

Burr

Continued from page 1

disagree -- particularly with the war.

"I think that displays what freedom really is," he said, "that we're willing to let that exist in our country, and I think that's what makes us so strong."

Student Dominique Williams asked Burr how long it will take before the soldiers in Iraq can come home. Burr said there is no answer, but staying there is a long term commitment to keep peace.

Another student asked Burr what measures are being taken to prevent another terrorist attack on the infrastructure.

"We have a number of things that are outside this country, as it relates to security and containers before they ever get here," Burr said. Cargo is checked and protected in transit.

There are most elaborate security systems at nuclear power plants, he said, adding that it's probably easier to get on a military base than onto the grounds of a nuclear power station. You can't eliminate the risks completely he said. At some point, the question comes down to dealing with the impact and loss of life, he said.

Ronnie Christian wanted to know how Americans can trust the Iraqi people. When a soldier walks into a neighborhood, Burr said, he can never drop his guard. Americans were slow to respond to terrorism, he said. In his travels to Europe, Burr said he was used to high security measures that had long been in effect there. Americans, however, enjoyed arriving at the airports at the last minute and didn't want to go through security, he said.

"We needed to adopt the

same level of security (Europeans) had already seen," he said.

Christian also asked why oil prices are bumped up after hurricanes.

"This is 100 percent supply and demand," Burr said. He mentioned two areas in which the relationship between America has changed -- China and Venezuela.

"One, In the past, we never had a growing Chinese economy," he said, "And two, our relationship with the country, Venezuela, ... has deteriorated with the change in leadership there. At one time, America received 22 percent petroleum products from there. Now, it's less than one percent."

The result is that the Middle East can bid up the price of oil without the leverage of oil from Venezuela, he said. Oil is purchased globally based on the dollar so everyone pays the same price, Burr said.

Although America has thousands of millions of gallons of oil in reserves, the problem of rising oil costs is enhanced by the fact that America hasn't built any new refineries, he said. Environmental standards have become so stringent that nobody can get permits to build new refineries, he said.

"Unless we're willing to allow new refineries to get built," Burr said, "our problem is not going to be 'Have we got enough crude oil?'"

Student Justin White wanted to know what Burr's view on President Bush's nomination for Supreme Court is. Burr, who plans to meet with Judge John Roberts, said that if he is confirmed and goes on the Supreme Court, Roberts will be the only Supreme Court Justice who has ever argued a case in front of the Supreme Court -- in fact, more than 35

cases.

"What you should be concerned with," he told students, "and what I will ask (Roberts) is 'Do you believe that the court is there to interpret what the Constitution provides for us people or do you believe that the role of the court is to take what the Constitution says and then decide what they really meant?'"

"...I believe that the Constitution is a pretty firm document. There are no gray areas," he said.

Concerning what he hears on the news, White said he doesn't know what to believe.

"I'm not sure you can do that now," Burr said. "I'm not sure that 100 percent of what you hear is factual. There's a little editorial that's used."

Burr asked students to think about whether their parents did their homework on the candidates before the last presidential election. He said he wished people spent as much time researching the candidates as pro basketball teams spend researching new players.

Another student asked Burr whether there is any new legislation on restricting abortion since a law was enacted during Bush's first term to make late-term abortion illegal. The problem is that Americans are about equally divided on the issue, making it a difficult issue to overturn, Burr said.

"Frankly, it will not happen until the opinion of the American people shifts on the issue," Burr said. "...Where our system does not work extremely well is when you've got 50 percent and 50 percent."

Burr left students to ponder three qualities of success -- character, conviction and commitment. "Your future is determined by how much you're willing to work for," he said.

Annual ALS softball tourney nears

The 7th annual Jim "Catfish" Hunter ALS Softball Tournament is set for Sept. 23-25 at the county softball fields in Winfall.

The tournament features three days of fun, food, fellowship, and most importantly, fund raising to help fight ALS, the cruel disease that cut short the life of Hall of Fame pitcher Jim "Catfish" Hunter.

Hunter died just days before the first tournament

was scheduled, postponing, but not cancelling, the event that has raised thousands of dollars over the years for the foundation that Hunter helped set up to support research and patients and families dealing with ALS.

A raffle, concessions, sportswear sales and a silent auction will help raise funds throughout the tournament weekend.

Those who wish to help

with tax-deductible monetary donations may contact Joan Hunter, Tournament Director, 502 W. First Street, Kill Devil Hills, NC 27948 or phone 252-441-9483.

To donate raffle items or items for the silent auction, contact Helen Hunter at 426-4863.

To volunteer to work in the concessions stand or to make homemade goodies for sale, call Keith Rountree at 337-4153.

Gas

Continued from page 1

supply and get fuel at the lowest price, he said.

"I believe (prices will) go down by the end of the week," Bateman said.

Lita Nix, manager at the Trade Mart, agrees that the price will eventually drop, but not as low as people would like.

"I do believe it's going to drop sometime soon," Nix said.

Winslow said that he noticed while traveling that gas prices here are 10 cents cheaper than in Williamston and Windsor. But prices in Elizabeth City tend to vary more because

Conserve fuel, check out lowest prices

Check these web sites to find out the lowest gas prices in the area:

gasbuddy.com

gaspricewatch.com

Key in Hertford's zip code and click on the miles you're willing to travel.

Minimize your fuel costs by driving smarter. Use your air conditioner

sparingly and use the lower settings. Drive slower and give yourself time to brake slower. Keep tires inflated at the proper pressure. Don't let the engine idle for more than a minute. Plan your errands so you can do several in an area at one time. Drive only when you need to go somewhere. When your vehicle is running properly, you use less fuel.

of higher competition and possibly the effect of the bypass, he said.

But Winslow wouldn't guess about future prices. He recommended that drivers keep a watch on the stock commodity listed as

Light Sweet Crude to determine whether gas prices will take a hike or drop.

"It's supply and demand," he said. "If the supply goes up, I think you'll see the price go down."

Piping

Continued from page 1

"We still have problems here," Christensen said. "We just got the worst."

Lines throughout the collection system have been checked and repaired using a camera that is inserted into the pipes, he said.

"They're TVing the lines

to make sure that the work they've done has been done and there are no problems," Christensen said. "We're at the stages where, what I would say, it's essentially done."

Old terracotta pipes were lined with a type of flexible fiberglass that is inserted into the pipes, expanded, then heated so that it becomes one solid liner inside a series of short joining pieces. The

old pipes were separating at the joints, allowing for rainwater and sand to enter and constrict the lines.

Lining pipes in this manner costs about half the amount of money it would take to replace the pipes, Christensen said.

Manholes were also lined with a cement type of material. Work on the 57 manholes is now completed.

News deadline Friday, 5 p.m.

LOCK-IN GREAT RATES AND SAVE OVER \$500*

There's never been a better time to connect to Mediacom. Call now and lock-in special pricing when you get both our Digital Two Star Pak with HBO® and Starz®, plus Mediacom Online™. You'll get great rates on 2 of our most popular services for the next 12 months!

DIGITAL TWO STAR PAK WITH HBO® AND STARZ®

\$39.95 A Month For A Year*

MEDIACOM ONLINE™ HIGH SPEED INTERNET

\$29.95 A Month For A Year*



Ladder 42 Starz®



Shark Tale HBO®



Mediacom Online™ • Up to 5Mbps!

Connect to over 150 channels with Digital Cable and HBO® & Starz®

- It's the total package! The best of cable, exciting new channels, along with the latest in home entertainment technology.
- 45 channels of commercial-free digital music.
- Interactive on-screen program guide with universal remote.
- Family Cable on all additional televisions at no extra charge.
- No equipment to buy and local customer service.
- Ask about adding a Digital Video Recorder to your service, so you can record your favorite shows...and pause and rewind live TV!

It's Not TV. It's HBO®

- Don't miss ROME™, the biggest HBO® original series ever.
- The best original series, including a new season of the comedy hit CURB YOUR ENTHUSIASM®.
- More of the big Hollywood movies you want to see, like RAY, SHARK TALE, TAXI and I, ROBOT.
- Hot-ticket stand-up comedy, superstar performances and exclusive specials.

Surf faster...and safer with Mediacom Online™ high speed Internet service.

- Up to 80x faster than 56K dial-up.
- Up to three times faster than most DSL services.
- Includes eTrust™ Internet Security Suite with full anti-virus, firewall and identity protections.
- Always connected. No dialing in. No additional phone line required.
- Share 6 e-mail accounts with your entire family.
- We're always there with 24/7 online support.



Free Installation!

1.866.966.CABLE

www.mediacomcable.com

1.866.966.2225

Mediacom

*Offer expires October 31, 2005 and is available to qualifying new residential accounts only. Customer must subscribe to both Digital Two Star Pak with HBO and Mediacom Online to receive this special offer. Discounted offer on family, digital, premium and internet service offers are good only for the period specified and includes one DCT 2000 receiver. Month 13 through 24, Digital Two Star Pak, discounted rate becomes \$54.95 per month and the Mediacom Online discounted rate becomes \$39.95 per month. Thereafter, standard monthly fees apply. If promotional services are discontinued during discounted period, all remaining promotional package services are converted to standard monthly rates. Mediacom Online requires CableCARD certified modems. Original device may be required for service and is available from Mediacom for an additional charge. Customer is entitled to a free installation on the Digital Two Star Pak and a free full installation for the Mediacom Online service valued at \$29.95. If customer prefers a Mediacom Online Standard installation, it is available for a discount of \$29.95. Regular Online installation fee, \$29.95. Mediacom digital programming services require a digital converter. An advanced digital receiver is required for HDTV use and is available for an additional fee. Check checks and/or equipment deposit may be required. Programming is subject to change. Not all services, channels and functionalities are available in all areas or at all locations. Offers, packages, prices, programming, availability, channel lineups and service features and specifications may vary among areas. Taxes, franchise, FCC, copyright fees and other charges, if any, are additional. Offer may vary and may not be combinable with any other offer. Offer void where prohibited. Call your local Mediacom office for complete details. ©2005 HBO NETWORKS, INC. All Rights Reserved. HBO and related marks are trademarks of HBO NETWORKS, INC., a Time Warner Company. HBO®, Rome™, and Curb Your Enthusiasm® are service marks of Home Box Office, Inc. Ladder 42 ©2004 Buena Vista Home Entertainment. All rights reserved. Shark Tale TM & ©2005 DreamWorks Animation LLC and DreamWorks LLC. All Rights Reserved. Mediacom is a registered trademark of Mediacom Communications Corporation. M941170-04