107 IS THE NEW HIGH

Record falls as heat wave continues

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When the Upstate reached 107 degrees Sunday afternoon, the mark topped the highest temperature ever recorded at Greenville-Spartanburg International Airport, a meteorologist said.

Asked if there was a record set on Sunday, Neil Dixon of the National Weather Service said, "Did we ever!"

Dixon said the record temperature was registered at 4:38 p.m.

The previous high was 106 degrees on July 18, 1887, he said.

It was the third day in a row with temperatures of 100 degrees or higher in the Upstate, he said.

Areas such as Anderson and Greenwood had temperatures even higher than 107 degrees, according to some weather maps.

Since Friday, perhaps a dozen people have been treated for heat-related illness at Greenville Hospital System's trauma center, Hillcrest, Greer and North Greenville hospitals, spokeswoman Sandy Dees said.

About half as many were treated at downtown and east area hospitals operated by Bon Secours St. Francis Health System, spokeswoman Lee Turza said. She said that some had respiratory illnesses that were made worse by the excessive heat.

It was a day to bathe in air conditioning, whether at home or in Upstate movie theaters, among the few businesses to draw crowds Sunday.

Greenville police Lt. Robert Gamble said there was little crime to report.

"It's so blasted hot," he said in late afternoon. "Everybody seems to be staying in."

More than 900 Duke Energy customers were without power, according the utility's website.

Look for more heat today, and no relief until Tuesday—if then—Dixon said.