includes eight hydrocarbon fields, a geothermal prospect, and two viable prospects. The areas of migration are most likely to occur at areas of structural expansion, i.e., at grabens, crests of diapirs, or at the intersections of faults. The latter appears to be especially important as eight of the twelve areas of migrations are near fault intersections.

GERDES, BOB, et al, Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge, La.

Effects of Hurricane Frederic on Morphology of Dauphin Island, Alabama

Hurricane Frederic made landfall at Dauphin Island, Alabama, on September 12, 1979. With property damage estimates as high as $2 billion, Frederic represents the costliest natural disaster in United States history.

Most of the destruction caused by Frederic was due to winds up to 65 m/s (126 knots), storm-surge (3.1 m above mean sea-level) flooding, beach erosion, and overwash. The latter of these three factors was the most significant in terms of property damage.

Photographic overflights, ground surveys, and inspection of structures after the hurricane all led to the conclusion that damage was controlled by the following features: (1) nearshore bathymetry, (2) relative elevation of different parts of the island, (3) location and orientation of pre-storm canals and driveways, and (4) placement of house-support pilings.

The ebb-tidal delta of Mobile Pass dominates the nearshore bathymetry of eastern Dauphin Island. Extending several kilometers offshore, this delta platform produced shoaling and breaking of storm waves offshore, and thus spared the eastern part of the island from more intense wave attack. However, immediately west of the delta, wave refraction and focusing produced the highest beach retreat (40 m) of any place on the island.

Dauphin Island exhibits two distinct physiographic divisions. The eastern fifth of the island is composed of a Pleistocene core topped by high dunes, with elevations over 10 m. This area escaped much of the destruction of the storm, receiving only relatively minor wind damage. The western four-fifths of Dauphin Island consists of a low-lying Holocene spit, which was completely inundated by the passage of Frederic. The overwash of this part of the island resulted in damage to virtually every building and complete destruction of many.

Streets and canals which ran perpendicular to the beach on the Holocene spit served as initial passageways for storm-driven water. These areas developed into the major overwash channels and were responsible for the most intense property damage.

Numerous small overwash channels were found to have developed in the lee of house-support pilings. Presumably scour was enhanced by the turbulence of water flowing around such pilings. In areas of high building concentration, this effect was most pronounced and caused significant damage.

HANSEN, THOR, Univ. Texas at Austin, Austin, Tex.

Biostratigraphic Significance of Fossil Molluscan Larvae

Most marine mollusks have some form of pelagic larval stage which produces a distinctive protoconch. Scanning electron microscope studies reveal that larval shells are routinely preserved in sediments as old as the Upper Cretaceous, and that protoconchs are characteristic enough to identify to species on the basis of the unmetamorphosed larval shell. This has paleoecologic and biostratigraphic potential in cores where only a few identifiable adult mollusks are normally found. In addition, larval shells are carried by water currents to areas not inhabited by the adults, extending the species geographic range and partly eliminating facies dependence. Fossil mulluscan larvae are, therefore, a potentially valuable new micropaleontologic group.

HARRISON, FRANK W., JR., Independent and Consulting Geologist, Lafayette, La.

Louisiana Tuscaloosa Versus Southeast Texas Woodbine

The deep Tuscaloosa play extending across south-central Louisiana has resulted in the recent discovery of large gas reserves. This same downdip lower Upper Cretaceous interval, known as the Woodbine in southeast Texas, extends into Texas across Newton, Jasper, Polk, and Tyler Counties. Although well control is sparse through this interval in southeast Texas, available data suggest a different depositional and structural setting for the lower Upper Cretaceous interval. No thick units of sands are within the interval, and most of the production has been found in stratigraphic traps exhibiting thin sands, as in the Seven Oaks field.

Subsurface studies of the lower Upper Cretaceous interval across south-central Louisiana and into southeast Texas indicate it is unlikely the Louisiana Tuscaloosa play will extend into the southeast Texas area. However, there is sparse downdip control in Texas south of the Lower Cretaceous shelf edge and it is, therefore, possible that some sands have been deposited subparallel to the shelf. The best area to explore for this possibility would be south of the 1,000-ft Tuscaloosa or Woodbine isopachous contour which extends across southeast Texas.

HARRISON, FRANK W., III, Amoco Production Co., New Orleans, La.

Pressure, Temperature, Salinity, Lithology, and Structure in Hydrocarbon Accumulation in Constance Bayou, Deep Lake, and Southeast Little Pecan Lake Fields, Cameron Parish, Louisiana

Pressure, temperature, salinity, lithology, and structural studies indicate that hydrocarbons in Deep Lake, Constance Bayou, and Little Pecan Lake fields were generated in the shale beds of the hard geopressured zone and migrated upward along major growth faults. The hydrocarbons were originally dissolved in hot fresh pore water and came out of solution in the overlying low temperature and pressure zones, accumulating in the sand beds of the first structural traps encountered. By examining regional cross sections and anomaly maps, fluid escape routes taken by the hot pore water containing dissolved hydrocarbons can be identified. Areas below which a vertical flush of hot fresh pore