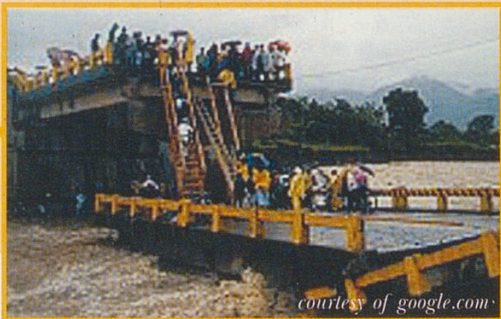




**8/28- HURRICANE KATRINA RAVAGES THE GULF COAST.** Katrina was possibly the most powerful and damaging storm ever to hit the country. Although the losses directly attributed to the hurricane were very numerous, the most horrifying destruction was done in New Orleans, LA. Katrina broke the levies that kept the city dry, flooding half of the city and causing millions of dollars in damage. "Katrina was devastating, but ... they are getting back on track," said **Allison Jacobs, 11**. After the disaster, many people criticized the federal government for not adequately helping the victims of the hurricane.

**11/18- HURRICANE GAMMA DESTROYS A BRIDGE ON THE** coast of Central America. Gamma marked the end of one of the longest hurricane seasons in recorded history. "The government's response to this year's extra long hurricane season was extremely inadequate and poorly planned. Overall, I was very disappointed in the level and speed of aid," said **Alexander Rock, 10**.



*courtesy of google.com*

**10/25- THE 2,000<sup>TH</sup> US SOLDIER IN IRAQ** died in a roadside bombing north of Baghdad. "So far, many innocent civilians (whether they are Iraqi or not) and American soldiers have lost their lives for something that doesn't seem to be moving forward. But, I don't want the soldiers to leave and not have any order at all and have even more people die because we left," said **Hannah Gross, 10**.



*courtesy of google.com*

**9/29- JOHN ROBERTS IS SWORN IN AS CHIEF** Justice of the Supreme Court. Roberts was appointed by President Bush after the death of the former Chief Justice, William Rehnquist. Characterized as a conservative moderate, Roberts was confirmed by the Republican-controlled Senate with few qualms from the Democrats. "I think that a chief justice should serve on the High Court for awhile before acquiring the title," said **Jared Kamrass, 9**.



*courtesy of google.com*



*courtesy of google.com*

**10/19- TRIAL OF FORMER IRAQI DICTATOR SADDAM HUSSEIN BEGINS IN** Baghdad. Hussein was captured as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom in December, 2003. Seven of his closest associates were also on trial. "I think that Saddam should be tried by his own people, since they are the ones that he hurt," said **Katherine Kettlehake, 11**.