SUMMARY OF THE AUGUST 1988 WEATHER ON THE MONTEREY PENINSULA, CALIFORNIA

General: August 1988 was a remarkable copy of August last year, with nearly the same level of dry conditions, and above normal temperatures, along with less than average fog occurrence and wind gustiness. In general, there was little of significance in Central Coast weather for August 1988.

Temperatures: August 1988 was above the 37-year normal in all categories – daily highs averaged 70.5°F (+1.4°F), daily lows averaged 53.9°F (+1.3°F); thus the overall daily average, 62.2°F was 1.4°F above normal. The August 1987 figures were 53.8°F, 70.6°F and 62.2°F – unusually similar!

Also like August 1987, the past month set/tied a few warm-nite records: The 57°F on 1, 2 and 3 August 1988 tied the record on 1 August (previously set in 1977) and on 3 August (previously set in 1976). The 2 August minimum beat the 56°F reading in 1977. A couple daily high temperature records were set, too -- 87°F on 25 August easily exceeded 79°F in 1969, and, on the following day, the 77°F maximum beat 76°F, set in 1967.

The National Weather Service outlook for the local area indicates the expectation of above normal temperatures in September as well as in the three-month period, September through November.

Precipitation: There isn't much to report for August 1988. 0.03" (0.02" of which fell on 1 August) is 0.08" below the monthly normal, and with the 0.02" in July 1988, the rain year total stands at 0.05", which is 0.14" below normal, but close to the median of 0.06". 0.02" fell in August 1987, again a close replica of the last August.

The National Weather Service outlook for the area indicates below normal rainfall in September and near to below normal in the three-month period September through November 1988.

Fog: Fourteen days with one or more hours of fog for August 1988 is seven days below the 25-year norm and stands with August 1968, 1976 and 1983 as the second lowest August figure for the quarter century. Just last year, the minimum number of August fog days was recorded, namely 13. And in August 1986 the August maximum fog record was set with 29 fog days.

Wind: The average Airport winds (from 6 AM through 11 PM) was 9.0 miles per hour (mph) in August 1988, which is only a half mph more than last month and less than one mph above last August. The average daily gust at the National Weather Service’s Climate Station was 21 mph, one mph under both the 15-year average and last August.