

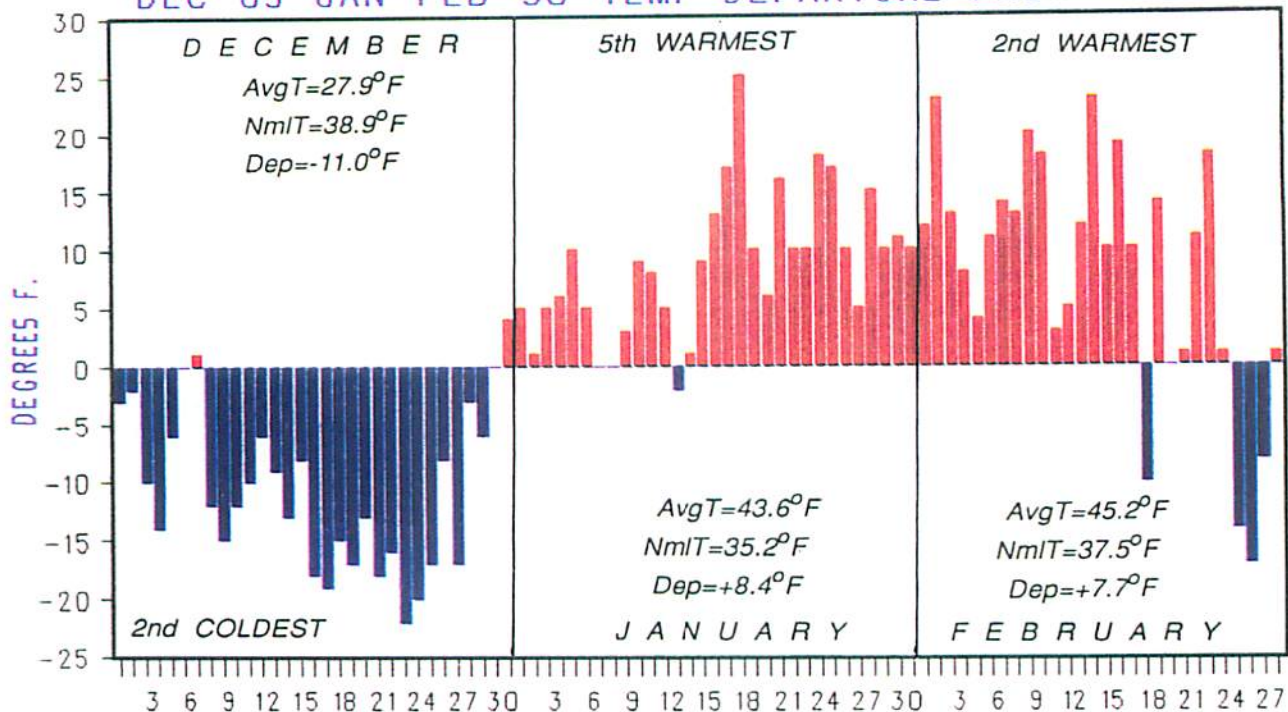
PRESTO

PRECIPITATION SUMMARY AND TEMPERATURE OBSERVATIONS
FOR THE WASHINGTON, DC & BALTIMORE, MD AREA

FEBRUARY 1990 & WINTER REVIEW

"JANUARY THAW" CONTINUES WELL INTO FEBRUARY AS DCA
RECORDS THE SECOND WARMEST FEBRUARY EVER

WASHINGTON NATIONAL AIRPORT (DCA)
DEC 89-JAN-FEB 90 TEMP DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL



A NUMBER OF MAJOR WINTER HIGHLIGHTS:

- Second coldest December at DCA since 1871, 27 days below normal, monthly departure -11°F ; coldest December on record at BWI & IAD, many daily record low minimum and maximum temperatures at both airports. Temperatures below freezing at National on all but 3 days, and readings completely below 32°F on 12 days, including a stretch of 252 hours (11 pm Dec. 15 to 11 am Dec. 26):
- Mildest January ever at IAD & BWI, fifth mildest January at DCA. A bitterly cold December and an unseasonably mild January produced the greatest contrasting departure margin (19.4°F) of any two successive months at Washington (Dec. -11.0°F , Jan. $+8.4^{\circ}\text{F}$). 21 days equalled or surpassed 50°F while only 9 days recorded readings below freezing;
- Mild weather continued into February as IAD, DCA, & BWI observed the first, second, and second mildest February ever. A lack of wintry conditions in the first two months of 1990 have led to the first, first, and second warmest start to a year at IAD, BWI, and DCA, respectively;
- After the first known white Thanksgiving and Christmas in Washington, the first above normal November & December snowfall at DCA since 1967, and the most consecutive days with December snow cover at DCA (22 days with $\geq 0.1"$, 20 days with $\geq 1.0"$, and 11 days with $\geq 3.0"$), ONLY $0.2"$ and a trace fell during January and February. This was the least Jan.-Feb. snow since $0.1"$ in 1973 and the second lowest in 58 years.



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(for more details turn over)