

MONTHLY CLIMATE SUMMARY, February, 2006

NIU WEATHER SERVICE, DEKALB, IL

Day	Record HI	Record LO	Avg. HI	Avg LO	Observed HI	Observed LO	Obs. Avg.	CDD	HDD	GDD	Precip. (in)	Snowfall (in)
1	65	-18	30	13	37	26	32	0	33.5	0	0.00	0.0
2	47	-20	29	14	42	27	35	0	30.5	0	0.00	0.0
3	52	-23	30	15	40	30	35	0	30	0	0.12	0.0
4	54	-18	29	13	44	27	36	0	29.5	0	0.01	0.0
5	58	-20	27	11	28	17	23	0	42.5	0	0.01	0.0
6	55	-15	26	12	34	16	25	0	40	0	0.00	0.0
7	52	-16	27	9	35	16	26	0	39.5	0	0.00	0.0
8	56	-16	27	10	33	16	25	0	40.5	0	0.00	0.0
9	59	-26	28	10	29	11	20	0	45	0	T	T
10	55	-21	31	14	30	11	21	0	44.5	0	0.03	0.5
11	60	-15	32	16	37	26	32	0	33.5	0	T	0.1
12	55	-21	33	14	35	22	29	0	36.5	0	0.01	0.1
13	59	-26	31	15	28	12	20	0	45	0	0.00	T
14	60	-12	33	17	40	13	27	0	38.5	0	0.00	0.0
15	64	-17	34	19	58	22	40	0	25	0	0.00	0.0
16	56	-14	34	17	37	28	33	0	32.5	0	0.10	0.1
17	57	-16	33	18	34	14	24	0	41	0	0.53	0.1
18	56	-21	35	21	21	-10	6	0	59.5	0	0.00	0.0
19	66	-17	38	22	9	2	6	0	59.5	0	0.00	0.0
20	62	-25	40	23	18	12	15	0	50	0	0.00	0.0
21	65	-11	40	24	31	10	21	0	44.5	0	0.00	0.0
22	64	-13	39	23	35	17	26	0	39	0	0.00	0.0
23	69	-12	39	24	43	24	34	0	31.5	0	0.00	0.0
24	62	-11	39	22	40	19	30	0	35.5	0	0.00	0.0
25	66	-12	36	20	44	22	33	0	32	0	0.00	0.0
26	69	-11	38	20	33	9	21	0	44	0	0.00	0.0
27	68	-6	40	22	34	9	22	0	43.5	0	0.00	0.0
28	63	-5	40	23	43	24	34	0	31.5	0	0.00	0.0

Temperature

1971-2000 AVG. HI: 33.5°F
 1971-2000 AVG. LOW: 17.2°F
 1971-2000 AVG. TEMP: 25.6 °F
 February 2006 AVG. HI: 34.8°F
 February 2006 AVG. LO: 16.1°F
 February 2006 AVG. TEMP: 25.8°F

Precipitation

February TOTAL: 0.81in
 February AVG: 1.40in.
 SNOW: 0.9 in.
 AVG SNOW: 7.4in
 YEAR TO DATE: 3.73 in.
 YEAR TO DATE AVG: 2.97 in

Degree Days

COOLING: 2/06: 0.0
 Y.T.D: 0.0
 HEATING: 2/06: 1098.0
 Y.T.D: 2111.5
 GROWING: 2/06: 0.0
 Y.T.D: 0.0

Discussion

With an average temperature of 25.8°F, this month was the most "normal" February in DeKalb since 1977. As usual, this does not tell the whole story. The month began with 9 straight days of above average temperatures and in fact, the first half of the month experienced only 2 days of below normal temperatures. The mercury peaked on the 15th at an amazing 58°F as many of us went running to the store in need of BBQ supplies. The relief was short however as temperatures crashed 3 days later on the 18th to a very unwelcome -10°F, the coldest temperature recorded here since Feb 1, 2004.

The dismal precipitation totals are reminiscent of last year's drought conditions, though hopefully not a sign of things to come, with a little over half of the normal precipitation for the month. The majority of this fell over a period of 2 days and includes a severe Thunderstorm on the 17th which produced some pea size hail along with heavy rain, some sleet and even a couple of flurries- a little something for everyone.

As February is the last month of meteorological winter, it's time to take a last look at how this winter ranks overall. Although it has been quite variable, precipitation was just a little below normal for the 3 month period (4.85" total, 5.15" avg), thanks to the abundance which fell in January. The average temperature for this winter was 26.0°F, just a little above the normal of 23.3°F. Finally, the 18.3" of snowfall for the winter ranks in the bottom third going back to 1966, whereas we normally expect about 27" of snow between December and February.

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

The Climate Summary is supported by the Department of Geography, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and the Department of Operations

February 2006 Daily Highs and Lows with 1971-2000 Average Highs and Lows

