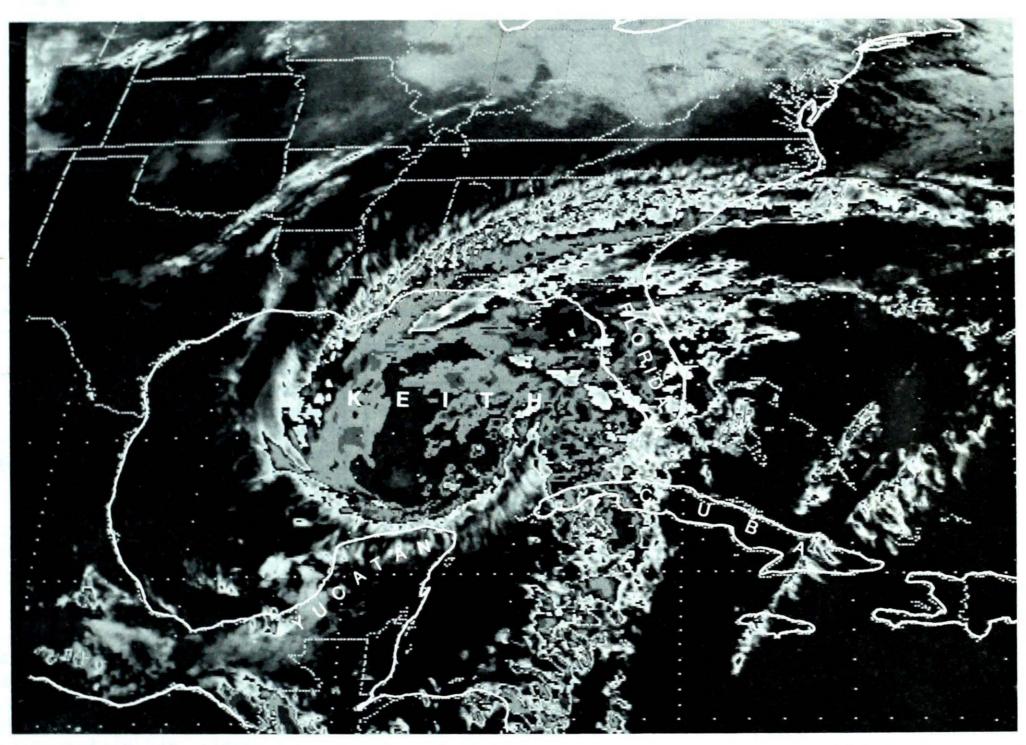
November 15 to 21, 1988

A weekly review of Canadian climate

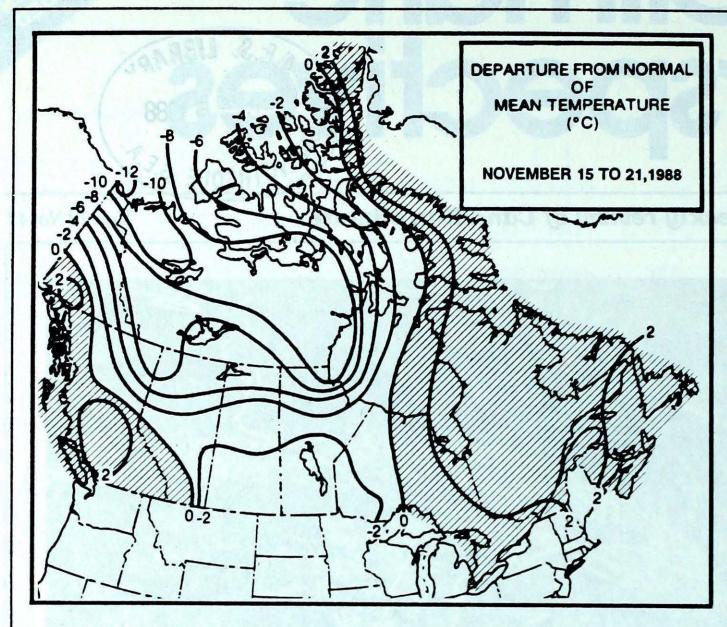
Vol. 10 No. 47



This infrared GOES satellite photograph of November 21, 1988, shows out of season tropical storm Keith churning across the warm waters of the Gulf Of Mexico. Bands of cloud and heavy rain are pushing into Florida and the Gulf Coast States. For more information see page 3.

- Major snowstorm strikes northwestern Ontario
- Election Day snowstorm buries northern New Brunswick





# Weekly Temperature Extreme ('C)

Location		ım		
British Columbia	Victoria Int'l	12	Fort Nelson	-28
Yukon Territory		1	Ogilvie	-44
Northwest Territories .	Frobisher Bay	1	Eureka	-42
Alberta	Lethbridge	9	Fort Chipewyan	-33
Saskatchewan	Moose Jaw	2	Uranium City	-32
Manitoba	Winnipeg Int'l	-1	Churchill	-35
Ontario	Wiarton	19	Big Trout Lake	-22
Québec	Montréal Int'l	15	Schefferville	-18
New Brunswick	Moncton	15	Chatham	-7
Nova Scotia	Greenwood	17	Amherst	4
Prince Edward Island .	Charlottetown	13	Summerside	4
Newfoundland	St Lawrence	11	Wabush Lake	-18
Across The Coun	try			
Warmest Mean Temperation		ape St.James (BC) oridge Bay (NWT)	7 -34	
88/11/15-88/11/21				

### ACROSS the COUNTRY

### Yukon and Northwest Territories

It was bitterly cold in the northern Yukon, Mackenzie Valley and along the Arctic coast, as a Siberian Arctic air mass drifted over the region. Readings down to the record minus thirties and forties were everyday occurrences. The thermometer bottomed out at -44C on the Dempster Highway. South of the Ogilvie Mountains and on Baffin Island it was much milder, with snowfalls of up to 20 cm common. Heavy snowfalls along the east coast of Baffin Island and in the Great Slave Lake region, slowed down the development of ice on lakes and rivers. As a result, snow machines became stuck or broke through thin ice in the Territories.

### **British Columbia**

A persistent on-shore flow affected most of the region, resulting in a mostly cloudy, damp week. Arctic air continued to cover the northeast corner of the province, where snow accumulations on the ground have reached a depth of almost 50 cm. Snowfalls were also plentiful at all higher elevations in the interior. Ski operators in the south are beginning to open the upper slopes to skiers. Alternate freezing and thawing conditions in the central interior have kept roads treacherous, and have resulted in highway traffic accidents.

### **Prairie Provinces**

In Alberta, it was a variably cloudy week, with light snowfalls in most areas. Below freezing daytime temperatures in the south gradually climbed to several degrees above freezing during the weekend.

In Saskatchewan and Manitoba it was cold and gloomy, with light snow reported falling most days. A heavy snowfall, in the order of 30 cm, covered southeastern Manitoba on the 15th, as a major storm moved across the Great Lakes. Colder air gradually encompassed the region, dropping temperatures to the mid-minus thirties in the north.

#### Ontario

A major snow storm moved across northern Ontario at the beginning of the week, dumping anywhere from 30 to 50 centimetres of snow. The intense storm, which tracked northeastward out of the American mid-west, pumped mild air into the southern

sections of the province, and on November 16, temperatures climbed to the record midto high teens. The rest of the week continued cloudy and damp. Another system brought more rain and snow over the weekend, and on November 20, snowplows were seen clearing highways north of Toronto.

### Quebec

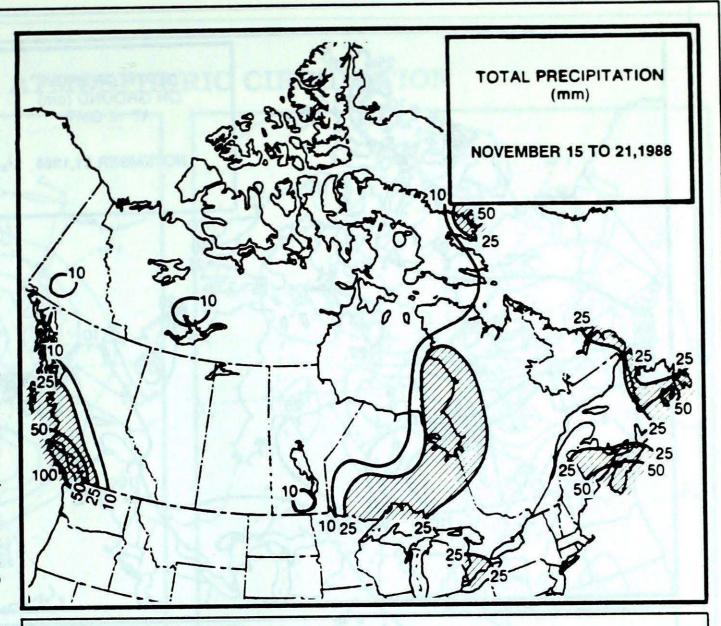
Two weather systems affected the province. The first moved across central and northern Quebec during the middle of the week, leaving in its wake 10 to 20 centimetres of fresh snow. A brief surge of warm air associated with this system broke a number of daily high temperature records in the western parts of the province. Readings in the south nudged the double digits. The second storm, over the weekend, affected the southern regions. This system produced snowfalls of 10 to 15 centimetres in southwestern Quebec, with greater amounts to the east. The crash of a light plane at Saint-François Xavier, northwest of Sherbrooke, was attributed to the poor weather conditions at the time.

### **Atlantic Provinces**

In the Maritimes, it was a mainly cloudy period, with precipitation falling on the 17th, and during the final two days of the period. On Thursday, temperatures soared to the mid-teens, with colder air flooding the region shortly after. A major snowstorm hit northern New Brunswick on the 21st. By the morning of the 22nd, Chatham had received 38 cm of the white stuff mixed with freezing rain. Most schools and businesses were closed election day Monday. There were power outages throughout the Maritimes, with winds gusting up to 100 km/h. The storm dumped 51 mm of rain in Shearwater in a 12-hour period.

Strong northwesterly winds affected the island of Newfoundland for a good part of the period, with periods of rain or showers occurring each day. There was a brief respite on the 17th, as a ridge of high pressure crossed over the Island. The storm, which hit the Maritimes, bought heavy snow to the southeastern portions of the Island the final day of the period. By the end of the day Gander had already received 29 cm of new snow on the ground.

It was a wintry week in Labrador, with a mixture of snow, freezing rain and rain. Daytime temperatures remained near freezing until the weekend, when it became much colder.



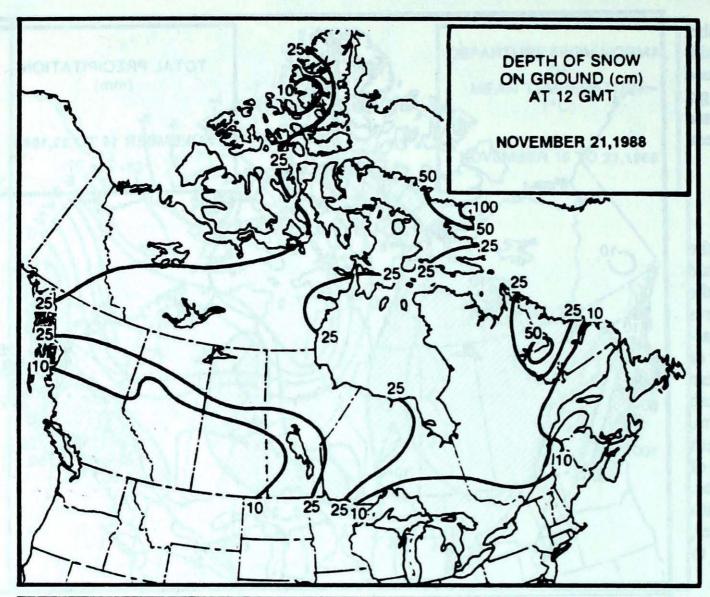
# Heaviest Weekly Precipitation (mm)

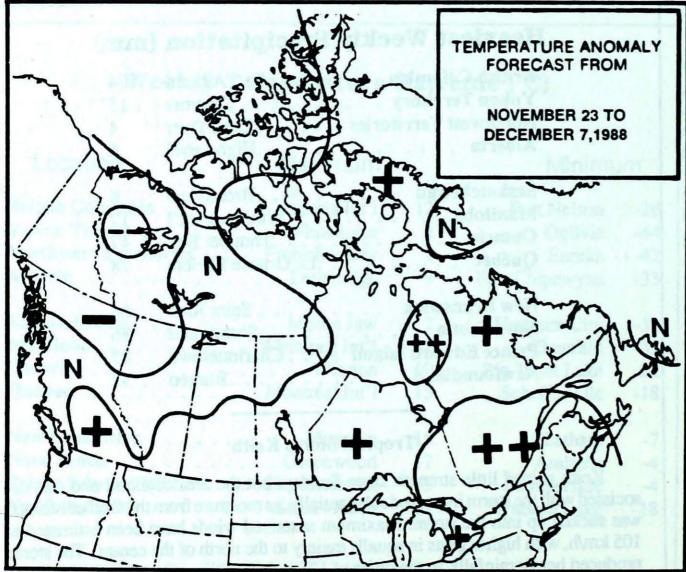
British Columbia Port Alberni	104
Yukon Territory Carcross	15
Northwest Territories Cape Dyer	84
Alberta	6
Saskatchewan Broadview	6
Manitoba	17
Ontario	47
Québec La Grande Rivière	28
New Brunswick Saint John	66
Nova Scotia Shearwater	86
Prince Edward Island Charlottetown	27
Newfoundland Burgeo	52

### **Tropical Storm Keith**

Keith gained little strength since Sunday, but the area of cloud and rain associated with the storm increased substantially, as moisture from the Gulf of Mexico was sucked up into the storm. Maximum sustained winds have been estimated at 105 km/h, with higher gusts in squalls mainly to the north of the centre. The storm produced heavy rainfalls, in the order of 125 to 250 millimetres, over the Mexican Yucatan Peninsula and western Cuba. At this time, it was evident the storm would hit Florida, as the trajectory changed to the northeast and the speed increased to 20 km/h. On the 23rd, Cape Canaveral received more than 125 mm of rain.

Note that the different shades of grey in this photograph differentiate temperatures, and hence the height of the cloud tops, with colder readings occurring at the higher elevations. The thickest cloud associated with this storm is in the area of darker grey - the zone more than likely producing the heaviest rainfalls.





+ + much above normal + above normal N normal - below normal

much below normal

### **Temperature Anomaly Forecast**

This forecast is prepared by searching historical weather maps to find cases similar to the present. The historical outcome during the 15 days subsequent to the chosen analogues is assumed to be a forecast for the next 15 days from now.

### **CLIMATIC PERSPECTIVES VOLUME 10**

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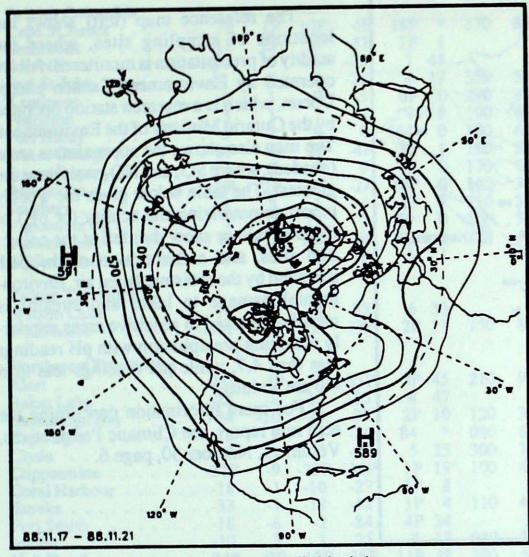
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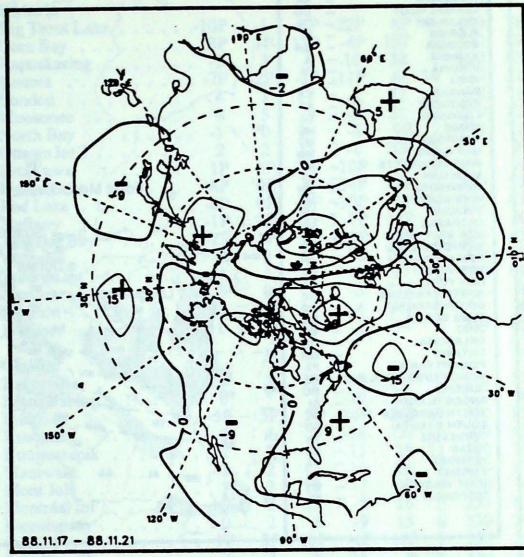
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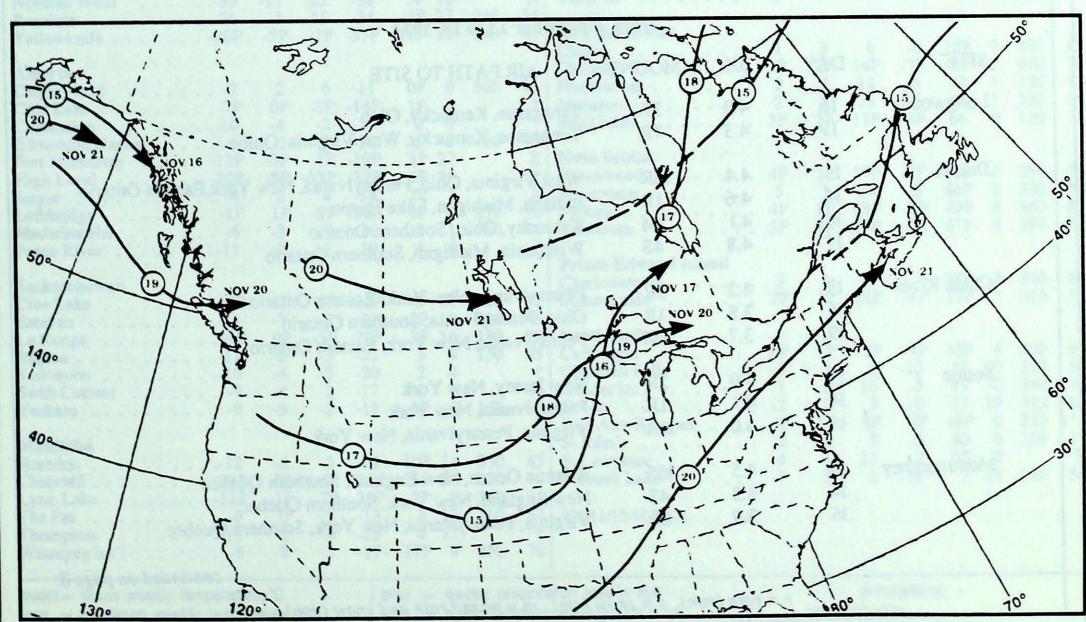
# 50 kPa ATMOSPHERIC CIRCULATION



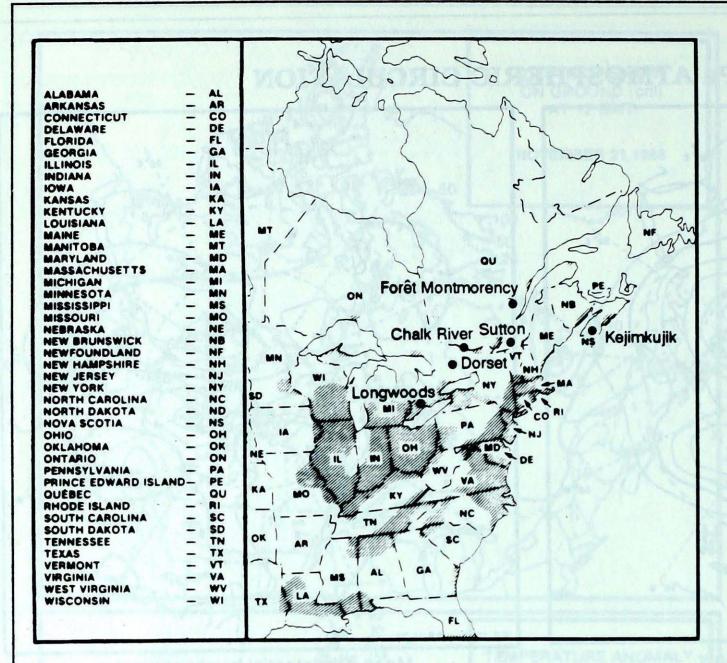
Mean geopotentiial height 50 kPa level (10 decameter intervals)



Mean geopotential height anomaly 50 kPa level (10 decameter intervals)



Storm track - Position of storm at 12 GMT each day during the period.



#### **ACID RAIN REPORT**

The reference map (left) shows the locations of sampling sites, where the acidity of precipitation is monitored. All are operated by Environment Canada except Dorset, which is a research station operated by the Ontario Ministry of the Environment. The map also shows the approximate areas (shaded), where SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> emissions are greatest. The table below gives the weekly report summarizing the acidity (or pH) of the acid rain or snow that fell at the collection sites, and a description of the path travelled by the moisture laden air. Environmental damage to lakes and streams is usually observed in sensitive areas regularly receiving precipitation with pH readings less than 4.7, while pH readings less than 4.0 are serious.

For more information concerning the acid rain report, see Climatic Perspectives, Volume 5, Number 50, page 6.

			from F	November 13 to 19, 1988
SITE	DAY	pН	AMOUNT	AIR PATH TO SITE
Longwoods	16	4.2	3R	Tennessee, Kentucky, Ohio
	19	4.3	7R	Tennessee, Kentucky, West Virginia, Ohio
Dorset	13	4.4	13R	West Virginia, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, Eastern Ontario
	14	4.6	1R	Indiana, Michigan, Lake Huron
	16	4.1	2M	Kentucky, Ohio, Southern Ontario
	17	4.8	45	Wisconsin, Michigan, Southern Ontario
Chalk River	13	4.2	5R	Pennsylvania, New York, Eastern Ontario
	16	3.8	1R	Ohio, Pennsylvania, Southern Ontario
	19	3.7	1M	Pennsylvania, New York, Eastern Ontario
Sutton	13	4.0	2R	New Jersey, New York
	14	4.1	1R	Pennsylvania, New York
	16	4.0	14R	Virginia, Pennsylvania, New York
Montmorency	13	4.5	16S	Atlantic Ocean, New England, Southern Quebec
	14	4.3	45	New England, New York, Southern Quebec
	16	3.9	8R	Virginia, Pennsylvania, New York, Southern Quebec

continued on page 8.

r = rain (mm), s = snow (cm), m = mixed rain and snow (mm)

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## Acid Rain continued from page 6

## from November 13 to 19, 1988

SITE	DAY	pH	AMOUNT	AIR PATH TO SITE
Kejimkujik	13	5.2	20R	Atlantic Ocean
	16	4.7	2R	Atlantic Ocean
	17	5.2	23R	Atlantic Ocean

r = rain (mm), s = snow (cm), m = mixed rain and snow (mm)

