



BRENT McCOWN/Tribune

Tim Chevalier (66) in his 1992 VW GTI 8V slides through a turn at the beginning of the course while Nathan Colnley (top) works his way through the middle part of the course during Nebraska Region SCCA National RallyCross Challenge held at MPH Sunday. Chevalier finished the weekend in first place with Colnley finishing in second in their division.

'Awesome'

SCCA EVENT DRAWS CROWD AT MPH

TONY HERRMAN

Hastings Tribune George Anderson left Motorsport Park Hastings Sunday tired, but happy. MPH, at the corner of U.S. Highway 6 and Showboat Boulevard, was the site for the inaugural Sports Car Club of America national RallyCross event, in which more than 60 drivers competed.

Overall, Anderson described the weekend as "awesome."

"It was very exciting. We had guys from Massachusetts and California," he said. "They came here and won this historical event. They're going to put MPH and Hastings on the map. The guys from Massachusetts, California, Utah and Colorado told me they'll be back next year and bring their friends."

He estimated about 250 spectators watched the races between both days. Because the SCCA rented MPH for the event, Anderson said the most important thing was making sure the drivers had a good time.

"I'm happy because people came out and enjoyed it," Anderson said. "It's all a building

block for the future."

The weekend was not without incident, however. Jean Smith of Omaha rolled her Ford Ranger pickup truck during the street stock rear-wheel drive class runs Saturday afternoon. Anderson did not see the roll-over occur, but assumed Smith went down on a soft spot on the track. She was treated and released at Mary Lanning Memorial Hospital. Anderson said Smith returned to MPH later.

"Accidents are always unfortunate, but it was a pretty minor incident," Anderson said.

The SCCA has committed to bringing the national RallyCross

event back in 2006. Anderson said he estimated 200-250 drivers will show up.

"That will put us at capacity," he said. "It's exciting and encouraging news."

MPH also might be a site for regional events.

Anderson said asphalt events might take place in conjunction with the national RallyCross event, which could mean a total of 400 drivers.

Anderson said there is a possibility that one-third of the races at next year's national event could be on asphalt.

"That would make it more like a European rally," he said.

Please see RALLYCROSS/page B1



BILAL HUSSEIN/AP

Iraqis relatives of US airstrikes victims grieve during their funeral in Ramadi, Iraq, Monday. U.S. warplanes and helicopters bombed two villages near the restive city of Ramadi, killing an estimated 70 militants, the military said Monday, though witnesses said at least 39 of the dead were civilians.

U.S.: 70 insurgents killed in airstrikes

WITNESSES SAY 39 WERE CIVILIANS

THOMAS WAGNER

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD, Iraq — U.S. warplanes and helicopters bombed two western villages, killing an estimated 70 militants near a site where five American soldiers died in a weekend roadside blast, the military said Monday. Residents said at least 39 of the dead were civilians.

Sunday's violence near the insurgent stronghold of Ramadi came a day after Iraq voted on a landmark constitution that many Sunnis opposed. As officials continued counting millions of paper ballots Monday, the charter seemed assured of passage.

Please see IRAQ/page B1

How much is too much for gasoline? It depends

WILL LESTER

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Many motorists these days are complaining about the cost of gasoline, but what people consider a fair price varies greatly, depending on where they live.

Americans angrily grit their teeth as they pump \$3-per-gallon gas. They think \$2 is about right. In Britain, \$3 sounds fanciful — people there pay about \$6.40 a gallon and think \$5 would be fair.

AP-Ipsos polling in the United States and eight of its allies turned up wide disparities in people's thoughts on the cost of filling up.

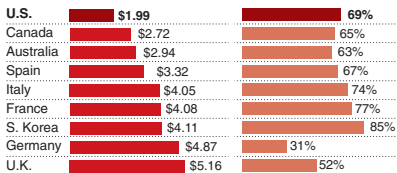
Spaniards would like to see gasoline for just over \$3 a gallon. People in France, Italy, Germany and South Korea put the fair market price \$4 or a little more. Australians and Canadians would like to see it just under \$3 a gallon.

AP-IPSONS POLL

U.S. expects inexpensive gas

Compared to other countries, the United States expects to pay far less for a gallon of gasoline.

What would you say is a fair price for a gallon of gasoline?



SOURCE: Ipsos for AP

The United States has less than 5 percent of the world's population but consumes 20 million barrels of oil a day, about one-fourth of the global total, according to the

American Petroleum Institute. Many Europeans have found alternatives to depending on cars as fuel prices soared over the past few years.

Please see POLL/page B1

Pastor of BTK Killer's church to speak in Hildreth

DIANA LAMBSON

Hastings Tribune

HILDRETH — When the Rev. Michael Clark returns to Hildreth for a visit this week, he will meet with old and new friends to share some up-close-and-personal insights on the concept of evil.

Clark, former pastor of the old St. Paul Lutheran Church in Hildreth from 1985 to 1987, now serves Christ Lutheran Church in Park City, Kan., home congregation of Dennis Rader, the so-called BTK Killer.

He plans a public presentation on "The Reality of Evil" for Wednesday evening at Trinity Lutheran Church.

Rader, 59, was convicted earlier this year in connection with a string of murders in the Wichita, Kan., area between 1974 and 1991. He is a former city official, congregation president and Boy Scout troop leader.

Clark will share his thoughts

on questions such as how a person of such violence could live undiscovered in a community and congregation. He will address the concept of evil and how it comes into play in the world.

The Rev. Kim Stover, pastor of Trinity Church, said the congregation decided to invite Clark back to Hildreth for more than just the information he had to impart.

"They want to let him know how many persons were praying for his welfare during a most difficult time," Stover said.

In addition, Stover said, he believes Clark's experience will help congregation members of every denomination better understand the nature and depth of sin so they might address the



Rader

reality of it in the present day.

"We don't get all the information we need from sound bites and news briefs," Stover said. "I wondered what I could learn from Pastor Clark about serving a congregation in times of shock and confusion, betrayal and mistrust. We wondered how we, as a congregation, could become more aware of severe mental illnesses, evil and violence around us with a hope of preventing such terror or appropriately supporting those who are victimized by violence."

The St. Paul congregation, which Clark served in Hildreth, later merged with the neighboring St. Peter and Emmanuel congregations to form Trinity Church.

The public is invited to Clark's presentation, which will run 7-8 p.m. The church is at 502 Sanders Ave.

For more information call (308) 938-3395.

Weather

Lo: Clear tonight
50s: Sunny and warm
Hi: Tuesday.
80s:



Art by Andrew Rutt, 8, Watson School

CO-WORKERS FIGHT

TAMARAC, Fla. — Things got very ugly at a Walgreens when police said one employee stabbed a co-worker over who could microwave her soup first. Both women wanted to use the

Nation

microwave in the employee break room Wednesday afternoon, according to the Broward County Sheriff's Office.

While they were fighting over who could use the microwave first, Melleesia Grant grabbed a large kitchen knife off the counter and

stabbed Merloze Tilme in the abdomen, the sheriff's office said.

"They didn't get along to begin with. Who could use the microwave first became a major issue," Broward County Sheriff's Office spokesman Jim Lejedal said. The Associated Press

Inside

Agri/Business B4 Entertainment C5
Bridge C5 Nation D2
Classified D2 Opinion A4
Comics D1 Other Page A6

Poll: How high is too high for gas

Continued from page A1

In much of the United States, however, people are addicted to the car and view it as essential to social and economic well-being. When gas prices shoot to record levels, it rattles the U.S. economy and depresses consumer confidence.

"This whole country runs on cheap gas," said Clinton Ahrens, a businessman from Dows, Iowa. Most Americans have come to expect it over the years, he said.

In much of Europe and elsewhere, gas taxes account for two-thirds or more of the price of gasoline. People in those countries look for high-mileage cars. Public transportation is well-developed.

In the U.S., taxes vary by state but amount to about 20 percent of gas prices. Fuel is cheaper in this country than in most parts of the world, investment in mass transit is minimal, gas-guzzling SUVs and trucks zoom along highways and politicians talk about increasing gas taxes — or any taxes — at their own risk.

"We do have a sense of entitlement here in the United States," said Steve Yativ, a political scientist at Old Dominion University in Virginia who has studied the impact of energy prices.

"This stems partly from the individualism that is part of the American fabric — an individualism that prizes freedom of action and prizes the freedom to buy as big a car as you want to buy," Yativ said.

While Billy Fillers of Sycamore, Ill., drives a Chevy Tahoe on his rounds to do X-ray repairs, his weekly gasoline bill has gone from \$60 to \$120. But he likes his SUV: "The bigger your vehicle, the faster your vehicle — it's a status symbol."

People in most of the countries polled agree the rising price of gasoline is causing financial hardships.

From two-thirds to three-fourths of those in Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, South Korea and the United States say they expect increases in the price of gasoline to cause them hardships. About half in Britain said they worried about financial hardships, and one-third of respondents in Germany felt that way.

Many surveyed say there is little they can do about it.

Renato Baldini, dean of a private school in Rome, said, "I have no alternatives. The only thing I can do now is drive slower, to try and save gas."

In all the countries, women were more likely than men to see the rise in gas prices as a personal hardship.

"Women — particularly those with children at home — are much more worried than men about the financial impact of rising gas prices on the family budget," said Thomas Miller, managing director of Ipsos Public Affairs in New York.

Joyce Via, a retiree from Craigsville, Va., said the price of gas is hurting her family. "We live in a very rural area, have to drive about 23 miles to go shopping, but we won't be going as often," she said. "I'm sure it's going to have an impact on heating bills. It gets pretty cold out here."

A majority of people in most of the nations polled say they think their government can act to limit increases in the price of gasoline. In many of those countries, unhappy consumers have been pushing for more government action.

Nelson's campaign bank account dwarfs contenders'

KEVIN O'HANLON
The Associated Press

LINCOLN — It's not like the three Republicans vying for the party's U.S. Senate nomination don't have any money.

It's just that Democratic Sen. Ben Nelson has more.

Lots more. Reports filed Friday with the Federal Election Commission showed that Republicans Pete Ricketts, Don Stenberg and David Kramer have raised a total of \$671,000 and have just \$399,000 cash on hand.

Nelson, who has formed a re-election committee but not formally announced his candidacy for a second term in 2006, raised \$508,000 from July through September alone. Has \$2.7 million cash on hand.

Ricketts leads the GOP pack, having raised \$373,000. He has \$297,000 cash on hand.

Kramer has raised \$172,000 and has \$89,000 in the bank. Stenberg has raised \$135,000 and has just \$12,500 cash left.

And as many people know, these senate campaigns can get a tad pricey.

Nelson and Stenberg combined to spend \$4.5 million in their 2000 race, which was won by Nelson.

In Nebraska's 1988 Senate race, Bob Kerrey, a Democrat and former governor, defeated Republican U.S. Sen. David Kaines in a race where the candidates spent a combined \$7 million.

That would be equal to an estimated \$11.48 million today based on the Consumer Price Index, which gauges the price of goods and services bought by the public.

The state's least expensive Senate race in the past four decades was the 1972 contest between Republican U.S. Sen. Carl Curtis of Minden and Democratic state Sen. Terry Carpenter of Terrytown. They spent a combined \$289,000 — a

total of \$1.3 million in today's dollars.

Nebraska Republican Party Chairman Mark Quandelahl said he could not estimate how much money will be spent in the 2006 race.

"Obviously, with an incumbent with that much cash on hand ... it's going to be an expensive race," Quandelahl said. "But money doesn't vote. People vote."

Ricketts, who has said that he is worth \$25 million, has not said how much of his own money he'd be willing to spend.

Ricketts recently stepped down as Ameritrade's chief operating officer. He continues to serve as vice chairman and a member of Ameritrade's board of directors.

This is Stenberg's third Senate campaign.

He lost the GOP Senate nomination in 1996 to Chuck Hagel. Hagel went on to beat Nelson in the general election. Stenberg won the party's nomination in 2000, before losing to Nelson, who had just completed his second term as governor.

Stenberg, who served three terms as Nebraska's attorney general, lost to Nelson by only 12,000 votes, or 51 percent to 49 percent. It was the closest race since Nebraska began directly electing senators in 1916.

Kramer, an Omaha lawyer, stepped down in February as chairman of Nebraska's Republican Party after serving two terms.

In the 3rd District congressional race to replace Republican Tom Osborne, Republican state Sen. Adrian Smith of Gering reported raising \$56,000. He has \$37,000 cash on hand.

Republican John Hanson of Kearney, a former Osborne aide, has raised \$53,000 and has \$36,000 cash on hand.

Democrat Scott Kleeb of Dunning raised \$35,000 and has \$27,000 cash on hand.

Reports were not immediately available for Jim Fahr of Kearney, Grand Island Mayor Jay Vavrick, Doug Polk of Kearney and David Harris of Kilgore.

RallyCross: Event draws crowd

Continued from page A1

"Being a prototype, everybody's learning what's working."

Being a national competition, times for nearly every class were tight. For instance, 24-year-old Chad Ones of Pueblo, Colo., came in third place in the rally street front-wheel drive class, missing second place by one-hundredth of a second. Ones' 21-year-old brother, Cole Ones, won the division.

"It would have been a lot easier if it was two or three seconds," Chad Ones said. "There were so many things I could've done to make up a hundredth of a second."

Also because it was a national event drivers traveled from across the country to compete.

Tim Chevalier traveled 25 hours from his home in North Grafton, Mass. He and friend Hal Denham of Holliston, Mass., arrived at 6 p.m. Thursday.

"Basically we drove straight

SCCA results

Hastings Tribune

Eight of the top finishers in each class competed Sunday in the Jerry Spady Shootout at this weekend's Sports Car Club of America RallyCross National Challenge at Motorsport Park Hastings. Here is how they finished driving the same type of vehicle:

- 1) Ken Cashion, Colorado region — Time: 72:212
- 2) Cole Ones, Colorado region — Time: 74:090
- 3) Scott Leonard, Continental Divide region — Time: 74:256
- 4) James Word, Nebraska region — Time: 75:286
- 5) Marek Gorecki, San Francisco region — Time: 75:973
- 6) Jan Gerber, Nebraska region — Time: 75:978
- 7) Tim Chevalier, New England region — Time: 76:992
- 8) Mark Anton, California Sports Car Club region — Time: 78:212

through, and then we're going to do it again tonight," he said Sunday.

He said Hastings is the farthest he has driven for a RallyCross event, although he's competed in other SCCA events as far away as Nevada.

Both Chevalier and Denham

drove Denham's 1992 Volkswagen GTI and raced in the rally prepared two class.

Chevalier ended Saturday in third place of a close race for the class. He was six-tenths of a second out of first place, and only one-tenth of a second ahead of the fourth-place driver.

"When you think about it, a one is two seconds, so one one is the difference between everybody," Chevalier said.

He called his time in Hastings and driving at MPH "a wonderful experience."

"I've gotten a positive reception from everybody," he said. "It has been great."

Chevalier said the only other time he had been in Nebraska was driving through once during the mid-1980s.

"I was driving a car back from L.A.," he said. "It was very early, so I didn't see much."

Chevalier and Denham almost didn't come to Hastings because of the high gas prices.

"We bit the bullet and are driving 25 hours each way," he said. "I'm glad we did, because there's only one first time for everything, and the fact we're out here is pretty special."

He said the real reason he and Denham decided to drive more

than a day each direction was to compete against the best RallyCross drivers in the country.

Chevalier won his division so he competed in the Jerry Spady Shootout, in which the seven other division winners who stayed at MPH drove one of two identical Toyota Camrys.

Chevalier finished in seventh place. Cole Ones was the second-place driver, losing to the final driver of the day, Ken Cashion of Denver.

Winning the Spady Shootout made Cashion the best RallyCross driver in the country, at least that's what Cashion said.

"Without a question, absolutely," he said.

Although the winner did not compete in the Spady Shootout, there were runs on both days for local drivers, who were not SCCA RallyCross members.

"It was just a riot — we kept cheering them on," Anderson

said of the local race on Saturday.

The winner Sunday was Mick McCormick of Omaha, who was red-faced and spitting after he took off his helmet and stepped out of his 1973 Datsun Z-Car.

"We've known George for a long time and heard he was putting together this little rally track so we took out this '73 Datsun and did pretty good," McCormick said.

McCormick said he races jet cars — cars with the engines from F-16 fighter planes installed.

"I wanted to see what it was like to turn right and left," he said.

Among area drivers, Tim Chevalier of Grafton won the Rally Prepared 2 division, and Pat Randolph of Hastings placed second in the Street Stock Rear division.

Iraq: Airstrikes kill 70

Continued from page A1

A foreign election observer with access to information on nationwide election returns confirmed that apparent outcome in an interview with The Associated Press on Monday. He spoke on condition of anonymity, saying the Iraqi Independent Electoral Commission would announce the official results, which could be released Wednesday.

A sandstorm Monday could delay the counting — and the final results — into later in the week. Elections officials resumed work in Baghdad, but were still only counting ballots from the capital area. Ballots from the provinces still have to be flown in, but the sandstorm grounded air traffic into Baghdad.

The acceptance of the constitution would be a major step in setting up a democratic government that could lead to the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Iraq. But Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice warned Sunday that violence will continue, even if the constitution is adopted. She said support for the insurgency would eventually wane as the country moves toward democracy.

On Saturday, a roadside bomb killed five U.S. soldiers in a vehicle in the Al-Bu Ubaid village on the eastern outskirts of Ramadi. On Sunday, a group of about two dozen Iraqis gathered around the wreckage; they

were hit by U.S. airstrikes, the military and witnesses said.

The military said the crowd was setting another roadside bomb when F-15 warplanes hit them, killing about 20 people it described as "terrorists."

But several residents and one local leader said they were civilians gathering to gawk at and take pieces of the wreckage, as often occurs after an American vehicle is hit.

Tribal leader Chiad Saad said the airstrike killed 25 civilians, and several others said the same thing, although they refused to give their names out of fear for their safety.

The other deaths occurred in the nearby village of Al-Bu Faraj.

The military said a group of gunmen opened fire on a Cobra attack helicopter that spotted their position. The Cobra returned fire, killing about 10. The men ran into a nearby house, where gunmen were seen unloading weapons before an F/A-18 warplane bombed the building, killing 40 insurgents, the military said.

Witnesses said at least 14 of the dead were civilians. After a man was wounded in an airstrike, he was brought into a nearby building that was struck by warplanes, said the witnesses, who refused to give their names out of fear for their safety.

An Iraqi journalist reporting for The Associated Press said he later saw the 14

bodies and the damaged building.

Associated Press Television News video from the scene showed the victims included at least two children and one woman. Witnesses said seven other children were among the dead. APTN also showed two children among the wounded at Ramadi General Hospital.

Few voted in Ramadi, 70 miles west of Baghdad, during Saturday's referendum — either out of fear of militants' reprisals or out of rejection of the new constitution.

A U.S. Marine was also killed by a bomb Saturday in Saqlawiyah, 40 miles west of Baghdad, the military said. The weekend's U.S. military fatalities brought to at least 1,976 the number of U.S. service members who have died since the war began in 2003, according to an AP count.

On Monday, a drive-by shooting killed two policemen in Kirkuk, 180 miles north of Baghdad, and a suicide bomber attacked a funeral for a sheik in Samarra, 60 miles north of Baghdad, killing two civilians and wounding one, police said.

The violence raised to 535 the number of people who died in insurgent attacks across Iraq in the last three weeks.

The constitution seemed assured of passage after initial results showed minority Sunnis had fallen short in an effort to veto it at the polls.

Unbelievable rate. Unlimited Access.

4.00% APY*

Premium Money Market

You won't find another money market rate like this one. Now you can have the best rate around without having your money tied up for months. The Premium Money Market allows you to access your funds as often as you want. It's just one more way we take the extra step for our customers.

4.00% APY for a \$100,000 balance. Great rates for lower balances, too!

TierOne BANK
Taking the extra step

HASTINGS
647 W. 2nd 463-1991

tieronebank.com
FDIC Insured

*Annual percentage yield as of 10/17/05. Available on new accounts only. A \$20,000 minimum account balance must be maintained to qualify for the 4.00% APY rate. Rates for balances under \$100,000: 3.51% APY - \$25,000 - \$99,999.99; 2.91% APY - \$10,000 - \$24,999.99; 2.00% APY - \$5,000 - \$9,999.99; 0.25% APY - \$0 - \$999.99. Consumer accounts only. Fees may affect earnings. If balance falls below \$5,000, a monthly charge of \$5.00 applies. Minimum balance to open is \$500. Rate is a variable rate and may change after account is opened.

LOCATION LOCATION LOCATION
Grand Island ★ Hastings ★ York

Redeem this Coupon For: **3 C OFF** Per Gallon of Gasoline
Offer Expires: October 31, 2005

Redeem this Coupon For: **3 C OFF** Per Gallon of Gasoline
Offer Expires: October 31, 2005

BYCO