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Red Cross treats hundreds because of heat at NU game

The first Husker home game was relatively uneventful for police and emergency services except for the hundreds of people stricken by the heat in the stands.

During the game, American Red Cross aid stations were overflowing with fans suffering from heat exhaustion and heat stroke, said Cathy Ryan, health and safety specialist with the Red Cross.

Ryan said an estimated 250 to 300 people were treated during the game. A few people were taken to area hospitals for treatment, but none of the conditions were believed life-threatening.

Lincoln Police, on the other hand, reported a relatively easy game day. Capt. Joy Citta said 69 cars were towed Saturday, which was down from the usual 100 to 120 cars towed on an average first game.

Citta said new downtown

parking garages and few road construction projects also helped ease traffic problems.

University police cite sophomore for marijuana possession

University Police cited one Abel Residence Hall sophomore for drug violations early Saturday after marijuana smoke was evident in the hall.

A resident assistant reported the smell on the 10th floor and police traced it to 19-year-old Ryan Dull's room, University Police Assistant Chief Bill Manning said.

When the officer told Dull he had smelled smoke in the hall, the student produced a small pipe with drug residue and suspected marijuana inside. Dull was cited for possession of less than an ounce of marijuana and drug paraphernalia

Two automotive businesses robbed in similar manner

Two automotive businesses

separated by less than two blocks were both burglarized in a similar manner early Tuesday.

A broken glass alarm summoned officers to In-Line Suspension, 3100 N. 20th St., at 2:15 a.m., Lincoln Police Ofc. Katherine Finnell said.

Officers found the business' front glass broken out. The thief or thieves took a car rotor from a scrap pile near the building and used it to smash the window, Finnell said.

The thieves caused \$410 in damages and made off with \$31 cash from the register.

After investigating the In-Line Suspension burglary, officers checked other businesses in the area for signs of forced entry.

At 4:30 a.m. another broken glass alarm sounded at Don's Used Tires, 3260 N. 20th St.

Sometime between 3 and 4:30 a.m., thieves used a tire wheel outside the business to smash the front window, Finnell said.

Law & Order

The thieves took \$40 cash from the register, four promotional watches and a small model truck for \$210 total loss. The thieves also caused \$500 in damages.

Police focus on school zones in traffic enforcement project

In their back-to-school traffic enforcement project, Lincoln Police handed out 2,280 citations.

From Aug. 21 to Sept. 1 police focused on school zones to remind drivers to slow down, Ofc. Katherine Finnell said.

In addition to the traffic tickets, 622 warnings were given. Twenty-six drivers were arrested for driving on a suspended license.

Six were arrested for outstanding warrants, two were cited for drugs and two for disturbing the peace with load stereos.

Compiled by Josh Funk

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Tire treads baffle lawmakers

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Lawmakers have an arsenal of questions about defective Firestone tires, but the congressional hearings that begin Wednesday are not likely to produce the answer to the most vexing: What is making the tires come apart on the road?

Officials from Bridgestone/Firestone Inc. and Ford Motor Co. say they have hired outside experts to help find out. Most of the 6.5 million Firestone tires that have been recalled are on Ford vehicles, including the popular Ford Explorer.

"We will not say anything about root cause until we are certain we have something," Ford spokesman Ken Zino told reporters on Tuesday.

The companies have said the reason the tires were recalled on Aug. 9 was data showing those tires have more tread separation, blowouts and other problems than comparable models.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has received more than 1,400 complaints involving Firestone tires, including reports of 88 deaths and more than 250 injuries. The models under scrutiny are P235/75R15-size radial ATX and ATX II tires and Wilderness AT tires of the same size made at the Bridgestone/Firestone plant in Decatur, Ill.

"We know now that perhaps 90 people have lost their lives as a result of this kind of a problem and the question is — could these tires have been replaced earlier before they failed these individuals on the road?"

Billy Tauzin
Louisiana representative

Last week, NHTSA issued a warning about the safety of 1.4 million tires beyond the 6.5 million recalled models. Bridgestone/Firestone continues to insist there is no reason to expand the recall to include those tires.

Ford officials said the company has about 500 people working exclusively on the recall. Ford officials said Tuesday that 1.75 million of the recalled tires have been replaced.

Bridgestone/Firestone has hired an independent entity to investigate, although the company won't say who it is. Rep. Fred Upton, chairman of a subcommittee of the House Commerce

Committee that will hold hearings today, said the focus will be on when Ford, Bridgestone/Firestone and government investigators first knew there was a problem.

Lawsuits involving tread separation on Firestone tires date back at least to 1991. Ford began recalling the tires overseas in August 1999, though it never alerted U.S. authorities.

Upton, R-Mich., said he is especially disappointed that the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration did not get involved in the case until this year, even though State Farm Mutual Insurance Co. has said it sent e-mail to the agency in July 1998 saying the insurer had documented 21 crashes caused by Firestone's ATX tires.

"We need to find out if NHTSA's been asleep at the wheel," Upton said.

Rep. Billy Tauzin, R-La., who will preside with Upton at the hearing, said it's clear that Ford and Bridgestone/Firestone must have known there were problems with the tires because Ford recalled them in 16 other countries before the U.S. recall began.

"We know now that perhaps 90 people have lost their lives as a result of this kind of a problem and the question is — could these tires have been replaced earlier before they failed these individuals on the road?" he said.

Chelsea Clinton to appear at Olympics

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Chelsea Clinton, so weary from foreign travel with her dad that she missed a chance to vacation with her parents in New York, is feeling better and is ready to represent the first family at the Olympic Games in Australia, the White House said.

Having been with President Clinton on trips to Nigeria, Tanzania, Egypt and Colombia late last month, Chelsea didn't feel up to going on a vacation and

fund-raising jaunt to upstate New York with her parents, who returned to the White House on Saturday after one night out of town.

"I think the only real problem was that she was tired," White House press secretary Joe Lockhart said Tuesday. "I think she was subjected to a full dose of her father's schedule: a four-day trip to Africa with a half a day off, and then a day trip to South America, then the prospect of traveling up to New York."

Chelsea, 20, decided to take a

semester off from her studies at Stanford University to be with her father as his presidency winds down — and with her mother as her race for a Senate seat from New York heats up.

The president said he wanted to attend the Olympic Games this month in Sydney but that his daughter would be representing the family at those games. Opening ceremonies are Sept. 15.

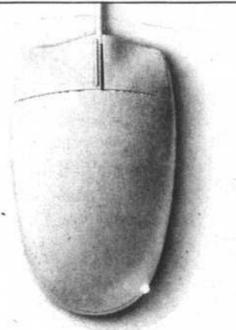
"My wife is in a competition of her own, and I am informed my services may be needed elsewhere," Clinton said.



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Gloria Steinem, feminist icon, ties the knot

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

STILWELL, Okla. — Gloria Steinem, the feminist icon who once dismissed marriage as an institution that destroys relationships, is a first-time bride at the age of 66.

Steinem, the co-founder of Ms. magazine, married South African-born entrepreneur David Bale, 61, in rural Oklahoma on Sunday.

"I'm happy, surprised and one day will write about (marriage), but for now, I hope this proves what feminists have always said — that feminism is about the ability to choose what's right at each time of our lives."

Steinem had said the chances of her marrying were slim. In 1987, she said: "I don't think marriage has a good name ... Legally speaking, it was designed for a person and a half. You became a semi-non-person when you got married."

The ceremony was in the Adair County home of Wilma Mankiller, former chief of the Cherokee Nation.