

Business: State on slow road to economic recovery A14

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LOCAL NEWS

Will Tropical Storm Ernesto aim at us?

The storm that formed Thursday heads for the Caribbean. **A3**

Longest-serving police chief retires

T.R. "Tommy" Merrill was hired as Groveland's chief in 1969. **A4**

State spends \$5M in hope of 100 jobs

Gov. Scott: Cape Canaveral facility upgrades will pay off. **A6**

COMING SUNDAY

'In the Shadow of Race' examines Sanford's divide

The Trayvon Martin case reignited anger in residents of historic Goldsboro. In Sunday's second installment of the Sentinel's exclusive series, we look at decades of distrust and why this case is reopening old wounds.



CALENDAR

Rock icons together on Amway stage

Expect crowd-pleasing hits from Stevie Nicks, Rod Stewart tonight.

SPORTS

Knights have starter at QB — Gators don't

UCF will rely on Bortles, but Bristett, Driskel await UF's nod. **B1, B6**

GEORGE DÍAZ

Ban these 10 songs at games B1



WEATHER

95°/74°
(today/tonight)
30% chance of storms; hot.
Forecast, A19

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LONDON 2012

SOLID GOLD: U.S. ATHLETES WIN BIG



ANDREW WEBER/USA TODAY, LEFT; ROB SCHUMACHER/USA TODAY, 2ND, 4TH, 5TH FROM LEFT; ARMANDO FRANCA/REUTERS, 3RD FROM LEFT; MIKE BLAKE/REUTERS, 6TH FROM LEFT

It was a gold-medal day for the U.S. at the Summer Olympics in London. Those who took first place included, from left, Kayla Harrison, America's first Olympic judo champion; Michael Phelps in the 200m men's individual medley final, Team USA in the women's eight final in rowing, Rebecca Soni with a world record in the women's 200m breaststroke final, Tyler Clary in the men's 200m backstroke final and Gabrielle Douglas in the women's individual all-around gymnastics final. **More coverage, B1, B4 and at OrlandoSentinel.com/olympics**

Voting early in primary? What you should know

BY ANIKA MYERS PALM
Staff Writer

Starting Saturday, Central Floridians who want to vote early and avoid lines during the Aug. 14 primary election can head to the polls at times and places they might find more convenient.

The eight-day early-voting period continues through the following Saturday, Aug. 11, at designated libraries and election offices. Here's a guide to early voting, with answers provided by elections supervisors:

When can I vote?

Most early-voting locations are open until early evening to make voting easier for those with busy schedules. Early voting is available 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. in Orange County; 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. in Seminole; 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Saturday and noon to 7 p.m. Sunday in Osceola; 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. in Lake; and 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in Volusia.

What's on the ballot?

Voters will make choices in congressional and state legisla-

Please turn to **VOTING, A11**

CAMPAIGN 2012

Obama talks taxes at Rollins



President Barack Obama greets 5-month-old Kaydence Moore at Thursday's rally at Rollins College in Winter Park. See video and a photo gallery from the campaign event at **OrlandoSentinel.com**.

President contrasts his, Romney's visions

BY SCOTT POWERS
Staff Writer

President Barack Obama, speaking to 2,400 screaming supporters at Rollins College on Thursday, said the 2012 election offers "two fundamentally different visions for America," between what he called Mitt Romney's tax cuts for the rich versus his own defense of the middle class.

Interrupted several times by a crowd chanting "Four more years!" the president's roughly 30-minute speech contrasted his own economic plan with a study released Wednesday by the non-partisan Tax Policy Center that said Romney's proposed tax cuts for the wealthy would boost taxes for the middle class.

In the middle of a swing-state tour that began in Ohio and ended later Thursday in Virginia, the president assailed Romney for advocating an updated version of "trickle-down economics" that underscored the decade-old tax cuts under President George W. Bush: "That somehow, if we cut taxes for folks at the top and get rid of

Please turn to **ROLLINS, A10**

7th Congressional District race

"Blue Dog Democrat," "New Deal Democrat" vie to take on winner of Mica-Adams GOP battle. **A3**

Romney rallies in Colorado

The GOP candidate's visit marked a return to politicking in the state after the movie massacre. **A10**

Latino group sues Orange, calls District 3 lines biased

BY DAVID DAMRON
Staff Writer

A civil-rights group sued Orange County leaders Thursday, arguing that officials drew new political districts that are "discriminatory" and violate "the civil rights of Latinos by diluting their voting strength."

Even though the Hispanic population grew by 83 percent overall in Orange County during the past decade, its District 3 commission seat was drawn so that its Hispanic voting-age population fell from 45 percent to 41 percent, the federal lawsuit by Latino Justice says.

"Plaintiffs seek the creation of a county commission redistricting plan that will not cancel out, minimize or dilute the voting strength of Latino voters in Orange County," the suit says on behalf of four Orlando Hispanic voters.

Citing the 1965 Voting Rights Act, the lawsuit asks a judge to prevent officials from holding any county elections under the redistricting plan. A primary that includes two commission races, including the District 3 seat, is set for Aug. 14.

"Thankfully the court has the

Please turn to **LAWSUIT, A13**

Blitz of mailers turns up heat in fierce state attorney's race

BY JEFF WEINER
Staff Writer

According to recent rhetoric surrounding the Orange-Osceola state attorney's race, voters are left with an unenviable choice: a promoter of "cronism" and "political favors" or a man who "profits from tragedy?"

That last claim is the latest salvo in the heated race between incumbent Lawson Lamar and former prosecutor Jeff Ashton. The candidates, their campaigns and supporters are ramping up attacks as the Aug. 14 open primary approaches.

In a new mailer, a group called



Lawson Lamar, left, and Jeff Ashton are vying to win Aug. 14.

Keeping Central Florida Safe writes that Ashton "is profiting from the tragedies of victims of crime." The mailer features images of Ashton in TV appearances promoting the book he wrote about his last case, the high-profile

Please turn to **RACE, A7**

County voting information

Lake: elections.lakecountyfl.gov
352-343-9734
Orange: ocfelections.com
407-836-2070
Osceola: voteosceola.com
407-742-6000
Seminole: voteseminole.com
407-585-8683
Volusia: volusia.org/elections
386-736-5930

Voter Guide

See where candidates stand on the issues at **OrlandoSentinel.com/voterguide**