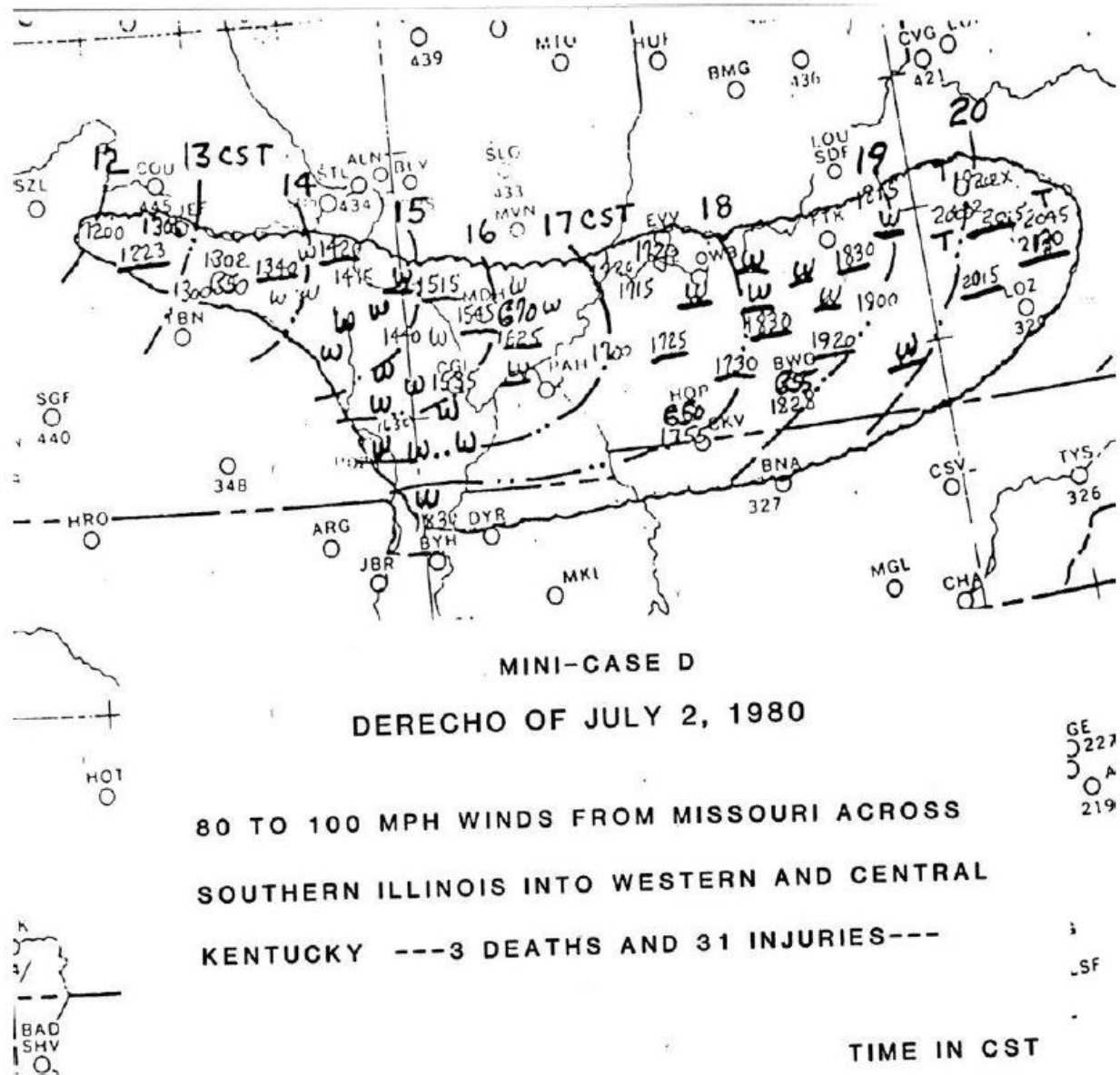


July 2, 1980 Derecho

On July 2, 1980, a windstorm similar to the May 2009 derecho moved through the region with damaging winds over 100 mph. This derecho was actually the storm system that sparked the study on these types of windstorms and where the term "derecho" originated. Below is a sketch of the location of the leading edge of the derecho. (Credit: Bob Johns)



Below are excerpts from the July 1980 edition of Storm Data for each state covered by WFO Paducah, KY.

ILLINOIS

Southern portion

2	1pm-11pm			2	4	7	5	Wind and Rain
<p>Thunderstorms with very strong and gusty winds moved through the southern part of the state during the afternoon and lasting into the evening hours. Winds gusting to 86 knots caused havoc in the area as buildings, homes, and farm out-buildings were damaged or destroyed. Trees were uprooted crushing roofs, cars, and breaking power lines. At 3:30pm a 70 knot wind was reported near Harrison in Jackson county and at 4:25pm a 70 knot wind was reported at the Williamson County Airport. The powerful winds blew trees across highways and as power failures began several towns were isolated. The greatest damage occurred along a path from Chester, Randolph county, to Harrisberg in Saline county. A church was destroyed along with many barns. A radio tower was blown over in Marion, Williamson county. High winds and heavy rain killed 600 head of livestock in Frank in county. Up to 6 inches of rain caused some flooding. A young girl drowned in Lake Kinkaid in Murphysboro, Jackson county, when a boat overturned. In Jappa, Massac county, a man was killed when he was blown off his roof while clearing it of debris. About 200 coal miners were trapped underground when the power failed stopping the elevator and allowed some debris to fall in the shaft. More than 1,000,000 acres of crops were severely damaged or destroyed by the wind and very heavy rain. Four persons in this area were slightly injured by flying debris.</p>								

INDIANA

Evansville
Vanderburgh County

2	610P	-	-	0	0	?	?	Flooding
Heavy street flooding, over 4" of rain fell.								

Mt. Vernon
Posey County

2	620P	-	-	0	0	?	?	Wind, flood
Winds up to 80 mph. Trees down, streets flooded.								

Evansville
Vanderburgh County

2	625P	-	-	0	0	?	?	Flood, wind
Winds 70-80 mph. Heavy downpours. Waters up to 5' in some spots of the city. City Police report their cars unable to move. Lots of flooded basements.								

Evansville
Vanderburgh County

2	820P	-	-	1	0	-	-	Flooding
Four year old girl swept into sewer and drowned.								

KENTUCKY

Daviess Cy

2	6PM EDT	7	5	4	Svr Tstm
---	---------	---	---	---	----------

High winds extensively damaged 20 campers near Diamond Lake 10 miles SW of Owensboro. Seven people in their campers were injured. Winds blew down a drive-in movie screen in Owensboro.

Hopkins, Union & Henderson Cys

2	8PM EDT	2	6	5	Svr Tstm
---	---------	---	---	---	----------

High winds estimated at 100 mph caused extensive damage to crops, barns, and homes. Damage in Union Cy was estimated at \$500,000. A mobile home park in Henderson Cy was hard hit. Two people were injured when their mobile home was turned over.

MISSOURI

Central and Southwest

2	Afternoon	0	9	?	?	Severe thunderstorm
---	-----------	---	---	---	---	---------------------

During the afternoon of July 2, 1980, severe thunderstorms caused extensive damage across much of central and southeast Missouri. Damage was widespread from Morgan, Camden and Miller Counties eastward to the Mississippi River. Trees were uprooted, buildings damaged, power and telephone lines downed. Many streets and highways were blocked due to downed trees. The storm passed thru Osage Beach, Missouri about 1:15PM with one serious injury and extensive property damage to a Lake of the Ozarks Resort Area. Eight people were treated at the Lake Ozark General Hospital for minor injuries. Minor damage was reported in portions of Pulaski and Phelps Counties with 75 MPH winds and the worse damage occurred in Dixon, Missouri. Cuba and Steelville, Missouri were among the hardest hit towns in Crawford County. Cuba's Municipal Airport was demolished about 2:30 PM CDT with downed power lines, trees and demolished mobil homes. Steelville, Missouri reported extensive damage to trees, houses and cars but no injuries. Jefferson County - major property damage at Vineland and at a point just south of Hillsboro, winds were estimated at 80 MPH. Extensive damage was reported across the southern portions of Franklin and Jefferson Counties including the towns of Sullivan, Festus and DeSoto. Between 3:00 and 5:00 PM a severe thunderstorm moved across portions of St. Francois, Ste. Genevieve, Perry and Cape Girardeau Counties resulting in widespread damage to trees, homes, trailers, power and telephone lines and crops. Damage was also reported in Bollinger, Madison, Iron, Reynolds, Wayne, Stoddard, Scott, Mississippi, New Madrid and Butler Counties between 4:30 and 6:30PM.