Storm Sends News Meddia Scrambling

Hurricane Sandy wreaked havic on every type of news outlet across the East Coast this week, sending a reminder in this age of nonstop information that Mothr Nature could silence them all.

The storm halted the printing of newsppers in New Jersey, stopped WNYC and other stations from broadcasting on their AM radio frequencies, put a muzzle on the Gawker Web site by flooding its Internet service provider and pulled intrepid television reporters off streets with its high winds and deep water.

“We knew that getting around was going to be tough, we just didn’t realize, nor did anybody, how tough it would be,” said Michael Jack, the president and general manager of WNBC. mr. Jack added that his reporters had “three laments” in this storm: the water, high winds and restrictions on movement, like the closings of bridges and tunnels.

some stations found the conditions to be so daunting that they pulled back reporters during the height of the coverage. NY1, the all-news cable channel in New York City based downtown, instructed some crews to leave dangerous areas on Monday; other reporters sought temporary shelter in various places because the streets were impasssable.

At a time like this, many news organizations like the Weather Channel made use of Twitter and facebook to find user-generated photos and videos. A few fakes surfaced, like one photo purporting to show a shark swimming through a neighborhood. but as soon as one person posted the photo, thinking it was taken recently; several other people virtually shouted it down, clarifying that it was a hoax.