

The Daily Tar Heel

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www.dailytarheel.com

HOW TO HELP

The Red Cross seeks volunteers and donations.
E-mail occhapnc@intrex.net for more info.

The Center for Public Service has full listings of ways to help online at: www.unc.edu/cps

LOOKING FOR DIRECTION

EVACUEES SAY SHELTER MEANS MORE THAN A ROOF

BY ERIC JOHNSON
ASSISTANT STATE & NATIONAL EDITOR

BATON ROUGE, La. — After 11 days with thousands of roommates, Ashley Smith was fed up.

"I can't be here. I just can't," she said Friday, standing outside the River Center in downtown Baton Rouge. "I'm just trying to get out of here."

But with nowhere else to go, Smith actually was trying to get back in. The massive Red Cross shelter has been home — or the closest thing to it — since Smith and her family evacuated New Orleans just ahead of Hurricane Katrina.

After using one of the makeshift showers set up on the street outside, Smith was waiting in line to get back into the convention center. Because of security concerns, anyone who ventures outside during the day, even for a quick shower, has to reenter through a single checkpoint.

"You get yourself a shower?" asked a smiling National Guardsman, stationed near the metal detector.

"Yeah," Smith sighed, lifting her hand to her forehead.

'Lost for directions'

Inside the convention center, toward the end of row E, is where Smith's family has made camp.

"This is how we living in here," she said.

With a neat collection of cots arrayed to form a kind of miniature floor plan, she has been waiting here — along with her mother, daughter, husband, grandfather, great-grandmother, her aunt and a family friend — to find out what comes next. It's a question no one seems prepared to answer.

"This is something no one ever imagined to experience," said Rhonda Smith, Ashley's mother. "This ain't a home for nobody."

But finding more permanent homes for the family — and tens of thousands like them — is an

unparalleled challenge in modern American history.

Most who left New Orleans couldn't have known they were facing indefinite exile from the city.

"We just had maybe a couple of changes of clothes, and that was about it," Rhonda said.

Officials still have no idea how long it will be before anyone can return to New Orleans, or what the city will look like when the recovery effort is complete.

With no firm answers, Ashley and her family have been left in a kind of strange limbo, unsure of where they should be looking to start anew.

"We (are) like them," Rhonda said, speaking about state and federal agencies dealing with the crisis. "Lost for directions. We don't have a clue."

For now, there is no comprehensive plan for the thousands at the River Center. Announcements occasionally blare through the loudspeaker for buses going to Texas or to Shreveport, La., where other groups of evacuees are gathered.

"I ain't heard nothing about people that want to go to Hawaii," joked Darrell SantaCruz, Rhonda's father.

But as the Red Cross and other agencies continue to grapple with the sheer scale of the evacuee population in Baton Rouge, resettlement isn't yet a priority.

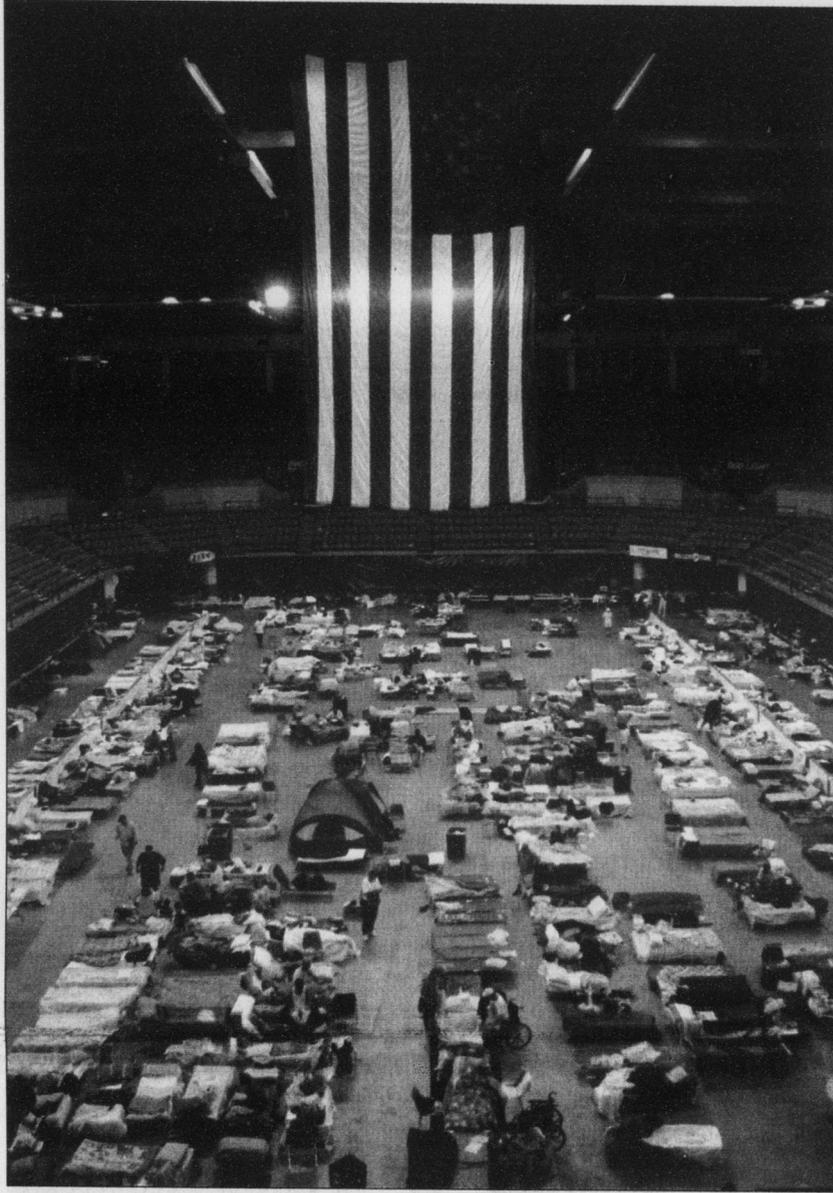
"Right now, the main way people are getting out is through churches, volunteers and family members," said Jeff Walker, a spokesman for the Red Cross in Baton Rouge. "Food and shelter is what we do."

Rhonda's sister, Debra, said there were rumors that evacuees were receiving more monetary assistance in Texas. But she wasn't planning to board one of the buses.

"I don't think it's true," she said. "Anyhow, what you gonna do to survive if you don't have no job?"

In the meantime, the family is trying mightily to adjust to a life

SEE SHELTER, PAGE 4



The River Center in Baton Rouge, La., served as a Red Cross shelter with 3,000 evacuees on-site Friday. An additional 1,500 more are expected this week. The shelter only has one entrance, equipped with a metal detector. DTH/BRANDON SMITH

FUNDS RAISED

\$6,850 was raised by the Carolina Katrina relief committees as of 10 p.m. Sunday

LOCAL EVENTS

Dollar\$ for Disaster Student groups will be canvassing classes to solicit donations
Pit sits, 11 a.m.- 2 p.m.

Tips for relief Spanky's Restaurant & Bar will donate all proceeds to relief efforts
101 E. Franklin, all day

Beneficial food Zorba's restaurant will donate all proceeds to the Red Cross
105 S. Elliott Road, noon-9 p.m.

Give blood The Red Cross and the Student Union board will host a blood drive
Hooker Center atrium, Tuesday

Supplies needed Efland Checks students will collect school supplies for Houston Hillsborough, all month

INSIDE TODAY

More photos See more images from The Daily Tar Heel photographers in Louisiana Page 7

Change at the top FEMA director recalled and replaced ONLINE

Campus remembers 9/11



Small flags line the grass at Polk Place, spelling "Never Forget." Senior Andrew Hogan walks around Sunday, fixing flags overturned by the wind. DTH/RICKY LEUNG

BY JENNY RUBY
ASSISTANT UNIVERSITY EDITOR

Four years have passed. Four classes of seniors have graduated and said their good-byes to the campus that was rocked on Sept. 11.

But four years later, the students at UNC — who were in high school when the U.S. was attacked by terrorists — continue to operate in the spirit of unity started by the students who have come and gone.

"That night on college campuses, millions and millions of students and faculty across the country came together in solidarity," said Margaret Jablonski, vice chancellor for student affairs, during a memorial event held Sunday.

Many University community members chose to remember the day by gathering in Memorial Hall

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About 100 students came together Sunday night on Polk Place for the memorial service, sponsored by Committee for a Better Carolina and the Foundation for the Defense of Democracies.

Those attending the service sat in front of thousands of American flags, representing the almost 3,000 that died in the attacks.

"Just by having the representation of flags shows (students) still care about the individual lives that were lost," Jablonski said. "It does still touch us."

Many University community members chose to remember the day by gathering in Memorial Hall

SEE 9/11, PAGE 4

Baristas battle for best brews

BY LINDA SHEN
SENIOR WRITER

The mute black backdrop of Kenan Theatre struck a bright contrast with the gleaming metal of three La Marzocco espresso machines. They purred smugly over the soft, ceramic sound of clinking china, stemmed glasses and antique flatware.

The third annual Southeast Regional Barista Competition, held at the Center for Dramatic Art Sept. 9-11, had a sense of spectacle that lived up to its host location.

"(The baristas) are creating a five-star dining experience," says

Michelle Campbell, barista programs manager for the Specialty Coffee Association of America. "But we still want their own personality to come through."

The 22 contestants were transmitting loud and clear, turning out their spice racks, dishware and whimsy for the event.

In a world of coffee to go, the ceramic clink of cups and saucers is a strange departure from the metal clicks and shouts of a coffee shop during an early morning rush.

Lemuel Butler, who works at

SEE BARISTA, PAGE 4

Students cap off reopening

BY JOHN COGGIN
SENIOR WRITER

On the final day of Memorial Hall's gala opening weekend, students and the University community poured into a renovated venue for a free day of entertainment called "Carolina Performs."

The daylong event showcased an array of University students performing everything from ballroom dancing to hip hop.

INSIDE More images and articles from Memorial Hall's reopening PAGE 8

As producer and UNC alumnus Casey Molino Dunn rushed around the building to ensure that all the acts made it backstage for curtain call, Memorial Hall's marketing manager, Jennifer Smith, greeted patrons in the lobby.

SEE PERFORMS, PAGE 8

"Memorial Hall has a long-standing tradition of student performers," Smith said, pointing out that TV legend and UNC alumnus Andy Griffith, who spoke at the opening events, got his start on the Memorial Hall stage.

"We wanted the community to know that students are just as important to the arts community

SEE PERFORMS, PAGE 8

Candidates eye name recognition

BY BRIANNA BISHOP
ASSISTANT CITY EDITOR

Before long, the streets of Chapel Hill and Carrboro will be lined with signs, and mailboxes will contain brochures about candidates' qualifications for town government.

But those signs don't spring from the ground, and the brochures don't write themselves.

Behind each one is a face — someone hoping to be a leader in the town's future.

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS 2005

TODAY: RUNNING AND MANAGING A CAMPAIGN

As the fall elections draw nearer, candidates for Chapel Hill Town Council, Carrboro Board of Aldermen and Chapel Hill-Carrboro Board of Education are preparing to campaign.

The candidates might choose different ways to get their names out, but they all are working

toward the same goal.

"Whatever method you choose, the voters can tell when you put your heart in it," said Alderman Mark Chilton, a candidate for Carrboro mayor. For Chilton, going door to door worked for him when he snagged one of four open seats on the Chapel Hill Town Council as an undergraduate student in 1991.

"I got out there, and I worked

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online | dailytarheel.com

HAIL TO THE QUEEN Campus mourns Anne Queen, former Campus Y director

SMOKIN' HOT Franklin Street business reopens as restaurant and hookah bar

I LOVE THE '90s WXYC holds annual fundraiser in new, larger venue Friday



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FIESTA OF FUN Raleigh hosts more than 60,000 people as part of the weekend's La Fiesta del Pueblo, the largest Latino festival in the Carolinas.

national | page 6

WHERE ARE THEY NOW? UNC alumnus Jonathan Reckford is named CEO of Habitat for Humanity. The Daily Tar Heel conducted a Q & A with the new leader.

state | page 9

SAFETY FIRST U.S. Sen. Richard Burr announced Friday that N.C. schools would receive \$237,966 to help improve school safety.

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