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GEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SURVEY
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MADISON, WISCONSIN, LAKES ICE SUMMARY, 1983-1984

by

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1984

MADISON LAKES ICE SUMMARY -- 1983-1984 SEASON

OFFICE OF THE STATE CLIMATOLOGIST
Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey

	MENDOTA	MONONA	WINGRA
THIS YEAR 1983-84			
Date Lake Froze	Dec 19	Dec 18	Dec 9
Date Lake Opened	Apr 8	Apr 3	Apr 2
Duration, days	111	107	115
LAST YEAR 1982-83			
Date Lake Froze	Jan 12	Jan 9	Dec 9
Date Lake Opened	Mar 8 *	Mar 6	Mar 6
Duration, days	55	56	97
AVERAGE DATES AND DURATION OF ICE COVER			
Average Freeze Date	Dec 20	Dec 15	Nov 27
Average Opening Date	Apr 5	Apr 1	Mar 30
Average Duration	106	107	121
RECORD DATES FOR LAKE TO FREEZE			
Earliest Freeze Date	Nov 23, 1880	Nov 22, 1880	Nov 2, 1913
Second Earliest Date	Nov 25, 1857	Nov 23, 1857	Nov 13, 1940
Latest Freeze Date	Jan 30, 1932	Jan 30, 1932	Dec 29, 1877
Second Latest Date	Jan 14, 1890	Jan 14, 1890	Dec 12, 1888
RECORD DATES FOR LAKE TO OPEN			
Earliest Opening Date	Mar 8, 1983	Mar 6, 1983	Mar 2, 1882
Second Earliest Date	Mar 9, 1878	Mar 7, 1973	Mar 6, 1983
Latest Opening Date	May 6, 1857	May 4, 1857	Apr 29, 1881
Second Latest Date	May 3, 1881	May 1, 1881	Apr 19, 1975
RECORDS FOR DURATION OF ICE COVER, NUMBER OF DAYS AND SEASON			
Shortest Duration	55, 1982-83	56, 1982-83	70, 1877-78
Second Shortest	62, 1877-78	60, 1931-32	97, 1982-83
Longest Duration	161, 1880-81	160, 1880-81	164, 1880-81
Second Longest	151, 1856-57	151, 1856-57	145, 1887-88
PERIOD OF RECORD			
Range of Years	1852-1984	1851-1984	1877-1984
Number of seasons closing recorded	130	131	46
Number of seasons opening recorded	130	130	47
Number of seasons both recorded	129	130	33

* (Mendota skimmed over with ice in the early morning hours of March 24, 1983, 16 days after first breaking up. The ice broke up again by early afternoon. It partly skimmed over during the early morning hours of March 25, 1983. This is the only recorded occurrence of the lake refreezing after breaking up in the Spring.)

D.R.Clark 4-9-84 ICESUM84.TXT