

Blizzard blasts Iowa, roars across Midwest

by UPI

CHICAGO -- A strong winter storm plowed across the center of the United States Tuesday while the Northeast braced for freezing rain. The National Weather Service warned of potentially life-threatening conditions for people in Iowa thinking about venturing out into a full-blown blizzard covering much of the state. Black ice coated roads in lower Michigan and Accuweather.com warned that areas of the northern Great Plains could expect blistery wind gusts above 60 miles per hour while temperatures plummet. "As a cold front whips around the south side of the storm, a cold wave will knock temperatures down from the 40s to the teens in a matter of hours across Wisconsin and Illinois late today and tonight," said Accuweather.com Chief Meteorologist Eliot Abrams. The Federal Aviation Administration reported airport delays in Chicago and Newark, N.J. Rain was coming down in the Pacific Northwest melting snow that had accumulated Monday in the heights above Portland. The Salt Lake Tribune said heavy snow contributed to a chain reaction pile-up on Interstate 15 near Payson involving more than 40 vehicles that sent 27 people hospitals.

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