

See who came out ahead at the Atlantic County track championships. **B1**

### RESIGNATION AT AVIATION PARK

The Stockton Aviation Research and Technology Park's executive director resigns days before groundbreaking on the first building. **A3**

# Prosecutor seeks husband's DNA in Kauffman killing



Daughter says she appreciates new look at case

**LAUREN CARROLL & SUZANNE MARINO**  
Staff Writers



Five years after the unsolved killing, the Atlantic County Prosecutor's Office has filed a court motion to get a sample of Jim Kauffman's DNA in connection with the death of his wife, April Kauffman. The motion is scheduled

to be heard May 26 in Atlantic County Superior Court, according to an email Thursday from the office of Atlantic County Prosecutor Damon Tyner.

"I do not know Mr. Tyner, but I am certainly supportive of his effort to take another look at the case again," Kim Pack, daughter of April Kauffman, told The Press of Atlantic City.

### SEE VIDEO ONLINE

Daughter seeks answers in the death of her mother five years ago. [PressofAC.com](http://PressofAC.com)

"The fact that my mother's case is going to be looked at again, that they still care and that it is not a cold case is very much appreciated."

The body of April Kauffman, 47, a radio host, was found May 10, 2012, in the

Woodstock Avenue home in Linwood she shared with her husband. An autopsy revealed she had been shot to death, and the investigation was labeled a homicide probe.

Tyner did not return a call from The Press on Thursday. However, according to published reports, Tyner — sworn in to office March 15 — requested a list of all open homicides dating to 1970.

Jim Kauffman's lawyer,

Edwin Jacobs, said he could not comment Thursday but previously has said his client is innocent.

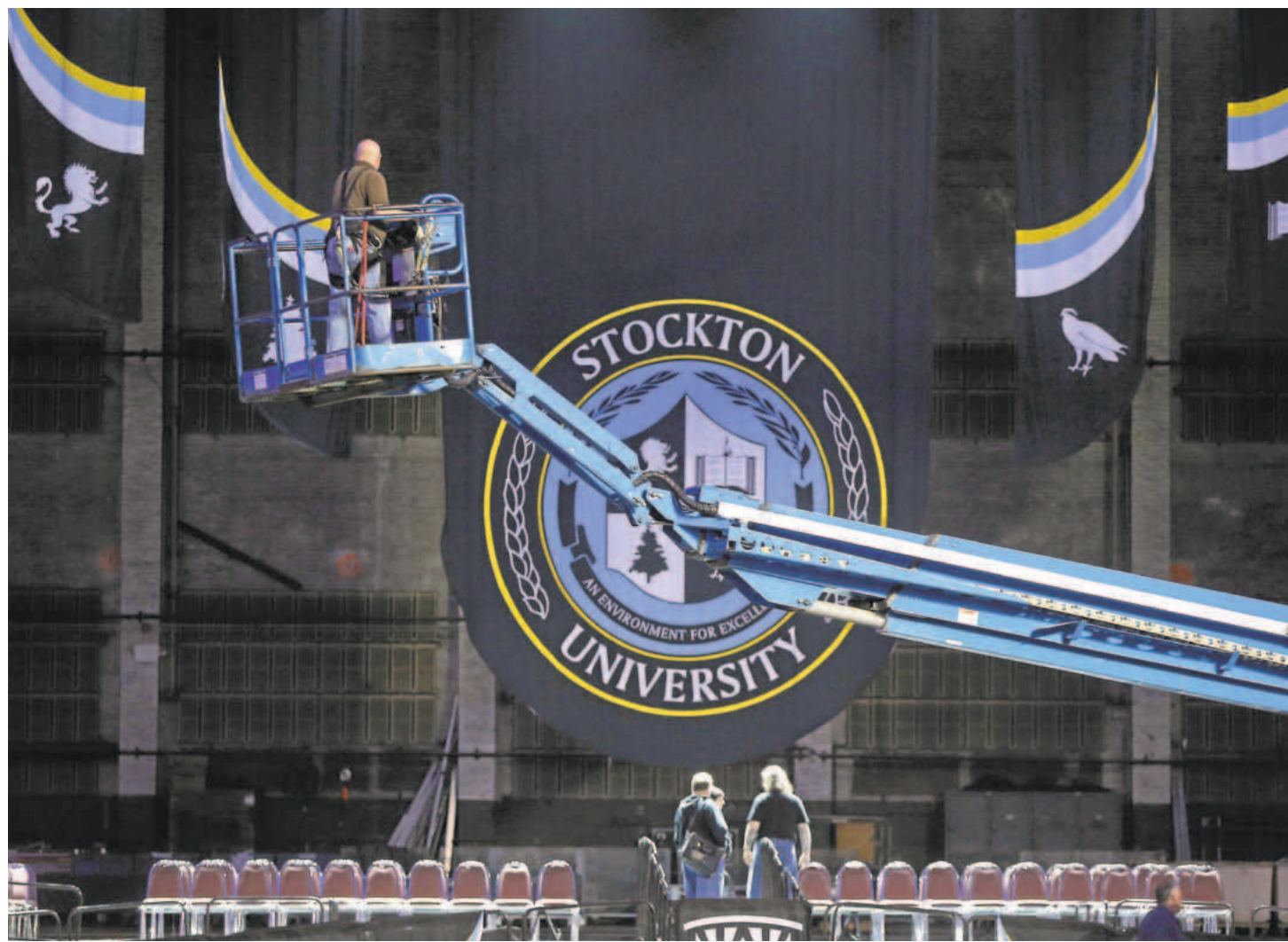
Pack said the last five years are still very fresh in her mind.

"Not that you can ever forget, but it really hit me like a ton of bricks that it is five years," Pack said in a telephone interview.

Pack said the unsolved killing has never allowed

See **KAUFFMAN**, A8

# Pomp and A.C.



CRAIG MATTHEWS / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Workers on Thursday prep Boardwalk Hall for Stockton University's commencement Friday. The new location provides a space large enough not to need two ceremonies and demonstrates the school's commitment to the resort where it is building a satellite campus a few blocks away.

## Shift to Boardwalk Hall for graduation fits growing Stockton's needs, goals in city

**DIANE D'AMICO**  
Staff Writer

ATLANTIC CITY — Huge Stockton banners hung in Boardwalk Hall on Thursday as event staff and college personnel ran through a program they are committed to completing in less than three hours.

Two podiums will be set up to expedite the movement of almost 1,400 undergraduate students across the stage beginning Friday at noon. Students' names will be displayed on two 30-foot television monitors above the stage.

"We've got it down to about 3.5 to 4 seconds per name," said Craig Stambaugh, Stockton associate dean of students.

The move to the city, announced last year

See **GRADUATION**, A2



DIANE D'AMICO / STAFF WRITER

Stockton students Alex Blundetto and Kevin Broecker steam wrinkles out of gowns to be worn by special guests at Friday's ceremony.

### ONLINE

Look for coverage of today's graduation at [PressofAC.com](http://PressofAC.com).

## Chiesa firm's bills top \$1M for state's A.C. takeover

**CHRISTIAN HETRICK**  
Staff Writer

ATLANTIC CITY — The law firm running a state takeover of the city has billed taxpayers \$1.2 million so far.

Chiesa Shahinian & Giantomasi, based in West Orange, Essex County, billed the state \$920,991 for work from December through

March, according to invoices the state released late Wednesday through an Open Public Records Act request.

The latest invoices bring the firm's bill total to \$1.2 million after charging \$287,000 for work in November through January. The state Office of the Attorney General has approved paying about \$1.1 million of that total so far.

The law firm has reviewed City Council agendas, led negotiations with casino owners appealing their property taxes and battled public-safety unions in court after state overseer Jeffrey Chiesa imposed pay cuts and sought layoffs.

One invoice shows the law firm charged \$13,734 for research, legal analysis and meetings related to the city's Municipal Utilities Authority, the prized water system some suspect could be sold to a private company.

Chiesa can bill \$400 per hour. In addition, partners at his law firm can bill \$350 per hour, associates

See **BILLS**, A2

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### CLOUDY & COOL

**HIGH: 58 LOW: 48**  
See Dan Skeldon's weather forecast, **C6**



**\$1.50**  
Toms River and north: **\$1.75**

# N.J. pushes alternative fluke plan as season approaches

**JACK TOMCZUK**  
Staff Writer

New Jersey officials asked a federal commission this week to consider an alternative set of flounder measures, just weeks before the opening of the fluke season.

Recreational fishing advocates and state leaders have been fighting for months to halt an approved plan to reduce this year's summer flounder catch by about 34

### RULES FOR STRIPERS

Regulators back off from a plan to liberalize the regulation of the striped bass fishery. **A2**

percent in New Jersey.

On Wednesday, at a federal regulatory meeting in Alexandria, Virginia, the New Jersey delegation introduced a proposal that would limit fishermen to three fish at 18 inches in the Atlantic Ocean and

three fish at 17 inches in the Delaware Bay for a 104-day season.

New Jersey's representatives on the federal commission believe it's preferable to regulations approved in February, which set limits at three fish at 19 inches in the ocean and three at 18 in the bay for a 128-day season.

The February plan would represent a 23 percent cut in the flounder harvest from last year, according to testimony

by state Department of Environmental Protection Commissioner Bob Martin at a meeting Thursday.

Federal experts say significant cuts are needed to curb a decline in the flounder population, which has been experiencing overfishing since 2008, according to data from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

The February plan "will have a devastating impact on the state of New Jersey," Mar-

tin said. "This is why we have worked hard to come up with an alternative."

Martin said a recent study by Montclair State University indicated the initial regulations would cost the state's economy as much as \$750 million.

New Jersey's proposed alternative will have to be reviewed by a pair of federal bodies. Those meetings could

See **FLOUNDER**, A2