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## Hurricane Dean Reaches Mexico's Coast

By JAMES C. MCKINLEY Jr. and GRAHAM BOWLEY 44 minutes ago

The hurricane struck the Yucatán Peninsula today at Category 5 level, but within a few hours as it moved westward across land its force diminished to a Category 3.

The Lede: Hurricanes and History  
Updates From the National Hurricane Center (noaa.gov)



Streets were flooded today in Chetumal, Mexico.  
Henry Romero/Reuters  
Photographs | Video | Times Topics: Hurricanes

## Rules May Limit Health Program Aiding Children

By ROBERT PEAR  
The Bush administration has adopted new standards that would make it much harder for states to extend coverage to children in middle-income families.

## Plaintiffs Find Payday Elusive in Vioxx Cases

By ALEX BERENSON  
None of the 45,000 people who have sued Merck over heart attacks or strokes suffered after taking Vioxx have received payments from the company.  
Times Topics: Merck & Company | Company Profile

## China's Trade in Africa Carries a Price Tag

By LYDIA POLGREEN and HOWARD W. FRENCH  
Manufacturing has suffered in Africa as cheap Chinese goods flood the market, eliminating needed jobs.  
Slide Show | Previous Articles in the Series »

## More Students Finish School, Given the Time

By JENNIFER MEDINA  
New York City is making an effort to help students who need more than four years to complete high school.

## 15 Hussein Aides on Trial in Baghdad

By JAMES GLANZ 59 minutes ago  
The man known as Chemical Ali and his 14 co-defendants are on trial for their role in suppressing a 1991 uprising.

### MORE NEWS

- Space Shuttle Prepares to Land** 21 minutes ago
- Iran to Release Scholar on Bail** 51 minutes ago
- Australian Court Rules for Indian** 11:11 AM ET

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- The Caucus: Iraq Veteran in House Backs Obama Bits: Web Video in High Definition Coming Soon Paper Cuts: Robert Stone at 70**

### TALK TO THE NEWSROOM » Regional Editor

Jodi Rudoren is answering questions from readers this week.



### READERS' OPINIONS Cutting the Trans Fats

What do you think of fairs banning trans fats?  
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- Thompson Faces Election Complaint** 9 minutes ago
- Shark Caught on Spanish Beach** 11 minutes ago

### SCIENCE TIMES » Sleights of Mind

Science meets magic, to play on what we think we know.



### Lead's Pernicious Allure

The 82nd item on Mendelev's menu of the elements showed signs of trouble from early on.



### A Scientist Under Siege

J. Michael Bailey's gender theory has stirred controversy.



### OPINION »

Herbert: Real Iraq War  
Collins: Helmsley  
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Editorial: Medicare

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