

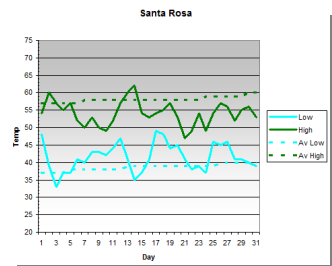
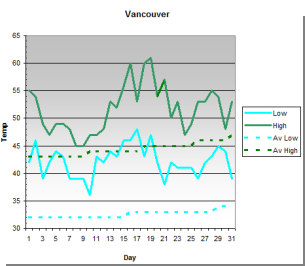
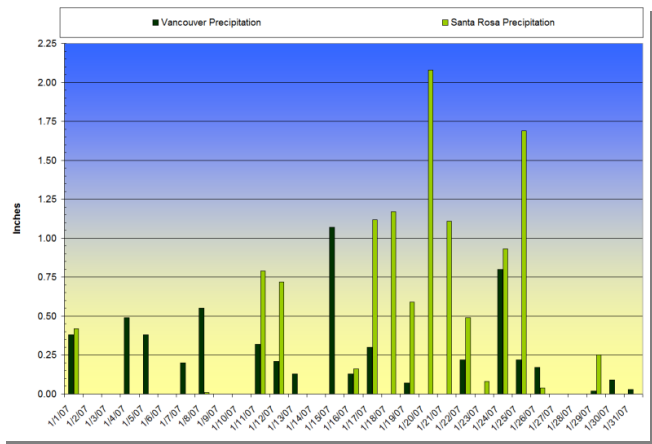
A Blast from the Past



Photo by, Kari Duncan-Hall, 5/8/1993

This image was originally published (poorly, my scanner sucked back then) in issue #18 way back on May 10th, 1993. Matt and I made up the "Meister" team in a 'friendly' match of Outburst. We were no doubt the Detroit Lions in this event against Paul and Frank who were the New England Patriots. They were 15-0 against us in these 'friendly' events.

But this time was different. The stars aligned, the seas parted and we actually won! The proverbial David slaying Goliath. It was awesome!



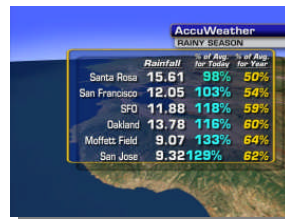
"El Nino" drenches California

California continues its "love-hate" relationship with the often overbearing "El Nino" phenomenon. "El Nino" is a climatic condition in which the waters in the Pacific ocean go through a cycle of warming. This warming of the sea leads to much wetter and stronger storms approaching the West Coast. It also tends to drop the jet stream into a split flow that leaves the Pacific Northwest drier and warmer and California takes the brunt of nearly every storm system.



California needs strong rainfall in the winter to recharge its aquifer after long hot and dry summers and to fill up empty reservoirs. But alas, Californians hate rain. Thus the classic "love-hate" scenario presents itself every few years.

Santa Rosa had a whopping 11.25 inches of rain last month, not a record but in the 95th percentile for sure. Much to the dismay of Northern Californians, a really dry autumn has left you all at about normal for the rain year in spite of the very soggy January.



Here in America's Vancouver, we had a slightly above average January with 5.78 inches in the official Vancouver rain gauge at Pearson Field. Overall Santa Rosa's rainfall came in the typical big short bursts vs. our more constant showery condition. Santa Rosa recorded 16 days with measurable rain compared to Vancouver's 19.

For us the weather story in January was warm, warmer and really warm! Vancouver did not record a temperature below freezing all month! (I had one 31.1 degree morning at my weather station). We had temperatures in the morning on average TEN degrees warmer than normal and daytime highs averaged 8 degrees above normal. Nary a flake of snow all month. All this comes in stark contrast to the 21 subfreezing mornings in December with 5 well below 20 and even single digits. December also had a 5 day stretch of constant subfreezing temperatures.



I spent all of January wearing shorts for crying out loud!