

## First Off

By JON VOLKMAN  
*Prospectus Editor*

More copies guaranteed.

Sounds like a reason to go, does it not? I guess it depends on what we have more copies of and why it has to be guaranteed. In this case, it is video selection.

It seems that video stores are really striving to outdo each other. We have bigger selections, more copies, and no late fees. They promise more and more it seems, supposedly in response to demand.

Yet what does one actually want from a video store? In my case, it is not twenty copies of the latest "blockbuster" or the entire collection of *Friends*. I want the selection, and I want it to include movies that cover the last one hundred years of cinema, not just the last five.

That is where my problem comes with local stores and chains. It seems everyone wants the new stuff, or stuff that has come out in the last ten years.

I gave up on finding decent video games to rent in the area about a year ago, switching to an online rental company that mails out your choices. I get a far better selection, can keep a game for months, and pay less in the long run. Especially with some stores charging close to eight bucks for renting a game, twenty a month is a steal.

So I finally broke down and let my movie addiction have a little more freedom by signing up for an online company. At around fifteen bucks a month, I can have two at a time, and get more selection than I would if every video store in CU was under one roof.

For me, that is what matters. I can stay home, not fight the crowds, and get a larger selection of video games and videos.

I only have to worry about how reliable my mail carrier is, and not how reliable I am in returning an item before its due date.



The boats pictured here were originally docked in an inlet two-hundred yards away on the other side of this apartment building complex. There was no visible path big enough between the buildings for these boats to have found their way to the parking lot. This is just one of the mysteries left behind by Hurricane Katrina. This photo and the photos on page 6 were taken by Parkland College staff member Matthew Skaj on a recent mission trip to Ocean Springs, Mississippi.

## Katrina aftermath reveals bigger problems in America

By MATTHEW SKAJ  
*For the Prospectus*

A few weeks ago I was fortunate to participate in a local mission effort to bring supplies and aid to the community of Ocean Springs, Mississippi, which sits across the bay from Biloxi and was one of the area's hardest hit by hurricane Katrina.

The storm surge in this town reached 35 feet along the coast and completely erased the existence of most homes within a mile from the shoreline.

The remaining homes were left torn to shreds or flooded beyond repair. I had never seen such devastation in all my life, and I pray that I never have to live through it myself. Our Mid-

west tornados are no comparison.

The biggest problem in this area is that most residents do not have flood insurance and their current policies only cover damage caused by the high winds generally associated with most hurricanes.

The storm surge was the real killer in this storm. It not only took lives, but left most people without a home or any personal contents. Even though the storm surge was directly caused by the hurricane, insurance companies are allowed to treat it as a separate cause of damage that is listed as "flooding." The people whose houses were completely swept out to sea by the storm surge will get

their homes replaced. The people living next to them, whose house still stands flooded and beyond repair, will get nothing.

This is where ordinary people like you and me and groups like the one I was a part of come into play. The help and aid given by local churches and groups like the Salvation Army is immediately and directly helping these people caught between bureaucracy and a technicality to rebuild their lives.

I received the call to go along on this trip on a Tuesday and by the time Friday came around and it was time to leave, several of my coworkers had donated \$167 which was used to buy basic supplies (bottled water, coolers, tarps, cleaning supplies,

etc.) for the people of Ocean Springs.

By Saturday morning those supplies along with two trailers and a bus packed full of supplies, along with a crew of 20 people from three different church groups were on the scene in Mississippi.

My group was assisting the Ocean Springs Church of Christ, who had turned their facility into a free grocery store for anyone in need. Aisles of pews were turned into aisles of relief and hope. Our group went out to people's homes that had been flooded and spent the day tearing out carpet and drywall. By the end of the day Saturday, I

See **Katrina** on page 6



## Weather Forecast

**Wednesday:** A 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Increasing clouds, with a high around 77. Calm wind becoming west between 11 and 14 mph.

**Wednesday Night:** A 30 percent chance of showers before midnight. Partly cloudy, with a low around 48. North northwest wind between 9 and 16 mph.

**Thursday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 66.

**Thursday Night:** Clear, with a low near 42.

**Friday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 71.

**Friday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 46.

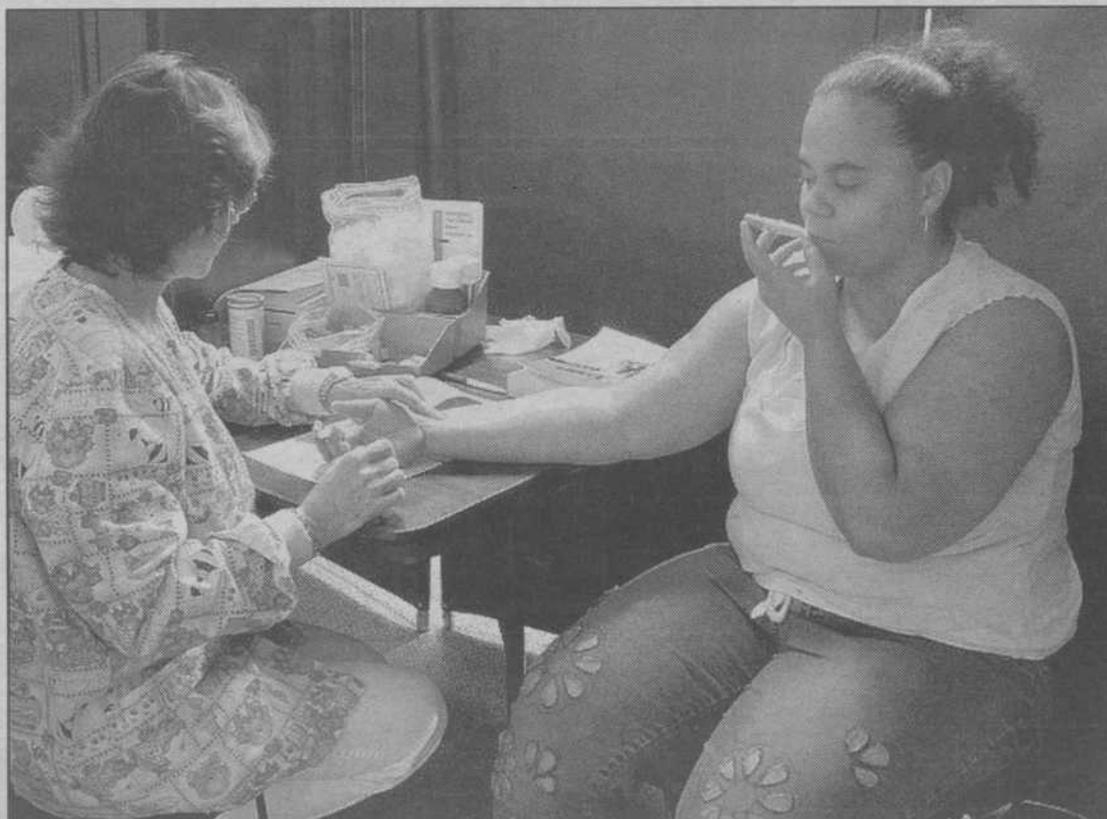
**Saturday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 76.

**Saturday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 52.

**Sunday:** Partly cloudy, with a high around 75.

**Sunday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low near 54.

**Monday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 77.



Catherine Coburn counts the pulses of Toneka's wrist while she sits with a thermometer in her mouth, watching on.  
Nicole Simmons/*Prospectus*

## Prospectus

To contact the Parkland *Prospectus*, phone us 217-351-2216 FAX 217-373-3835. By Email: prospectus@parkland.edu. By U.S. mail: Parkland College, Room X-155, 2400 W. Bradley Ave., Champaign, IL 61821. ADVERTISERS phone 217-373-3855 or FAX 217-373-3835

### Letters and Editorial Policy

- The *Prospectus* is a student publication.
- The *Prospectus* is published weekly during the Fall and Spring semesters, intermittently in summer.
- Views expressed are opinions of staff and contributors and not necessarily that of the *Prospectus* or Parkland College.
- Advertising is accepted which is non-discriminatory and not in violation of any laws. The *Prospectus* reserves the right to refuse any advertising. Publication of advertising constitutes final acceptance.
- Advertisers must verify ads for accuracy.
- The *Prospectus* welcomes letters to the editor. The rules of correspondence: all letters must be signed with a phone number and address. The *Prospectus* staff must verify the identity of letter writers. E-mail to the *Prospectus* must also include a full name, phone number and address. Correspondence may be edited to accommodate the space requirements of the paper.
- Guest writers are welcome and subject to the same rules as other correspondence. We welcome writers from the Parkland community and the public. The editor will consider original works of fiction and short writings if space is available.
- The *Prospectus* deadline for all advertising and other submissions is 5 p.m. of the Friday immediately before the upcoming issue.

### Staff

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## Fall 2005 Phi Theta Kappa Satellite Seminars announced

### ■ Series focuses on popular culture

Parkland College will be a downlink site for the nationwide Fall 2005 Phi Theta Kappa Satellite Seminars.

This series of five lectures, presented by renowned speakers in the field of popular culture, will be broadcast via satellite to college campuses across the nation.

The seminars are free and open to the public.

The audience will have opportunities to call in questions, and the broadcast at Parkland will be followed by a discussion period and refreshments.

The programs are co-produced by Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society and the National Collegiate Honors Council (NCHC).

The seminars are part of a five part Honors Satellite Seminar Series entitled Popular Culture: Shaping and Reflecting Who We Are.

Topics and schedule for the remaining Satellite Seminars, which ends on November 15, is as follows:

#### Fashion Culture

Tuesday, Oct. 11 6:30 p.m. in D 244

#### Shattering Stereotypes

Tuesday, Oct. 25 6:30 p.m. in the Gallery Lounge

#### Advertising & Consumerism

Tuesday, Nov. 8 6:30 p.m. in the Gallery Lounge

#### Religion in America

Tuesday, Nov. 15 6:30 p.m. in the Gallery Lounge

## Did you know that safety is everyone's business?

By OFFICER MEYER

Many states, including Illinois, have adopted new laws to help promote traffic safety for teens. One such new traffic law affects drivers under the age of 18 and their cell phone usage. As of July 15, 2005 the use of cell phones is prohibited by person under the age of 18 while driving. Phones may be used, but only for emergency purposes. Many states are adopting this same law. This law was established due to a statistical study on traffic crash reports. The study showed that distractions, such as cell phone usage, were a leading cause for accidents. When coupled with few hours behind the wheel the numbers soared. Hands-free sets are highly recommended and should be used by others while driving. Remember safety is everyone's business.



#### Parkland Art Gallery

Thursday, September 29:  
6:00 p.m.—Reception for Commercial/Visions/Personal/Illustrations. Show runs September 28 through October 27.

#### Staerkel Planetarium

Friday, September 30:  
7:00 p.m.—Fall Prairie Skies.  
8:00 p.m.—Just Imagine.  
9:30 p.m.—Pink Floyd's *Dark Side of the Moon*.  
Saturday, October 1:  
7:00 p.m.—Follow the Drinking Gourd  
8:00 p.m.—Just Imagine.  
9:30 p.m.—Pink Floyd's *Dark Side of the Moon*.

#### Cobra Athletics

September 28:  
4:00 p.m., Men's Soccer vs. ICC

September 29:  
6:00 p.m., Volleyball vs. Shawnee

September 29-30:  
Golf: Danville Fall Invitational

September 30-October 1:  
Volleyball — Parkland Invitational

October 1:  
1:00 p.m., Men's Soccer vs. SWIC

October 4:  
6:00 p.m., Volleyball vs Lincoln College

**Have an Event at Parkland? Let the *Prospectus* know!**

**E-mail activities/events to us at:**

prospectus@parkland.edu

## Keyboard chatter

By **LARRY V. GILBERT**  
For the Prospectus

**Y**OU MAY HAVE many living history books available to you. And you probably don't realize it!

I'm speaking of your parents, your grandparents, your aunts and uncles, and other relatives and friends.

If I could turn the clock back to 1960 for a month or so, I would do it. And the first place I would head for would be my great-grandmother's house in Mahomet. I would move in for that month. And I would bring with me a tape recorder, a camera, and a dozen stenographer's notebooks. All of this crossed my mind as I stood at her grave in the Mansfield Cemetery on Memorial Day this year.

My great-grandmother, Ida Coomer Wright, was born in 1874, just nine years after Abraham Lincoln was assassinated in Washington, D.C. She completed eight years of elementary school (they called it grammar school then) in a one-room country school. If I were able to turn the clock back to that time, I can imagine myself sitting on a chair in the back of the room during the history lesson. I think I would hear the class telling of how their parents and grandparents read in the Chicago or New York newspapers of that horrible night at the Ford's Theatre.

When I was in grade school, a friend of mine, Gayanne Gates Carpenter, and I would visit great-grandma. I'm afraid we were more interested at the time in her vinegar taffy recipe than we were in quizzing her about history in her era.

It's funny that you remember certain things about your great-grandparents and never recall other experiences with them. But I do remember the blue vacuum sweeper she had. As a young child I was afraid of that sweeper. I would run and hide behind the bed when she turned it on.

I remember her yellow and green "cook stove" in the kitchen. She would start the fire with

corn cobs and then add wood or coal. During the Depression she would burn corn because it was bringing only 10 cents per bushel at the grain elevators.

I remember her chicken and dumplings, her pickled cabbage with red bell peppers, and her molasses cookies. My favorite menu when she invited me to have "supper" with her was fried chicken, fried potatoes and onions, fresh green beans from her garden, iced tea and cherry pie from fruit picked from her trees in the east yard.

Afternoon visits were always a treat with her. She would listen to everything we said and then respond with just one word: "Well!"

After listening to us, though, it was her turn. And when she really wanted to make a point, she would shake that index finger of hers toward you. That was the signal that she meant business and that we should listen to every word.

I spent too much time telling her about what I was doing. Looking back, I should have asked her many history questions, many family tree questions, and questions about my great-grandfather, who died in 1932, long before I was born.

Now it's too late. She died in 1969. My grandparents died in 1981, my father in 1984, and my mother in 1992. I have one aunt living. And I must spend some time with her, asking questions. And writing everything down!

Learn from my mistakes. Your grandparents can share with you the assassination of John F. Kennedy, details of his funeral, as well as many other events in history.

**T**HE STORY GOES that a kindergarten class was on a field trip to the sheriff's office. One of the officers pointed out the "10 Most Wanted" pictures on the wall and told the kids that these men were dangerous and they were trying to catch them.

One of the boys asked, "Why didn't you keep them when you took these pictures?"

## Refund supports the show habit as well as Pygmalion music festival

### ■ Sounds in Stereo

By **E. CLARKSON**  
Prospectus Staff Writer



Super fantastic music bookie extraordinaire, Seth Fein, has triumphed once again. He has managed to bring not only the best local acts but also high profile A-list indie acts, as well.

The conglomeration of these 20 something bands, Fein has deemed the Pygmalion Music Festival.

Pygmalion kicks off tonight with Parkland's own Bailey, Maserati, The Elanors, and Headlights at the Canopy Club. While the festival runs from tonight through Saturday, there are different bands playing at different venues all over town, at different times each night.

The shows range from \$5 to \$12, but the best way to rock this festival, is to buy an all-access pass. For \$25, you can get in to each/every/any of the shows you want to see. It's a chunk-a-change, I realize, but seriously... it's an investment worth making.

Pick these puppies up at The Canopy, Family Pride, Exile on Main Street, Bacca Cigar, Caffe Paradiso, Dandelion or [www.pygmalionmusicfest.com](http://www.pygmalionmusicfest.com).

Thankfully, I have finally received my refund, and Clarkson should be hitting the scene once again. Now, I can afford to purchase a pass. Thank you Financial Aid, for supporting my show habit.

#### Wednesday 28:

Urbana Booking Co. Presents PYGMALION MUSIC FESTIVAL w/ Headlights, Maserati, The Elanors, Bailey, Mike Ingram @ Canopy Club, \$7, 8 p.m., 18+  
Tango/ Salsa Dancing, Cowboy Monkey, free!, starts at 7:30 p.m., 19+

Apollo Poetics with Apollo Project, Nargile, free! 9:30 p.m., 19+

#### Thursday 29:

PYGMALION MUSIC FESTIVAL

Low Skies, Catfish Haven, Tractor Kings @ Courtyard Café, \$5, 9:30 p.m., 18+

The Living Blue, The M's, The Chemicals @ Highdive, \$5, 10 p.m., 19+

Umpfree's McGee @ Canopy Club \$18/20, 10 p.m., 18+

Emotional Rec Club, The Invisible, Theory of Everything @ Cowboy Monkey, \$5, 11 p.m., 19+

Fireflies, Unique Chique, Green Light Go @ Mike 'n' Molly's, \$5, 11 p.m., 21+

Baker-Meador-Warnock Organ Trio, Zorba's, \$3, 9:30 p.m., All Ages

C-U Symphony Orchestra, Krannert, \$10, All Ages

#### Friday 30:

PYGMALION MUSIC FESTIVAL

Mates of State, Ida, Saturday Looks Good to Me @ Canopy Club, \$12, 6:30 p.m., 18+

Kate Hathaway, Lynn O'Brien, Megan Johns, Angie Heaton @ Iron Post, \$5, 9 p.m., All Ages

Lorenzo Goetz, The Championship, Triple Whip, Elsinore @ Cowboy Monkey, \$5, 9:30 p.m., 19+

Ambitious Pie Party, Pulsar 47 @ Mike 'n' Molly's, \$5, 10 p.m., 21+

A\*literation, Agent Mos, Harsh, Ro Knew @ Canopy Club, \$5, 11 p.m., 18+

Apollo Project @ Canopy Club, \$5, 12 a.m., 18+

#### Saturday 1:

PYGMALION MUSIC FESTIVAL

Troubled Hubble, Appleseed Cast, Chin Up Chin Up, Shipwreck @ Canopy Club, \$10, 8 p.m., 18+

The Like Young, Mike Dorney, The 1900's @ Courtyard Café, \$5, 9 p.m., 18+

The Beauty Shop, The Winter Blanket, Darling Disarm @ Cowboy Monkey, \$5, 10 p.m., 19+

Jason Finkelman's Nu-Orbit Ensemble, Thollen, Ear Doctor @ Iron Post, \$7, 10 p.m., All Ages

Owen, City on Film, Adam Schmitt @ Mike 'n' Molly's, \$7, 11 p.m., 21+

The Vanderbiel, Epitaph for an Enemy, Maximo, Shotgun Wedding, For In You I Find Me, Bastian, McKinley Foundation, \$5, 7:15 p.m., All Ages

West Coast Swing Dance and Night Club w/ DJ Lino, Sidebar, \$4, 8 p.m., 19+

#### Sunday 2:

The Fluffgirl Burlesque and Vaudeville Roadshow, Highdive, \$10, 9 p.m., 19+

Mike Rocks, Tommy G's Bar and Grill, cover, 9:30 p.m., 19+

DJ Jon Meske, Boltini, free!, 10:30 p.m., 19+

#### Monday 3:

Jazz Jam w/ Paradoxs, Iron Post, TBA, 9 p.m., All Ages

WEFT Sessions w/ Bailey, WEFT station, free! 10 p.m., All Ages

Love and Joy, Canopy Club, \$3, 10 p.m., 18+

#### Tuesday 4:

Foo Fighters, Weezer, Kaiser Chiefs, Assembly Hall, \$35, 7:30 p.m., All Ages

Open Book Tour w/ Treologic, Illogic, Psalm One, Modill, Canopy Club, \$5, 10 p.m., 18+

The Black, 2ON2OUT, Cowboy Monkey, free!, 10 p.m., 19+

This list is by no means exclusive of everything happening, but for an even better spectrum of choices, check out:

<http://www.openingbands.com/intelligencereport>

## City requests public input on downtown parking

Do you have an opinion about Downtown parking? The City of Champaign wants to hear it.

As part of the process to develop a Downtown Parking Plan, the City is soliciting public input regarding a variety of parking issues.

Three different surveys have been created to elicit the opinions and preferences that are specific to the different groups interested in Downtown parking issues: business owners, employees, and other community members. The surveys are available on the City's web site beginning Monday, September 26 and will remain on the site until Sunday, October 9.

Data gathered from the survey responses will be forwarded to Rich & Associates, the Southfield, MI based parking consultant firm hired by the City. The firm's role is to assist with development of the Downtown Parking Plan.

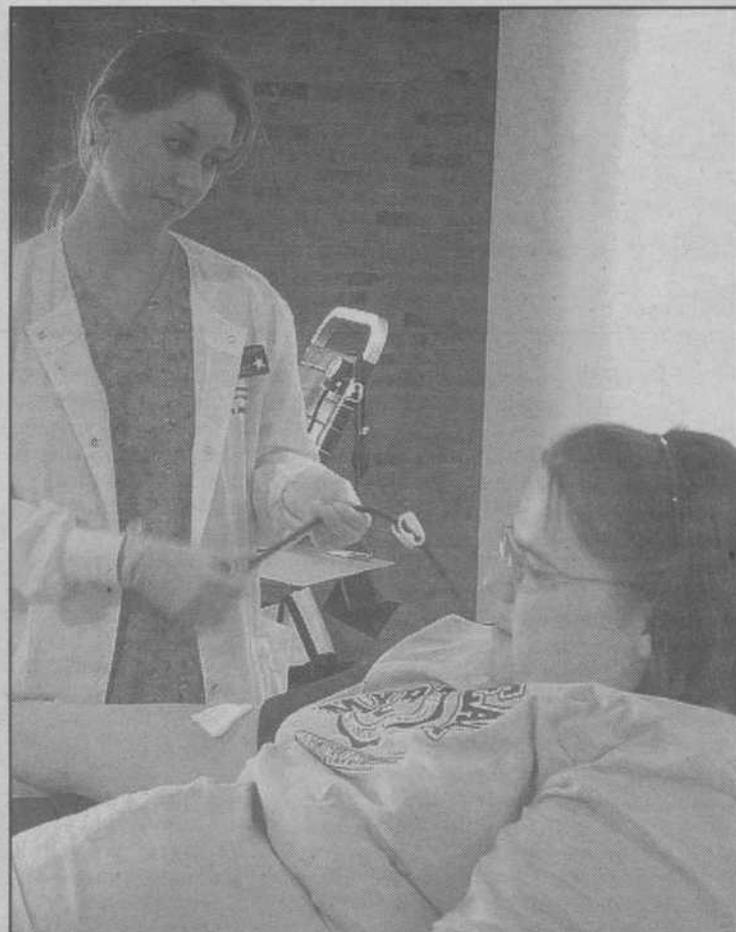
The surveys will be an important component considered in the both the evaluation of the current parking system and in developing suggestions for parking improvements.

The planning area includes North First Street and University Avenue as far east as Third Street, as well as the areas more commonly considered part of Downtown. Anyone with

an interest in parking in these areas is invited to complete the survey which best describes their interest in Downtown parking issues: business owner, employee, or other community member and to submit only one per person.

Members of the public interested in completing a survey but who do not have computer access may pick one up at either the City Building Information Desk (102 N. Neil St.) or the Parking Programs Office (713 Edgebrook Drive).

In addition, one can call the Parking Programs Office at 217-403-7050 to have a survey mailed to them.



Dy-Ann P. watches the pressure on the pressure cuff rise, while Deb Lewis sits in wait for her procedure of blood donation to start.

Nicole Simmons/Prospectus

**Champaign Parking Survey**  
<http://www.ci.champaign.il.us/parking/surveys>

## CrimeStoppers seeks assistance

This week CrimeStoppers and the Champaign County Sheriff's Office are seeking your assistance in investigating two burglaries.

Between September 9 and September 11, an unknown person forced entry to the laundry room at 807 South Randolph. Money was taken from the laundry machines. A similar incident also occurred recently at 1505 West Kirby Avenue.

Champaign County Sheriff's Investigators are requesting

any information you may have about this crime.



CrimeStoppers will pay a reward for information leading to the arrest of the persons responsible for this crime.

If you have any information please call CrimeStoppers at 3-7-3-T-I-P-S.

Callers do not have to give their names or appear in court.

## Two campus events planned

### Athletic events will aid Katrina-damaged schools

The National Junior College Athletic Association has asked Parkland and other member schools to designate one volleyball and one basketball date as days to help raise money for colleges damaged by Hurricane Katrina.

There are 10 to 12 NJCAA member schools that have been affected, and the money raised will be sent specifically to the colleges and the student-activities departments.

Parkland has designated its September 27 volleyball game as its first game fundraiser.

Parkland vs. Illinois Central College takes place at 6 p.m. in the gym.

All proceeds go to NJCAA Katrina Relief Fund.

### Tractor-Trailer Driver Training Grand Opening set for October 18

Parkland College will hold a grand opening for its Tractor-Trailer Driver Training course on Tuesday, October 18, at 10 a.m. at the Parkland Business Development Center, 1315 North Mattis Avenue in Champaign. For more information about the course, call Triss Henderson at 217/351-2235.

**PERCEPTION**  
...everybody does it

**REALITY**  
...they don't

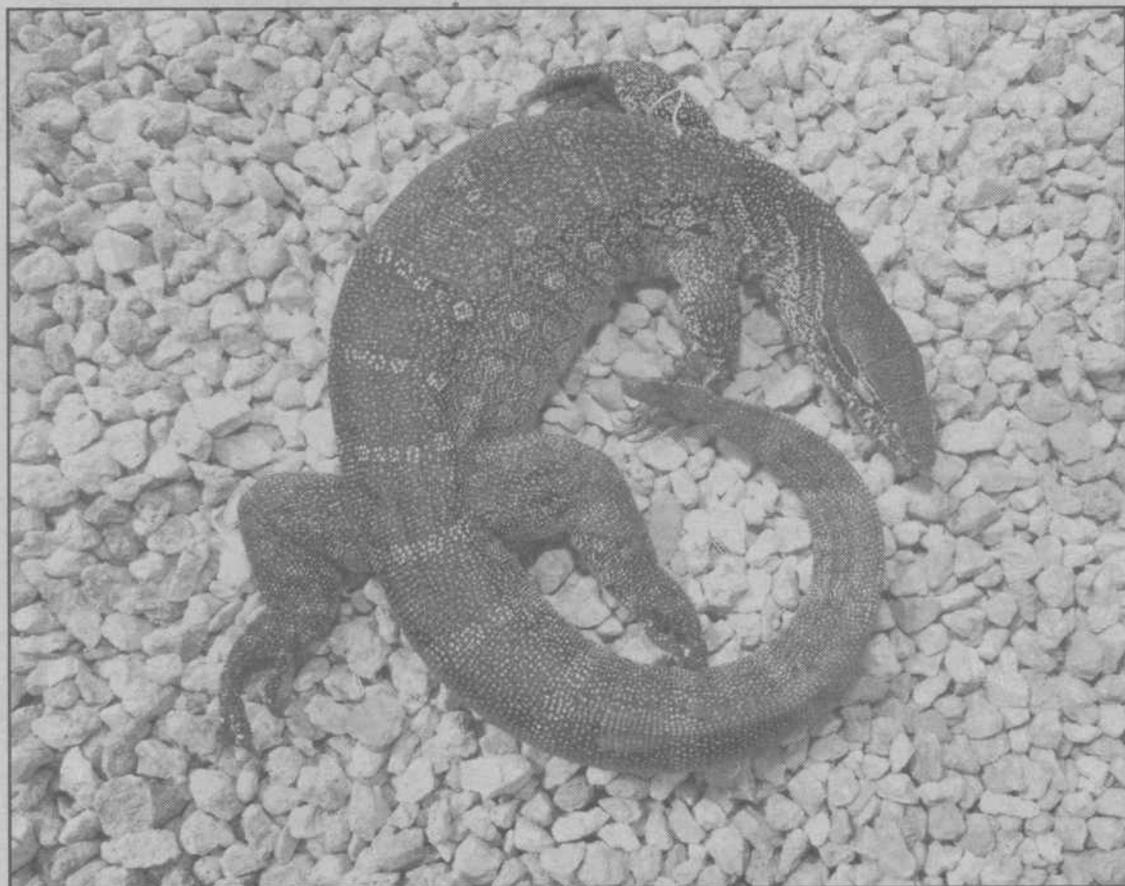
A recent survey\* shows most Parkland students use alcohol only twice a month or less and have never used marijuana.

**Keep it Real-- Choose not to Use**

Parkland College Wellness Center

\*Based on core survey data collected by the Wellness Center in September 2004, funded by Illinois Higher Ed Center.

## Experts fear impact of African lizards on waterfowl



A dead three foot long Nile Monitor lizard, which had been trapped by the city of Cape Coral, Florida. A problem with the carnivorous lizards which have become a nuisance and a threat for the city.

KRT Photograph: Roberto Gonzalez/ *Orlando Sentinel*

By WES SMITH

*The Orlando Sentinel (KRT)*

SANIBEL, Fla.

Wildlife biologist Kendra Willett searched the teeming waters of Tarpon Bay by boat, catching quick glimpses of a stingray, a manatee, a diving osprey and a leaping dolphin.

But it was the creature she couldn't find that worried Willett and other officials and residents on this posh island retreat with a 6,400-acre national wildlife refuge.

The Nile monitor lizard, a cunning carnivore of voracious appetite that has already put fear in the hearts of many in nearby Cape Coral, Fla., has made its way across San Carlos Bay to Sanibel, a 17-square-mile island on Florida's southwestern coast.

"We have more than 1,300 waterfowl nests on some of our satellite island rookeries, and we already have reports of Nile monitor lizards on Pine Island and Sanibel," Willett said as she looked for signs of the invader last month. "If these big lizards establish a breeding population and discover the rookeries as a food source, the birds may abandon them."

This is not a gecko-sized problem. And herons, terns and cormorants aren't the

only species endangered. Nile monitor lizards are large, nonnative predators capable of wreaking havoc on indigenous wildlife—and people, too.

"I got a shovel and chased one that hissed at me in my yard. When it ran past the neighbor's house, it saw his reflection in a window and lunged into it so hard I thought it would break," said Steve Sebasta of Cape Coral, where nearly 1,000 Nile monitor lizards are thought to be prowling despite a 2-year-old eradication program.

After reported sightings of the lizards on Pine Island, which lies between Cape Coral and Sanibel, wildlife experts went on the alert. And when a Sanibel resident photographed a Nile monitor in her backyard, city officials put out a warning to the island's more than 6,000 residents.

Sanibel police Chief Bill Tomlinson said traps were being set in the area where the Nile monitor was photographed.

A news release issued by Sanibel City Manager Judie Zimomra warned residents that the lizards pose "an imminent threat."

"Removal of this dangerous exotic lizard is a priority to the sustainability of our island's environmental health, and we are treating it as such," Zimomra said.

At risk are the island's snails, clams,

crabs, fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals, including domestic pets. They also might pose a threat to human babies, the city manager said.

The presence of the menacing monitors is particularly sensitive on Sanibel. The island has had a series of alligator attacks on humans in recent years. Officials killed eight large alligators and put a more aggressive removal program in place after two local residents died and two others were injured. A state study of the island's alligator population is expected to begin in October.

The Nile lizards are not as bulky as alligators but can grow to lengths of 7 feet. Though they will normally flee humans, they can become aggressive when cornered. Cape Coral residents have encountered Nile monitors raised up on their rear legs, slashing out with their curved claws and whipping at them with powerful

tails.

This lizard's arsenal also includes a powerful bite and a pungent "squiddy smell" they emit when threatened, according to biologists.

"I used to like calamari, but now just a whiff of it gives me flashbacks to hiding in the bush tracking these lizards," said Harry Phillips, an environmental technician who has helped trap 110 lizards in Cape Coral.

Phillips said that the local Nile monitors also have exhibited disturbing Jurassic Park-raptor hunting techniques.

"They've been known to work together to distract a bird while one goes up and gets the eggs out of the nest," he said.

These long-necked, forked-tongue natives of Africa's Nile River basin have been imported and bred as exotic pets in the United States.

Biologists speculate that pet traders or owners in the Cape Coral area released breeding pairs in the city's southwestern neighborhoods where hundreds of miles of canals, vacant lots and mangrove swamps have provided them a haven.

"They don't have any natural enemies here unless we import some Nile crocodiles to prey on them. But they have been known to eat each other," Phillips said.

The Nile monitor lizards pose a considerable threat to Cape Coral's prized pop-

ulation of burrowing owls. Some suspect that they are also responsible for a sharp decline in the number of stray cats in the area.

Two years ago, officials in Cape Coral launched an eradication program to eliminate the lizards that "will eat anything that moves or smells good—or even that smells bad," according to Todd Campbell, a University of Tampa biologist who has led the city's campaign.

Campbell said his worst fear has been that the lizards, which can stay submerged for an hour or more, would migrate from Cape Coral's residential areas to Sanibel's J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge, which encompasses forests, marshes, and coastal islands within Pine Island Sound.

The eggs of gopher tortoises, another prized Snail Island native species, also would be threatened by the Nile lizards, which eat the eggs and take over the burrows. The lizards reproduce at a high rate, laying as many as 84 eggs at a time. They are also highly mobile. They can swim long distances and are fleet of foot, having been clocked as fast as 18 mph.

"I encountered a 5-footer on a refuge on the East Coast, and it was literally leaving us in the dust as it ran down a levee," said Bill Thomas Jr., head of the Invasive Species Strike Team for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, who is based on Snail Island.

Note to birds, squirrels and tree frogs: Nile monitor lizards can climb, too.

"People have seen them on their roofs and up in trees. The top of a house is just a weird-looking cliff to them," said Phillips, who captured a 4-foot Nile monitor in a baited cage recently only to have a resident tell him that it wasn't "the big one" that has been roaming the neighborhood.

Cape Coral's Nile-monitor-lizard extermination program went through its \$47,000 in grant funding in its first two years, but new funding is being sought. More than 350 complaints and sightings have come in so far, said Kraig Hankins, an environmental biologist with the public-works department.

Some residents have joined the hunt. A veteran alligator trapper lassoed a 6-foot-long Nile monitor lizard with an electric cord and tied it to his dock before calling Hankins one day, he said.

"But my favorite was this lady who shot and killed a footlong monitor lizard with the BB gun she'd just gotten her son for Christmas last year," the biologist recalled. "She wanted me to come and pick it up before her son got home. It seems she'd told him that people should never shoot what they weren't going to eat."

# Features

## KATRINA

continued from page 1

had never been more tired, worked so hard, or felt so good about anything in my entire life.

Countless church groups, private organizations, and American people were all working together for a common good.

We saw dozens of caravans on our way down when we stopped for gas or food with people from all of the country on their way to help. There were no denominational barriers. There were no race issues, despite what the media would like you to believe. What you are seeing on TV is exactly what people with political agenda's want you to see. There were no political agendas, or prideful egos getting in the way. There were simply people loving people, doing whatever it took to help those in need.

In the midst of total devastation and despair, it was the most beautiful thing I've ever

seen. I was humbled to be a part of it and I am forever changed because of it. Unfortunately, it seems to be something we only see or experience in this country when a natural disaster or mass tragedy occurs.

Katrina should serve as an example and a wake-up call for all Americans to realize that Uncle Sam cannot and is not going to take care of all your needs. If things are ever going to start getting better in this country, it's going to have to start with the people of this country.

We're going to have to start taking some responsibility for our own welfare and our own well-being. We're going to have to start caring about each other in a big way or we will continue to be torn apart by whatever storms come our way.

My final thought and prayer is that the people of this country have their eyes opened by this disaster to the fact that we have poverty and homelessness everywhere in this country, and

that the efforts to help those immediately effected by this one natural disaster will continue on and make a difference in the lives of the rest of the people living in dire circumstances here in the U.S. Let this tragedy be the start of something bigger than us all. Let this be the start of not only restoring the people of the Gulf Coast, but of restoring ALL OF THE PEOPLE of America.

The road to recovery is much longer than most people realize and goes way beyond Katrina. It goes to every corner of this nation and from what I've seen in the last few weeks, it's time for all of us to get busy and get going. God speed to us all.

## Speak Out!

### Prospectus welcomes Letters to the Editor

The rules of correspondence: all letters must be signed with a phone number and address. The *Prospectus* staff must verify the identity of letter writers. E-mail to the *Prospectus* must also include a full name, phone number and address. Unverifiable letters will not be printed. Correspondence may be edited to accommodate the space requirements of the paper. Guest writers are welcome and subject to the same rules as other correspondence. We welcome writers from the Parkland community and the public. The editor will consider original works of fiction and short writings, if space is available.

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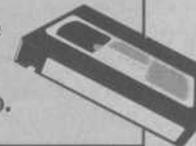
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# Katrina



Top Left: The Ocean Springs Church of Christ turns their facility into a free grocery store for those in need. Donations came in from all over the country and filled the pews of this church with hope for those who had lost everything.

Top Right: One of the many homes located about a half mile from the coast. There were actually still traces of this house as well as most of his neighbors houses as well.

Left: This is what remained of a Shell gas station about 150 miles north of the Gulf Port coast.

Bottom Left: This home was left standing among the wreckage of others almost a mile north from the coast and is typical of the homes that remained within a one-mile radius from the shoreline.



Bottom Right: Cases of bottled water filled the parking lot of the Ocean Springs Church of Christ. It was reported that the Cook County Sheriff's department was the first group to arrive with an entire truckload of bottled water for the people of Ocean Springs.

Matthew Skaj for the *Prospectus*



# Features

## Purpose of ADA is four-fold

By E. CLARKSON  
Prospectus Staff Writer



In 1990, a federal civil rights law was instated that protects Americans with disabilities from discrimination in all arenas of daily life that relate to public access.

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) guarantees this large and ever-increasing demographic of individuals have equal legal protection against discrimination as is provided to individuals on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, and religion. Disabilities include both physical and mental, and discrimination may be either overt or covert.

The purpose of the ADA is four-fold, and works as an act to: 1) establish a clear and comprehensive prohibition of discrimination on the basis of disability, 2) to provide clear, strong, consistent, and enforceable standards, 3) ensure the Federal Government plays a central role in enforcing these standards, 4) involve sweep of Congressional authority in order to address

the major areas discrimination faced day-to-day by people with disabilities.

These areas include, but are not limited to employment, public transportation, building guidelines, education, health care, labor, housing, parks and recreational facilities.

Enforcement is required in the employment practices, programs, services and activities of state and local governments as well as in the private business, nonprofit services, and public accommodations made by commercial facilities.

This summer marked the fifteen year anniversary of the ADA and its subsequent efforts are visible everywhere. I have been affected by the ADA, as my mother is a Certified Interpreter for the Deaf.

MTD complies with the ADA by allowing their buses to lower and rise, along with a ramp to assist passengers in boarding. Make sure to notice which way the bathroom doors open and close, you can be sure that if it is in a public space, the door width and direction it opens complies as well. We all benefit from the ADA, in helping create a standard of equality for everyone that was once only available to certain individuals.



Amy waits patiently for her donated blood to fill the bag.

Nicole Simmons/Prospectus

## The Exonerated

By Jessica Blank and Erik Jensen  
Director: Randi Jennifer Collins Hard  
September 28, 30, and October 1, 6, 7, 8 at 8 p.m.  
October 9 at 3 p.m.  
\$4.99 Preview Performance, September 28  
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## Parkland athlete Natalie Dixon honored as Athlete of the Week

By JAKE MCGRUFF  
Prospectus Staff Writer

This past week women's soccer player Natalie Dixon was named Parkland Athlete of the Week.

I spoke with Natalie about this honor, and she said, "I was surprised when I saw that I got athlete of the week, I was really excited though."

Coach Adam Jenkins was not surprised when Natalie was named athlete of the week, and he told me this of Natalie "Having a player on your team that creates and finishes so many scoring opportunities helps everyone be more affective." Natalie is only one player on the lady Cobra team who stand 4-2 overall and 3-1 in the Mid-West Athletic Conference.

Natalie said of her fellow

Cobra's, "I owe it all to my teammates because they are awesome!" Coach Jenkins himself stated, "I have no problem with Natalie getting all the media attention, but she would be the first to acknowledge the quality of her teammates."

The lady Cobras are playing very well thus far this season. Natalie said this on the upcoming games and season as a whole, "We (lady Cobras) still have a lot to work on as a team, but we have lots of talent, especially with the new girls."

Natalie most definitely earned her award by scoring 11 goals and assisting seven times throughout the Cobras first four games.

Not to look to far ahead but the women's team hopes to do very well this season and when I asked Natalie about post-sea-

son she really did not want to talk about it, but added "Everything that we lacked last year I think we have this year, so it should be a good season, I hope to go far!"

I myself am excited for Natalie because I grew up playing soccer with her. I'm proud to say that I played soccer with a great Parkland soccer player.

In conclusion, I asked Natalie what soccer has done for her and she stated "Playing soccer has made a huge impact on me; I have made some of my best friends through soccer, so it means everything to me."

The lady Cobra soccer team has a very good team this season and they would love for as much support as they can get, so if you aren't busy some day stop by and watch them play, it is very impressive!

## Cobras win in overtime

By ERIK PHEIFER  
Prospectus Staff Writer

The Parkland College men's soccer team came from behind to defeat Lewis and Clark College in overtime by a score of 4-3 in a game played at Parkland College on September 26th. The Cobras trailed on three different occasions but would not give up.

"We weren't willing to lose," said Parkland's head coach Seamus Reilly. He added that this was a "huge win" for his team. The win improves the Cobras overall record to 8-4.

The game started with a slow pace as neither team had a shot on goal for the first 15 minutes of the match. Then, in the 16th minute of the match Lewis and Clark finally came up with that elusive first shot on goal and found the back of the net with it.

Parkland nearly tied the game in the 18th as a shot nearly missed the post after a mistake by the Lewis and Clark defense. However, Parkland did tie the score when Matthew Patterson made a great pass to Emerson Duo who beat the goalie in a one on one situation.

Lewis and Clark almost got the goal back five minutes later when a cross was headed on goal, but Parkland goalie, Ben Wonser, was in perfect position to make the save.

The rest of the half saw a couple of near misses for Lewis and Clark, but the score would remain tied at 1-1 heading into halftime.

The second half had a distinctly different look to it as each team created many more scoring chances than in the first half. Lewis and Clark struck first

by scoring a goal in the opening minutes of the half. Parkland answered back eight minutes later when Billy Shurr tied the game. Lewis and Clark took their third lead of the match in the 69th minute after scoring on a rebound.

The Cobras then again fought back to tie the match at 3-3 when Ryan Blacker caught the goalie off guard and scored from over 40 yards out.

Parkland then pushed for the winner over the final ten minutes of the match, and it appeared they had it in the last minute of the match when the Cobras scored on a free kick.

However, the goal was disallowed because it was an indirect free kick. This means someone other than just the player taking the free kick must touch the ball before it goes into the goal for it to count, which the referee ruled did not happen.

Therefore, regulation time ended with the teams being deadlocked at three sending the game to sudden death overtime. Overtime didn't last long as it only took four minutes for Grant Brewer to score the game winner capping off a thrilling 4-3 come from behind victory for the Cobras.

It was "amazing ... it was the goal I've been waiting for", said Brewer when asked about the goal after the game.

Reilly said he was happy, as always, to get the win but conceding three goals is something that he was concerned with.

His concern is well placed considering the Cobras take the field again on the 28th when they play host to Illinois Central College, a team that defeated Lewis and Clark 5-1 less than two weeks ago.

## Cobras dominate in tourney

The Parkland Volleyball team got back to their winning ways over the weekend going 5-0 at the Regional 24 Crossover Tournament in East Peoria.

The Crossover takes place in a North-South format with Parkland taking on teams from the western and southern part of the region.

On Friday, Parkland started play with a 30-9, 37-30, 15-6 win over John Wood before defeating Rend Lake by the identical scores of 30-27.

Saturday, the Cobras were led by Brooklyn Robbins 81 assists

to win three more matches. Robbins had 24 assists in a 30-10, 30-20 win over Shawnee. Nicole Kupish had 10 kills, Sadie Dizney added 6 blocks, and Kristine Anderson had 19 digs.

In the afternoon, Robbins tallied 34 assists in Parkland's 28-30, 30-21, 15-10 win over #9 ranked Lincoln Land. Christy Bushur led PC with 20 kills. In the final match of the day, Parkland knocked off John A. Logan 30-24 and 30-20. Ashley Miller had 3 blocks and Anderson had 15 digs for Parkland.

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## A College Girl Named Joe

by Aaron Warner



## HARD KNOCKS

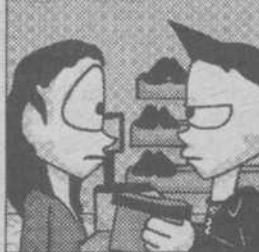
BY LUIS CAPPOLA



WELL, I'M SELLING WOMEN'S SHOES AT 6.5% COMMISSION. -- So, NOT THAT GOOD.



## ADIES' SHOW

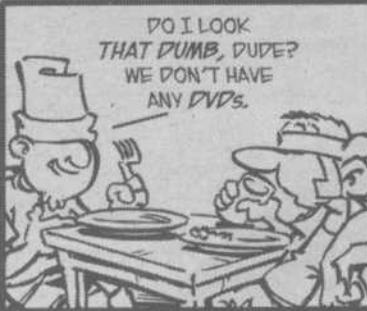
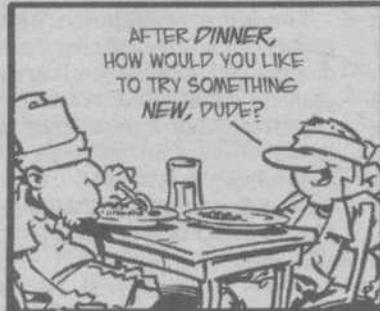


IF I WAS A WAITER, I'D SPIT IN YOUR FOOD.



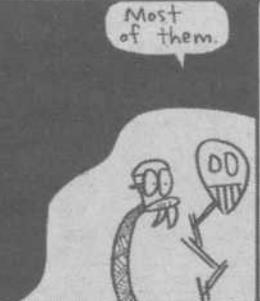
## Two Dudes

by Aaron Warner



## The Family Monster

by Josh Shalek



Man behind the curtain: www.joshshalek.com kid\_shay@joshshalek.com

## Just asking ... What do you think of the relief efforts for Hurricane Katrina?



Jenny

Well worth the effort. Everyone should as much help as they can.



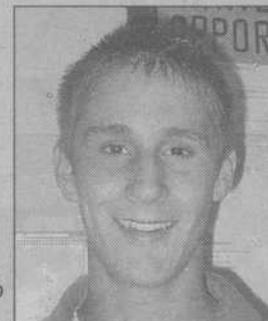
Robert

Seems like the nations have pulled together. In the beginning it was slow, but it seems that everyone is pulling.



Sherri

Slow start... Though now it seems to be progressing but there still needs to be more.



Tony

Pretty good, millions of money are going toward the efforts. Everyone is helping out and doing everything they can. Even those who don't have much to offer are giving. It's great.

Nicole Simmons/Prospectus



## Despite extensive damage, Rita's death toll remains low

By TU-UYEN TRAN, BILL HANNA AND MARTIN MERZER  
Knight Ridder Newspapers (KRT)

ABBEVILLE, La.

Rescue and repair—and relief—were the orders of the day Sunday as crews searched by boat and helicopter for people who were trapped in splintered coastal communities while Hurricane Rita's human toll remained remarkably low.

Hundreds were rescued in Louisiana's low-lying, thoroughly devastated Vermilion Parish alone.

"Everything is just obliterated," Louisiana Gov. Kathleen Blanco said after a helicopter tour of fishing and vacation communities shattered by Rita's 120-mph wind and 15-foot storm surge.

Thanks largely to the evacuation of nearly 3 million people and in contrast to the ghastly toll of Hurricane Katrina, only two deaths were directly attributed to Rita.

Twenty-four people also died when a bus carrying them inland caught fire Friday, how-

ever, and some people still were missing in the marshy Louisiana lowlands.

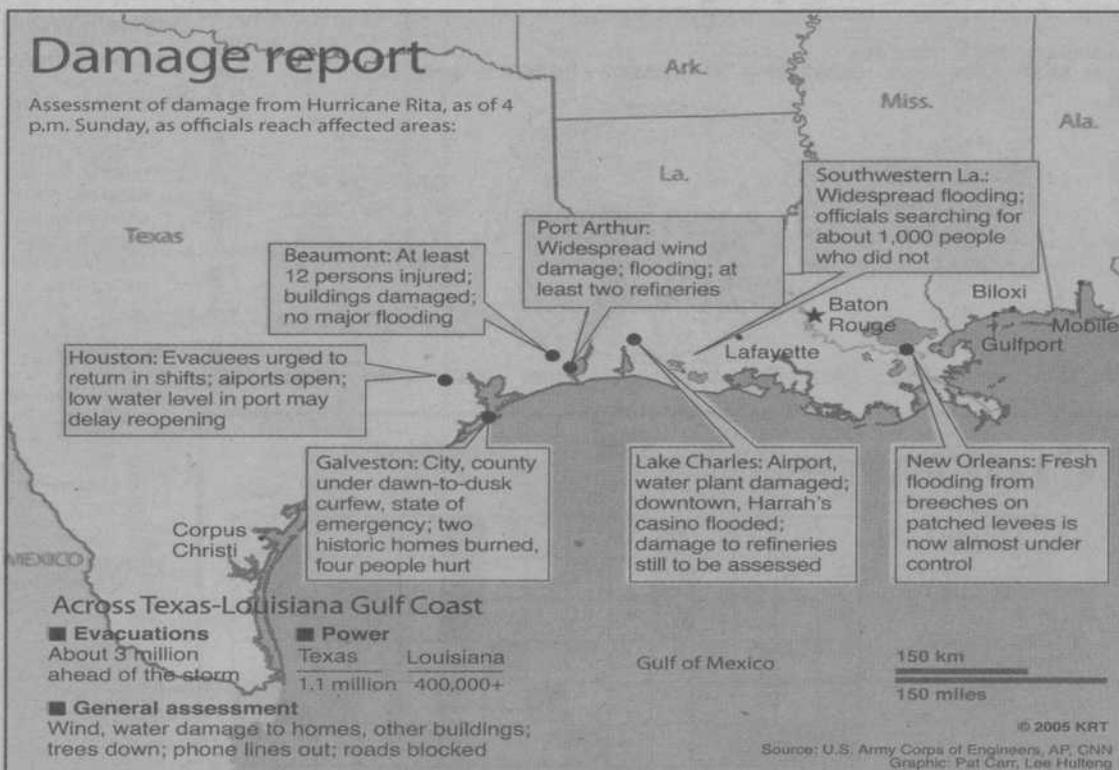
"As bad as it could have been, we came out of this in pretty good shape," Texas Gov. Rick Perry said.

Trying to avoid a post-storm tragedy, President Bush pleaded with evacuees to remain where they were until roads were clear, gasoline was available, power was restored and medical services were in place.

"I know a lot of people want to get back home," Bush said. "It's important that there be an orderly process. It's important there be an assessment done of infrastructure."

He also said he'd been considering a plan under which the Defense Department would control comprehensive rescue and relief efforts after natural disasters or terrorist attacks "of a certain size."

Texas officials added their voices to the chorus of pleas and stationed police officers at strategic checkpoints along Interstate 10 to prevent evacuees yearning to return home from even getting on the highway. Other roads were blocked or



narrowed by storm debris, but most traffic flowed smoothly. "Stay where you are," Houston Mayor Bill White said. The metropolitan area usu-

ally is home to more than 5 million people. It showed signs of returning to normal Sunday, but remained afflicted by power outages.

"This is still a dangerous place here," White said.

The Lone Star State survived Rita in pretty good shape, though there were exceptions, especially for those in extreme eastern Texas and downstream of the Livingston Dam, which was overburdened by water and damaged by the storm.

Hundreds of homes along the Trinity River were destined to be flooded this week as officials ordered wide-scale evacuations and an unprecedented release of water from Lake Livingston.

Louisiana again endured the worst of it, in remote coastal regions and in star-crossed New Orleans, where Rita-generated floods began receding.

The Army Corps of Engineers hoped to pump out the city's floodwaters within a week, and some residents might return to dry neighborhoods Monday.

Forty percent of the city's pumping stations were back in operation, and 50 portable pumps were moved in, but 4 feet of water still stood in the Lower Ninth Ward and 7 feet plagued Plaquemines Parish, southeast of New Orleans.

Along the coast, more calls for help arrived from Vermilion Parish and Cameron Parish, where homes simply vanished,

with only their concrete slabs remaining.

More than 1,000 people were rescued from Vermilion Parish during the weekend, authorities said, and others were plucked to safety in other western Louisiana parishes.

"You can't tell where the Gulf (of Mexico) starts and ends," Blanco said. "There's water as far as the eye can see."

Inland, the town of Lake Charles lost every major electrical transmission line, and power may not be fully restored for weeks, said Norman Bourdeau, the operations manager for the Calcasieu Parish office of emergency preparedness.

Drinking water won't be available for two days or more, and the town was closed to returning citizens for at least that long. The 18,000 people who remained in the city were under a 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. curfew.

Rita's rainy remnants swept through the Mississippi River valley Sunday, provoking flash-flood alerts in seven states. Forecasters said the system moved faster than expected and that the threat of catastrophic inland flooding had diminished.

That showed the difference a single day can make in the impact of a tropical weather system.



A man makes his way along a street with power lines downed by Hurricane Rita in Port Arthur, Texas, on Sunday, September 25, 2005.

Photo by Cheryl Diaz/Dallas Morning News