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NEW ORLEANS IN CHAOS

'We are out here like animals. We don't have help.'

Armed patrols rumble past frustrated, displaced residents of New Orleans.



ERIC GAY / Associated Press

Milvertha Hendricks, 85, huddles in the rain, awaiting safe passage out of the city.



ERIC GAY / Associated Press



ERIC GAY / Associated Press



MICHAEL AINSWORTH / Dallas Morning News

A refugee covers a dead man on a lawn chair outside the convention center.

Disaster proves warnings true

By ALAN JUDD
ajudd@ajc.com

Hurricane Pam was the big one. With 120 mph winds and 20 inches of rain, it breached New Orleans' aged levees, flooded half a million buildings and stranded thousands of residents in a ruined city below sea level.

Unlike Hurricane Katrina, though, Pam

wasn't real. It was a computer-generated exercise that provided the latest confirmation of what researchers, disaster planners and engineers have contended for decades: New Orleans needed a better response plan for a catastrophic hurricane.

Years of conferences and computer models and animated simulations and disaster drills had made it clear what could happen if a major storm struck southeastern Louisiana.

Still, when Katrina hit this week, disaster

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Emotions flare outside the Superdome amid jostling for buses that never came.

Misery, anarchy run rampant

By ALLEN G. BREED
Associated Press Writer

New Orleans — The city descended into anarchy Thursday, as corpses lay in street medians, fights and fires broke out, and storm survivors battled for seats on the buses that would carry them away from the chaos. The tired and hungry seethed, saying

they had been forsaken.

"I'm not sure I'm going to get out of here alive," said Canadian tourist Larry Mitzel, who handed a reporter his business card in case he goes missing. "I'm scared of riots. I'm scared of the locals. We might get caught in the cross fire."

Four days after Hurricane Katrina roared in, inflicting potentially thousands of deaths, the frustration, fear and anger mounted — despite the promise of stepped-up National Guard presence to stop the

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