

Axe to grind

JSU to open season against team that ended its 2004 campaign. **SPORTS/1C**



WORLD

Is online gaming the new drug?

South Korean's death linked to addiction. **4C**

The Anniston Star

Tuesday, August 30, 2005

A home-owned newspaper

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KILLER KATRINA



Michael Spooneybarger/Associated Press

A Red Cross truck sits flooded with other vehicles Monday in front of a hotel just off Interstate 10 in Pascagoula, Miss., as Hurricane Katrina batters the area.

BRAC HEARINGS

Panel sends 146 jobs to depot

BY MATTHEW KORADE
Star Senior Writer

Although the numbers aren't as dramatic as expected, some jobs will trickle to the Anniston Army Depot under the recommendations of a federal base-closing commission.

The Department of Defense proposed sending nearly 1,000 jobs here from Red River Army Depot outside Texarkana, Texas, but the base-closing commission blocked that plan.

Instead, the panel gave the depot 146 jobs: 119 from Rock Island Arsenal, Ill., 25 from Marine Corps Logistics base in Barstow, Calif., and two to three from Seal Beach Naval Weapons Station, also in California. The new slots will be artillery specialists, mechanics and general equipment personnel, respectively.

Meanwhile, the Defense Department proposed moving about 87 Defense Logistics Agency positions away from the depot, but that recommendation also may have been changed by the base-closing commission's recommendations, according to Nathan Hill, military liaison for the Calhoun County Chamber of Commerce.

"Any impact on the Anniston Defense Logistics agency would probably be minimal (because) there's some uncertainty as to how the DLA recommendations will be implemented," Hill said.

Although past commissions have agreed with the Defense Department's recommendations about 85 percent of the time, no such formula held for Alabama this time around.

The panel stopped about 2,000 jobs from coming to Fort Rucker, near Enterprise, but also halted the removal of 1,251 jobs from Maxwell-Gunter Air Force Base in Montgomery.

Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville was the only major installation to gain the expected jobs; it should receive about 1,655 new positions

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Hurricane slams into Gulf Coast; dozens dead

BY JOSEPH B. TREASTER AND KATE ZERNIKE

New York Times News Service

NEW ORLEANS — Hurricane Katrina pounded the Gulf Coast with devastating force at daybreak Monday, sparing New Orleans the catastrophic hit that had been feared but inundating parts of the city and heaping damage on neighboring Mississippi where it tossed boats, ripped away scores of roof tops and left many of the major coastal roadways impassable.

Packing 145-mph winds as it made landfall, Katrina left more than a million people in three states without power and submerged highways even hundreds of miles from the center of the storm.

Officials reported at least 55 deaths, with 50 alone in Harrison County, Miss., which includes Gulfport and Biloxi. Emergency workers feared that they would



find more dead among people believed to be trapped under water and in collapsed buildings.

Jim Pollard, a spokesman for the Harrison County emergency operations center, said 30 people were found dead in an apartment

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INSIDE

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■ In Gulfport, 'What we're facing is catastrophe.' **PAGE 2A**

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■ Katrina plays havoc with state's beaches. **PAGE 5A**

■ Man, son survive scare in Nances Creek. **PAGE 5A**

■ Crops in Southwest Alabama hurt by Katrina. **PAGE 3B**



Kevin Qualls/The Anniston Star

Kaylyn Licciardi, 14, and her mother, Connie Licciardi, look after their pet turtles Monday in Oxford. The Licciardis evacuated their home in St. Bernard Parish, La., and brought their freezer and a generator.

Evacuees bring pets, freezer full of food

BY CRYSTAL JARVIS

Star Staff Writer

OXFORD — The refugee family was determined to save their groceries.

So they loaded a nearly 6-foot-tall freezer packed with \$200 worth of meat on the back of their Ford F-150 and rushed out of their home in St. Bernard Parish, La., outside of New

Orleans to get out of Hurricane Katrina's way.

"We just went to the store Friday and he refused to leave everything we bought," said Connie Licciardi about her husband Danny Licciardi. "I was kind of thinking he was crazy."

The freezer was accompanied by

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THE LINK

■ The Anniston Star's Web site, www.annistonstar.com, was down Monday night due to a power outage in Birmingham where the Web server is located. The site will be updated when power is restored.

Hurricane disrupts oil output; gas prices soar

BY BRAD FOSS

Associated Press

Hurricane Katrina disrupted Gulf Coast petroleum output and rattled energy markets on Monday, sending oil and natural gas prices soaring and setting the

stage for a spike in the retail cost of gasoline.

By the end of the day, more than 700 offshore platforms and rigs had been evacuated, two rigs had drifted away and authorities in Alabama were forced to close a bridge over the Mobile River

after it was struck by a runaway platform. Oil futures briefly climbed above \$70 a barrel for the first time.

The powerful hurricane roiled the industry at a time when producers worldwide were already struggling to keep up with strong

demand, and it threatened to constrain the supply of home heating fuels this winter. The rise in energy prices has already slowed the U.S. economy's growth rate, though domestic fuel consump-

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NO GOOD CHOICES:

Rebuffed in the constitution deliberations, Sunni Arabs now face a dilemma: boycott the Oct. 15 referendum on a new charter and hand the Shiites a landslide victory, or take part in a vote that demographics suggest they'll lose.

FOR STORY, SEE PAGE 4C

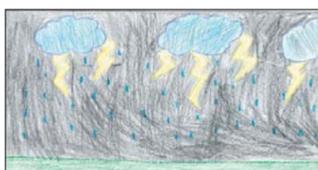
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WEATHER



Sarah Ankrum, 5th, The Donoho School

STORMS

HIGH: 82
LOW: 70

OBITUARIES

Felma Bailey, Lincoln
Lorene Groce Garrett, Talladega
Lamar German, Hoover
Mary White Hope, South Carolina
Lillie Taliaferro Hulsey, Piedmont

Tommy Lynch, Talladega
Sharon Dabbs Majors, Anniston
William Bruce Minter, Georgia
James Aubrey Patterson, Lineville
Collis "Bud" Simpson, Georgia

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