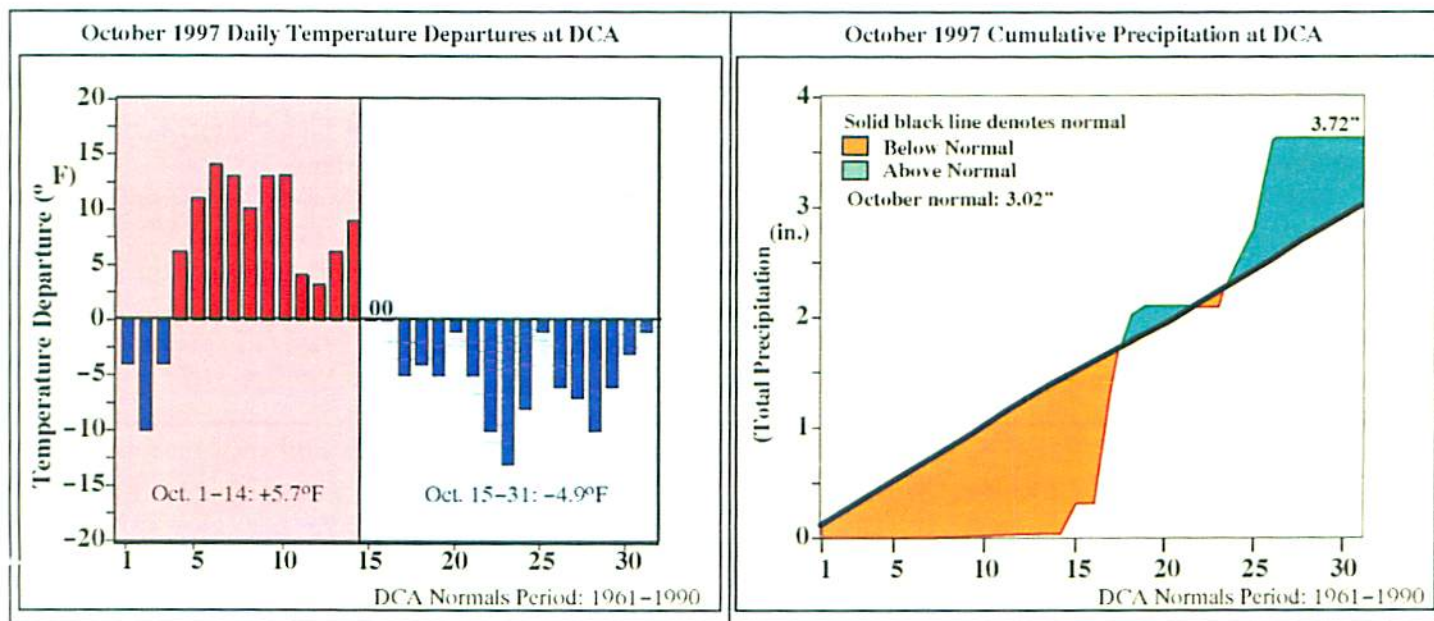




**PRECIPITATION SUMMARY AND TEMPERATURE OBSERVATIONS
FOR THE WASHINGTON, DC & BALTIMORE, MD AREA**

OCTOBER 1997

A VERY WARM, DRY START WITH A COOL, WET FINISH



HIGHLIGHTS

- Near normal October; HOWEVER,
 - Abnormally warm period from the 4th–10th with 80°F+ highs each day, including a 90°F reading on the 6th at DCA (the latest such reading ever recorded at the airport), followed by 15 consecutive days (Oct. 17–31) with subnormal temperatures;
 - A very dry start to the month with only 0.02" at DCA during the first two weeks, but a wet finish with 3.70" during the last 17 days (see graph above);
- First wetter than normal month at DCA since March and only the second such month of 1997 at DCA;
- Two significant week ending rain events (17th–18th & 24th–25th & 26th) account for most of the monthly precipitation totals across the local area, with rainfall totals over 1.50" during each event at DCA;
- Coolest October in 5 years at both DCA and IAD;
- 18 days with at or below normal temperatures at DCA;
- 8 days with lows at or below 32°F at IAD (including a reading of 23°F on the 23rd), the most in October since 1988;
- First 32°F or lower reading of Autumn at both BWI (28°F ; a daily record) and ADW on the 23rd and at DAA on the 22nd.

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(for more details turn over)