Co., and severe thunderstorm winds were reported in Quincy. Later in the morning severe thunderstorm winds unroofed a house and blew a large tree on a car near Lake Apopka in Orange Co. and a tornado near Mascotte in Lake Co. heavily damage seven mobile homes and a frame house.

1989 - 1530 - St. Lucie Co., Port St. Lucie - Lightning injured two golfers while retrieving golf balls from a lake.


1991 - 0800 - Clay Co., Lowry Lake - A fisherman in a 16 ft aluminum boat was washed overboard and drowned when strong thunderstorm winds and high waves swamped the boat.

1971 - daytime - Walton Co., NW Glendale - Golf ball size hail destroyed 1,000 acres of wheat.

1995 - 1515 - Okaloosa Co., Fort Walton Beach - A 17-year-old Ft. Walton Beach male died in rough surf while swimming off of Okaloosa Island. Hazardous surf condition flags were posted over the lifeguard stands along the protected beach areas, but a couple of local teens ventured into the rough surf.

1945 - 0130 - Escambia Co., Pensacola - Tornado destroyed six homes, damaged 10 others. One home was thrown 300 feet onto another. Eight injuries.

1978 - 0930 - 1030 - Dade Co., Miami - Thunderstorm wind gusts of 51 mph damaged windows. Ten people were injured by flying glass. Several funnel clouds were reported in the area.

1983 - morning to afternoon - Severe weather outbreak across north central Florida. Eleven tornadoes and 12 other severe thunderstorms struck from the big bend area to Jacksonville and Orlando, injuring nine and causing considerable property damage. A tornado destroyed a 2-story beach house at Alligator Point in Franklin Co., and fifty mobile homes were damaged at Shell Point in Wakulla Co. Two people were injured when thunderstorm winds overturned a trailer at Mayo in Lafayette Co. A tornado struck Bell in Gilchrist Co., destroying several mobile homes and injuring four. A tornado destroyed a brick home at Fort White in Columbia Co. Other tornadoes were reported in Bradford, Union, Duval, Clay, Marion, Lake, Volusia, and Orange Counties during the early afternoon.
24-25 1979 - Broward, Dade Co. - Heavy rains caused flooding of roads, streets, and highways. Miami International had a record 24 hour rainfall 16.2". The weight of the water caused roofs to collapse, flooding damaged floors and carpets. A woman drove into a canal and drowned, a man lost control of his car, struck a utility pole and died.

25 1991 - afternoon - Central Florida - Widespread Severe weather outbreak. Many reports of tornadoes and severe thunderstorm winds during the afternoon with widespread minor property damage and only two minor injuries. Weak tornadoes struck Largo and Indian Shores in Pinellas Co. - Lakeland and Mulberry in Polk Co., and near McDill AFB and Temple Terrace in Hillsborough Co. Severe Thunderstorm Winds struck Clearwater, St. Petersburg Beach, Tampa, Sarasota, Venice, Port Charlotte, Wauchula, Arcadia, Avon Park, Lake Wales, Sebastian and Miami. Hail was also reported in Sarasota, Polk, and Pinellas Cos. Lightning struck a man working under a truck south of Miami.

26 1954 - 1600 - Polk Co., Winter Haven - Hail of "walnut to egg" size broke a few windows and caused minor damage to citrus fruit.

26 1993 - 0630 - Washington Co., Wausau - Tornado touched down several times, damaged several homes, a church, barns, boats, overturned a 35,000 lb tractor trailer and uprooted many large trees.

26 1994 - 1635-1654 - Charlotte Co., Punta Gorda - A large waterspout crossed a bridge over the Peace River between Port Charlotte and Punta Gorda. A pickup on the bridge was thrown 60' down into the river, injuring the driver. Two cars were rolled over and an infant in one suffered cuts. Funnel clouds and dime-size hail were reported in the area.

26 1995 - Volusia Co., New Symrna Beach - A 74-year old male resident of Deltona drowned in a rip current.

27 1979 - 1300 to 1430 - Duval Co., Jacksonville - Thunderstorm winds downed power lines, and damaged several boats, roofs, and docks. Quarter inch hail also fell.

27 1980 - 1200 to 1300 - Monroe Co.- Thunderstorm wind gusts over hurricane force swept across the Florida Keys. A woman drowned when a boat capsized. This storm occurred during Cuban evacuation with estimated 10 to 15 boats sunk and at least two men drowned. True Cuban death toll not known.

28 1990 - 1300 - Baker Co., S. Baxter - Thunderstorm winds downed several trees. 1515 - Holmes County, Bonifay - Thunderstorm winds downed several trees and power lines. 1616 - Putnam Co., Bostwick - Thunderstorm winds downed power lines.

29 1955 - 1000 - 1700 - Ft. Pierce to Miami - Wind, Rain, Hail, Lightning - Storm most severe in Fort Lauderdale area where winds of 90 mph with gusts to 130 mph. Hailstones marble size at Fort Pierce and Miami Beach, egg size at Fort Lauderdale. Hail damaged roofs, smashed windows, dented automobiles, and cut shrubbery to shreds. Lightning contributed to property damage by burning out portions of electric power distribution systems.
29 1979 - afternoon - SE Palm Beach, Broward, Dade Counties - A severe thunderstorm with golfball size hail caused damage to fruit trees, nursery plants, and foliage crops. Power lines and trees were downed.

30 1988 - 1250 - Okeechobee Co. - A tornado damaged five buildings, including City Hall, and downed trees.

30 1996 0100 - Citrus Co. - Thunderstorm winds produced eight foot waves which capsized and sunk a 30 foot fishing vessel in Homosassa Bay.

MAY

1-5 1978 - Statewide - Exceptionally stormy period with severe weather outbreaks on the 1st, 3rd, 4th, and 5th of May. See individual days for details.

1 1978 - afternoon-evening - north central Florida - A line of severe thunderstorms moved through northern Florida accompanied by strong gusty winds, lightning, torrential rain, and several reports of hail. Widespread tree damage occurred, many power lines were blown down, and several fires were started by lightning. Many large trees crashed into homes and cars and fell across roads. Tornadoes and severe thunderstorm winds were reported in Alachua, Putnam, Brevard, and Duval Counties. Five persons received minor injuries. Four were injured in a shopping center parking lot in Cocoa (Brevard Co.) when high winds blew down a large tent and damaged cars.

2 1929 - 1620 - Duval Co., Jacksonville Heights and Ortega - Tornado destroyed seven homes and damaged 15 others. A man was killed in a farmhouse.

2 1964 - entire day - North Florida - Madison, Hamilton, Baker, Union, Clay, Columbia, Duval, St. Johns, Putnam and Bradford Counties - Heavy rains from a slow moving low pressure system caused considerable local flooding on most streams and forced evacuation of some residential areas. Maxville and Middleburg communities were hardest hit. Two persons drowned at Maxville while fleeing rising waters. Hail fell in scattered areas and caused some crop damage. Early on the morning of the 3rd thunderstorm winds unroofed two houses and damaged other homes and commercial buildings at Roseland in Indian River County.

3-4 1978 - northern and central Florida - Lines of severe thunderstorms associated with a cold front and strong low pressure system swept through northern and central Florida causing a variety of severe weather, resulting in three deaths and over 100 injuries. Tornadoes, lightning, high winds, hail, heavy rain and local flooding, high tides and beach erosion, funnel clouds and waterspouts were reported. Tides along the Gulf coast were two to 4 feet above normal. A squall line ahead of a fast-moving cold front spawned at least 11 tornadoes and many severe thunderstorms from Jacksonville to Lake Okeechobee as it moved down the peninsula. 4th at 1047 - Pinellas Co. - A tornado hit the High Point Elementary School, killing three students, and injuring 94. Many students were in the cafeteria at the time, otherwise there would have been more fatalities. A pickup truck was hurled 40 feet in the air and came down on a vehicle, five trailers were destroyed, 10 damaged. Other tornadoes caused injuries in Alachua Co. near Gainesville, Osceola Co. near Kenanesville, and Highlands Co. near Sebring, Many
reports of funnel clouds, waterspouts and strong thunderstorm wind gusts were reported across the peninsula.

3 1994 - afternoon - Statewide - Twenty-six reports of severe weather, including severe thunderstorms, tornadoes, lightning, large hail, funnel clouds and waterspouts from the Panhandle to the Keys. The most significant event occurred in Volusia Co. at Ormond Beach - a Tornado touched down at intersection of I-95 and Highway 40 in northern Volusia Co. It moved east, producing minor damage. The tornado intensified when it passed over the Holiday Village mobile home park just west of Ormond Beach, where it damaged 125 and destroyed 150 mobile homes. No serious injuries. Damage estimated near $10 million. The only injuries for the day occurred at St. Lucie in Martin Co., where two firefighters were sent to the hospital after lightning struck the side of their truck while they were fighting a brush fire started by lightning. The largest hail, up to 3”, was reported in Palm Beach County.

4 1996 early evening - Northern Manatee and Southern Hillsborough Counties - Ping pong size hail caused significant crop damage. 77 percent of the tomato crop and 90 to 100 percent of the cucumber, bell pepper, and green bean crop were severely damaged or destroyed. Losses were estimated at over 18 million dollars.

5 1956 - 0930 - Escambia Co., Pensacola - Tornado completely leveled a brick garage, and five other buildings were badly damaged. One man was critically injured in a crushed car. 12 cars were destroyed.

5 1978 - 0430 - 0630 - Dade County - A line of severe thunderstorms moved through the area causing extensive tree and power line damage. Several trees fell onto parked cars. This was associated with the same frontal system that moved through northern and central Florida the day before producing many tornadoes, leaving three dead, over 100 injured, and more than $8,000,000 in damage. The hardest-hit areas in Dade County were Coconut Grove, Coral Gables, Kendall and South Miami. More than 75 power lines were broken by falling tree limbs and flying debris. Wind gusts to 56 mph were recorded at the National Hurricane Center in Coral Gables. No injuries reported.

6 1877 - Wakulla Co. - A tornado destroyed homes and trees near St. Marks.

6 1979 - 1530 - Pasco Co. - Lightning killed a 14 year old boy near a wire fence in northern Pasco County.

7 1975 - 1645 - St. Johns Co. - Lightning killed a 63 year old man at the Guana Dam fishing pier.

7 1995 - 1530 - St. Johns Co., Crescent Beach - Two boys, 10 and 14-year olds, drowned in a strong rip current between 75 and 100 feet from shore.

8 1977 - Night - St. Lucie, Indian River, Brevard Cos. - A line of thunderstorms moved through the area from west to east. Several of these thunderstorms were severe, accompanied by lightning, gusty winds, locally heavy rain and some hail. Lightning struck a tire store in Vero Beach causing a fire resulting in $750,000 damage. Winds up to 50 mph were reported at Kennedy Space Center.

8 1979 - morning-afternoon - Central Florida - Tornado Outbreak/Heavy Rain/Floods - A low pressure system in the eastern Gulf of Mexico spawned waves of tornadic thunderstorms with excessive rainfall.
Widespread damage occurred in the Tampa Bay area. The 19 tornadoes reported are the most in one day in Florida history. Three people drowned in Pinellas County where flooding was most severe. Rainfall amounts of 18 inches in 24 hours were reported. Tornadoes damaged homes, mobile homes, businesses, four schools, power lines, and trees. Worst hit was the Polk Co. community of Auburndale where a tornado made a direct hit on the Auburndale School. Only eight students were hurt by flying debris. An 83 year old woman was killed as she hid in an unreinforced concrete block storage shed. Ninety-eight trailers were damaged or destroyed and 40 people were injured. Other, less intense, tornadoes struck Pasco, Hernando, Volusia, Citrus, St. Lucie, Duval, Desoto and Charlotte Counties. Later, on the evening of the 8th, rain over 5" flooded homes and businesses in eastern Indian River Co.

8 1986 - 1500 - Volusia Co. - Lightning killed a 59-year old man poling a small boat to shore. It was not raining at the time.

9 1987 - 1700 - Broward Co., Ft. Lauderdale - Lightning killed a 23-year old man and a 31 year old man under a tree on the golf course. Two people who did not go under the tree were not injured.

9 1995 - 1730 - Broward Co., Lighthouse Point - A 7-year-old girl was killed when a lightning bolt directly struck her as she played softball in a park. The thunderstorm was about 5 miles northwest of the park when the lightning struck in the midst of 10 children and coaches. The park is surrounded by trees.

10 1977 - evening - Charlotte Co. - Thunderstorm winds gusted to 60 mph and 3.25" of rain fell south of Punta Gorda. No significant damage reported.

10 1961 - afternoon - Alachua Co. - Large hail caused considerable damage to tobacco, corn, and water mellons over a large area west of Gainesville.

11 1997 - afternoon - Broward Co., Miramar - Lightning killed a 16 year boy cutting the lawn in the rain.

11 1995 - 1000 - St. Lucie Co., Ft. Pierce - A 73-year-old man drowned after being pulled about 100 yards offshore in a rip current.

12 1974 - 1300 - Brevard Co., Cocoa Beach - Thunderstorm downburst caused minor damage in Cape Kennedy area. Wind gusts to 52 mph were recorded at Patrick AFB and reported to 75 mph by the public.

13 1975 - 1709 - Broward Co. - Severe thunderstorm winds lasting 20-30 minutes damaged over 90 of the 600 planes based at the Ft. Lauderdale International Airport. The FAA tower measured winds gusting to 101 mph. Tied down aircraft were ripped from their moorings. The roof of the terminal was slightly damaged, hail was reported and two inches of rain fell in an hour.

14 1955 - 1030 - Panama City - Lightning killed one person and injured three others.

14 1991 - 1330 - Volusia Co., New Smyrna Beach - Lightning killed a man and injured another while they walked on the beach.

15 1950 - 1200 - Orange Co., McCoy Air Force Base - A tornado leveled three concrete block buildings at the base. Other tornadoes and windstorms were reported in the Orlando area causing minor damage.

15 1974 - 1510 - Martin Co., Palm City - A tornado destroyed a boat house and several boats, unroofed some buildings, including local newspaper office. One man suffered a fractured skull from flying debris.

16 1975 - afternoon - Sumter Co., Wildwood - Lightning killed a man and injured another while running for shelter.

16 1983 - early morning - Florida Panhandle - Strong winds and heavy surf - Three people drowned along Panhandle beaches as a cold front with strong winds pushed through the area, bringing rough surf and heavy swells. An 18-year-old student drowned at Panama City Beach; a 53-year-old man drowned at Gulf Islands National Seashore; and a 20-year old man drowned east of Destin. Tallahassee, Leon County - 0930 - A tornado struck a warehouse and hanger area at the Tallahassee Municipal Airport, demolishing one hanger. Six people were temporarily trapped inside the hanger when a live fallen power line blocked their escape. The tornado continued along a west to east path, touching down several more times, damaging some mobile homes, and hurling a bus onto a car. Jefferson and Madison Counties - 1130 - Thunderstorm winds damaged mobile homes, toppled trees and power lines, and blew an automobile 200 feet down the interstate highway. Baker County - 1430 - A tornado demolished several farm buildings about 3 miles south of Sanderson. Light metal roofing was blown over 100 yards.

16 1984 - 1545 - Dade Co., Miami - Lightning killed a man standing next to a tree.

17 1974 - 1800-1900 - Leon Co., Tallahassee - Flash Flood. Thunderstorms dumped four to 5" of rain. Two boys drowned when swept into drainage canal.

18 1963 - Afternoon - Walton Co., DeFuniak Springs - Lightning killed a person.

19 1932 - 1048 - Escambia Co., SW Pensacola - A tornado picked up a farm house and scattered it in pieces across a field killing the owner.

19 1956 - 1900-1930 - West Palm Beach - Tornado-like winds overturned several trailers injuring four people seriously enough to require hospitalization.

19 1978 - 1445-1600 - Hillsborough Co. - A severe thunderstorm moved across Tampa knocking down trees, power lines, damaging 45 homes. A large tree crushed a mobile home. Wind gusts were recorded to 70 mph. No injuries reported.

20 1968 - 1715 - Hendry Co., LaBelle - Lightning killed a fisherman while wading with two others.

21 1961 - afternoon - Brevard Co., Cape Canaveral - Lightning killed a person.

22 1984 - 0900 - St. Lucie Co., Fort Pierce - Lightning killed a grove worker.

22 1996 1520 - Collier Co., Naples - A 17-year-old female was drowned in a rip current at Wiggins Pass State Recreational Area. A 32-year-old female companion nearly drowned and was hospitalized in critical condition.

23 1955 - afternoon - Tampa - Lightning killed one person.


23 1963 - Afternoon - Duval Co., Jacksonville - Lightning killed a person.


24 1972 - Afternoon - Clewiston - Lightning killed a 54 year old man while wading on the edge of Lake Okeechobee.

25 1961 - Afternoon - Broward Co., Pompano Beach - Lightning killed a person.

25 1966 - Afternoon - Palm Beach Co., W. Palm Beach - Lightning killed a boy playing in his yard at home.

25-26 1980 - Memorial Day Weekend - Entire State - Severe Weather Outbreak - A large area of thunderstorms developed over the Mississippi Delta during the evening of May 24th, and moved rapidly southeastward toward Florida while growing in size and intensity. Severe weather was experienced in virtually every section of Florida at some time on May 25th, and mostly over southern Florida again on May 26th. Widespread damage occurred with severe thunderstorm winds, hail, lightning, and heavy rain. Nine tornadoes (Manatee, Dade, Alachua, Suwannee, Marion, Hendry, Charlotte, Lee, and Monroe Counties) were reported and funnel clouds were sighted in practically every section of the state. Damage was widespread including airplanes flipped over, boats capsized, widespread power failures with lines down, trees blown over on houses and cars, broken windows, signs, and TV antennas blown down, and fires caused by lightning. Widespread crop damage occurred in the northern counties from hail and high winds. Wind gusts over 50 mph were common in many sections with reports of winds 75 to 80 mph in several areas. One death reported. A woman drowned when she was trapped under an overturned 16 foot boat off Pine Island along the lower southwest coast. The Coast Guard reported that 39 boats capsized along the lower southwest Florida coast alone during the weekend between Gasparilla and Marco Island. A 38-foot shrimp boat sank 15 miles offshore from Hudson, above Clearwater. In view of the widespread severe weather, it is miraculous that only one death and no serious injuries were reported in Florida.

25 1996 1430 - Broward Co., Pembroke Pines - Eleven people were injured by lightning while picnicking at C. B. Smith Park. The lightning struck a tree then jumped to a picnic table and shocked eleven of twenty-three people nearby. One person was seriously injured and hospitalized after the lightning burned a gold chain into his neck. It was not raining at the time.
26 1951 - 1030 - Franklin Co., Carrabelle - Waterspout/Tornado damaged boats, buildings, fishing equipment and caused roof damage to 20 homes. Three fishermen were drowned when their boat was overturned.

26 1973 - 1300 - 1445 - Escambia, Santa Rosa, Okaloosa, Walton Cos. - Several tornadoes touched down. Worst hit was Crestview where one man was killed and four injured in mobile homes. Another tornado struck just east of Gulf Breeze injuring seven in mobile homes.

26 1977 - 1435 - Hendry Co. - Lightning killed a 19 year old who was herding cattle on a ranch near State Road 836.

26 1982 - 0151 - St. Johns Co. - Lightning killed a man and injured one near Molasses Junction.

27 1968 - 1820 - Leon Co. - Golf ball size hail reported north of Tallahassee.

28 1989 - 1500 - Marion Co., Ocala - Lightning killed a young woman and injured her mother at the edge of a lake in a wooded area.

28 1996 1500 - Dade Co., Miami - A 17-year-old female was hospitalized after being struck indirectly by lightning as she walked down the street. It was not raining at the time.

29 1963 - Afternoon - DeSoto Co., Arcadia - Lightning killed a person.

29 1994 - 1500 - Suwanee Co., Live Oak - Lightning directly struck and killed a man at Little River Springs.

29 1996 1140 - Hillsborough Co., Tampa - Downburst winds from a thunderstorm picked up a small boat and airlifted it to the opposite side of a canal where it landed in a resident's yard and damaged a parked vehicle.

30 1962 - Afternoon - Pasco Co., New Port Richey - Lightning killed a person on the beach.

30 1963 - Afternoon - St. Lucie Co., Fort Pierce - Lightning killed a person.

30 1994 - 1640 - Nassau Co., American Beach - Strong onshore winds produced Rip Currents that drowned five persons during a festival on Amelia Island. Eight other persons were hospitalized after near drownings in rip currents at American and Main Beaches.

30 1996 1930 - Indian River Co., Sebastian - A 20 passenger airplane at the Sebastian Airport was overturned and destroyed by thunderstorm winds.

31 1973 - 2140 - Desoto Co. - A small tornado touched down east of Arcadia blowing a trailer on top of a car with people in both - injuring three. A nearby house was destroyed.
31 1991 - morning to afternoon - central Florida - Severe Thunderstorms struck eight counties. Hail from nickle up to golfball size was reported in Pinellas, Putnam, Citrus, Marion, and Brevard Counties. The largest hail was in Putnam Co. where it broke windows and tree limbs. Severe thunderstorm winds were reported in Sumter, Citrus, Marion, Levy, Alachua and Putnam Counties. Winds destroyed a carport and blew down trees and power lines in Sumter Co. and many trees and power lines were blown down in the other counties. A firefighter was injured by lightning at Largo in Pinellas County.

JUNE

1 1967 - 1800 - Gadsden Co. - A tornado destroyed a small home and damaged four others.

1 1981 - 1700 -1900 - Duval Co. - Strong thunderstorms moved through the Jacksonville area with heavy rain that caused street flooding, intense lightning that caused power outages, and gusty winds that downed some trees.


2 1974 - 1445 - St. Johns Co., St. Augustine - Lightning killed a 13 year old boy as he fished on a dam.

2 1996 1300 - Dade Co., Miami Beach - A 15-year-old male drowned in a rip current at an unguarded stretch of beach. Winds were from the east at 20 mph.

3 1972 - 1030 - Brevard Co., Rockledge - Lightning killed a 13 year old girl standing on a stack of wet papers. Three other kids were injured. They had been collecting papers for a church project.

3 1975 - 1415 - Broward Co., Pompano Beach - Lightning killed a 9-year old girl while walking home from school.

3 1982 - Afternoon - Evening - South Florida - Alberto was a minimal hurricane west of the Keys for about six hours on the 3rd, before gradually dissipating off the southwest coast on the 6th. Maximum winds observed at a land station were 70 mph at Dry Tortugas at 1800 on the 3rd, with the center less than 20 miles from the island. Key West measured 6.25 inches of rain during the 24 hours ending at 1200 on the 4th. Two tornadoes occurred in the lower Keys, producing the only damage from the storm. The lower Keys were the only parts of Florida directly affected by Alberto.

3 1990 - 1400 - Orange Co., Lockart - Lightning killed a woman and injured her friend while standing beside a car.

3-5 1995 - North and West Central Florida - Hurricane Allison formed in the northwest Caribbean Sea on June 3rd and moved north through the eastern Gulf of Mexico, weakening to tropical storm strength before crossing the coast at St. Teresa in the Florida Big Bend area at 0900 on the 5th. At landfall, maximum sustained winds were 69 mph with a minimum central pressure of 990 mb. Maximum rainfall amounts were between 4 and 6 inches. Storm surge heights were estimated at 6 to 8 feet from Dixie through Wakulla counties. Damage was greatest in the coastal sections of Levy, Dixie, Taylor and Wakulla counties, mainly from storm surge effects, with 60 homes and businesses damaged. About 5000
people evacuated from the coast. Most beach erosion was minor, except locally heavy in Pinellas county, with damage to sea walls and coastal roadways. Several small boats were sunk. Four confirmed tornadoes, associated with outer rainbands, touched down in Polk, Duval and Nassau counties. Otherwise, minor wind damage to roofs, signs, power lines and trees occurred over north Florida. Total storm damage in Florida was estimated at $860,000.

2-6 1968 - Peninsula and Keys - Abby moved northward between the Dry Tortugas and Key West on the 3rd, with maximum sustained winds of barely hurricane force. Although winds of gale force were observed in the Keys for 26 hours, maximum sustained winds were only about 45 mph and highest tides at Key West were less than one foot above normal. One death indirectly caused by the storm occurred at Key West when a year old girl wandered away from her grandmother and drowned in a pool of rainwater. Abby made landfall as a tropical storm near Punta Gorda after weakening rapidly on the morning of June 4. Maximum sustained winds along the southwest coast were about 25 mph with peak gusts near 40 mph. Abby continued northeast toward Titusville with winds to 45 mph in gusts. After moving off the east coast late in the afternoon of the 4th, she looped southward to the Vero Beach area before moving north-northwestwards along the east coast on June 6, crossing into Georgia that night. Abby intensified off the east coast, but did not regain hurricane intensity. Maximum sustained winds in exposed coastal sections were about 40 to 55 mph with gusts to about 70 mph. Wind speeds dropped off a short distance inland to 30 to 40 mph with gusts to 55 mph. Highest tides were two to 3 feet above normal. Damage along the coast from Brevard County northward consisted mostly of broken tree limbs, downed small trees, signs, and power lines; some beach erosion, and minor rainfall flooding. Most of the damage was in the Titusville-Cocoa area where storm rainfall measured about 14 inches at some stations.

4 1974 - 1700 - Polk Co., Lake Wales - Lightning killed a man standing in a field and injured two others.

5 1962 - 1430 - Lake Co., Clermont - Lightning killed a person.

5 1965 - afternoon - Hendry Co., Felda, - Lightning killed a person.

5 1966 - afternoon - Brevard Co., Indialantic - Lightning killed one person and injured three on the beach.

5 1995 - morning - Taylor Co., Apalachee Bay - Hurricane Allison became the earliest hurricane on record to cross the Florida coast when it came ashore in Taylor Co. - just barely at hurricane strength. Minor storm surge flooding was reported along the eastern shoreline of Apalachee Bay. Minor wind damage was reported in northwest Florida.

6 1941 - 1630 - Polk Co., Haines City - Tornado destroyed eight small homes and 500 citrus trees. Twenty injuries.

6 1953 - Florida Keys and northwest Florida - Tropical Storm - On June 4th the center passed about 60 miles west of Dry Tortugas and moved very near parallel to west coast of Florida and passed inland a short distance west of Panama City, about noon of 6th. Winds remained below hurricane force during
entire history of this storm and highest winds experienced on land were 40 to 45 mph. Rains associated with storm beneficial.


6 1964 - afternoon - A Tropical Depression spawned several tornadoes and waterspouts - 1210 Duval Co., Normandy, Avondale and Lake Shore areas - Tornado unroofed homes and overturned trailers. 1500 - Polk Co., Lake Marion, Haines City - Tornado/Waterspout over Lake Marion came ashore, destroying three concrete block cottages.

7 1970 - 1515 - Orlando vicinity - Lightning killed a fisherman in an aluminum boat on Lake Chase.

7 1971 - 1355 - Pinellas Co. - Lightning killed a swimmer, injured four others at a lake.

7 1971 - daytime - Palm Beach Co., South Bay - Lightning killed a 23-year old farm worker leaving a field.

7 1992 - 1900 - Polk Co. - Lightning killed a man while he was checking on his livestock.

7 1996 1623 - Pinellas Co., Clearwater - Lightning struck and killed a 38-year-old male while roller blading across the Courtney-Campbell causeway Bridge. The man was struck in the head by the lightning bolt and died instantly.

8-9 1957 - afternoon-evening - north central Florida - A Tropical Storm moved in from the Gulf of Mexico and crossed northwest Florida, spawning a tornado outbreak and flooding rainfall. Five people drown in the Gulf of Mexico when a small fishing vessel capsized in high seas. A shrimp boat was sunk off Ft. Myers, and several other boats were driven ashore south of Tampa. At least 9 Tornadoes were reported in Alachua, Marion, Clay, Putnam, and Duval counties (Jacksonville area). Tornadoes damaged roofs and uprooted trees. Heavy rains of up to 19” in 48 hours caused much local flooding and considerable agricultural damage, closed many roads and washed out several small bridges. Two hundred people were evacuated from flooded residential areas in Taylor County.


8-9 1966 - Peninsula & west to Tallahassee Area - ALMA, the second earliest hurricane on record to cross the Florida coastline, moved northward out of the Caribbean Sea and through the Gulf of Mexico from 20 to 60 miles off the west coast before making landfall near Alligator Point on the afternoon of the 9th. Highest winds of 125 mph and lowest pressure, 28.65 inches, were reported at Dry Tortugas on the afternoon of the 8th. Sustained winds remained below hurricane force at all reporting stations in Florida except in a small area around Alligator Point where winds were estimated between 75 and 90 mph. Storm tides along the Gulf Coast ranged from two to 3 feet above normal in the Keys to seven to 10 feet above normal between about New Port Richey and St. Marks. Part of the fishing village of Cedar Key was inundated by rising tides and wave action. Rainfall ranged from two - 4 inches on the southwest peninsula and north of Lake Okeechobee to 5-8 inches in Dade, Broward and Palm Beach.
Counties. There was no serious flooding from rainfall in the state. Principal damages were downed utility lines, beach erosion and salt water flooding. Agriculture sustained some damage, notably the late season vegetables in the central Gulf coast counties and the tobacco crop, both fine cured and shade grown, in north Florida. There were four tornadoes reported in the state; two in Dade County and two in the Marianna area. Four other tornado-like storms were reported; three in the Sarasota area between 1030 and 1100 pm on the 8th and one near Jacksonville on the afternoon of the 9th. Eight deaths were attributed to Alma.

8 1983 - 1545 - Monroe Co., Duck Key - Lightning killed a woman trying to get off a bridge after fishing.

8 1989 - 1700 - Franklin Co., Apalachicola Bay - Tornado destroyed or damaged 27 homes, trailers and businesses, and a dozen vehicles and boats. Sixty acres of trees were destroyed. Three people in a frame house were killed when thrown 500 ft.

9 1964 - afternoon - St. Lucie Co., Fort Pierce - Lightning killed a horse and rider on open rangeland.

9 1978 - 1815 - Brevard Co. - Lightning killed a 21 year old man and injured his brother while working on their car on I-95 south of Valkaria exit.

10 1953 - afternoon - Suwannee Co., McAlpin - Tornado destroyed a store and damaged six homes, injuring one. Hail to egg and ice-cube size also fell causing heavy crop damage. Hail reported in Jefferson, Madison, Columbia, Lafayette, Alachua, Duval and Volusia Counties.

10 1986 - 1420 - Manatee Co. - Lightning killed a 24 year old man as he loaded a truck in a field.

10 1994 - 2000 - Bay County, Panama City - Rip Current - A man vacationing from Georgia drowned in a rip current caused by strong onshore winds.

11 1964 - 1330 - Pinellas Co., St. Petersburg - Lightning killed a man on the beach.

11 1982 - 1630 - Levy/Marion Counties - Dunnellon - Tornado destroyed a barn and leveled a new house. Trees were blown into trailers and a home shifted 5 feet.

12 1906 - Panhandle - A Tropical Storm made landfall near Cape San Blas.

12 1978 - 1300 - Broward Co., Lauderhill - Lightning killed a 14 year old boy running home to avoid the rain. The lightning struck a pine tree near the boy and severely burned his legs and knocked his shoes off.

12 1986 - 1245 - Brevard Co. - Lightning killed a man walking along the beach.

13 1981 - 1715 - Hillsborough County - A tornado was observed moving across a field in northwestern Hillsborough County near Citrus Park as severe thunderstorms moved through the area. Witnesses reported that several power poles in a row were knocked down. No injuries were reported; however, two persons were trapped in a car by live wires. - 1930 - Polk County - A tornado touched down briefly 6
miles east of Bartow causing extensive damage to barns and buildings and knocking down several trees. No injuries reported.

13 1986 - 1600-1700 - Alachua County - A severe thunderstorm with Ping pong ball size hail and high winds moved through Gainesville. Several trees were downed by high wind.

14 1955 - afternoon - south Biscayne Bay - Lightning killed a fisherman in his boat and injured two.

14 1966 - afternoon - Brevard Co., Titusville - Lightning struck a home starting a fire that killed a child and injured another.

14 1973 - 1600 - Jackson Co., Campbellton - Lightning killed a 17 year old working in a metal storage bin.

15 1974 - 1700 - Dade Co., Homestead - Lightning killed a 52 year old man in a boat in Biscayne Bay as he waited for the storm to pass.

15 1974 - unknown - Alachua Co., Gainesville - Lightning struck a trailer causing a fire, which burned to death a 60 year old man and his 58 year old wife.

16-17 1906 - Keys and south Florida - Tropical Storm moved north out of the Caribbean, through the middle Keys and exited into the Atlantic near West Palm Beach - gaining hurricane strength over the Atlantic.

16 1992 - 1800 - Polk Co. - Lightning killed a man that stopped to help two female motorists who had stalled on US Hwy. 17. One woman suffered some hearing loss.

16 1994 - 1545 - Duval County, Jacksonville Beach - Rip Current - A 34-year-old male visiting from Georgia, drowned in a rip current caused by strong onshore winds.

17 1959 - evening - A Tropical Depression spawned several tornadoes - the most severe in Miami since 1925. 2150 - Dade Co., Coconut Grove to Miami - Tornado moved northeast through Miami, across Biscayne Bay, and then out to sea. 77 people were injured, mostly from flying glass. 2205 - Palm Beach/Martin Counties - Tornado damaged an unoccupied Girl Scout Camp in the Dickinson State Park and destroyed a small home. A 20-ft boat was slammed into a pine tree. Heavy rain caused crop damage in southwest Florida and tides were 2-3 ft above normal from St. Petersburg to Naples. This Depression went on to become a hurricane and killed 33 lobster fishermen in the Canadian Maritimes.

17-21 1959 - south Florida - Heavy rains over the southern peninsula, associated with and following a tropical depression and subtropical storm, caused considerable flooding in poorly drained and low lying agricultural areas and some residential sections. Considerable pasture land and some citrus land, particularly in the Indian River section, were inundated. Some highways also sustained flood damage. High tides along the west coast from Tampa south damaged boat docks and caused beach erosion. 5-day rain totals were mostly in the seven to 12 inch category and some scattered points measured 15 inches or more during the period.
17 1965 - 1300 - Brevard Co., Eau Gallie - Lightning killed a person.

17-18 - 1968 - peninsula - Tropical Depression Brenda - crossed Key West and moved through central Florida exiting into the Atlantic near Jacksonville. This storm gained hurricane strength north of Bermuda.

17-18 1982 - statewide - A subtropical storm moved from the southeast Gulf of Mexico, northeast across the central Florida Peninsula into the Atlantic causing at least 12 tornadoes, high winds, extensive beach erosion along the west coast, and heavy rain that flooded rivers and urban areas. From Tampa Bay to Naples some waterfront building suffered damage from undermining and damage to marinas and small boats was widespread. Heavy rains caused flooding of six rivers and creeks in west central Florida. On the Manatee River, 20 families were evacuated. The Peace River crested a week after the storm causing the evacuation of 130 families. A 1 1/2 year old boy drowned in a flooded drainage ditch, and a Brevard Co. woman drowned when her canoe turned over, her four year old son was rescued after clinging to the canoe for six hours. Twelve tornadoes were reported between the morning of the 17th and the morning of the 18th from Dade and Broward Counties to Polk and Volusia Counties. On the evening of the 17th a tornado destroyed five trailers and two cars in northwest Hendry County, killing a man in a trailer and seriously injuring his wife. In Glades Co. five more trailers, a cabin, and a camper were destroyed by the same tornado injuring three people. Another tornado moved through the Lake Josephine area in Highlands County destroying 23 homes and mobile homes and damaging many more, injuring nine people. The ten other tornadoes caused much property damage, but no deaths or serious injuries.

18 1953 - 0400 - Redington Beach - Waterspout moved in from Gulf of Mexico destroying 1 home under construction and damaging two other homes and garages.

18 1953 - morning - Clearwater - Lightning struck a wire fence at Clearwater Jersey Dairy Farm killing 10 milk cows.

18 1954 - Afternoon - Keys - Waterspouts - Just before sundown a heavy squall line four to 5 miles offshore and paralleling the Florida Keys for 15 to 18 miles, developed 11 funnel clouds. At least five reached water, becoming waterspouts.

18 - 19 1972 - Statewide - Hurricane Agnes moved northward through the Gulf of Mexico at 10-15 mph about 200 miles off the west coast of Florida. It was well west of Ft. Myers at 2000 on the 18th and passed west of Tampa near 0600 on the 19th and made landfall in the Panhandle near Cape San Blas in the afternoon. Gale force winds were felt throughout the State, but no hurricane force winds were reported. Agnes spawned the worst tropical cyclone severe weather outbreak in Florida history on the 18th and 19th when the outer rainbands produced tornadoes and severe thunderstorms over the peninsula. Almost two dozen tornadoes and windstorms were reported from the Keys to Cape Canaveral. Six people were killed and 40 injured in Okeechobee when a series of windstorms, that may have been tornadoes, destroyed mobile homes at 2255 on the 18th. One person was killed and seven injured when another windstorm struck a trailer park at La Belle in Hendry Co. Other tornado injuries include: Forty people injured early on the 18th at Big Coppitt Key, two injured at Basinger in Okeechobee Co., three injured at Haines City in Polk Co., four injured in Crystal Springs, 11 injured in Malabar and 12 in Cape Canaveral in Brevard Co. Most of the injuries were in trailers. The highest tides in many years along the west coast destroyed homes and businesses, washed away roads and cut off
access to many offshore islands. There was severe beach erosion. Damage estimates total $5 million to public property and $36 million to private property. One person drown on the west coast and another death was attributed to a storm-related fatal heart attack.

18 1969 - 2025 - Brevard Co., Cocoa. - Lightning killed a 15 year old girl while swimming at the beach.

18 1977 - 1930 - Duval Co., Jacksonville - Lightning killed a man while walking outdoors. The bolt hit his right shoulder and came out his left knee.

18 1980 - afternoon - Escambia Co. - Lightning killed a 15 year old boy in Pensacola. The lightning struck a pine tree before striking the boy.

19 1961 - 1400 - Putnam Co., Palatka - Lightning killed a person and injured three.

19 1967 - 1015 - Polk Co., Eagle Lake - Lightning killed a boy on the shore of Lake McLeod.

19 1968 - 1530 - Pensacola - Lightning killed a 31 year old man sitting next to a stove. Lightning hit the stove pipe outside and traveled in.


19 1974 -1445 - Monroe Co., Key West - Lightning killed a 46 year old trash collector as he stood on the back of a truck.

19 1987 - 1720 - Manatee Co., E. Bradenton - Lightning killed a 34-year old man standing between a house and an oak tree. It was raining at the time.

19 1996 1340 - De Soto Co., Arcadia - Lightning struck and killed a 47-year-old male construction worker while getting out of his truck.

19 1996 afternoon - Orange Co., Orlando - Severe thunderstorm winds damaged a large hanger door and turned a Boeing 727 aircraft 180 degrees at Orlando International Airport. Lightning injured three landscape workers near the University of Central Florida.

20 1975 - evening - Polk Co., Lakeland - Lightning killed a 16 year old boy, injured 1, when a power line was struck next to their tree house.

20 1978 -1630 - Hendry Co. - Lightning killed a 19 year old woman at Mott Plantation when it struck her fishing pole.

20 1980 -0930 - Sumter Co., Port Charlotte - Lightning killed a 19 year old counselor while walking from the swimming pool to the cabins. This was a summer camp on a lake north of Wildwood.

20 1981 -0915 - Dade Co. - Lightning killed a 15 year old boy and injured two others when their fishing boat was struck. They reported there was no storm or rain in the vicinity.
20 1991 - 1930 - Putnam Co., NE Palatka - Lightning killed a person and injured two while they were fishing on the St. Johns River.

20 1994 - 1340 - Brevard County, Patrick AFB - Lightning - A 28-year-old woman was killed after lightning struck her in the chest when she was leaving the water after surf fishing. A man nearby was injured by the same lightning strike. A construction worker at Patrick Air Force Base was injured by a lightning strike.

21 1886 - A hurricane effected the Appalachicola area.

21 1974 - 1600 - Romeo, Marion County - A bolt of lightning struck a large tree killing 13 cattle standing under the tree.

21 1981 - afternoon - Orange County - A tornado touched down in the Lockhart area near Horseshoe Lake blowing the roof off one house and damaging at least six others. One resident reported hearing a roaring sound lasting several seconds, then a big boom and trees started cracking. At least two other tornadoes were reported around the county as widespread severe thunderstorm activity moved across central Florida. Considerable tree damage and widespread power outages were reported. Orlando International Airport was closed for about 30 minutes during the height of a severe thunderstorm when landings and takeoffs were impossible. No injuries were reported. A tornado struck a mobile home park in southeastern Orange County damaging several carports. A third tornado struck a subdivision in northwestern Orange County causing only minor property damage. Another tornado was reported in Broward County at Deerfield Beach knocking down trees and power lines. Winds to 60 mph were reported at Ft. Lauderdale Beach.

21 1984 - 1855 - Orange Park, Duval County - One boy was critically injured and several others were burned when lightning struck during baseball practice.

22 1983 - 1245 - Pinellas Co., Tarpon Springs - Lightning killed a construction worker and injured another while working near some steel rods.

22 1984 - 2100 - Dade Co., Miami - Lightning killed a person standing under a tree.


23-24 1945 - north and central Florida - Hurricane moved in from the Gulf of Mexico, made landfall near Cedar Key, crossed the peninsula, and exited into the Atlantic near St. Augustine.

23 1954 - afternoon - Clay Co., Orange Park - Tornado or severe thunderstorm winds demolished a house trailer killing two people. Roof and tree damage reported at other scattered points. Hail and high winds also damaged tobacco, corn and watermelons in Columbia Co.

23 1964 - 1630 - Hillsborough Co., Tampa - Strong winds blew a rider from a truck bed and killed him.

23 1974 - 1630 - Brevard Co., Rockledge - Lightning struck a tent at a race track, killing a 31 year old man.

23-28 1974 - west central and southeast Florida - Subtropical storm and tropical depression. Torrential rains, high winds, and severe beach erosion buffeted west central and southeast Florida. The subtropical storm moved rapidly across the central portion of Florida from the Gulf of Mexico on the 25th and the depression moved from the southern Gulf of Mexico across central Florida on June 27th. Tides were two to 4 feet above normal from Everglades City to Tampa and 30 to 40 knots sustained winds produced widespread beach erosion in this area. Four day rainfall totals were 10 inches or more over most of west Central and Southwest Florida, with around 20 inches in portions of the Tampa Bay area. There were three deaths by drowning. Flooding by high tides, heavy rains and beach erosion damaged public roads, bridges, sewers and drainage systems, utilities, and beaches.

24 1935 - 1030 - Hillsborough, Belmont Heights - Tornado destroyed one small home and unroofed five.

24 1945 - Brevard Co. - morning - A tornado, spawned by a Hurricane, touched down in Melbourne.

24 1972 - daytime - Pensacola Beach - Lightning killed a man vacationing from Missouri who was lying on the sand.

24-30 1992 - Charlotte, DeSoto, Hillsborough, Lee, Manatee, Pinellas, and Sarasota Counties - A tropical depression in the southeastern Gulf of Mexico produced periods of heavy rainfall over southwest and west central Florida. Four-day rainfall totals (25th-28th) of as much as 25 inches were recorded, with eight to 14 inches common. The heaviest rain fell over Manatee and Sarasota Cos. causing widespread river and small stream flooding of homes and roads. Seventy homes were destroyed by floodwaters, and the combination of winds, waves and tides led to significant beach erosion and undermining of seawalls in some locations. Two flood-related deaths occurred on the 29th - a man drowned in his flooded front yard in Manatee Co., and a man was crushed to death between two gasoline storage tanks dislodged by floodwaters at an auto service shop in Charlotte Co. All-time record flood crest on the 29th at Myakka St. Park on the Myakka River. Flood waters did not fully recede in some areas until the end of June.

24 1993 - 1935 - Brevard Co., Merritt Island - Waterspout/Tornado formed over Newfound Harbor and moved onshore at Merritt Island Airport. It overturned three single engine aircraft and destroyed eight ultralights. It moved to an industrial area and blew over a few trees and destroyed a warehouse roof before dissipating over the Indian River.


25 1960 - afternoon - Orange Co., Orlando - Lightning killed a person.

25 1972 - 1610 - Jackson Co., Graceville - Tornado destroyed a trailer and killed a child. Two others were hospitalized.
25 1988 - 1500 - Citrus Co., Inverness - Tornado destroyed a barn and damaged two mobile homes.

26 1956 - afternoon - Calhoun Co., Altha - Lightning killed a woman seeking shelter under a tree. Lake County - Lightning killed a man operating a tractor. A woman was also seriously injured by lightning in Jacksonville. Thunderstorms with heavy rain caused street flooding in Deland in Volusia County.

26 1988 - 1500 - southwest Orange Co. - Lightning killed a 10 year old boy riding his bicycle at a campground.

26 1990 - 1400 - Lake Co., Clermont - Lightning killed a man looking for golf balls.

26 1994 - 1751 - Manatee County, Ellenton - A 45-year-old male was struck directly in the upper body by lightning while casting a net from a dock. He died the following day.

26 1996 1230 - Polk Co., Haines City - A 51-year-old woman was injured by lightning that struck a tree one foot away from where she was standing. The lightning bolt first struck the tree, then arced to the woman's chest, which knocked her to the ground with first, second and third degree burns across the right side of her chest. The lightning arced from the woman to a parked vehicle which she had touched with her car keys. The vehicle's alternator and computer system was damaged by the electrical surge.

26 1996 afternoon - Indian River/St Lucie Counties, Vero Beach/Ft Pierce - In two separate incidences, severe thunderstorm winds overturned a small aircraft at both Vero Beach Municipal Airport and Ft Pierce Airport, where wind gusts to 81 mph were recorded.

27 1952 - Duval, Lake, Alachua, Nassau, Liberty, Calhoun, Lafayette, Gadsden, Wakula Counties - Hail reported from one or more points in each county. Most damage suffered by tobacco crop.

27 1991 - 1810 - Orange Co., Orlando - Lightning killed a man and injured two on a golf course.

27 1996 2100 - Marion Co., Ocala - Lightning started a roof fire at the top of a mobile home. The fire burnt down and it was determined that the resident died of smoke inhalation.

28 1970 - afternoon - Vero Beach - Lightning killed a 41-year old man plowing a field with a tractor.

28 1976 - 1300 to 1400 - St. Johns Co., St. Augustine - Lightning killed a 34 year old woman and knocked three others unconscious during a thunderstorm.

28 1988 - 1400 - Polk Co., Lake Wales - Lightning killed a man riding a horse on a cattle ranch.

28 1989 - 1230 - Palm Beach Co., Boca Raton - Lightning killed a construction worker and injured another while they were working on a roof.

29 1931 - Jefferson Co., Monticello - The high temperature of 109 degrees is the highest official temperature recorded in Florida history.
29 1952 - afternoon - West Palm Beach - Winds at control tower gusted to 85 mph. Two airplanes were slightly damaged. Two windows blown in at courthouse, and two in a residence. Palm trees uprooted in various sections of city. One automobile damaged by a falling light pole standard. Three barges loaded with sand blown off-course and ran aground on sand bar. Telephone and electric service interrupted.

29 1952 - Tampa Bay - Lightning struck a small boat in Tampa Bay, killing 1 of 2 occupants and causing minor injury to the other.

29 1962 - afternoon - Palm Beach Co., W. Palm Beach - Lightning killed a person.

29 1964 - afternoon - Volusia Co., Daytona Beach - Lightning killed a person and injured two.

29 1983 - 1700 - Hillsborough Co., Brandon - Lightning killed a person and injured another seeking shelter under a tree.

30 1976 - 1430 - Orange County, Winter Park - Lightning killed a 10 year old boy and injured 1, while seeking shelter under a tree.

30 1982 - 1200 - Alachua Co., Archer - Lightning killed a man and injured two seeking shelter under a tree. They had been working in a watermelon field.

30 1990 - 1645 - Columbia Co., Lake City - Lightning killed a man standing in a field.

30 1996 1400 - St Johns Co., Anastasia - An out-of-state swimmer was caught in a rip current, was rescued but later died, about 10 hours after the incident.

JULY

1 1963 - afternoon - Hillsborough Co., Tampa - Lightning killed two people and injured 1.

1 1973 - 1600 - Lake Co., Groveland - Lightning killed a man just as his boat reached a landing ramp after returning from a fishing trip.

1 1987 - Pasco Co., Anclote - Lightning killed a 16 year old on a boat ramp.

1 1995 - 1520 - Palm Beach Co., 9NW Palm Beach - A 53-year-old male golfer was killed instantly at the Ibis Golf & Country Club, when lightning struck his 7-iron on the follow through, after a foursome had halted play because of lightning in the area. The lightning struck when the group resumed play.

2 1967 - 1400 - Dade County - Lightning killed a man fishing in Miami and killed another man fishing at 40-Mile Bend. A boy was critically injured.

2 1969 - 1747 - Hillsborough Co., Gibsonton - A Tornado unroofed a home and trailers were flipped over.
2 1982 - 1605 - Brevard Co., Port Canaveral - Lightning killed a 20-year old man leaning against an automobile.

2 1984 - 1830 - Polk Co., Bartow - Lightning killed a man standing under a tree.

2 1988 - 1600 - Dade Co., Homestead - Lightning killed a man in a motorboat offshore.

3 1956 - 1500 - Hernando Co., Brooksville - Lightning set off a dynamite charge prematurely, killing one woman.

3 1959 - afternoon - Wakulla Co., Sudeville - Lightning killed a person.

3 1971 - 1400 - Liberty Co., Bristol - Lightning killed a person and injured five others at a class reunion.


3 1975 - afternoon - Palm Beach Co., South Bay - Lightning killed a 53 year old sugar cane worker in a sugarcane field.

3 1992 - 2200 - Volusia County, Daytona Beach - Rogue Wave - A 27-mile-long wave rolled onto the Volusia County Beach at around 2300 EST. The wave's extent was from Ormond Beach on the north, to New Smyrna Beach on the south. The crest was 18 feet high and centered at Daytona Beach. Sailboats crashed ashore onto cars and many people suffered cuts and bruises from glass and debris. Two people required hospitalization and 200 vehicles were damaged. 75 injuries reported.

4 1962 - Noon - Escambia Co., Pensacola - Lightning killed a person.

4 1962 - morning - Madison Co., Puttis Springs - Thunderstorm winds toppled a large tree in a picnic area, killing 1 and injuring four.

4 1965 - 1300 - Hillsborough Co., Tampa - Lightning killed a man on a golf course.


4 1987 - 1420 - Nassau Co., Hillard - Lightning killed a 74-year old woman in her garden.

4-7 1994 - Tropical Storm Alberto - formed in the southeast Gulf of Mexico on July 1 and moved north at 10 mph. The center crossed the panhandle near Destin at 0900 July 3. At landfall the minimum central pressure was 993 mb with maximum sustained winds of 63 mph and gusts unofficially estimated at 86 mph. The maximum storm tide was 5 feet and the immediate rainfall totaled two to7 inches. About 2000 people voluntarily evacuated. No significant injuries were reported. Thirteen people were rescued from boats in the northeast Gulf of Mexico. Coastal damage included shoreline erosion (up to 14 feet at Cape San Blas), damage to sea walls, piers and boats, and roof damage to a few beachfront motels. Inland damage included downed signs, billboards, trees, and power lines. Electricity was cut to 18,500 customers for up to two days. Alberto weakened to a depression before moving into southeast Alabama.
the evening of July 3, then meandered around east central Alabama and west central Georgia for 72 hours dropping rains that locally exceeded 20 inches in southwest Georgia. River flooding in Georgia and Alabama spread into the Florida panhandle on July 5, and along with six to 14 inches of additional rain from the remnants of Alberto, caused extensive flooding. Flood crests exceed 100-year events on the Apalachicola and Chipola Rivers. The first flood crest on the Apalachicola River occurred on July 10 -12. The Apalachicola River remained above flood stage into August, and standing water in localized areas of the panhandle, continued into September, due in part to Tropical Storm Beryl. The flooding caused 3,000 people to evacuate to Red Cross shelters. Damage to buildings, roads, water systems and other public property was estimated at $40 million. Insured losses to buildings and vehicles were estimated at $15 million. Agricultural losses were estimated at $25 million including up to 50% of the peanut, cotton, soybean, and corn crops. Animal losses included 300,000 chickens, 125 steers and hogs, and 90% of the oysters in Apalachicola Bay. The tourist industry is estimated to have lost several million dollars in potential revenue.

4 1996 1253 - Palm Beach Co., Pahokee - In a park, nine youths, ages 9 to 18, were injured by lightning when they huddled beneath an Australian pine tree. They had just come from swimming in Lake Okeechobee. One of the injuries was serious. The lightning strike was the only one observed during the thunderstorm.

4 1996 - 1940 - Brevard Co., Titusville - A 32 year old man was killed while watching July 4th fireworks along the riverfront in Titusville.

5 1916 - northwest Florida - A hurricane making landfall near Biloxi, MS brought 104 mph winds to western Panhandle and left 4 dead.

5 1960 - afternoon - Washington Co., Bonifay - Lighting killed a person.

5 1961 - afternoon - Hillsborough Co., Clair-Mel City - Lightning killed a person.

5 1965 - evening - Osceola Co., St. Cloud - Lightning killed a man digging in a drainage ditch.


5 1982 - 1310 - Dade Co., Miami - Lightning killed a man and injured another. They were on a golf course and took shelter under a tree.


6 1971 - 1400 - Osceola Co., St. Cloud - Lightning killed a nineteen year old who was baling hay.

6 1996 - 1200 - Santa Rosa Co., Navarre Beach - A 27-year-old male was swimming near Navarre Beach when he was pulled under the water by a strong rip current. He drowned in the rough surf before he could be rescued.

7 1966 - afternoon - Palm Beach Co., South Bay - Lightning killed a crane operator.
7 1996 - 1200 - Santa Rosa Co., Navarre Beach - A 35-year-old male was scuba diving in the Gulf just offshore Navarre Beach. A strong rip current ripped his mask off and he was overcome by the water. He was brought to shore and taken to a local hospital but died later that day.

7 1996 - afternoon - Walton Co., Seagrove Beach - A man was caught in a severe rip current and drowned in the Gulf of Mexico at Seagrove Beach. Another man drowned when caught in a severe rip current in the Gulf of Mexico at Inlet Beach. His body washed ashore the next day at Panama City Beach, east of where he drowned.

8 1962 - afternoon - Broward Co., Ft. Lauderdale - Lightning killed a person and injured a person on the beach.

8 1975 - 1235 - Lafayette Co., Mayo - Lightning killed three people and injured six. The workers were stringing tobacco under a tin shed. All were knocked down by the lightning bolt.

8 1994 - 1000 - Palm Beach Co., Boca Raton - A 37-year-old male was struck and killed by lightning in Boca Point West subdivision. The lightning struck a nearby tree while the man was loading cleaning equipment onto a truck. The man was wearing rain gear and rubber-soled shoes and was struck near the beginning of a fast-moving thunderstorm.

9 1948 - 0400 - Washington Co., Wausau - Tornado associated with a Tropical Storm destroyed a house and two barns, injuring two.

9 1968 - 1830 - St. Petersburg - Lightning killed a man while fishing on the Florida Presbyterian College campus.

9 1970 - 1345 - Clay Co., Green Cove Springs - Lightning struck a tree near the city pier, killing a boy and injuring two.

9 1979 - 2105 - Brevard Co., Cocoa Beach - A tornado moved along six blocks of Cocoa Beach's motel strip, severely damaging four motels, an office complex, a fast food restaurant, a bank, pharmacy and supermarket. Many cars were damaged as the tornado moved north along A1A. Only six minor injuries were reported.

10 1953 - Afternoon - Bonifay - Lightning killed a woman and injured another while working in a veneer shed. Four others escaped injury.

10 1962 - afternoon - Orange Co., Orlando - Lightning killed a dragline operator and severe thunderstorm winds toppled a tree onto a moving car, killing a passenger. Dade Co., Miami - Lightning killed a swimmer in the surf.

10 1964 - afternoon - Marion Co., Ocala - Lightning killed a tree trimmer while working.

10 1970 - 1630 - Orange Co., Winter Park - Lightning killed an eight year old girl when hit by a badminton pole dislodged by the lightning.
10 1974 - 1530 - Palm Beach Co., Tequesta - Lightning killed a person and injured one. They were employees of the water company working on a meter at a home.

10 1975 - 1545 - Brevard Co., Titusville - Tornado damaged two subdivisions and a school near Hwy. 50. Five homes were unroofed and 10 others damaged. Cars were crushed by falling trees. There were no injuries. One witness described the tornado as a huge funnel with an unusually large base. Another person said that it sounded like a train rolling through. Heavy rain and hail were also reported.


10 1996 1030 - Duval Co., Jacksonville Beach - A man swimming off Jacksonville Beach drowned in a strong rip current associated with Hurricane Bertha.

11 1960 - afternoon - Lake Co., Leesburg - Lightning killed a man fishing on a lake. - Gadsden Co., Hardway - Lightning killed a tobacco worker and injured two others as they were seeking shelter.

11 1968 - 1300 - Dade Co., Miami - Lightning killed a man while walking to the store.

11 1984 - 1500 - Palm Beach Co., W. Palm Beach - Lightning killed a man trimming a tree.

11 1993 - 1905 - Polk Co., Lakeland - Lightning killed a man when he went outside during a storm to bring in his dog.

12 1962 - Afternoon - Hillsborough Co., Thonotossasa - Lightning killed a person.

12 1971 - evening - Volusia Co., New Smyrna Beach - Lightning killed a commercial fisherman while fishing alone.

12 1974 - DeSoto Co., Nacatee - Heavy rains caused high waters and a 39 year old woman drowned near the State Road 76l bridge.

12 1978 - afternoon - Okaloosa Co., James Lee Park - Lightning killed a 17 year old lifeguard while he was putting his gear away. The boy was burned in the groin where the lightning had entered. Another lifeguard, only 4 feet away, was not injured. - Osceola Co., Kissimmee - Lightning killed a 37-year old woman at a Trav-L-Park. Lightning also blew out a power transformer and split two trees in the area.

12 1986 - morning - Pinellas Co. - Lightning killed a 68 year old man as he walked along the beach. A 16 year old girl was critically injured by lightning as she walked in her driveway. Hillsborough Co. - Lightning struck a tree and injured three teenagers, one critically, who had taken refuge from the rain under the tree.


13 1953 - Afternoon - Dade Co., Miami Beach - Lightning killed a person and injured another while playing at water's edge on Miami Beach.
13 1955 - Columbia Co., Ft. White - A boy was killed by lightning while working in a field.

13 1959 - 1130 - Pinellas Co., Clearwater - Lightning killed a fisherman while in his boat offshore.

13 1959 - unknown - Escambia Co., Cantonment - Lightning killed a person.


13 1972 - late afternoon - Lake Co., S. Clermont - Lightning killed a man and injured two others while they were standing in a field measuring a snake they had killed.

13 1996 - Dade Co., Miami Beach - In separate incidents, two persons drowned in rip currents generated by Hurricane Bertha's swells along unguarded sections of Miami Beach.

14-15 1936 - south Florida - A tropical storm moved in from the Gulf of Mexico and made landfall near Naples late on the 14th, crossed the peninsula, and entered the Atlantic near Miami the morning of the 15th.

14 1987 - 1306 - Palm Beach Co., Boca Raton - Delray Beach - Hypoluxo - Thunderstorm winds blew over a concrete block wall and killed a 34-year old man. Lightning killed a 19 year old woman on the beach. Three other injuries.

15 1972 - afternoon - Volusia Co., Deland - Thunderstorm winds damaged a fish camp and some boats. Winds destroyed a shed and blew lumber through two house trailers. The shed collapsed on some boats.


16 1957 - Pasco Co., Dade City - Lightning killed one person.

16 1972 - daytime - Broward Co., Hollywood - Lightning killed a golfer and injured another while they were standing under a tree.

16 1994 - 1539 - Sarasota Co., Sarasota Bay - A 24-year old male was directly struck by lightning while kayaking on Sarasota Bay. Police recovered the body the next day.

17 1951 - Escambia Co., Harold - A child was killed by lightning.

17 1963 - afternoon - Walton Co., New Harmony - Lightning killed a farm tractor operator.

17 1965 - afternoon - Palm Beach Co., W. Palm Beach - Lightning killed a person and injured two while visiting the beach.

17 1981 - 1330 - Orange Co., Sea World - Severe thunderstorm winds ripped a 10,000 square ft hole in a 90 ft high pavilion. The storm panicked a crowd of 550 tourists. One death was due to injury and heart
attack. 15 injured. The canopy was made of fiberglass and Teflon, designed to withstand 120 mph winds.

17 1981 - 1350 - Alachua Co., Gainesville - Thunderstorm winds blew down a large oak tree onto the car of a 56 year old man, crushing him to death.

17 1996 - 1500 - Columbia Co., Fort White - A 7 year old boy was struck and killed by lightning while playing at O'Leno State Park.

17 1996 - 1730 - Broward Co., Ft. Lauderdale - A 41-year-old man drowned in a rip current while trying to rescue his 11-year-old son on an unguarded section of Ft. Lauderdale Beach. The man was a good swimmer but swam directly against the current. His son survived. Two other children were rescued from a nearby rip current with an 11-year-old female requiring hospitalization.

18 1888 - 1500 - St. Johns County, St. Augustine - Waterspout/tornado moved onshore and destroyed some small buildings and unroofed some homes.

18 1956 - evening - Marion Co., Belleview - Lightning killed one person.

18 1962 - afternoon - Polk Co., Lake Wales - Lightning killed a person and injured 4.

19 1988 - 1400 - Manatee Co., Bradenton - Severe thunderstorm winds damaged the roofs of eight mobile homes.

19 1996 - 1500 - Walton Co., Seagrove Beach - A man drowned after being caught in a severe rip current in the Gulf of Mexico.

20 1990 - 1215 - Volusia Co., Daytona Beach - Lightning killed a man who was wading in the ocean.

20 1995 - 1400 - St Johns County, Fruit Grove - A man was struck by lightning and killed while standing on a five-foot ladder inside a home under construction.


21 1971 - daytime - Sunrise (near Ft. Lauderdale) - Lightning killed a thirty year old man on a tractor cutting hay.

21 1990 - 1415 - Broward Co., Coral Springs - Lightning struck two roofers. One man died 10 days later.

21 1993 - 1500 - Palm Beach Co., W. Palm Beach - Lightning killed a roofer, and injured another roofer, while working on a house.
21 1995 1600 - St. Johns County, Crescent Beach - Lightning struck and killed a man while he was walking the water's edge south of the Crescent Beach ramp.

22 1965 - afternoon - St. Lucie Co., Fort Pierce - Lightning killed a horseback rider.

22 1971 - daytime - Hillsborough Co., Ruskin - Lightning killed a 72-year old man working on a construction site. - afternoon - Volusia Co., Ormond Beach - Lightning killed a 15 year old boy as he stood on the beach in front of a motel.

22 1983 - 1245 - Pinellas Co., Tarpon Springs - Lightning killed a construction worker and injured another. They were near an area of steel rods.

23 1967 - afternoon - St. Lucie Co., Lakewood Park - Lightning killed a man who was pulling his boat from the water.

23 1975 - afternoon - Hillsborough Co., Tampa - Lightning killed a 16 year old boy walking along the railroad track.

23 1985 - south and central Florida - Tropical Storm Bob moved across south Florida from Ft. Myers to just north of Palm Beach. The storm then turned north and moved northeast of Florida. The storm did minor damage to roofs and downed some trees, mainly on the Florida west coast. Rainfall amounts ranged up to 13 inches at Naples. Tides three to 5 feet above normal isolated Sanibel Island and Marco Island and flooded streets in Naples and Everglades City. Several beaches suffered erosion from Port Charlotte to Marco Island.


24 1925 - 1745 - Hillsborough Co., W. Tampa - Tornado unroofed two homes and scattered furniture for several hundred yards.

24 1948 - 1735 - Pinellas Co. - Two waterspouts/tornadoes came in from the Gulf of Mexico unroofing two houses and damaging small boats.

24 1952 - 1530-1630 - Madison - Lightning and Hail - A man was struck and killed by lightning while chopping wood. Two other men were injured by the same bolt while they stood near the tree. It was reported that a bolt of lightning came in a window in the County Superintendent's Office and touched a light above table where three persons were sitting then curved around the head of 1 person. Minor damage to Court House. Hailstones about the size of small marbles to three/8 inch in diameter also reported.

24 1953 - Dade Co., Miami, Crandon Park - Lightning killed a girl and injured two others while attending a school picnic.
24 1957 - afternoon - Lightning killed two workers and injured one at McClenny in Baker County. A person was injured by lightning on the beach at St. Petersburg and a fire started by lightning burned a livestock market in Tampa.

24 1993 - 1730 - Putnam Co., Palatka - Lightning struck two men as they walked through a fairground amusement area. One person was knocked unconscious and the other was injured less seriously.

25 1953 - 1400 - Orange Co., Orlando, Taft - Tornado ripped side and roof from barn, pushed a 2-car shed over, knocked over trees, and stripped grapefruit from trees.

25 1965 - noon - Pinellas Co., Dunedin - Lightning killed two persons and injured two persons as they were leaving a church parking lot.

25 1984 - 0243 - Franklin Co., Eastpoint - Thunderstorm winds capsized a shrimp boat and one man drowned.

26 1991 - 1800 - Indian River Co., Vero Beach - Severe thunderstorm winds struck the Vero Beach Airport, damaging three parked airplanes and two hangars. One plane was flipped over.

26 1996 - 1500 - Walton Co., Inlet Beach - A man was caught and drowned in a severe rip current, while trying to retrieve two children who had floated out in the Gulf on a raft.

27-28 1926 - east central - northeast Florida - A hurricane made landfall near Jupiter with winds of 90 mph on the morning of the 27th and moved inland, weakened to a tropical storm and reached the Florida/Georgia border west of Jacksonville late on the 28th.

27 1956 - evening - Leon Co., Tallahassee - A fire started by lightning destroyed an asphalt factory.

27 1991 - 1130 - Gulf Co., Apalachicola - Lightning killed a man and injured his wife while they were on a small boat in St. Joe Bay.

27 1995 - 1430 - Palm Beach Co., Lake Worth Beach - A 47-year-old male tourist from Ohio drowned in a rip current. Strong easterly winds associated with the approach of tropical storm Erin caused the rip current.

27 1996 - 1830 - Walton Co., Sandestin - A teenager drowned after being caught in a rip current while swimming in the Gulf of Mexico.

28 1974 - Highlands Co., Avon Park - Lightning killed a 6-year old girl outside turning a TV antenna.

28 1991 - 1815 - Polk Co., Lake Eva - Lightning killed a fisherman in a boat on the lake.

28 1996 - 1200 - Santa Rosa Co., Navarre Beach - A visitor drowned in a strong rip current while swimming in the Gulf of Mexico off Navarre Beach.
28 1996 - 1430 - Dade Co., Miami Beach - Two men drowned in separate rip currents along unguarded sections of Miami Beach. Dozens of other people were rescued by the beach patrol after being caught in rip currents throughout the afternoon.

29 1964 - unknown - Polk Co., Haines City - Lightning killed a worker in a citrus grove.

29 1966 - afternoon - Okaloosa Co., Fort Walton Beach - Lightning killed a person.

29 1983 - 1700 - Hillsborough Co., Brandon - Lightning killed a person and injured a person seeking shelter under a tree.

29 1996 - 1045 - Escambia Co., Pensacola Beach - A 15-year-old male was swimming off Pensacola Beach when he was pulled under the water by a strong rip current and drowned in the rough surf.

30 1946 - 1900 - Pinellas Co., St. Petersburg - Tornado unroofed a two-story home and destroyed a garage in a brief touchdown.

30 1968 - 1830 - Charlotte Co., N. Port Charlotte - A tornado accompanied by rain and 1" hail moved through a trailer park killing two people inside a trailer. The trailer was crumpled and fragmented as if it had exploded.

30 1975 - late evening - A Tropical Disturbance spawned several weak tornadoes over the Panhandle. No serious injuries.

30 1976 - early morning - Monroe Co., Key Largo - Lightning killed a man in his boat.

30 1986 - 1755 - Volusia Co. - Lightning killed a 15 year old boy water skiing.


30 1996 - 1435 - Walton Co., Sandestin - A 48 year old Louisiana man was drowned after being caught in a rip current.

30-31 1933 - central Florida - A hurricane moved in from the Atlantic, making landfall near Ft. Pierce on the morning of the 30th, slowly crossed the peninsula, and exited into the Gulf of Mexico south of Tampa Bay on the afternoon of the 31st.

31 1936 - Panhandle - A tropical storm moved in from the Bahamas and crossed extreme south Florida into the Gulf of Mexico. The storm strengthened into a hurricane and made landfall near Ft. Walton Beach, early on the 31st. Winds gusted to 125 mph and storm surge reached 6 feet. Four people died.

31 1967 - afternoon - Orange Co., Orlando - Lightning killed a person and injured four who were taking refuge in a small shed.
31 1995 - 1900 - Palm Beach Co., Palm Beach - A 19-year-old male resident drowned in a rip current near the Breakers Hotel. The rip current was caused by swells from hurricane Erin.

AUGUST

1-2 1898 - statewide - A hurricane made landfall near West Palm Beach and crossed the peninsula to Tampa Bay. The hurricane moved into the Gulf of Mexico and made a second landfall near Apalachicola.

1 1899 - northwest Florida - A Hurricane hit Franklin County and six died. Seven ships were wrecked in the Gulf of Mexico.

1 1957 - afternoon - Volusia Co., Pierson - Lightning killed one person.

1 1962 - afternoon - Duval Co., Ft. George Island - Lightning killed one person and injured another.


1 1983 - 1815 - Okaloosa Co., Crestview - Lightning killed a mother and her son who were trying to evacuate their home.

1 1988 - 1415 - Pinellas Co., Dunedin - Lightning killed a 26 year old male when it struck the mast of his sailboat while he and friends were exiting the boat.

1 1990 - 1815 - Palm Beach Co., W. Palm Beach - Lightning killed a mother and daughter, injured another child as they fished at a pond near the airport.

1 1995 - 1500 - Palm Beach County - A 15-year-old male surfer drowned in a rip current associated with tropical storm Erin off a Palm Beach County Beach.

2 1976 - afternoon - Alachua Co. - Lightning killed an eighteen-year old female and injured a man while they were working in a tobacco shed on a farm.

2 1980 - 0715 - Monroe Co., Duck Key - Lightning killed a 72 year old man as he stopped on a bridge to check a crab trap. The lightning struck the victim in the temple, traveled down his left side, and exited through his heel, knocking a two by 3 inch depression in the concrete surface of the bridge.

2 1982 - 1630 - Escambia Co., Pensacola Beach - Lightning killed a 40 year old man while he was standing on a fishing pier.

2 1988 - 1417 - Bay Co., Panama City Beach - Lightning killed an eighteen-year old male on a golf course.

2 1989 - 1815 - Marion Co., Eureka - Lightning killed a woman as she exited her car. A daughter inside was not injured although the lightning punctured the car.
2-3 1898 - A Hurricane hit Apalachicola. 12 died.

2-3 1970 - Florida Panhandle - Hurricane Celia - At least eight persons drowned on Panhandle beaches due to the effects of Hurricane Celia which passed hundreds of miles to the south and made landfall near Corpus Christi, Texas. Rip tides and heavy surf with waves up to 10ft pounded the beaches of Escambia, Okaloosa and Santa Rosa Counties. The Escambia County Sheriff reported 25-30 emergency calls with lifeguards rescuing at least 12 people. Tides ran about 1 foot above normal, but there were no other significant meteorological features.

2-4 1995 - east central Florida and western Panhandle - Hurricane Erin made landfall near Sebastian Inlet in southern Brevard County early on the morning of the 2nd. Brevard County bore the brunt of the storm with wind gusts to 100 mph between Melbourne Beach and Cocoa Beach knocking down trees on houses, cars, and power lines. The winds damaged thousands of roofs and completely destroyed some roofs. As Erin moved through Orlando during the morning wind gusts to 60 mph downed trees on power lines, houses and cars. About one-half million people were without power initially, several thousand were without power for more than five days. Heavy rains of up to 8 inches in three hours on the backside of Erin hit Brevard County again on the afternoon of the 2nd causing widespread flooding of low lying areas. Many houses were flooded west and northwest of Melbourne and many roads were impassable for several days. Erin moved into the Gulf of Mexico on the afternoon of the 2nd as a tropical storm, but regained strength before making a second Florida landfall near Pensacola on the morning of the 4th with winds gusting to 110 mph. Widespread wind damage to houses and business was reported. Large trees crashed into houses, cars, and power lines. Most people in the area were without power for several days. Damage in the Pensacola area was estimated at 300 million dollars. The only deaths directly associated with Erin were at sea. A 234 ft gambling/cruise ship sunk 90 miles off Cape Canaveral around 4AM on the 2nd killing 3. Five people were drown in the Gulf of Mexico.

3 1965 - afternoon - Brevard Co., Kennedy Space Center - Lightning killed a crane operator in the launching area. Six injuries.

3 1986 - 1730 - Indian River Co. - Lightning killed a 33-year old woman seeking shelter underneath a tree.

4 1957 - 1500-1600 - Dade Co., Miami - Wind, Lightning, Hail - Strong, gusty winds caused considerable minor damage in the Miami area; lightning injured 1 person. Strong winds along waterfront damaged many small boats. Some hail reported in area.

4 1971 - 1700 - Lake Co., Eustis - Lightning killed 1 and injured three people while they were working in an orange grove.

4 1988 - 1730 - Hernando Co., Brooksville - Lightning killed a 19 year old male standing under an oak tree near a pond.

5 1967 - night - Jacksonville - Lightning killed a woman while she was taking clothes off a clothesline. The line was secured to a tree struck by lightning.

1964 - afternoon - Lake Co., Lake Silver - Lightning killed one person.

1973 - Charlotte Co., Punta Gorda - Lightning killed a 15 year old standing on a golf tee. One person was injured while operating a mower in the same area.

1982 - Monroe Co., Key West - Lightning killed a 17 year old boy and injured his father. They were climbing back into the boat after snorkeling - the lightning struck the water close by.

1994 - Brevard Co., Satellite Beach - A 37-year-old male dentist was killed and his wife and daughter injured by lightning at the beach.

1996 - Escambia Co., Perdido Key - Three people working at a construction site at Perdido Key were struck by lightning. One of the persons died. The three were huddled underneath a makeshift lean-to. One of the men had a rake in his hand when the bolt hit. Lightning either struck their shelter, the deceased, or the rake he was holding.

1962 - Marion Co., Lake Kerr - Lightning killed a fisherman near the shore of the lake.

1992 - Dade Co., Miami Beach - Lightning killed a tourist as he walked away from the beach.

1996 - Broward Co., Ft. Lauderdale Beach - A 16-year-old male drowned in a rip current along an unguarded section of Ft. Lauderdale Beach.

1928 - east central Florida - A Hurricane moved in from the Bahamas and made landfall near Stuart. Damage was heaviest from south Brevard to St. Lucie Counties. Houses were unroofed and citrus trees and large oaks uprooted. Coastal highways were flooded and many bridges were undermined. Two people died.

1979 - Gilchrist Co., Lightning killed a 37 year-old farmer who was using an electric welder on a haymower.

1950 - Citrus Co., Crystal River - Lightning struck a small boat carrying a fishing party of four persons. One man killed, the boat caught fire, but remaining three persons were able to swim to shore.

1972 - Lake Co., Sorento - Lightning killed an eighteen year old and injured two others while they worked in a grove.

1983 - Franklin Co., Offshore - Lightning killed a fisherman in a boat on St. Vincent Sound.

1901 - south Florida - A hurricane made landfall near Ft. Lauderdale on the 10th and crossed the peninsula, exiting into the Gulf of Mexico near Ft. Myers on the morning of the 11th.
10 1968 - 1500 - Manatee Co., Parrish - Lightning killed a man, a horse, and three dogs. Three other people injured. The man was penning cattle on a ranch.

10 1971 - late afternoon - Polk Co., Lakeland - Lightning killed a seven year old boy crouched under a truck.

10 1987 - 1210 - Lee Co., Fort Myers Beach - Lightning killed two men on the beach. Two women received minor injuries. Heavy rainfall occurred shortly after the lightning.

10 1995 - 1530 - Manatee Co., Myakka City - A 25-year-old male was struck in the neck and killed by lightning while working in a tomato field. Two other male workers were also struck and received minor injuries while trying to flee the tomato field during the thunderstorm.

11 1911 - Panhandle - A weak hurricane made landfall near Pensacola.

11-13 1939 - statewide - A weak hurricane made landfall near Ft. Pierce on the morning of the 11th, crossed into the Gulf of Mexico near Crystal River early on the 12th, regained marginal hurricane strength and made a second landfall near Apalachicola late on the 12th. It weakened to a tropical depression as it moved into Alabama the evening of the 13th.

11 1979 - 1400 - Osceola Co., Lake Kissimmee - Lightning killed a fisherman standing on a sandbar pushing his boat into the lake.

12 1952 - evening - Tampa - Lightning struck near two children playing under a tree. A young girl was killed and her sister injured.

12 1961 - evening - Hillsborough Co., Lutz - Lightning killed one person.

12 1972 - afternoon - Panama City, Allentown - Lightning killed a sixteen year old while standing on a dock.

12 1976 - 1630 - Lake Co.- Lightning killed a farm worker as he was working on machinery near a poultry building.

12 1976 - 1750 - Pinellas Co., Largo - Tornado struck five trailer parks in a few minutes. One hundred trailers were damaged or destroyed. One woman was killed. Five people were injured.

13 1959 - unknown - Escambia Co., Cantonment - Lightning killed one person.

13 1993 - 1930 - Brevard Co., Melbourne - Thunderstorm winds blew an elderly man off a sailboat and he drowned.

13 1995 - 1803 - Highlands Co., Avon Park - A 13-year-old boy was struck by lightning near Lake Lillian. He was hospitalized but died two days later.
14 1974 - 1645 - Lee Co., Lehigh Acres - Lightning killed a person and injured three others as they were leaving a road construction site.

14 1978 - 1340 - Duval Co., Jacksonville - Lightning killed a twelve-year old boy and injured a man while they were installing a fence.

14 1983 - 1443 - Broward Co., Hollywood - Lightning killed a man who was taking shelter under a tree.

15 1927 - 1415 - Franklin Co., Carrabelle - A tornado damaged a church, 15 homes, and 13 businesses.

15 1962 - morning - Orange Co., Orlando - Lightning killed a child standing under a tree.

15 1978 - 1830 - Hillsborough Co., Tampa - Lightning killed a 14-year old boy carrying a portable radio with an extended antenna. Two companions were knocked to the ground.

15 1984 - 1620 - Marion Co., Anthony - Lightning killed a husband and wife in their back yard. No rain was falling at the time and they were not near anything metallic.

15 1990 - 1800 - Martin Co., Indiantown - Lightning killed an elderly man as he was hiking in the woods.

15-16 1994 - Tropical Storm Beryl - formed in the northeast Gulf of Mexico and moved slowly east northeast, crossing the Florida panhandle coastline near Panama City at 2000 on the 15th. Beryl greatly added to the woes of people who were still recovering from Tropical Storm Alberto in July. At landfall the maximum sustained wind was estimated at 58 mph. The maximum reported storm tide of 2.9 feet and the greatest rainfall total of 10.69 inches was observed at Apalachicola, but higher values likely occurred to the east of this location. Beryl weakened to a tropical depression as it moved northeast into extreme southwest Georgia at 0800 on the 16th. There were no deaths and only 1 injury directly attributable to Beryl and damage was estimated at $5.9 million. Coastal damage included tidal flooding that undermined a few roads and houses and eroded beaches and sea walls. Several moored boats were damaged and three persons on a fishing boat offshore the panhandle had to be rescued. Winds did minor roof damage and downed trees and signs along the coast. Inland, trees were blown down damaging roofs and power was lost to 20,000 customers. The heavy rain caused flooding of low lying areas that lasted more than a week, damaging houses and vehicles. The oyster beds in Apalachicola Bay closed due to contamination.

15 1995 - A Suwannee County man died, an apparent victim of heatstroke. Afternoon temperatures in Lake City reached 103 degrees.

16 1888 - south Florida - A hurricane moved through the Bahamas and struck near Miami. Storm surge 14ft?

16 1964 - afternoon - Charlotte Co., Port Charlotte - Lightning killed a person who was riding a motorcycle.
16 1965 - morning - Pinellas Co., St. Petersburg - Lightning killed a construction worker who was working on a bridge.

16 1972 - daytime - Osceola Co., St. Cloud - Lightning killed a woman while she was walking toward her car.

16 1984 - 1445 - Pinellas Co., St. Petersburg - Lightning killed a man who was spraying a house with insecticide.

16 1994 - 1530-1545 - Okaloosa Co., Destin Beach - A 41-year-old male tourist drowned in a rip current at Miramar Beach near Destin while saving his 13-year-old- daughter. The rip current was caused by swells and strong onshore winds in the wake of Tropical Storm Beryl.

16-19 1981 - south and east central Florida - Tropical Storm Dennis - The center of Dennis moved slowly through the Florida Straits on the 16th and onto the lower southwest coast during the morning of the 17th. Dennis then moved northeastward through southern Florida, emerging into the Atlantic between Cape Canaveral and Daytona Beach early on the 18th, taking nearly three days to cross the state. Highest winds occurred mostly in squalls well east of the center. The highest wind gusts reported with Dennis were 55 to 60 MPH along the lower southeast coast on the 17th. Two tornadoes were reported (Plantation Key and Haulover Beach) as Dennis moved through the Keys and Florida Bay, but no injuries or significant damage resulted.

The primary damage in Dennis resulted from widespread flooding in agricultural areas and was most severe in the extreme southern part of Florida Peninsula. Ten to 20 inches of rain fell south and east of Lake Okeechobee, with amounts of five to 10 inches reported along the southeast and east-central coast. West Kendall (Dade Co.) measured 20.37 inches and amounts in the 19 to 20 inch range were common through the Homestead/Florida City area. Besides agricultural damage, flood water came into many homes and businesses in the Homestead/Florida City area, and into most homes in the East Everglades area.

17-18 1881 - south and central Florida - A hurricane moved in from the Gulf of Mexico and made landfall near Naples. It crossed the peninsula and exited into the Atlantic near Vero Beach.

17 - 18 1969 - afternoon-evening - Panhandle - Hurricane Camille devastated coastal Mississippi, but her effect on Florida was relatively minor. No reporting station observed winds of hurricane force. Most property damage was caused by high tides, which ranged from an estimate 6.3 feet above astronomical tide in the Pensacola area to less than 2.5 feet above the astronomical tide east of Apalachicola. Property damages, including beach erosion and crop losses, were estimated near one-half million dollars with the major portion of the damages in Escambia and Santa Rosa Counties. Crop losses were mostly corn and pecans blown from trees. At least two tornadoes and many funnel clouds and waterspouts were reported in the Pensacola area on the 17th, but they caused no major damage.

17 1972 - 1650 - Pinellas Co., St. Petersburg - Lightning killed a man while he was opening his car door in a parking lot.
17 1974 - 1400 - Hillsborough Co., Tampa - Lightning killed a thirty-two year old woman and injured two children while they were watching an air show.

17 1975 - 1830 - Lee Co., Ft. Myers - Lightning killed an eighteen year old and injured his wife while they were fishing on a pier.

17 1994 - 1626 - Bay Co., Panama City Beach - A 45-year-old male tourist drowned in a rip current at Panama City Beach. The rip current was caused by swells and strong onshore winds in the wake of Tropical Storm Beryl.

17 1996 - 1530 - Collier Co., Naples Park - Two persons were killed and six injured by a single lightning strike while picnicing at Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Recreation Area. The incident occurred at the height of the thunenstorm when lightning struck a 50-foot high pine tree under which a group of 25 to 30 persons were gathered using a tarpaulin as a roof. Emergency personnel exposed themselves to numerous lightning strikes while rescuing people.

18 1957 - afternoon - Collier Co., Naples - Lightning killed one person.

18 1965 - afternoon - Bay Co., Panama City - Lightning knocked one person from a boat and he drowned, four others in the boat were injured.

19 1951 - afternoon - Hillsborough Co., Dover - Lightning killed a girl in her yard.

19 1964 - afternoon - Seminole Co., Chuluota - Lightning killed a person who was working in an orange grove.

19 1987 - 1300 - Manatee Co., Bradenton - Lightning killed a 32 year old man at a construction site.

20 1954 -1854 - Pinellas Co., Pass-A-Grille - Waterspout formed about 300 yards offshore in Gulf of Mexico, drifted southward and then eastward onto shore to damage a hotel building.

20 1954 - 1230 - Calhoun Co., Blountstown - Lightning killed a boy, injured two others, taking refuge under a tree. They had been fishing on the Apalachicola River.

20 1990 - 1700 - Pinellas Co., Oldsmar - Lightning killed a man as he was leaving a fishing pier.

21 1954 - 1330 - Tampa Bay - Wind storm described as "sudden squall" upset more than 50 small boats in Tampa Bay and Manatee River.

21 1963 - afternoon - Pinellas Co., Largo - A tornado damaged seven homes and the roof at Starkey Elementary School. Later in the evening a waterspout moved in from the Gulf at Maderia Beach then crossed Boca Ciego Bay to Pinellas Park where homes were unroofed.
1968 - afternoon - Gadsden Co., Watumpka - Lightning killed a man who was watering flowers near a fishing/hunting lodge.

1973 - 2230 - Lake Co., Paisley - Lightning killed a 40 year old woman who went outside looking for her dog.

1976 - 1630 - Brevard Co., Cocoa Beach - Lightning killed a 56-year-old man and injured three others on the beach. Rain was just beginning and some thunder was heard, but no lightning had been observed.


1919 - Pasco Co. - A tornado destroyed two homes, a barn, and a warehouse near Erwin.

1968 - 1400 - Palm Beach Co., Belle Glade - Lightning killed a twenty-year old man riding a tractor pulling a mower.

1885 - east coast - A hurricane moved north, just offshore the east coast of Florida, from the Bahamas to Jacksonville. The storm center's closest approach to land was at Cape Canaveral.

1957 - evening - Pinellas Co., Pass-a-Grille - Funnel clouds/waterspout reported. High thunderstorm winds in Gulf of Mexico off Clearwater contributed to sinking of shrimp boat, two fishermen missing and presumed dead.

1967 - 1330 - Hendry Co., Clewiston - Lightning killed a man driving a tractor in a pasture at Bishop Farms.

1988 - 1415 - Highlands Co. Sebring - Lightning killed a 28 year old tree surgeon who was working on a tree.

1970 - daytime - St. Johns Co., St. Augustine - Lightning killed a nineteen year old who was swimming in the ocean.

1991 - 1700 - Sarasota Co., Siesta Key - Lightning killed two people walking on the beach. Twin sisters were passing a man walking the opposite direction. The lightning struck one of the sisters and the man, killing them, the other sister was slightly injured. Three nearby persons were knocked down.

1966 - afternoon - Polk Co., Bartow - Lightning killed one person and injured two.

1990 - 1500 - Charlotte Co., Fort Myers - Lightning killed a man and injured another while they were standing near a pickup truck.

1992 - 0325 - 0900 - Broward, Collier, Dade, and Monroe Counties - Hurricane Andrew roared ashore in southern Dade County near Homestead and Florida City as the third-most intense landfalling hurricane in U.S. History (2nd in Florida). This Category 4 hurricane caused widespread damage to homes and businesses, with many destroyed in south Dade. Many trees, power lines, light poles, etc.,
were downed in many areas from Broward County on the north to Collier County on the west and to Dade County and the upper Keys on the south. Fifteen people were killed as a direct result of the storm, mostly from flying debris and collapsing roofs, walls, or falling furniture. Twenty-six others were killed indirectly. Some of these deaths occurred while cleaning up storm debris and from auto accidents related to nonfunctional traffic lights and debris across roadways. Property damage was estimated to have exceeded $25 billion, and crop damage was at least $1 billion, making Andrew the most costly weather disaster in U.S. History. The natural reef housing coral and other marine life was very badly damaged. Ocean Reef in the extreme upper Keys also suffered heavy damage. About 660,000 people were without power for period of from a few hours to several months.

25 1951 - Tampa - A fisherman was killed by lightning while casting from a 14 ft. boat in Tampa Bay.

25 1974 - 1530 - Marion Co., Ocala - Lightning killed a seventeen year old boy and injured five when it struck the dock they were on.

25 1984 - 1415 - Brevard Co., Cocoa Beach - Lightning killed a girl as she was walking on the beach.


25 1994 - 1730 - Martin Co., Hutchinson Island - Three local males were caught in a rip current behind the "House of Refuge". One male drowned and the other two escaped serious injury when strong onshore winds created the rip currents.

26-27 1949 - A Hurricane hit West Palm Beach, Stuart, and Lake Okeechobee - two died.

26 1973 - 1600 - Pinellas Co., Tarpon Springs - Lightning killed a 12-year old girl sitting in a boat. Others in the boat were stunned.

26 1986 - 1800 - Alachua Co., Gainesville - Lightning killed a 44-year old man loading luggage onto an airplane at the airport.

27 1953 - Pinellas Co., Clearwater - Lightning killed one person and injured another. Lightning started a fire at Ft. Myers.

27 1956 - afternoon - Escambia Co. - One person was killed by lightning.

27-28 1964 - Eastern Peninsula of Florida - Hurricane Cleo, a small, but destructive storm, moved northward into Biscayne Bay early on the 27th and continued northward a short distance inland and roughly parallel to the Florida east coast all the way to Jacksonville by midday on the 28th. Strongest winds and greatest damages were in 20 to 35 mile wide coastal strip from Miami to Melbourne. Storm intensity north of Melbourne was such that only minor damages resulted. The storm surge was less than four feet in Miami, five feet above normal in Fort Lauderdale, and five to six feet above normal in Pompano Beach. No serious tidal damage was reported. Principal damages were glass breakage in unprotected store fronts, Miami Beach hotels and motels and other unprotected glass. Many building and contents suffered water damage after the windows gave away. Other major damages were uprooted trees, disrupted communications and power failures in the southern sections, sand blasted buildings and
automobiles, overturned parked aircraft and agricultural losses. Rainfall connected with this storm was light in the state and there were only isolated reports of flooding. Measured storm totals varied from five to 8 inches in the coastal areas of north Dade, Broward and Palm Beach counties to mostly between three and 5 inches in the coastal areas farther north. Three tornadoes were reported, causing minor injuries.

27 1992 - 1145 - Santa Rosa Co., Milton - High winds snapped off the top of a rotted tree and killed a man logging in the Blackwater River Forest.

27 1994 - 1600 - Duval Co., Jacksonville Beach - A 29-year-old male Georgia tourist drowned in a rip current while swimming at Jacksonville Beach. A male companion was hospitalized after nearly drowning in the same rip current.

28 1954 - afternoon/evening - Jefferson, Columbia, Alachua, Orange Counties - Thunderstorm winds and hail struck Alachua and Orange Counties. A tornado touched down briefly in Orlando and ripped up three large oaks. Trees, wire lines, and TV antennas were downed in many areas. Considerable wind damage to roofs and several automobiles were hit by falling trees. A child was killed by lightning at Lake City. Several others were injured.

28 1965 - afternoon - Escambia Co., Barrimaca Park - Lightning killed a boy and injured three, while camping under a tree.

28 1983 - 2200 - Lake Co., Umatilla - Thunderstorm winds caused a large pine tree to crash into the roof of a home, killing one youngster asleep in the bedroom.

28 1986 - 1015 - Palm Beach Co. - Lightning killed a 26 year old man who was standing under a tree.

28 1991 - 1709 - Bay Co., Panama City - Lightning struck two boats with people having a family reunion. They were trying to make it back before a thunderstorm. A brother and sister were killed and eight other people suffered injuries.

29 1880 - A hurricane hit East Central Florida - Cocoa Beach was the area most effected with severe damage also at Palm Beach and Lake Okeechobee.

29 1968 - 1015 - 1020 - Okaloosa Co., Eglin AFB - Lightning killed 2 Army Rangers and injured seven. Two weak tornadoes spawned by a tropical disturbance struck Volusia County in the morning, no injuries.

29 1830 - Santa Rosa Co., Milton - Lightning killed a man working under a tractor.

30-31 1950 - Panhandle/Northwest Florida - Hurricane Baker made landfall at Santa Rosa Island between Mobile and Pensacola with winds of 100 mph the night of the 30th. At Pensacola lowest sea-level pressure was 29.27 inches at 2200 on the 30th and maximum wind speed was 42 mph from the southeast. 30th 1950 - 1700 - Franklin Co., Apalachicola - A waterspout/tornado spawned by Hurricane Baker came ashore and unroofed a home and store. Twenty-three homes were damaged. One other tornado reported in Jackson County.
30 1975 - evening - Lake Co., Paisley - Lightning killed a New Smyrna Beach woman at a campsite.

30 1980 - afternoon - Dade Co. Miami Park - Lightning killed a 15 year old boy in the park. It was reported that the youth's shirt and pants were partially burned off by the lightning that struck him in the hip.

30-9/1 1985 - Statewide - Hurricane Elena - was named on August 28 while moving northwest over central Cuba. She stalled off the north-central Florida Gulf Coast for 24 hours before strengthening and moving northwest toward landfall in Mississippi. Highest winds were in the western panhandle, with 80 knots reported at Pensacola. A tree blown down onto a car killed a 37 year old man at Daytona Beach. The man's neck was broken by the tree. Storm surge of 10 ft was reported at Apalachicola. Rainfall ranged from 2 inches at Key West to 11 inches at Apalachicola. Elena spawned five tornadoes in Pasco, Marion, Lake (2) and Glades Counties on the 3lst. The strongest tornado struck Leesburg (Lake Co.) in the morning destroying 70 trailers and damaged 52. No serious injuries.

30 1992 - 1350 - Dade Co., Homestead - Lightning killed a man who was unloading relief supplies for Hurricane Andrew.

31 1955 - evening - Polk, Co., Lakeland - Lightning killed one person and caused minor property damage.

31 1969 - 1900 - Dade City - Lightning killed two fishermen who were seeking shelter under a tree.

SEPTEMBER

1 1941 - 1930 - Sarasota Co. - Tornado near Sarasota injured one person.

1 1963 - afternoon - Bay Co., Mexico Beach - Lightning killed a person and injured another while they were standing on a jetty.


1 1983 - 1600 - Polk Co., Frostproof - Lightning killed a high school football player at practice.

1 1996 1430 - Dade Co., Miami Beach - Five persons taking shelter from the rain under a palm tree were injured when lightning struck the tree.

2 1935 - Keys - The Great Labor Day Hurricane - This famous Labor Day Storm was only 40 miles in diameter, but it remains the most intense U. S. landfalling hurricane on record. It killed 408 people in Florida, mostly by drowning, making it the 5th deadliest U. S. hurricane on record. Winds reached 200 mph, and the barometer dropped to 26.35 inches at Long Key. A rescue train sent to remove World War I veterans and residents from the Florida Keys was swept from the tracks. The tracks of the Flagler Railroad were washed from the Long Key viaduct at an elevation of 30 feet above mean low water. A survey by the U. S. Corp. of Engineers sometime after the storm found that the tide level never reached the rails there, but the hurricane surge and wind driven waves superimposed on the tide probably helped in carrying the tracks away.
2 1959 - afternoon - Broward Co., Ft. Lauderdale - A sign blown down by the wind struck a man on the street and killed him.

2 1996 0800 - Coastal Palm Beach Co., Jupiter Inlet - Large swells from Hurricane Fran knocked five people out of an 18-foot fishing boat in Jupiter Inlet. The Coast Guard rescued all five people.

3-4 1933 - Indian River, St. Lucie, Martin, and Palm Beach Cos. - Hurricane - There was much property damage on the east coast from Vero Beach to West Palm Beach. A few houses were destroyed and a number blown off their blocks. More than four million boxes of citrus were blown from the trees statewide. The property loss ran into the millions. Two Deaths attributed to storm.

3 1962 - afternoon - Alachua Co., Newberry - Lightning killed one person and injured another while they were taking refuge under a tree on a lake shore.

3 1976 -1450 - Palm Beach Co., Belle Glade - Lightning killed a prisoner at Glades Correctional Institution while he was riding a horse on a fence repair detail. The horse was also killed.

3-4 1979 - Florida Peninsula - Hurricane David - David moved through the Dominican Republic with winds to 165 mph, killing 1200, but weakened drastically before hitting Florida. David made landfall about 20 miles south of Melbourne with 90 mph winds. It was the first hurricane to strike the Cape Canaveral area since the hurricane of 1926, but there was debate among longtime residents whether David was really at hurricane strength in Brevard Co. Residents had braced for a major hurricane, but David was officially only a minimal hurricane at landfall with the strongest winds remaining offshore. Tides were three to 5 feet above normal near the eye track and 1 to 2 feet above normal elsewhere on the Florida east coast. Light to moderate beach erosion occurred along most of the coast. Severe erosion was reported in Brevard County and south Volusia County. Agricultural losses were substantial, and probably exceeded 25 million dollars. The principal citrus damage was near the coastline, from Jupiter in Martin County to Oak Hill in Volusia County. Nursery plants sustained considerable damage in the storm track. Storm rainfall was quite variable with totals mostly six to 9 inches near the track of the eye, with a few reports to 11 inches. Elsewhere, rainfall was less than 5 inches. No deaths reported in Florida. Nine tornados were reported along the coast doing mostly minor damage and causing no serious injuries. The strongest of David's tornados destroyed or damaged about 50 trailers in Melbourne Beach, severely damaged a condominium, and did $1,500,000 damage to a shopping center on the afternoon of the 3rd.

4 1915 - morning - Panhandle/northwest Florida - A hurricane made landfall near Apalachicola. Many sponge vessels were wrecked and 21 people died.

4 1948 - afternoon - Gadsden Co., Havana - A tornado, spawned on the outer fringes of a Hurricane making landfall west of the Panhandle, killed two children in one of 8 homes that were destroyed - 12 others were injured. Nine tobacco barns were destroyed. In Santa Rosa County a tornado unroofed a house and store at Milton. Another tornado was reported on the beach in Nassau County. The hurricane later made landfall near New Orleans.

4 1977 - afternoon - Palm Beach Co., South Bay - Lightning killed a 63-year old man working in a field at the U.S. Sugar Corp.
5-6 1950 - Levy Co., Cedar Key - Hurricane Easy - looped twice off the west coast, moving little from the 4th and 6th. This slow movement allowed tremendous rainfall amounts to accumulate in some areas. The 24-hour rainfall of 38.7 inches that fell at Yankeetown on the 5th and 6th is the highest ever in Florida, and the second highest all-time 24 hour amount in North America. Easy had top winds of 125 mph and a barometric pressure of 28.30 inches. The tide in Tampa Bay rose to 6.5 feet. Severe beach erosion was reported from Sarasota to Cedar Key. Cedar Key had reported hurricane force winds from 6am to 6pm on the 5th. The fishing fleet of Cedar Key was destroyed by high wind and waves.

5 1976 - 1515 - St. Lucie Co., Ft. Pierce - Lightning killed a girl under a large oak tree in her front yard.

5 1983 - 1400 - Okaloosa and Walton Counties - Thunderstorm winds capsized a boat in Choctawatchee Bay and drowned 1 man.

5-9 1988 - West Central Florida - Heavy rains of up to 20" fell on the west-central part of Florida. Four people drowned: a 44 year old male drowned while driving across a flooded roadway, a 93 year old male fell from a bridge and drowned, a two year old infant drowned in a stream, and a 17 year old male drowned while swimming across a creek. Evacuation of 1,000 homes were required when the flood gates of a storage lake were opened. Extensive urban flooding took place. All time record flood crests were recorded on the Hillsborough River at Middleburg, the Manatee River at Myakka, and the Little Manatee River at Wimauma.

5 1989 - 1630 - Lee Co., Cape Coral - Lightning killed a high school football player while at practice.

5 1995 - 1650 - Collier Co., North Naples - Two males were killed and one male was injured by lightning while leaning against an automobile at a construction site during the height of a thunderstorm. Several individuals who were inside the vehicle were uninjured.

6-9 1933 - West Central Florida - All time record flood crests on the Peace River at Zolfo Springs, the Alafia River at Lithia, and the Hillsborough River at Tampa.

6 1968 - afternoon - St. Lucie Co., Fort Pierce - Lightning killed a 60-year old citrus grove worker while working in a nest of trees.

6-8 1974 - West Coast - Hurricane Carmen - caused rough seas, high tides, and minor beach erosion along the western coast of Florida (both Panhandle and Peninsula) as it passed far to the west beyond 90 degrees longitude. The storm began moving northward from Yucatan on September 5th, passing through the central Gulf of Mexico and moving inland on the Louisiana coast during the predawn hours of September 8th.

6 1979 - 1515 - Pinellas Co., St. Petersburg - Lightning killed an 11 year old boy standing under a large pine tree.

6 1981 - morning - Dade Co. - Lightning killed a 47 year athletic director weighing 290 pounds on a golf course.
6 1982 - 1400 - Monroe Co., Key West, - Lightning killed a 17 year old boy climbing back into the boat after snorkeling. The lightning had struck the water close by. The father was stunned, but not injured.

7 1968 - afternoon - Hillsborough Co., Seffner - Lightning killed a 10 year old boy walking to a trash can outside his home. His brother walking with him was not hurt. night - Hillsborough Co., Wiseman - Lightning killed a 51 year old man on a road near a fish hatchery.

7 1969 - St. Petersburg, Boca Ciega Bay - Lightning killed a fisherman wading in water using a steel net.

7 1970 - noon - St. Petersburg - Lightning killed two football players and injured 22 others at Gibbs Comprehensive High School. Thirty players and four coaches were knocked off their feet by the lightning.

8-9 1957 - Panhandle/northwest Florida - Tropical Storm Debbie made landfall near Fort Walton Beach on the morning of the 8th. Winds of 30 to 40 mph were reported from stations along the track. The highest winds were reported from the Tampa-Tallahassee area, with Tampa reporting a peak gust of 52 mph from the south on the 8th. Rainfall of up to 11.26 inches at Wewahitchka, accompanied by tides 1 to 4 feet above normal, caused some local flooding, particularly in the vicinity of St. Marks, where flood waters reached the downtown area. A man drowned on the St. Johns River in Duval County when rough waters washed him overboard.

8-9 1965 - Southern Peninsula, Keys and Gulf Coast - Hurricane Betsy passed extreme south Florida early on the 8th, moved across the upper Keys, through Florida Bay and into the Gulf of Mexico north of Key West, and across the Gulf of Mexico to New Orleans. The strongest winds were from the northwest estimated at 140 mph in the Keys. The passage of the storm center across the upper Keys produced strong onshore winds and high tides along the southeast coast with gusts to 60 mph reported as far north as Melbourne. Flooding on the upper Keys was extensive and water reached depths of several feet in many areas, covering highways and first floors of buildings. Storm tides reached 6.1 feet along the Miami Beach oceanfront and rising waters flooded extensive sections of Key Biscayne. Most of the total damage occurred in the east coastal areas south of Palm Beach Co. and on the Keys. There were five known fatalities. Three additional persons were missing in the Gulf and presumed lost, making the death toll total eight in Florida. A tornado spawned by Betsy destroyed a dozen trailers near Marathon in Monroe Co. at noon on the 8th.

8 1992 - 1430 - Hernando Co. - Lightning killed a man while fishing in the Gulf of Mexico.

9-10 1882 - 09/2100 - Alachua Co. - A tornado on the outer fringes of a hurricane, injured four people at Archer and destroyed some small homes. Five more tornadoes were spawned by the same hurricane as it went ashore in the western panhandle. 10/2100 - Gadsden Co. - Five people died when tornadoes spawned by the same hurricane struck tenant homes near Quincy, others may have died later. Other tornadoes occurred at Tallahassee, Freeport, Darbyville, and Madison.

9-10 1919 - Key West - Hurricane - 300 lives were lost mostly in ships near Key West, where winds were reported at 110 mph as this violent storm caused considerable damage. Brick structures had walls blown out and large vessels were torn from their moorings and blown on banks. A tornado destroyed six
buildings and damaged 19, injuring six people at Goulds in Dade Co. This hurricane killed hundreds more on its track to south Texas. The final death toll of over 600, mostly in ships at seas, makes this the 3rd deadliest U.S. hurricane on record.

9 1959 - afternoon - Hillsborough Co., Tampa - Lightning killed two people and injured five others. They were seeking shelter on a golf course.

9-12 1964 - north and northeast Florida - Hurricane Dora, the first storm of hurricane intensity to cross into northeast Florida from the Atlantic since records have been kept, moved inland over St. Augustine about 1215 on the 10th. St. Augustine was in the eye of the storm from 1215 to 0130 AM and recorded a sea level pressure of 28.52 inches. Dora produced sustained winds of around 100 mph, and abnormally high tides to almost all coastal points north of Daytona Beach during the night of 9-10. Highest sustained winds, from the southwest, and estimated at 125 mph were reported at St. Augustine. Sustained winds of 82 mph were recorded in Jacksonville, and this was the first time in Weather Bureau history that winds of full hurricane force have been observed in Jacksonville. Storm tides reached 12 feet at St. Augustine and ranged between five and 10 feet above normal north of Daytona Beach. Wind and tide damage was extensive along the Atlantic coast north of St. Augustine. High winds in the Jacksonville area caused a massive utilities failure. Agriculture sustained considerable damage because of the flooding throughout north Florida. One death and eight injuries were reported from Dora.

9 1995 - 1545 - Putnam Co., San Mateo - A man boating on the St. Johns River near San Mateo was struck and killed by lightning. 1600 - Putnam Co. - A man was killed by a direct lightning hit aboard a pontoon boat on Dunns Creek.

10-11 1960 - Florida Peninsula - Hurricane Donna - This hurricane (6th most intense U. S. hurricane at landfall), crossed over the middle Florida Keys between two and 3 a.m. on the 10th. After keeping a short distance offshore it reached the coastline again south of Naples and then turned north over Ft. Myers, then more northeastward, going out to sea a short distance north of Daytona Beach. At Sombrero light on the Keys, the highest wind speed was 106 mph with gusts to 150 mph. At Tavernier, the highest winds were 120 mph, which was the highest point on the dial. Maximum sustained winds on the Keys have been estimated around 140 mph, with gusts possibly as high as 175 mph to 180 mph. The lowest barometric pressure reported was at Craig Key where three barometers ranged from 27.4 to 27.5 inches. The pipeline supplying the Keys with fresh water was broken in at least three places. The Overseas Highway was overflowed by storm tides at several places. Wind damage was enormous on the Keys and on the southwest coast from Everglades City to Punta Gorda. Rainfall ranged from five to 10 inches in an 80 to 100 mile wide belt extending roughly 50 to 75 miles to the right of the storm track and 40 to 50 miles to the left of the track. Lake and stream overflow forced evacuation of some homes on the central peninsula. High waters also closed many roads and inundated considerable agricultural land throughout the southern and central peninsula. At least a dozen killed in Florida and 1794 injuries reported.

10-11 1988 - Western Florida Panhandle - Hurricane Florence - passed well west of Florida, making landfall near New Orleans, but heavy rains of five to 10 inches on the eastern fringes caused flooding that damaged 39 homes and three businesses. At one time on the llth, 50 people were stranded in their homes. Seventeen roads were washed out. More than four weak tornadoes and several waterspouts were reported over the panhandle on the 10th, causing no serious injuries.
10 1996 - Bay Co., Panama City - A 16-year-old female student was killed by a lightning strike while walking through a grassy courtyard area near one of two tall pine trees on the campus of Bay High School in Panama City.

11-13 1903 - statewide - A hurricane made landfall near West Palm Beach on the 11th, crossed over Tampa Bay into the Gulf on the 12th and made a second landfall near Apalachicola on the 13th. Highest winds were 78 mph. Fourteen deaths were attributed to the storm. A ship was wrecked near Jupiter.

11 1971 - 1645 - Miami - Lightning killed two boys playing football on a school playground.


12-13 1979 - Hurricane Frederic - Northwest Florida - Frederic followed less than 10 days after Hurricane David. Hurricane warnings were posted for the Panhandle, but Frederic made landfall west of Florida. Thousands of people were evacuated from Gulf front areas before Frederic arrived. Frederic caused gusty winds and heavy surf and outer rainbands brought locally heavy rain and severe storms. A woman drowned when her sail boat was swamped. At least five tornadoes on the outer fringes of Frederic hit the panhandle on the evening of the 12th and morning of the 13th. No serious injuries.

12-30 1979 - Statewide - Heavy Rain/Floods - With Hurricanes David and Frederic affecting the state, and generally disturbed weather patterns prevailing, September 1979 was one of the wettest Septembers in history. West central Florida, where river and drainage flooding was widespread was hardest hit. September 14 - rainfall exceeded 8" in Lee Co., flooding occurred. September 16 - rainfall exceeded 5" in Pensacola area. September 20 - Manatee Co. received 20" of rain. During the latter 10 days of the month serious flooding occurred. Hillsborough Co. suffered eight million dollars in damages. A Tampa woman drowned when her car was swept off the road by flood waters. September 21 - 600 people in Manatee Co. evacuated from their homes. Twelve homes were flooded in Highlands Co. In Jacksonville, two Sailors were electrocuted when they stepped into knee-deep water that had shorted an underground transformer.

13 1975 - afternoon - Highlands Co., Sebring - Lightning killed a woman lying on a rubber raft when she was struck and fell into 4 feet of water and drowned.

14-15 1960 - West Florida - Hurricane Ethel developed rapidly in the central Gulf of Mexico early on the 14th, intensified and moved northward with winds estimated at 125-130 mph near the center late on the 14th. Ethel decreased in intensity before reaching the coast near the Alabama- Mississippi border on the 15th and no point on the Florida coast experienced hurricane force winds. Highest winds were near 50 mph in gusts at Pensacola and Apalachicola. Tides ranged from three to 4 feet. The right forward quadrant of this storm spawned several tornadoes, funnel clouds and waterspouts. Damages caused by this storm, other than those associated with the tornadoes, were mostly agricultural. Rainfall totals ranged from eight to 10 inches in the Pensacola area to 2 inches in the Tallahassee area. 15 1960 - 0540 - Bay Co., Springfield - A Tornado, spawned by Hurricane Ethel, unroofed or damaged 25 homes. Several other tornadoes and waterspouts were reported in the panhandle.

15 1924 - morning - Panhandle/northwest Florida - A hurricane made landfall near Port St. Joe.
15 1945 - Homestead - A hurricane entered the coast at Homestead, curving northward right up through the center of Florida, remaining over land, and exited near Jacksonville Beach. Three Navy blimp hangars that were used as evacuation shelters for 25 Navy blimps, 183 military planes, 153 civilian planes and 150 automobiles were destroyed Richmond, Florida. The three great hangars were torn to pieces at the height of the storm, then caught fire and burned with all their contents. Hurricane force winds were felt as far inland as the Orlando and Ocala areas. Four deaths were attributed to this storm.

15-30 1994 - Peninsular Florida - Flooding - Two synoptic-scale systems, one tropical and one non-tropical brought heavy rain to most of peninsular Florida the last half of September. Rivers and streams, particularly in the west central counties of Citrus, Polk, Hillsborough, Sarasota, Hardee, Desoto and Manatee Counties, overflowed, flooding roadways and inundating or isolating residential areas. The northeast and east central areas experienced urban flooding that closed roads and flooded schools and homes in Duval County and flooded subdivisions in Flagler, Volusia, St. Johns and Brevard Counties. In southern interior Florida, flooding of swampy areas around Lake Okeechobee damaged some roadways in Hendry County and isolated houses in Glades and western Palm Beach Counties. Flooding was also reported in Wakulla County in northwest Florida.

16-17 1928 - south Florida & Lake Okeechobee - The 5th most intense landfalling hurricane in U.S. history moved in from the Atlantic and across Lake Okeechobee's northern shore, sending a storm surge southward that flooded the low area south of the lake. At least 1836 migrant workers died in the flood, making this the second deadliest U.S. hurricane on record. In response to this storm, dikes were built around the lake to prevent future tragedies.


16 1990 - 1530 - Brevard Co., Satellite Beach - Lightning killed 1 man and injured 1 while they were fishing off the beach.

17 1947 - south Florida - A Hurricane moved in from the Atlantic over Palm Beach and Broward Cos. Hurricane force winds were experienced along the Florida East Coast from Cape Canaveral to Carysfort Reef Light (south of Miami), while winds of 100 mph or over, were felt from the northern portion of Miami to north of Palm Beach, or about 70 miles. A 1-minute maximum windspeed of 155 mph was recorded at the Pompano Beach light station (Hillsboro Light). Dozens of people were killed in this storm. It went on to hit the New Orleans area.

17 1987 - 1530 - Broward Co., Ft. Lauderdale - Lightning killed a 12 year old boy when it struck a nearby tree.


17 1995 - 1800 - St. Johns Co., Crescent Beach - A teenager swimming with friends about 30 - 40 yards from shore was struck and killed by lightning.

18 1926 - Miami - Hurricane - The storm waters of the Atlantic united with the waters of Biscayne Bay and the storm surge swept westward into the city of Miami early on the 18th. Maximum winds were 138
mph. About 18,000 homes either completely demolished or had roofs torn off. Over 100 people killed in Miami area, about 5,000 injured. This hurricane then moved out into the Gulf of Mexico, passing just south of the Panhandle and affecting the Pensacola area on the 20th, before making final landfall between New Orleans and Mobile. Total death toll over 240 people.

18-19 1941 - north Florida - A remarkable aurora borealis or "northern lights" was observed as far south as north Florida on the nights of 18th and 19th.

18 1954 - 0200 - St. Lucie Co., Ft Pierce - Tornado carried a small home 200 ft and smashed it. Only the bathtub and plumbing fixtures were left on site. A couple was killed, and their son and a guest were injured.

18 1975 - evening - Dade Co., N. Bay Village - Thunderstorm winds and heavy seas caused the death of a fisherman when his boat capsized. His son made it safely to shore. Winds gusts to 45 mph were recorded.

18 1994 - 1435 - Volusia Co., New Smyrna Beach - Lightning - A 22-year-old woman was killed and a 41-year-old woman was injured while standing next to a car on the beach. A fast moving thunderstorm, which had produced rain for only a few minutes, produced the flash that struck the victims directly.

19 1947 - 0030 - Franklin Co., Apalachicola - A Tornado, spawned on the edge of a hurricane making landfall near New Orleans, destroyed 27 homes and damaged 31, killing two people and injuring 100.

19 1959 - afternoon - Alachua Co., High Springs - Lightning killed 53 hogs that took shelter under a tree in a pasture.


20 1969 - 2245 - Franklin Co., Carrabelle - A tornado destroyed a house trailer, ballpark bleachers, fences, lights, and downed trees and power lines. Minor injuries.

20-23 1969 - northwest Florida - Flooding - Heavy rain over several days brought extensive flooding to the Apalachicola river at Quincy, Havana, and Blountstown; and much of Franklin, Gadsden, Leon, Calhoun and Quincy Counties. Quincy reported 18.41" of rain, Havana 23.42", and Blountstown 10.41". Several funnel clouds and waterspouts were reported from northwest Florida to the Keys on the 22nd and 23rd.

20 1994 - 1450 - Palm Beach Co., Pahokee - Eleven players and an assistant coach of the Pahokee Middle/Senior High School football team were hospitalized after lightning struck as they left a practice field.

21 1948 - south Florida - Hurricane - Struck near Everglades City in the 10,000 island area, then moved northeast through Florida to emerge into the Atlantic near Jupiter. Lowest barometric pressure was 28.44 inches, and top winds were 122 mph. Three people were killed. A Tornado, spawned by this hurricane,
unroofed a small farmhouse and destroyed another near Homestead in Dade Co. A truck was tumbled like a ball.

21 1983 - 1400 - Broward Co., Tamarac - Lightning killed 1 construction worker on a scaffold and injured two.

22-23 1947 - west central/northeast Florida - A Tropical Storm spawned three tornadoes in Hillsborough County on the afternoon and evening of the 22nd. One person was injured in Seffner. Eight more tornadoes hit Marion and Duval Counties on the morning of the 23rd. One person was injured at Jacksonville Beach.

22 1954 - 1620 - Broward Co., Hollywood - Tornado carried a parked car 100 ft and damaged five small homes, injuring five. A tornado/waterspout was reported at Merritt Island in Brevard County.

22-23 1975 - Panhandle & Northwest Florida - Hurricane Eloise - made landfall in the Panhandle with wind gusts to 155 mph at Panama City. Tides of six to 12 ft extended eastward to Port St. Joe, and tides two to 3 ft above normal were observed as far south as Tampa and Naples. The highest reported rainfall was 13 inches at Eglin AFB. Rainfall elsewhere to the west of the Apalachicola River ranged from four to 8 inches. Damage in northwest Florida was estimated at $150 million. One person died of a heart attack in a public shelter at Ft. Walton Beach. About 20,000 people were evacuated in advance. Two weak tornadoes and several waterspouts were reported in the Panhandle causing no serious injuries.

23 1995 - 1435 - Volusia Co., Daytona Beach - Two men were struck by a lone lightning bolt prior to the onset of heavy rain. Both men were hospitalized in critical condition. One of the two, a 28-year-old tourist from Canada, died three days later.

24 1956 - Panhandle-northwest Florida - Hurricane Flossy - Struck the Ft. Walton Beach Area with peak winds of 98 mph and storm surge of 6 ft, killing 15. Several tornadoes were spawned by Flossy: 0200 - Gulf Co. - Tornado unroofed a house and destroyed a church. Many other buildings were damaged. 1900 -Taylor/Madison Cos. - Tornado destroyed 1 home and damaged several more. It destroyed a tobacco barn and threw two cars from the road. Three other weak tornadoes were reported in Suwanee Co.

24 1989 - 1200-2000 - Duval Co., Jacksonville - Flash Flood - Localized heavy rain of up to 11" caused flooding in downtown Jacksonville. Two two motorists died when their vehicles were swept into storm ditches.

24 1994 - 1504 - Brevard Co., Palm Bay - Lightning - A large vendor's tent was struck by lightning injuring seven of the 150 persons inside, including two children. The injured were treated and released at a hospital. A few minutes later a wind gust of 40 mph blew the tent down causing minor injuries to several people and damaging most of the merchandise in the tent.

25 1960 - afternoon - Palm Beach Co., W. Palm Beach - Lightning killed 1 person.

26 1953 - northwest Florida - The center of Hurricane Florence hit the northwest Florida coast between Valparaiso and Panama City near midday with wind gusts of 90 mph and heavy rainfall. The Pensacola
Weather Bureau Office reported winds of up to 75 mph at 0841 on the 26th. The storm passed inland over a sparsely settled area of Florida and this probably accounts for the rather small amount of damage. In Franklin and Okaloosa Counties the Red Cross estimated that 273 homes were destroyed, 145 other buildings damaged, and three destroyed. A fishing trawler, the "Miss Tampa" was reported missing in the storm's wake.

26 1966 - 1800 - St. Johns Co., Inlet - Lightning killed one person.

26 1982 - 0400 - Okeechobee Co., Basinger, A tornado, spawned by a low pressure system, touched down and destroyed several mobile homes. Some parts were twisted around tree tops as high as 20 feet. A 30-ft tank full of molasses was torn from its stand and thrown 100 feet. A 53 year old woman was killed and seven were injured in a mobile park. Two other tornadoes were reported in the area.

27 1906 - Mobile-Pensacola - Hurricane - This storm made landfall in Alabama, but caused tremendous damage in the Pensacola area. The entire waterfront was inundated; train service in and out of the city was completely paralyzed. Muskogee Wharf, belonging to the L&N Railroad Co., was broken in two in the middle, and the tracks on either side of the Main Creek were washed away (including 38 coal cars). The greatest damage was along east Main Street, the south side of which was completely washed away. Thirty-four killed at Pensacola.


27-28 1984 - central and north Florida - Tropical Storm Isidore - Made landfall near West Palm Beach on the morning of the 27th. From there it moved slowly to near Orlando in the evening, then recurved to the northeast and crossed over Jacksonville and out to sea on the 28th. Highest wind gust was 73 mph near St. Augustine. Rainfall of five to 7 inches in north Florida caused local flooding.

27 1987 - 1630 - Lee Co., Sanibel - Lightning killed a 35 year old woman riding a bicycle on the causeway. It was not raining.

28 1896 - A major hurricane made landfall near Cedar Key in the evening. 100 people died.

28-29 - 1917 - Pensacola-Valparaiso - Hurricane - This storm did much damage on the coast and to crops. The lowest barometer reading, 28.51 inches, was a record for the Pensacola Station. The highest wind velocity during the storm was 103 miles an hour with a gust of 125 mph from the southeast.

28 1929 - Keys, southwest Florida, and Panhandle - Hurricane - The center passed over Key Largo on the 28th with winds estimated at 150 mph. There was ten-minute lull as the center passed. At the Everglades, the wind was estimated at 100 mph. The storm reached Panama City on the 30th. Although there was enormous damage at Nassau in the Bahamas and many lives were lost there, its course in Florida was such that damage was not excessive. Three lives were lost. This hurricane spawned five tornadoes over Dade and Broward Counties, injuring more than 16 people. - 1640 - Broward Co., Palm Beach Co., Martin. Co., - A hurricane spawned tornado unroofed or damaged buildings. Most of the injuries were from flying glass.


29 1959 - afternoon - Dade Co., Miami - Two people drowned when a huge wave knocked them into the water at the 163rd Street Beach.

29 1974 - noon - Lake Co., Umatilla - Lightning killed 1 man and injured another while they were working on a car.

30 1957 - 1345 - Taylor Co., Keaton Beach - Waterspout moved onshore and unroofed three homes and one of them lost two walls.

30 1975 - 1444 - Dade Co., Miami - Lightning killed a 15 year old high school football player during practice. Fifteen players and three coaches were injured. Thirty to 50 players were on the field at the time. A light rain had just ended and there were no signs of lightning.

OCTOBER

1 1969 - 1730 - Clay Co., Orange Park - Lightning killed a construction worker who was working on a bridge. A subtropical storm spawned one weak tornado and several waterspouts in Franklin Co. in the morning.

2 1951 - south Florida - The center of a Tropical Storm crossed Florida from near Fort Myers to Vero Beach. Rainfall totals ranged from eight to 13 inches along the track, but no strong winds occurred near the center. The strong winds of 50 to 60 mph were all in squalls along the lower east coast and Keys, causing minor property damage. Greatest damage was from rains that flooded farms and pasture lands over a broad belt extending from Naples, Fort Myers, and Punta Gorda on the west coast to Stuart, Fort Pierce, and Vero Beach on the east. Early fall crops flooded out in rich Okeechobee farming area. Many cattle had to be moved out of flooded area, and quite a few were lost by drowning or starvation. Roadways damaged and several bridges washed out.

2-4 1994 - northwest Florida - Flood/Coastal Flood - The remnants of Tropical Depression 10 moved from the northeast Gulf of Mexico, across the Florida Panhandle, and into Georgia on the 2nd. High winds produced rough seas along west central and northwest Florida coasts causing minor tidal flooding and beach erosion. Eighteen people had to be rescued from sinking boats in the northeast Gulf of Mexico. Heavy rains in the Florida Big Bend and Panhandle accompanied the system causing extensive flooding to roadways, creeks and low lying areas and minor flooding of rivers. Damage estimates to roadways was more than $1 million. Flooding was slow to recede in Leon, Wakulla and Hernando Counties where homes and roadways remained flooded through the 15th.

3-4 1966 - south Florida and Keys - Late on the 3rd Hurricane Inez began moving southwestward from a position about 100 miles east of Miami. The eye of Inez moved from Key Largo to Key West on the 4th. The highest wind reported on the Florida mainland was a gust to 80 mph at Homestead AFB. There were no sustained winds of hurricane force on the mainland. All of the Keys reported winds of hurricane force ranging up to 100-125 mph in gusts. Rainfall totals were between 2-4 inches over the southeast
portion of the peninsula and in the Keys. Three people were killed and 11 injured. Over $5 million in damage. Two tornadoes were reported in Putnam Co. on the evening of the 4th, far from the center of Inez.

3 1992 - all day - west central & north Florida - Tornado Outbreak - A strong tropical disturbance in the eastern Gulf of Mexico spawned 10 tornadoes from the Tampa Bay area to Ocala, killing four and injuring 77. Hardest hit was Pinellas Co., where all the deaths occurred. 0940 - Pinellas Co. - A tornado heavily damaged a mobile home park in Indian Rocks. An elderly lady was killed when her mobile home was demolished. 1028 - Pinellas Co. -Tornado/ Waterspout - moved inland about 1/2 mile south of Treasure Island Causeway. It severely damaged the roof of an apartment complex and moved across the Isle of Palms, damaging roofs and uprooting trees. 1030 - Pinellas Co. - Another tornado formed near the intersection of Hwy. #693 and the Seaboard Coast Line railroad, toppling trees south of the tracks. It then moved northeast severely damaging an apartment complex, continuing north it destroyed mobile homes and damaged homes. The tornado strengthened and moved across the Point Royale Village mobile home park. Many mobile homes were blown apart. Two people were killed as their mobile homes disintegrated. One woman was killed by falling debris as her garage roof collapsed on her. Other tornadoes were reported in Hillsborough, Pasco, Hernando, Marion, Citrus and Levy counties without serious injury. Heavy rain with the low caused moderate to heavy flooding in northeast Florida, especially the Jacksonville area. High tides caused some minor coastal flooding and beach erosion on the Gulf coast.

3 1994 - 0950 - Orange Co., Orlando - Lightning - Six workers were hospitalized after being struck by lightning at a high-rise construction site. Only one of the six sustained serious injuries.


4 1995 - Opal developed over the south central Gulf of Mexico on the 2nd, and intensified to a category 4 hurricane during the early morning hours of the 4th, as it moved rapidly northeast across the Gulf of Mexico. Opal diminished to a marginal category 3 hurricane before making landfall near Pensacola Beach during the late afternoon of the 4th, yet was still the strongest hurricane to hit the Florida panhandle in 20 years. The center of the storm moved ashore at almost the same location as hurricane Erin about two months earlier. As Opal moved ashore, minimum central pressure was 942 mb, and estimated maximum sustained wind speeds were 115 mph. Highest observed wind speeds were 84 mph gusting to 144 mph at Hurlburt Field in Mary Esther. The storm surge reached approximately 10 feet above mean sea level (MSL), with debris lines up to 25 feet above MSL. By far the greatest amount of damage from Opal in northwest Florida occurred due to devastating storm surge and waves along the beaches of Walton, Bay and Gulf counties. Almost 300 homes were destroyed with another 1,000 homes suffering major damage. The storm surge destroyed highway 399 that runs from Pensacola Beach to Navarre Beach, and U.S. highway 98 between Fort Walton Beach and Destin. Several tornadoes were reported with one fatality near Crestview. There were no reported deaths due to storm surge flooding. The most rainfall occurred at Ellyson Field where 15.45 inches fell on the 3rd and 4th. Crop damage was estimated at $5 million dollars. It was estimated that $50 million in damage was done to recreational boats, with almost 1,000 boats damaged, and about 70 boats lost or sunken. Insured property damage was estimated at $2 billion or more, ranking Opal as one of the costliest twentieth century U.S. hurricanes. The outer fringes of Opal caused tidal flooding and beach erosion as far south as the lower Florida Keys. In Key West, major beach erosion, with estimated restoration costs near $3 million
occurred, and streets in old town were inundated with sea water. Many people in Florida were without water for several days. Inland, Opal downed numerous trees and knocked out power to nearly two million people.

4-5 1933 - south Florida - A hurricane passing through the Florida Straits spawned several tornadoes. Late on the 4th a tornado unroofed four homes and injured three people in Miami. Two other tornadoes struck Broward Co. early on the morning of the 5th. One tornado unroofed a home and a lumber company.

4-5 1964 - late afternoon - northwest Florida - The remnants of Hurricane Hilda moved into Florida about 30 miles northwest of Pensacola the afternoon of the 4th, then continued to diminish in intensity and drift eastward through the western counties and along the Georgia-Florida border before moving into the Atlantic north of Jacksonville late on the 5th. Storm damage in Florida was minor. One person drowned in the surf of the Gulf of Mexico near Pensacola on the 4th. Wind gusts and squalls reached as high as 50 mph inland and up to 60 mph along the coast in the Pensacola area. Storm tides were less than 2 feet above normal and only minor tidal flooding occurred. Rainfall in the area west of Tallahassee reached as high as six to 8" and caused some local flooding.

5 1948 - afternoon - Keys/southeast Florida - A hurricane crossing the upper keys spawned at least three tornadoes. 1600 - Broward Co., Pompano Beach - Tornadoes damaged or destroyed 29 homes and injured 27 people. 1644 - Broward Co., Ft. Lauderdale - A tornado damaged five homes and a barn. A two-story house had its roof removed. Dade Co., Opa-Locka - A few homes were destroyed and others were damaged by a tornado.

5-7 1941 - south and northwest Florida - A Hurricane struck near Miami early on the 6th with peak winds of 123 mph, causing considerable property damage. Five drowned in small boats capsized by high wind. The hurricane moved out into the Gulf of Mexico and made a second landfall near Apalachicola the morning of the 7th.

6 1974 - all day - east coast - Coastal Flooding/High Wind/Heavy Rain. A low pressure system that had brought windy conditions to Florida since the 1st of the month, strengthened into a subtropical storm early on the 6th and moved northward just off the east coast causing extremely rough seas, coastal flooding, and beach erosion. Winds of 25 to 40 mph with higher gusts were reported. Locally heavy rain caused flooding along the east coast. Heaviest amounts were 14" at Boca Raton and 10" at Cocoa. No deaths or serious injuries were reported. Thousands of surfers were attracted by the extended period of rough seas and high surf along the east coast during the first week of October - some suffered cuts and bruises.

6 1976 - early afternoon - Leon Co., Tallahassee - Heavy rain caused flooding of streets, houses, and automobiles. A 60-ft concrete wall collapsed. Many snakes were driven onto lawns by high water.

7-8 1946 - west coast/northwest Florida - A hurricane made landfall near Bradenton with 80 mph winds and a 6 foot storm surge. The storm weakened to a tropical storm as it move across Tampa Bay and reached the Florida/Georgia border early on the 8th.
7 1947 -2015 - Duval Co., Jacksonville - Tornado, spawned by a tropical depression, destroyed six trailers, damaged 25 others, and unroofed homes. Ten people were injured. Another tornado hit a trailer village at Green Cove Springs in Clay County.

7 1989 - 1700 - Orange Co., Orlando - Lightning killed a ground crewman while standing near the nose of a DC-9 aircraft.

7-8 1996 - Statewide - Tropical Storm Josephine - Tracked northeast across the eastern Gulf of Mexico, with the center moving onshore over Apalachee Bay along the Florida Big Bend coast on the evening of the 7th, crossing the coast in a relatively uninhabited region of north Florida, in Taylor County, at about 2330 on the 7th. Storm surge heights were significant from the Tampa area northward to eastern Apalachee Bay. County officials estimated storm tides (storm surge plus astronomical tide) ranged from up to 9 feet in Levy county to 4 to 6 feet in Pinellas and Hillsborough Counties, and 3 feet as far south as Lee County. These tides produced widespread flooding of roads, dwellings, and businesses as far south as the lower Florida Keys. Josephine produced a record 22 documented tornadoes (21 F0, 1 F2, plus one waterspout) over central and northern Florida, making it the most prolific tornado producing tropical cyclone in Florida history. These caused mostly minor damage, primarily to trees. One tornado, however, had a 7 mile long, 400 yard wide track across Edgewater in Volusia County. It severely damaged 30 homes, while 200 others had minor damage. Rainfall amount of up to 8.5 inches were reported over northern Florida in association with Josephine. Property damage in Florida are estimated to be over 49 million. There were no deaths that could be directly attributed to Josephine. A woman suffered a heart attack during a tornado in Edgewater, and a surfer suffered a broken leg in Pinellas County.

8-9 1896 - south/central Florida - A hurricane made landfall on the Gulf Coast near Punta Gorda and crossed the peninsula exiting into the Atlantic near Melbourne early on the 9th. This storm was responsible for 68 deaths.

8 - 1959 - northwest Florida - Tropical Storm Irene came ashore in the extreme western panhandle.

8 1970 - afternoon - Panama City - A fire started when Lightning struck a TV antenna and spread quickly, destroying a luxury cabin.

9 1953 - morning - west central Florida - Tropical Storm Hazel quickly crossed central Florida from Charlotte Harbor to Vero Beach with winds of 60 to 70 mph. The peak gust of 80 mph was reported by the Corp of Engineers in a squall in Okeechobee. 64mph winds were reported at Patrick AFB. Hazel spawned a tornado at landfall in Lee County that destroyed several houses on Pine Island, near Ft. Myers. Three to five inches of rain from Hazel added to previous flooding problems and the upper St. Johns River reached the highest flood stage ever known, exceeding by 11/2 feet the previous record and covering six miles of Highway 192 between Melbourne and Kissimmee.

9 1969 - All day and evening - Highlands Co., Sebring - Heavy rain caused flooding of citrus groves, homes, trailers and roads.

10 1888 - north Florida - A hurricane made landfall on the Gulf Coast near Cedar Key and exited into the Atlantic near Jacksonville killing nine people.
10 1989 - 0100 - 1500 - St. Johns, Flagler, Volusia, Brevard Counties - Flooding/Flash Flood -
Torrential rains developed along the upper Florida east coast north of a stationary front. Rain amounts
between six and 16 inches occurred along the coast. This resulted in widespread flooding of streets and
structures. In St. Augustine, where the greatest rain total was recorded (16.08"), extensive flooding
occurred in homes and businesses, and caused the closing of many streets that had over three feet of
standing water. Flooding in northern Brevard Co. around Scottsmoor was also severe. Considerable road
and property damage resulted.

10-11 1990 - 1200-1700 - west coast and Keys - Tropical Storm Marco formed in the Gulf of Mexico,
just west of Key West on the afternoon of the 10th. By 1700 on the 11th Marco was downgraded to a
depression just south of Cedar Key. Most of the damage was downed trees and power lines, some
coastal flooding and beach erosion. There were two small tornadoes spawned by the storm on the
afternoon of 11th, one north of Crystal River and one northeast of Lake City in Columbia Co. The only
injury of significance occurred in Sarasota Co. Highest wind gust during the storm was 85 mph on the
Sunshine Skyway Bridge across Tampa Bay.

11 1885 - 2355 - Alachua Co. - A hurricane spawned tornado destroyed four homes near Windsor,
injuring eight. The storm made landfall near Tampa Bay.

11 1909 - south Florida & Keys - A Hurricane recurved over the extreme southern tip of Florida. The
Weather Bureau station on Sand Key estimated winds at 100 mph around 0930. All trees were blown
down and heavy seas swept over the island. The lowest barometer reading was 28.36 inches. At Key
West the barometer fell to 28.50 inches and the highest wind gust was 94 mph. About 400 buildings
collapsed. Fifteen people reported killed.

11-12 1947 - Keys/south Florida - A hurricane moved out of the Caribbean and passed near Key West
the evening of the 11th, then crossed south Florida, exiting into the Atlantic near Ft. Lauderdale. Peak
hurricane winds were 95 mph and one death was reported. Several tornadoes were spawned by the
hurricane - one near Cape Sable, unroofed two homes.

11 1987 - 2115 - Monroe Co., Key Largo - Preceding Hurricane Floyd, a waterspout/tornado moved
through Key Largo causing damage to several boats, mobile homes, trees and power lines.

11 1994 - 1530 - Broward Co., Coral Springs - Lightning injured three female students, ages 11, 12, and
13. The three had just gotten off a school bus and were walking home during heavy rain under a single
umbrella when lightning struck a nearby tree. Two of the females were hospitalized overnight.

11-12 1994 - 0600-2200 - northeast Florida - Flood/Coastal Flood - Heavy rains across much of
northeast Florida caused widespread flooding of roadways and vehicles and minor flooding of schools,
businesses and homes. Strong onshore winds caused significant beach erosion and minor coastal
flooding along portions of the northeast coast.

12 1987 - 0700 - 2100 - south Florida and the Keys - Hurricane Floyd moved east-northeast along the
Florida Keys and passed south of Miami during the evening as a disorganized and weakening storm.
Wind up to 51 knots was recorded at Duck Key, and most of the Keys reported 40 to 50 knot winds.
Over south Florida, wind of 30 to 35 knots with gusts of 40 to 50 knots was reported. Rainfall of two to
4 inches was reported across southern Florida, with a band of five to 9 inches from Naples to Lake Okeechobee to Fort Pierce. Trees and power lines were downed in several areas of south Florida and the Keys. A ship off the Dade and Broward County coasts listed to 40 degrees and was abandoned.

13 1967 - morning - Broward Co., Pompano Beach - Severe thunderstorm winds blew out windows, overturned several boats, and unroofed an office building. Two waterspouts were reported off Melbourne Beach in Brevard County.

14 1964 - afternoon-evening - South Florida, Miami, Ft. Lauderdale, and East Coast - Hurricane Isbel spawned between nine to 12 tornadoes during the afternoon and evening of the 14th. The tornadoes accounted for all 48 of the reported storm injuries, and a considerable portion of the property damages in the populated areas. Tidal damage was minimal in all areas, and limited to piers, boats, and docking facilities. Tides caused some flooding of roads and beaches on the south side of Key West. Vegetable crops in the Everglades agricultural areas over which the storm center passed sustained considerable damage from strong winds and locally intense rains. Two persons drowned when a shrimp boat was destroyed near Marquesas Keys. Some stronger tornadoes spawned by Isbel: 1724 - Palm Beach Co., Boynton Beach - a tornado destroyed a dozen trailers and unroofed four homes. 2020 - Brevard Co., Eau Gallie - A tornado struck the Orange Court Trailer Park on Wickham Road, injured 17 people, damaged several trailers and some nearby buildings. 2250 - Broward Co., Hollywood - a tornado damaged six airplanes and removed the clubhouse roof at the country club.

14 1994 - 1400 - St. Johns Co., Crescent Beach - A 29-year-old male tourist drowned after being caught in a rip current caused by strong northeast winds.

15-16 1956 - east coast - Coastal Storm - A low pressure center moved north from Cuba just off the east coast bringing high winds and tides, and heavy rain to the entire east coast. The heaviest rain fell in Osceola Co. where some 48 hour amounts approached 20 inches. Flooding was most severe, including some bridges and roads washed out, in Kissimmee/St. Cloud, Taft, and Fellsmere. Two persons died in heavy surf.

16-19 1968 - Keys and Peninsula - Hurricane Gladys moved northward just west of Dry Tortugas about noon on the 16th with maximum winds of minimal hurricane force. It moved slowly north-northwestwards before turning toward the northeast on the 18th about 75 miles west of St. Petersburg and made landfall near Homosassa late on the 18th. Gladys continued northeast across the peninsula, passing just south of Ocala and moved into the Atlantic near St. Augustine on the morning of the 19th. Total damage of about 6.7 million dollars was concentrated mostly in and just north of the Tampa Bay area and in the Ocala area. A tornado, spawned by Hurricane Gladys, unroofed a house and damaged several other homes near Tallevast in Manatee Co. on the evening of the 18th.

16-17 1975 evening - northwest Florida - A Tropical Depression that formed in the southwestern Gulf of Mexico on the 14th moved inland on the Louisiana coast the night of October 16th and merged with a cold front. The resultant low pressure system intensified and moved up through the Appalachian Mountains with the trailing cold front moving through Florida. Northwestern Florida received heavy rainfall, at least two small tornadoes, high winds, rough seas and high tides. Wind gusts to 45 mph and tides 4 feet above normal were reported. No deaths or injuries were reported. Heaviest rainfall amounts ranged from four to 6 inches in some sections. Widespread street flooding occurred and some state roads
were closed briefly due to flooding. Most of the damage occurred in the Panama City area. Also, a tornado in Panama City Beach damaged several buildings.

17 1906 -Miami & Key West - A Hurricane moved out of the Caribbean and across the lower Keys to Miami leaving 164 dead. The storm weakened in the Atlantic and turned back to Florida, crossing the coast near Daytona Beach as tropical storm.

17-18 1910 - Keys and southwest Florida - A hurricane passed near Key West and made landfall near Ft. Myers. Winds to 125 mph were reported on Sand Key. Thirty deaths attributed to storm.

17-18 1950 - Hurricane King formed in the northwest Caribbean, made landfall near Miami and moved up the central peninsula and dissipated on the morning of the 19th. The path of principal destruction was only 7-10 miles wide through the greater Miami area and northward to West Fort Lauderdale. It was at first reported that the damage was the result of a tornado. Gusts were 150 mph at Miami and 138 mph at Ft. Lauderdale. Three people died.

17 1967 - 1630 - Palm Beach Co., Pahokee - Hail and wind destroyed 300 acres of sweet corn and 1500 acres of sugar cane was badly damaged. Winds gusted to 60 mph and hail of all sizes covered the ground.

18 1916 - panhandle - A Hurricane made landfall near Pensacola. The wind instrument tower at the Weather Bureau Office blew down at 1014 after registering a gust of 120 mph. About 200 trees throughout the city were blown down.

18-19 1944 - Peninsula - The outer fringes of a hurricane in the Gulf of Mexico spawned three weak tornadoes in Polk, Hardee, and Desoto counties on the afternoon of the 18th. The hurricane then made landfall near Sarasota early on the 19th and moved across the State, exiting near Jacksonville. This storm was noteworthy for producing damaging inland winds. Dangerous winds extended fully 200 miles to the right or east of the center, about 100 miles to the left or west, thus affecting the entire peninsula of Florida. Winds of hurricane force were widespread with gusts to 100 mph at Tampa and Orlando. Tides were high from Sarasota southward on the Gulf and from Melbourne northward on the Atlantic. Naples and Jacksonville Beach both reported 12 foot tides. Citrus and other agricultural damage were extensive. Orlando suffered the most property damage, estimated at over 1 million dollars. Eighteen people were killed, 14 by drowning, and 24 were seriously injured.

18 1959 - central Florida - Tropical Storm Judith rapidly crossed central Florida on the morning of the 18th. Two tornadoes were reported in southeast Florida on the afternoon of the 17th in advance of Judith.

19 1958 - 0845 - Palm Beach&Martin Cos. - A waterspout/tornado moved in from Lake Okeechobee, striking Pahokee and ending near Indiantown. About two dozen homes were destroyed and one man was killed in his home.

20-21 1924 - south Florida - A weak hurricane made landfall near Marco Island with gusts to 90 mph on the afternoon of the 20th. The storm moved across the peninsula, exiting into the Atlantic near Ft. Lauderdale as a tropical storm early on the 21st.

20 1941 - 1300 - Marion Co., Ocala - A tornado, spawned by a tropical storm, destroyed a two-story home and killed an infant girl. Another tornado in Gainesville injured one.

20 1976 - Madison Co., Madison - A Tornado damaged a large grain elevator. Heavy rain and hail also fell.

21 1993 - 1910 - Lee Co., Cape Coral - Lightning struck a home and injured a resident.

22 1945 - 1845 - Leon Co., Miccosukee - A tornado destroyed at least 33 homes in several small rural communities. One woman was killed as her home was swept away and she was thrown 500 feet. Four others were injured and 24 families were left homeless.

22 1966 - Palm Beach and Broward Counties - Heavy rains caused loss of 4300 acres of early planted vegetables. Rainfall amounts of 8-10" were reported.

23 1966 - Hillsborough Co., Ybor City - Lightning killed a 10 year old boy who was playing outside his home.

24 1969 - morning - Palm Beach Co., Riviera Beach - Winds - A house boat sank after being battered by high winds and lashing water. Winds reported at 40-45 mph. - 1616 - Boca Raton - Wind gusts at 42 mph caused a large crane to slip from a derrick barge.

25-26 1921 - peninsula - A hurricane made landfall near Tarpon Springs with winds of 100 mph and a 10.5 foot storm surge on the evening of the 25th and crossed the peninsula, exiting near Ponce De Leon Inlet on the morning of the 26th. There was great damage in the Tampa area. Eggmont and Sanibel Islands were practically covered with water. Six deaths attributed to this storm.

25 1981 - 1630 - Calhoun Co., Blountstown - A Tornado damaged 75 houses and destroyed three. The high school football stadium was destroyed and trees and power lines were downed. Twelve persons were injured. The tornado did all this damage in less than five minutes.

26 1968 - morning - northwest Florida - Canadian high pressure system behind a strong cold front brought an early cold spell to northwest Florida. Cross City reported and all-time October record low of 30 degrees.

26 1979 - 1225 - Palm Beach Co. - A waterspout was observed 15 miles southeast of Palm Beach.

27-29 1942 - north Florida - Early Cold Spell with freezing temperatures and damaging frost extending southward to north Florida border.

27 1972 - 0710 - Gulf Co., near Apalachicola - A tornado destroyed five homes, two churches, and five trailers. One pickup truck was overturned and the driver sustained a shoulder injury. 1550 - Taylor Co.,
Cedar Island - Tornado unroofed a dozen homes and knocked six houses over on Dark Island. Two cars and six boats were also destroyed. One injury.

28 1957 - north and northwest Florida - Arctic high pressure center dipped to the Gulf Coast and brought widespread unseasonably cold weather to much of north Florida.

28 - 31 1985 - Panhandle and West Coast - Hurricane Juan - Persistent high winds caused high water and waves along the west coast and panhandle of Florida, resulting in minor beach erosion and flooding as Juan passed well west of Florida. Some seawalls previously weakened by Hurricane Elena were destroyed. Most of the severe weather reported on the 28th through the 31st was related to the fringes of Hurricane Juan. Four tornadoes and waterspouts on evening of the 28th in the Panhandle injured six.

29 1993 - 1430 - Wakulla Co., Panacea - A waterspout/tornado ripped the roof off a vacation home and damaged a screen porch.

29 1986 - 1049 - Brevard Co., Palm Bay - A tornado damaged the roofs of 12 homes and moved a pickup truck 15 feet.

30 1967 - 1755-1850 - Escambia Co., Pensacola - A Tornado moved through west Pensacola damaging between 550 and 600 buildings. Forty-four people were injured, five required hospitalization.

31 1958 - 1730 - Manatee Co., Palmetto - A tornado damaged four homes north of the Sar-Brad Airport. A hotel was also heavily damaged. Four people were injured.

31 1960 - 1030 - Lee Co., Sanibel Island - A tornado moved across the island and demolished a small marina. An employee of the marina was killed.

31 1973 - 2230 - Pinellas/Hillsborough Co., Largo - A tornado damaged about 175 homes (mostly trailers), a school, and shopping center.

NOVEMBER

1-3 1956 - entire east coast - A Tropical Depression that moved north out of Cuba on October 31st and made a loop east of Florida on the 1st through 3rd brought high tides and heavy surf to much of east Florida. Extensive property damage and beach erosion was reported from Jacksonville to Neptune Beach. Many beach roads and oceanfront properties were undermined at various points by pounding surf.

2 1971 - 1327 - E. Sarasota - Funnel cloud reported.

3 1968 - 1755 - Escambia Co. - Tornado crossed the extreme northwest part of Escambia Co. Florida doing little damage, however 18 people were injured as homes and trailers were destroyed across the border in Saraland, AL.

3 1987 - 0224 - Monroe Co., Key West - A thunderstorm wind gust of 55 knots was reported at Boca Chica Naval Air Station.
4 1935 - south Florida - The so-called "Yankee Hurricane" struck Dade County from the northeast. Winds were 75 mph in Miami with a storm surge of 6 feet. The storm exiting into the Gulf of Mexico on the lower southwest coast north of the Keys. It recurved back toward Florida on the 6th and dissipated off Tampa Bay on the 8th. Nineteen deaths were attributed to this storm.

4 1988 - 0115 - Lee Co., Fort Myers - Tornado destroyed two homes, severely damaged seven, and damaged 109 others to a lesser degree. Eight cars and three boats were also damaged. About 80 Royal Palms were blown down along a scenic street.

4 1996 - 1620 - Palm Beach County, Palm Beach - one person drowned in a rip current. East winds were near 25 kts, and seas 6-9'.

5 1988 - morning - north and central Florida - Severe Thunderstorms and Tornadoes - 0115 - Madison Co. A tornado destroyed six homes and damaged 10 others near Lee, killing one woman. Other tornadoes hit Santa Rosa Beach in Walton Co. and Fort Meade in Polk County. Severe thunderstorm winds damaged roofs, trees, and powerlines in Levy, Citrus, Putnam, Volusia, Osceola, and Polk Counties.

5 1994 - Palm Beach Co., Riviera Beach - Rip Current - Four children on a church field trip were caught in a strong rip current at Ocean Reef Park. Three were rescued uninjured while the fourth, a 6-year-old male, was rescued, but had stopped breathing. He was revived and transported to a hospital in critical condition. He recovered enough to be released the next day.

6 1993 - 1457 - Pinellas Co. - A park ranger spotted two small waterspouts off the north end of Egmont Key.

7 1979 - 1700 - Palm Beach Co.- A funnel cloud was observed briefly over Palm Beach Inlet.

8 1896 - Union Co. - A Tornado destroyed one home at Lake Butler.

9 1968 - All Day - Statewide - A major storm from the Gulf of Mexico moved across north Florida. Most reporting stations had maximum sustained winds of 20 to 30 mph, but several observers in the Tampa area reported gusts of 50 to 62 mph. At least a dozen tornadoes were reported over central and south Florida as a squall line swept across the peninsula south of the low. 1700 - 1820 - Collier/Hendry Counties - A tornado struck near Naples, toppling a 705-ft tower and flattening a hunting camp. It swept through a labor camp and toppled a dozen houses. Two persons were killed, and two injured, when their trailer was carried 25 ft and demolished. 17 other injuries. 1335-1450 A tornado moved northeast through Tampa, Plant City, Lakeland, and Windermere injuring three. 1620 - Brevard, Melbourne - A tornado, described as a "white swirling mass" unroofed one building and broke several plate glass windows at the Melbourne Shopping Center and Brevard Mall. Other tornadoes in Pasco, Sumter, Sarasota, Palm Beach, Pinellas, and Hillsborough Counties injured eight people.

10 1963 - 0815 - Charlotte Co., Punta Gorda - A tornado unroofed four houses and damaged 10 others in Harbour Heights. 1300 - Indian River Co., Wabasso - A tornado moved from SW to NW and then out to sea damaging 10 homes. Several citrus trees were uprooted.
11 1947 - early morning - Washington Co. - A tornado unroofed or tore apart a dozen homes at Ebro. - Okaloosa Co., Eglin Field - A tornado damaged three large planes and wrecked a barracks injuring 15 people. - Taylor Co. - A tornado was reported in Perry.

11 1968 - All Day - Statewide - Second major storm in three days (see 9 1968) from the Gulf of Mexico crossed north Florida. Most reporting stations had maximum sustained winds of 25 to 45 mph, but observers in the Tampa Bay area reported gusts of 50 to 75 mph. Tides at Tarpon Springs were 3 ft. above normal at 3 pm. Over a dozen tornado/waterspouts/funnel clouds were reported in central and south Florida. The strongest tornado crossed Collier and Hendry Cos., damaging 17 homes in Naples. Five homes were unroofed and torn apart. It skipped over to Clewiston destroying a barn and injuring three men.

11-12 1980 - 0600 - Monroe Co. - Heavy rain - More than 23 inches of rain fell on Key West. This is greatest 24-hour amount ever recorded in Key West. Widespread flooding caused heavy damage to about 300 cars and 500 homes and businesses. Five waterspouts were sighted during the afternoon of the 12th.

12 1979 - 1349 - Martin Co. - A funnel cloud hovered for 10 minutes over St. Lucie River near Stuart then retreated without touching down.

13 1969 - afternoon - north central Florida - Tornado struck Beville's Corner (sw of Leesburg) in Sumter Co., damaged 10 buildings, three homes, and 11 mobile homes - injuring one. Two were killed in a traffic accident on SR 476 near the tornado site. Another tornado struck Inverness in Citrus County, damaging trailers. Hail reported up to 1 1/2" in Brevard and Baker Cos. Lightning caused a fire in Lake Wales (Polk Co.) that destroyed an auto parts shop and a car.

13-16 1994 - south, east central, and northeast Florida - Tropical Storm Gordon - after a serpentine track through the Caribbean Sea, Gordon began affecting south Florida on the 13th when located off the northeast coast of Cuba. Gordon moved slowly west-northwest, reaching the lower Florida Keys late on the 15th. On the 16th, Gordon turned northeast and accelerated, moving inland near Ft. Myers in the morning and exiting into the Atlantic just north of Vero Beach in the late afternoon. After becoming a hurricane off the coast of North Carolina, then weakening to a tropical depression and moving south and west, Gordon moved ashore a second time just north of Melbourne on the 21st.

The maximum sustained wind was 53 mph at Virginia Key in east Dade County, and the minimum central pressure was 995 MB shortly after initial landfall near Ft. Myers. Gordon directly caused eight fatalities and 43 injuries. Seven of the deaths were by drowning, five in the Atlantic off the southeast coast, and two when cars plunged into canals in Dade County. One death and 40 injuries resulted from a tornado in Brevard County (see 15 1994 - 1853), one of six tornadoes spun off by Gordon on the evening of the 15th. There were three indirect deaths, one from a heart attack while pushing a car stalled in a flooded road, and two in traffic accidents. Gordon's total damage is estimated around $400 million. Agricultural interests suffered $275 million in losses, primarily from freshwater flooding caused by widespread rainfalls totaling six to 16 inches. Vegetable and tropical fruit crops in south Florida were particularly hard hit. Inland flooding caused damage to buildings through both rising freshwater and collapse of rain-loaded roofs. Especially hard hit was Volusia County where 1236 buildings (977 single family homes, 68 mobile homes and 139 multi-family buildings) reported flood damage, and losses were
estimated at over $26 million. Public works suffered from the effects of both water and wind with damage to roadways, sewer facilities, utility lines and signs. Marine effects included several boat sinkings or groundings, including a 506-foot freighter beached off Ft. Lauderdale. At least 37 people were rescued from sinking boats. One woman was rescued after being swept 1000 yards off a fishing pier in Boynton Beach. Atlantic beaches suffered moderate to locally severe erosion that undermined a few buildings. Several sea walls and beach access walks were destroyed. Some coastal roads along the east coast were inundated by a storm tide, estimated to be a maximum of one to two feet along Miami Beach.

14 1969 - 1320 - Okeechobee Co. - A tornado demolished three trailers and injured two people north of Okeechobee. Several homes, a dairy barn, and a 14 ft boat were damaged.

15 1916 - Keys and south Florida - A weak hurricane moved through the Keys from the southwest and weakened rapidly as it moved into the Atlantic.

15 1983 - 0920 - Walton Co., Sandestin - Thunderstorm winds damaged a construction site and injured six workers.

15 1994 - 1853 - Brevard Co., Micco - A waterspout/tornado, on the outer fringes of Tropical Storm Gordon, struck the Barefoot Bay area of southern Brevard County. A 74-year-old-male was killed by trauma to the head, and about 40 people were injured. Six people were hospitalized, two in serious condition. About 63 mobile homes were destroyed and 181 had minor damage. Five other, weaker, tornadoes were reported along the east coast during the evening of the 15th, four in Palm Beach Co., and one in Volusia Co. No injuries were reported.

16 1951 - Hernando County - Heavy rain of 7.59" in 24 hours at Brooksville and 6.69" at St. Leo caused localized flooding.


18 1977 - 1425 - Dade Co. - Miami Beach Patrol reported several funnel clouds forming and dissipating off south beach. A waterspout was reported at Key Biscayne.

18 1994 - 1400 - Broward Co., Ft. Lauderdale Beach - A 35-year-old doctor drowned in a rip current while saving his 8-year-old son. The incident took place at a private motel beach south of Ft. Lauderdale Beach and was caused by large swells from Gordon.

19 1969 - 1600 - Okaloosa Co. - Thunderstorm winds blew a crane over on Destin Bridge blocking Highway 90 for several hours.

19-21 1985 - Lower Keys - Big Bend area - Hurricane Kate moved south of Key West on the 19th causing downed power poles, power lines, trees, and branches. A 62 year old woman and a 28 year old man were killed when their small boat capsized in heavy seas. Another man was electrocuted when he stepped on a downed power line. Two days later, Kate made landfall between Panama City and Apalachicola. A 38 year old man was killed and his 16 year old son injured when a tree fell on their
truck. An 81 year old woman died of a heart attack shortly after being evacuated to a hotel in Chipley.
Tides ran eight to 10 feet above normal. Many houses were damaged by fallen trees. Many power poles
and lines were downed. Several roads suffered washouts. Wind reached near 65 knots at Tallahassee and
at Apalachicola.

20 1983 - morning and afternoon - Panhandle and central Florida - 0315 - Escambia Co., Pensacola - A
tornado damaged mobile homes, utility sheds, and power lines. Heavy rain caused localized flooding
and lightning started several house fires. One man died when he touched an electrified fence caused by
downed power lines. Severe thunderstorm winds damaged six homes in Bay County. In the afternoon a
tornado struck Ormond Beach in Volusia Co. damaging 18 mobile homes and 40 cars. Another tornado
struck rural Flagler Co. doing little damage. Severe thunderstorm winds were reported in Putnam,
Citrus, Brevard, Charolotte and Lee Cos. Damage was mainly to mobile homes, roofs and signs - no
injuries.

21 1962 - 2145 - Marion Co., Lake Bryant - Tornado hit ranger station in the Ocala National Forest,
destroying several buildings. At Camp Kiwanis a new dormitory was nearly demolished.

22 1953 - 0820 - Bay County - A Tornado destroyed five small houses and damaged many others in the
Woodville community northwest of Panama City injuring 22 people.

22-24 1984 - St. Johns, Flagler, Volusia, Brevard, Indian River, St. Lucie, Martin, Palm Beach Counties.
- Great Thanksgiving Holiday East Coast Storm - A strong low pressure system developed east of
Florida, and coupled with a high pressure to the northwest, a strong pressure gradient led to gale force
winds along the east coast. As the low moved slowly north heavy rains of up to seven inches fell over
south Florida. There was extensive coastal flooding and beach erosion with many structures damaged or
destroyed. Fishing piers and seawalls were damaged or destroyed. Damage ran into the millions and was
confined to the seashore except where heavy rain in the south caused local flooding. A man was killed
when he stepped on a downed power line.

23 1988 - Tropical Storm Keith moved across the Florida Peninsula, entering near Sarasota at 0200 and
exiting just north of Melbourne at 1000. Most of the convection had been sheared off before the storm
crossed Florida. Most of the weather associated with Keith was to the north of the track. Maximum
rainfall was 11 inches at Largo. Most rainfall totals were four to 7 inches to the north of the storm track
and under one inch to the south of the storm track. A storm surge of nearly 6 feet maximum and three to
4 feet generally accompanied the storm on the Florida west coast south of the track as far south as
Naples. Damage was near $3 million, mostly due to the storm surge. In Lee County damage was
estimated at $1.5 million. Two tornadoes touched down in Pinellas Co. just before landfall, damaging
hangar doors at St. Petersburg Airport.

24 1992 - 0640 - Escambia Co., Pensacola - A thunderstorm gust to 65 mph was recorded at the
Pensacola Regional Airport. Strong winds peeled off part of the roof of a plant in Pace.

25 1979 - 1045 - Escambia Co. - A small tornado damaged several buildings and hopscotched through
northeast Escambia Co.
26 1915 - 0730 - Santa Rosa Co., Floridatown and Pace - Tornado unroofed houses and downed timber. Most of the damage was rooftop and treetop.

26 1962 - (Continuous thru Dec. 4) Florida East Coast. A deep and persistent Atlantic storm off the southeastern U. S. coast produced continuous strong onshore winds along the entire east coast of Florida for several days. Resulting rough seas and high tides over an extended period produced considerable beach erosion and undermined buildings and roads along the immediate coast. Some tidal flooding was also reported along the coast. Greatest damages from erosion along northeast Florida coast. Winds on the mainland, although persisting for several days, caused only minor damages as storm center remained well offshore.

27 1989 - 1455 - Martin Co., Lake Okeechobee - The fire department reported a waterspout on the lake.

28 1912 - north Florida - One-half inch of snow on this date is the earliest snowfall on record in Florida.

28 1960 - 1830 - Escambia Co. Cantonmont - A tornado moved northeast, lifting and lowering along its path. It unroofed, shifted and caved in the walls of one house.


30 1925 - west central Florida - An extremely rare late November hurricane began to affect the west coast of Florida as it strengthened during the day. The storm made landfall very early on the 1st of December (see December).

30 1961 - 1400 - Palm Beach Co., West Palm Beach - Hail ranging from marble to golf ball size damaged nurseries and vegetable crops.

30 1996 - 1745 - Santa Rosa County, Broxson - a weak F2 tornado caused major damage to 5 mobile homes, and 4 houses. Seven people were injured.

DECEMBER

1 1968 -0930 - 1025 - Escambia and Santa Rosa Co. - A waterspout was reported near Pensacola. The sound was described as "like an aircraft crashing into a building."

1-2 1925 - north Florida and Peninsula - Extremely rare December Hurricane made landfall south of Tampa Bay early on the 1st, weakened to a tropical storm as it crossed central Florida, and exited around St. Augustine. The storm regained Hurricane strength off Jacksonville late on the 1st. Heavy rain continued over northeast Florida on the 2nd. Gale force winds were reported from the Keys to Jacksonville and loss of life exceeded 50, mostly on ships at sea. Damage along the coast south of Jacksonville was heavy and excessive rain and wind seriously damaged citrus and truck crops.

3 1971 - morning - Sarasota and Manatee Counties - Tornado Outbreak - A fast moving cold front pushed southeastward through Sarasota County and Manatee County preceded by thunderstorm winds, heavy rain and at least five tornadoes. Roofs were ripped off, trees and utility lines downed. A tornado
moved across the Venice Airport damaging three planes, and into the winter quarters of the Ringling Bros. and Barnum Bailey Circus collapsing two large tents. 3.19" of rain fell at Venice and 2.65" at Sarasota causing some water damage. Ten people were injured by the tornadoes.

3 1990 - 1005-1215 - Escambia and Washington Counties - From Jay to Vernon severe thunderstorm winds downed power lines and uprooted trees.

4 1951 - 1225-1240 - Polk Co., Kathleen - Tornado demolished a packing shed and a garage and downed about a dozen trees.

4-5 1994 - eastern Palm Beach Co. - Urban Flood - widespread rainfall of three to 7 inches, with a maximum of 14.33 inches, was measured across east Palm Beach County during a 24-hour period. Roadways were flooded and minor water damage was reported to some businesses in Delray Beach and Boca Raton. The combination of heavy rains and low astronomical tides caused many sea walls along canals to collapse. Sugar cane harvesting was halted due to the flooding of fields.

5 1977 - 1330 - Putnam Co. - A tornado touched down in Palatka and moved across the St. Johns River. A fisherman in a small boat was drowned. One man was seriously injured when a marina collapsed on him.

6 1969 - early afternoon - Franklin Co., Apalachicola - Thunderstorm Winds up to 40 mph sank boats and damaged wharf.

7 1992 - 1518 - Monroe Co., Key West - A waterspout was sighted south of the Boca Chica Naval Air Station.

7 1996 -1458 - Hillsborough, Riverview - A short-lived but strong (F2) tornado touched down just east of I-75 near Riverview, tracking across the Cowley Cove Mobile Home Complex where it completely destroyed 3 mobile homes and damaged 6 others. One human fatality, a fifty year-old male, (and three dogs) occurred when the occupants unanchored mobile home was lifted up by tornadic winds and tossed nearly 100' from it's foundation into a neighbor's yard when it disintegrated on impact. At least 5 parked crs were damaged by the tornado along with several sheds and outbuildings. Of note: a parked undrivable vehicle that was in the direct path of the tornado had most of it's contents sucked from the hatchback storage compartment, including a removed 100 lb transmission. Inspection of the vehicle found that the hatchback skin was buckled, bowed and pushed outward from the inside of the vehicle by the transmission casing that eventually smashed upward and out through the rear hatchback window.


9 1978 - 1100 - Bay Co., Mexico Beach - A waterspout/tornado came ashore and damaged several mobile homes in the beach area.

10 1894 - 1000 - Holmes Co., Westville - Tornado destroyed several homes, killing one person, and injuring several people seriously.
10 1967 - morning - panhandle - Tornado Outbreak. 0315 - A tornado struck Ft. Walton Beach and Ocean City in Okaloosa Co. destroying thirty-five homes and nine businesses. A three year old girl was killed and about 40 persons were treated at local hospitals. Twenty-three businesses, and 290 homes were damaged to varying degrees. In Walton Co. a tornado destroyed 1 home and damaged several others. There was heavy damage to timber in the area. 0700 - A small tornado struck Washington Co. between Caryville and Bonifay and traveled northeast into Holmes Co. Two homes were destroyed. Other damage consisted mainly of uprooted trees, damaged farm buildings, and downed power lines. 0805 - A tornado touched down briefly in the Capehart Housing area at Tyndall AFB and again across the Bay in Parker and Callaway. One fatality occurred at Tyndall AFB as did most of the severe damage. Thirty-four people were treated at the hospital. 39 homes at Tyndall were destroyed. Thirty suffered lesser damage. 1000 - In Calhoun Co., a tornado destroyed four farmhouses and several barns in the rural area between Blountstown and Altha.

11 1988 - 1559 - Pinellas Co., Treasure Island - A tornado damaged the roofs of 15 homes with seven receiving major damage. In St. Petersburg high wind damaged the windows of two houses and flipped over a boat in a backyard.

12-13 1934 - statewide - Severe Freeze with low temperatures of 20 degrees reported in Tallahassee, 16 at Gainesville, 22 at Orlando, 20 at Ocala and 21 at Avon Park.

12-13 1957 - statewide - Severe Freeze with low temperatures of 20 degrees reported in Tallahassee, 16 at Gainesville, 24 at Orlando, 22 at Bartow and 24 at Avon Park.

12 1969 - 0800 - Bradford Co., Starke - A 42 yr. old lineman was injured by lightning while working in a rainstorm.

13-14 1962 - Statewide - Severe Cold Outbreak caused by a huge arctic high brought all-time record lows for December to over 3-dozen cities. Lows ranged from the single digit and teens in north Florida to the 20s central and low 30s south. Lows reached 5 degrees in DeFuniak Springs, 30 in Fort Lauderdale, 22 in Melbourne, 27 in Naples, 12 in Gainesville, 22 in St. Petersburg, and 29 in Hollywood.

13 1984 - 2330 - Santa Rosa Co., Milton - Tornado damaged six houses and destroyed four mobile homes.

14 1952 - north Florida - Snow and Sleet - Trace of snow or sleet at or near Pensacola, Crestview, DeFuniak Springs, Quincy, Carrabelle, Tallahassee, St. Marks, Monticello, Madison, Mayo, Live Oak, Lake City, Glen St. Mary, and Hilliard. Frozen precipitation occurred before noon at most points, but occurred in the afternoon at Mayo and Lake City and near Hilliard. Temperatures were above freezing and snow or sleet melted as it fell.

14 1953 - morning - Jackson Co. - Sleet was reported in Marianna.

15 1947 -0825 - Escambia Co., Pensacola - A Tornado caused major damage to several buildings, injuring four people.
15-16 1992 - Martin and West Palm Beach Cos. - High winds caused high waves and beach erosion along the east coast. A 50 year old beach house on Jupiter Island tumbled into the ocean after sand eroded beneath it.

16 1974 - 1445-1742 - Several small tornadoes touched down in Sarasota, Charlotte, and Palm Beach Cos., toppling trees and damaging some roofs.

17 1971 - 1148 - S. West Palm Beach Co. - A Funnel Cloud was sighted.

18 1929 - Santa Rosa County - A tornado struck Cedar Grove, damaging a church and five houses. One woman was injured.

18 1951 - 1430 - Jacksonville - Tornado caused major damage to roofs of two houses and minor damage to roofs of seven others. - evening - St. Petersburg - A Tornado demolished a storage shed, wrecked a garage, and caused other lesser damage to buildings and signs. evening - Frostproof, Lake Moody - Tornado uprooted some citrus trees and damaged the fruit of many others.

19-21 1901 - statewide - Major Freeze with low temperatures of 17 degrees reported at Tallahassee, 19 at Gainesville, 20 at Ocala and 25 at Orlando.

19-20 1991 - Broward, Dade, Martin, Palm Beach Co. - High Winds - Strong easterly winds and heavy surf pounded the lower east coast. Winds gusted to 44 mph at Fort Lauderdale/Hollywood International Airport, causing significant beach erosion due to the pounding surf. Parts of A1A were closed as sand blew across the roadway.

19 1995 - 0315 - Gadsden Co. 1 mile north of Mt. Pleasant - An F2 tornado destroyed a mobile home carrying the two residents over 125 yards. The men were found four hours later. One man (50) was dead, while the other, his brother, was severely injured. Items from the dwelling were found three miles away.

20 1993 - 1220 - Walton Co., Sandestin - two workers were injured when lightning struck near a construction site.

21 1972 - 1345 - Suwannee Co., Live Oak - A tornado touched down destroying a mobile home, barn, and a farm house.

21 1994 - 0300 - 1900 - southeast Florida Coast - High Wind and Heavy Rain - Winds gusting between 40 and 50 mph caused damage to an overhang on a bank building in downtown West Palm Beach. The high winds damaged several boats in Martin County, and injured two sailors after their sail boats capsized offshore Palm Beach County and northeast Dade County. Beach sand was washed onto Highway A1A in Ft. Lauderdale. Trees and power lines were toppled by the high winds. Rainfall amounts up to 6.5 inches in 12 hours caused some flooding of poorly drained roadways.

22 1969 - 0100 - 0200 - Polk Co., Lake Wales - 18 apartment units completely gutted by fire attributed to lightning.
22-25 1989 - Statewide - A cold outbreak and hard freeze affected all 67 counties in Florida. Many daily and some monthly and all-time low temperature records were tied or broken. Low temperatures were in the teens in north and north central Florida and in the 20s central and south central. Snow and sleet fell as far south as a Sarasota-Melbourne line, with a maximum of two to 3 inches in the panhandle. Northeast Florida experienced its first white Christmas in recorded history and airports and interstates were closed. Many traffic accidents and several fatalities occurred on ice-covered roads in North Florida. At least six people died of hypothermia and another four in space-heater related fires. Extensive crop damage, including a loss of about 30% of the $1.4 billion citrus crop, left tens of thousands of migrant farm workers unemployed. Winter vegetables, berries, nursery ornamentals and fish suffered heavy losses. Power blackouts hit hundreds of thousands of residents at various times during the holiday weekend.

23-27 1906 - Statewide - Severe Freeze with low temperatures of 23 degrees reported at Tallahassee, 19 at Gainesville, 22 at Ocala, and 25 at Orlando.

23-24 1971 - Statewide - An exceptionally tight pressure gradient brought strong northeasterly winds to the entire state. Sustained winds of 20 to 30 mph with gusts over 40 mph prevailed through the state for periods longer than 24 hours. The highest gust reported was 58 mph at Kennedy Space Center. The area hardest hit was along the lower east coast where one to three inches of rain added to the problems. Power and telephone lines were toppled throughout the state, limbs were broken from trees and fruit drop was noted in the citrus belt. Beach erosion in the Vero Beach area caused damage to two buildings. The strong winds blew sand into homes along the east coast beaches, and many windows facing the wind were broken. The heavy rain damaged South Dade County tomato fields and the strong winds scarred the fruit. Waves along the lower east coast reached 15 feet and several boats were destroyed and many others grounded. Three drownings occurred when boats capsized, and a 16 year old boy drowned when he was washed into the sea while photographing breakers. On Florida's West Coast, officials reported that a 43-foot sailboat lost its rigging 50 miles west of Tampa and was drifting.

25 1964 - 0330 - Okaloosa Co., Niceville - Tornado unroofed homes at Shalimar. Over 100 vehicles were damaged at Eglin AFB motor pool, along with nine warehouses and some homes. Eight homes were destroyed, and 30 more damaged at Rocky Bayou.

25-26 1983 - Statewide - Cold Outbreak - Unusual cold weather caused broken irrigation and water pipes. Low temperatures were in the teens in north Florida and in the 20s central and south central Florida. Inadequate heating units and carelessness with heating units caused many fires. Citrus and vegetable crops and plants were damaged and/or destroyed. Ornamental plants were damaged. Several roads in north Florida were damaged. Six people died of exposure, three in Miami, two in Jacksonville, and 1 in Tampa. Over $1/2 billion damage to crops.

26-27 1985 - statewide - Severe Freeze with low temperatures of 13 degrees reported at Tallahassee, 19 at Gainesville and Ocala, 26 at Orlando and 23 at Avon Park.

27 1940 - early morning - 0050 - Flagler Co. a tornado destroyed four tourist cabins and a home, injuring three. 0130 - Volusia Co. a tornado moved through Samsula and Port Orange damaging roofs and chimneys. Eleven barns were damaged at Samsula.
27 1996 - Pinellas - morning - Dense fog developed across West and Southwest Florida during the predawn through late morning. Visibilities dropped to near zero at a few locations but consistently were reported at 1/8 of a mile over West and Southwest Florida observational sites through mid morning. Patchy dense fog lingered along coastal waterways and bays of West Central Florida through late morning. At 11:20 am, motorists heading northbound on the Pinellas County side of the Sunshine Skyway Bridge descended from the center span in sunshine and unlimited visibility into a patch of dense fog near sea-level. A chain reaction of vehicle accidents occurred on the northbound lane followed by a similar chain reaction of accidents by rubber-neckers in the southbound lane. In total, fifty-four vehicles were involved in the fog-related accident. Of the fifty-four vehicles, 38 were automobiles, 11 were pick-up trucks, and 5 were semi-tractor trailer trucks. One 69 year old female fatality occurred when her vehicle was crushed between a car carrier and a flatbed truck. Thirty (30) persons were injured in the mishap.

28-29 1894 - statewide - Severe Freeze with low temperatures of 12 degrees reported at Tallahassee, 14 at Jacksonville, 19 at Ocala, 18 at Orlando, and 20 at Bartow. Vegetable and pineapple crops killed. Citrus frozen in north and central Florida.

28 1968 - 0700 - Lafayette Co., Mayo - A 30 year old man was killed by lightning while sitting on a bed in a cabin at Steinhatchee National Forest.

28 1978 - 1330 - 1430 - Dade Co. - Severe thunderstorm produced lightning and golf ball-size hail. The lightning killed a jockey at Calder Race Track. He was running for cover when struck.

29 1970 - morning - Panama City - Waterspouts moved onshore near Panama City. Other waterspouts were sighted over the Gulf of Mexico.

30 1969 - 1757 - Duval Co., Jacksonville - A Funnel Cloud was sighted.

31 1917 - statewide - Severe Freeze with low temperatures of 20 degrees reported at Tallahassee, 16 at Gainesville, 20 at Ocala, 22 at Orlando, and 20 at Bartow.

31 1975 - 1125 - Marion Co., Ocala - An unusually large tornado struck a mobile home park 7 miles southwest of Ocala, destroying 20 mobile homes and heavily damaging 50 more. One person died three weeks after the tornado, and of the 26 injuries, eight required extended hospitalization. Witnesses reported ping pong ball size hail before the tornado.
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References


