



GREEN BAY PRESS-GAZETTE



Maria Enlinger responds to a question from Sister Ann Carla Baumann on Thursday at Holy Family School in Green Bay. B.A. Rupert/Press-Gazette

SCHOOL'S BACK IN SESSION

Most students returned to school Thursday as the 2005-06 school year got under way. See how students and parents coped with the new school year. ► B-1, B-2

Lots of sun in store for summer's swan song

Record gas prices, extra patrols await Labor Day travelers

BY CYNTHIA HODNETT
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If gasoline prices have shocked you into staying close to home this Labor Day weekend, expect to enjoy sunny skies and warm temperatures.

If gas prices be darned, and you're taking to the roads, expect extra patrols and a few roadblocks, but smooth traveling for the most part.

Today's forecast calls for highs around 76, according to the National Weather Service in Ashwaubenon. Temperatures are expected to be in the low- to mid-70s Saturday and Sunday, jumping to near 80 on Labor Day.

About 4.5 million people in the Great Lakes region are expected to travel 50 miles or more away from home during Labor Day weekend — up 1.4 percent from last year, said Michael Bie, AAA Wisconsin spokesman. And soaring gas prices are expected to be a thorn in the side of many drivers.

Retail gas prices have hit record highs over the past few weeks, reaching \$3.25 in the Green Bay area on Thursday, and continued increases have been blamed on Hurricane Katrina's damage to oil production facilities.

Increasing prices aren't expected to change most motorists' travel plans, Bie said.

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HURRICANE KATRINA

Fallout reaches across U.S.



Hurricane Katrina evacuee Kimi Seymour, 27, takes a break Thursday along Interstate 10 in New Orleans as she walks along the highway with a shopping cart of possessions. Irwin Thompson/The Associated Press

Economy braces for hit with interruption in flow of goods

BY ADAM GELLER
The Associated Press

From gas stations to grocery stores, farms to factories, the force of Hurricane Katrina is rippling through the economy, confronting consumers and businesses with higher prices and logistical dilemmas, even thousands of miles from the Gulf Coast.

As New Orleans descended into anarchy Thursday, with corpses abandoned in streets, fights and fires breaking out and storm survivors battling for seats on the buses that would carry them away, the U.S. Senate passed a \$10 billion recovery bill that the House of Representatives is expected to vote on today.

Unlike most natural disasters, Katrina is that rare economic event — sweeping and devastating enough to damage commerce well beyond its region, affecting the price, supply and markets for goods critical to business and counted on in daily life.

The problems start with energy and they are potentially enormous. The virtual shutdown of a region that is a nexus for oil production, refining and importation poses the most serious economic risks. It is already punishing consumers at the gasoline pump, and causing long-term worries for businesses including financially shaky airlines, trucking companies and steel producers.

But the cost of Katrina may soon be felt in myriad other ways.

For consumers, it could mean higher prices for a cup of coffee or a pound of bananas in coming months. For farmers in the Midwest, weeks



Marathon station on West Mason Street on Thursday. Corey Wilson/Press-Gazette

THE DAMAGE

■ **Gas prices**
Lautenschlager, Green call for action
► Story, B-1

■ **Exports stall**
With port closed, farmers' harvests bottleneck

■ **Java jolt**
New Orleans key to nation's coffee supply

■ **Import impasse**
Steel, rubber, plywood shipments diverted

away from the annual harvests of corn and soybeans, Katrina threatens to create bottlenecks for the huge amount of U.S. grain earmarked for overseas buyers.

And for a host of businesses — from retailers to tire producers — it raises troubling questions and creates headache-inducing challenges. Will consumers, paying substantially more for gasoline, rethink other purchases? Will producers be

► See Fallout, A-4

Local aid workers gear up for missions

Volunteers know 'it's pretty rough down there'

BY PATTI ZARLING
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Leon and Sue Engler's packed suitcase sits on their bed as they await a call from The Salvation Army telling them they're needed in areas destroyed by Hurricane Katrina.

The Green Bay couple belongs to the nonprofit's disaster relief team, and they eventually will head to the New Orleans area to help deliver food and perhaps supplies to victims of the storm.



Food distribution begins Thursday in Gulfport, Miss. Denis Paquin/The Associated Press

"We're watching every minute of it on TV," Sue Engler said. "We're waiting on pins and needles." The couple last year spent 10 days in Florida helping

► Ways to cope with disasters, A-4

those affected by Hurricane Ivan. It was hard work, but very gratifying, Engler said.

Many families are still trying to recover from the devastation in Florida, but wreckage from Hurricane Katrina looks much worse, Engler said.

"It's pretty rough down there," she said. "The guy from (the Milwaukee Salvation Army) said if we got called down tomorrow we likely would sleep in the back of our semi. There are no hotels."

Work on a disaster team isn't easy. Volunteers begin at

► See Aid, A-4

INSIDE
Should New Orleans rebuild?
► A-2

Lawlessness, violence prevail
► A-3

Mike Lopresti: Echoes of 9/11
► A-5

Saints' Stecker safe with team
► C-1

Reconstruction cost will be unparalleled
► C-8

HERE'S HOW YOU CAN HELP

Jillian Morris, left, collects a donation Thursday from Dorothy Pinkston in Bloomington, Ill. David Proeber/The Associated Press



■ **The Brett Favre Fourward Foundation:** Donate cash or items at www.officialbrettfavre.com, at Brett Favre's Steakhouse, 1004 Brett Favre Pass, Green Bay, or at Wisconsin Aviation, 3606 Corben Court, Madison. Items must be new, and no food or water will be accepted.

■ **The American Red Cross Lakeland Chapter:** To make a donation, call (800) HELP-NOW,

► **More fund-raisers, volunteer opportunities, A-3, A-4**

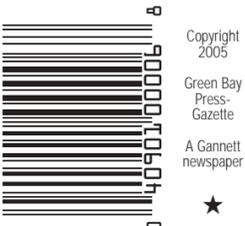
(800) 435-7669 or log on to www.redcross.org.

■ **The Salvation Army.** Checks should be marked "Katrina Disaster Relief." For more information, contact Tom Thuecks, Service Extension Director, at (414) 302-4300 (office) or (414) 526-1474 (cell) or visit

The Salvation Army online at: www.salvationarmyusa.org and www.salvationarmywi.org.

■ **Catholic Charities:** To send a donation, see www.catholiccharitiesusa.org or send checks to Diocese of Green Bay, P.O. Box 1506, Green Bay, WI 54305-1506.

■ **The United Way of Brown County:** Donate at www.browncountyunitedway.org. Or call (920) 432-3393.



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WEATHER

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► Forecasts update every 30 minutes at www.greenbaypressgazette.com

High **76**
Low **50**

INSIDE
'NCAA Football 2006' lines up against 'Madden'
► Finally Friday, D-1

