

Weather

Widespread showers and storms.

High: 88 Low: 72

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OPELIKA-AUBURN NEWS

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Mosque that won legal battle misses start of Ramadan.

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COLORADO MOVIE THEATER MASSACRE

Increased security



Security was beefed up at Carmike Wynnson 16 theater in Auburn following the tragic events in Colorado, where 12 people were killed and dozens wounded at a midnight screening of "The Dark Knight Rises."

Auburn police beef up presence in wake of shooting

BY DONATHAN PRATER
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Moviegoers can count on seeing something else this weekend at the Wynnson 16 theatre in Auburn — an increased police presence.

"We don't expect any problems, however, because we want our citizens to feel safe while attending the movies, we will have additional officers there," Auburn Police Chief Tommy Dawson said Friday.

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» Read more about the Aurora, Colo., movie theater massacre on pages 6A and 7A.

Dawson said that although off-duty officers routinely provide security at the theater, Auburn police will be ramping up patrols outside and increasing their presence inside the theater this weekend.

The announcement came on

the heels of a shooting at a midnight screening of "The Dark Knight Rises" at a Colorado theater early Friday. At least 12 people were killed and dozens wounded when a gunman identified by police as 24-year-old James Holmes allegedly opened fire on audience members at the Century 16 theater. Holmes was taken into custody by police a short time later.

Wynnson 16 is one of 13 Carmike Cinemas' locations in Ala-

bama, according to its website. Carmike officials issued the following statement Friday:

"The Carmike Cinemas family is saddened by the senseless shooting of theatre guests at the Century 16 in Aurora, Colorado. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the victims, their families and the community. Preliminary police reports indicate that the suspect, who is

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Presidential Campaign



PHOTOS BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
Barack Obama (left) and presidential candidate Mitt Romney bow their heads at separate campaign events Friday during which they addressed the Aurora, Colo., theater shooting.

Obama, Romney speak as parents

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — For a day, at least, President Barack Obama and Republican Mitt Romney stopped assailing each other and spoke as heartbroken parents.

The Colorado movie theater massacre upended the presidential campaign Friday, obliging both candidates to cast aside the increasingly bitter tone of the race and reach for a rare moment of American harmony.

Yet the moment itself was a political test, for a president charged with consoling a nation and for a challenger needing to show that he could rise to the occasion.

"There are going to be other days for politics," Obama said from one key electoral state, Florida. From another one, New Hampshire, Romney said much the same.

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Unemployment

Most US states trailing pre-recession job levels

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Three years since the recession ended, 43 states have yet to regain the jobs they lost in the downturn. The figure is a reminder of how weak the nation's job market remains.

The states that are the furthest behind in job growth are those that were hit hardest by the housing bust: Arizona, Florida and Nevada.

Overall, the U.S. economy has 3.5 percent fewer jobs than it did before the Great Recession, which began in December 2007. The national unemployment rate has been stuck at 8.2 percent.

As slow as the recovery in jobs has been, a few states are doing quite well. Seven have more jobs now than before the recession. Some — North Dakota, Texas and Alaska — are benefiting

INSIDE

» Alabama jobless rate rises to 7.8 percent in June. **Page 2A**

from an oil boom.

But most states have lagged behind.

"Except for these energy-producing states, everywhere there's still this caution in terms of hiring," Steve Cochrane, a regional economist at Moody's Analytics, said.

Last month, unemployment rates rose in 27 U.S. states, the most in almost a year.

Unemployment rates fell in 11 states — the fewest since August — and were unchanged in 12, the Labor Department said Friday.

Nevada had the nation's highest unemployment rate in June

See **STATES**, Page 8A

HAIL TO THE QUEEN



VASHA HUNT/OPELIKA-AUBURN NEWS

Opelika High School graduate Mallory Hagan, the reigning Miss New York, signs an autograph for Addie Shoemaker, 5, a big fan, after Hagan was presented with a key to the city Friday in a ceremony at the school. Hagan will be competing in the Miss America pageant in January.