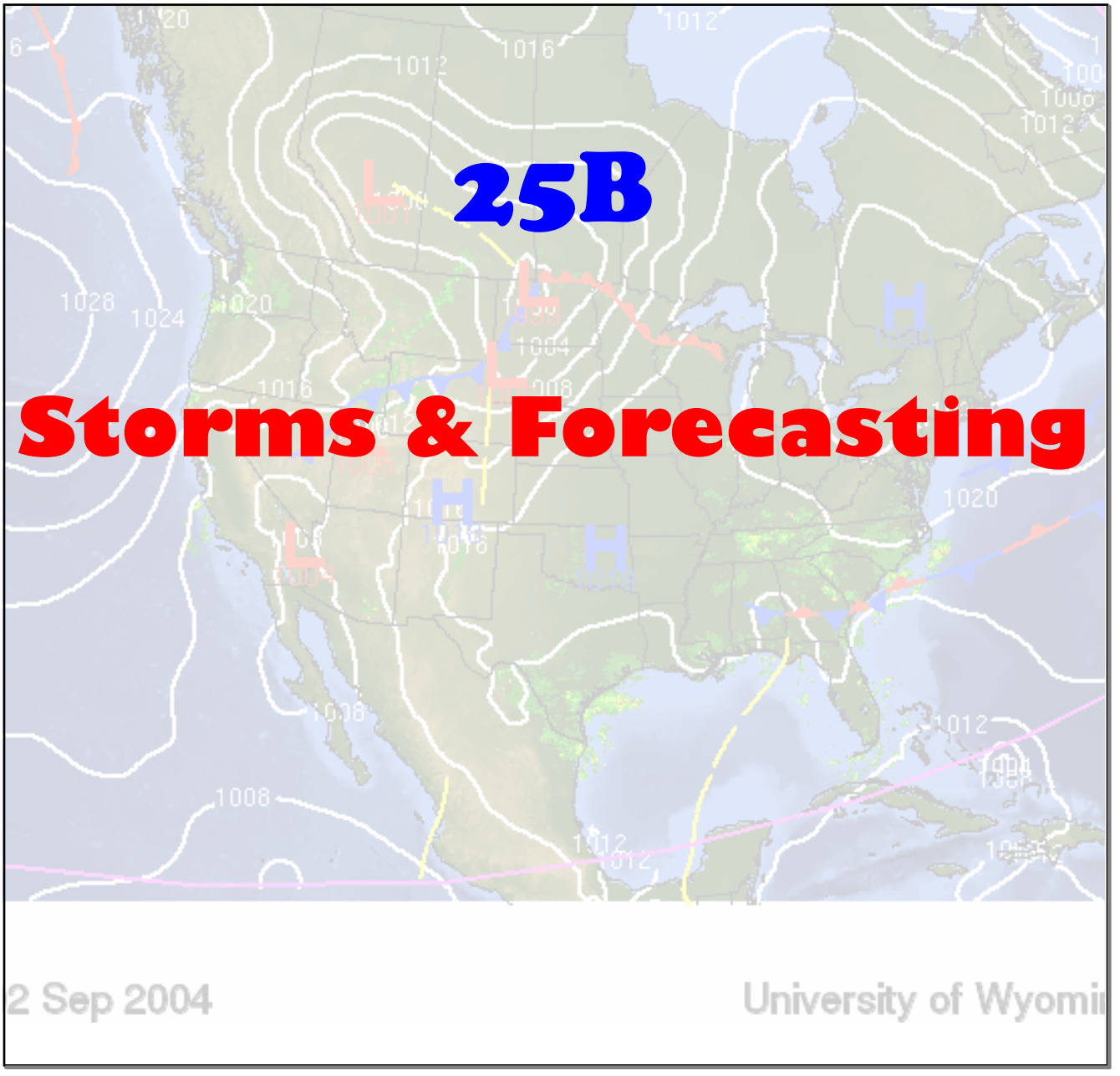
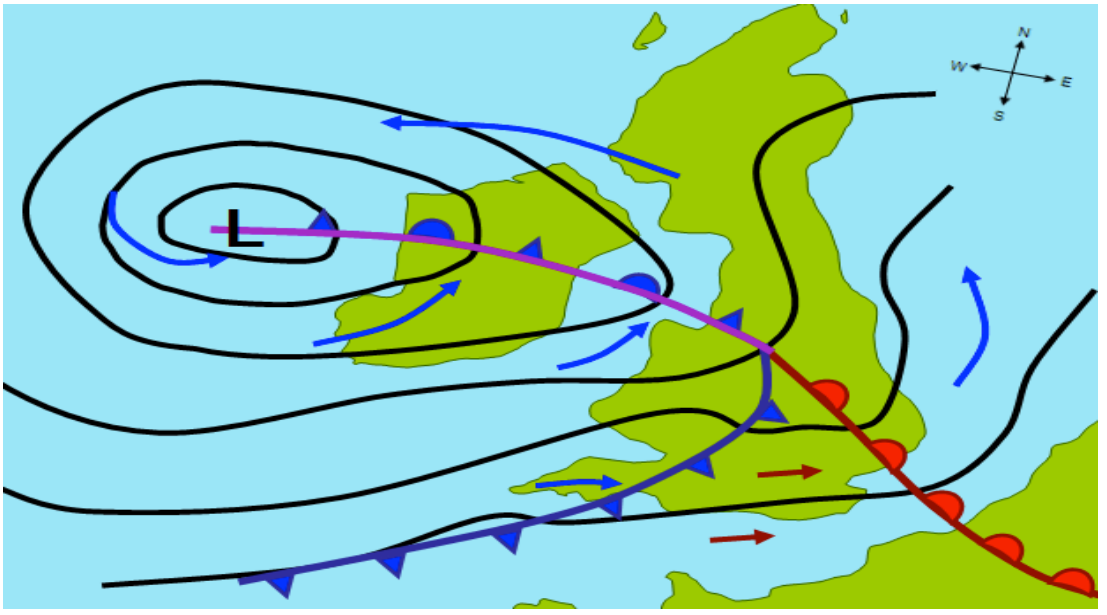

25B
Storms & Forecasting
2 Sep 2004
University of Wyomi

25.3- STORMS

A. Mid-Latitude Low: A big storm in the middle latitudes (aka a wave cyclone)

- *Combination of warm, cold, occluded, and/or stationary fronts*

Forming a mid-latitude low takes 4 steps:



Step 1: The Polar Front

an area with a strong temperature gradient

(sketch)

Step 2: Cold Front & Warm Front form

Cold air pushes south to form a cold front and a warm front

L

(sketch)

Step 3: Cold Front chases the Warm Front

L

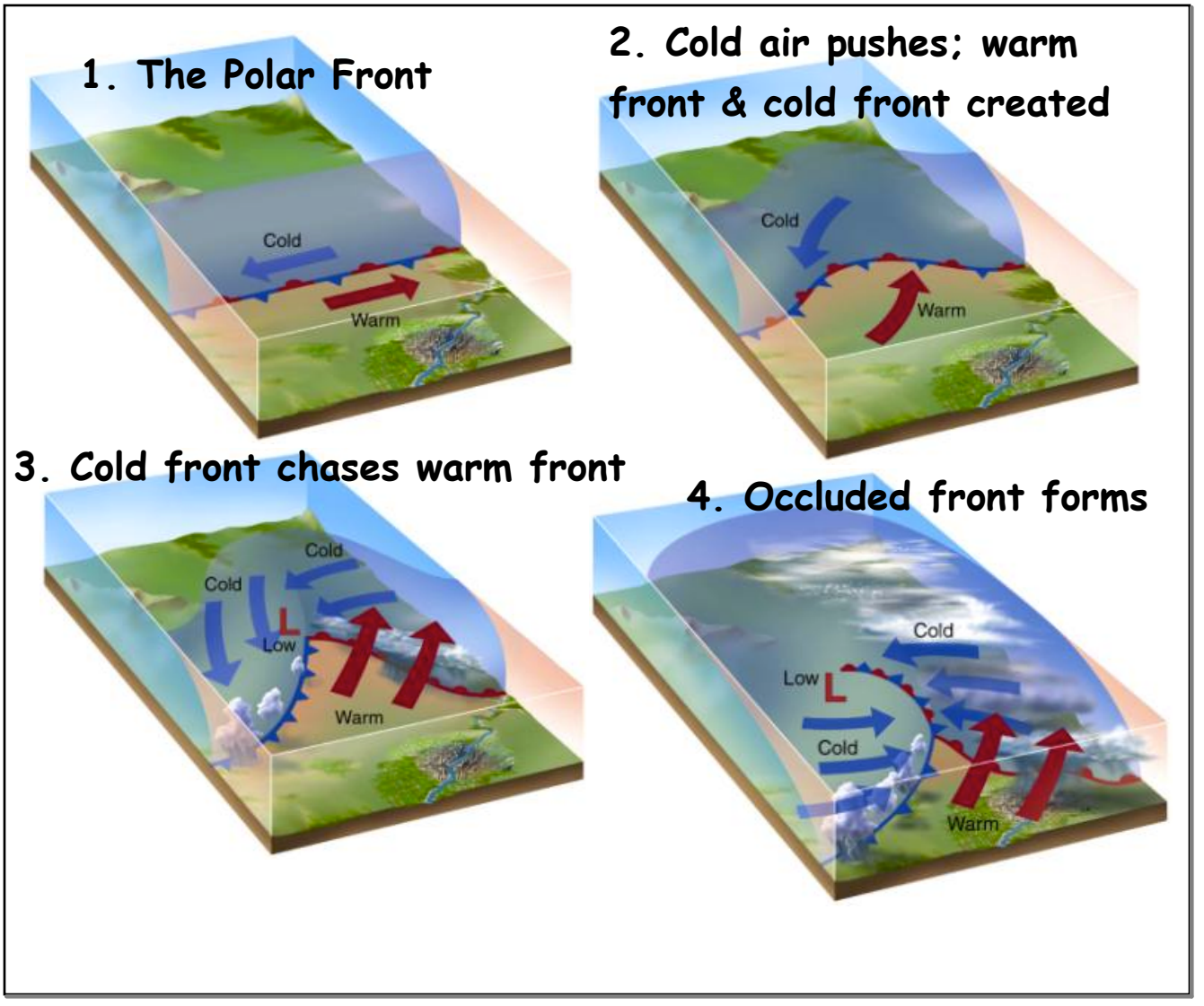
(sketch)

Step 4: An Occluded Front forms

L

(sketch)

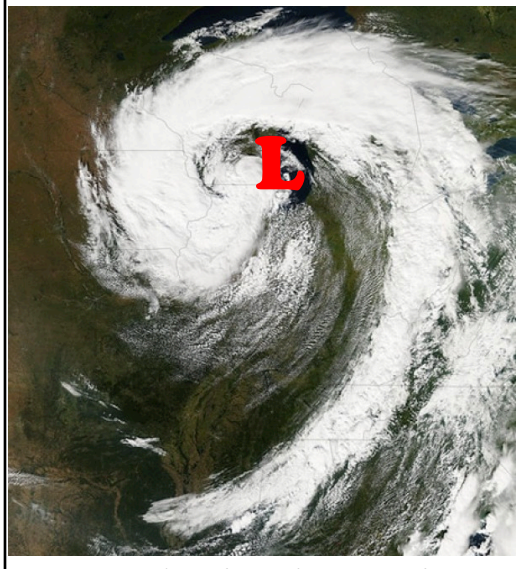
25B: Mid-Latitude Low



- Move across the U.S. **east** to **west** steered by the jet stream in 7-10 days

- Most common in **Spring** and **Fall**
  - > bring heavy rain or snow

On a weather map:

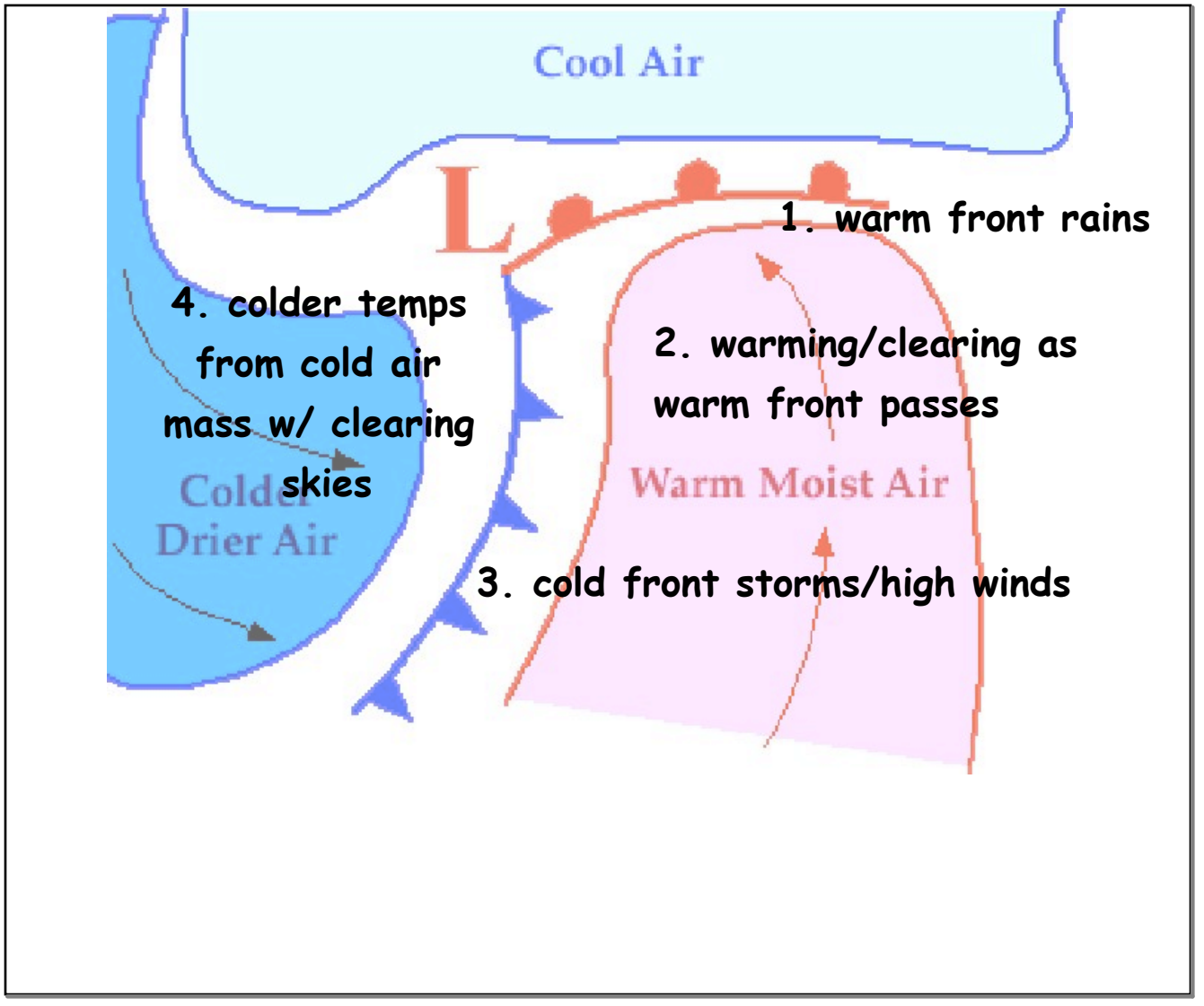


"L" with clouds swirling counterclockwise

4 changes that take place as a low passes:

1. steady **warm** front rains
2. warming/clearing as **warm** front passes
3. **Cold** front storms & high winds
4. Cold temps. from **cold** air mass w/ clearing skies

25B: Mid-Latitude Low



HOMEWORK:

- 25B Questions 1-7