

Cooper is comfortable

Former UA wide receiver won't attend this week's NFL Draft | Sports 1C



Senate Republican says it's time to look at gambling as revenue option | 1B

The Tuscaloosa News

TUSCALOOSA, NORTHPORT, WEST ALABAMA

TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 2015 75¢

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Dauphin Island Regatta became race for life

Search suspended for 4 still missing after powerful storm leaves 2 dead

By Melissa Nelson-Gabriel and Jay Reeves
The Associated Press

plenty of wind to propel a boat across the murky, choppy waters.

Then, in what seemed like an instant, a yearly regatta turned into a race for life.

Gray skies quickly turned black and lightning popped all around.

SEE STORM | 5A

DAUPHIN ISLAND | At first it seemed like a perfect day for sailing on Mobile Bay. Skies were partly cloudy and rain was in the forecast, but there was

Tuscaloosa man recounts harrowing experience

By Ed Enoch
Staff Writer

Roger Smith of Tuscaloosa paused Saturday to take photos of the upended interior of his 30-foot sailboat Sweet Liberty, where submerged windows had become dim portals into the dingy waters of Mobile Bay.

At the time, Smith's photos were a pragmatic consideration in anticipa-

tion of filing an insurance claim on the 30-foot Tartan sailboat, which he believed was sinking after a sudden and powerful storm that had laid the craft on its starboard side in rough water, where it took on water from an unseen breach.

"I was writing the boat off," Smith said.

Smith's boat was among more than

SEE MAN | 5A



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Roger Smith participated in the 57th annual Dauphin Island Regatta on Saturday.

Rosedale remembrance

Plaque honors those who died in April 27, 2011, tornado



STAFF PHOTOS | ERIN NELSON

Bessie Ervin, left, gives Jeannette Barnes a hug after Barnes presented her with a certificate of thanks for her efforts in getting Barnes an apartment home at McKenzie Court after the April 27, 2011, tornado during a dedication ceremony at Rosedale Court Apartments in Tuscaloosa on Monday.

By Jason Morton
Staff Writer

The names of those who died at Rosedale Court on April 27, 2011, were read one by one.

- Kaiden Blair.
- Ta'Christianna Dixon.
- Airelle Edwards.
- Makayla Edwards.
- Sheena Nicole Hutchins.
- Zyqueria McShan.
- Lee Andrew Lee.
- Justin Le'Eric Thomas.
- Christian A. McNeil.

These storm victims now will be permanently remembered with a plaque that was dedicated Monday, the fourth anniversary of the storm that took their lives, at the rebuilt Rosedale Court on 10th Avenue.

Their names were read by Jeannette Barnes, a former Rosedale Court resident who easily could have had her name listed among them.

Barnes, 66, was buried in her apartment when tornado reduced the housing community to rubble. Two men, her former neighbors, helped dig her out of the wreckage.

"Four years ago, on this day, a storm passed through this community," Barnes said. "Yet, out of all that tragedy, flowed an

SEE ROSEDALE | 5A



See more photos from the dedication ceremony at www.tuscaloosa.com.

Tyra Brown holds a plaque with the names of nine individuals who lost their lives in the April 27, 2011, tornado.

Police say gunshots were fired outside bar

Kennedy's Bar downtown has come under increased scrutiny

By Stephanie Taylor
Staff Writer

Gunshots were fired early Saturday morning outside Kennedy's Bar, a downtown nightclub that's under increasing scrutiny following a string of violent events.

Tuscaloosa police officers patrolling Temerson Square heard multiple gunshots at 2:44 a.m., said Sgt. Brent Blankley, a Tuscaloosa police spokesman.

The officers approached and saw Kennedy's security guards chasing a vehicle as it traveled east on Fourth Street toward 23rd Avenue, he said. The driver tried to get away from the officers by driving a route along

SEE GUNSHOTS | 5A



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

An officer vehicle burns Monday during unrest following the funeral of Freddie Gray in Baltimore. Rioters torched a pharmacy, set police cars ablaze and threw bricks at officers.

Riot, looting prompt state of emergency, curfew in Baltimore

By Tom Foreman Jr. and Amanda Lee Myers
The Associated Press

BALTIMORE | Rioters plunged part of Baltimore into chaos Monday, torching a pharmacy, setting police cars ablaze and throwing bricks at officers hours after thousands mourned the man who died from a severe spinal injury he suffered in police custody.

The governor declared a state of emergency and called in the National Guard to restore order. A week-long, daily curfew was imposed beginning Tuesday from

SEE RIOT | 5A



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High 68
Low 54