



## Snowy start brings memories of past storms

By Carson Metcalf

As we look toward the official start of the winter season here in Central New York, already having the snowiest month of December ever on record occur this year, we thought it was time to take a look back at some of the biggest winter weather storms - in and out of season - of all-time that have affected the area. These include the Blizzard of 1966, the Blizzard of 1993, the Ice Storm of 2003, and the Lake-Effect event of 2007.

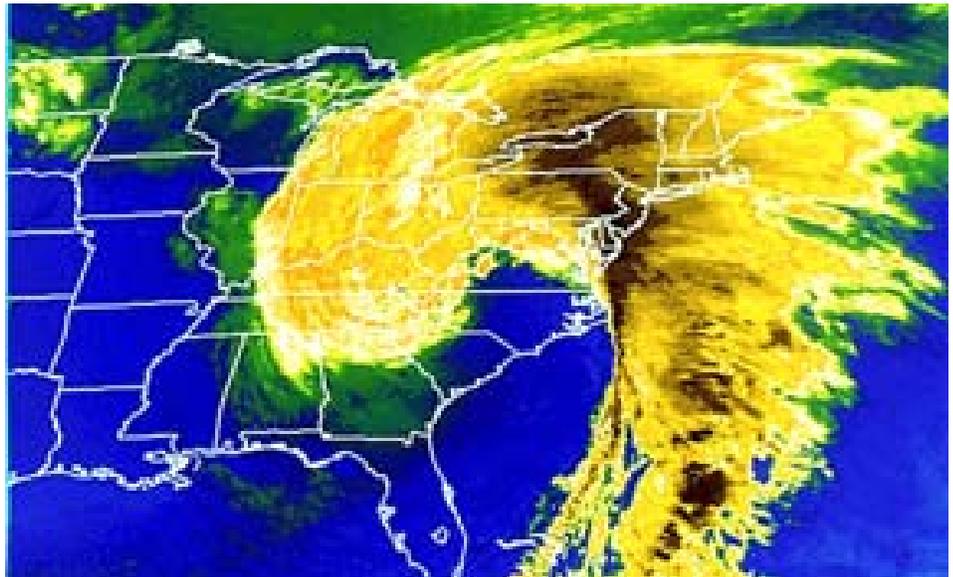
It has been almost forty-five years since Oswegonians found themselves having to dig out from under what the snowstorm of a life-

**“All of this lake-effect activity was enough for NewsChannel 9, WSYR-TV, to coin the term “Winter in a Week” for the event, seeing as some communities in Central and Northern New York State picked up as much or more snowfall than they would in a typical winter.”**

time brought them. The Blizzard of 1966 began as a traditional nor’easter storm system, but quickly made the transition, as you might expect, over to lake-effect snow. This in turn absolutely bombarded the port city. About 102 inches were reported to have fallen over a five-day period from January 27-31.

Up through that point, the Blizzard of 1966 was the most notable blizzard to ever affect the area. But over about the next half-century, all of Central New York would get somewhat of a taste of this type of snowfall from other storms.

Nearly thirty years after the Blizzard of 1966, another similar storm came up the east coast and affected us, in some cases more seriously. The Blizzard of 1993, or as it is referred to by some as “the storm of the century,” was also your typical nor’easter in the



Colorized infrared satellite image of the eastern United States on March 13, 1993 depicting the Blizzard of '93. (courtesy National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)).

beginning. The only difference? It presumably had a lot more energy and moisture behind it as you can see from the accompanying graphic.

In just two days, March 13 and 14, 1993, forty-two inches of snow fell in Syracuse alone, with isolated higher amounts likely to have fallen in some places. During the storm, something that had never happened up until that point took place; every major airport on the east coast closed at some time during the storm, with good reason. Over 250 people were confirmed dead here in the United States from the storm. Over \$3 billion in damage was also done during the entire period. After the Blizzard of 1993, Central New York was spared for the most part from a major winter weather storm, at least for about the next ten years.

After getting dumped on with more than 150 inches of snow during the winter of 2002-2003; just when you would think that the season had finally come to a close, disaster struck. As we began the month of April 2003, there was still some moisture left in the atmosphere over Central New York.

Rain began to fall, increasing in intensity for the first couple days of the month. With temperatures taking a sharp turn to sub-freezing levels, the nearly two inches of rain that fell

and was still falling suddenly froze. This caused epic chaos all over the region, causing schools here in Fulton and all over to close for days, and leaving many without heat in their cold homes due to the lack of power. All of these aspects came together to make an extremely memorable storm in the end. The next and most recent extreme weather event, luckily for us, fell as all snow.

Near the end of the winter season in February 2007, some Central New Yorkers probably thought that due to the well-below-average amount of snowfall we picked up during the previous two months that we might have had an early start to spring. Those who thought that couldn't have been more wrong. The most intense period of lake-effect snow ever on record for Central New York, the Lake-Effect event of 2007, dumped several feet of snow on many localities in just a few days.

Oswego picked up nearly 85 inches while the jackpot snows fell farther to the north on the Tug Hill Plateau. Redfield, NY gained national attention for picking up a jaw-dropping 141 inches of snow. All of this lake-effect activity was enough for NewsChannel 9, WSYR-TV, to coin the term “Winter in a Week” for the event, seeing as some commu-

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## Opinion

# Take time to enjoy what you have

By Christine Proud

In this holiday season, greed and want can take hold of a person. People busily shop for others or even just them selves. You hear the "I wants and maybe even the "I needs," on a more than regular basis.

But in all actuality most of us have it pretty well. We've got a roof over our heads, clothes on our backs and food in our bellies. What about the people who don't have anything? Does anyone take the moment to say, "What does someone else need?"

Even though a lot of us have a warm home and a good and easy life, there are still people who don't have a lot, and during the holidays it

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## Major winter storms

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nities in Central and Northern New York State picked up as much or more snowfall than they would in a typical winter.

In terms of school closings, many will recall to their dismay the fact that during the week, Fulton schools closed for the day on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, and just when you thought the pattern would continue into Friday, all we got was a two-hour delay. By far, the Lake-Effect event of 2007 reminded us all of the raw power that Lake Ontario has in terms of affecting our weather, especially during the winter months.

By and large, when you hear some of your older relatives say, "we don't get winters like we used to here in Central New York," you can prove them wrong just by using some of the information presented here. Who knows, we may be looking at yet another massive storm system developing over the next few days, weeks, or months.

*Information for this article was obtained from the National Weather Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and WTVH-TV (WHEN).*

can put an ache on their hearts. But how could it change? Today's economy is crumbling, most people don't have much to spare. People lose their jobs left and right, and more and more families become homeless everyday.

But what can you do this holiday season to help? There are many ways but the easiest, most simple way is to put your pocket change in that little red bucket outside of the store. The Salvation Army bell ringers give their time out in the cold to raise funds for the needy. Another way to help? After Christmas, donate your old clothes, toys, anything you don't need. There will be a person who will truly be grateful for having them.

There are many ways to help, whether you donate some cash, some canned food or even just your old clothes. Someone will be grateful. So this holiday, try to take some time for others, it is a rewarding experience to help others. Give yourself the gift of giving. And give others who need the gift a wonderful holiday.

## Bizarre News of the Day

Lady Gaga decapitated a Santa Claus toy by biting and stamping on it during her Monster Ball concert in London. After a fan threw the soft toy on stage and Lady Gaga, real name Stefani Germanotta, picked it up and started talking about loneliness.

She said, "I do like Christmas but for those of you who are feeling lonely this Christmas, just to keep everyone happy..." before attempting to tear the toy's head off with her teeth. After she failed to rip off Santa Claus' head, the singer used the heel of her stiletto boot to try and cut through it, shouting, "I hate the holidays. I'm alone and miserable."

Once the toy had successfully been destroyed, Gaga turned to her audience and asked, "Anyway, now that I've killed Santa, what am I going to do with all of you?" Sounds like someone needs a hug.

*By Morgan Firenze*

## Quote of the day:

**"The best of all gifts around any Christmas tree: the presence of a happy family all wrapped up in each other."**

*-Burton Hillis*

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Raider Sports

## Marcellus rolls past Fulton

Non-league foe Marcellus may have been a step down in sectional class for the Raiders on Monday, but they were anything but a step down in quality. Running their record to 4-0 overall, the perennial powerhouse Mustangs belted Fulton 25-14, 25-22 and 25-16 to score a three game sweep and end the Raiders two match winning streak.

Nicole Fletcher led the winners with eight kills, three aces, two blocks and six digs while Kirsten Francis topped the Raiders with six kills, two assists and three digs. The girls will be back in action on Wednesday when they travel to Phoenix for a 5:30 p.m. JV, 7 p.m. varsity match.

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**This week in Raider Sports**

**Today:** Frosh basketball vs. CBA (4:30); Boys basketball @ Fowler (5/6:30); Girls basketball vs. Fowler (5:30/7 p.m.); Hockey @ Whitesboro (7:30)  
**Wednesday, Dec. 22:** Wrestling @ Cortland (5:30); Bowling vs. ES-M @ Strike n' Spare (3:30); Volleyball @ Phoenix (5:30/7 p.m.); Swim vs. Pulaski (5 p.m.)  
**Thursday, Dec. 23:** Girls basketball vs. Carthage (5:30/7 p.m.); JV Wrestling @ Carthage Tourney (4 p.m.); Hockey vs. CBA (5:45)

## Raiders seek initial win in tonight's trip to Fowler

Although the Raiders are 0-2 on the season, the tough string of games will be coming to a close on Tuesday, as Fulton will be preparing for Fowler at Fowler. As the team continues to stay u beat looking for their first win, Coach Kimpland is also keeping a positive attitude and pushing the team hard, getting ready for battle.

The Coach knows that Fowler will not be any easier than J-D or CBA and refers to the trio of games as "Death Row." Overall the Raider squad is being lead in points by junior guard Tyler French at 11.5 points per game, and not far behind are senior guard Hunter Gorton (12.5 ppg.) , and senior forward Zach Loura (11.) The team is looking for a big game from the three and are hoping that the whole squad can come together to take a much needed win.

To do that Fulton will need to stop Fowler's trio of Malcolm Jones, Larry Rivers, and Dieudonne Pierre, who are leading the 1-1 Falcons in scoring. All three are averaging double-digits with Jones leading the way at 13.5 ppg. Followed by Rivers at 12.5 and Pierre with 11.

With nine wins being the ticket to sectionals the team can waste no more time, the time is now! Game time is 6:30 at Fowler, come out and support the Raiders.

**Don't forget!**  
**Class, club and activity pictures**  
**Wednesday, Dec. 22**  
**in the auditorium**  
**see you advisor for a pass**

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**School of Thought** compiled by Don Wilmot & Jimmy Ireland

# What do you want for Christmas?



"Assassins Creed."  
Dylan Rizzo



"World Peace."  
Eric Beirbrauer



"A sheep."  
Mark Bailey



"Food!"  
Justin Bowering

# Meteorology and you

by Carson Metcalf



**Today:**



Mainly cloudy with a scattered snow shower. High in the low-30s. Record high-58 (1988) Avg. high-35

**Tonight:**



Cloudy skies. Low in the upper-teens. Record low: -20 (1955) Avg. low: 19

**Tomorrow:**



Cloudy with a few snow showers. High around 30. Record high-66 (1949) Avg. high: 34

*GRB junior Carson Metcalf is an aspiring Meteorologist and the creator of the Central New York Weather Center @ [www.centralnewyorkweather.com](http://www.centralnewyorkweather.com) Look for his daily weather forecasts for Fulton on RaiderNet Daily.*