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SUMMARY OF THE FEBRUARY 1979 WEATHER ON THE MONTEREY  
PENINSULA, CALIFORNIA

**General:** February was quite cool, rainy and windy, but normal in fog occurrence.

**Temperature:** And yet another month with below normal temperatures – the fifth in a row! The overall average of 50.5°F was 2.4°F below the 28-year normal. Both daytime maxima (58.4°F vs 61.6°F normal) and nite-time minima (42.6°F vs 44.2°F normal) contributed to the cool month, a combination of much cloudiness by day in the last rainy 2/3 of the month and a series of cold outbreaks throughout the month. Thus, the 50.5°F in Feb 79 is the 3rd coldest Feb on record (beat by 49.8°F in 1969 and 49.1°F in 1956). The absolute high for the month, 65°F, occurred on 10 and 11 Feb while the absolute low, 34°F, was registered on 3 Feb 79. The 65°F is the 2nd coldest Feb max on record (beat by 64°F in 1969).

**Precipitation:** As with the temperature, the rainfall has been set in a trend the past several months. The last 4 months were rainier than usual – 68% above normal in Feb 79 (4.52" vs 2.69"). The rain-year (July 1, 78 to date) now stands at 13.41" compared to 13.16". The 13 days with rain compares to a normal of 9 such days. Although all 24-hr amounts were 0.70" or less, several storms were accompanied by high winds (13, 20, 22 Feb), hail (1, 23 Feb) and even a mild thunderstorm (21 Feb). Power outages on 13 Feb and falling trees on 13 and 20 Feb were reported. Snow down to 500 ft on local mountains was visible on the morning of 2 Feb.

**Wind:** Average for the month was 7.9 miles per hour (mph) compared to a 20-year average of 5.3 mph at the airport. Gusts to 47.5 mph occurred on 13 Feb, to 44 mph on 20 Feb and to 38 mph on 22 and 26 Feb.

**Fog:** Fog was as expected: 6 days with some fog, all between 6 and 12 Feb.