

The Times-Picayune



50 CENTS 169th year No. 244

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2005

HURRICANE EDITION

DAY 23
DEVELOPMENTS

The official death toll in metropolitan New Orleans: **736**

St. Bernard trying to get insurance cash flowing, **See A-2**

Parishes handling thousands of new students, **See A-3**

Preservation teams to inspect New Orleans buildings, **See A-4**

Limited service returning to Armstrong International Airport, **See A-4**

New Orleans man pulled from house with dead wife's body, **See A-16**

Federal courts rounding up area lawyers, **See A-16**



Gov. Kathleen Blanco tightening state's finances, **See A-9**

Blanco seeks hotel rooms to shelter refugees, **See A-17**

Episcopal bishops' tour finds damaged churches, **See Metro**

Actor Dennis Quaid to still film movie in New Orleans, **See Metro**

Kenner officials continued to coax about 50 remaining residents from Redwood Apartments, **See Metro**

League to announce that Hornets will play home games in Oklahoma City, **See Sports**

RATTLED BY RITA

NEW ORLEANS
City fears flooding from passing storm

HOUSTON
New Orleans refugees evacuated once again

FLORIDA
Category 2 hurricane rakes the Keys



STAFF PHOTO BY ELIOT KAMENITZ

Hurricane Katrina evacuee Eric Robins loads his car Tuesday outside the Reliant Arena in Houston, while his mother, Dianne, feeds his daughter, Mariyah. After being told there was a mandatory evacuation for Hurricane Rita, Robins said he was taking his family to an apartment he found in Houston, instead of going to an Arkansas military base.

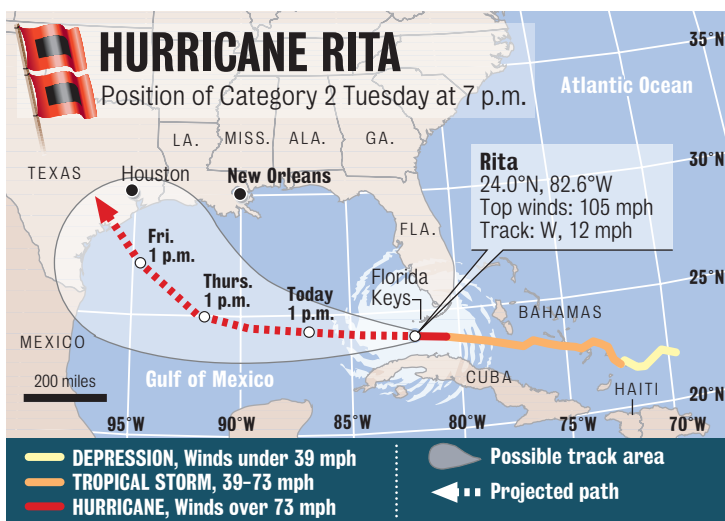
It's déjà vu for 4,000 evacuees in Houston

By Tara Young
Staff writer

HOUSTON — Preparing for the worst, state and local officials Tuesday ordered the mandatory evacuation of about 4,000 evacuees from Houston-area shelters, offering them a chance to relocate to Arkansas as Hurricane Rita swirled toward the Texas coast.

Storm-weary residents expressed fear of the unknown and frustration at the thought of having to pick up and relocate again to Fort Chaffee, a defunct

See **HOUSTON, A-11**



STAFF MAP

Storm whips into Gulf, heads toward Texas

By John Pope
Staff writer

Hurricane Rita roared into the Gulf of Mexico on Tuesday after drenching the Florida Keys, prompting storm-weary Louisiana officials to postpone residents' return to New Orleans and warn people who headed west to escape Hurricane Katrina to be ready to flee once again.

Even though Rita, a Category 2 storm Tuesday night with 100 mph sustained winds, seemed poised to strike the Texas coast near Galveston late Friday

See **HURRICANE, A-14**

After the storm come injuries, infections

By Michelle Hunter
East Jefferson bureau

Elmore Crosby didn't give a whole lot of thought to the nail that stuck through his plastic slip-on shoes or to the little cut on the bottom of his foot, which he treated with hydrogen peroxide.

"I pulled the nail out, washed the shoes out, put the slippers back on, went and sat on the porch, smoked a cigar and drank a

See **INJURIES, A-12**

Levee system projections flawed, experts say

A crew pumps water from Franklin Avenue on Tuesday. According to a 2002 analysis, the risk of flooding is greater in some parts of New Orleans than previously thought.



STAFF PHOTO BY BRETT DUKE

Flood risk may be greater in some areas

By John McQuaid
Staff writer

Before the giant storm surge from Katrina, a Category 4 hurricane, washed away some levees and crashed through others, the Army Corps of Engineers had maintained that the levee system surrounding the New Orleans area could protect residents from a fast-moving Category 3 hurricane.

See **LEVEE, A-16**