



Meet us  
on page 2A



TODAY'S WEATHER  
Afternoon haze.  
High: 94. Low: 71.  
DETAILS: 12B

CYAN  
MAGENTA  
YELLOW  
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## RESPONDING TO KATRINA

### Cancellations

- Ferry service across the Mississippi River stopped because ferries are in the New Orleans area evacuating storm victims. **Page 15A**
- BREC events postponed until Oct. 3 because centers are being used as shelters.
- The BREC-LSU-BRAS Highland Road Observatory and BREC's Bluebonnet Swamp Nature Center are closed due to storm damage.
- The Baton Rouge River Center Branch Library is closed. Library patrons will not be fined for materials checked out during the days libraries were closed. (225) 231-3700.

### Rescue hot lines

Louisiana State Police have set up 16 telephone lines for people trapped by floods, all within the 225 area code: 922-0012, 922-0120, 922-0179, 922-0184, 922-0286, 922-0288, 922-0325, 922-0327, 922-0332, 922-0333, 922-0334, 922-0335, 922-0340 and 922-0341; or, call 287-7815 or 287-7816. The lines will roll over. People with questions about road and flood conditions or those trying to find missing refugees are NOT to call these numbers.

### Highway hot lines

For road condition news: Louisiana State Police: (800) 469-4828 or go online at <http://www.lsp.org>. La. DOTD: (225) 379-1232.

### Unemployment to soar

Approximately 750,000 workers in the New Orleans metropolitan region, the Florida Parishes and three surrounding areas are displaced, which — combined with the Mississippi Gulf Coast and Alabama — could amount to a 25 percent unemployment rate for the region. **Page 1C**

### Singer safe and sound

Musician Fats Domino finds shelter in the apartment of LSU quarterback JaMarcus Russell. **Page 1D.**

### Still without power

Entergy hopes to have electrical power restored to most of its 32,000 customers in the Baton Rouge area without it by Sunday. Most of the DEMCO customers without power in East Baton Rouge Parish should have it restored by today. **Page 1B**

### Katrina bulletin board

- St. Vincent de Paul is accepting school uniform and financial donations at 2655 Plank Road. (225) 357-8833.
- Families of deployed Army National Guard soldiers affected by Hurricane Katrina are asked to call the National Guard Bureau Family Program at (888) 777-7731.

### How to help

The Advocate and WBRZ TV, the Baton Rouge Area Foundation, United Cerebral Palsy, Louisiana State Bar Association, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity and the Louisiana Disaster Recovery Foundation have established relief funds. Other organizations have funds where donations will be forwarded to the American Red Cross. To find out more about how you can help, visit <http://www.2theadvocate.com>

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# La. 'turns a corner'

## Relief begins to arrive; engineers staunch flooding from lake

Advocate staff report

**NEW ORLEANS** — New Orleans Mayor Ray Nagin said Friday he does not think his tirade a day earlier about the lack of a federal response to the Hurricane Katrina disaster "rattled" President Bush, but it did "get the nation's attention."  
"I think the president is disappointed in the response," Nagin said after meeting with Bush and touring the flooded areas of the city.  
"The president assured me he un-

derstood the situation and was fully committed to moving this operation forward," the mayor said.  
Nagin said he believes his outburst "had some effect" because the president loves frankness.  
"Yesterday I went off a bit. I feel much better. I think we've gotten everybody's attention. I am cautiously optimistic," he said.  
As far as the evacuation side of the post-Katrina operation is concerned, Nagin said the city should be com-

pletely cleared in three to five days.  
The Louisiana Superdome, which had about 30,000 evacuees, now has about 8,000 to 10,000 and should be evacuee-free by midday today. The Ernest N. Morial Convention Center also has 20,000 to 30,000 evacuees, and there are another 10,000 to 15,000 on the roadways trying to get downtown, he said.  
Nagin said 1,000 soldiers took control of the convention center Friday and restored "peace" to a chaotic sit-

uation.  
An upbeat Gov. Kathleen Blanco said late Friday that Louisiana "turned a corner today." She gave credit to arriving soldiers, a successful engineering project, and a visit by Bush.  
Engineers were able to staunch the flow of water from Lake Ponchartrain into the city on Friday.  
The project's completion, "The first ray of real hope for people who have lost so much," Blanco said.

The arrival of troops in the city was a show of force that put "confidence back" into the population, Blanco said. "We have to restore order so that we can begin the process of rebuilding," she said.  
And Blanco credited Bush's visit Friday with giving her a renewed optimism.  
"To have the president there was yet another magnificent gesture,"

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### Finally, some relief



Advocate staff photo by ARTHUR D. LAUCK

National Guardsmen help Henrietta Glover, 61, and her grandchild Darrienna Cryer, 1, into the shade across the street from the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center in New Orleans.

## Rescuers reach Morial Center

### But evacuees still waiting to be moved

BY PENNY BROWN ROBERTS  
Advocate staff writer

**NEW ORLEANS** — Clarence Horton couldn't stop the tears.  
Five days after Hurricane Katrina devastated this city, help was finally making its way Friday to Convention Center Boulevard.  
But these weren't tears of gratitude.  
These were tears of dread.  
Horton was afraid the sudden heightened military presence in a throng of desperate refugees stranded for days at the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center without any relief might bring violence — and death.  
"The first blood or the first bullet, it's over. We're going to have a massacre," the 72-year-old retired Greyhound bus driver said. "Please don't let these people get killed."  
As it turned out, there was nothing to fear.



Advocate staff photo by ARTHUR D. LAUCK

Refugees get one bottle of water and one packaged meal at the feeding station Friday at the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center in New Orleans.

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## Evacuees recount ordeal waiting for their help to arrive

BY SANDY DAVIS  
AND JESSICA FENDER  
Advocate staff writers

**NEW ORLEANS** — In a sea of human misery, thousands of Hurricane Katrina evacuees — some on stretchers and barely alive — were contained on the side of Interstate 10 Friday waiting to be evacuated, with many begging anyone who walked by to just "get us the hell out of here."  
"My mother's not breathing. She's not breathing," Lamar Robinson screamed above the roar of helicopters landing and taking off on what used to be the Causeway Boulevard exit ramp on I-10. "Please, please, God, help us."  
An emergency medical technician began resuscitating Robinson's mother, Hattie Robinson. Within moments they lifted her stretcher and ran to a helicopter that just landed.  
"We just got pulled off our roof," Robinson said as tears rolled down the side of his sweaty, dirty face. "It was flooded with 10 feet of water, and we've been there since Monday. I just want my mama to live. Please, God, let her live."  
Robinson was one of thousands of evacuees who began arriving at this interstate intersection sometime Thurs-

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