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NICK ZAMORA | SPARTAN DAILY

Hundreds of San Jose community members gather in mourning on Tenth and Reed streets Friday evening to memorialize Camdan McWright, an 18-year-old SJSU freshman football player who died that morning at the intersection. McWright was struck by a school bus while riding an electric scooter and was pronounced dead at the scene.

SJSU freshman football player Camdan McWright dies at 18

McWright struck and killed in collision with school bus while riding electric scooter

By Bryanna Bartlett
PRODUCTION EDITOR

Editor's note: this story has been updated since it was first published on <https://sjsunews.com/publication/spartan-daily> Friday.

Camdan McWright, San Jose State freshman football player, was struck and killed by a school bus Friday morning while riding an electric scooter, according to a Friday Mercury News article.

McWright, 18, was pronounced dead at the scene.

California Highway Patrol (CHP) Officer Ross Lee told the Bay Area News Group in its article that the San Jose Unified School District bus was carrying 14 students, none of whom sustained injuries, at the time of collision.

Lee said the bus was heading eastbound on Reed Street while McWright was traveling northbound on Tenth Street, where the collision occurred at 6:51 a.m., according to the Mercury News article.

According to a traffic surveillance video posted on Twitter Friday afternoon by Damian Trujillo, NBC Bay Area News reporter, the school bus was passing through the intersection of Reed and Tenth streets with a green light at the time of the collision.

The area was blocked off for several hours as San Jose Police Department (SJPD) officers asked civilians to avoid the area. It was cleared at 11:22 a.m. Friday.

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He was a beautiful soul and he will be dearly missed. He had a beautiful smile and always made everyone happy and always made everyone smile, thank you everyone for showing up.

Diane Kabukuru
SJSU student and best friend of McWright

Community members gather in mourning at accident scene, 2 blocks from SJSU

By Nick Zamora
STAFF WRITER

A candlelight vigil was held Friday night for Camdan McWright, an 18-year-old San Jose State football player who died earlier that morning in a traffic accident on Tenth and Reed streets.

McWright, who was from Los Angeles, was on his way to a workout at South Campus Friday when he was struck by a school bus with 14 kids on board at 6:51 a.m., according to a Friday NBC News article.

McWright was riding a Lime electric scooter northbound on Tenth Street through a green light, when he collided with the San Jose Unified School District bus, according to a Friday Mercury News article. He was pronounced dead at the scene.

Diane Kabukuru, SJSU student and best friend of McWright, attended the vigil in mourning along with several of McWright's teammates and coaches to say goodbye.

"He was a beautiful soul and he will be dearly missed," Kabukuru said. "He had a beautiful smile and always made everyone happy and always made everyone smile, thank you everyone for showing up."

Soon after news broke of the fatal incident, Director of Athletics Jeff Konya announced in a statement that the scheduled away game against New Mexico State in Las Cruces Saturday would be postponed.

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SJSU HOMECOMING 2022
OCTOBER 24-29

Homecoming brings together current students, faculty, and staff and welcomes alumni back to campus in celebration of Spartan Pride at San José State University.
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View the full schedule at:
go.sjsu.edu/Homecoming22

SJSU | STUDENT AFFAIRS



PHOTOS BY NICK ZAMORA | SPARTAN DAILY

Freshman linebacker Justin Stearns (right) puts his arm around Diane Kabukuru, SJSU student and best friend of McWright, as she addresses the media on Friday evening.

VIGIL

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Konya stated in light of recent events the game will be rescheduled for later in the season and thanked New Mexico State's football program for being accommodating at this time.

The vigil started around 6 p.m. with hundreds of attendees gathering on campus.

The crowd then marched down Tenth Street, escorted by a San Jose Police Department vehicle, toward the site of the incident.

Attendees gathered in a circle around about 30 prayer candles and memorabilia in honor of McWright.

SJPD closed down the intersection for two blocks in all directions to accommodate the crowd.

The collection of candles that the crowd faced was on the southeast corner of the intersection with the closest circle of people around the candles being predominantly teammates and those closest to McWright.

Several football players declined to speak to the Spartan Daily.

Engineering freshman Khoa Nguyen said he remembers seeing McWright around his dorm floor. After and after he received a text from his father about the vigil, he felt he should go.

"I was just shocked," Nguyen said. "I didn't know him personally but a lot of my friends knew him, I knew his face and I'd seen him on my floor."

The SJSU athletic community was a large portion of those in attendance, which included Jeff Konya and Interim President Steve Perez.

"I think it's very important



Candles, flowers and wooden letters "CAM" could be seen around a tree on the southeast corner of Tenth and Reed streets Friday evening.

for the community to come together and assist the grieving process," Konya said. "I think it's a show of solidarity and shows just how close-knit San Jose State is as a community."

McWright's death was one of many pedestrian deaths this year in San Jose.

This year is on pace to be a record year for pedestrian

deaths in San Jose with SJPD tallying 28 pedestrian fatalities so far, according to an Oct. 14 KTVU article.

Since 2015, the city has been addressing pedestrian and bicycle collisions and injuries through its Vision Zero Network, which aims to eliminate traffic deaths by enhancing roadway safety with

new measures, according to the Vision Zero Network website.

As many as 30 people died in pedestrian or bicycle related traffic collisions in 2021, according to Vision Zero's Maps and Data webpage.

Despite legislative initiatives, communities are left to deal with the loss of loved ones.

"What I'm exceptionally

proud of is the coming together of the community to support each other," Perez said. "That's the only way that we get through times like this is leaning on each other and this is a special community where people care about each other."

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INCIDENT

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McWright was in his first season for the Spartans and was previously a running back for St. Genevieve High School in Los Angeles, near Sylmar – his hometown.

Sky Kerstein, SJSU assistant athletics director for communications and broadcasting, stated in an email Friday morning that the university will continue to work cooperatively with

SJPD, CHP, UPD, SJSU Student Affairs and SJSU Athletics in the aftermath of his death.

Head coach Brent Brennan was quoted in Kerstein's statement, in which he spoke on McWright's death.

"Camdan had a bright future ahead of him and everyone in this community that had the opportunity to spend time with him knew that," Brennan said. "We are still trying to deal with the news of this tragedy, and appreciate everyone's support during these difficult times."

He said the team's thoughts and prayers are with the McWright family.

"I want them to know we are all here for them," Brennan said. "Camdan will always be in our hearts and he will be profoundly missed."

Kerstein said counselors will be available to students and student-athletes through Counseling and Psychological Services in the Student Wellness Center to assist them in dealing with McWright's death.

The football team was expected to leave Friday morning around 11 a.m.

for its game in Las Cruces, New Mexico Saturday, but Kerstein stated in a Friday afternoon campuswide email that the game had officially been postponed.

The game is expected to be rescheduled sometime this season.

Members of the SJSU community held a candlelight vigil Friday evening at the scene of the incident starting at 6 p.m. to honor and pay respects to McWright.

Follow Bryanna on Twitter @brybartlett