JULY

July 1, 1993  Hail to 2 inch diameter pummeled the Bismarck, ND, vicinity for more than 20 minutes. 3 girls were stranded in the swirling water of the Missouri River during the vicious hail/rain storm; all three were injured by hailstones.

July 2, 2003  Thunderstorm wind gusts to 75 mph at Bigfork, MN, blew off the top of a tree, which went through the windshield of a car and impaled the driver in his seat; he lived. At Basswood Lake, a storm gust toppled a tree onto a tent; 1 camper killed and 1 hurt.

July 4, 1960  Unnatural fireworks - 2 men were working on a gasoline storage tank in El Paso, TX, when it was struck by lightning. The resulting explosion of the tank and nearby chemical supply building killed both men.

July 6, 2009  In Twisp, WA, a couple took shelter in a car due to a thunderstorm. Lightning struck the car and blew out 2 of its tires. After the incident, the engine would not start. The couple was unhurt.

July 8, 2009  Baseballs weren't the only objects to hit the field at the Wichita (KS) Wingnuts baseball game. Hail to baseball size fell for approx. 30 minutes at Lawrence-Dumont Stadium – bruising some fans and turning the field white. The Wingnuts lost the storm-shortened game.

July 10, 2009  More like a sizzling hot day in a desert location, instead of NW OK. Nonetheless, with highs of 115 degrees, Freedom broke its all-time record. On this record-setting day, Buffalo heated to 90 degrees by 6:00 a.m. and 107 by 11:00 a.m.

July 11, 1995  Shortly before 2 a.m. a house in Danielsville, PA, was hit twice by lightning. The chimney and roof were damaged and debris from the house damaged 3 cars.

July 15, 1995 (14th-15th)  Dew points >80 degrees, with a date record high of 103 degrees gave Philadelphia, PA a heat index of 129 degrees. 40 people died from heat in SE PA; approx. 1 million PA chickens succumbed to the heat. Some highways (including I-83 in York County) closed due to heat buckling.

July 17, 2000  Intense storms produced a vivid lightning display in the early a.m. over Kansas City, KS/MO. 2,000+ cloud-to-ground bolts hit Johnson County between 2-3 a.m.; the number of intracloud bolts may have exceeded 20,000 in the same time span.

July 18, 2008  A man and a woman went outside a home in Standish, ME to get a pair of sunglasses the family dog had taken from 1 of the 3 young children
inside. Unfortunately, lightning hit a nearby tree, then travelled through the ground, killing both people.

July 19, 1993 In Winnsboro, SC, lightning hit a nearby tree and resulting debris fell on a car. The driver left the car to sweep debris away, saying “lightning never strikes twice in the same spot.” He was wrong. CPR saved him. The soles of his wife’s shoes were also blown off.

July 21, 2003 Have to assume it was the highest object in the vicinity? Lightning struck and killed a giraffe at Disney Animal Kingdom in Orlando, FL.

July 22, 1992 Lightning hit on or near a concrete mixing truck near Walla Walla, WA; a man was knocked off the truck. 10 minutes later a 2nd strike knocked him away from the truck again. He was fortunate he was only slightly hurt.

July 25, 1993 (25th-26th) Lightning prevalent in N/E GA. 12 homes hit in Cobb County (2 destroyed). A police officer in Augusta survived a strike while working a traffic accident. On the 26th, 10 people at the Atlanta Zoo were injured by lightning while sheltering under a gazebo.

July 28, 1898 A severe thunderstorm produced considerable hail (some stones to 11 ounces) in Chicago, IL; the storm was centered in the business district. A number of people were hurt, not by hail, but by several hundred runaway horses spooked by the hailstones.

July 29, 2009 (27th-30th) The peak of a heat wave occurred today in WA as all-time records were set at Bellingham (96), Sea-Tac Airport (103-old record of 100), Olympia (104), and the National Weather Service Forecast Office at Sand Point-Seattle (105).

July 31, 2009 Hail to golf ball size pummeled Prairie Dog State Park near Norton, KS. The hail shattered windows in 60 vehicles and caused significant damage to 40 RVs/campers; park cabins were also damaged. Total damage was estimated to be $1 million.