

From: Taillon, Jeff
To: Taillon, Jeff <JeffTaillon@gov.sc.gov>
Date: 8/31/2012 9:47:32 AM
Subject: S.C. Front Pages - Friday, August 31, 2012

Gamecocks struggle in opener

SPORTS, C1



Riley slams conservationist's 'reckless' I-526 remarks

LOCAL & STATE, B1

The Post and Courier

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FRIDAY, August 31, 2012

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Parents rattled by door-to-door hawkers' aggressive tactics
Local & State, B1



Kids who launched nonprofits find ideas in unlikely places
Moxie, D1

Controversial Kiawah plan finds no support from County Council
Local & State, B1



History is on the line when Summerville meets rival Berkeley
Prepzone, C3



Coming Sunday

Money's tight and new clothes are expensive. Find out in The Post and Courier how stores selling secondhand goods landed in middle-class suburbs. And learn how to navigate the thrift store landscape for the best deals.



Partly sunny.
High 90. Low 72.
Complete 5-day
forecast, B8

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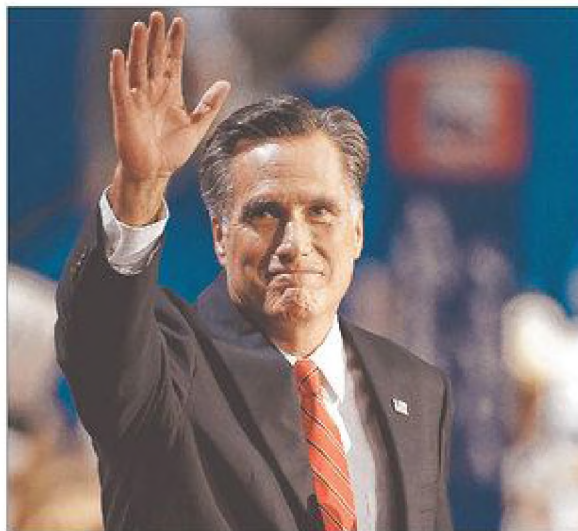
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Setting the record straight A2



ELECTION 2012

Romney puts focus on jobs

GOP standard bearer offers up rousing speech



CHARLIE NEUBERG/ALAMY

Republican presidential nominee Mitt Romney promised delegates at the Republican National Convention Thursday night that he will create 12 million jobs if he is elected.



BY DAVID USPO and ROBERT FURLOW
Associated Press

TAMPA, FLA. — Mitt Romney launched his fall campaign for the White House Thursday night with a rousing, remarkably personal speech to the Republican National Convention and a prime-time TV audience, proclaiming that America needs "jobs, lots of jobs," and promising to create 12 million of them in perilous economic times. "Now is the time to restore the promise of America," Romney said to a nation struggling with 6.3 percent unemployment and the slowest economic recovery in decades. Often viewed as a distant politician, Romney made a

Please see ROMNEY, Page A4

VIDEOS
For videos from the Republican National Convention, go to postandcourier.com/videos.

READ MORE
For more political coverage, go to postandcourier.com/politics.

What we learned at the convention ...

TAMPA, FLA. — The Republican National Convention offered some key takeaways for South Carolina's future role in the party. Many of the signs are positive. The state's delegation remained a stop for several prominent GOP speakers, including possible presidential contenders down the line.

But the state party, like the national GOP, also faces challenges, such as diversifying its base. So as the party unites behind Mitt Romney, we look at three positives and three challenges that lie ahead for the Republican Party.

Continued on Page A4



Authorities so far have no suspects in the deaths of Dana Woods (left) and June Guerry.

Victims gave person a ride

Officials have no suspects in killings

BY ANDREW KNAPP
aknapp@postandcourier.com

Just before midnight Sunday, Dana Woods called her boss and her mother to say that she and a friend, June Guerry, were giving someone a ride.

With Guerry tagging along, Woods had left her grandmother's house that night and set out to pick up food at a Burger King in Moncks Corner, where the 18-year-old Woods once worked.

Restaurant employees recalled seeing the women, authorities said, but nothing stood out about them.

At some point after the stop, a man climbed into Woods' compact Chevrolet Metro. In her final phone calls, the Trident Technical College student wasn't specific about what she was doing next.

She said only that a friend of Guerry's was with them and that they were headed to another fast-food restaurant, a McDonald's.

Within days, the women's bodies would be found, discarded in the Francis Marion National Forest. Both were shot to death.

"She didn't mention any name of the person they were giving a ride to or where they were giving him a ride," said Dan Moon, spokesman for the Berkeley County Sheriff's Office. "We're certainly working to figure that out."

As an autopsy determined Guerry's cause of death Thursday, investigators developed no suspects in the double homicide that has left Moncks Corner-area residents wondering whether a killer is in their midst.

Family members and friends have hired on Facebook that the man who got into Woods' car was a local and an acquaintance, but officials wouldn't address any of those theories.

An incident report released Thursday complemented information provided by relatives and officials in reconstructing the women's last moments.

Please see WOMEN, Page A6

2 spills spur bacteria monitoring of tidal creeks

Clam farm operator told to stop harvesting

BY PRENTISS FINDLAY
pfindlay@postandcourier.com

After two big wastewater spills Tuesday, officials are monitoring tidal water bacteria levels west of the Ashley in the Wappoo Cut and east of the Cooper in three creeks and a pond near the Isle of Palms Connector.

Preliminary test results show that 500,000 gallons of wastewater that flowed from

a broken pipe on Rifle Range Road has been contained in ponds at Seaside Farms. "I can't tell you what the test results are going to be in the next two to three days," said Clay Duffie, Mount Pleasant Waterworks general manager. Three Seaside Farms ponds are interconnected. The third pond is tidal, and tests there have not indicated a problem with wastewater release into the marsh, he said.

Water samples were taken Thursday of nearby Hamlin, Inlet and Swinton creeks. Test results take 18 hours, he said. Meanwhile, officials will be monitoring local coliform bacteria levels after 24,000 gallons of wastewater overflowed Tuesday in the Byrnes Downs neighborhood, said Jenny Hagen, spokeswoman for the Charleston Water System.

Please see SPILL, Page A6



A warning was posted in Mount Pleasant's Seaside Farms neighborhood on Thursday after a sewer pipe burst.

republicanconvention

Romney: 'We deserve better'

Republican accepts his party's nomination, promises 'to help you and your family'

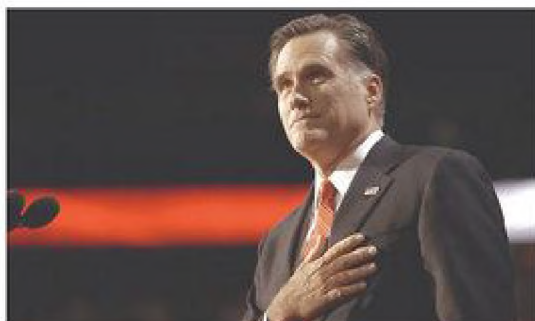
By DAVID LIGHTMAN
McClatchy Newspapers

TAMPA, Fla. — Mitt Romney on Thursday kicked off the final, crucial phase of his bid to become the country's 45th president, accepting the Republican nomination and urging the nation to look closely at his resume, his vision and his remedies for the ailing economy.

"I wish President Obama had succeeded because I want America to succeed. But his promises gave way to disappointment and division," Romney told a raucous crowd waving signs saying, "Believe" and "Mitt!" "This isn't something we have to accept," he insisted. "Now is the moment when we can do something. And with your help we will do something."

Romney's 38-minute speech was the final act of a tightly scripted Republican National Convention that briefly went off course

SEE ROMNEY PAGE A9



CHARLES DHAMAPAK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Republican presidential nominee Mitt Romney acknowledges delegates before speaking at the convention on Thursday.

INSIDE

Did Paul Ryan's speech help Mitt Romney more or his own future prospects?

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South Carolinians work behind the scenes to secure a Romney victory.

Page A9

The State

FRIDAY, AUGUST 31, 2012 | THESTATE.COM

MARCUS DANDY AT VANDY

Lattimore, below, scores the first of his 2 TDs as USC survives an injury to Connor Shaw and ekes out a win.



GERRY MELENKOWSKI/MELENKOWSKI@THESTATE.COM

IN SPORTS: Complete coverage

THESTATE.COM: Photo galleries

GOGAMECOCKS.COM: Photo galleries, video





CLEMSON FOOTBALL NEW MEN, NEW IDEAS



ISAAC, 5A Flooding follows storm

The Greenville News

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FRIDAY,
AUGUST 31, 2012
GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

NATION/WORLD

Federal court rejects Texas voter ID law, 2A

USC hangs tough for win

By Willie T. Smith III
wsmith@greenvilleonline.com

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Several pundits predicted a Vanderbilt upset of ninth-ranked South Carolina on Thursday night.

For three quarters it appeared they might be right, as the Commodores frustrated a USC team that entered the Southeastern Conference game confident it was ready for anything its opponent served up.

The Gamecocks found a bit of life on offense, however, thanks to the return of quarterback Connor Shaw following a second quarter

shoulder injury as he led USC to a 17-13 victory at Vanderbilt Stadium.

The win kept alive the Gamecocks' dream of capping off the season with its first Southeastern Conference Championship.

With the Gamecocks trailing 13-10 in the fourth quarter, former Byrnes High School standout Marcus Lattimore completed a nine-play, 66-yard drive with a one-yard run into the end zone that earned USC the victory.

The Gamecocks return to the field Saturday when they host East Carolina at noon in Williams-Brice Stadium. Full game coverage, 1C



Running back Marcus Lattimore scored both USC touchdowns against Vanderbilt on Thursday night. MYKAL MCELLOWNE/STAFF

MAKING YOUR VOICE HEARD

THE NEXT BIG STORM

Isaac's trek puts state's
hurricane plans in focus

By Tim Smith and Ron Barnett
Staff writers

COLUMBIA — Sam Hodge was 24 and a firefighter in Garden City when Hurricane Hugo slammed into South Carolina's coast on Sept. 21, 1989, with 138-mph winds and a storm surge of almost 20 feet.

South Carolina was inadequately prepared for the storm, which killed at least two dozen people and caused almost \$5 billion in damages.

Not anymore, says Hodge, now manager of Georgetown County's emergency management services, as well as other county and state emergency officials.

"We've made some great improvements," he told GreenvilleOnline.com. "The way we did things in the past has drastically changed."

State Sen. Larry Groome, a Berkeley County Republican who operated a convenience store in St. Stephens during Hugo, agrees.

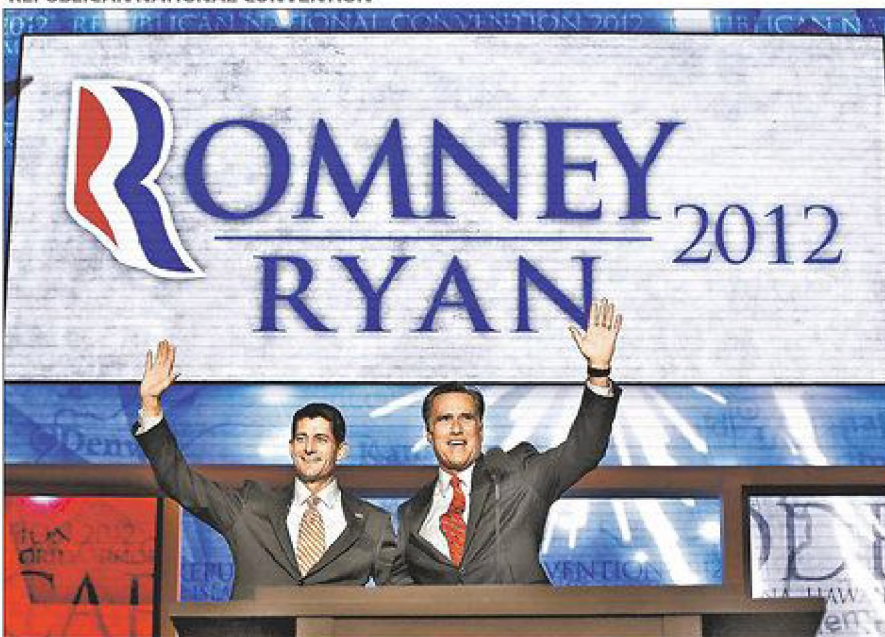
"We've come light years," he said. "I believe our state is as prepared as any could be for a hurricane or any other kind of natural disaster."

The state is overdue for a test of its preparedness.

While other states have been slammed with major hurricanes, including Florida with Andrew in 1992, New Orleans with Katrina in 2005 and North Carolina with Fran in 1996, South Carolina's last brush with a major storm was Hurricane Floyd in 1999, famous not for any damage it caused in the state but for the giant traffic jam on Interstate 26 that infuriated thousands of drivers and hindered Gov. Jim Hodges' re-election effort.

See STORM, Page 3A

REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION



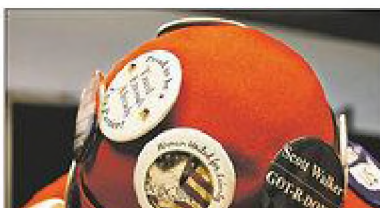
Republican presidential nominee Mitt Romney and running mate Paul Ryan wave to delegates after speaking at the Republican National Convention in Tampa, Fla., on Thursday. AP

ROMNEY: END OUR DIVISION

GOP pick says he wishes
Obama had succeeded in job

USA Today

TAMPA — Launched from the Republican National Convention with the rallying cry "We deserve better," Mitt Romney and U.S. Rep. Paul Ryan open their general elec-



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Lattimore, USC squeeze by Vandy in season opener • 1C

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'Now is the moment when we can do something'



CHARLIE NEIBERGALL • AP

Republican presidential nominee Mitt Romney waves to delegates Thursday before speaking at the Republican National Convention in Tampa, Fla.

Romney makes his case to lead America

By David Lightman
McClatchy Newspapers

TAMPA, Fla. — Mitt Romney on Thursday presented the first crucial chapter of his bid to become the country's 45th president, accepting the Republican nomination and urging the nation to look closely at his resume, his vision and his remedies for the ailing economy.

"I wish President Obama had succeeded because I want America to succeed. But his promises gave way to disappointment and division," Romney said in remarks prepared for delivery. "This isn't something we have to accept. Now is the moment when we can do something. With your help we will do something."

He appealed to the nation's en-

during sense of optimism.

"Now is the moment when we can stand up and say, 'I'm an American. I make my destiny. And we deserve better. My children deserve better. My family deserves better. My country deserves better,'" he said.

The 2012 election will offer a stark choice between two kinds of leaders with two distinct views of

America's future.

Romney said he understands many are disappointed with President Barack Obama, whose job approval numbers in key national polls have been under 50 percent.

"Hope and change had a powerful appeal," Romney said, recalling Obama's 2008 mantra. "But tonight I'd ask a simple question: If you felt that excitement when you voted for Barack Obama, shouldn't you feel that way now that he's President Obama?"

"You know there's something wrong with the kind of job he's done as president when the best feeling you had was the day you voted for him," the 46-year-old former Massachusetts governor and business executive told the Republican National Convention and a nationwide

See RNC • 8A

Winthrop students study political conventions online and in person

By Anna Douglas
adouglas@heraldonline.com

Jose Paramo's tours of duty in Afghanistan and Iraq prompted him to pay attention to American politics.

After 14 years of service as an Army paratrooper, Paramo sees this week's Republican National Convention and next week's Democratic National Convention through a slightly different lens than his classmates in Winthrop University's Political Conventions course.

At an on-campus RNC watch party this week, Paramo said he liked Chris Christie's honest tone during the convention — regardless of the New Jersey governor's political views.

Christie's straightforward, clear delivery was similar to the way career military people talk, said Paramo, a junior political science major.

"I just appreciate the way he spoke," he said, despite media speculation that Christie was setting himself up to run for president in 2016.

As part of their class curriculum, Paramo and his 29 classmates have studied the history of campaigning and conventions and watched videos of past presidential debates.

Next week, they'll witness the real thing in person at Charlotte's DNC events — including President Barack Obama's ac-

See WINTHROP • 9A

Police: Mother holds child in hold-up

Clerks at York store don't give in to woman wanting cash

By Jonathan McEdden
jmcEdden@heraldonline.com

YORK — In two of the three years Gary and Ashley Burns have been a couple, Gary says he has witnessed his wife steal his money, sell his guns and pawn other valuables to finance her addiction to crack cocaine.

She's done "anything you can think of a crack addict to do," he said Thursday.

But "she's never done things quite this bad."

Late Tuesday night, 23-year-old Ashley Marie Burns, whose criminal record reflects one prior shoplifting offense, cradled her 23-month-old daughter in her arms as she walked into a York convenience store, demanded money from store clerks and claimed she had a gun in her purse, according to police.

Officers arrested and charged Burns with attempted armed robbery, possession of crack cocaine, possession of drug paraphernalia and unlawful neglect of a child, according to York Police documents. On Thursday, she was being held in the York County Detention Center on a \$47,000 bond.

Around 11:30 p.m. Tuesday, police were alerted of an armed robbery at McCray's Convenience Store, 632 W. Liberty St.

Sue Ellen Belue and Stephanie Plyler, both clerks at McCray's, told police Burns walked into the store and asked for \$40 so she could go to Charlotte.

Burns first approached Belue, a Sharen resident who has worked at the store for a year and said she knew Burns was a crack addict. Belue, assisting another customer at the time, told Burns she wasn't giving her money for drugs.

Burns, with her hand in her purse, walked to Plyler's register and asked for the money.

When Plyler said no, Burns said she had a gun.

According to a police report, Plyler closed the register, backed away and said, "Please don't."

Before Belue could reach police on the phone, Burns left the store with her daughter and a man who had walked into the store with her

See ROBBERY • 8A

Herald-Journal

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IN A HURRY

5 Things
to read
today



Caring, sharing

Kimberly Addis, a local woman who says the idea came to her during prayer, makes bracelets and donates them to patients at the Gibbs Cancer Center.

PAGE E1

Isaac won't leave

Isaac, now a tropical storm again, hovered over Louisiana for a third day Thursday, dropping more than a foot of additional rain that forced authorities to hurriedly evacuate areas ahead of the storm and rescue hundreds of people who could not escape in time.

PAGE A3

Law struck down

A tough Texas law requiring voters to show photo identification at the polls discriminates against low-income black people and Hispanics, a federal court ruled Thursday, wiping out for the November election a measure championed by conservatives and setting up a potential U.S. Supreme Court showdown.

PAGE A4

Upgrade

Nursing students at the University of South Carolina Upstate showcased their upgraded simulation lab during an open house Thursday. Among the crowd of students and faculty at the event, there were also several life-like, anatomically correct manikins lying in hospital beds.

PAGE C1

Mother sought

A 10-month-old girl died eight days after officials say she nearly drowned in a Spartanburg motel room, and now investigators are looking for her mother, Mary Ann Williams, 21.

PAGE C1

Weather

Lattimore sparks Gamecock victory



GERRY MELENDEZ/MCT

South Carolina running back and Byrnes High product Marcus Lattimore celebrates with teammates after his first touchdown of the season in the first quarter against the Vanderbilt Commodores in Nashville, Tenn., on Thursday. The Gamecocks survived a scare from Vandy, holding on for a 17-13 win.

From staff reports

No need to worry about Marcus Lattimore's knee.

Connor Shaw's shoulder? That might be another story.

Lattimore, South Carolina's junior Heisman Trophy candidate less than a year removed from season-ending surgery to repair a torn ACL, rushed for 110 yards and two touchdowns on 23 carries to lead the No. 9 Gamecocks to a 17-13 victory over Vanderbilt in the season opener Thursday night in Nashville. It was the ninth career 100-yard rushing night for the former Byrnes High star.

The comeback got off to a rough start for Lattimore, as he gave up a fumble on his first carry. But come crunch time, the Gamecocks put the game squarely on his shoulders.

"After a few runs, I started to feel like myself again," Lattimore said. "Words can't even describe

it. I just remember watching all of those games from the sideline. It was great to be back out there."

Shaw injured his right (throwing) shoulder on a run late in the first half. Redshirt sophomore Dylan Thompson, a Boiling Springs product, finished the first half and started the second half before Shaw returned. Senior Seth Strickland also took a couple of snaps.

"I thought I did a pretty good job of getting down today. He just happened to come in and put a head on my shoulder," Shaw said of the play on which he was injured.

He finished with 14 carries for 92 yards rushing and 7-for-11 for 67 yards passing.

"We'll take a win, especially against Vanderbilt at this place," Shaw said. "We've got a lot of respect for them. I'm glad to get out of here with a win."

For complete details, see Sports beginning on Page 1B.

Romney accepts GOP bid



CHARLES DHARAPAK/AP

Republican presidential nominee Mitt Romney addresses delegates at the Republican National Convention in Tampa, Fla., on Thursday.

Republican presidential nominee: America needs jobs

By ROBERT FURLOW
The Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — Mitt Romney launched his fall campaign for the White House with a rousing, remarkably personal speech to the Republican National Convention and a prime-time TV audience Thursday night, proclaiming that America needs "jobs, lots of jobs" and promising to create 12 million of them

porters before beginning to speak.

"I accept your nomination for president," he said, to a roar of approval. Then he pivoted into personal details of family life, recounting his youth as a Mormon, the son of parents devoted to one another, and a married man with five rambunctious sons.

He choked up at least twice



case for ousting Obama plainly moments before Romney made his entrance. "When somebody does not do the job, you've got to let 'em go," he said to the cheers of thousands in the packed convention hall.

Obama, Vice President Joe Biden and the Democrats counter with their own convention beginning next Tuesday in Charlotte, N.C.



USC tackles
Vanderbilt, 1B

Inside today's edition

News: How old is too old to drive? 4A

News: Romney accepts GOP nomination, 9A

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2 SECTIONS, 20 PAGES

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INDEX-JOURNAL

VOL. 94, NO. 123

SC surplus comes up short

\$15M in projects axed because of fewer sales tax collections in May, June

By SEANNA ADCOX
Associated Press

COLUMBIA — South Carolina's lower-than-expected surplus means \$15 million worth of projects won't get funded, after all.

Among the casualties: A flood-control project in Darlington County, a flight academy at Patriots Point in Charleston Har-

"Budgeting in these uncertain economic times is challenging."

— Richard Eckstrom
comptroller general

bor and a bridge replacement at Kings Mountain State Park.

The state's chief accountant said in his fiscal-year closing

report the surplus for 2011-12 came in \$14.7 million less than state economic advisers expected. That's because sales tax collec-

tions were not as robust in May and June as anticipated, according to the comptroller general's office.

"Budgeting in these uncertain economic times is challenging," Comptroller General Richard Eckstrom said in Wednesday's report.

The Legislature designated the nearly \$400 million in anticipat-

ed surplus as part of the 2012-13 budget. Those one-time designations were to be funded in the priority order listed, after Eckstrom closed the books for the last fiscal year.

The top two items in the supplemental spending plan are \$98 million for the state's reserve

See **SURPLUS**, page 4A



RICHARD
ECKSTROM

GREENWOOD

Council discusses staffing tax board

By MATT BRUCE
mbruce@indexjournal.com

Greenwood County officials discussed possible slot assignments for a county tax commission to which members are slated to be appointed next month.

The talks came during a Greenwood County Council administration and finance committee meeting Thursday

at the Park Plaza building.

What is the board?
■ An eight-member panel of hospitality industry professionals delegated to help promote tourism to the area.

The committee began considering appointments and reappointments for the accommodations tax advisory board, an eight-member panel of hospitality industry professionals delegated to help promote tourism to the area.

The committee will make recommendations for at least five seats on the panel that expire this year. Two current members were discussed during Thursday's meeting for reappointment to their positions on the panel.

The tax panel is used to advise the Greenwood County board on how to spend money generated from a countywide hotel tax. It features slots for



ABOVE: Daniel Darling, left, taunts his classmate Thursday in the parking lot of Greenwood High School before the girls volleyball match against Emerald. **LEFT:** Patrons of Sports Break in Greenwood react Thursday to the South Carolina football game against Vanderbilt. The Gamecocks opened the college football season Thursday against the SEC opponent. **More on both games can be found in today's sports section.**

PHOTOS BY MATT WALSH/INDEX-JOURNAL

ABBEVILLE CITY

3-way battle for District 7 Seawright's foes seeking change

By FRANK BUMB
fbumb@indexjournal.com

Joseph Seawright, 80, has won five elections to the Abbeville City Council, serving his district for 18 years, and he hopes residents of District 7 will give him a sixth term this November.

"I feel like I'm doing a good job helping the city of Abbeville," Seawright said. "I'm enjoying my work, and I'm retired, so why not do it?"

Seawright will attempt to defend his seat on Council against two challengers: Joshua Bryan Baughman, 25, and Joe Scoggins, 57.

Baughman is an electrician with his family's business, Baughman



JOSEPH
SEAWRIGHT



JOSHUA B.
BAUGHMAN



JOE
SCOGGINS

See **BATTLE**, page 4A

Abbeville council looks to residents to choose county's motto

By FRANK BUMB
fbumb@indexjournal.com

Abbeville County residents have until Sept. 28 to make their mark on Abbeville County and make \$100

ille County vehicles, stationery and other official county items.

"Since we were coming up with a logo and a flag, we wanted to create a motto to express who we are here in Abbeville County," said Glenda

community involved in the project, offering up a \$100 cash prize for the motto selected.

"We are making sure that the administration gets as many people involved as possible, that all are

Abbeville County, P.O. Box 579, Abbeville, S.C. 29620, attention Bruce Cooley.

The submissions will be collected and organized by County Clerk Lynn





Morning News

FRIDAY AUGUST 31, 2012

TODAY'S WEATHER

T-storm in spots, with 92 high, 70 low
DETAILS 2A

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The Voice of the Pee Dee

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S.C. Budget

Shortfall axes Darlington project money

The Associated Press

COLUMBIA — South Carolina's lower-than-expected surplus means \$15 million worth of projects won't get funded, after all.

Among the casualties: A flood-control project in Darlington County, a flight academy at Pa-

triot's Point in Charleston Harbor and a bridge replacement at Kings Mountain State Park.

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collections were not as robust in May and June as anticipated, according to the comptroller general's office.

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The General Assembly designated the nearly \$400 million in anticipated surplus as part of the 2012-13 budget. Those one-time designations were to be funded in the priority order listed, after Eckstrom closed the books for the last fiscal year.

The top two items in the

supplemental spending plan are \$98 million for the state's reserve fund — \$60 million more than state law requires — and \$300 million to deepen the Charleston Harbor.

The shortfall means about 20

See **BUDGET**, Page 6A

CALM AFTER THE STORM



PHOTOS BY GAVIN JACKSON FOR MORNING NEWS

S.C. State Guard Deputy Commander Col. Tom Mullikin speaks Thursday at the Florence West Rotary meeting at the Florence Country Club. Mullikin is tasked with visiting all 46 counties in the state to create a renewed interest in the guard, to clarify its role to people and to find new recruits to fill its ranks.

Guard gives help in a hurry

SCSG ready within 48 hours to SC disasters

BY GAVIN JACKSON
Morning News
gjackson@florencenews.com

FLORENCE — With parts of the Gulf Coast in a state of emergency from the effects of Tropical Storm Isaac, it seemed a fitting time for members of the S.C. State Guard to speak with Rotarians on Thursday.

Col. Tom Mullikin spoke to members of the Florence West Rotary Club at the Florence Country Club about the important and vital services the guard provides.

"We're just neighbors like y'all are," Mullikin said. "And what we don't want to have is we don't want to turn on the TV and see our families in Darlington standing on the tops of their roofs, so we are training for what we hope



S.C. State Guard Deputy Commander Col. Tom Mullikin shakes hands Thursday with Florence West Rotary President Jon Bergin.

we'll be able to avoid and that is taking a natural disaster and making it worse."

The SCSG is made up of roughly

See **GUARD**, Page 10A



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Republican presidential nominee Mitt Romney acknowledges delegates before speaking at the Republican National Convention in Tampa, Fla., on Thursday.

Mitt Romney makes case: 'Need jobs'

The Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — Mitt Romney launched his fall campaign for the White House Thursday night with a rousing, remarkably personal speech to the Republican National convention and a prime-time TV audience, proclaiming that America needs "jobs, lots of jobs" and promising to create 12 million of them in perilous economic times.

"Now is the time to restore the promise of America," Romney said to a nation struggling

Election
★ 2012 ★

with 8.3 percent unemployment and the slowest economic recovery in decades.

Often viewed as a distant politician, Romney made a press-the-flesh entrance into the hall, walking slowly down one of the convention aisles and shaking hands with dozens of delegates. The

See **ROMNEY**, Page 8A

Ruling on voter ID could set bar for SC

US court rejects similar law in Texas

The Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas — A tough Texas law requiring voters to show photo identification at the polls discriminates against low-income blacks and Hispanics, a federal court ruled Thursday, wiping out for the November election a measure championed by conservatives and setting up a potential U.S. Supreme Court showdown.

In Washington, a three-

INSIDE

► S.C. representative responded to email with racist overtones. **6A**

could set a precedent for upcoming legal challenges to similar laws in other states. South Carolina's strict photo ID law is on trial this week in front of another three-judge panel in the same federal courthouse. A ruling in that case is expected before the November election.

SCHP golf tourney to help Make-A-Wish

BY TRACI BRIDGES
Morning News
tbridges@florencenews.com

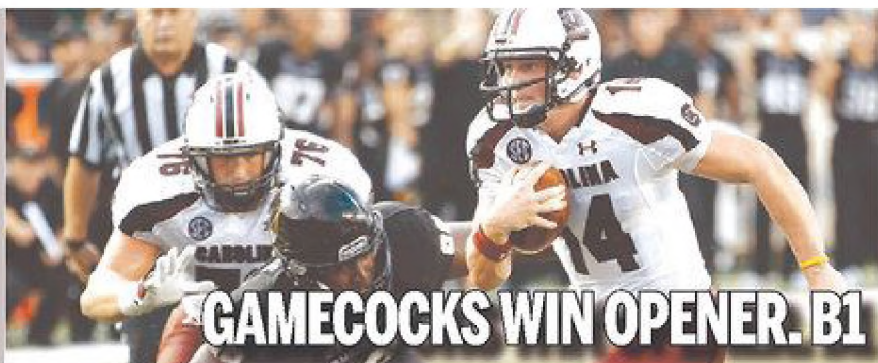
annual Make-A-Wish Foundation golf tournament began as a simple golf outing for local troop-

us a good price, so we had money left over," Nell said. "We decided we should donate it to a charity, and

in the area and typically raises more than \$10,000 a year for Make-A-Wish. Troopers and business



**BULLDOGS
START WITH
BIG VICTORY**
SCSU ROUTS
GEORGIA STATE. **B1**



GAMECOCKS WIN OPENER. B1

FRIDAY, AUGUST 31, 2012

The Times and Democrat

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Romney accepts, makes his case



Republican presidential nominee Mitt Romney acknowledges delegates before speaking at the Republican National Convention in Tampa, Fla., on Thursday. **Related editorial matter, A5**

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GOP nominee says America needs 'jobs, lots of jobs'

By DAVID ESPO and ROBERT FURLOW
Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — Mitt Romney launched his fall campaign for the White House in a rousing Republican National Convention finale Thursday night, proclaiming America needs "jobs, lots of jobs" and promising to create 12 million of them in perilous economic times.

"Now is the time to restore the promise of America," Romney said in prime-time speech to a nation struggling with 8.3 percent unemployment and the slowest economic recovery in decades.

Often viewed as a distant politician, Romney made a press-the-flesh entrance into the hall, walking slowly down one of the convention hall aisles and shaking hands with dozens of delegates. The hall erupted in cheers when he reached the stage and waved to his cheering, chanting supporters before beginning to speak.

"I accept your nomination for president," he said, to more cheers.

He railed his criticism President Barack Obama, his quarry in a close and uncertain race for the White House.

"I wish President Obama had succeeded

because I want America to succeed," he said. "But his promises gave way to disappointment and division."

Clint Eastwood, legendary Hollywood tough guy, put it more plainly. "When somebody does not do the job, you've got to let 'em go," he said to the cheers of thousands in the packed convention hall.

He spoke moments before Romney walked on stage.

"This isn't something we have to accept," he said, appealing to millions of voters who

See CONVENTION, A6

Health care, inland port keys for area, officials say

By GENE ZALESKI
T&D Staff Writer

Local officials are asking the S.C. Chamber of Commerce to support an inland port and Medicaid funding as part of its legislative agenda.

"We would urge the Chamber to urge the legislature to expand the Medicaid program," Regional Medical Center President and Chief Executive Officer Tom Dandridge said.

Hospitals pass the cost of free care back to insurance companies, he said. "For us, it is about \$16 million a year ... so the expansion of Medicaid would go a long way to reduce that."

Dandridge said under the federal Affordable Care Act, states are not forced to expand their Medicaid programs and Gov. Nikki Haley has said she would not.

"The Medicaid rolls will swell," as those who previously did not have to sign up for Medicaid do so, he said. "We are missing out on some real dollars."

Dandridge and others spoke during the state Chamber's grassroots meeting held in Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College's Roquemore Auditorium. The state Chamber gathered input for its annual list of legislative priorities.

Topics included state funding for local government, the development of soft skills through undergraduate education, focusing job training to meet local industrial needs and funding state roads.

Orangeburg County Development Commission Executive Director Gregg Robinson said he would like to see improved incentives for the development of an inland port.

He suggested targeting an area including upper Dorchester, Colleton and Orangeburg counties that has persistent poverty and low to moderate income.

"We are in the process of bringing this in the forefront of our delegation," he said. "We have a dire need to target it—95. We all know that it is one of our weakest links but we need to create a framework to excite companies to even consider."

Former Orangeburg County Administrator Bill

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See more from the Chamber meeting at TheTandD.com/gallery

Whatever the cause, the price of gas leaves drivers unhappy



Racist email cited by NAACP in opposing

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