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Metro

Enthusiasm rises along with temperature in Boston

87-degree reading sets record

By **Miriam Valverde and Matt Rocheleau** | GLOBE CORRESPONDENTS OCTOBER 09, 2011

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SUZANNE KREITER / GLOBE STAFF

The Brookline High School Dive and Swim members held a car wash to support their team as the temperature soared in the region yesterday.

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Boston broke a 69-year-old temperature record yesterday as the thermometer peaked at 87 degrees, a meteorologist at the National Weather Service in Taunton said.

The 1942 record was surpassed around 12:12 p.m. when the temperature reached 83 degrees, meteorologist Charlie Foley said. After that, it continued to rise until it reached 87 degrees, well above the average of 64 degrees for this time of the year, he said.

At the Christian Science Plaza, a handful of children hurried through streams of water spraying several feet into the air.

Nevaeh Johnson was among them. The 6-year-old described the water as “freezing cold,” but was all

smiles. She and her mother, Lucine Jules, 32, sat just outside the spraying water's reach and ate melting ice cream they bought at a shop across the street.

"It's awesome," Johnson said excitedly. "Ice cream, going through the sprinklers."

"It doesn't get any better than this," added her mom, a Cambridge native who moved back to the area this summer after living in New Orleans for eight years, during which she said she did not own a winter coat.

Beside her sat Jennie Negash and her 6-year-old son Bruno, whose hair was still wet from walking through the fountain.

On an average October day, Negash said, "we'd probably go to the movies or do something indoors. Nothing as fun as this."

Angela Ly, 16, of Malden, laughed and joked with her friend, Teresa, as they snapped photos of squirrels and people passing by on the Boston Common.

"It's such nice weather," Ly said. "We came out to have fun because we don't know when it'll be the next time it'll be this nice. We just want to take advantage before it's gone."

Nearby, the laughter and chatter of children commanded attention as they darted past each other while playing on the grass.

"We decided to hop on the train and come out here to goof around and feed the squirrels," said David Holbert, 35, of Weymouth, as he poured roasted peanuts into the hands of his 6-year-old son, Christian.

"It's just so beautiful out," Holbert said as he watched his son sprinkle the peanuts onto the grass for the squirrels and birds that had gathered around him.

Stretched out on the grass with her shoes off and sunglasses on, Sarah McNeese, 24, of Los Angeles, relaxed and watched children play soccer in the distance. McNeese said she is visiting friends in Boston.

"I have a coat, sweater, and scarf," McNeese said while pointing to a blue suitcase on her right. "I expected it to be colder, but it's really nice and peaceful."



DINA RUDICK / GLOBE STAFF

William Thomas took in the warm temperatures and sun, and a paperback, yesterday in Peters Park in Boston's South End.

Tasnim Khorakiwala, 38, said she moved to the United States from India in late August and has yet to experience a New England winter. She said people keep telling her it will be “very miserable” and different from the weather back in India.

“I came here to soak up the sun,” she said, lying down next to a tree she was sketching.

“I was going to do the Freedom Trail tour, but then I said, ‘forget it’, and I decided to just stay here and enjoy the sun,” she said. “I don’t want this day to end.”

Foley, of the weather service, said temperatures will continue to be above normal until Wednesday.

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