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

General: May 1979 was warm and drier than normal with average winds and near average fog
currency.

Temperature: The warm spring continued with an overall average of 58.1°F compared to a 28-year
normal of 56.0°F. Both days and nights averaged on the warm side: 66.9°F (2.5°F above normal) by
day and 49.2°F (1.6°F above normal) by night. The month’s average qualified as the third warmest
May in 28 years, beat only by May 1978 (59.0°F) and May 1958 (59.2°F). 82°F registered as the max
for the month on 12 May while a 44°F took the minimum spot on the morning of 10 May. The 82°F was
the warmest since an 82°F on 6 Nov last year.

Precipitation: May rainfall totaled 0.29” compared to a 28-year normal of 0.43”. Most of this (0.22”)
amount fell in a seven-hour period 6/7 May. The 1978/79 rain year (1 Jul – 30 Jun) will probably go in
to the books as normal with 18.69” already recorded compared to an 18.25” normal for the season.
Historically in the past 27 years, 11% of the years were normal (i.e., ± 1.00”) while 33% were above
and 56% below normal.

Wind: May is traditionally the windiest month of the year on the Peninsula, but the past month wind
gusts were hardly noteworthy – only one day with gusts in excess of 40 miles per hour, namely 42 mph
on 8 May. The May 79 winds averaged 7.2 mph, exactly the same as the 20-year airport average.

Fog: The fog season begins in earnest in May and last month was true to form in this respect – 15
days with some fog compared to a 16-year average of 13 days.