

# THE GAMECOCK

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## PLANS • CONTINUED FROM 1

President's Perspective, during which USC President Andrew Sorensen will talk about academics, research and other aspects of USC.

To close out the retreat, participants will go to Williams-Brice Stadium to watch USC take on the University of Central Florida on Thursday in this season's opener.

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## LAB • CONTINUED FROM 1

Lab is to facilitate the training and use of geographic information sciences for the analysis and management of environmental hazards, whether they be human-induced or natural," said researcher Bryan Boruff.

Students and professors combine traditional means of data collection, such as interviewing people affected by a disaster, with more advanced technological tools. Chris Emrich, geography Ph.D. candidate and Hazards Research Manager, said the HRL makes frequent use of remotely sensed data (satellite images and aerial photographs) and geographic information systems, which analyze and display digital information spatially.

Funding for this research comes from a variety of sources,

including NASA, the National Science Foundation, and the S.C. Emergency Management Division of FEMA.

Emrich said most hurricane deaths result from non-evacuation storm-surge drownings. This ties into one of the main focuses of HRL researchers — the study of vulnerable populations. This involves understanding the characteristics of a population and locating where those people most at risk live. When emergency managers know this information, preventative steps can be taken during an evacuation to save lives.

The HRL studies hazards caused by nature and humans. For example, the HRL was chosen earlier this year by the Department of Homeland Security to be part of the National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and

Responses to Terrorism. Under the direction of Susan Cutter, professors and students study the origins of terrorism and how to better prepare the U.S. to resist terrorism attempts.

Other current research projects include assessing tsunami vulnerability in the Pacific Northwest, examining the human responses to the Graniteville chlorine spill and creating flood risk maps for South Carolina.

In addition to the usual motivation among academics to publish research, the HRL hopes to see the results of their research help in future disasters.

"Hopefully, policy and decision makers will take our results into consideration when planning for and responding to disasters," Emrich said.

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# Alpha Delta Pi welcomes our 2005 new member class

Christine Allen  
Casey Andrews  
Nora Bennani  
Kristin Bevacqua  
Caroline Blakeslee  
Billie Ann Branum  
Morgan Castano  
Logan Chandler  
Katie Chapman

Sally Curtis  
Shelley Davis  
Amanda Duffy  
Julie Duffy  
Brittany Lee Durham  
Katie Flynn  
Sarah Frith  
Stormy Gaskins  
Melissa Goocher  
Jamie Hardee  
Nicole Hinton  
Adair Hodges  
Katie Horne  
Casey Johnson  
Dana Kalan

Mary Charles Coleman  
Tristan Connett  
Cassidy Connett  
Rachel Cope  
Sarafrances Crow  
Jessica Crowder

Liz Reynolds  
Megan Richardson  
Chelsea Rollins  
Samantha Shaw  
Katherine Smith  
Jenny Stephens  
Cameron Stover  
Liza Todd  
Melanie Viola  
Jessi Walters-McCarthy  
Brittany West  
Maxcy Westmoreland  
Lizzie Wilson

Jodie Lieftring  
Jenna Lindberg  
Katherine Ann Livingston  
Elizabeth Mathews  
Abby Mays  
Megan Mitchell  
Maggie Moorhead  
McKenzie Mofley  
Betsy Myers  
Molly Narburgh  
Emily Pickett  
Kristin Proffitt  
Rebecca Propp  
Natalie Quist  
Candace Rapp

"Diamonds are Forever"

## DAMAGE • CONTINUED FROM 1

became clearer with every tale of misery. Mississippi's governor said the number of dead in one county alone could be as high as 80.

"At first light, the devastation is greater than our worst fears. It's just totally overwhelming," Louisiana Gov. Kathleen Blanco said the morning after Katrina howled ashore with winds of 145 mph and engulfed thousands of homes in one of the most punishing storms on record in the United States.

Bill Lokey, an official with the Federal Emergency Management Agency, called Katrina "the most significant natural disaster to hit the United States."

In New Orleans, water began rising in the streets Tuesday morning, swamping an estimated 80 percent of the city and prompting the evacuation of hotels and hospitals. The water was also rising perilously inside New Orleans' Superdome, and Blanco said the tens of thousands of people now huddled there and other shelters would have to be

evacuated as well.

"The situation is untenable," Blanco said at a news conference. "It's just heartbreaking."

Because of two levees that broke Tuesday, the city was rapidly filling with water, the governor said. She also said the power could be out for a long time, and the storm broke a major water main, leaving the city without drinkable water. Also, looting broke out in some neighborhoods.

New Orleans lies mostly below sea level and is protected by a network of pumps, canals and levees. Officials began using helicopters to drop 3,000-pound sandbags onto one of the levees, hoping to close the breach.

All day, rescuers were also seen using helicopters to drop lifelines to victims and pluck them from the roofs of homes cut off by floodwaters. The Coast Guard said it rescued some 1,200 people.

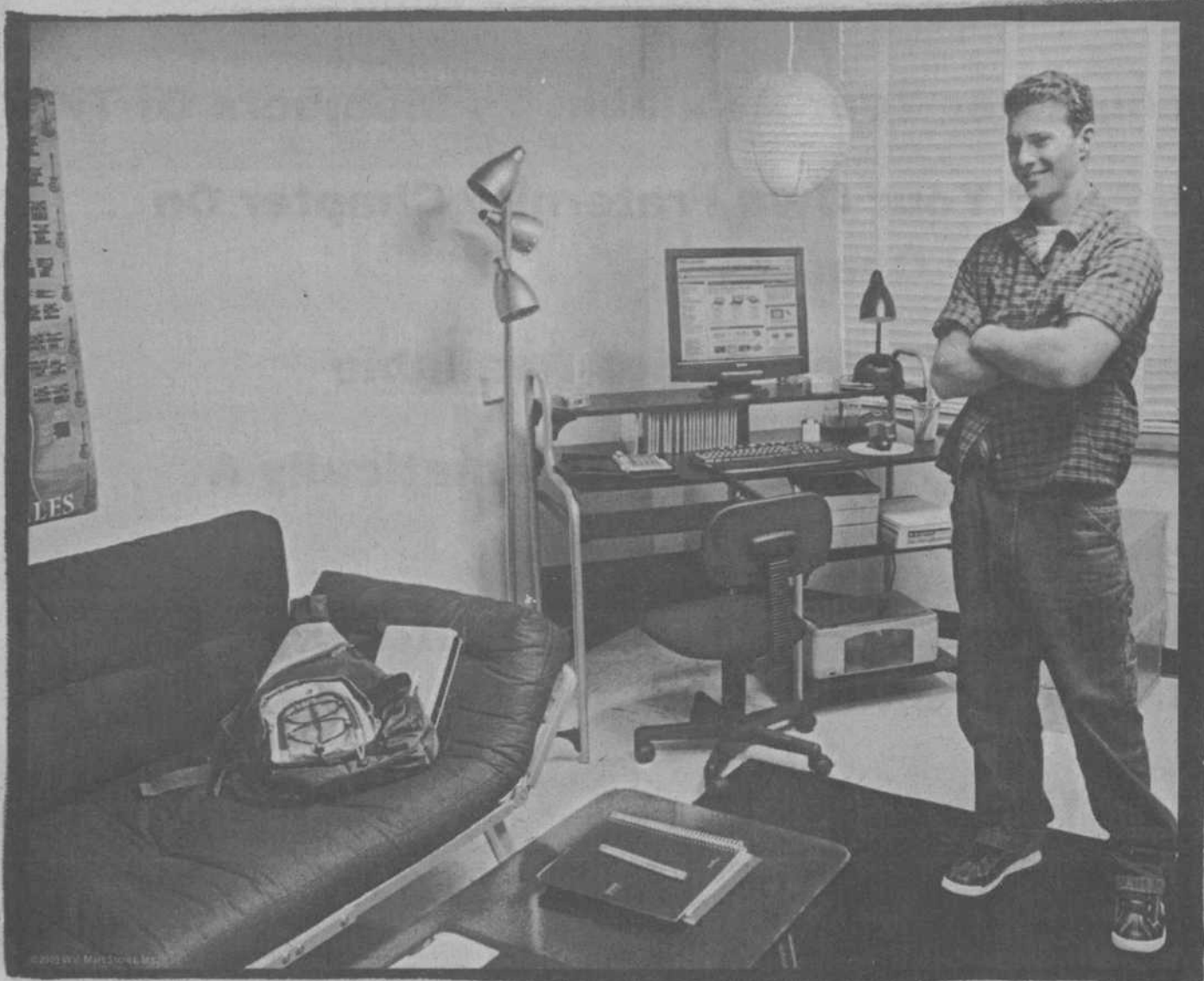
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