

SONGS FROM HELL



You pick worst tunes ever

ACCENT, PAGE 1D

The Daytona Beach
News-Journal
THE INDEPENDENT VOICE OF VOLUSIA & FLAGLER COUNTIES

THURSDAY
AUGUST 28, 2008

TODAY'S FORECAST

Bad weather song: "Seasons in the Sun."
High: Around 90. Low: Mid-70s. **PAGE 6C**



MORE THAN COATS

Burlington
rarin' to open

YOUR MONEY, PAGE 8A

HURRICANE SEASON 2008

BAD NEWS FOR FLOOD VICTIMS



News-Journal/PETER BAUER

A utility work crew from Embarq sandbag an electrical box Wednesday as workers deal with the flooding left from Tropical Storm Fay on DeBary Plantation Boulevard. Forty-eight pumps in DeBary are trying to remove the standing water.

Residents demand answers; waters keep rising

By **NICOLE SERVICE**
and **DINAH VOYLES PULVER**
STAFF WRITERS

More than 100 people packed an emergency meeting Wednesday at DeBary Town Hall to vent their frustrations over the flood disaster in their community.

"I want to cry, yell, scream and laugh because it's so ridiculous what is happening," resident David Williams told the City Council.

"I want to say to help us all you can."

Floodwaters from a 20-plus-inch drenching from Tropical Storm Fay have

Fay's Rain Has Silver Lining

LOTS OF WATER: Lake Okechobee, a backup drinking water source for 5 million people, rose more than 2 feet in a single week, thanks to Tropical Storm Fay.

RAIN TOTALS: August rain is at 10.6 inches from Orlando to the Keys, a welcome sight

in an area that has suffered from an unprecedented two-year drought. That's about double the typical amount for this time of year.

STATEWIDE: Fay dropped more than 30 inches of rain in some places.

—Associated Press

stormwater consultant, David Hamstra, said it will take "14 to 21 days before we resume normal conditions — assuming no rainfall."

The words weren't well received, and many shouted back: "We have rainfall every day."

The very vocal crowd of flood victims at the meeting didn't hesitate to shout, applaud or boo. One person also called for the mayor and city manager to resign.

SEE **BAD NEWS**, PAGE 6A

nicole.service@news-jrnl.com
dinah.pulver@news-jrnl.com

INSIDE: Help is available. **PAGE 6A** ONLINE: Videos from the flooding, and more. news-journalonline.com

Louisiana watches Gustav churn, readies evacuation

ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW ORLEANS — On the eve of Hurricane Katrina's third anniversary, a nervous New Orleans watched Wednesday as another storm threatened to test everything the city has rebuilt, and officials made preliminary plans to evacuate people, pets and hospitals in an attempt to avoid a Katrina-style chaos.

Forecasters warned that Gustav could grow into a dangerous Category 3 hurricane in the next several days and hit somewhere along a swath of the Gulf Coast from the Florida Panhandle to Texas — with New Orleans smack in the middle.

"I'm panicking," said Evelyn

SEE **GUSTAV**, PAGE 6A



SOURCES: NOAA

Associated Press

GAS PRICES: Gustav's proximity is likely going to hit you at the pump, but how much will it hurt? **YOUR MONEY, PAGE 8A**

2008 DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION

Obama's nomination is history in the making

Clinton joins cheers for former rival

By **JESSE J. HOLLAND**
and **CALVIN WOODWARD**
ASSOCIATED PRESS

DENVER — When this campaign ends, after future presidents have come and gone, and when today's young people are grown old, history will remember Wednesday, Aug. 27, 2008, as the day a black man became the presidential nominee of a major party.

This is history with the ink still wet; transcendent, yet in your face now.

It's a history that belongs to the red states and the blue states and the United States, to borrow the phrase that made people first sit up and listen to Barack Obama only four years ago.

Americans who don't like him, who will never vote for him, own it, too.

The roll call of states Wednesday night at the Democratic convention means Denver joins Springfield, Ill., and Washington, D.C., in an arc that spans centuries which saw slavery, emancipation, lynchings, Jim Crow, lunch counter bigotry, voting rights, integration, oratory, intermarriage, black pride, assassination, riots, marches — so many marches — and now a nomination.

The arc traces Abraham Lincoln's legacy of freeing the slaves to Martin Luther King Jr.'s speech at the Lincoln Memorial



Obama coming to Daytona Beach

Democratic presidential nominee Barack Obama is scheduled to visit Daytona Beach on Sept. 20 to address the Florida Democratic Party at the Ocean Center.

Ginny Little, administrative assistant for The Tiger Bay Club, said the confirmation of Obama's visit came from the nonpolitical group's program chairman, Peter Heebner.

Details and costs are incomplete.

—Audrey Parente

45 years ago today, to the convention center in Denver.

And on next to Invesco Field, where today Obama will formally accept the nomination of the Democratic Party on the anniversary of King's "I have a dream" speech.

"This is a monumental moment in our nation's history," Martin Luther King III, the civil rights icon's oldest son, told AP on Wednesday. "And it becomes

SEE **NOMINATION**, PAGE 6A

Obama's Speech to Stress Change

Barack Obama will accept his party's presidential nomination tonight by laying out a case for sweeping change and the choice voters face between him and John McCain, a top adviser said.

CORE: Obama will use his nominating address to convey a more simple message about what he would do for the country as president, senior strategist David Axelrod said.

COMPARE: Obama won't shy from drawing a stark contrast between himself and McCain, especially on economic matters. But he will do so in a respectful

way, Axelrod said.

TONING DOWN: Obama has tried to lower expectations for his speech in recent days, saying his would likely pale next to the week's other headlines. Axelrod said Obama's comments shouldn't be taken to mean that the speech will be dull.

—Associated Press



FAST LANE

Keeping you on track for today, tomorrow

Breaking it down

Our own Ken Willis gives his unique perspective on what's going to happen this college football season.

SPORTS, PAGE 1B

Coming Friday: College Football preview

U.S., Russia drop anchor

A U.S. aid ship, and three Russian missile boats, docked in ports in the battle-scarred nation of Georgia.

WORLD, PAGE 3A

Fewer Marines needed in west Iraq

WAR IN IRAQ, PAGE 10A

Down the budget hole: Economist finds Florida \$3.5 billion in the red

By **JIM SAUNDERS**
TALLAHASSEE BUREAU CHIEF

TALLAHASSEE — Think Florida's budget is bad now?

You haven't seen anything yet.

A top state economist said Wednesday that Gov. Charlie Crist and lawmakers could have to plug a \$3.5 billion budget hole next year as Florida's housing-driven economy continues to sputter.

That budget, which would take effect in July 2009, comes after lawmakers passed a spending plan this year that slashed \$332 million from public schools

and chopped funding for dozens of other programs.

And even those cuts weren't enough: Crist and lawmakers already face a projected \$1.5 billion shortfall in this year's budget. They could take steps in September, such as yanking money out of reserves, to close that deficit.

House Policy & Budget Chairman Ray Sansom, R-Destin, said lawmakers have anticipated further problems.

"No one is in a panic mode," he said.

But as schools operate with fewer teachers, hospitals and

nursing homes get less money to keep up with rising costs and prisons continue filling up, the choices in next year's budget could be stark.

As an example, Medicaid budget cuts cost nursing homes about \$75 million in January and another \$164 million in July.

Economist Amy Baker said the potential \$3.5 billion budget hole for the 2009-10 fiscal year is based on projections of tax dollars and the amounts of money needed to pay for high-priority programs.

jim.saunders@news-jrnl.com

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