Record low temperatures, strong winds and snow occurred in most of the U.S. in mid January 1982.

The South, in general ill-equipped to handle severe winter weather, was hit hard as arctic air pushed down through the center of the country.

Figure 1 shows the snow extent near the end of the week (10 Jan 1982) that provided the records. Strong gradient level wind flow is seen in northern Gulf of Mexico.

Figure 1. GOES Visual photo, 1901 GMT, 14 January 1982.