The commissioner of tailgating shares his tales of the road

THE NEW ORLEANS ADVOCATE
SEVEN DAYS • HOME DELIVERED • LOUISIANA OWNED

Leans more entertaining and easier to read

By Sheldon Mickles

Peyton frustrated with other aspects of game

Tigers: The No. 13 LSU team and top-ranked Alabama will play on Saturday in Tuscaloosa. The Tigers enter the game at 8-2, while Bama is 9-1. LSU's only losses are to the Crimson Tide and Florida.

Restaurant

RADIO: WVUE-FM, 1130; WVUE-AM, 1300; WDGL-FM, 98.1; WWL-AM, 870; WDIV-FM, 95.1; WNVF-FM, 100.1.

Rebecca Montevecere

By George Morris

Fading_scars

Nearly one year after Hurricane Isaac's rising waters pushed into St. John the Baptist and flooded neighborhoods, few signs remain of the devastation.

Ernest Robinson looks over the renovated and nearly complete living room of his Cambridge subdivision house in LaPlace on Thursday. Floodwater filled the home during Hurricane Isaac a year ago.

THEN: Flood waters force thousands of LaPlace residents from their homes

NOW: Repairs are complete on about 95 percent of the 7,000 damaged homes

The Robinsons are better off than many of their neighbors. They were among the roughly 30 percent of LaPlace's 31,000 or so residents who had flood insurance. The community is not in a zone where lenders require homeowners to carry flood insurance, meaning they must choose to forgo it.

Even with a flood-insurance policy, Robinson said he's still paying a $55 gap between what the insurance company has agreed to pay and what fixing his 3,500-square-foot house will cost him in the end. The Robinsons have spent about $37,000 of their own money so far.

"I'm still fighting the insurance company now for a lot of things that they were supposed to pay for that they have not yet paid for," he said about his private insurance, which the Robinsons plan to drop as soon as they can.

"Even though we've been paying insurance on this house for 31 years, we weren't compensated for what we needed to put it back together, and that kind of saddens us," he said.

While Hurricane Isaac likely did more damage to St. John the Baptist Parish than any storm in history, the scars it left are

Corps decision expected soon on alignment of levee

By Richard Thompson

A year after Hurricane Isaac's floodwaters washed over much of St. John Parish — and more than four decades after officials first began exploring building back levees there — the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers finally appears ready to settle on a route for a levee to protect the River Parishes from Lake Pontchartrain's surge.

This Friday, the corps plans to disclose which of three potential alignments it will further review for the west shore Lake Pontchartrain flood protection project. Plans to put levees between LaPlace and the lake go back more than 40 years.