Outlook

Experimental Long Range Outlook for Pennsylvania: April – May 2008

The basis of this analog prediction scheme uses the notable temperature and precipitation anomaly from the last 30 days (or so) and in a ‘fuzzy’ way – that is setting all anomalies to +/- 0.5 standard deviations from the long-term mean – and matches these patterns to the climate division anomalies from 1895-present. The best matched years are selected (using a dozen or less) and these are used to produce the composite anomalies for the next two months and the years are used to create a composite daily anomaly for three regions of Pennsylvania.

Here are the anomalies for March, 2008:

The notable anomalies that were used in the climate division matching program are:
Very chilly in the northern Plains to Great Lakes and central Rockies; very mild in Middle Atlantic coast and southern California.
The notable anomalies used to match the precipitation pattern are:
Very dry throughout the Southwest, a moist corridor from central Texas to New England and quite dry from southern Louisiana to Georgia.

The following years were matched:

Below are the composite departures for those years for April and May.
Central Pennsylvania Temperature Forecast
April-May 2008