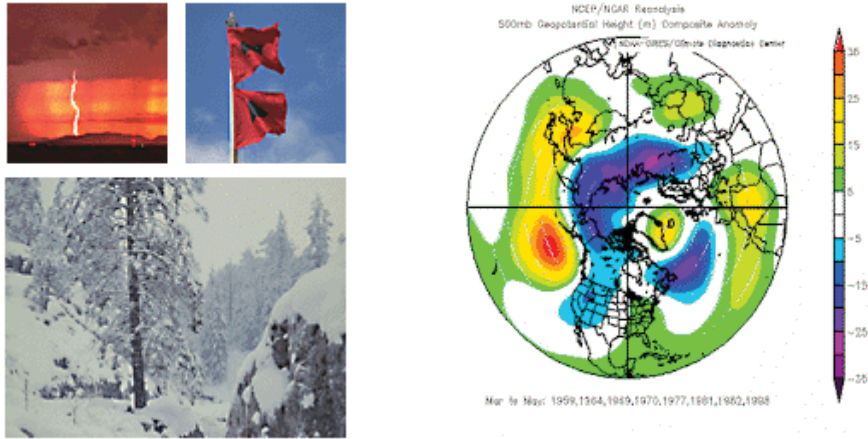


The Pennsylvania Observer

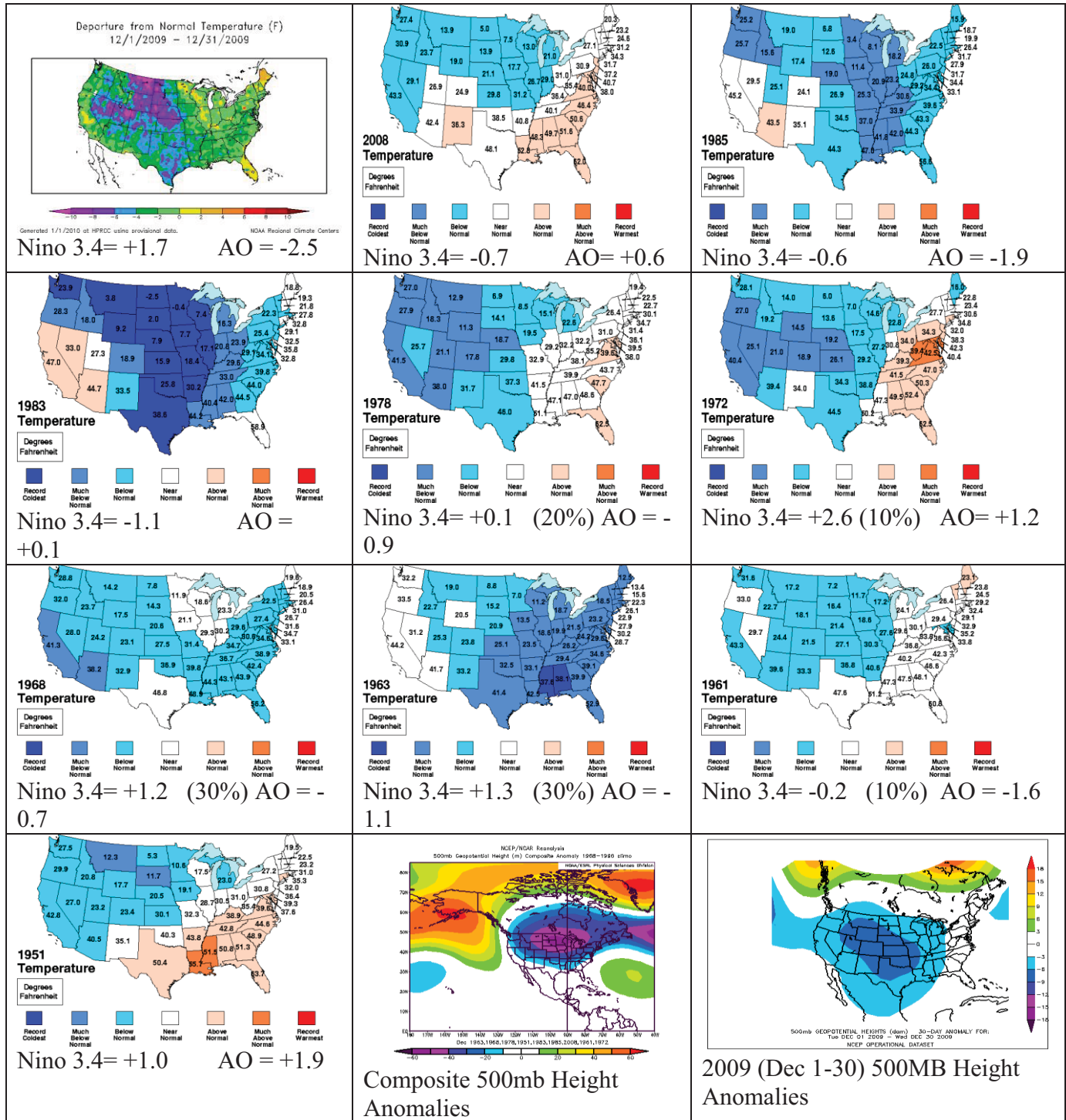
The Pennsylvania State Climatologist



January Climate Highlight:

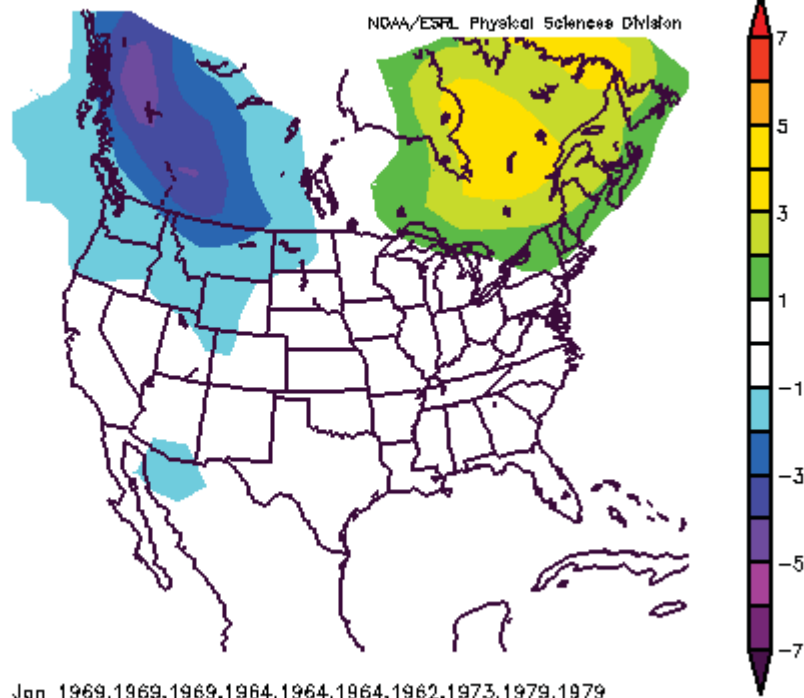
January's Climate Highlight shows a comparison of the temperature anomalies from December of 2009 to similar anomalies from previous years. Data from these previous years was used to forecast the temperature anomalies for January.

When comparing previous December's anomalies, there are nine years since 1950 that have looked similar. These are listed in the table below:



The values of Nino 3.4 monthly averaged SST departures are listed along the December value of the Arctic Oscillation Index. The % indicates the weighting factors in making a composite of the January temperature anomalies which follow:

NCEP/NCAR Reanalysis
Surface air (C) Composite Anomaly 1968–1996 climo



The coldest weather is centered over the northern Rockies in the Januarys that follow similar cold Decembers. This is opposite the typical El Niño winter temperature anomalies. A closer view of the United States shows the following January temperatures:

Composite Standardized Temperature Anomalies
Jan 1969,1969,1969,1964,1964,1964,1979,1979,1962,1973
Versus 1950–1995 Longterm Average

