

## Storm, oil prices drive cost of fuel up

Gasoline prices jumped to over \$3 a gallon last week as a massive hurricane slammed into the Gulf Coast and oil prices shot up.

Last Monday, word on the street was that the price of fuel would increase anywhere from 20 to 30 cents per gallon the next day. That sent many people to the pumps to fill their tanks.

On Tuesday, the prices did increase from the \$2.64 range to over \$2.90. By the weekend, gas was around \$3.15 a gallon.

There were lines at the pumps at Ampride and Sinclair last Monday night. With

Sinclair a penny cheaper a gallon, the clerk said, they were busier than normal.

Crossroads Express was struck by lightning on Saturday night the weekend before, said Owner Ron Fowler, so the systems weren't working until Thursday.

With fuel left, Mr. Fowler said he told several customers that he would honor the \$2.64 a gallon when they came back. Although he wasn't at the station when the tanks came back on, he said he heard that it was busy, with lots of people coming to fill up. Mr. Fowler said he was told that some brought in tanks to fill with the cheaper fuel,

since the other stations were over \$3 a gallon.

Mr. Fowler said the reason prices are going up is because it is costing stations more to get the fuel. He said he is sure that it has to do with the hurricane and oil refineries along the Gulf being closed.

Tuesday morning, Crossroads was selling unleaded gas at \$3.12, plus at \$3.17, premium at \$3.22 and diesel at \$2.89. That evening, the price dropped to \$3.09.

Across the street at Ampride, Karol Evans, general manager of the Decatur Co-op, said their supplier, Cenex, has told them

that they can only order the same amount of gas they did last year during this month.

Basically, he said, the co-op is allowed a truck of fuel a day, which has to be spread over Ampride and all their locations.

The prices will be erratic, said Mr. Evans, because the station will get just the one load of fuel.

At Ampride, prices have increased steadily since the beginning of August. On Aug. 9, it was \$2.47 a gallon, on Aug. 26, \$2.64, last Wednesday it was \$2.90, Tuesday morning, \$3.14 and that evening, \$3.09, the first decrease.

The supplier, said Mr. Evans, seems to think it is going to take a while for things to get back to normal. People are waiting for hours to get fuel in Florida, he said.

He said that he has no plans to close any of the co-op's stations. Mr. Evans did say that if people start trying to stockpile or hold gas, it could cause a problem. At this point, said Mr. Evans, the supplier isn't giving them much information about anything.

Dwight Wentz with D&M Sinclair Service, said he had "no comment."

The station was at \$3.12 Tuesday morning and \$3.09 Tuesday evening.



**GETTING A PUSH** to get started, Cody Salem, No. 31, prepared to enter the track during the sprint car races at the Oberlin Speedway on Saturday. Charlotte Meints took a

picture (below) of her son, Mark Walinder.

— Herald staff photo by Cynthia Haynes

## Sprint cars make first showing at speedway here

By KIMBERLY DAVIS

A few dozen sprint cars showed up Saturday afternoon, ready to race at the Oberlin Speedway that night.

Two, Nos. 6 and 16, owned by Pat Quinn of Denver, parked outside Crossroads Express that afternoon for people to get an up-close look at the cars.

The racers were in Oberlin for the first High Plains Shootout. Rick Salem, owner of Salem Graphics, organized the race, the first of its kind on the new track.

Mr. Quinn said he heard about the race because one of his drivers, Mark Walinder, is from Oberlin, but now lives in Denver. His other driver is Scotty Cochran, also of Denver.

Mr. Quinn said he got into racing in high school when a buddy dragged him into the sport. He said he got addicted. Since then, he said, he has always been into sprint-car racing.

He said he asked Mr. Walinder to drive one race so he could

watch. Then he decided it worked better with him owning the cars and working on them. Mr. Walinder has been driving since 1997.

"Our car," he said, "is one of the only ones with a Ford engine; most are Chevrolet."

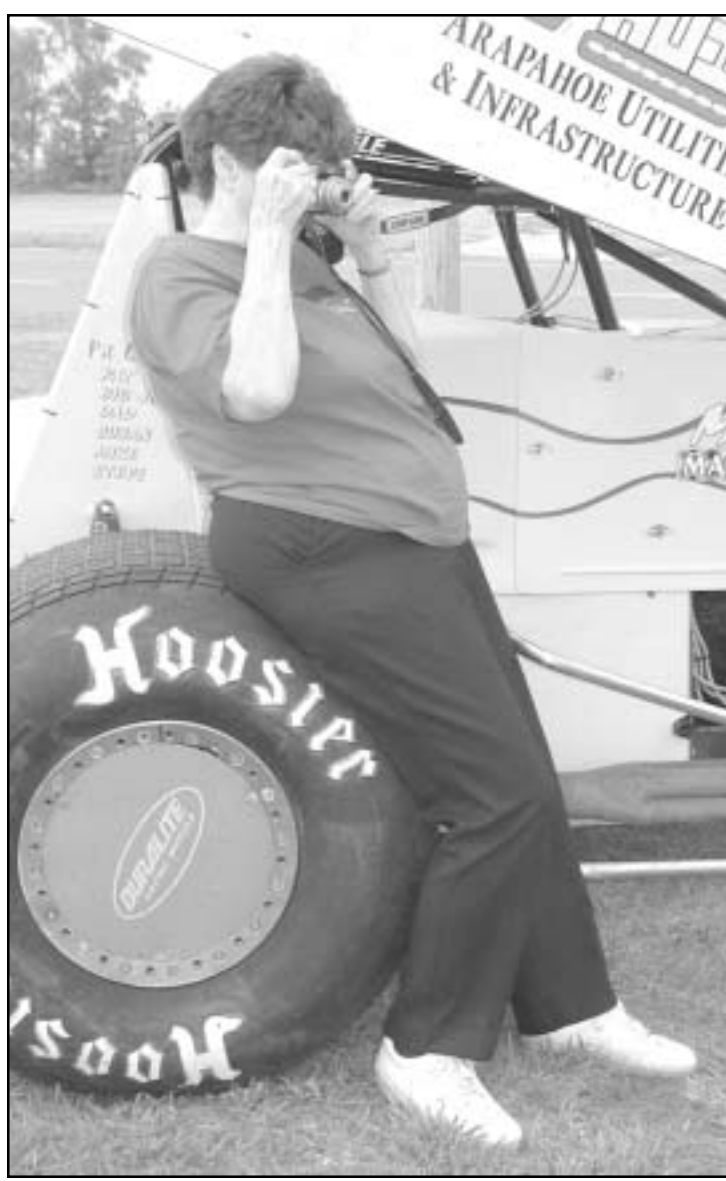
Mr. Quinn said he has been a Ford lover all his life.

Both men have full-time jobs in Denver and race on the side. The group, made up of Mr. Quinn, Mr. Walinder, Mr. Cochran, Mike and Doug Crotty and Tom and Steve Cochran, travel to races within about a 500 mile radius of home about twice a month in the summer.

This year, the racers haven't been chasing points. In 2003, said Mr. Quinn, they were ranked 15th in the National Championship Racing Association.

Driver Scotty Cochran is just 17, but has been racing since he was 8. He said he started racing when his dad had an idea for him

(See RACE on Page 10A)



## Undefeated team members to return home

### 1955 Red Devils to be here Friday

By KIMBERLY DAVIS

The 1955 Red Devil football team, the last undefeated team from Decatur Community High, will be honored Friday during the first home game of the year at Smick Memorial Field.

Shelli Fortin, who is organizing the event, said her father, Lynn Johnson, was on the team. Both of her sons, Josh and Jacob, are on the Red Devil team this year. They were all talking about football one night, she said, and she realized that it was 50 years ago that her dad played on the undefeated team. She said she approached Principal Charles Haag and they started to organize an event.

Mr. Haag and Athletic Director Randy Olson sent letters out to the players, inviting them home for the weekend, in July.

Around 20 of the original 35 players have said they are coming. Of the 35 members, four have died since graduation.

Thirteen of the 31, she said, still live in a 30-to-35-mile radius of

Oberlin.

Mrs. Fortin said the players and their families are invited to a potluck dinner with the current team at 6 p.m. Thursday at the high school. Team parents hold a supper for the boys each week before the Red Devil football game, she said. It gives them a time to eat and look at the film from the previous week.

This week, she said, they are hoping some of the men from the 1955 team will talk to the boys, who, so far, are undefeated with a win at the season opener over St. Francis.

At the game Friday, said Mrs. Fortin, the 1955 team will be recognized at half time.

After the game, cake, tea and coffee will be served at a reception at the high school cafeteria. Everyone is welcome to stop by. There will be memorabilia displayed for people to see from the year that team was undefeated.

From 4 to 7 p.m. on Saturday, there will be a reception at The Gateway for the 1955 team members and (See TEAM on Page 10A)

## Storm hits area, breaks windows, fills streets with rain

By KIMBERLY DAVIS

The wind blew, rain fell and in parts of Decatur County, so did the hail Monday night, leaving streets full in Oberlin and the Decatur County Feed Yard with broken windows on the west side of one building.

Monday evening, people could be seen standing on their porches looking to the north as the gray storm clouds came in. The storm could be heard before it could be seen.

Thunder roared and lightning lit up the sky as the storm got closer and closer.

Finally the rain came, soft at first and then harder. By 11 p.m. Monday, the rain seemed to be coming sideways out of the sky as the streets got fuller and fuller.

Cass Avenue, referred to as "Canal Street" when it rains, was full. So were several intersections around town, including East Commercial, and Oak at Marks.

The area received anywhere from 2.20 inches to three inches, with heavier rain in the northern part of the county. A few miles south, fields were mostly dry.

North of town, the weather

seemed a little more severe. On Tuesday, workers at the feed yard found windows broken out on the west side of the office. There was damage to two irrigation pivots and a metal horse barn as well.

Owner Warren Weibert said the venetian blinds in the office were dented. It looked like there was golf ball size hail or larger, he said.

Along U.S. 83, he said, standing corn suffered damage and terraces were full of water.

Decatur County dispatch said there weren't any other reports of storm damage, however.

Flood watches were out for Decatur and Norton Counties during the storm.

At the end of August, Oberlin received 3.28 inches of rain, which is more than the average for the entire month. The first few days of September started off with around the same amount of rain and there is more in the forecast.

The National Weather Service in Goodland said there was a 60 percent chance of heavy rains Tuesday and tonight.

The county remained in a flash flood watch on Tuesday.

## Groups raise money for hurricane relief

As the winds blew at over 100 miles per hour and the water kept coming in, people all over the world watched as the parts of the Gulf Coast were devastated by Hurricane Katrina.

Pictures of New Orleans under water, talk of what the president and federal government will do to help, news of towns completely cut off from civilization and heroic rescue efforts fill the front pages of newspapers, news web sites and the evening news.

People in Decatur County have felt the devastation that the storm left behind and want to chip in to

help the victims.

At the Oberlin Rotary Club lunch on Tuesday, the group decided to raise money for Katrina victims.

Rusty Addleman, a long-time member, said the club would have cans at the volleyball games Tuesday night and possibly at the football game on Friday. Jars will probably be put out in businesses of Rotary members and other businesses that want to help.

Anyone can donate, he said.

The money will be sent to two Rotary districts, one in Louisiana and one Houston, where many refugees were taken.

All of the money raised, 100 percent of it, will go to the relief fund, said Mr. Addleman. The club won't keep a penny of it.

Anyone who wants to make a cash donation can contact any Rotary member.

At the American Legion, there will be a pancake and sausage feed at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday. The money raised will go to the hurricane victims.

Others in northwest Kansas who are helping include linemen from Midwest Energy.

Bob Helm, manager of corporate communications for the cooperative

out of Hays, said a crew of 18 linemen was to leave this morning for Louisiana. The men from Hays, WaKeeney, Colby, Hoxie, Great Bend, Hanston and Lyons, volunteered to help rebuild the 4,900 miles of power lines and restore 30,000 electric poles. He said 63,000 customers are without power.

The men will be driving bucket trucks and other work vehicles, carrying their own food, water and supplies.

They will be housed in 300-man tents during their two-to-three-week stay.

## Water use down thanks to rain storms

With recent rains, water use in Oberlin has stayed just below 530,000 gallons a day.

The city is still on even-odd water restrictions. Those with odd-numbered addresses can water on Tuesday, Thursday or Saturday, those with even addresses on Wednesday, Friday and Sunday. There is no outside watering on Mondays. People can water on their day from midnight to 10 a.m.

The city pumped:

- 376,000 gallons on Monday, Aug. 29.
- 489,000 gallons on Tuesday, Aug. 30.
- 336,000 gallons last Wednesday.
- 527,000 gallons on Thursday.
- 492,000 gallons on Friday.
- 514,000 gallons on Saturday.
- 369,000 gallons on Sunday.
- 447,000 gallons on Monday.

# \* Race brings in fans

(Continued from Page 1A) to race quarter midgets when he was big enough. Scotty said he was the half midgets regional champion for a year.

He said he outgrew those and got into sprint cars, which he started to race last summer.

In the past, Scotty said, he has always raced on pavement, so racing on dirt is a change.

"I have always really liked racing," he said. "It is a passion of mine and a great feeling."

Scotty is a senior at Ralston Valley High School in Arvada. After graduation, he plans to attend Colorado School of Mines to become an engineer.

Mr. Walinder said he started racing in 1974, but has been around racing all of his life. He looked at the track from the gas station and said he was on the track when it was a five-eighths-mile track. That is before it was rebuilt.

Sprint cars raced on it in the early 1950s, said Mr. Walinder.

He said he has always raced sprint cars, basically, because he loves the sport.

Racing, said Mr. Walinder, keeps him in shape. There is also the speed, which helps make this a challenging sport.

Mr. Walinder said he races as a hobby, although the last few years they have been racing, working on a car or traveling to or from a race six days a week.

Mr. Walinder said it was good to be home for a race. He graduated from Decatur Community High School in 1973. His mom, Charlotte Meints, still lives here.

She was at Crossroads on Saturday, checking out the cars, talking with her son and taking pictures.

The group was traveling to Colby for another race on Sunday.

# Applications almost due

Congressman Jerry Moran is accepting applications for nominations to the U.S. service academies.

Those selected will enter the academies in June 2006.

Selections are based on college entrance test scores, class rank, grade point average, school records, extracurricular activities, leadership potential, motivation, recommendations and interview evaluations.

All interested candidates to apply also to the offices of senators Sam Brownback and Pat Roberts.

Application deadline is Oct. 1. Send to: Congressman Jerry Moran, Attn: Service Academy Selection, Box 1128, Hutchinson, Kan. 67504-1128.



**THE 1955 OBERLIN RED DEVIL FOOTBALL TEAM** remained undefeated and won the league championship. This picture appeared in the 1956 yearbook. Front Row: Jack Carver, Larry Guinn, Forrest Paddock, Eldon Johnson, Don Richardson, Ray Corcoran, Bill Schwab. Second Row: Derry Bishop, Allen Jeffus, Rusty Addleman, Jerry Baker, Jack Kelley and Bob Vernon. Third Row: Lynn Johnson, Richard Anderson, Walt Fortin,

Clint Corder, Jim Carver, Jerry Macfee and Richard Hayes. Fourth Row: Jim Alexander, Stanley Moberly, Larry Brainard, Norm Richards, John Schultz and Jim Kelley. Fifth Row: David Musgrave, Larry O'Toole, Charles Kelley, Roy Unger, Larry Rathbun, Gary Erickson and Billy Soderlund. Sixth Row: Bob Tally and Gary Anthony.

# \* Team members to return for first Devil home game

(Continued from Page 1A)

families. Larry Guinn has a film of the Norton game 50 years ago, the last game the team played. Mrs. Fortin said they are trying to put the film on DVD or video so they can show it Friday.

Mr. Johnson, Norm Richards, Gary Erickson and Walt Fortin, all from the 1955 team, have grandsons or great-nephews playing football here today. These men, she said, have been faithful about going to the games and showing school spirit over the years.

Mrs. Fortin said she hopes having the team members come home will help build school spirit.

Players on the 1955 team included: Mr. Guinn, Don Richardson, Derry Bishop, Jerry Baker, Mr. Johnson, Clint Corder, Mr. Erickson, Jim Alexander, John Schultz, Charles Kelley, Forrest Paddock, Ray Corcoran, Allen Jeffus, Bob Vernon, Richard Anderson, Jim Carver, Stanley Moberly, Jim Kelley, Roy Unger, Billy Soderlund, Eldon Johnson, Bill Schwab, Rusty Addleman, David Musgrave,

Walt Fortin, Richard Hayes, Mr. Richards, Larry O'Toole, Larry Rathbun, Gary Anthony and Jack Kelley. Deceased players include: Jack Carver, Jerry Macfee, Larry Brainard and Bob Tally.

Coaches for the team included head coach Jack Hague, Bob Rumble and Charles Lyons. All three are deceased. Mrs. Fortin said one of their widows was invited but she isn't sure if she will show up.

The 1955 team played eight games, starting with Phillipsburg, where they won 28-0. Then it was off to Hoxie where the Red Devils won 32-13. Not until the third game, against Colby, did the Red Devils play at home. They won the game 19-0 and the fourth game against St. Francis, 32-7. The team went back on the road to Oakley and won 46-20. At home against Goodland they won 33-13, and then in Atwood they won 21-0. In the last game of the league season, the Red Devils played at home against the Norton Blue Jays. Oberlin won 32-13, giving the Red Devils first place in the league.

The team ranked 11th in the state, said Mrs. Fortin, but

there were no state playoffs in those days.

Coach Hague was quoted in *The Topeka Daily Capital* as saying this was the "first unbeaten-untied team since 1930. Wonderful group."

Many of the players were named to all-star teams all over the state. Some of the honors included Northwest Kansas All Area Team, which included Mr. Addleman, Mr. Carver, Mr. Guinn and Mr. Richardson. Mr. Bishop and Mr. Baker got honorable mention.

Mr. Addleman, Mr. Guinn, Mr. Corcoran, Mr. Paddock, Mr. Carver and Mr. Bishop were named to the Northwest Kansas League Team by coaches. Both Mr. Jeffus and Mr. Baker got honorable mention.

Mr. Richardson and Mr. Addleman were named to the *Wichita Eagle* All State Team.

Mr. Guinn, Mr. Richardson and Mr. Addleman were also named to the Eagle's All Western Division, with Mr. Jeffus and Mr. Bishop receiving an honorable mention. Mr. Addleman made the *Topeka Daily Capital* All State second team.

# Commissioners say OK to copier for deeds office

The Decatur County register of deeds will get a new copier after presenting bids to commissioners last Tuesday.

Register Judy Gaumer presented bids for a Ricoh copier for \$3,455 which included a trade-in for the machine she has now for \$3,670. The second bid was for a Konica for \$2,995.

She said the copier she has now is a good one, but it isn't making the crisp copies needed to put on microfilm. The Ricoh is similar to the one that is in the office now, she said.

Mrs. Gaumer said she can't find a difference in the two copiers, other than the price. Mrs. Gaumer said she

## County Countdown

At their meeting last Tuesday, the Decatur County commissioners:

- Authorized the register of deeds to buy a new copier and trade in the office's old one. Story at left.
- Heard that the road and bridge department might be getting a new dozer. Story to come.

• Discussed a prescription drug program for county inmates, although they didn't think it would benefit the county. Story on Page 9A.

• Gave the appraiser the go ahead to buy a computer from Infinitec and a printer from the company of his choice. Story below.

told Deputy Michael French she would take \$2,000 for the old copier.

Do you need all the options? asked Commissioner Patricia

Glenn. No, said Mrs. Gaumer, the copier doesn't need to have any of the options like auto document feed or anything.

She said she is hesitant about the Konica because she isn't familiar with the brand.

Commissioner Ralph Unger said she could sell the old copier with a sealed bid or take the trade-in.

Mr. Unger said if Mrs. Gaumer has gotten good service with the Ricoh she has now, he would hesitate to change brands.

Mrs. Gaumer decided she preferred the Ricoh copier, and the commissioners approved the purchase.

She said the office has over \$8,000 in its technology fund, and the money will come from it.

Mrs. Gaumer said she talked with

someone with the Purplewave website, where items can be sold online, about the old microfilm camera. She said it can be put on the site. Purplewave takes 10 percent if the county sells the camera on the site, she said.

It costs nothing to put the camera on the website. Mrs. Gaumer said she can run an ad for two weeks and then see what happens.

Mrs. Gaumer said she will specify that if someone buys the camera, they have to come and pick it up.

The commissioners ratified the purchase of a new index book for the office for \$662.

# Appraiser to buy computer, printer

The Decatur County commissioners gave the county appraiser the go ahead to buy a computer from Infinitec and a printer from the company of his choice.

Appraiser Alan Hale said the computer in the office has given him problems for some time.

He said he talked with a representative from Infinitec and he worked up a good price on a Dell computer.

The office also needs a laser printer since the old printer is outdated. It uses feed paper. The office has a small ink-jet printer, he said, but it is slow.

County Attorney Steve Hirsch suggested checking Office Max for a printer. He said it would run around \$400. Mr. Hale said he needs a copier that runs around 50,000 copies in a year.

He said he got quotes for Lexmark and IBM printers. The commissioners told him to go ahead and get a printer.

Commissioners also asked Mr. Hale to get some prices here for a truck to collect data. The vehicle could also be used for trips. Mr. Hale said he is interested in a sports utility with four-wheel drive.



# Itchy eyes driving you crazy? We can help.

You could be suffering from Dry Eye Syndrome, a serious but treatable condition. Call Dr. Stamm or Dr. Gray at Lifetime Eyecare.



Dr. Robert A. Stamm and Dr. Dirk M. Gray - Optometrists  
105 S. Penn • Oberlin, KS • 475-1200  
www.mccokeyeyecare.com

# Beauty & Affordability We can help your dreams become reality



Financing Available  
No payments until Aug. 2006

Visit our  for the largest selection of berbers, loops, shags, patterns and texture.

That Other  FLOOR STORE  
CARPET VINYL TILE LAMINATE  
Sept. 6 thru Sept. 12

206 Norris Ave. • McCook, NE 69001  
308-345-3177 • Fax 308-345-3266

6gVcj ` \_V YVRcd  
j ` f j V|Z XZ  
HV YVRc j ` f c  
Tcj Wc YVjaZ

F \_Vi a|RZ VU ` f eSf ctd R\_U ^ ` U ch Z Xd  
T ` f JUSV dX ` d ` W VAcVtZ ` Z ` VcV JVRc ZcV  
eZ Xcdedj ` f ` W Wj ` f cV ` eRj ` VZ @ VZ dZ  
RUF jed Vi aVz TV UVAcVtZ ` ZEYRed h yj h V  
` W Wc UAcVtZ ` eVRe ` V\_eac XcR ` dZ

J ` f h ` f J U ` e Z ` c V YR ea R a Z R Z ` d Z J ` f d Y ` f J U ` e  
Z ` c V ` f c W W Z Xd V Z V Z A V R d V N e f d Y V j a Z

 J ` f c 4 ` ^ ^ f ` Z  
> V ` e Rj 9 V R e R 4 V ` e V Z

( ) & Z # Z ( \* + e | W W ) !! Z S # Z S S S + Y Z S Y a R Z c V ` e Rj V R j a Z

