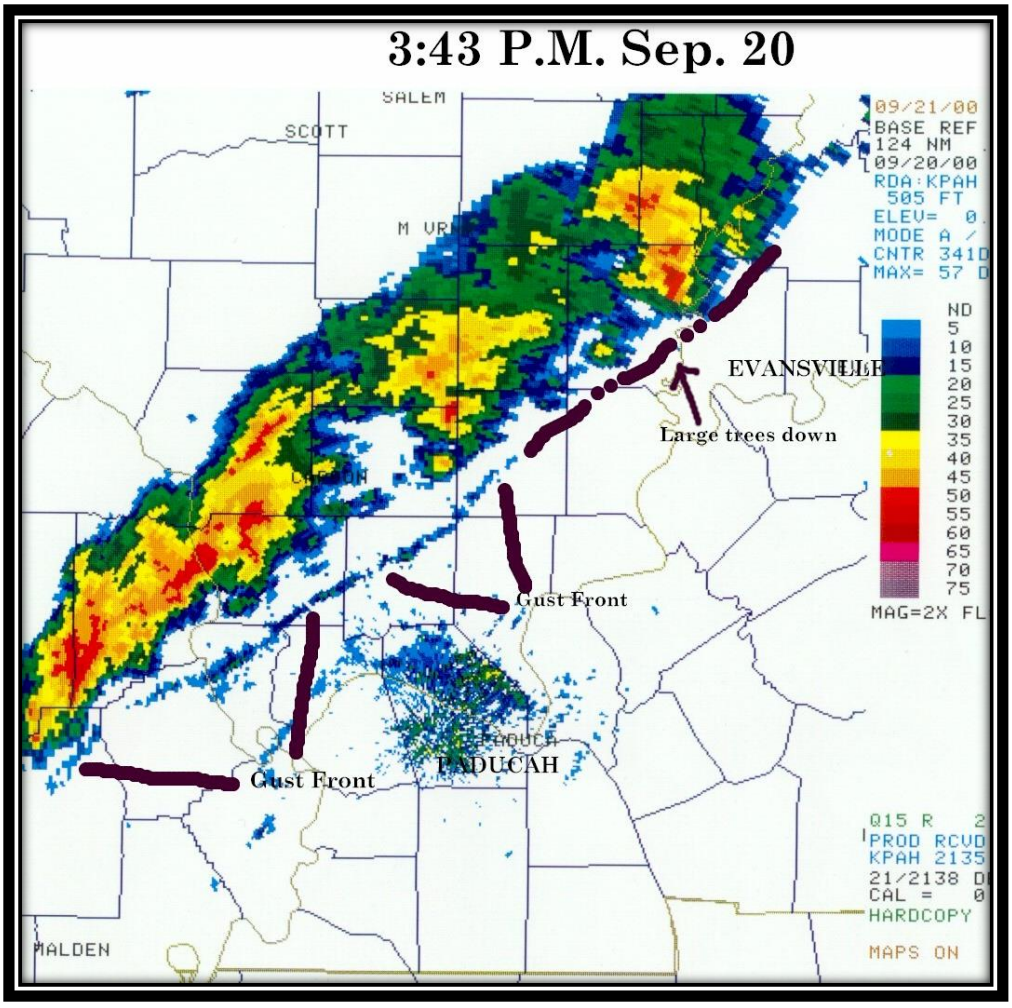
The Convective Wind Event of September 20, 2000



This first radar image shows the storms over southern Illinois and extreme southeast Missouri. Downdrafts from these storms formed what is called a "cold pool." The leading edge of the cold pool is called an outflow boundary, or "gust front," and is marked by a sudden change in wind direction and speed. The gust front shows up in this radar image as a thin blue line from northern Scott County, Missouri to Saline County, Illinois. The radar did not show the gust front in the Wabash Valley region, so it has been hand-drawn in brown. At the time of this image, the gust front was strong enough to bring down trees in parts of the Lower Wabash Valley.