

National Weather Service Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



December 1998 Number of Persons led Injured Path Length (Miles) Time Local/ Path Width Estimated Date Character of Storm Standard (Yards) ARKANSAS, Northwest ARZ029 Sebastian 0000CST **Record Warmth** 0 0 The low temperature of 56 degrees Fahrenheit at the Fort Smith Regional Airport on December 4 broke the record for being the warmest low temperature on record for the date. The high temperature of 79 degrees Fahrenheit at the Fort Smith Regional Airport on December 5 tied the record for being the warmest temperature on record for the date. ARZ029 0000CST Ice Storm 2359CST Summary of events for December 23 1998: A series of upper level disturbances moving across a shallow arctic air mass caused freezing rain to break out across central and southern Arkansas on the day before Christmas Eve. While the worst of the ice storm was further south in southern Arkansas and northern Louisiana, southern Sebastian County was on the northern fringe. Areas near Greenwood reported enough freezing rain to cause travel problems. **OKLAHOMA**, Eastern OKZ060-073 Tulsa - Pittsburg 0 Record Warmth The low temperature of 60 degrees Fahrenheit at the Tulsa International Airport broke the record for being the warmest low temperature on record for this date. The low temperature of 61 degrees Fahrenheit at the McAlester Regional Airport broke the record for being the warmest low temperature on record for this date. **OKZ073 Pittsburg** 0000CST 2359CST **Record Warmth** 05 The low temperature of 63 degrees Fahrenheit at the McAlester Regional Airport broke the record for being the warmest low temperature on record for this date. **Rogers County** 6 NE Bushyhead 06 1135CST 7K Thunderstorm Wind In Chelsea, windows were blown out of six vehicles, and three trees were blown down. **Delaware County Eucha** 06 1320CST 0 Thunderstorm Wind (G52) Summary of events for December 6 1998: A wave of low pressure developed along a strong cold front that was moving into unseasonably warm air to bring numerous showers and isolated thunderstorms to northeast Oklahoma during the day. Two of these small low-topped thunderstorms briefly became severe during the late morning and early afternoon. The primary threat from these two isolated storms was strong damaging winds. OKZ054>075 Osage - Washington - Nowata - Craig - Ottawa - Pawnee - Tulsa - Rogers - Mayes - Delaware - Creek - Okfuskee - Okmulgee - Wagoner - Cherokee - Adair - Muskogee - Mcintosh - Sequoyah - Pittsburg - Haskell - Latimer 0000CST 2200CST Freezing Drizzle Summary of winter weather events for December 21 1998: Drizzle developed across eastern Oklahoma on the morning of December 21. As temperatures fell below freezing to the north of an arctic cold front, the drizzle began to freeze upon contact with the ground. The resulting buildup of thin ice caused roads to become slick and hazardous. There were numerous traffic accidents and serious disruptions to holiday travel across the area. However, the ice

> Pushmataha - Choctaw - Pittsburg - Le Flore 23 0000CST

did not become thick enough to cause loss of power or tree damage.

23 0000CST 0 0 Ice Storm

Summary of events for December 23 1998:

OKZ049-053-073-076



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

OKLAHOMA, Eastern

A series of upper level disturbances moving across a shallow arctic air mass caused freezing rain to break out across far southern Oklahoma on the day before Christmas Eve. While the worst of the ice storm was further south in north Texas, the freezing rain and ice was enough to cripple travel in far southern Oklahoma at one of the busiest travel times of the year. Fortunately, the ice was not thick enough in southeast Oklahoma to cause significant power outages or tree damage.