

Inside: Our 2008 High School Football Preview

OPELIKA-AUBURN NEWS

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27, 2008

VOL. 103 NO. 240

50 CENTS



Ossetians celebrate as U.S.-Russia tensions rise **Page 5A**

www.oanow.com

2008 MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

A MEDIA GENERAL NEWSPAPER

SMITHS STATION

LaFaye Dellinger was re-elected to serve her third term as Smiths Station mayor, winning Tuesday's municipal election 250 to 87 over **K.C. Belcher**.

Richard "Dick" Key was elected to Place 5 on the city council 282 to 53 over **Philip L. Camp**.

Council members running unopposed were **George Stringer**, Place 1; **Morris Jackson**, Place 2; **James Moody**, Place 3; and **Richard A. Cooley**, Place 4.

William White

LANETT

Incumbent **Oscar Crawley** won the mayoral race in Lanett's municipal elections Tuesday. "I congratulate Oscar," said opponent **Bill Owens**.

Other winners were **Jamie L. Heard**, District 2; **Kaye C. Maxwell**, District 3; and **Shirley B. Motley**, District 5.

District 4 will have a runoff between **Rebecca S. Looser** and **John Duskin** Oct. 7, City Clerk **Deborah Daniel** said.

Ed Enoch

NOTASULGA

David Waldrop was re-elected to the District 1 seat of the Notasulga City Council 51 to 22 over **Richard Lumpkin** in Tuesday's city election.

In District 2, **Terry Broach** defeated challenger **Lewis Jarrell** 50 to 36 to retain her seat on the city council.

Mayor **Frank Tew** and council members **Coy Bennett Bass Jr.**, **Baxter G. Garner** and **Robin T. Collins** ran unopposed.

Donathan Prater

LAFAYETTE

Incumbent Mayor **Robert C. Finley** and challenger **Matthew Hurst** are headed for a runoff on Oct. 7.

Finley led the field of six candidates with 341 votes. Hurst had 160 votes. **Jimmy V. Butler** had 158.

Cornelius Reese Jr. won District A. **David Ennis** won District B. **Toney B. Thomas** won District C. **Tammie B. Williams** won District E. Provisional ballots must still be counted.

Katie Stallcup

VALLEY

Mayor returns, council changes

AMY WEAVER
STAFF WRITER

Valley's Mayor **Arnold Leak** was pleased to be re-elected to the city's top post Tuesday night, but he had mixed feelings about the rest of the election results.

"I'm happy for me, but what I need is a team," he said at the Valley Community Center.

Leak won his third term in office over first-time challenger and longtime Valley resident **Jimmy Reese**.

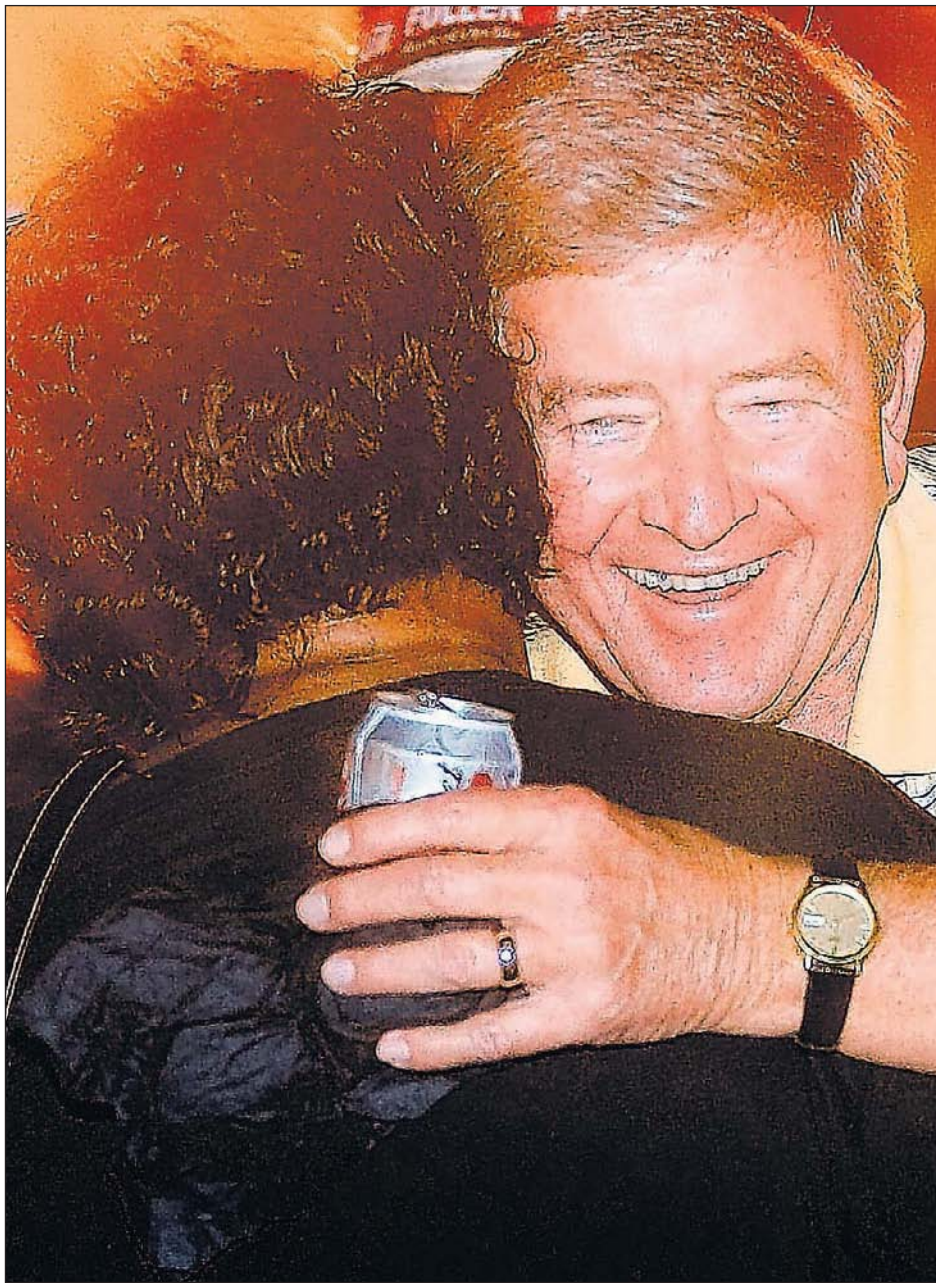
One member of Leak's "team" — District 6 representative **Charlene Atkinson** — didn't earn enough votes to stay on. Challenger **Henry L. Cooper** earned 125 votes to her 105. Other team members — **James McDowell**, **Ray Edwards** and **Rodney Mitchum** — who Leak called some of his strongest members — are in runoffs in Districts 1, 3, and 5, respectively.

The idea that the council could end up split after the Oct. 7 run-off election, with half newcomers and half veteran council members, didn't sit well with Leak.

"That would be the worst thing that can happen," he said. "This is such a critical time for the city. We're not out of the water yet."

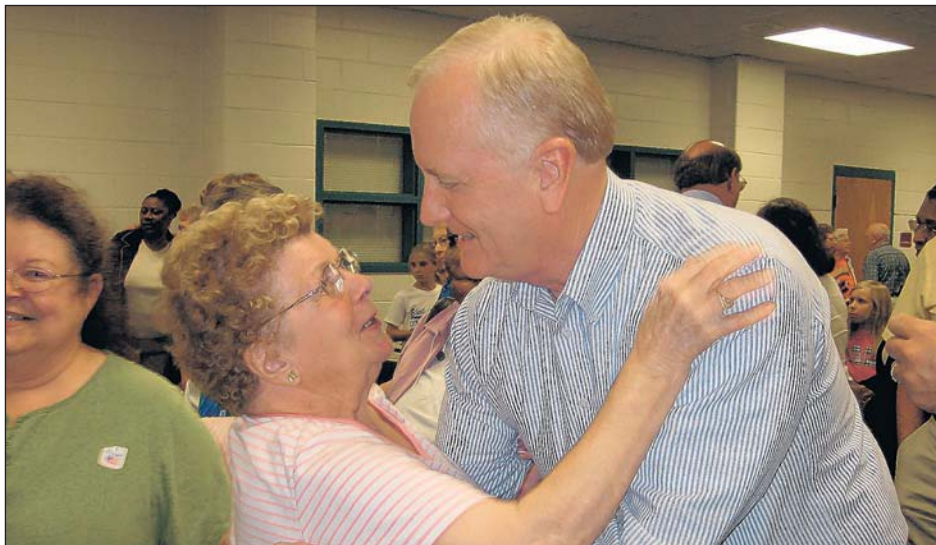
Reese may have lost, but he's still sticking by his campaign platform — that it's a "time for change" in Valley. He said he's seen the city go deeper and deeper into debt, and he's determined to find out why. He claims

SEE VALLEY, PAGE 7A



VASHA HUNT | OPELIKA-AUBURN NEWS

Opelika Mayor **Gary Fuller** was all smiles as the votes came in Tuesday. Voters gave Fuller, who campaigned on his economic development record, another four-year term.



AMY WEAVER | OPELIKA-AUBURN NEWS

Valley Mayor **Arnold Leak** gets a congratulatory hug from **Ruth Otto** after winning re-election to a third term. Other Valley incumbents did not fare so well Tuesday.

OPELIKA

FULLER WINS AGAIN

Jones, Gray, Lazenby win; Motley, Cannon in council runoff

Holdover mayor will be working with two new councilmembers

BEVERLY HARVEY
STAFF WRITER

Opelika voters chose three incumbents in the mayoral and city council races and added a new name in Ward 2 Tuesday. A run-off election will be required for Ward 3.

Mayor **Gary Fuller** and city council members **Patsy Jones** and **Dr. William Lazenby** were re-elected. **Larry Gray** won the Ward 2 seat.

Ward 3 candidates **Lucinda Samford Cannon** and **Joey Motley** will face each other in a run-off election Oct. 7.

Fuller will begin his second term as mayor in November. Fuller received 2,791 votes and **Rainer Meadows** 1,985, an 806-vote difference.

"I'm glad it's over. I'm very, very grateful to the good citizens of Opelika for re-electing me," Fuller said.

Fuller said his second term will be a continuation of his efforts, successes and achievements in his first four years as mayor.

"We're going to continue recruiting world-class companies," he said. "We're going to continue to improve

SEE OPELIKA, PAGE 7A

FINAL TALLY

Check out oanow.com for the latest election numbers.

Or pick up the Thursday Opelika-Auburn News.

INDEX

COMMUNITY 1C
BUSINESS 7B
CLASSIFIEDS 1D

CROSSWORD 7D
COMICS 6C
EVENTS 4C

LOTTERIES 3B
WORLD 5A
OPINION 4A

POLICE 2A
SCOREBOARD 3B
TV LISTINGS 7C

WEATHER

Some clouds and sunshine with a thunderstorm

High: 85 Low: 68
Complete forecast, 2A

See OBITUARIES, 2A



Ken Boggs
FORD DODGE CHRYSLER
801 Columbus Parkway
Opelika • 334-749-8113

SAVE BIG BUCKS



ON TRUCKS