SPORTS

'Home' Not So Good for Saints

(AP) — The New York Giants topped the displaced New Orleans Saints 27-10 Monday night. It was a Saints home game being played in New Jersey due to the flooding in New Orleans and damage to the Superdome.

Aside from a few superficial touches, it didn't look, sound or feel like home.

The New York Giants, visitors in name and jersey color only, had no complaints. Playing before 68,031 of their fans Monday night in the comfort of their own ballpark, the Giants beat the Saints in one of the most bizarre "home" settings in sports his-

NFL nomads with no stadium after the damage to the Superdome and New Orleans caused by Hurricane Katrina, the Saints were given a home game here by the league. Historically more successful on the road under coach Jim Haslett (25-17 going in), they couldn't overcome critical mistakes in falling to 1-1.

In the first half alone, the Saints committed 11 penalties for 72 gated a third-down sack and set overs, 13 penalties for 92 yards home games will be played closer to tact by Sedrick Hodge that ne-

Steve Blake

Blake to

Blazers Sign

Offer Sheet

Lood for threat

from perimeter

The Portland Trail Blazers signed

Blake, 25, has spent the last two seasons with the Washington Wizards, who have until Sept. 28 to

match the Trail Blazers' offer. The 6-foot-3 Blake, a member of Maryland's 2002 NCAA championship team. Due to an ankle sprain, he played in only 44 games last

season and averaged 4.3 points.

The Wizards selected Blake in the second round of the 2003 NBA draft.

He was Maryland's all-time leader in assists with 972, fifth best total in the

NCAA and fourth highest in Atlantic Coast Conference history.

restricted free agent guard Steve

Blake to an offer sheet on Monday citing his skills as a perimeter threat. Terms of deal were not disclosed.



Giants running back Tiki Barber cuts between New Orleans Saints defensive tackle Brian Young and cornerback Jason Craft as he runs for a touchdown Monday in East Rutherford, N.J. (AP photo)

yards, including an illegal con- up the Giants' third touchdown. and allowed four sacks. In all, the Saints had six turn-

home: four in Baton Rouge, La., and At least the Saints' other seven three in San Antonio, where they train.

Snoop Dogg Sponsors Youth League

(AP) - Snoop Dogg's new youth football league is a hot item in Southern California.

Two years ago, Snoop began coaching his son's team in the Orange County Junior All-American Football Conference, luring children from other squads with his star power.

The rapper and sometime actor also made personal phone calls to draw in top talent, and last year his Rowland Raiders went undefeated en route to a league champion-

Snoop, whose real name is Calvin Broadus, is taking things to the next level this year, creating his own Southern California league. He lowered fees for joining a team from \$175 or more to \$100, which covers the cost of cleats and pads. He also loosened residency requirements.



Rap artist and actor Snoop Dogg talks to his youth football team son Cordell Broadus, 7.

No Home Found Yet For Hornets

(AP) — Finding a temporary home for the New Orleans Hornets is one of the NBA's most pressing concerns as the opening of training camps draws near.

The New Orleans Arena escaped serious damage from Hurricane Katrina, but the Hornets were told it could take up to six months modate their return. League offi- lineup.

cials have facilities in Baton Rouge, La. and Oklahoma City, and NBA spokesman Tim Frank said a decision on the Hornets' temporary home is expected toward the end of the week.

After that, the focus will move to the individuals - rather than teams - who spent the summer changing addresses.

Michael Finley will be joining the defending champion San Antonio Spurs, Larry Brown will take over as coach of the New York Knicks, Ron Artest will be welcomed back to the Indiana Pacers and Shaquille O'Neal will get a firsthand look at the changes made before the city's ready to accom- to two-fifths of Miami's starting

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Ducks Face No. 1 USC

(AP)—The 24th ranked Oregon Ducks say they won't change how they will prepare for Saturday's game against the No. 1 Trojans at Autzen Stadium.

Oregon coach Mile Bellotti said USC's talent is "very impressive" and their execution offensively is "almost flawless."

The Ducks will be working on kickoff coverage and the punting game in general, he said.

The Trojans have been ranked No. 1 by The Associated Press in voting for the media for 22 consecutive polls. That's the longest streak ever.

It will be Oregon's first game against a team ranked No. 1 in 13 seasons since a loss to Washington in 1992.

And Oregon has lost all nine of its previous games against a No. 1 opponent, including three

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