**18 MILLION IN DAMAGE**

Carteret County whipped hard by Hurricane Bertha

by PAUL R. SCHMIDT

**Emerald Isle —** After causing an estimated $40 million in destruction in Dare County, Hurricane Bertha whipped with a vengeance neighboring Carteret County in the wake of an estimated $18 million more.

Emerald Isle, a barrier island town, was the site of a significant event in the storm's dramatic course. About 8:30 p.m., just after a storm surge flooded Morehead Avenue, a crane broke loose from its mooring and began floating down the road.

"We sent a very brave police officer over to the other side of the bridge to get the crane owner and bring him over to try and lock onto his crane," Town Manager Tom Cox said. "We managed to do that. I was on the high-rise bridge at the height of the storm and it was probably one of the scariest things I've ever done."

Richard Sear of Winston-Salem took his 48-foot sailboat six miles out on Core Creek in Morehead City on Thursday and managed to survive Friday's storm with the vessel intact.

"You have to stay on board to protect your boat," said Mr. Sear, who admitted getting frightened once the vessel began pitching sharply back and forth.

Other boat owners were not as fortunate. Two boats in Gallant Channel off the Beaufort waterfront ran into trouble.

The Sea Rose, a 30-foot, top-gun-rigged sailboat slammed into a seawall near the Duke University Marine Laboratory in Beaufort around 8 p.m. The boat's owner, who had been denied entry under a nearby drawbridge, tiptoed into the waters at about an hour after, said Mr. Welch, a Duke graduate student who talked with the owner earlier Friday morning.

"He said, 'I guess I didn't do a very good job of docking.'" The crash left a large hole in the boat's right hull.

Another boat, this one a larger steel vessel from New York, broke loose from its mooring with its owner aboard, and grounded on Carrot Island, about 500 yards away.

Carteret General Hospital in Morehead City reported 10 storm-related injuries, including two people who suffered carbon monoxide poisoning from using a gas-powered generator in their home. Five people were treated for orthopedic injuries and three for lacerations, said Mark Gaskill, the hospital's clinical nursing supervisor. All were treated and released.

All but 3,000 of Carteret-Craven Electric Cooperatives 28,000 customers lost power, said Bill Rice, manager of financial and administration. As of 8 p.m. Saturday, Mr. Rice said, the company had restored power to about 75 percent.

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**Bertha puts dent in Outer Banks tourism**

By STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

NAGS HEAD — Spared the fury Hurricane Bertha's wind and waves, the Outer Banks still took an economic hit from the storm.

Officials and merchants told tourists to come back Saturday after three days of evacuations that cost an estimated $4.5 million a day lost business.

"The beaches should be wide open this afternoon," said Clarence Winner, chairman of the emergency group that ordered evacuations Wednesday. All travel restrictions for Dare County were lifted at 6:30 a.m.

The Outer Banks had little damage but didn't escape unscathed.

Bertha was blamed for nine deaths during the storm's journey, and the only one in North Carolina was at Kitty Hawk. Ruby Jackson of Elizabeth City was killed when her car slid into oncoming traffic there Friday.

Winds gusting to 70 mph in Dare County as Bertha skirted the area to the west.

Two people received minor injuries. One was a television photographer who walked off a dock, and the other was a pedestrian who walked in front of a truck, Mr. Skinner said.

Elsewhere, six people had minor injuries at Camp Lejeune, and a man was hospitalized after a tree fell on his house.

Though the Outer Banks lost business, Mr. Skinner said the early evacuation was the right move.

If the storm had hugged the coast, he said, it could have come up the Pamlico Sound and slammed Dare County.

"In hindsight, the decisions that were made were the correct decisions," Mr. Skinner said.

He said travel to Ocracoke Island, accessible only by ferry, was still closed. Sand washed ashore by high water covered approximately 25 miles of the only road between the Hatteras ferry terminal and the island village.

Extra heavy equipment will be sent to the island as soon as ferries can carry it, Mr. Skinner said.

In Jones County, one of the hardest hit inland areas, homeowners were urged to control their use of drinking water because power failures left officials no way to pump water to their 9,700 residents.