



Cable One Cable TV Advertising staffers Mike Kommersmith, left, and Vester Wentzell tape Mayor A.J. Holloway near the Camille memorial for a segment that aired Aug. 17, 2005, a mere 12 days before Hurricane Katrina destroyed the Episcopal Church of the Redeemer and bell tower, and leveled the Camille memorial, shown in the background at left.

## City, Cable One to retire 'Camille' broadcast

For the past several years on the Aug. 17 anniversary of Hurricane Camille, Cable One has broadcast the documentary "A Lady Called Camille" to help educate new residents and remind longtime residents the dangers of storms and flooding.

With Hurricane Katrina establishing a new highwater mark in the annals of storm history, this year will mark the final presentation of the 30-minute documentary. In fact, this year's cablecast will feature a two-minute introduction by Mayor A.J. Holloway, that was taped last year at the site of the Hurricane Camille memorial on the grounds of the Episcopal Church of the Redeemer. Hurricane Katrina struck 12 days after the program aired.

Biloxi residents will have one last to revisit the devastation wrought by Hurricane Camille during the cablecast of the documentary "A Lady Called Camille," which Cable One will air on its Biloxi system on Aug. 17, 2006, the 38th anniversary of the Category 5 storm making landfall on the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

The program, which features actual footage from the aftermath of a Category 5 storm, will air at 10 a.m., 8 p.m. and 11 p.m. on Cable 13 in Biloxi. Cable One is airing it as a public service to help educate residents on the dangers of hurricanes.

Camille, with winds in excess of 200 mph and a 25-foot storm surge, swept across the Coast on the night of Aug. 17, 1969. The storm, which at the time was the most severe to strike the U.S., caused billions of dollars in damage, with 134 deaths and 23 persons missing from the Gulf Coast area. A nationwide relief effort, which included scores of military and civilian volunteers and businesses, helped Biloxi and surrounding communities in the aftermath of the storm. President Richard M. Nixon also visited the Coast in the days after the storm.

"A Lady Called Camille," which was created by the National Office of Civil Defense shortly after the hurricane, shows preparation and recovery efforts that were organized largely by the legendary Wade Guice, former Harrison County Civil Defense Director whose wife, Julia, served as Biloxi Civil Defense Director at the time. The duo are seen at their posts at the outset of the film.

Said Mayor Holloway: "By airing this documentary each year, Cable One has performed an invaluable public service in helping the city educate residents about the dangers of storms and flooding. We appreciate their contributions on this project, and, unfortunately, we'll be retiring that Aug. 17 cablecast with a new one each year, to take place on Aug. 29. We'll have more news on that as the date gets closer."