



4. severe pressure drops
 - inside a twister can be as low as 3" Hg
 - for comparison
 - average daily pressure is ~ 31-32" Hg
 - large thunderstorm can be as low as 27" Hg
5. movement
 - track direction is generally SW to NE
 - combination of the prevailing wind direction from the west and the CCW rotation of the tornado

III. Fujita Scale

- created by and named after Professor Fujita
- varies from F0 to F5
 - F0: weakest, with winds of <73 m.p.h., and minor damage to building/trees
 - F5: strongest, with winds of 200-300 m.p.h. and complete destruction
 - *precise wind speed numbers are actually guesses and have never been scientifically verified*

<u>SCALE</u>	<u>WIND (MPH)</u>	<u>TYPICAL DAMAGE</u>
F0	< 73	<u>Light damage.</u> Some damage to chimneys; branches broken off trees; shallow-rooted trees pushed over; sign boards damaged.

EXAMPLES



F1 73-112 Moderate damage. Peels surface off roofs; mobile homes pushed off foundations or overturned; moving autos blown off roads.



F2 113-157 Considerable damage. Roofs torn off frame houses; mobile homes demolished; boxcars overturned; large trees snapped or uprooted; light-object missiles generated; cars lifted off ground.



F3 158-206 Severe damage. Roofs and some walls torn off well-constructed houses; trains overturned; most trees in forest uprooted; heavy cars lifted off the ground and thrown.



F4 207-260 Devastating damage. Well-constructed houses leveled; structures with weak foundations blown away some distance; cars thrown and large missiles generated.



F5 261-318 Incredible damage. Strong frame houses leveled off foundations and swept away; automobile-sized missiles fly through the air in excess of 100 meters (109 yds); trees debarked.

