

SPORTS
UNC's Mack Hollins'
college career ends
with broken
collarbone 1B



SPORTS
N.C. State moves
on from Clemson
heartbreaker 1B



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Partly cloudy
 83°/58° See 12B

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TRIANGLE & N.C.

**KANIA GUILTY OF
 MANSLAUGHTER**

He drove the wrong way while drunk, crashing into another car, in which 3 died. Kania could serve up to 16 years. **3A**



HURRICANE MATTHEW

**I-95 REOPENS IN
 ROBESON CO.**

About 600 roads remained closed in central and eastern North Carolina, including U.S. 70 at Kinston. **2A**



HEALTH INSURANCE

**BCBS: ACA HIKE
 24.3%**

That's the average. Some consumers will pay more and some will pay less. It's higher than the original request. **7A**

STATE POLITICS

Firebombing puts N.C. back on national stage



PHOTOS BY JILL KNIGHT jhknight@newsobserver.com

Daniel Ashley, chairman of the Orange County Republican Party, walks through the party's fire-damaged office in Hillsborough on Monday.

Democrats' effort to help GOP with repairs exceeds \$10,000 goal

BY ANNE BLYTHE, TAMMY GRUBB AND CRAIG JARVIS
 ablythe@newsobserver.com
 tgrubb@newsobserver.com

HILLSBOROUGH

North Carolina once again is in the national news, though this time it's not because of House Bill 2, hurricane flooding or protests at the capital.

One of the state's old capitals - Hillsborough - has become the capital of the latest political firestorm with questions swirling about who firebombed the Orange County GOP office and left an intimidating message on a nearby wall.

The news ignited a tweetstorm Sunday.

Republican candidates, who had been forced last week to respond to the sexual assault

accusations against Donald Trump, at the head of their ticket, quickly pushed a new political storyline onto the national stage.

Gov. Pat McCrory held a news conference late Monday afternoon at the burned-out office and took a few questions from the several dozen journalists gathered, a group that included national news crews and one Norwegian reporter.

"This is not an act of vandalism," McCrory said. "It's an assault on our democracy."

During a live interview on Fox News before fielding questions from other news crews, McCrory said he did not think the incident "was taken as seriously as it should have been at first."

"The last thing we need is

SEE FIREBOMBING, 8A



Evelyn Poole-Kober, vice chair of the Orange County GOP, wipes away a tear as she talks about Sunday's firebombing incident.

N.C. STATE FAIR

An idiot's guide to beating games, collecting plush junk



BY JOSH SHAFFER
 jshaffer@newsobserver.com

RALEIGH

For too long, I have tossed away logic and dollars for the sake of plush pink gorillas, lobbing fruitless darts and pointless

softballs with my eyes on the Midway's fattest prizes, acting the State Fair's own fool.

Since roughly age 10, I have emptied my pockets at a thousand milk-can tosses and drained my allowance aiming countless clanging rings off countless bottles - cursed by the carny's cruel odds.

But this year I came loaded for oversized bear, seeking three decades of State Fair revenge. In our age of YouTube tutorials, any rube can learn to fix a busted oven, change a dead car battery or - however improbable

- climb the cursed rope ladder. With the help of the Internet, I found tricks for conquering the most challenging carnival games.

I share these tips now in hopes of avenging the generations of luckless gamblers playing a rigged game. A few of them actually work.

DARTS AND BALLOONS

This game looks easier than blackjack with see-through cards. The dartboard is 20 feet

SEE STATE FAIR, 8A



TRAVIS LONG tlong@newsobserver.com

News & Observer columnist Josh Shaffer tries to reach the top of the rope ladder game Monday at the State Fair. "It offers far deeper humiliation than any other game," Shaffer writes.

INSIDE TODAY

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UNDER THE DOME

Politics and government as it affects our state. **3A**

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