

# Daily Breeze

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## GATOR WATCH DAY 18

Reggie the Machado Lake alligator has finally been found — at least on T-shirts, mugs and other items for sale on the Internet.

A3

## Dodgers gain in standings

D.J. Houlton survives four home runs by the Cubs and Jeff Kent drives in four runs as L.A. closes ground in the NL West.

D1

## It's show business

The new head of the Torrance Cultural Arts Center Foundation brings a high level of excitement and entertainment experience to his job.

B1



## D@ily link

Get a fish-eye view of Shamu, the killer whale at Sea World in San Diego. By clicking on [www.shamu.com/ca/shamu-cam/index.htm](http://www.shamu.com/ca/shamu-cam/index.htm) you can watch Shamu live daily, checking out the surroundings in his tank and occasionally leaping out to splash unwitting spectators.

## Outside

	High	Low
Inland	79	66
Beaches	76	65
Surf: 3-5 feet	Weather A12	

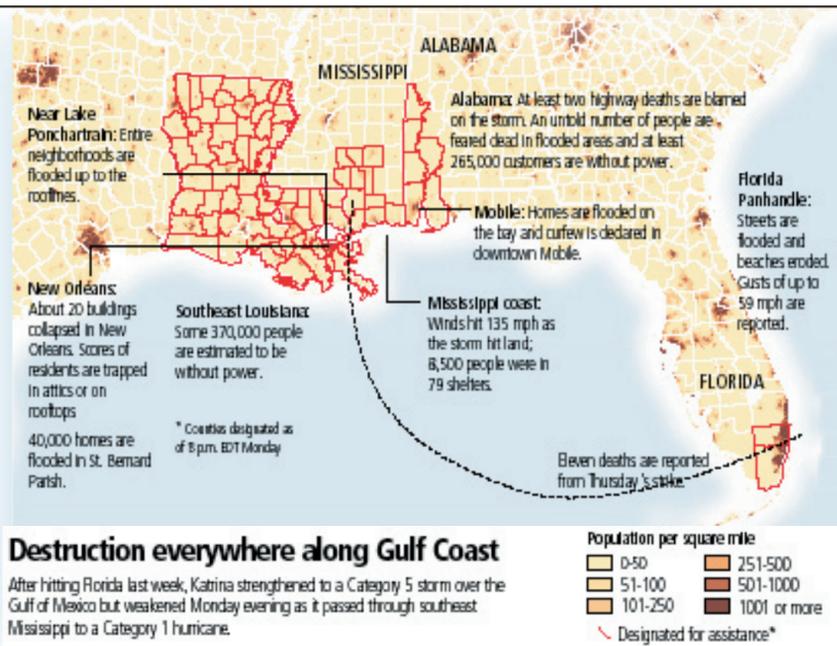
## Findit

Comics	B6
Crosswords	C6, C8
Horoscope	B5
Lottery	A12
Opinion/Insight	A10-11
Ship Arrivals	C7
Television	B4

**Advertising Sections:**

Classifieds	C4-8
Movies	B5
Obituaries	A4

111th year/Number 242  
Torrance, California  
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**More inside**

■ **Gulfport:** Residents of Mississippi city of 71,000 people struggle for words to describe the devastation./A6

■ **French Quarter:** Residents of the historic area celebrate survival with a prayer and drinks./A6

■ **National Guard:** Many of those helping are just back from the war in Iraq./A6

■ **NASA:** March shuttle flight plans could be hurt as the storm passed over the factory that builds the crafts' external tanks./A6

■ **Insurance:** Industry may face up to \$26 billion in claims from the storm, an early report indicates./C1

■ **Airlines:** Storm helps push oil over \$70 a barrel, bad news for the beleaguered airline industry./C3

# KATRINA'S CHAOS

## DEVELOPMENTS

■ As Katrina moves north, the system is forecast to dump 4 to 8 inches in the Tennessee Valley and in the Ohio Valley and Great Lakes, with higher amounts in scattered areas. Tornadoes were possible in Mississippi, Alabama and the Florida Panhandle.

■ President Bush verbally made emergency disaster declarations for Louisiana and Mississippi. The difference between these declarations and preliminary ones issued over the weekend was that the new declarations allow for the allocation of federal funds in disaster relief.

■ The American Red Cross said it had thousands of volunteers mobilized for the hurricane. It was the "largest single mobilization that we've done for any single natural disaster," said spokesman Bradley Hague.

■ The Environmental Protection Agency dispatched emergency crews to Louisiana and Texas because of concern about oil and chemical spills.

■ At the Superdome, where the power went out and the storm blew holes in the roof, refugees gathered near an exit and demanded that they be allowed to leave. They were told it was not yet safe.



A shaken Henry Rhodes sits in a New Orleans Police Department boat Monday, moments after his rescue from the flooded Miro Street neighborhood in New Orleans. Damage estimates for the Louisiana city were in the billions of dollars.

## At least 55 are killed as storm slams Gulf Coast

By Joseph B. Treaster and Kate Zernike  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

NEW ORLEANS — Hurricane Katrina pounded the Gulf Coast with devastating force at daybreak Monday, sparing New Orleans the catastrophic hit that had been feared but inundating parts of the city and heaping damage on neighboring Mississippi where it tossed boats, ripped away roofs and left coastal roads impassable.

Packing 145-mph winds as it made landfall, Katrina left more than a million people in three states without



Bricks and other debris from a fallen building cover several cars and trucks Monday in New Orleans. Thousands sought refuge in the covered Superdome.

power and submerged highways even hundreds of miles from the center of the storm.

Officials reported at least 55 deaths, with 50 alone in Harrison County, Miss., which includes Gulfport and

Biloxi. Emergency workers feared they would find more dead among people trapped in their homes and in collapsed buildings.

Jim Pollard, a spokesman for TOLL/A9

## Bradley incidents drew RB officers

**DODGERS:** Police went to outfielder's home on three domestic violence calls. No charges have been filed.

By Larry Altman  
DAILY BREEZE

Police have responded to the Redondo Beach home of Los Angeles Dodgers outfielder Milton Bradley three times this summer on domestic violence calls, including one instance in which he allegedly choked his pregnant wife, bloodied her lip and hurled a cellular telephone into a wall.

The record of domestic discord is the latest revelation to dog the embattled center fielder, who last year was ordered to undergo anger management sessions following his suspension for charging a fan in the stands. Bradley recently ignited controversy when he said second baseman Jeff Kent could not deal with black people.

On Monday, Bradley — out for the season with a knee injury and not accompanying the team to Chicago — angrily dispatched a reporter from his driveway.

"You come here snooping around," he yelled from his upstairs balcony. "Get off my property. Write that down. Get off my property."

No charges were filed against Bradley or his wife stemming from any of the three police responses. In two of the cases, police officers counseled the couple. In a third, Bradley was not home when police arrived.

A police report was submitted to the district attorney's branch office in Torrance, but prosecutor Mary Suzukawa rejected filing charges against Bradley. She

BRADLEY/A9

## President works state for help on drug plan

By Liz Sidoti  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

RANCHO CUCAMONGA — President Bush tried Monday to drum up support for a Medicare prescription drug benefit that begins next year, encouraging audiences to learn about the new plan even if they don't want to sign up.

"Some folks simply don't want any change, and I understand that completely. But I urge you to take a look," the president said at a senior citizens center.

Bush said the program contains many options for consumers. "The more options available, the more likely it is you're going to get what you want," he said.

Focusing on a domestic issue amid rising criticism of his handling of the Iraq war, the president spent the day pitching the benefit program here and in Arizona. He also was traveling

MEDICARE/A9



## Venice's Smith faces long odds in 53rd District race

By Josh Grossberg  
DAILY BREEZE

Black Panther Eldridge Cleaver tried and failed in his bid for president. So did baby doctor Benjamin Spock.

Now it's James Smith's turn to try to win an election as a candidate for the Peace and Freedom Party. Facing better known

and better funded contenders in the 53rd Assembly District race, Smith knows the odds are stacked against him.

But he hopes to gain enough momentum in the Sept. 13 primary to make a strong showing in an anticipated runoff election in November.

"It's possible, but it's a long shot," Smith said. "I don't want to kid anybody, but I'm running as serious a campaign

as I can. If I get a respectable amount of votes, it will help me fund-raise and help me get support."

Smith is competing against Republicans Mary Jo Ford, Paul Nowatka and Paul Whitehead and Democrat Ted Lieu to replace Democratic Assemblyman Mike Gordon, who died in office. If none

ASSEMBLY/A9