

HURRICANE

HUGO

# STORM OF THE CENTURY

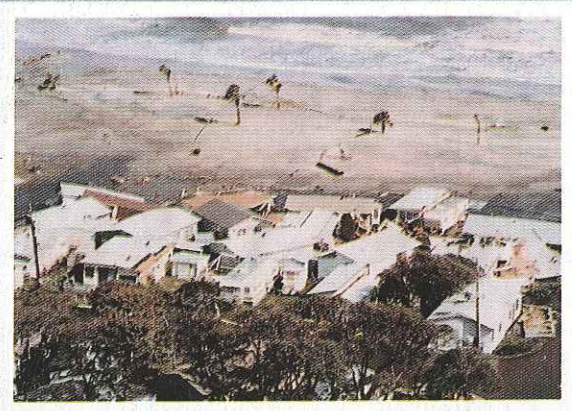
HUGO

SEPTEMBER, 1989

- Over 200 Exclusive Photos From The Caribbean Through The Carolinas
- Interviews With Survivors And Heroes
- Hugo Takes On Mickey Spillane
- Exclusive Interview With The Man Who Flew The Eye
- The Hurricane Hall of Infamy
- Hugo's Youngest Survivor
- Maps, Charts And Satellite Photos

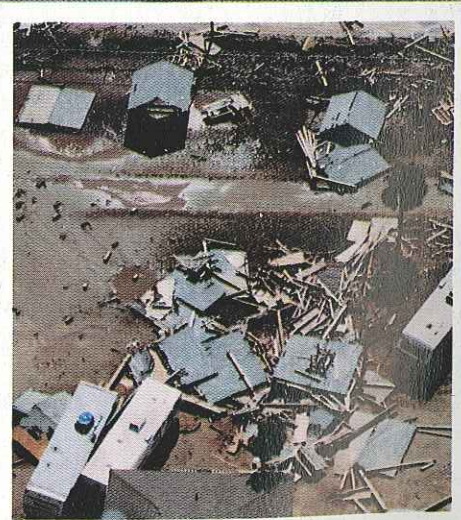


## MYRTLE BEACH, SC

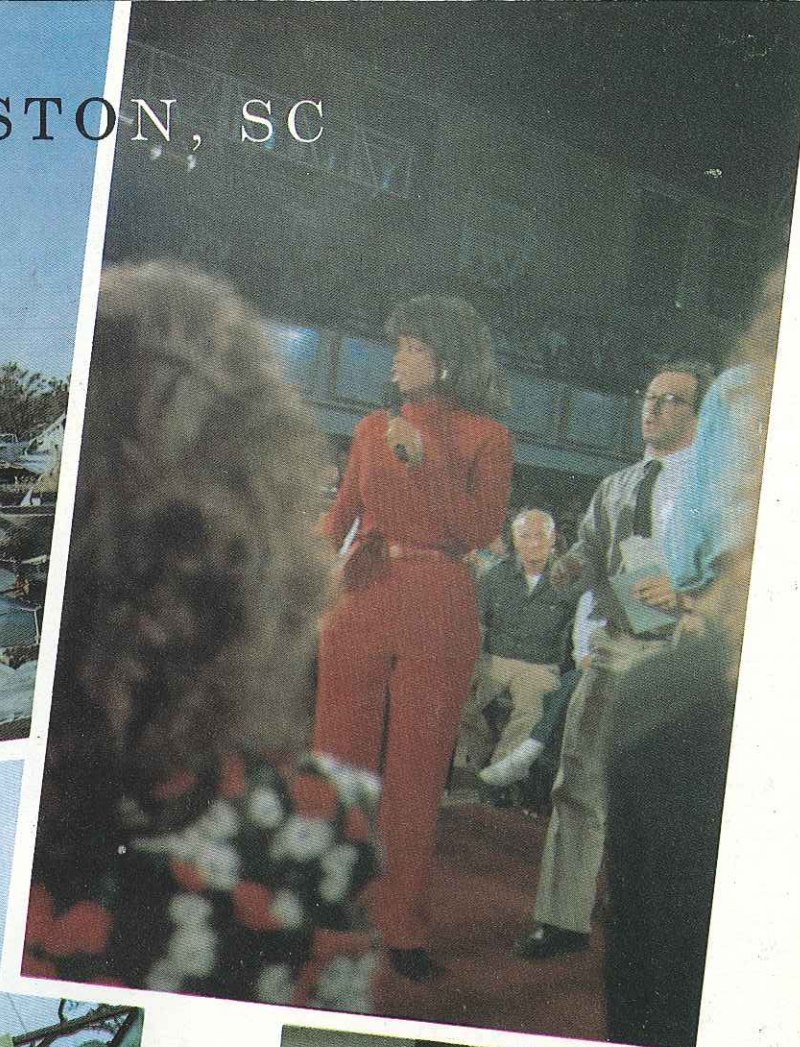
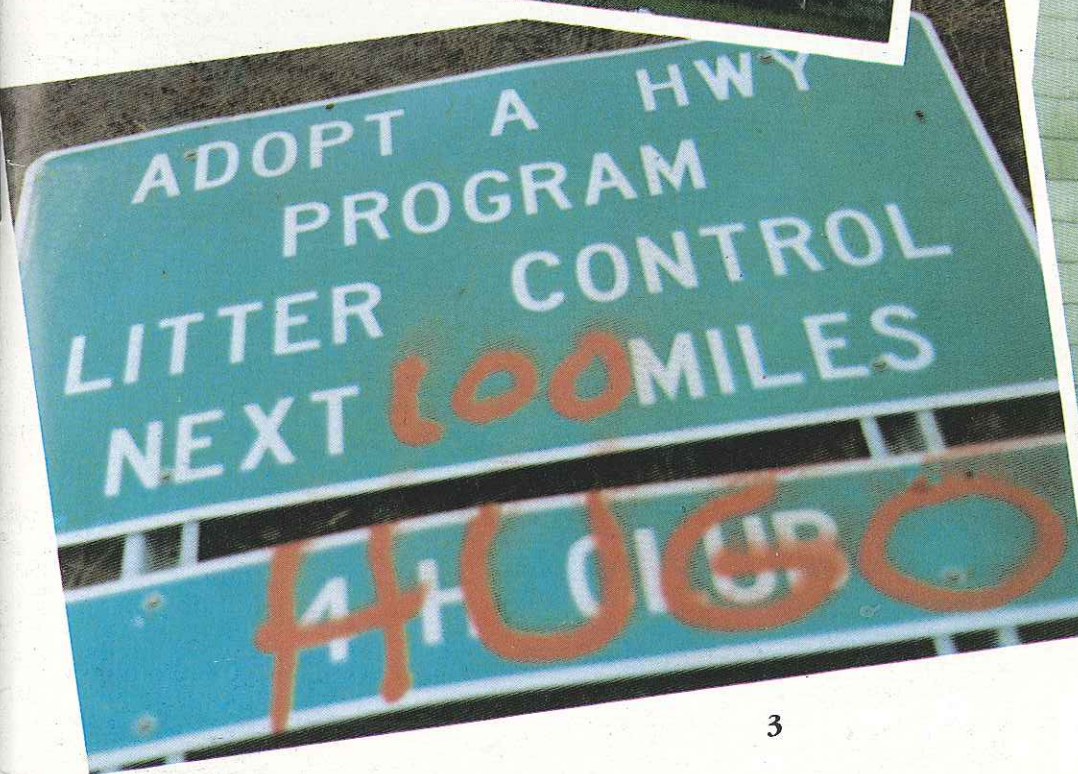
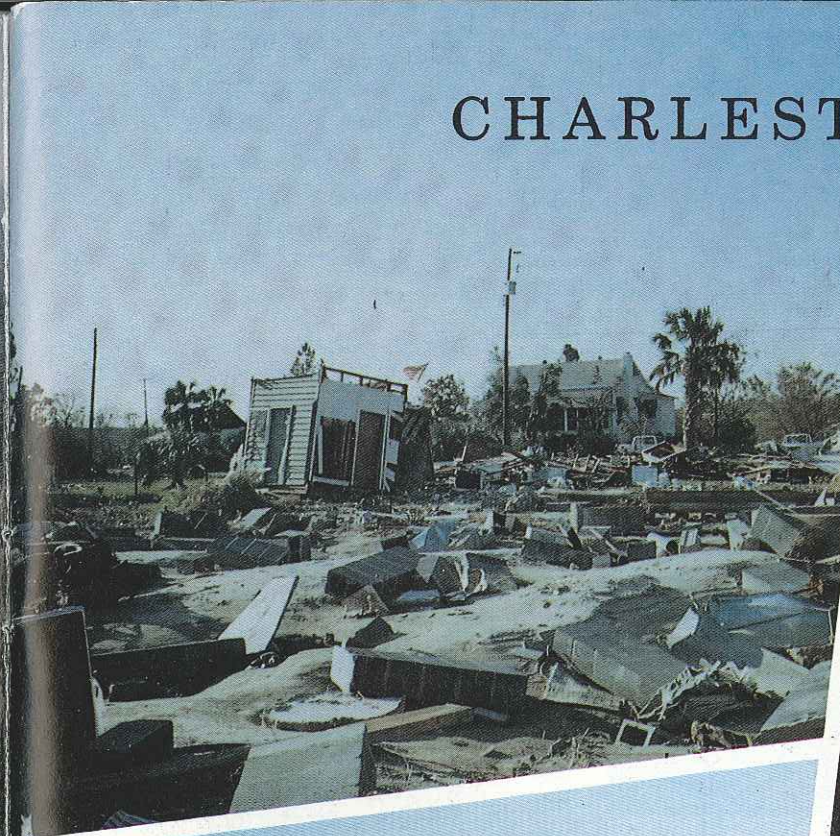


Thursday morning, September 21, 1989. As Hurricane Hugo drives toward the South Carolina Coast, residents of the Conway-Myrtle Beach area join in a mass exodus along Hwy 501 to escape the storm's fury.

Upon returning to their homes, residents found the utter devastation wrought by the winds and waters of the hurricane.



## CHARLESTON, SC





# HURRICANE HUGO STORM OF THE CENTURY HUGO SEPTEMBER, 1989

8

## Flying The Eye

The men who "fly the eye"  
How they do it and why they do it

12

## One Man's Burden

The ordeal of Sullivan's Island  
Police Sgt. David J. Price

16

## Night of Wind and Water

Riding out the storm on the  
Isle of Palms

17

## Island Paradise Revisited

Returning home to devastation

19

## Nightmare in McClellanville

Thomas Williams and his family fight  
for their lives



23

## Eleanor Pringle Hart Faces Hugo Alone

Old Charleston still survives

27

## The Guardian of Dockside

Above and beyond the call of duty

31

## Hurricane Hall of Infamy

A synopsis of the most devastating  
hurricanes to hit the U.S.

35

## Devastation of a Forest

From a thriving timberland to a  
forest of broken trees

37

## The Brief and Violent Life Of Hurricane Hugo

Born: September 11, 1989  
Died: September 23, 1989

38

## Hugo at a Glance

Tracking Hugo through the Carolinas  
and beyond

43

## Hugo Versus Mickey Spillane

He's as tough as Mike Hammer

46

## Janice Sattelle — Chef Extraordinaire

Cooking for 1,800 hungry people

47

## Jan Lewis — Surfside Heroine

Firefighter fights Hugo

50

## Honeymooning in St. Thomas

Surviving a direct hit

54

## Hugo's Caribbean Voyage

Christopher Columbus and Hurricane  
Hugo followed similar paths through  
the Caribbean

55

## The Atlantic House — Fond Farewell

Folly Beach landmark is no more



58

## Kirk Rouse — Bishopville Hero

Taking back the streets from Hugo

60

## Tennessee Volunteers

Lending a helping hand

61

## Hugo's Youngest Survivor

Julia Katherine Dixon — Daughter of the  
Storm

64

## The Media Strike Back

Radio, TV and newspapers are bloodied  
but unbowed by Hugo

65

## Babies

They usually come with storms

68

## SCE&G — Prepared for Hugo

SCE&G returns power to the people

68

## Six-Year List of Hurricane Names

69

## The Man Who Named the Hurricanes

Gilbert Clark and the naming of North  
Atlantic hurricanes

### PUBLISHER/EDITOR

William J. Macchio

### CO-PUBLISHER

James Rowell

### ART DIRECTOR

Gary Gowans

### ASSIST. ART DIRECTOR

Linda Blackwell

### COPY EDITORS

Howard Elgison

Laura Shepard

Claudia S. Allen

### CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Mary Miller — Surfside, S.C.

Howard Elgison — Mt. Pleasant, S.C.

Andy Solomon — Sullivan's Island, S.C.

Kathy Kearney — Isle of Palms, S.C.

James J. Cox — Isle of Palms, S.C.

Claudia S. Allen — Charleston, S.C.

Holly Elgison — Mt. Pleasant, S.C.

Rebecca S. Williams — Virgin Islands

Lorin Browning — Charleston, S.C.

Carleen Palmer — Folly Beach, S.C.

Debra Roof — Columbia, S.C.

Reggie Murphy — Columbia, S.C.

Terrie Hoover — Charlotte, N.C.

D.C. Losciale — Charlotte, N.C.

Ann Wicker — Rock Hill, S.C.

Jeanne Henry — Summerville, Ladson, S.C.

Cindy Dibeau — Goose Creek, S.C.

### CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS \*

Brewster Buck — Pawleys Island, S.C.

Robbie Doying — Georgetown, S.C.

Mary Miller — Myrtle Beach, Surfside Beach, S.C.

Terrie Hoover — Charlotte, N.C.

Claudia S. Allen — Charleston, S.C.

Bill Macchio — Charleston, S.C.

Susan Elgison — Mt. Pleasant, S.C.

Jim Ribar — Myrtle Beach, S.C.

Woody Williams — St. Thomas, Virgin Islands

Chip Padgett — Charlotte, N.C.

Reggie Murphy — Bishopville, S.C.

Rebecca Williams — St. Croix, Virgin Islands

Norman LoRusso — Mt. Pleasant, S.C.

DuBose Blakeney — Mt. Pleasant, S.C.

Don McLester — Charleston, S.C.

\* Because of the enormous number of photographs submitted by our freelance photographers, we had hundreds of photos that could not be included. To all those photographers who submitted photos, we THANK YOU!

### THE COVER STORY

Our magazine cover is the now famous satellite photograph of Hurricane HUGO showing the eye of the storm passing over the South Carolina coast at 12:01 AM EST on Sept. 22, 1989. The photograph was taken by a US Weather Service satellite known as Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite no. 7, or simply GOES-7.

This particular photograph is a color-enhanced infrared image wherein the colors represent different temperatures. Since the satellite is looking down on the storm, the infrared energy that it "sees" corresponds to the temperature at a specific altitude. For example, in the eye of the hurricane, which is shown as a black area, GOES-7 can see down to within a few thousand feet of the Earth's surface. This is the maximum temperature in the photograph and is close to that which would be sensed on the ground. The bright red area around the eye represents the coldest temperatures in the photograph at the tops of the highest thunderclouds. The altitude of these clouds is approximately 50,000 feet and the temperature at that location is in the range of 70 to 90 degrees below zero on the Fahrenheit scale. The remaining colors — brown, yellow, blue and purple — correspond to decreasing cloud-top altitudes and increasing temperatures.

### PRINTING

J.R. Rowell Printing Co., Inc.  
Charleston, SC

### PUBLISHER'S NOTE — HUGO

It was my ambition when I first began assembling this publication that it would be passed down from generation to generation of Hugo survivors. I couldn't help but feel that I would be leaving a personal legacy.

A publisher has very few opportunities in his lifetime to publish something that will document history. It is seldom that history repeats itself and never does it allow us the opportunity to view an act of Mother Nature twice. THE STORM OF THE CENTURY MAGAZINE is the most informative and comprehensive documentation of Hurricane Hugo. The writers and editors who worked on this historical document have compiled interviews with survivors, heroes and weather personnel that you will not find anywhere else. Our

editorial and photographic coverage encompasses Hurricane Hugo's entire trail, not limited to a specific region, so that you will be able to understand the incredible destructiveness of this storm leaving thousands homeless, destroying property worth billions of dollars and causing total chaos wherever it cast its eye. Not to mention the many who died as a result of its fury.

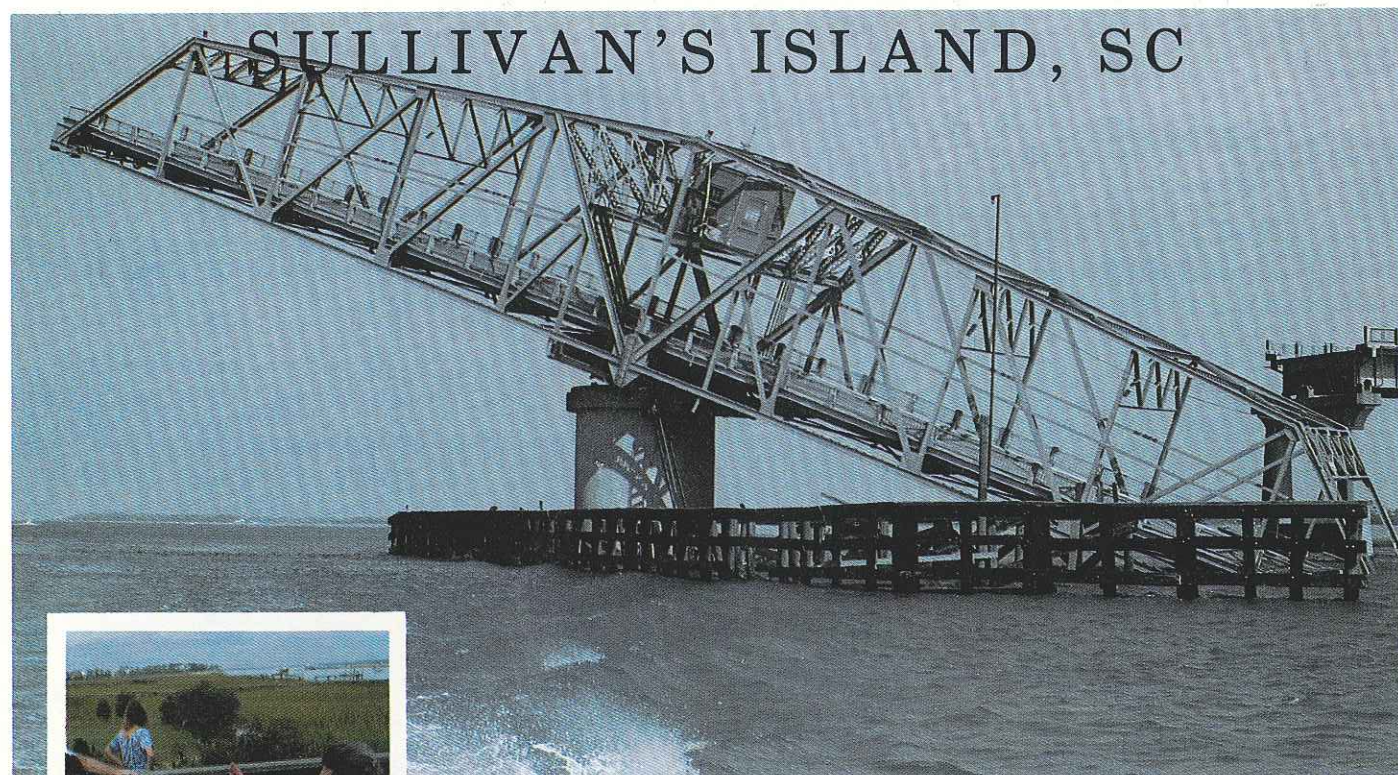
Through the cooperation of NOAA (National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration) and NHC (National Hurricane Center) we will detail for you what a hurricane is, how to track one, how to read a satellite photo and, if you are interested, how to fly into one. Our document will be an educational and entertaining experience to all those who explore our pages.

Marketed and published by  
BD Publishing, Inc. and J.R. Rowell Printing Company, Inc.  
Publisher and Printer of: Lowcountry Real Estate Magazine,  
Southern Woman to Woman and East Cooper Magazine

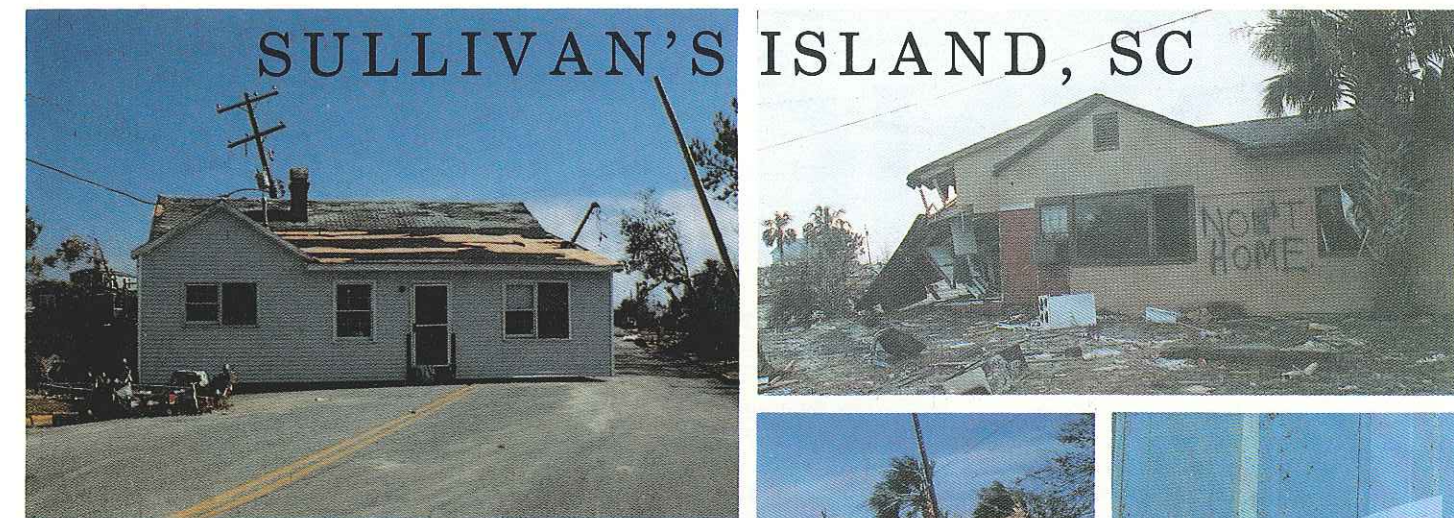
P.O. Box 306, Mount Pleasant, SC 29465 (803) 884-0159

(800) 433-7396





The Barrier Islands bore the brunt of the storm. The Ben Sawyer Bridge connecting Sullivan's Island to the mainland was upended, and it was two days before residents were permitted to visit the island.





## Devastation of a Forest

by Holly and Howard Elgison

On the morning of September 21, 1989, the 250,000 acre Francis Marion National Forest was a thriving timberland with magnificent stands of longleaf and loblolly pines. One day later, following the onslaught of Hurricane Hugo, it was a forest of broken trees. Three-fourths of the great pines were on the ground. Some trees were splintered and some uprooted, but the vast majority of them were simply sheared off at a height of 10-25 feet above the ground.

While the visual impact of this scene is staggering, the financial and environmental impacts are even worse. According to USDA Forest Service Reports dated October 5, 1989, "Preliminary timber volume loss estimates range from 700-1000 million board feet (enough to make a 12-inch-wide board stretching around the world 5-7 times.) The storm blew down trees estimated at approximately \$95,000,000 to \$115,000,000."

The Forest Service hopes to salvage at least 250 million board feet of saw timber — a quantity which represents about a third of what is on the ground and five times the normal harvest of 45 million board feet per year. This will create serious long-term problems for wood-using industries. Initially, these industries will have to expand their production facilities to accommodate the tremendous amount of timber that will be available. Subsequently, when rot and insects preclude further use of downed trees, they will not have sufficient timber to maintain their former production. This will result in a loss of jobs generated by tree harvesting operations in the Forest.

In addition, Charleston and Berkeley Counties will suffer significant revenue losses from the timber shortfall. Again, according to the USDA report, "Berkeley County normally receives \$850,000-\$1,000,000 and Charleston County normally \$250,000-\$300,000 as their portion of the receipts (from timber sales). Total revenues paid to the counties since the Forest was established in the late 1930's is about \$25,000,000."



Another serious problem created by the hurricane is the increased fire hazard. The dead trees and vegetation on the ground result in what the Forest Service refers to as "extreme fuel loading." When the trees and vegetation dry out in the spring, they will become the fuels for potential fires. In addition, normal fire-fighting techniques will be severely hampered by the downed trees. These procedures rely heavily on tractor-plows cutting a line down to the soil and encircling the fire. This will become extremely difficult with so many trees on the ground. Prevention efforts and public awareness of the problems will have to be stepped up in order to reduce the chances of forest fires.

Wildlife in the Forest has also been adversely-affected — the greatest damage being done to the habitats of the Red-Cockaded Woodpecker (RCW). This small bird, about 7 inches long, is on the list of endangered species. Prior to the hurricane, the Francis Marion Forest had one of the largest and most viable RCW populations in the world.

The RCW needs large old pine trees in which to excavate its nesting and roosting cavities. They feed on insects in nearby pine trees (foraging habitat). Most of the nesting and foraging habitats used by the RCW were destroyed by the massive blowdown of the trees. Studies are currently underway to determine the long-term effects of this situation on these birds.

Insofar as the deer and turkey populations are concerned, the Forest Service expects the deer herds to increase as a result of the significant amount of new forage that has been created. The turkey population is expected to decrease.

The recreational services of the Forest have also been affected. The 102 miles of hiking, horseback, motorcycle and canoe trails are virtually impassable due to fallen trees and debris. All 11 recreation areas, which provide camping, picnicking and boating facilities, have been extensively damaged. The Forest Service is presently working on a 30-year plan for its recreational services and some of the facilities may be altered or upgraded during the ensuing refurbishment program.

The Francis Marion has a Seed Orchard which produces genetically superior seeds (faster growing, more disease-resistant) for reforestation of National Forest timberland. The orchard was left with only about 10% of its trees standing. The replacement trees are not expected to produce significant amounts of seed until about the year 2015.

Over the next several years the recreational areas of the Forest will be rebuilt and the trails will be cleared and reopened. The man-made facilities will be returned to their original condition, or even improved. For the trees, however, this will not be so. A few short years is not a significant period of time for a living system that requires decades to reach maturity.

Currently, the Forest Service is working with all their available resources to remove fallen trees and replant new ones. Despite these heroic efforts, it will be an entire generation before the Francis Marion National Forest looks as it did on the morning of September 21, 1989.



# MEDIA

## The Media Strike Back

By the time Hurricane Hugo had completed its devastating journey through the Carolinas, most of the services that are essential to our society were in shambles. Electrical power was non-existent, water and sewer systems were severely damaged if not totally inoperable, roadways were extremely hazardous, and many people were left without the basic necessities of life.

The one thing we had was communications. Everyone owned a portable radio, and, thanks to underground cables and modern telecommunications technology, most people had access to working telephones.

Unfortunately, many of the local television and radio stations suffered extensive damage to their broadcast facilities. In addition, the people who staff these stations had serious problems of their own. And while most of us were clearing our yards and repairing our homes, the people in the media had to place their personal lives on hold and tend to the business of getting their stations back on the air. The following are some of their stories.

WKQB — 107.5 FM

## The Rock-And-Rollers Come Through

by Howard Elgison

There are few things in heaven or on earth that can stifle Q107 DJ Michael D when he wants to speak. Hurricane Hugo was one of them. For the record, WKQB was silenced at 12:20 AM on Friday, September 22, when power was lost at its remote transmitter located in Ridgeville, S.C., about 30 miles northwest of Charleston. It was the last local radio station to leave the air.

Q107 returned to the air at 9:00 PM on Friday when the Edisto Electric Cooperative did the nearly impossible job of restoring power to the Ridgeville transmitter in less than one day. For six continuous days, WKQB broadcast hurricane recovery information without airing a single commercial and playing only an occasional song to break the tension.

In addition to Jeff Williams and Michael D., the other on-air people included Barry (Man of Danger) Hall, Craig Russell, Mary Russell and Operations Manager Roger Gaither. Q107 DJ Dominica was stationed at the Charleston County Emergency Operations Center during this period.

When I did the interview with WKQB, the first person I talked to was Craig Russell. Russell appeared to be a rather rational guy which led me to the erroneous assumption that I was dealing with a rational radio station. I asked him to describe the scene at the station during that frenzied week.

"Basically, the place looked like an evacuation shelter," said Russell. "Not only were all the station personnel around, but so were their families — husbands, wives, kids and pets. It was like a giant indoor campout."

He then told me that if I wanted the story of what happened the night of the hurricane, I needed to talk to Michael D who was at the station that night. Mr. D happened to be on the air at the time, so Russell took me into the broadcast booth which is something like entering the lion's den when the lion is hungry. He introduced me to Mike who immediately grabbed the microphone and



Craig and Michael D



## CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA

"Ground zero." Hugo made landfall in the historic peninsula city, the first hurricane-force winds slamming into the Battery at about 11:27 PM, Thursday, September 21. Winds of up to 135 mph drove tides of 12.9 feet crashing over the seawall, flooding streets and leaving mud and water on the first floors of homes, ruining furnishings and appliances. The wind downed trees and power lines and ripped off roofs; about 80% of the roofs in the city were damaged to some extent. City Hall lost half its roof, exposing the city's priceless collection of art to the rain and chasing Mayor Joseph P. Riley, Jr. from his second-floor office. The City Market, a favorite shopping area for tourists, lost its roof, as did the police and fire stations and many of the historic churches. A block of businesses on Hayne Street near the Market was destroyed; they were among the 128 buildings partially or totally collapsed in the city, most of them in the Willow Walk, Cross Creek, McLara Hall, and Shadow Moss areas. At least 80% of the city's 4,000 historic structures were damaged, mostly from rain that fell after the winds had ripped across roofs, peeling away tin and tiles. It was estimated that it would take five years and many millions of dollars to restore the buildings to their pre-Hugo condition; there were no estimates as to how long it would take to restore the urban forest; about 95% of the trees were lost, including many moss-draped live oaks at Hampton Park and White Point Gardens. One death occurred in the city, when a house collapsed on its occupant.

## THE BARRIER ISLANDS, SOUTH CAROLINA

The South Carolina coast between Savannah and Charleston escaped the full fury of Hugo. HILTON HEAD suffered minor beach erosion and minor flooding with some downed trees. The winds reached no higher than 65 mph. The nearby city of BEAUFORT had its streets cleaned and businesses re-opened by noon of Friday, the day after the storm. Battery Creek Bridge, the major artery from Beaufort to Parris Island was closed to traffic because of wind damage.

## HUNTING ISLAND, SOUTH CAROLINA

"As far as I know, we have the only fishing pier left on the coast," said Marshall West, superintendent of Hunting Island State Park; the island was virtually undamaged, only six trees were lost.

## EDISTO ISLAND, SOUTH CAROLINA

Edisto Island, too, was lucky; some flooding and some wind damage and tree loss. The state park re-opened after a week without power.

## JOHNS ISLAND and JAMES ISLAND, SOUTH CAROLINA

The large, beachless barrier islands with year-round suburban communities, suffered some severely damaged homes and power outages. Boats were washed into the marsh at Buzzard's Roost and Stono marinas, condominiums at Headquarters Plantation were damaged but still standing, Harbor View Road on James Island was littered with power poles and downed trees. There was some standing water, but severe flooding did not materialize. Tornadoes

apparently touched down along Folly Road (S.C. 171) between Ft. Johnson and Camp Roads, shearing off trees in a 100-foot-wide path and narrowly missing the James Island Fire Station.

## KIAWAH, SOUTH CAROLINA

Because of its East-West instead of North-South orientation, Kiawah was undamaged. SEABROOK suffered structural damage to buildings.

# Hugo At A Glance

by Claudia Allen

"tens of millions of dollars" and said hundreds of buildings had been damaged or destroyed. Among those was the landmark Atlantic House, which had weathered hurricanes before, but

road, and the front porch of another house that had been flattened landed several rows back, in the front yard of another home. Fort Moultrie, site of the first significant American victory in the

Island, was twisted, upended, and left with one end in the Intra-coastal Waterway and the other pointing to the sky. It was two weeks before the bridge could be used again, after temporary repairs by the Army Corps of Engineers.

## ISLE OF PALMS, SOUTH CAROLINA

Isle of Palms has a population of about 4,000. The worst damage occurred between 10th

homes were destroyed and 22 substantially damaged. Shingles, furniture, torn window screens, household belongings of all kinds, trees, power poles and lines all littered the island. At Wild Dunes marina, about 100 boats were "stacked like cordwood" across on Goat Island, according to Ben Moise of the State Wildlife and Marine Resources Department. At Wild Dunes, The Links, ranked among the 50 top golf courses in the world, was devastated; holes 17 and 18 were swept into the sea. Several buildings at Wild Dunes were seriously damaged. A 30-foot section of the William Thomson Memorial Bridge over Breach Inlet, connecting Isle of Palms with Sullivan's Island, was torn away, rendering the bridge impassable.

## PAWLEYS ISLAND, SOUTH CAROLINA

Pawleys Island was cut in two by Hugo's powerful tides, creating a 100-foot-wide channel. There were heavy damages to the island, with at least 14 homes destroyed and numerous others damaged. A 19th century beach house known as the Summer Academy tilted toward the beach. The road to South Litchfield was washed out.

## MURRELLS INLET, SOUTH CAROLINA

Captain Dick's Marina, home of the local fishing fleet, was destroyed. Most of the boats had been moved to inland waterways before the storm and were spared. All that was left of the marina was an 8 feet by 10 feet bait cooler, knocked across the road along with tons of lumber that were once the docks and other buildings of Captain Dick's. There was also a 10,000 gallon diesel fuel spill at the marina.

## GEORGETOWN, SOUTH CAROLINA

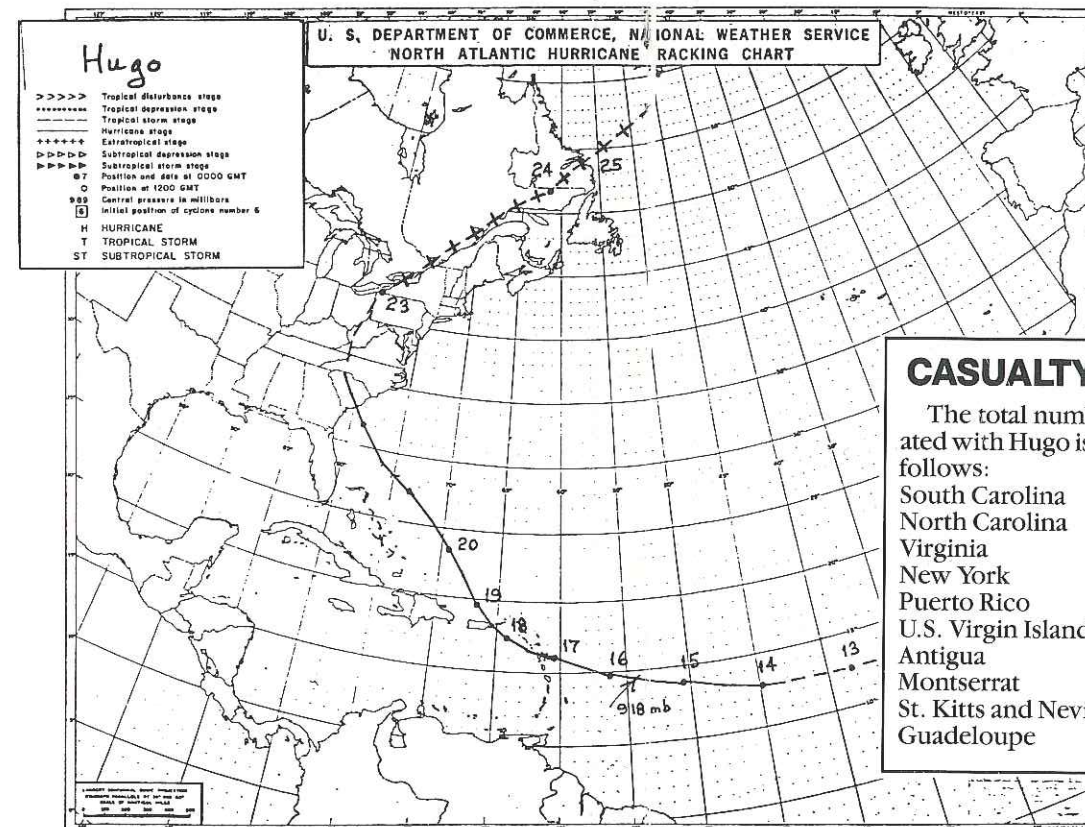
The marinas, Georgetown Landing and Belle Isle were devastated. There was major flooding along the historic waterfront; furnishings from homes that were cracked open by the waves littered the road. A 40-foot sailboat moored in Sampit River came to rest in an alley next to the Rice Museum.

## MCCLELLANVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA

A tiny village of about 600 residents on Jeremy Creek, about three miles across the marsh from the Atlantic Ocean, it was one of the hardest hit areas. It is a seafood center, where families make their living shrimping, fishing and catching oysters; the annual blessing of the shrimp fleet at McClellanville is eagerly anticipated by many South Carolinians. After Hugo, boats lay stranded everywhere and layers of ocean mud lay on the road and befouled homes throughout the village. The town was cut off by massive flooding, and outside the Lincoln School shelter, where people were stranded, cars were stacked five high. Many homes were destroyed.

## MT. PLEASANT, SOUTH CAROLINA

Mt. Pleasant to Bull's Bay bore the brunt of Hugo's wrath. In the Old Village of Mt. Pleasant, Alhambra Hall lost its roof, most businesses along Coleman Boulevard were damaged or destroyed, windows were smashed, roofs damaged, large trees snapped like toothpicks. Most streets were impassable. There was heavy damage to yachts and other boats moored at Toler's Cove, and five to eight trawlers at Shem Creek sank. The



## FOLLY BEACH, SOUTH CAROLINA

This oceanfront town of about 2,000 people lost 80% of its homes and was left in tatters. Roads were stripped bare of pavement; Arctic Avenue, 50 feet from the ocean, looked like a dirt road, covered with sand and large pieces of beach houses. Beachfront homes were peeled open and flattened. Folly Beach Mayor Bob Linville estimated the damage at

could not stand against Hugo. Splintered wood and twisted roofing and broken pilings were all that remained of the over-the-ocean bar and restaurant.

## SULLIVAN'S ISLAND, SOUTH CAROLINA

Oldest of the Charleston resorts, Sullivan's Island lost numerous homes on its front beach; many more were severely damaged. One front-row house was blown onto the

American Revolution and now operated as a museum by the National Park Service as part of the Fort Sumter National Monument, received about four feet of water inside its confines and sections of roof at the Visitor's Center were damaged. The brick walls, several feet thick, were undamaged, as was the grave of Seminole Indian Leader Ocoela. The Ben Sawyer Bridge, the only road leading from the mainland to Sullivan's

Street and Wild Dunes. A storm surge of 11 feet ravaged older homes along the beachfront but spared the newer, million-dollar houses built to be "hurricane-proof." The fishing pier was ripped out, leaving only its moorings; porches were torn off, roofs clawed open by the wind, beach houses ripped from their foundations and moved 150 feet across the road. FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) estimated that 60



## **GARDEN CITY, SOUTH CAROLINA**

Garden City, astride a narrow strip of land between Murrells Inlet and the Atlantic Ocean, was wiped out. Rows of hotels and condominium complexes that appeared intact were actually perching on cliffs of sand, their pilings and foundations eroded or missing; only the strongest steel and concrete structures survived. Up to 90% of the homes were destroyed. "It's just totally destroyed," said Horry County Administrator M. L. Love. "There is no front row. There's some pilings sticking up, that's about it."

## **MYRTLE BEACH and NORTH MYRTLE BEACH, SOUTH CAROLINA**

From Cherry Grove South to Windy Hill Beach, beachfront motels were heavily damaged, some even destroyed. Homes and motels along Cherry Grove Beach had caved-in ceilings, bathtubs hanging from windows, beds, roofing and insulation scattered outdoors. Businesses were closed, water mains broken; there was no power or telephones. The smell of natural gas from broken gas lines could be detected. Said Rep. Dick Elliott, D-Horry, "I don't think there's 5% of our sand dunes left." Mobile homes rested in the middle of Ocean Boulevard near Springmaid Pier, which had lost all but 150 feet of its length. The Grand Strand Amusement Park lost all its piers; the roller coaster was intact, but the merry-go-round had disappeared. At Myrtle Beach State Park, the fishing pier, picnic shelter and nearly all the boardwalks were swept away by the 13.6 foot high tides. Town Hall was a total loss

— one house landed in the road in front of the Hall. An estimated 50% of the housing was extensively damaged, and 50 people were arrested for looting in the business district. The town lost 20 patrol cars at the police station; they filled with water or were submerged by water when the storm surge swept through.

## **AWENDAW, SOUTH CAROLINA**

Awendaw was almost washed away by the 19.4 foot tide, the highest in this century; it was the hardest hit community. The Awendaw Creek Bridge on U.S. 17 collapsed.

## **NORTH CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA**

Businesses on both sides of Rivers Avenue were lost, and those not destroyed were damaged, losing signs windows and roofs. Lines of utility poles closed part of the road, and side streets were clogged by fallen trees and power lines. On Montague Avenue, the city's beauty spot, Park Circle, lost nearly every tree. Logging crews were called in to clear away about 400 pines and oaks. "North Charleston will never look the same in my lifetime," said Mayor John E. Bourne, Jr. "It's just devastating." The City Hall, too, was damaged and could not be used until repairs were made.

## **BERKELEY COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA**

Berkeley County suffered more fatalities than any other area of the Carolinas, with eight deaths. Destroyed were 1,163 homes, mobile homes and apartments, with 4,929 severely damaged, leaving about 17,000 homeless in the county. There was nearly \$8 mil-

lion in damage to the county's schools, and 70% to 80% of the trees were down. Two dozen of the county's historic properties were damaged beyond repair, and some 400 old farmhouses scattered through the county were damaged. In ST. STEPHEN, 30 miles East of McClellanville at least 1,500 of the 2,000 residents were left homeless.

## **DORCHESTER COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA**

This county, too, suffered destruction of homes and businesses. In the SUMMERVILLE area, eight houses, 45 mobile homes and five apartments were destroyed; 608 received major damage and 4,653 more were slightly damaged. The steeple of the Second Presbyterian Church was torn off, and two-thirds of the trees in Flowertown's lovely Azalea Park fell to Hugo. Most serious damage was to the Galleria Shopping Center, which was forced to close. In the RIDGEVILLE area, six homes were destroyed, as were 10 mobile homes; an additional 41 houses and 29 mobile homes suffered major damage.

## **ORANGEBURG COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA**

Orangeburg, the county's seat and largest city, is 75 miles northwest of Charleston, where Hugo made landfall. It received heavy damage, with many homes hurt and power knocked out. Agriculture in Orangeburg and neighboring CALHOUN COUNTY was hard hit. Losses in cotton, pecans — which were essentially wiped out — and forestry were heavy; peaches and soybeans were also damaged. Buildings and equipment amounted to an estimated \$2 million in losses.

Drainage channels were clogged with fallen trees. LAKE MARION marinas were badly hurt, and downed timber near SANTEE made boating impossible. Tens of thousands of trees were rafting at the northeast end of the lake, and near Santee Dam, 15 to 30 acres of trees covered the lake.

## **CLARENDON COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA**

Officially assessed damage was put at \$369 million. One migrant worker was killed, 87% of the mobile homes were destroyed leaving some 28,000 people homeless, and 70% of the single-family homes were damaged. Two rural fire departments were flattened and the roof of the county courthouse was ripped off. The once-elegant courthouse sustained about \$70,000 in damage, the courtroom was littered with plaster and a carpet hung through the third floor ceiling to the second floor. Clarendon Memorial Hospital's emergency room increased its volume at least 300% between September 22nd and 25th; about 150 patients had Hugo-related injuries. The hospital itself received about \$200,000 in damage.

## **SUMTER, SOUTH CAROLINA**

Winds of up to 110 mph were felt 90 miles inland; damage to homes, businesses and public buildings was assessed at \$237 million. The First Baptist Church was severely damaged and one resident of a wooded area of Sumter called the tree damage "astonishing." In South Sumter, where wood frame houses in low-income pockets were lost, about 75 people stayed at Emmanuel United Meth-

odist Church. A 13-month-old boy was killed near MAYESVILLE when a mobile home overturned. 220 houses, mobile homes and businesses were destroyed, and 980 more suffered major damage.

## **COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA**

The state's capital reported dozens of cars damaged by fallen trees and power lines. The storm flattened "The Bubble," indoor athletic facility at the University of South Carolina. Power was off for 115,000 people.

## **LEXINGTON, SOUTH CAROLINA**

10,000 people there were without electricity; gusts of wind nearly 100 mph were clocked in Richland County. EASTOVER and GADSDEN were hardest hit, and in Eastover, a man was killed when a tree fell on his car.

## **FLORENCE, SOUTH CAROLINA**

Access was cut off on two sides, with buildings downtown damaged; the streets were littered with shingles, awnings, aluminum siding, destroyed plastic signs and fallen trees. Travelers Inn, a 144-room motel at the I-95 and S.C. 52 intersection, was filled with refugees from the coast; the wind peeled the roofs from five two-story complexes, scattering debris on cars in the parking lot. The Florence Air and Aviation Museum suffered substantial losses, including historic military and other airplanes.

## **LEE COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA**

One fatality and heavy damages in BISHOPVILLE, which amassed \$1.2 million in damages, clean-up and repairs.

## **KERSHAW COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA**

CAMDEN, where winds were clocked at 110 mph, suffered broken windows, dangling power lines, roof and water damage to downtown businesses. Historic plantation houses escaped virtually unscathed, but the county courthouse, designed by Charleston's nationally-known architect, Robert Mills, took a beating.

## **CHESTERFIELD COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA**

Its courthouse, on the National Register of Historic Places, sustained about \$25,000 in roof damage; in the county, 1,595 dwellings were heavily damaged or destroyed, and turkey farmers lost 75,000 birds when winds collapsed the buildings housing them.

## **YORK COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA**

Heavy damage and a fatality was reported when a mobile home was destroyed. Crop losses included 20-25% of cotton, 7-10% of peach orchards, 15% of sorghum and 15% of soybeans. ROCK HILL accounted for most of York County's \$2.9 million in damages, with an assessed total of \$2.25 million.

## **CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA**

200 miles from landfall, Charlotte was surprised by Hugo's punch so far inland. Winds gusting up to 90 mph and sustained winds of 70 mph ripped through the city about 8:00 AM Friday, September 22nd, slamming trees into houses, shattering glass in skyscrapers, snapping utility poles and shredding awnings and nerves. The main intersection of Trade and

Tryon Streets was blocked by debris from a construction site across from the Marriott Hotel. The U.S. District Courthouse on Trade Street, where PTL Evangelist Jim Bakker was on trial for fraud, was closed and dark; the Com-pri Hotel was dark, too, with guests using flashlights to dial telephones.

## **MECKLENBURG COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA**

315,000 residents were without power. There were natural gas leaks, some roads were blocked; trees were down, some homes and other structures damaged.

## **PIEDMONT COUNTIES, NORTH CAROLINA**

Similar rough treatment, with downed trees and loss of power and water. UNION COUNTY suffered major damage to structures throughout, and turkey houses were damaged, too. Mobile homes were extensively hurt, and roofs of two schools were off. A six-month-old boy died in his crib when a tree smashed into his home. In STANLEY COUNTY, Stanfield School gymnasium collapsed, and water delivery to Albemarle was made difficult because of power failure. In CATAWBA COUNTY, an eight-year-old boy was seriously injured when trees crashed into his house and he was buried in the rubble for an hour.

## **BRUNSWICK COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA**

Considerable erosion occurred of all its beaches, many sand dunes were washed away. OCEAN ISLE lost three beachfront houses to the tide, and debris was scattered everywhere. Twelve more homes were condemned. At HOLDEN,

one cottage stood on the beach, with others close to joining it. Oceanfront damage was estimated at \$25-\$30 million. LONG, CASWELL and YAUPON Beaches all suffered from wind and water damage.

## **VIRGINIA and WEST VIRGINIA**

Tropical Storm Hugo swept across the narrowest part of Virginia, entering WASHINGTON and TAZWELL COUNTIES. Power lines and trees fell, gusts were clocked at 81 mph, and two people were killed. There was less rain than expected. In West Virginia's MERCER COUNTY, 45-50 mph winds toppled trees on houses, cars, trailers; the OAKDALE area was evacuated because of flooding.

## **PENNSYLVANIA**

At 4:00 PM Friday, September 22nd, the remnants of Hugo passed just to the West of Pittsburgh. There was very little left, and weather service meteorologist Alan Reznick said, "His punch is gone." Hugo died in Canada; darting through the St. Lawrence Valley, he was absorbed by another weather front.

(Compiled from reports in the following newspapers: The Charlotte Observer, The Columbia State, The Charleston News & Courier and Evening Post, The Atlanta Journal, Myrtle Beach Sun.)

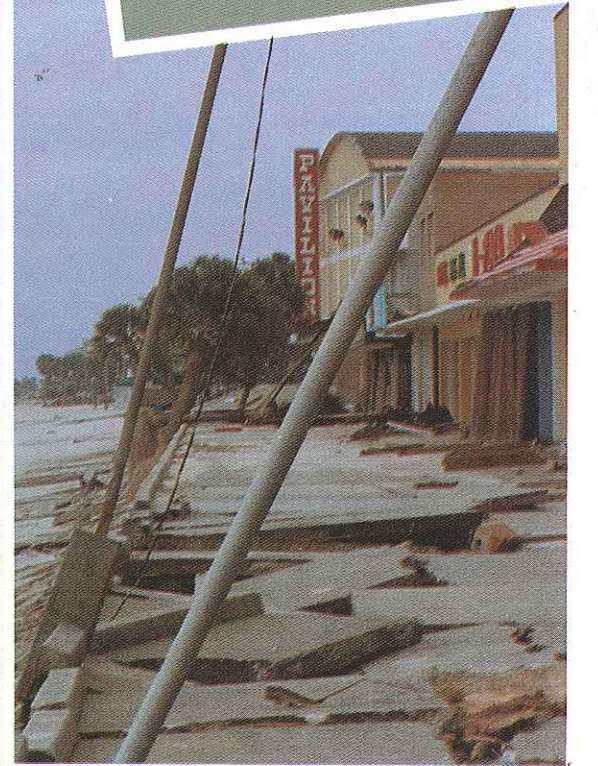
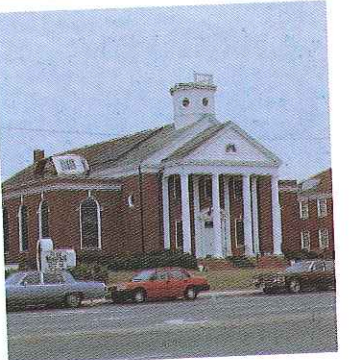
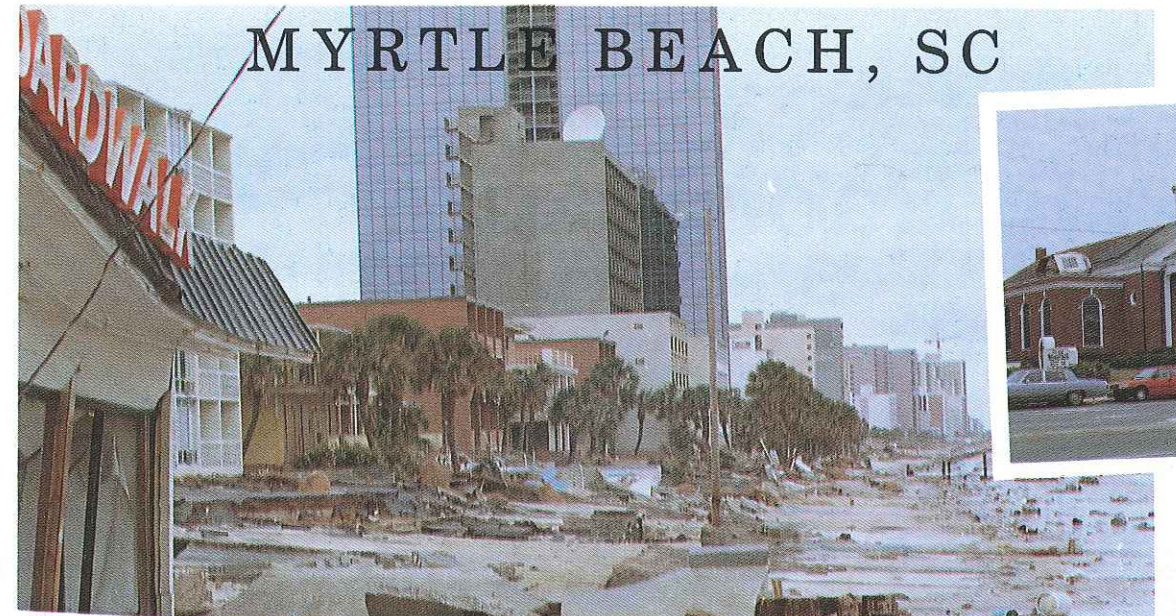
*Continued on Page 65*



# MYRTLE BEACH, SC

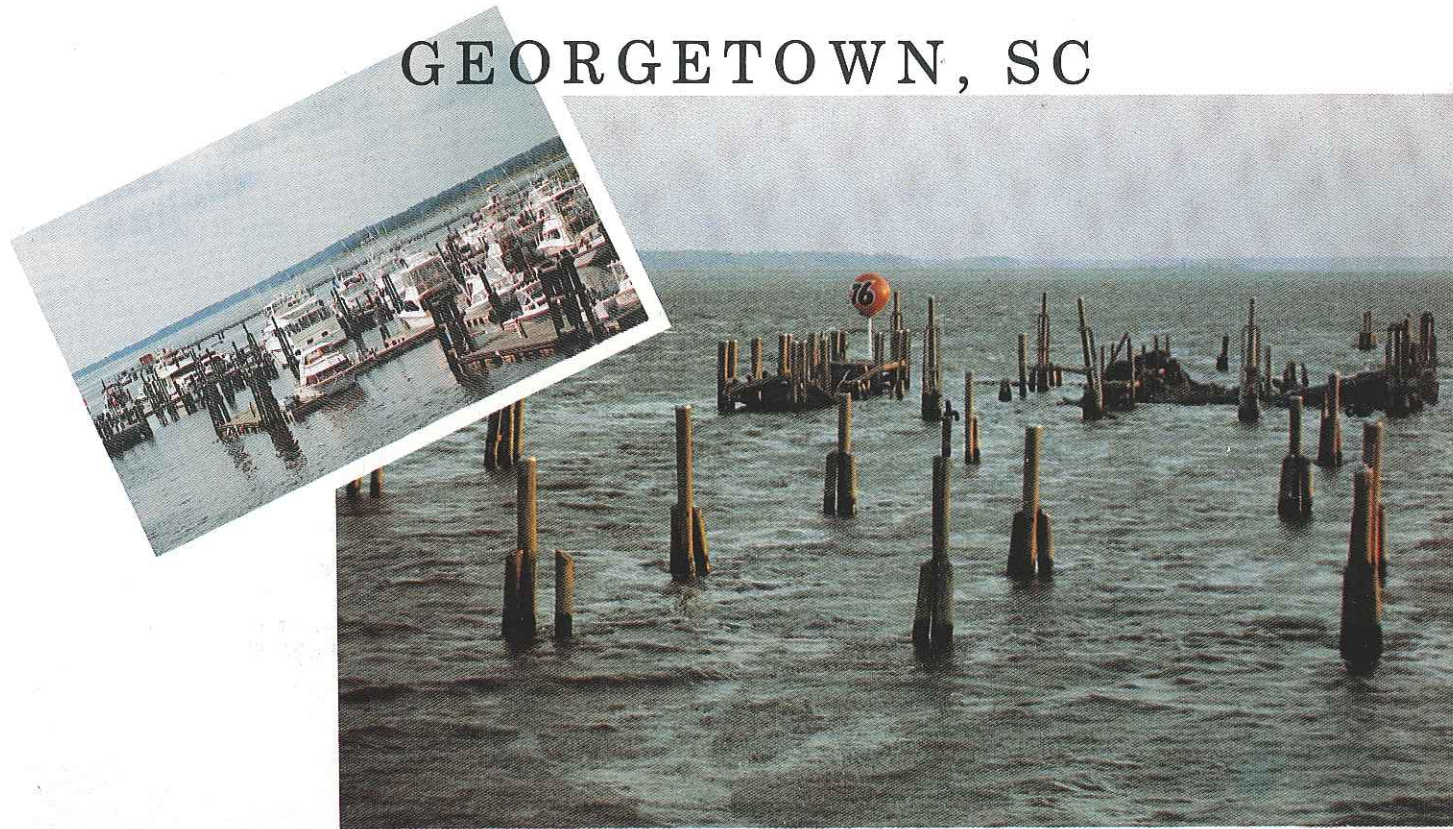


# MYRTLE BEACH, SC





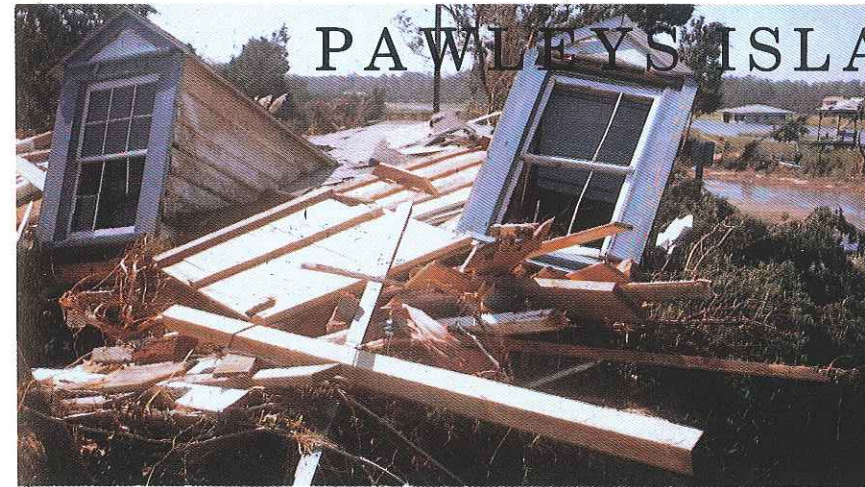
## GEORGETOWN, SC



Before and after: The Georgetown Marina offers dramatic testimony to Hugo's power. Murrells Inlet lost a landmark when Captain Dick's was destroyed.



## PAWLEYS ISLAND, SC



Pawleys Island — The two center pictures show the 70-foot-wide breach that was cut through Pawleys Island by Hugo's tidal surge.

