

Alabama JUCO football study may boost Mississippi recruiting, 1B

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Man guilty in bar shooting, gets life sentence

BY MARGARET BAKER
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Charles Ike Mason IV waited until he was outside the County Line Bar in rural Jackson County before grabbing a shotgun and firing into the bar after being thrown out for his behavior,

according to witness testimony. The shooting happened March 9, 2024, after Mason and a friend, Jesse Donovan Holifield, both of Lucedale, went to the bar on Highway 613, just south of the George County line. Holifield is charged as an accessory after the fact to the crime. At some point, Mason, 24, ini-

tiated a fight with another customer after singing karaoke. Defense attorney Dustin Thomas described the altercation as a melee, with multiple “regulars” involved. “While this was certainly a tragedy, this was not first-degree murder,” Thomas said. “It certainly was not.”



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Charles Ike Mason IV appears in court Tuesday.

Mason was then thrown out of the bar, went to his car, retrieved a shotgun and began firing, according to testimony.

State medical examiner, Dr. Staci Turner, testified that the

SEE LIFE SENTENCE, 3A

Parrain's Jambalaya Kitchen to relocate after closure

BY MARY PEREZ
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Conditions of the building that housed Parrain's Jambalaya Kitchen in downtown Biloxi since 2019 forced the owner to close it Saturday, and she went to her customers to ask what she should do next.

Brandi Babin gave them two choices: Should she relocate to another building in South Mississippi, or ship dishes to customers to heat and eat?

A heavy majority of the more than 150 comments on Facebook asked for a new Coast location, although some said they liked both ideas.

The outpouring from the public made her realize, “I have something here I really shouldn't let die,” Babin said.

“The people have spoken,” she said, as she quickly began seeking restaurant spaces in D'Iberville and Ocean Springs. One of the spots she's considering has the bonus of a takeout window, she said.

She's looking to reopen as early as June 1 and already is advertising for help. Tara Sandberg, a popular waitress at their Biloxi restaurant, will return as the new manager and do the hiring.

AUTHENTIC CAJUN AND CREOLE FOOD

One thing that won't change much is the menu, which features favorite recipes from Gon-

SEE KITCHEN, 3A



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Courtez Tyler poses for a portrait in front of white walking canes at the Mississippi EMERGE Center in Long Beach on April 21, 2026.

Brain tumor leaves Gulfport man mostly blind

BY ANITA LEE
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In 2023, Courtez Tyler noticed his vision was darkening. Maybe, he thought, he was leaving his contacts in too long.

He went to see his eye doctor, who discovered bleeding behind Tyler's eyes and sent

him to a retina specialist. After checking Tyler's scans, the retina specialist advised his patient to get to an emergency room, where a CT scan revealed a brain tumor. He was then transferred to a Louisiana hospital that had a neurosurgeon.

“It was a shock to me,” Tyler said. “All my emotions didn't

come then and there. They came later on.”

Only in his late 20s, he thought he might die. But the tumor was a benign neurocytoma. He was at home recovering from surgery when he woke up one morning and walked into the room where his father was watching television. The room was so dark, Tyler thought the

blinds were closed. They were not.

Unable to see, Tyler spent a week in the hospital, to no avail. His sight was mostly gone from damage the tumor had caused.

“My mind was scrambling around,” said Tyler, now 31. “Where would I go from there?”

Tyler wondered, would he be able to work? Would he have to accept government assistance? “I don't like to sit around,” he said. “I like to be productive.”

SEE BRAIN TUMOR, 3A

Trump hits EU with new auto tariffs; troop threats shake NATO

BY GABE WHISNANT
Newsweek

President Donald Trump on Friday escalated tensions with the European Union by announcing new tariffs on imported European cars and trucks, a

move that came as his administration simultaneously revived the threat of a partial U.S. troop withdrawal from Europe-raising fresh concerns inside NATO about Washington's long-term commitment to the alliance.

In a post on Truth Social, Trump said tariffs on EU-made

vehicles would rise to 25 percent starting next week, accusing the bloc of failing to comply with the transatlantic trade deal announced last summer. The president argued the move would push automakers to relocate production to the United States, saying vehicles built in

U.S. plants would not face duties. The White House has framed the tariffs as part of a broader push to rebalance trade and boost domestic manufacturing.

Trump posted, “I am pleased to announce that, based on the fact the European Union is not complying with our fully agreed to Trade Deal, next week I will be increasing Tariffs charged to the European Union for Cars and Trucks coming into the United States. The Tariff will be increased to 25%. It is fully

understood and agreed that, if they produce Cars and Trucks in U.S.A. Plants, there will be NO TARIFF. Many Automobile and Truck Plants are currently under construction, with over 100 Billion Dollars being invested, A RECORD in the History of Car and Truck Manufacturing. These Plants, staffed with American Workers, will be opening soon - There has never been anything like what is happening in America today! Thank

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