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GEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SURVEY
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MADISON LAKES ICE SUMMARY -- 1985-1986 SEASON

by

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1986

MADISON LAKES ICE SUMMARY -- 1985-1986 SEASON

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	MENDOTA	MONONA	WINGRA
THIS YEAR 1985-86			
Date Lake Froze	Dec 15	Dec 6	Nov 25
Date Lake Opened	Mar 31	Mar 29	Mar 29
Duration, days	106	113	124
LAST YEAR 1984-85			
Date Lake Froze	Dec 25, Jan 2	Dec 24	Nov 18, Dec 4
Date Lake Opened	Dec 26, Mar 27	Mar 26	Nov 22, Mar 26
Duration, days	85	92	110

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	1852-1986	1851-1986	1877-1986
Number of seasons closing recorded	132	133	48
Number of seasons opening recorded	132	132	49
Number of seasons both recorded	131	132	35

* (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 3-31-86 ICESUM86.TBL