

We should have known 2012 would be a crazy year for weather when the Onalaska Hilltoppers celebrated their state basketball title with an outdoor rally. On an 80-degree day in mid-March.

The record warmth of March was voted the second-biggest weather story in the La Crosse area this year by the National Weather Service. The number one weather event was a tie between the warmest local July ever, and the year-long drought. The very mild winter of 2011 and '12, and our recent pre-Christmas blizzard, also made the list of top local weather stories.