

# Charlotte Sun



THURSDAY OCTOBER 28, 2004

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50 CENTS

## Today in Charlotte



### HOME AT LAST

People who lost their homes to Hurricane Charley moved into the new FEMA mobile home park Wednesday. See **OUR TOWN**

### BACK IN CUSTODY

A rape suspect who slipped away from guards on his way back to Ohio for trial is back in police custody. See **OUR TOWN**

### TARPS ADJUST

The Charlotte Tarpons adjust to oddball practice routines as they prepare to face rival Port Charlotte this week. See **SPORTS**



### NIGHT SCHOOL

Thanks to Hurricane Charley and the twice-yearly time change, some students face a dark end to their school day. See **OUR TOWN**

### RISING FROM THE TARMAC

Charlotte County airport authority plans to continue rebuilding what Hurricane Charley tore up. See **BUSINESS**

#### Services Update

Based on information received from local service providers.

- City Debris/Trash Cleanup: 100% COMPLETE
- County Debris/Trash Cleanup: 55% COMPLETE
- Phone Service Restoration: 99.4% COMPLETE
- Cable TV Restoration: 99% COMPLETE

Sun graphic by Jim Merchant

### CHARLIE SAYS ...



The curse of the Bambino has been lifted!

### TODAY'S COUPONS

Extreme Accessories .....Front 3  
European Recliner Gallery.....Front 3

**SUN COUPON VALUE METER**

**\$ 133,301**

# Katherine Harris nearly run over



**SELTZER** was arrested Wednesday for allegedly trying to run over U.S. Rep. Katherine Harris and supporters.

STAFF, WIRE REPORTS  
SARASOTA — A 46-year-old Sarasota man who told police he was “exercising his political expression” when he allegedly tried to run over U.S. Rep. Katherine Harris and a group of re-election campaign supporters was arrested Wednesday.

Barry Seltzer, 2482 W. Paulstan Court, was charged with aggravated assault with a deadly weapon and booked into the Sarasota County jail.

According to a Sarasota Police Department report, Harris and

several supporters were campaigning at the intersection of Fruitville Road and North Washington Boulevard in Sarasota when a silver Cadillac sped as it entered the intersection.

As the Cadillac drove west on Fruitville past the intersection, the driver swerved at the last minute and allegedly drove onto the sidewalk and straight at Harris, but swerved again at the last minute and drove off. No one was injured.

Harris, a Sarasota Republican, told police she feared for her life and couldn't move as the vehicle

sped toward her, the report shows. She could not be reached for comment Wednesday.

A witness was able to remember the license plate number, which was registered to a silver Cadillac owned by Seltzer, a registered Democrat.

During an interview at the police station, Seltzer began discussing various traffic issues that concerned him, including slow drivers in the passing lane. The report said Seltzer told police that



HARRIS

See HARRIS, page 4

# 86 YEARS LATER... CURSE REVERSED!



AP photo

RED SOX SWEEP CARDINALS TO CLAIM WORLD SERIES CROWN

• See **SPORTS**

# College cancels 'Fahrenheit' film



Sun photo by Sarah Coward

**Express yourself:** Punta Gorda resident and registered independent voter Jeremy Caverly, exercises his freedom of speech Wednesday in downtown Punta Gorda.

## School board faults organizer

By **GREG MARTIN**  
STAFF WRITER

Edison College in Punta Gorda has canceled a public showing of Michael Moore's controversial film “Fahrenheit 9/11” set for tonight.

The cancellation came after some college administrators and board members were surprised to read about the showing just one day earlier, when the Charlotte Sun published a notice on its community page Wednesday.

The film portrays Moore's suspicions that President Bush had a connection with the Saudi royal family and presents unflattering film clips of Bush during moments of critical decision-making such as when terror struck on Sept. 11, 2001.

But the cancellation isn't because the college is

See **FILM**, page 4

# People in United States putting on pounds

By **LAURA MECKLER**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

WASHINGTON — Americans are getting a little taller and a lot fatter. Adults are roughly an inch taller than they were in the early 1960s, on average, and nearly 25 pounds heavier, the government reported Wednesday.

The nation's expanding waistline has been well documented, though Wednesday's report is the first to quantify it based on how many

pounds the average person is carrying.

The reasons are no surprise: more fast food, more television and less walking around the neighborhood, to name a few. Earlier this year, researchers reported that obesity fueled by poor diet and lack of activity threatens to overtake tobacco use as the leading preventable cause of death.

In 1960-62, the average man weighed 166.3 pounds. By 1999-

2002, the average had reached 191 pounds, according to the National Center for Health Statistics — part of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention — which issued the report. Similarly, the report said, the average woman's weight rose from 140.2 pounds to 164.3 pounds.

The trends are the same for children, the report said: Average

See **POUNDS**, page 4

# Morse found guilty

By **LAURA A. SCHMID**  
DESOTO NEWS EDITOR

DESOTO COUNTY — Family and friends of Frank Morse Jr. sat in stunned disbelief as a jury found Morse guilty of first-degree murder in a swift two-day trial that ended Wednesday at the DeSoto County Courthouse in Arcadia.

Morse's brother Stan choked back tears and his mother began crying as Morse was escorted past the family in handcuffs.

“It ain't over yet,” Morse said to his mother as he walked by.

See **MORSE**, page 4

# Punta Gorda revitalization clock ticking

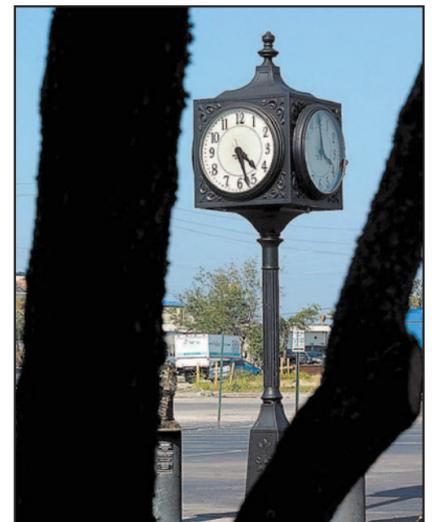
By **STEVE REILLY**  
STAFF WRITER

PUNTA GORDA — The city's town clock marks the hour when Hurricane Charley's winds whipped through downtown.

Located on the 100 block of West Marion Avenue, the four-faced clock froze at 4 p.m. on two of its faces and 4:27 p.m. on the other two.

While some think the stopped clock should

See **CLOCK**, page 4



Sun photo by Jonathan Fredin

**Time to decide:** Time stands still following Hurricane Charley on the clock in downtown Punta Gorda.

Daily Edition

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### Today's Weather

Partly cloudy and breezy.



**86°**  
HIGH  
**66°**  
LOW