

## MONTHLY CLIMATE SUMMARY, March, 2003

### NIU WEATHER SERVICE, DEKALB, IL

Day	Record HI	Record LO	Average HI	Average LO	Obs. HI	Obs. LO	Obs. Avg.	CDD	HDD	Precip. (in)	Snowfall (in)
1	65	-13	38	23	39	16	27.5	0	37.5	0.00	0.0
2	66	-9	41	22	38	27	32.5	0	32.5	T	T
3	72	5	40	24	29	10	19.5	0	45.5	T	T
4	70	-3	40	23	29	13	21	0	44	0.10	1.3
5	71	-7	39	24	31	13	22	0	43	0.23	4.7
6	69	-7	41	24	20	11	20	0	45	0.03	0.5
7	70	-7	41	24	27	11	19	0	46	0.00	0.0
8	77	-13	42	23	35	24	29.5	0	35.5	T	T
9	73	-3	41	24	37	1	19	0	46	0.01	T
10	69	-2*	42	24	12	-2*	5	0	60	0.00	0.0
11	69	-3	43	25	17	-2	7.5	0	57.5	0.00	0.0
12	72	-6	43	25	42	15	28.5	0	36.5	0.00	0.0
13	77	5	45	28	46	29	37.5	0	27.5	0.00	0.0
14	71	5	46	28	37	25	31	0	34	0.00	0.0
15	74	9	45	27	53	27	40	0	25	0.00	0.0
16	77	-1	45	26	50	32	41	0	24	0.00	0.0
17	71	-2	44	27	66	35	50.5	0	14.5	0.00	0.0
18	79	-1	44	27	73	39	56	0	9	0.00	0.0
19	78	-8	45	28	52	35	43.5	0	21.5	0.01	0.0
20	77	2	46	28	49	35	42	0	23	0.31	0.0
21	77	4	48	30	64	36	50	0	15	T	0.0
22	78	1	49	28	46	36	41	0	24	T	0.0
23	80	0	48	28	47	33	40	0	25	0.00	0.0
24	84	3	48	27	65	34	49.5	0	15.5	0.00	0.0
25	81	3	48	29	71	40	55.5	0	9.5	0.29	0.0
26	80	7	52	33	58	33	45.5	0	19.5	0.00	0.0
27	82	9	52	33	60	38	49	0	16	T	0.0
28	82	8	53	34	65	44	54.5	0	10.5	0.01	0.0
29	84	12	52	34	53	30	41.5	0	23.5	0.29	T
30	84	5	52	34	36	23	29.5	0	35.5	T	T
31	81	7	54	34	44	27	35.5	0	29.5	T	T

\*New Record

#### Temperature

1971-2000 AVG. HI: 45.4°F  
 1971-2000 AVG. LOW: 27.3°F  
 1971-2000 AVG. TEMP: 36.4°F  
 March 2003 AVG. HI: 44.9°F  
 March 2003 AVG. LO: 24.8°F  
 March 2003 AVG. TEMP: 35.0°F

#### Precipitation

March TOTAL: 1.28 in.  
 March AVG: 2.43 in.  
 SNOW: 6.5 in.  
 AVG SNOW: 4.7 in  
 YEAR TO DATE: 2.23 in.  
 YEAR TO DATE AVG: 5.07 in.

#### Degree Days

COOLING: 3/03: 0.0  
 1/03-Now: 0.0  
 HEATING: 3/03: 931.0  
 7/02-Now: 6255.0

#### Discussion

With the advent of March, meteorological spring began, and brought with it the snowiest month of the cold season. Snowfall for the month was 6.5", which is 1.8" above the average. The peak snowfall occurred on March 5<sup>th</sup> when 4.7" of snowfall was recorded. This was also the highest single-day total recorded this winter season. Precipitation as a whole was 1.15" below average, however, so for the past seven months DeKalb is now running a deficit of almost 10".

March 2003 also experienced wide variations in temperatures, typical of a "transition month" from winter to summer. A record low of -2°F occurred on the 10<sup>th</sup>, while 70s were recorded on the 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, respectively. Temperatures as a whole were near average, despite the bitter cold spell from the 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>.

With the current deficit in precipitation, we hope that the saying "April showers brings May flowers" comes true this year.

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Forecast Information (updated once daily at approx. 7:30 am): (815) 753-1623

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