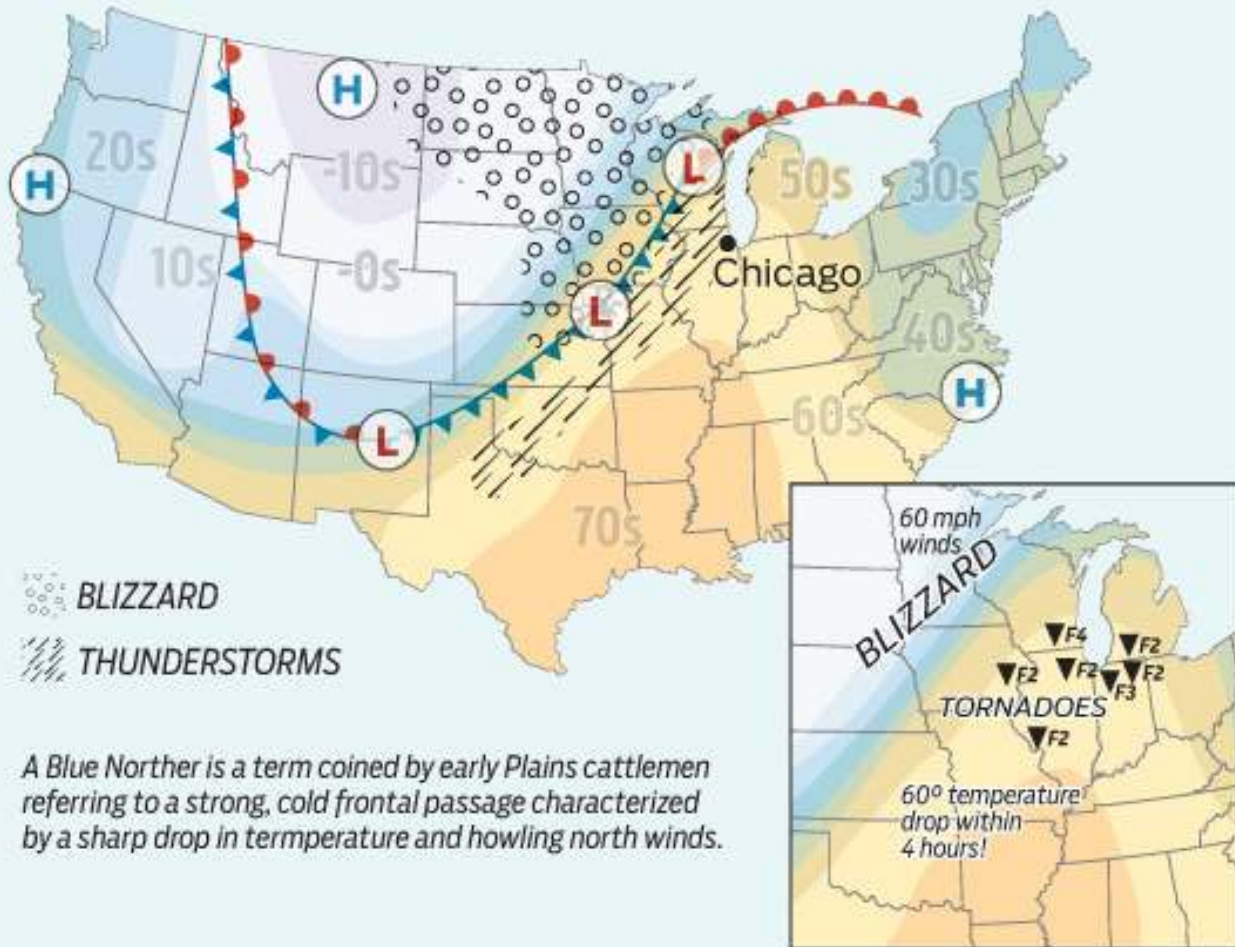


The Great Blue Norther: 100 years ago – Nov. 11, 1911

WEATHER CONDITIONS AND TEMPERATURES
7 A.M. SATURDAY 11/11/1911



BLIZZARD

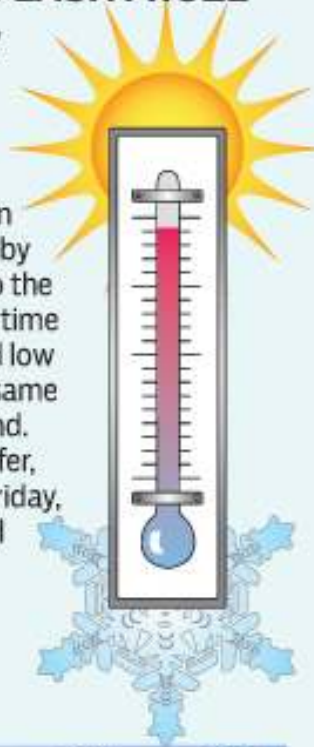
THUNDERSTORMS

A Blue Norther is a term coined by early Plains cattlemen referring to a strong, cold frontal passage characterized by a sharp drop in temperature and howling north winds.

SOURCES: Frank Wachowski, National Weather Service archives

THE DAY THE MIDWEST FLASH FROZE

Friday marks the 100th anniversary of one of the most extraordinary weather events in U.S. history — the Great Blue Norther. From the central and southern Plains to the southern Great Lakes, the day began with unseasonably mild temps. But by midnight, temps had plummeted to the teens and single digits. For the only time since 1870, both the record high and low temp for the date occurred on the same day. Some of these records still stand. Though doomsayers may beg to differ, 11/11/1911, was a coincidence. This Friday, 11/11/2011, is expected to be tranquil by comparison.



SOME REMARKABLE TEMPERATURE DROPS

	HIGH	LOW	DROP
■ Springfield, Mo.	80°	8°	72°
■ Kansas City, Mo.	76°	6°	70°
■ Oklahoma City	82°	14°	68°
■ St. Louis	78°	12°	66°
■ Chicago	74°	16°	58°
■ Little Rock, Ark.	80°	22°	58°

PAUL MERZLOCK AND JENNIFER M. KOHNKE / WGN-TV