



Shelling out: The concha reigns supreme for its sweet taste, unique shape and low price. Here are 5 in N.J. you have to try for Hispanic Heritage Month. **H1**



SPORTS



Miami linebacker Mohamed Toure (1) signals to the crowd after a sack during the 2025 season. *Scott Schild, syracuse.com*

Why go pro? Former RU gridder hauls in \$1M in 8th college season.

NCAA’s new normal: N.J.-native embodies the dramatic shift toward older, highly paid players.

Kevin Armstrong *NJ.com*

When Mohamed Toure learned from his coaches at the University of Miami that he was allowed to return for another season of college football this year, Toure laughed. “How is that possible?” he said. In his mind, he had surely exhausted his eligibility. After all, the linebacker had started college at Rutgers in 2019, when gas was \$2.60 per gallon. He tore his left ACL, rehabilitated it, then re-tore the same ACL, rehabilitated it again and transferred to Miami. Last year, his team-best 84 tackles helped propel the Hurricanes to the national championship game, only to fall to an Indiana team powered by its own collection of fifth- and sixth-year seniors. Toure could have entered the NFL Draft. Instead, he chose another year at Miami, convinced he had more to prove and his body needed more time to heal. Now 25 and in his eighth — yes, eighth — season of college football, Toure is co-captain for No. 4-ranked Miami and an embodiment of how dramatically college sports has changed over the past decade, with players now older than ever and lingering well beyond the traditional four-year path. As the NCAA attempts to move toward an age-based model designed to cap players at five seasons over five years, Toure’s unique blend of experience and eligibility make him one of the game’s most coveted commodities. “The whole game has changed,” he says. While kids as young as fifth grade now reclassify, or repeat academic grades, to be as old as possible when seeking attention from recruiters in high school, college coaches place a premium on maturity. The list of elders deciding games is long, with players like Ole Miss quarterback Trinidad Chambliss, who is in his



New Jersey native and former Rutgers star Mohamed Toure, 25, is in his eighth season of college football, making roughly \$1 million. *Matt Kelley, Getty*

sixth year of college, and two University of Virginia linemen, Drake Metaf and Monroe Mills, who are in their seventh year, starring on rosters across the country. At Miami, Toure plays alongside Chase Smith, now in his sixth year, to form perhaps the oldest linebacker tandem in NCAA annals. “Mo is a very, very, very huge asset,” Smith says, then later adds. “We’re going to treat this year like the only thing we have in life.” When Toure’s career started, he filled out financial aid forms; today, he draws around a million dollars in compensation from Miami, drives a black Dodge Challenger SRT Hellcat and rents a three-bedroom, two bath house with an in-ground pool and turf field in the backyard. His son, Messiah, is six years old, and Mohamed’s academic obligations are minimal as a graduate student. To help his youngest brother, Sekou, a 15-year-old linebacker, Toure has moved him down from New Jersey to live with him so he can benefit from Toure’s newfound network and wealth. “I figured why not bring him out here?” Toure says. “The football is elite and there are a million resources.” But even one of Toure’s first coaches from youth football makes light of his elder status by likening him to a 41-year-old **SEE SPORTS, A5**

TRANSPORTATION

Coast Guard investigating N.J. ferry crash

Probe comes amid complaints since N.Y. Waterway took over.

Larry Higgs *NJ.com*

A commuter filed a request for the U.S. Coast Guard to investigate a Tuesday incident where an NY Waterway ferry hit a pier and continued on to New York. Commuter Dan Schulman said he reported the Tuesday incident to the Coast Guard because the ferry continued to New York, despite multiple windows that broke after the collision. “Seeing that the boat continued on, there was no report of an announcement, I knew something was wrong,” he said. “This was almost like a hit-and-run accident.” Based on his experience in construction project management and familiarity with OSHA regulations, Schulman said he assumed that the boat should have returned to port and passengers disembarked. “I cannot believe the vessel continued on its way,” he said. “I spoke to a woman yesterday afternoon who was on board when it happened, and she couldn’t believe the only thing the crew said was, ‘heck of a way to start the morning.’” He said the captain and crew should immediately have been removed from the vessel, sequestered and administered a drug and alcohol test. The U.S. Coast Guard should have been notified and appropriate state and local administration should have been notified, he said. Adam Pockriss, an NY Waterway **SEE FERRY, A2**

SOMERSET COUNTY

Mom demands answers after daycare death

Boy with cerebral palsy, 4, was limp in highchair, woman says.

Rebecca Heath *NJ.com*

A New Jersey mother is seeking answers after she says her 4-year-old son died under the care of a Hillsborough daycare. Shanya Robins, 28, of Hillsborough, said she received a call from Blooming Hearts Child Development Center on Aug. 14 that her son, Yasmir, was unresponsive. According to Fallon Stephenson, an attorney representing Robins, the daycare director called Robins at 11:42 a.m. When she arrived at about 12:05 p.m., she found Yasmir, who had cerebral palsy, limp in a highchair with food coming from his mouth. Robins took her son out of the highchair and realized he was not breathing, Stephenson said. She then instructed the daycare director to call 911, and CPR was started with assistance from the dispatcher, according to Stephenson. Yasmir was pronounced dead at a hospital the same day. Stephenson said there is no evidence that 911 was called or that CPR was started before Robins arrived. “Since that day, I have been searching for answers about what happened to my son and how his medical emergency was handled,” Robins said. In a Facebook post Monday, Robins **SEE DAYCARE, A2**