75-mile winds pound city

Trees torn up, power lines cut

Chi Trib Nov 10 1975

A WINDSTORM WITH gusts up to 75 miles an hour pounded the Chicago area early Monday, causing widespread damage.

The storm, accompanied by rain, was blamed for a traffic accident on the Edens Expressway in which a truck driver was injured critically.

Although the rain had ended in most areas by 3 a.m., winds of 25 to 30 miles an hour continued into the morning rush hour with gusts up to 50 miles an hour still being reported. Winds were expected to buffet the city and suburbs until the evening, the National Weather Service reported.

LAKE COUNTY sheriff's police received several reports that tornadoes had touched down in the Grayslake and Long Lake areas shortly after midnight. A search of the area revealed that trees had been blown down by winds, but there was no sign of tornado damage.

A spokesman for the Illinois Central Gulf Railroad said an inbound commuter train was delayed nearly half an hour when winds knocked out an electrical line Monday morning. Six other IC trains were delayed, from 5 to 10 minutes because of the power loss, which disabled a signal light.

Commuters also were delayed on the Rock Island Line when a tree fell across the inbound tracks at 107th Street and Longwood Drive.

State police blamed the wind and wet road conditions for the crash of a United Parcel Service truck carrying two trailers in the southbound lanes of the Edens Expressway at Touhy Avenue.

The truck driver, Ambrose Bentele, 30, of 138 N. Woodlawn, Hoffman Estates, was thrown from the cab when the truck hit the left guardrail. He was in critical condition at Skokie Valley Community Hospital.

Traffic was diverted as state highway clean-up crews cleared the road of packages. The two trailers overturned and were cleared from the road by several tow trucks, police said.

AT ARLINGHAM and Petersen Roads, northwest of Mundelein, power lines were torn down and the tops of large trees were broken off.

Power lines were reported down in scattered areas of Will, Kane, McHenry, and Lake counties, in addition to Cook County, with the heaviest damage in Lake County.

Scattered power blackouts of varying lengths were reported from the Northwest Side to the Wisconsin border.

Gusts up to 48 miles an hour were reported at O'Hare International Airport shortly after midnight Monday, but flight operations were not interrupted, an airport spokesman said.

AT THE LAKE Forest Oasis on Ist. Hwy. 294, winds of 45 miles an hour with hail knocked out a picture window.

In Streamwood, winds of 75 miles an hour were recorded. Utility sheds were overturned, but no power blackouts or heavy damage was reported.

November one of hottest

CHICAGO TRIB. DEC. 2, 1975

THOUGH IT ENDED with some bone-chilling winds, November will go into the record books as the second warmest November in the last 100 years.

The average temperature over the last 30 days, as recorded by the National Weather Service at Midway Airport, was 47.1 degrees, 6.7 degrees above normal.

The warmest November in the last 100 years was in 1931, when temperatures averaged a balmy 50.

Last Nov. 6, the reading of 75 degrees set a record for a November day, beating the previous high of 74 in 1934.

December was off to a bad start with temperatures expected in the low twenties all day Monday.

Heat beats record

CHICAGO TRIBUNE OCT. 14, 1975

SUMMER BLAZED back into Chicago Monday, giving sunbathers a chance to touch up their tans and allowing homeowners to attend their neglected lawns.

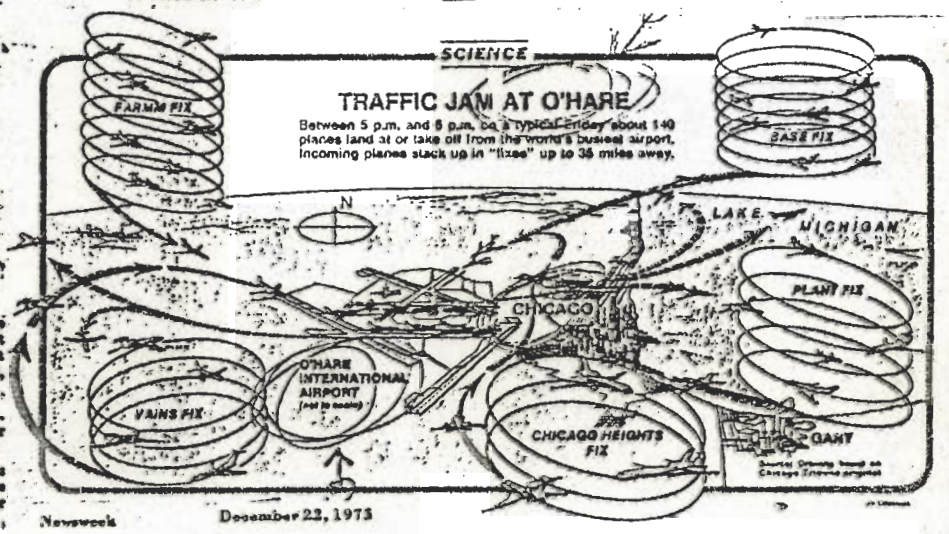
After a month of below-normal temperatures, the mercury hit 88 degrees, breaking the old mark of 83 set 19 years ago. Records also were set in Moline, Rockford, Milwaukee, and Madison, Wis., as the heat wave blew in from the plains on southwesterly winds, according to the National Weather Service.

Another hot day can be expected Tuesday with a high between 85 and 90, a weather service spokesman said. Cooler weather is forecast for Wednesday with a chance of showers and thunderstorms.

SCIENCE

TRAFFIC JAM AT O'HARE

Between 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. on a typical Friday about 140 planes land at or take off from the world's busiest airport. Incoming planes stack up in "fixes" up to 35 miles away.



Newsweek December 22, 1975

The Air-Safety Furor

Snow piles up a record

9-inch fall ties up air, auto travel

CHI TRIB

By William Griffin

THE WORST Thanksgiving Eve snowstorm in Chicago history swept eastward Thursday, after disrupting thousands of families' plans for the holiday, and causing 19 deaths.

A record nine inches of snow fell at Midway Airport, where official figures are tabulated. All but 1½ inches fell before midnight Wednesday, impeding both air and highway travel.

The previous record for Thanksgiving Day was 8 inches of snow remaining on the ground Nov. 28, 1895, from 12 inches of snow that fell on Nov. 25 and 26th. The wagons and buggies of that years did not have to contend with any additional storm on the eve of the holiday.

The National Weather Service said there is a chance of a little more snow Friday. The temperature is expected to reach the low or mid-30s, about the same as Thursday.

THE STORM was even worse to other parts of the Great Plains and the Midwest. Up to 18 inches fell in Nebraska, and the temperature plummeted to 18 below zero at Valentine, Neb.

St. Louis' municipal airport, Lambert Field, was closed for several hours by 10 inches of snow. At Lincoln, Ill., more than 100 motorists sought refuge in motels, churches, and a junior high school at the height of the storm after scores of trucks and cars skidded into ditches and onto median strips.

Waves 8 to 10 feet high rounded Lake Michigan beaches, and gale warnings were up on most of the Great Lakes. A cold front reached across the Great Lakes basin into Pennsylvania and New York, and rain mixed with snow fell in upstate New York and Vermont, bringing travelers' advisory warnings.

CHICAGO TRIBUNE 10/13/75

Lions ax Bears in 'laugher' 27-7

By Don Pierson

Chicago Tribune Press Service

PONTIAC, MICH.—Chicago's baby Bears got whipped about as badly as a team can get whipped in the National League. The score was 27-7, which doesn't come close to telling the story.

The Detroit Lions beat them physically, emotionally, intellectually, and every other way you can imagine.

"That's the first time I've ever seen an opponent laugh at the other team," said a shaken and angry Coach Jack Pardee. "That's what they were doing out there. Laughing at us. We looked like a bunch of little boys playing grown-up. We just didn't do anything right. How we thought we'd come over here and win without hitting is beyond me.

"THEY JUST OUTHIT US. When you see guys laying around after every play, you know you're not doing the hitting; they're hitting you."

The unusually fired-up Lions started out with tight end Charlie Sanders knocking Wally Chambers silly with a flying forearm and didn't finish until Mel Tom, Cid Edwards, Walter Payton and Boo Asher jumped off and Nemiah Wilson was wheeled off on a stretcher.

Wilson suffered a neck sprain which temporarily cut off circulation to his head, the Bears said. X-rays of the neck were negative and Wilson flew home with the team.

The Lions had the Bears "jumbling" during the 27-7 rout. See Ed Stone's story, page 4.