SUMMARY OF THE NOVEMBER 1987 WEATHER ON THE MONTEREY
PENINSULA, CALIFORNIA

General: November’s weather was pleasant, with near normal temperatures and fog occurrence, below normal rainfall and winds typical for the season.

Temperatures: November 1987 was an unusual month – temperatures were near normal! It isn’t often that the overall monthly average is only 0.2°F from normal but that is the case for November, with 56.0°F vs a 36-year normal of 56.2°F. Daytime readings were a bit cooler than normal, with 64.1°F vs 65.4°F, while nite time lows averaged 0.9°F above the 47.0°F normal. This pattern of temperature relates well to more cloudiness than expected from climatology, and that is evidenced by 11 days with trace or measureable precipitation during the past month. The average drop in temperature from October to November is the largest of any monthly change in the year, namely 4.5°F. The drop from October to November 87 turned out to be even more than expectation: 6.7°F. The normal first day of light frost, as indicated by the season’s first thermal shelter temperature of 39°F did not occur in November this year, although local valleys experienced several days of frost during the month. Expected date is 30 November, based on 35 years of record.

Precipitation: Rain-year (July 1, 87 to June 30, 88) totals to the end of November stand at 3.05” compared to a 36-year normal of 3.92”; 1.84” of this amount fell in November. Although the November amount is 0.72” below normal it looks a lot better than the 0.27” the area received last November. The National Weather Service continues to predict below normal rainfall this year (based on predictions through February 88) but 1.84” spread over six days in November, along with a wet October and the increased green of grasses and plant/shrub foliage, gives the impression that this year’s rainfall signature is different from that in 1986/7. Thus far we are at 78% or normal; last year we ended up with 68% of normal.

Wind: Except for storm activity, November winds tend to be meek and mild. No exception this past November with a 6.9 mile-per-hour (mph) average at the Airport (observations 6 AM to 11 PM) and an average daily maximum gust of 16.7 mph at the National Weather Service Climate Station. The strongest gust, 25 mph, was measured at 9:39 AM on the 20th during a period of rain.