



# How will Blake Shapen return go for Mississippi State vs USM? Our prediction

SPORTS, 1B

# Clarion Ledger

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## Singing to the beat



Alaynna Doty went viral in July with her karaoke rendition of “Chickenhead” by Memphis rapper Project Pat. JACOB WILT/THE COMMERCIAL APPEAL

### Mississippi girl to perform ‘Chickenhead’ with Project Pat on 901 Day

Jacob Wilt    Memphis Commercial Appeal | USA TODAY NETWORK

Nine-year-old Alaynna Doty is like many girls her age. She dreads going to school, but still has fun in certain classes. Her mom, Lauren Durham, describes her as a “girly girl,” but she still loves activities like hunting and riding in their side-by-side through muddy trails. Likely her biggest passion is singing. • And on 901 Day, she’ll be singing with Memphis rapper Project Pat. • The Byhalia girl’s journey to performing on stage with one of her favorite rappers began in mid-July with a trip to one of Alaynna and her mom’s favorite restaurants, Crazy Cactus in Olive Branch.

See SINGING, Page 2A

## Anti Trump rallies this weekend

### Where and when protests will be held

Pam Dankins  
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USA TODAY NETWORK

Communities throughout Mississippi are mobilizing for another wave of protests, scheduled for Labor Day weekend, as part of an ongoing resistance to President Donald J. Trump’s second term. The protests, titled “Workers Over Billionaires,” aim to refocus national attention on the rights and struggles of working-class people. One group labeled as the 50501 Movement emphasize the protests are part of a nationwide rally that aligns with the historical roots of Labor Day, a federal holiday established in 1894 to recognize workers’ contributions to the nation. This year, Labor Day falls on Monday, Sept. 1. So far in 2025, the 50501 organization has arranged various protests at the Mississippi State Capitol Building: on Feb. 5; President’s Day, Feb. 17; on March 4; on April 5; on April 19; over Memorial Day weekend, May 24; on D-Day June 6; and on the president’s 79th birthday, June 14.

Over the Labor Day holiday weekend, according to the 50501 Movement organization, protesters throughout the state are calling for action on several issues. Their demands include halting the influence of billionaires on government policies, safeguarding programs like Medicaid and Social Security and ensuring full funding for schools, health care and housing. They also seek to “stop attacks” on marginalized communities, including immigrants, Black people, Indigenous people, and transgender individuals, while urging investment in “people over wars,” according to the 50501 Movement. In addition to protests, a couple of

See PROTESTS, Page 2A

## Emmett Till’s legacy honored at first event of four-day commemoration

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The Emmett Till Legacy Foundation and partners began a four-day commemoration event on Thursday, Aug. 28, by holding a press conference to honor the 70th anniversary of the life and legacy of Emmett Till. The commemoration will also celebrate the foundation’s 20th anniversary. The press conference, held Thursday at the Mississippi State Capitol Building, consisted of presenting proclama-

tions and recognitions to Till’s family, with speakers saying the tribute is not only a time for remembrance but also a commitment to justice, transparency and progress in Till’s death. Deborah Watts, cousin of Emmett Till and co-founder of the Emmett Till Legacy Foundation, expressed her hope that people would recognize the day’s significance not only to the family but also to the broader historical narrative Till’s death represents. “It’s 70 years that we stand here today feeling the same sense of injustice,

See TILL, Page 4A



Gathered at the Mississippi State Capitol in Jackson for the Emmett Till National Day of Remembrance on Aug. 28, family members, from left, Deborah Watts, Priscilla Williams-Till, and Anna Laura Cush-Williams. BARBARA GAUNTT/CLARION LEDGER

