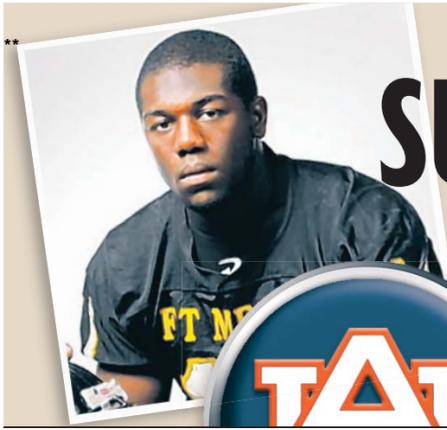
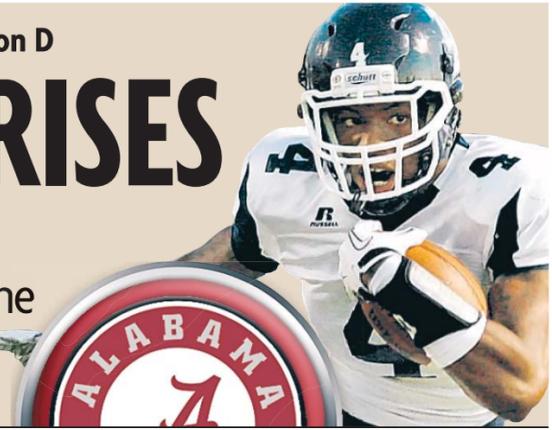


SUMMER SURPRISES

Auburn, Alabama veterans pick newcomers who have impressed the most during summer workouts



TE Brandon Fulse



Safety Ha'Sean Clinton-Dix

The Birmingham News

Monday, July 25, 2011 E M 1 2 3

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PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

Prices to plummet as drug patents expire



Cholesterol fighter Lipitor is among the top-selling drugs that soon will be available in generic versions.

7 popular medicines set to go generic

By LINDA A. JOHNSON
The Associated Press

The cost of prescription medicines used by millions of people every day is about to plummet.

The next 14 months will bring generic versions of seven of the world's 20 best-selling drugs, including the

top two: cholesterol fighter Lipitor and blood thinner Plavix.

The magnitude of this wave of expiring drugs patents is unprecedented. Between now and 2016, blockbuster with about \$255 billion in global annual sales are set to go off patent, notes EvaluatePharma Ltd., a London research firm. Generic competition will decimate sales of the brand-name drugs and slash the cost to patients and compa-

nies that provide health benefits.

Top drugs getting generic competition by September 2012 are taken by millions every day: Lipitor alone is taken by about 4.3 million Americans and Plavix by 1.4 million. Generic versions of big-selling drugs for blood pressure, asthma, diabetes, depression, high triglycerides, HIV and bipolar disorder also are coming by then.

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Tablets to the rescue: PC industry counting on it

TECHKNOW | SECTION C

HEALTH

Pedestrian children with ADHD face risks

Need care crossing streets, study says

By HANNAH WOLFSON
News staff writer

Children with attention and hyperactivity problems have a greater risk of being hit by a car when crossing the street, according to a UAB study published online today in the journal Pediatrics.

Although children with attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder looked both ways before crossing in a traffic simulator like other youngsters, they made riskier choices and were more likely to either be run over or have near misses, the researchers found.

"They're making the right motions just as their parents or teachers have taught them," said Despina Stavrinou, a graduate research assistant at the Injury Control Center at the University of Alabama at Birmingham and the lead author of the study, which will appear in the journal's August issue. "They're looking left and right, but there's something more to it."

See ADHD | Page 5A

ALABAMA TORNADES THE RECOVERY

Bell: Costs can be trimmed

Other funds also will be sought to cut estimate

By JOSEPH D. BRYANT
News staff writer

Birmingham Mayor William Bell said he will cut costs and seek other funding to bring down an estimated \$5.6 million in tornado recovery spending not reimbursed by the federal government.

While a report from his office estimates the nearly \$6 million hit to the city, Bell said the reality will prove less foreboding than the printed numbers show. Bell said high estimates presented to federal officials include nonreimbursable costs, but also spending that can be curbed to lower the final price tag. The presentation delivered to federal officials included the estimate along with a plea for additional federal support.

"It's hard to pinpoint because we're in the process of evaluating what we can and can't do," he said. "We'll have to make the decision once we explore other funding and help."

In addition, he said some spending, including the construction of a new fire station in Pratt City, could be supplemented through grants, something the department has been successful in winning for other capital projects. Bell said \$2 million in additions to plans for a new fire station in Pratt City could be modified if needed.

Plans for a new station anticipated amenities such as community safe rooms that are not covered by FEMA.

"My directive to all departments was to build it back better and stronger than before," Bell said. "It's our wish list to build the community back bigger and stronger than it was before."

The total includes \$1.1 million in employee labor costs associated with the storm. Bell said some of that is not reimbursed because



NEWS STAFF/LINDA STELTER

Birmingham Mayor William Bell said he will cut costs and find other funding to bring down an estimated \$5.6 million in tornado recovery spending not reimbursed by the federal government.

FEDERAL RELIEF

Denied? Not too late to appeal

60 days left to appeal FEMA grant ineligibility decision

By MIKE OLIVER
News staff writer

Tens of thousands of people denied federal money to help cover uninsured damage from the April 27 tornadoes in Alabama may still be in the running for grants up to \$30,200 or low-interest loans up to \$200,000.

The deadline to register for the federal money was last week, but many of those who were turned down still have time to appeal and, perhaps, qualify for money.

How much time depends on the date of the letter telling them they were denied.

Those turned down for a Federal Emergency Management Agency grant have 60 days from the date of the letter to appeal. There are about 30,700 people so far who have been determined ineligible.

FEMA spokesman Mike Stone said FEMA has stressed from the outset the importance of contacting a FEMA representative by phone or in person to resolve a conflict and, if the conflict can't be resolved easily, to file an appeal.

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HOW TO APPEAL



Federal Emergency Management Agency

Explain in writing why you disagree with FEMA's decision. Send any new information or documents supporting your case. Include your FEMA application number noted on the letter and disaster number (for the Alabama tornadoes, it is DR-1971-AL).

Your letter must either be notarized, include a copy of a state-issued identification card or include the following statement: "I hereby declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct."

Mail to:
FEMA - Appeals Officer
National Processing Service Center
P.O. Box 10055
Hyattsville, MD 20782-7055

FAX to:
800-827-8112 with a cover sheet addressed to: Attention: FEMA Appeals Officer.



Small Business Administration

Makes request in writing and include significant new information the applicant believes will overcome the initial decision.

Mail to:
U.S. Small Business Administration
Processing & Disbursement Center
14925 Kingsport Road
Fort Worth, TX 76155

Call:
1-800-659-2955 for more information.

CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS

Judicial donation standoff draws fire

By MARY ORNDORFF
News Washington correspondent

WASHINGTON — Alabama is no closer to resolving a 16-year impasse over regulating campaign contributions to state judges after a lawsuit that might have settled the matter was tossed out by three federal judges.

But the political landscape has changed in the days since the case was dismissed, and lawyers are attempting to restart the legal debate over how Alabama's dormant law banning judges from hearing cases involving big-dollar campaign donors might ever get enforced.

Now, the law is caught in a stalemate between the Alabama Attorney General's Office and the Alabama Supreme Court. The Supreme Court says it can't write the rule implementing it until the

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