

Thursday, Mar. 25, 2010

## Gator turns heads in Biloxi

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BILOXI — The Biloxi beachfront got a facelift of sorts on Thursday with the addition of a giant alligator head on a local souvenir shop.



The 12-foot-tall by 16-foot-long alligator head is designed to be a tourist attraction for Souvenir City, much like a giant shark was for Sharkheads before Hurricane Katrina. “We had so much success with the shark head,” said store owner J.J. Pierotich, “We became a landmark overnight.”

The Pierotich family owned both souvenir shops and reopened Souvenir City in June. They hope to begin construction on a new Sharkheads later this year. The alligator head was built by Mardi Gras Decorators of New Orleans. It features 33 teeth and is designed to withstand 140-mph winds. “It looks pretty good,” said a smiling Pierotich. “It turned out better than I thought.”



Installation and final placement of Biloxi's newest landmark

(Images added to news article by MardiGrasDecorators.com)