



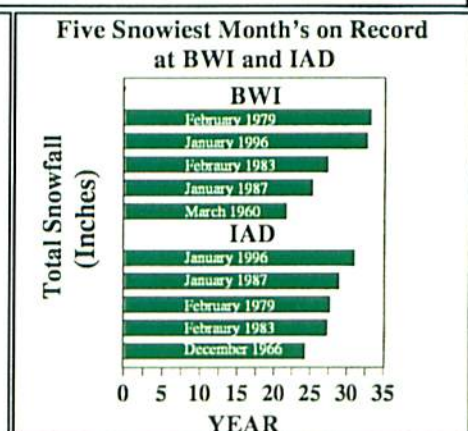
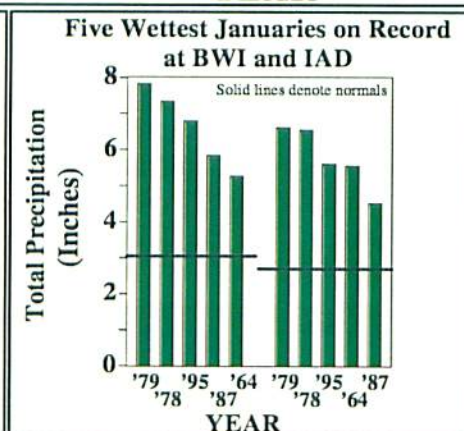
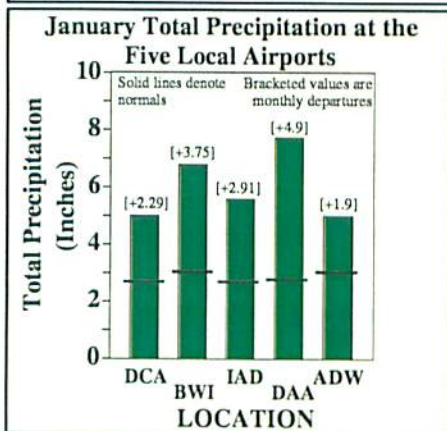
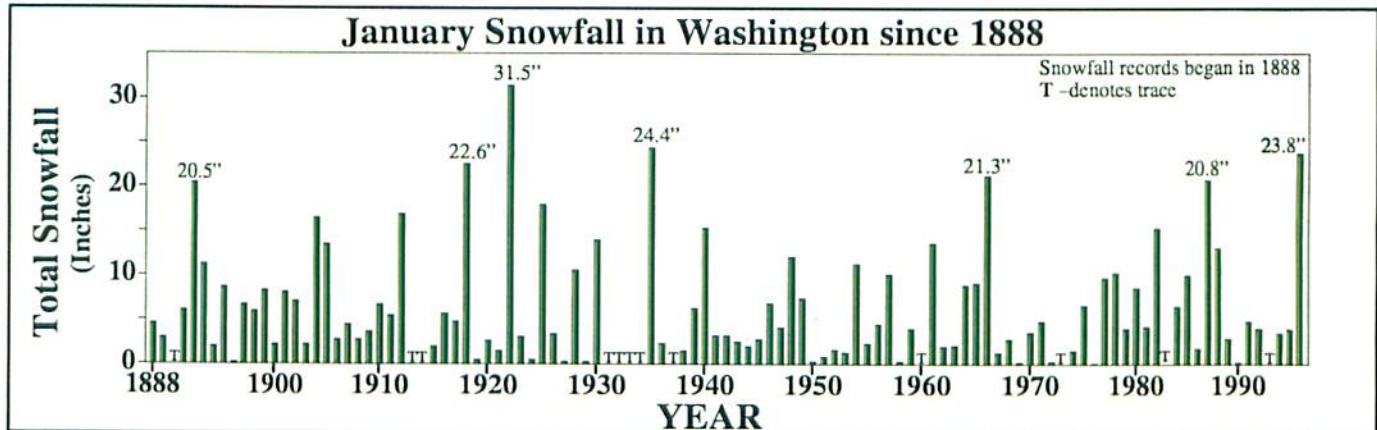
PRESTO



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

JANUARY 1996

FROM "BLIZZARD OF 1996" TO NORTHEAST & MID-ATLANTIC FLOODING



HIGHLIGHTS

- The "Blizzard of 1996" (6th–8th) produced the largest single-storm snowfall total on record at IAD (24.5"), second at BWI (22.5"), and the fourth largest snowfall in Washington with 17.1" at DCA;
- Largest single-storm snowfall at DCA since February 1979 ("President's Day" snowstorm: 18.7"), since February 11, 1983 at BWI (22.8");
- Snowiest month ever recorded at IAD (30.9"), second at BWI (32.6") and fifth at DCA (23.8");
- A 24-hour record snowfall of 19.8" at IAD on the 7th;
- Third wettest January on record at both BWI (6.80") and IAD (5.61");
- A brief warm spell coupled with soaking rains on the 18th and 19th generated severe flooding from the Shenandoah Valley to the local area; It was the worst flooding since June 1972 (Hurricane Agnes) along portions of the Potomac with large sections of the berms and towpath along the C&O Canal washed away by floodwaters;
- Near to slightly below normal temperatures recorded at all five airports;
- First subzero low (-2°F) of the Winter observed at IAD on the 9th;
- 26 days with at or below freezing lows at DCA;
- Subnormal temperatures and above normal precipitation at all five airports for the December 1995–January 1996 period.

Andrew H. Horvitz, Office of Meteorology/NWS, (301) 713-1867
Joseph A. Harrison, Climate Prediction Center/NCEP/NWS, (301) 763-4670

(for more details turn over)