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Why has it been so cold recently? And will it ever stop?

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DAVID L. RYAN/GLOBE STAFF

Snow and ice encompassed the feet of the Tyrannosaurus Rex outside the Museum of Science in Boston.

By Matt Rocheleau

GLOBE STAFF APRIL 06, 2016

Why has it been so cold lately?

Blame the jet stream, said AccuWeather.com meteorologist Paul Walker.

Shifts in the flow of the jet stream have sent chillier air masses from Alaska and Canada into our region over the past few days.

The good news: “This is a temporary thing,” he said. “Temperatures should gradually warm up and be more seasonable.”

By about mid-April “we should see some milder temperatures roll in, closer to normal or even above normal some days,” added Walker.

Since Sunday, low temperatures in Boston have fallen as far as the low 20s and highs have been mostly in the 30s. Not very springlike!

The National Weather Service’s 6-to-10-day outlook calls for temperatures to remain slightly below seasonal averages, while its 8-to-14-day outlook calls for average temperatures.

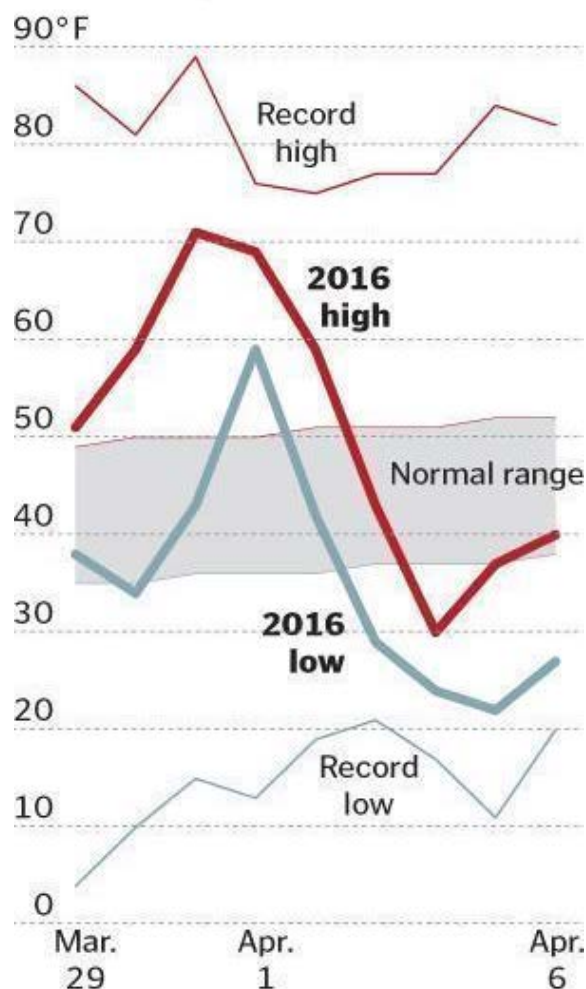
In the meantime, there’s a chance for rain or snow showers in Boston on Saturday, and also a potential storm at the end of next week, but it’s too early to tell if that will bring snow or rain.

Walker said that while temperatures the past few days have been below normal for this time of year, “it’s certainly not unheard-of weather for April in Boston.”

It’s understandable though if the recent cold snap has you

Temperature swings

Recent low thermometer readings follow warmer than normal days earlier this week.



SOURCE: National Weather Service readings at Logan Airport

DAVID BUTLER/GLOBE STAFF

caught off guard. The switch to chilly temperatures has been a dramatic switch from the balmy weather last month.

“We were sort of spoiled back in March,” said Walker.

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