



College football’s most polarizing teams for 2026

SPORTS, 1B

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A Flock camera surveils an area at the intersection of George Street and North Street in Jackson on Aug. 19.
AYRTON BRECKENRIDGE/CLARION LEDGER

FLOCK CAMERAS ALL OVER MS, JACKSON

Mary Evans
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USA TODAY NETWORK

“No cop, no stop,” the old saying goes.

At an empty intersection, rolling through a stop sign might seem like a risk worth taking. But in parts of the Jackson metro area, drivers may be recorded even when no police officer is nearby.

Flock Safety cameras are perched around intersections, roads and other locations and can capture license plates

and other characteristics of passing vehicles. Law enforcement agencies can then use that information to locate vehicles or aid an investigation.

Flock Safety, an Atlanta-based surveillance company, provides automated license plate readers (ALPRs) which have been on the receiving end of public backlash for months over concerns around mass surveillance and privacy.

Privacy advocates have raised concerns about how much information these systems collect and how law enforcement agencies have been using it.

On Thursday, Aug. 13, Flock Safety

announced that officers have been running searches not tied to law enforcement investigations, including stalking and harassment, as reported by USA Today. There have been no cases of this confirmed in Mississippi.

Here’s what to know about Flock Safety cameras in Mississippi.

What is a Flock camera?

Flock Safety is a private surveillance company based in Atlanta that

See CAMERAS, Page 4A

Why Kamario Taylor thought MSU dream was crushed soon after commit

Sam Sklar
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STARKVILLE — Kamario Taylor was at Noxubee County High School three years ago for what seemed like a regular November school day in his junior year.

Except Taylor had been feeling down lately.

Mississippi State football fired coach Zach Arnett two weeks prior. Taylor grew up as a Bulldogs fan, so playing quarterback for them was a life-long dream.

But with the coaching change less than one year into Arnett’s first season, there were doubts that dream would be fulfilled just one month after Taylor committed to MSU.

Would the new coach, Jeff Lebby, still want Taylor at Mississippi State? Would Taylor have to find a new team?

See TAYLOR, Page 4A



Kamario Taylor as a child, left, with his younger brother Jayytee, right. The two of them are now teammates and roommates at Mississippi State.
PROVIDED BY LAQUANDRA CONNER

Man faces charges in ‘sextortion’ suicide case

Pam Dankins and Ross Reily
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The U.S. Attorney’s Office for the Northern District of Mississippi, the FBI and the Mississippi Attorney General’s Office announced on Friday, Aug. 28 that a man was extradited from Nigeria to the United States to face charges in the sextortion death of 16-year-old Walker Montgomery of Starkville.

Authorities said Adebola Festus Adekunle, 26 of Lagos, Nigeria, was arraigned Friday in Oxford before Magistrate Judge Jane M. Virden in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Mississippi.

Mongtomery’s family, speaking exclusively to the Clarion Ledger, said the arrest brings “lots of emotions.”

A three-count federal indictment shows Adekunle was charged with the sexual exploitation of a minor resulting in death, coercion and enticement of a minor and sextortion of a minor.

Montgomery was a 16-year-old sophomore at Starkville Academy in Starkville when on Nov. 28, 2022, he was contacted via his Instagram account by user janet_dashay, who claimed to be a 19-year-old female from Greensboro, North Carolina.

Court records state the user of the janet_dashay Instagram account was identified as Adekunle.

According to the indictment, on Dec. 1, 2022, Adekunle asked

See CHARGES, Page 2A

Supreme Court says ballroom can proceed

Maureen Groppe
USA TODAY

WASHINGTON – The Supreme Court on Aug. 31 cleared the way for President Donald Trump to continue construction on his \$400 million White House ballroom, a major win for Trump’s controversial effort to make over Washington landmarks.

Acting on an emergency appeal from the administration, a divided court said a federal judge wrongly paused the project until a legal fight could be resolved.

In an unsigned opinion, a majority of the justices said the administration is likely to win its argument that the group suing to stop construction cannot show its been sufficiently harmed.

Chief Justice John Roberts joined the court’s three liberal justices in dissent, calling the construction “likely unlawful” and the potential harms real.

A majority of the justices said they

See BALLROOM, Page 2A

