

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - December 2008

Location	Date/Time	Deaths & Injuries	Property & Crop Dmg	Event Type and Details
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TEXAS, South Panhandle

(TX-Z033) COCHRAN, (TX-Z035) LUBBOCK, (TX-Z039) YOAKUM

12/08/08 15:15 CST	0.10M	High Wind (MAX 56 kt)
12/08/08 17:30 CST	0	

Virga showers associated with a Pacific cold front combined with tight surface pressure gradients and strong winds aloft resulted in damaging winds over the western and central South Plains during the late afternoon hours of the 8th.

Severe wind gusts up to 65 mph were initially measured by the Texas Tech University West Texas Mesonet site near Denver City and Plains (Yoakum County) at 15:15 CST. A swath of high winds then spread northeastward toward the central South Plains through 17:30 CST.

At 16:55 CST the Texas Tech University West Texas Mesonet site near Wolfforth recorded a 60 mph wind gust. By 17:00 CST, several utility poles and lines were reportedly blown down and a large tree fell onto and destroyed a car in Lubbock (Lubbock County) as a thick cloud of blinding dust accompanied the damaging winds.

The local broadcast media reported that a Lorenzo (Lubbock County) family's trailer home sustained major wind damage, and that the Red Cross provided shelter to the residents. No injuries were reported.



Tumbleweeds and blowing dust invade Reese Center (Lubbock County) as severe winds begin to impact the Lubbock area shortly before 17:00 CST on the 8th. Photo courtesy: Texas Tech University West Texas Mesonet.

(TX-Z035) LUBBOCK

12/08/08 22:00 CST	10K	Winter Weather
12/09/08 18:00 CST	0	

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An arctic cold front pushed southward over the west Texas South Plains during the evening hours of the 8th, and light snow began to fall over much of the South Plains region overnight and into the morning hours of the 9th. Although no snow accumulations occurred, the onset of freezing temperatures and light wintry precipitation contributed to at least one vehicular accident in Lubbock. A motorist lost control of his pickup truck on west Loop 289 near 23rd Street around midnight CST, and was treated for minor injuries.

(TX-Z021) PARMER, (TX-Z022) CASTRO, (TX-Z028) LAMB, (TX-Z033) COCHRAN, (TX-Z034) HOCKLEY, (TX-Z035) LUBBOCK, (TX-Z039) YOAKUM

	12/14/08 10:40 CST	25K	High Wind (MAX 58 kt)
	12/14/08 13:55 CST	0	

A potent upper air storm system translated over the Southern Plains on the 14th and resulted in widespread high winds and blowing dust over the western South Plains of west Texas. Severe wind gusts were initially recorded by the Texas Tech University West Texas Mesonet shortly before 11:00 CST in Yoakum and Terry Counties. During the next three hours, dust and damaging wind gusts spread northeastward over the Lubbock area (Lubbock County). Minor roof damage to a few structures was reported, including a newly constructed church in southwest Lubbock which had a portion of its metal roof peeled off in the winds. No injuries were reported.



A picture of a trampoline that blew over in the town of Farwell (Parmer County). Photo taken by Deanna Curtis of the State Line Tribune.

(TX-Z021) PARMER

	12/18/08 14:38 CST	0	High Wind (MAX 54 kt)
	12/18/08 14:38 CST	0	

A progressive upper atmospheric storm system quickly passed over the southern Rockies during the afternoon hours of the 18th. A deepening surface low pressure area over southeastern Colorado and southwestern Kansas in advance of this system and a strong lower level wind maximum resulted in widespread sustained winds in the 25 to 35 mph range over the western Texas Panhandle and South Plains. A localized severe gust of 62 mph was measured by the KVII-TV Schoolnet at Friona (Parmer County) shortly after 14:30 CST. No damage was reported.