



## Memphis' Hardaway focused on trying to win, not his future

SPORTS, 1B

# The Jackson Sun

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Sgt. Karrie Hart poses with Deputy Chief Gary Benton, JPD Chief Thom Corley, and Deputy Chief Shane Beaver as she is awarded for her efforts during a hostage situation during the Jackson Police Department Awards Ceremony in Jackson on Feb. 10. PHOTOS BY JAMAR COACH/THE JACKSON SUN



Over 568,000 power outages were reported across the Northeast by the morning of Feb. 23, with most occurring in Massachusetts, New Jersey, Delaware and Maryland, according to poweroutage.us. PETER PEREIRA/NEW BEDFORD STANDARD-TIMES

## Winter storm pummels Northeast

### Cities report whiteouts, mass power outages

Christopher Cann, N’dea Yancey-Bragg, Dinah Voyles Pulver, Eduardo Cuevas, Doyle Rice and Brandi D. Addison  
USA TODAY NETWORK

NEW YORK – An intensifying winter storm pummeled the Northeast on Feb. 23, unleashing blizzard conditions that blanketed major cities in snow, brought travel to a standstill and caused mass power outages.

The powerful nor’easter dumped more than 2 feet of snow across much of the Eastern Seaboard by the afternoon. The weather service had received at least 22 preliminary reports of 24 inches of snow or more spanning a distance of nearly 200 miles, stretching from Freehold, New Jersey, to New Bedford, Massachusetts and Providence, Rhode Island.

More than 40 million people were under blizzard warnings from Maryland to Maine, as several states recorded hurricane-force winds. Blizzard conditions were verified in Teterboro, Newark and Islip, New Jersey; Westhampton, New York; Groton, New Haven and Bridgeport, Connecticut, according to the weather service. Meteorologists announced that the nor’easter had officially achieved “bomb cyclone” status.

New York City lifted a travel ban on Feb. 23 that had taken effect the night before, “but conditions on the roads remain icy,” said Mayor Zohran Mamdani

See **STORM**, Page 2A

# ‘They go above and beyond’ the norm

## Jackson police celebrates officers’ bravery, life-saving actions at ceremony

Sarah Best Jackson Sun | USA TODAY NETWORK – TENNESSEE

Highlighting agency and officers’ accomplishments over the last several years, the Jackson Police Department honored dozens of first responders at a recent awards ceremony.

A packed lobby of officers and supporters at the Carl Perkins Civic Center Feb. 10 celebrated the past year’s work and the first responder teams it took to make it happen.

Jackson Police Chief Thom Corley says JPD is a “wonderful organization, full of amazing people,” and that the awards are all given based on recommendations from peers like supervisors and fellow officers.

“Day in [and] day out, they’re doing things, not just the bare minimum, they go above and beyond that, and we have an opportunity to recognize that internally, but I think it’s important that we take time, at least once a year, to publicly

See **OFFICERS**, Page 5A



Officers Corey Compton, Garrett Ferguson, and Deena Morris are awarded for their efforts responding to a shooting at Fairmeadow Cove during the Jackson Police Department Awards Ceremony in Jackson on Feb. 10.

# SBC leaders say outcry, new budget signal less division

Liam Adams

Nashville Tennessean  
USA TODAY NETWORK – TENNESSEE

Southern Baptist leaders portrayed the future of the nation’s largest Protestant denomination as one less defined by factional rifts over abuse response, women pastors, and funding after years of debates that fueled administrative turmoil.

The Southern Baptist Convention’s

administrative arm, called the SBC Executive Committee, gathered Feb. 16-17 in Nashville, where the committee affirmed a significant funding change and the ouster of two churches.

The decisions touched on major debates within the Nashville-based denomination between different factions — a mainstream conservative group versus those who have sought to pull the convention further to the right. But SBC leaders pointed out at the recent Nash-

ville gathering there are signs this division is subsiding some.

“It’s good for us to be reminded we can walk in this room, and it is not doomsday,” SBC President Clint Pressley said in a Feb. 16 address.

Pressley, a North Carolina pastor, will conclude his second and final one-year term as the SBC’s top elected official after this year’s SBC annual meeting in June. The convention will vote at the upcoming Orlando gathering on a new

president. So far, Florida pastor Willy Rice and South Carolina pastor Josh Powell have entered the race.

In one recent example of Southern Baptist cohesion on a major political issue, Pressley highlighted the response from across the SBC to a protest at Cities Church in Minneapolis. The demonstration arose from claims that a pastor at Cities Church, an SBC-affiliated

See **SBC**, Page 2A

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