

Esin leads in A-Ibom guber opinion report

BY KENNETH EHIGIA-TOR

A PUBLIC opinion poll by an independent team, Advocate For A Better Akwa Ibom, ABAI, has identified the gubernatorial candidate of the Congress for Progressive Change, CPC, Mr Larry Esin, as the candidate favoured to effect a positive change in the leadership of the state.

The poll favoured Mr. Esin as the candidate with a strong appeal, especially to youths and the professional class, and having a firm grasp of issues afflicting the state.

It also noted the impressive import of Mr. Esin's choice of a female deputy, Lady Ime Essien-Udom, a gender activist, who is of the Ibibio majority extraction.

The report said, "picking Lady Essien-Udom, a reputable and very matured politician with several years of field experience is a big credit to the CPC ticket.

"Besides venturing from the conservative tradition

of male running mates, Mr. Esin's choice of a deputy in the former National Publicity Secretary of the ruling party, is a testament of the readiness of CPC to carry the female gender along and also challenge

them to positions of responsibility in governance."

In apparent reaction to the opinion of those polled in the on-line exercise, Mr. Esin, said the result indicated "a popular reflection of the minds of Akwa Ibom

people."

He promised to "adopt far reaching socio-economic and political reforms that would positively reposition the state when voted into power in the coming elections."

2 die in A-Ibom rainstorm

BY TONY NYONG

UYO—A RAIN storm, has killed two persons in Akwa Ibom State. The storm also wreaked havoc in some parts of the state.

The storm blew off several roofs, sweeping across Mbak Ikot Ebo in Etoi village of Uyo and Nnung Oku Uruan in Uruan Local Government Areas of the state, leaving many people homeless and others seriously wounded.

It could not be ascertained how many people died as at press time. It was, however, learnt that, at least two persons were killed by the storm while several houses and property worth millions of naira were destroyed.

A source said the victims

were killed at about 7 pm on fateful day, in the two separate communities when a tree fell on the house where one of them

lived. He further disclosed that another victim died at Nnung Oku Uruan village as the storm brought down over 15 houses in the area.

Uduaghan'll win Delta guber poll— Reyenieju

BY DANIEL GUMM

WARRI—MEMBER representing Warri Federal Constituency in the House of Representatives, Mr. Daniel Reyenieju, yesterday, predicted that Dr. Emmanuel Uduaghan, will win the forthcoming gubernatorial election in Delta State.

Speaking to *Vanguard* on phone on the recent Federal High Court, Asaba, judgement, that Udua-

ghan's victory at the Delta State guber re-run in January, will not preclude the conduct of guber election in the state in the forthcoming general elections, the lawmaker said, "what is significant about the judgement is that it has further enriched our jurisprudence and equally important is that the judgement is a call to action for all members of the Peoples Democratic Party, PDP in the state."