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### **3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Marine Mammal Day at SBC Park isn't Just for Baseball Fans**

*Special fundraiser recognizes the work of The Marine Mammal Center and need to better safeguard the ocean and its marine mammal inhabitants*

**(SAUSALITO, Calif. – May 24, 2005)** The Marine Mammal Center, along with the San Francisco Giants and Chevron, will host the third annual Marine Mammal Day at SBC Park in San Francisco on Sunday, May 29, 2005. The fundraising event is designed to be a fun day for fans to get to know how The Marine Mammal Center rescues and treats ill sea lions, seals and dolphins along 600 miles of California coastline. Staffed informational tables and displays will be set up throughout the park for the public to see and ask questions, and there will be opportunities for baseball fans to become Marine Mammal Center members, purchase fun gifts and even participate in a raffle drawing for prizes.

“Marine Mammal Day helps us get the word out about how important marine mammals are in alerting scientists to unhealthy changes in oceans that could negatively affect human health,” said Cynthia Schramm, Director of Marketing, Membership and Communications at The Center. “Thanks to the generosity of The Giants and Chevron, we’re able to put on this event and other types of fundraising outreach throughout the year that really helps fund the work we do.”

As a continuing sponsor of Marine Mammal Day, the Giants’ mascot Lou Seal has adopted The Center as his official charity and will participate in several events throughout the Bay Area and at The Center. During the May 29 game between the *San Diego Padres* and the *San Francisco Giants*, fans will have the opportunity to buy limited edition commemorative pins featuring Giants’ mascot Lou Seal and his porpoise friend. Raffle tickets will be sold for chances to win great prizes such as autographed Giants’ memorabilia and hundreds of dollars of free gas, courtesy of Chevron. All net proceeds go directly to The Center.

**Celebrating its 30<sup>th</sup> year in 2005**, The Marine Mammal Center is a nonprofit hospital dedicated to the rescue and rehabilitation of ill and injured marine mammals, and to research about their health and diseases. Volunteers and staff have treated more than 10,000 California sea lions, elephant seals, porpoises, and other marine life, along 600 miles of coastline from Mendocino County to San Luis Obispo County. In fact, The Center treats more marine mammals than any other institution of its kind in the world, uniquely combining its rehabilitation program with scientific discovery and education programs to advance the understanding of marine mammal health, ocean health and conservation.

**On the Web: [www.marinemammalcenter.org](http://www.marinemammalcenter.org)**