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Monthly Newsletter

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JAPANESE ARMY TROOPS HAVE BUILT A GIANT STAR WARS SCULPTURE



More than 200 snow and ice sculptures have been erected for the Sapporo Snow Festival, which opens Feb. 5. Among the main attractions this year, is a gigantic Disney-sponsored tribute to the classic sci-fi movie Star Wars.

The design, approved by Lucasfilms, features the villainous Darth Vader wielding an icy lightsaber, flanked by a posse of three Stormtroopers. Following the festival's tradition, Japanese army troops built Snow Star Wars, as it's called.

For more on this, please visit:
<https://qz.com/333897/japanese-army-troops-have-built-a-giant-star-wars-snow-sculpture/>

GREETINGS FROM SUNNY ORLANDO FLORIDA!



As many of you are aware, our Client Support Services Manager, Ann Tranchitella, has relocated to Orlando FL and is doing a fabulous job managing our team remotely.

We are envious of the warm, sunny weather she is enjoying, and her beautifully decorated Christmas golf cart!

THE WORST WEATHER SUPER BOWLS & NFL TITLE GAMES

In September 2011, the Super Bowl 48 Host Committee unveiled their logo for the first outdoor Super Bowl to be played in a cold-weather stadium, Feb. 2014 at Met Life Stadium in New Jersey. Note the rather prominent snowflake. No, that flake isn't necessarily a forecast by the host committee.

NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell seems excited. "A little snow would be great for us, but whatever comes our way, we're going to be prepared for it," said Goodell in an AP article from September 27, 2011. "Some of our most memorable games were played in unusual weather circumstances. Winter and cold are part of football, and snow is also."



Not everyone shares that enthusiasm, including weather.com Content Coordinator Sean Breslin. "I know that football is meant to be played in the elements, but the Super Bowl is meant to be picturesque," says Breslin, who has lived in Atlanta most of his life. "The imagery is what makes it special, so I wasn't a fan of watching Peyton Manning hoist the trophy in the rain in 2007." "I know you can't guarantee perfect weather in any outdoor locale, but moving it north in February is asking for trouble," says Breslin.

In the recent past, even Super Bowls in southern locales have been a meteorological headache.

In the week leading up to Super Bowl 45, 3.7" of snow fell in the Dallas-Ft. Worth Metroplex. If that wasn't enough, temperatures held in the 20s and 30s from Tuesday through Friday of that week, keeping roads...and roofs icy. Slabs of ice and snow tumbled from the stadium's roof onto plazas below, leading to several injuries. In 2000, Atlanta was hit by a crippling ice storm just one week before Super Bowl 34. At one time, half a million were without power in north Georgia, some for more than a week! Total losses in north Georgia were estimated at \$48 million, rivaling those from Hurricane Opal in 1995 and the 1993 "Superstorm".

If that wasn't enough, another winter storm hit the Atlanta metro on Super Bowl weekend, leading to hundreds of wrecks, travel delays, and disrupting the Saturday practices of both the St. Louis Rams and Tennessee Titans, as roads from the teams' hotels to the Georgia Dome were too treacherous.

- #5: Super Bowl VI: Jan. 16, 1972 (New Orleans, LA)
- #4: Super Bowl XLI: Feb. 4, 2007 (Miami FL)
- #3: 1934 NFL Championship: Dec. 9, 1934 (New York, NY)
- #2: 1948 NFL Championship: Dec. 19, 1948 (Philadelphia, PA)
- #1: 1967 NFL Championship: "The Ice Bowl" Dec. 31, 1967 (Green Bay, WI)

For more on this, please visit:

<https://weather.com/sports-recreation/superbowl/news/5-worst-weather-super-bowls-nfl-title-games-20131014?page=2#/2>

ATS SNOW QUOTE

Snowflakes are one of nature's most fragile things.
But just look what they can do when they stick together.
-Vesta M. Kelly

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