

Trump calls to resume nuclear weapons tests

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Clarion Tedger

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Erika Kirk, widow of Turning Point USA founder Charlie Kirk, and U.S. Vice President JD Vance hold each other with their arms around each other's shoulders and waist during a Turning Point USA event at the Pavilion at Ole Miss at the University of Mississippi in Oxford on Oct. 29. REUTERS

Thousands attend Ole Miss Turning Point event

Charlie Drape

Mississippi Clarion Ledger
USA TODAY NETWORK – TENNESSEE

OXFORD — Vice President JD Vance and Erika Kirk headlined a Turning Point USA event Wednesday, Oct. 29 at the University of Mississippi, part of the conservative group's "This Is the Turning Point" tour. It was among the organization's first public gatherings since founder Charlie Kirk was fatally shot at a similar event last month.

The Oxford stop drew thousands to the Sandy and John Black Pavilion, where university officials and the Secret Service heightened security amid planned counter-protests by students and community members critical of the group's rhetoric. Demonstrators gathered outside and near the student union as the event began.

The tour — spanning campuses nationwide — has sought to carry forward Kirk's message while navigating the fallout of his death. He was shot and

More stories from Turning Point event

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killed during an appearance at Utah Valley State University in Orem, Utah; authorities later arrested 22-year-old Tyler Robinson, who turned himself in days after the attack.

Inside the Pavilion

Thousands packed the stands of the 9,500 seat arena, home of Ole Miss men's and women's basketball. Vance said more than 10,000 were present, a stark contrast to the 100 or so progressives rallying at the same time at the student center. The arena was a sea of "Make America Great Again" hats and Charlie Kirk merchandise. Students waved small American flags and cheered as the program began, while others waited outside in the pouring

rain

A video montage of Kirk recounting Turning Point's founding played before the crowd fell silent, breaking into applause as the clip ended with Kirk's words: "Turning Point will live longer than me. That's my mission."

Country singer Alexis Wilkins opened the program after 6 p.m., more than an hour behind schedule, performing the national anthem and speaking about clashing with professors over her conservative views at Belmont University.

"I was turned on to Turning Point USA because I needed Turning Point USA," she said before singing an acapella rendition of Lee Greenwood's "God Bless the U.S.A."

Ole Miss' TPUSA chapter president Lesley Lachman thanked law enforcement and volunteers and urged attendees to vote in future elections.

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JAY LEE TRIAL

Defense seeks exclusion of crime scene photos

Attorney claims images are too "gruesome"

Pam Dankins

Mississippi Clarion Ledger USA TODAY NETWORK

The defense attorney for Sheldon Timothy Herrington, Jr. is requesting to exclude "gruesome" crime scene and autopsy photos from his murder retrial, arguing that the images could create prejudice and are not necessary to establish the death of University of Mississippi student Jimmie "Jay" Lee.

Herrington's Jackson-based attorney Aafram Y. Sellers filed a motion Tuesday, Oct. 28, asking the court to leave out "gruesome photographs taken at the crime scene and/or the autopsy of the decedent."

Sellers also requested that the court impose limits on the number of images showing Lee or the crime scene, arguing prosecutors can establish Lee's death through testimony of a medical examiner and other witnessess "without the benefit of autopsy photos."

"In addition, Mr. Herrington is prepared to stipulate to the identity of the deceased. Should such a stipulation be entered, the photographs lose their probative value while retaining their highly prejudicial nature," Sellers wrote. "The fact that the medical examiner cannot establish a manner or cause of death further supports that any autopsy photographs would be introduced to prejudice the Defendant."

Sellers further stated that while autopsy photos are generally considered inadmissible under law, Herrington does requests a pre-trial hearing to determine the admissibility of all other photographs of Lee and/or the crime

Lafayette County Circuit Court Judge Kelly Luther ordered Herrington to be allowed to file pre-trial motions under seal in his capital murder case, keeping the documents from public view.

"The Court has conducted a balancing test to weigh the competing interests of the public's right of access and the Defendant's request to seal certain pre-trial motion," Luther wrote in his

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Could a hurricane strike the Gulf Coast in November?

According to AccuWeather, tropical storms in November are unusual, but they do happen and can become hurricanes

Right now, international attention is focused on Hurricane Melissa which made landfall in Jamaica as a Category 5 storm on Oct. 28. It packed 185 mph sustained winds, making it one of the most powerful hurricanes to make landfall in the Atlantic Basin. It is even more powerful than Hurricane Katrina that slammed into Mississippi in 2005.

While Melissa took place in Jamaica, people along the Gulf Coast probably

feel reasonably safe. According to Accu-Weather, conditions in the northern Gulf of Mexico aren't very conducive to hurricane development going into November, which is the last month of hurricane season.

However, they can and do form in No-

Going back to 1850, 135 tropical storms have been recorded in the month of November. About 75 of those formed on Nov. 1 or after. Almost all stayed away from the U.S., but since 1900, three that became hurricanes made landfall in November.

Hurricane Nicole: The storm that made a bad situation worse

According to the National Weather Service, Tropical Storm Nicole formed on Nov. 8, 2022, and became a hurricane on Nov. 9 after striking the Bahamas. Hurricane Nicole made landfall as a Category 1 storm south of Cape Canaveral, Florida, on Nov. 10.

Significant impacts were felt along the east coast of Florida as hurricaneforce winds, heavy rain and high surf

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Although Hurricane Melissa slammed into Jamaica on Oct. 28, many in the northern Gulf of Mexico feel safe from hurricanes going into November. However, history shows us hurricanes can strike the U.S. in November.

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