



## **BRIEFING BOOK**

**News and views from the Louisiana Capitol**  
Sunday, August 17, 2008

Peer approval

The nonpartisan Public Affairs Research Council brought home three awards last week from a national organization of government watchdogs. The Governmental Research Association, comprising organizations and groups that study and make recommendations on state and local policy issues, honored PAR for its report on the 2007 governor's race, "Questioning Candidates Beyond the Platitudes," which was judged "most effective education." Two other reports earned certificates of merit: "Spending Federal Disaster Aid," which looked at the distribution of FEMA public assistance grants and Community Development Block Grant money; and "PAR Research in Governmental Ethics and Transparency Yields Reforms," a compilation of the group's research on ethics that helped lay the groundwork for recent changes in state ethics laws.