

NEW SHERIFF

Alex Odam is now Piedmont boys career scoring leader. 1B



WARM UPS

Brighten a winter day with soup and sweets. 7A

The Anniston Star

Wednesday, February 3, 2021

A home-owned newspaper

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Stephen Gross/The Anniston Star

Oxford's Roc Taylor catches a pass in front of Minor's Patrick Davis during the Minor at Oxford AHSAA playoff game.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL RECRUITING

Oxford coach reacts to Vols' last-minute pull of Taylor offer

BY JOE MEDLEY

jmedley@annistonstar.com

There's a way to handle pulling a scholarship offer from a committed recruit, Oxford coach Keith Etheredge says, and the day before signing day isn't it.

Hours after Tennessee pulled its offer from Oxford wide receiver Roc Taylor on Tuesday morning, consider the normally jovial Etheredge anything but.

"This was horribly handled," Eth-



ETHEREDGE

I said, 'Well, you all are going to tell him. You all are responsible for this.

etheredge said. "My thing is, the head coach didn't even call me. They didn't call Roc. They texted him and asked him to call them back.

"I was told they were going to call him as soon as they got off the phone with me, because

I was told two weeks ago that everything was good."

The call did not come from new Tennessee head coach Josh Heupel, Etheredge said. The coach who called cited concerns over whether Taylor will qualify academically, but Etheredge said Taylor is on track to qualify.

Tennessee's pulling of Taylor's offer came nine months after his April commitment and six days after Tennessee announced the hiring of Heu-

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COVER STORY

SMOOTHER SHOTS



Stephen Gross/The Anniston Star

People receive their second COVID-19 shot at the Anniston Meeting Center on Tuesday in Anniston.

Local officials working out the kinks as vaccination campaign set to ramp up

BY TIM LOCKETTE

tlockette@annistonstar.com

Monterie Lee of Anniston knows exactly what she wants to do once her vaccination against COVID-19 takes hold.

"I'm going to the beach," said Lee, 91, who lives in the Choccolocco area near Anniston.

Lee was among hundreds of people who showed up Tuesday at Anniston

INSIDE

Hobson City mayor still campaigning to raise vaccine awareness.

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City Meeting Center to get a second COVID-19 shot — the last big step toward some immunity to the virus that has upended American life for nearly a year.

For three days this week, local health officials are offering shots at Anniston City Meeting Center. It's a follow-up to

a shot clinic held in early January, when health workers gave a first dose of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine to hundreds of first responders and people in the medical field — and then opened eligibility to people age 75 and up.

That January shot clinic drew an instant crowd, with people lining up for hours to get the vaccine. The scene on Tuesday was much more orderly.

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Next round of COVID vaccinations

Beginning Feb. 8, the state plans to set up regional vaccination sites across the state in order to offer vaccines to people age 65 and up and to workers in some essential professions and. Here's what we know so far:

Will there be a local vaccination site?

One of the regional sites will be in Anniston. Local officials say they're still selecting a site, and expect to announce more details soon.

Do I have to live in Anniston to get a vaccine here?

No. The regional sites are intended for people who live in multi-county areas surrounding each site, but local officials say there is not likely to be any residency requirement.

Who will be eligible for a vaccine?

People age 65 and up and people in the following jobs:

- First responders
- Corrections officers
- Food and agriculture workers
- U.S. Postal Service workers
- Manufacturing workers
- Grocery store workers
- Public transit workers
- People who work in the education sector (teachers, support staff, community college and higher education)
- Child care workers
- Judiciary (including but not limited to) circuit judges, district judges and district attorneys

ALABAMA LEGISLATURE

Del Marsh steps down from Senate top job

BY TODD STACY

Alabama Daily News

MONTGOMERY — After ten years of leading the Alabama Senate as president pro tempore, Sen. Del Marsh, R-Anniston, officially stepped down from the upper chamber's top job Tuesday, relinquishing the role to Sen. Greg Reed, R-Jasper.

The friendly transition,

INSIDE

Legislative session starts with caution, big bills

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Jamie Martin for Alabama Daily News

Sen. Del Marsh shares a laugh in the Alabama Senate chamber Tuesday. Marsh stepped down as Senate president pro tem to start the new legislative year.

WEATHER, 10B



JaQuan Anderson, C.E. Hanna Elementary

SUNNY
HIGH: 52 LOW: 29

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