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ELECTIONS '24

Safeguards in place as polls set to open

Bulletproof glass, panic buttons, police presence reflect rising tensions

By KELLI SMITH and ARIA JONES
Staff Writers

In Rockwall County, each of Chris Lynch's election workers have panic buttons at their desks.

The elections administrator brought in the devices about two years ago in case of an emergency. The office

door — which used to stay open — is also now locked, allowing officials to vet each person they allow inside.

"If you're not vigilant 24/7/365, you're really not doing your job," Lynch said. "I tell the folks — I've got four ladies that work for me — it's like, 'Hey, you don't know when crazy is coming through that door.' We've all got to have a heightened sense of awareness."

Across the nation, counties are

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INSIDE

MILLIONS in North Texas vote early with few problems. **5A**

GROMER JEFFERS JR.: Cruz-Allred race could be a barometer of how firm a grip Republicans have on Texas. **1B**

ONLINE Get a deeper look at the issues at play. dallasnews.com/ballot

Gender gap in play for Trump, Harris

Candidates fight for margins, try to win over split households

By MAEVE RESTON and SABRINA RODRIGUEZ
The Washington Post

On a recent Sunday, Janet Bethune left church just in time to catch a glimpse of for-

mer President Bill Clinton campaigning for Kamala Harris in her hometown of Rocky Mount, N.C. The 77-year-old independent, who is firmly backing the vice president, brought along a reluctant companion — her 85-year-old husband, Dick, a lifelong Republican proudly supporting Donald Trump.

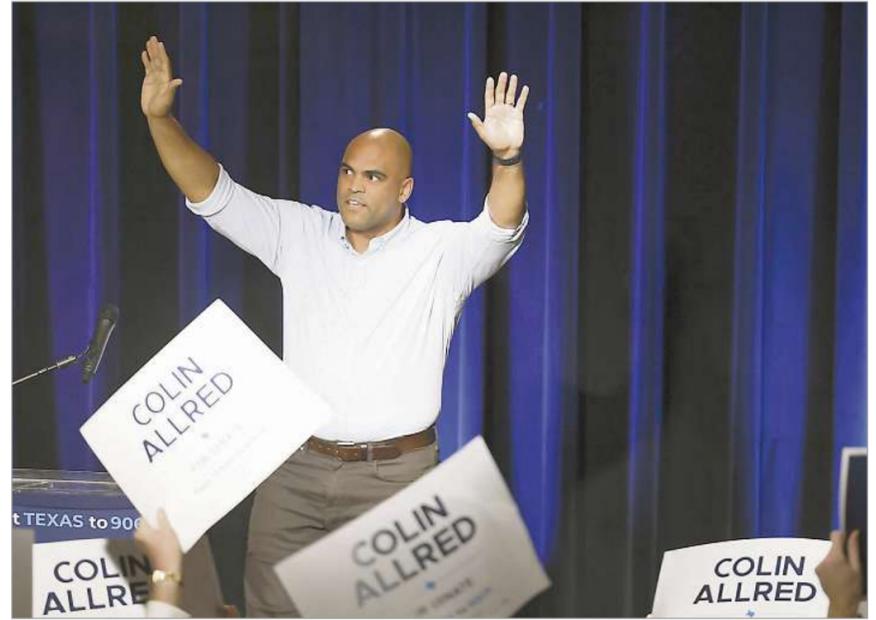
The Bethunes are a house divided — one of many in America in an election that has been defined by a cavernous gender gap. Since entering the race this summer, Harris has maintained a wide lead among women, bolstered by the anger many of them feel about the

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Photos by Shafkat Anowar/Staff Photographer

Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, spoke to members of the press following a rally at Haggard Party Barn in Plano on Friday. Cruz said voters should "keep Texas, Texas" by reelecting him.



U.S. Rep. Colin Allred, D-Dallas, waved to the crowd during a rally at the Kessler Theater in Oak Cliff on Saturday. Allred argued Cruz is too small-minded for a state as big as Texas.

Cruz, Allred air final arguments

Abortion, immigration top issues as rivals wrap up tight Senate race

By JOSEPH MORTON
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Republican incumbent Ted Cruz and Democratic challenger Colin Allred returned to the Dallas area to make their closing arguments in the final days of Texas' red-hot U.S. Senate race.

Cruz fired up supporters Friday at a Plano "party barn" where the walls were covered in old-timey memorabilia. Cruz said voters should "keep Texas, Texas" by

backing conservative policies he said are inspiring a steady stream of businesses and residents to move to the state.

Allred is a liberal masquerading as a moderate, Cruz said, who would undermine the policies driving that success.

The next day at the iconic Kessler Theater in Oak Cliff, Allred rallied his side by telling supporters Cruz is too small-minded and self-interested for a state as big as Texas. Allred vowed to work across the aisle and blamed Cruz for women who

suffered or died after being denied medically necessary abortions.

Voters will decide Tuesday whether to send Cruz back for a third six-year term or replace him with Allred, who would be the state's first Black senator and the first Democrat elected to statewide office in 30 years. Public polling indicates Allred is running closely behind Cruz in a race that has generated national interest.

See **ALLRED** Page 5A

The pain of defeat

Cowboys quarterback Dak Prescott

(left) and wide receiver CeeDee Lamb walked off the field in Atlanta after losing to the Falcons 27-21 on Sunday. Both players suffered injuries in the game. Prescott left in the fourth quarter with a hamstring injury, and Lamb played through a shoulder injury. (Coverage, SportsDay)



Elias Valverde II/Staff Photographer

TRANSPORTATION

Greyhound to move main terminal to Harry Hines

Relocation could help bus line expand routes for Dallas, CEO says

By AMBER GAUDET
Staff Writer
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Intercity bus service Greyhound will relocate its main terminal to Harry Hines Boulevard when the lease extension on its downtown station expires in April.

The national bus company, owned by Flix, will soon

break ground on the new station near Dallas Area Rapid Transit's Bachman Station. The new location is expected to open in mid-2025 and will allow the company to eventually expand routes to and from Dallas, CEO Kadir Boysan said.

The goal is to keep the service provider's main Dallas terminal near public transit.

"The Dallas bus station is a major hub for us in the southwestern United States

and its continued operation is absolutely critical for the national network, so we'll make sure that we continue operations," Boysan said. "When we bring up our new terminal ... we will be able to actually serve a higher number of schedules and provide more options to passengers who are residents of D-FW or visitors to the D-FW region."

The lease on the down-

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Showers, thunderstorms



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METRO

Singer shot while signing autographs

A singer was in stable condition after being shot Saturday while signing autographs at The Black Academy of Arts and Letters in downtown Dallas. A suspect was arrested and a handgun was recovered, police said. **1B**

If it felt warm in October, it's because it was

The Dallas-Fort Worth area had its warmest October since the National Weather Service began record keeping in 1898. The area's monthly average temperature was 75.7 degrees, according to weather data. **2B**

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Nation & World

NEWS DIGEST

Bolivia's ex-president keeps up hunger strike

LAUCAN, Bolivia — Bolivia's transformative and divisive former President Evo Morales said Sunday he would press on with a hunger strike until the government of his protégé-turned-rival agreed to a political dialogue. His act of dissent aims to defuse street protests that have paralyzed the nation in recent weeks over what Morales' supporters condemn as his political persecution.

Morales, a larger-than-life figure still towering over Bolivian politics five years after his fraught ouster, spoke on his third day without food from the tropics of Chapare, Bolivia's rural coca-growing region that serves as his stronghold.

Tensions have risen in the last three weeks since pro-Morales supporters set up crippling roadblocks aimed at rebuking President Luis Arce — Morales' former economy minister with whom he's vying to lead Bolivia's governing socialist party into 2025 elections.

Protesters have choked off major highways in defiance of an attempt by Arce's government to revive a 2016 statutory rape case against Morales, an ethnic Aymara who was the first member of an Indigenous community to become president of Latin America's only Indigenous-majority nation.

Morales has denied wrongdoing. *The Associated Press*

Moldova's pro-Western president is reelected

CHISINAU, Moldova — Moldova's pro-Western President Maia Sandu has won a second term in a presidential runoff against a Russia-friendly rival, in a race that was overshadowed by claims of Russian interference, voter fraud and intimidation in the European Union candidate country.

With nearly 99% of votes counted in the second round of the presidential election held Sunday, Sandu had 55% of the vote, according to the Central Electoral Commission, or CEC, compared to 45% for Alexandr Stoianoglo, a former prosecutor general who was backed by the pro-Russia Party of Socialists. *The Associated Press*

'Venom' courses to top of weekend box office

Venom: The Last Dance enjoyed another weekend at the top of the box office. The Sony release starring Tom Hardy added \$26.1 million in ticket sales, according to studio estimates Sunday. In two weeks, the movie has made over \$90 million domestically.

Weekend charts were dominated by big studio holdovers, like *Venom*, *The Wild Robot* and *Smile 2*, while audiences roundly rejected the Tom Hanks, Robin Wright and Robert Zemeckis reunion *Here*, which, 30 years after *Forrest Gump*, opened to only \$5 million. *The Associated Press*

MIDDLE EAST

Israel says it seized Syrian man

First ground raid in country targeted an alleged Iranian agent

By MELANIE LIDMAN and SAM MAGDY
The Associated Press

JERUSALEM — The Israeli military said Sunday it has carried out a ground raid into Syria, seizing a Syrian citizen involved in Iranian networks. It was the first time in the current war that Israel announced its troops operated in Syrian territory.

Israel has carried out airstrikes in Syria multiple times over the last year, targeting members of Lebanon's Hezbollah and officials from Iran, the close ally of both Hezbollah and Syria. But it has not previously made public any ground forays into Syria.

The Israeli military said the seizure was part of a special operation "that took place in recent months," though it did not say exactly when it occurred. Syria didn't immediately confirm the announcement, but a pro-government Syrian radio station, Sham FM, reported Sunday that Israeli forces car-

ried out a "kidnapping operation" over the summer targeting a man in the south of the country.

The disclosure of the raid comes as Israel has waged an escalated campaign of bombardment in Lebanon for the last six weeks, as well as a ground invasion along the countries' shared border, vowing to cripple Hezbollah. On Saturday, an Israeli military official said naval forces carried out a raid in a northern Lebanese town, seizing a man they called a senior Hezbollah operative.

Details on man

The army identified the man it seized as Ali Soleiman al-Assi, saying he lives in the southern Syrian region of Saïda. It said the man had been under military surveillance for many months and was involved in Iranian initiatives targeting areas of the Israeli-annexed Golan Heights near the border with Syria.

Body-camera footage of the raid released by the army showed soldiers seizing a man in a white tank top inside a

IN THE KNOW

Iranian-American journalist believed held

An Iranian-American journalist who once worked for a U.S. government-funded broadcaster is believed to have been detained by Iran for months now, authorities said Sunday, further raising the stakes as Tehran threatens to retaliate over an Israeli attack on the country. The imprisonment of Reza Valizadeh, acknowledged to The Associated Press by the U.S. State Department, came as Iran marked the 45th anniversary of the American Embassy takeover and hostage crisis on Sunday. It also followed Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei threatening both Israel and the U.S. the day before with "a crushing response" as long-range B-52 bombers reached the Middle East in an attempt to deter Tehran. *The Associated Press*

building. The man was brought to Israel for interrogation, the military said.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu visited the border with Lebanon on Sunday, saying his focus was trying to keep Hezbollah from rearming itself through the "oxygen lifeline" of Iranian weapons transferred to Lebanon via Syria.

Israel's strikes in Lebanon have killed more than 2,500 people over the last year. In Israel, 69 people have been killed by Hezbollah projectiles.

Meanwhile, Israeli forces continued an offensive in the northern Gaza Strip, where the

military has said it is battling Hamas fighters who regrouped there.

Shell fire hit Kamal Adwan Hospital in northern Gaza, injuring patients, including children, the hospital's director, Hossam Abu Safiya said in a statement to the media. He said the shells hit the hospital's nursery, dormitory and water tanks, just after a delegation from the World Health Organization ended a visit.

Kamal Adwan and two other nearby hospitals have been hit by Israel several times amid the fighting. Earlier this month, Israeli troops stormed Kamal Adwan, detaining a

large number of people, including much of the staff, Abu Safiya said at the time of the raid. The military said those detained included members of Hamas, without providing evidence, and said weapons were found in the facility.

Southern Gaza strike

In southern Gaza, an Israeli strike hit a group of people gathered outside in an eastern district of Khan Younis, killing at least eight Palestinians, including four children and a woman, the territory's Health Ministry's emergency services said.

Northern Gaza has been encircled by Israeli forces and largely isolated for the last year. Israel has been carrying out another offensive there in recent weeks that has killed hundreds of people and displaced tens of thousands.

The war began on Oct. 7, 2023, when Hamas-led militants stormed into southern Israel, killing some 1,200 people and abducting 250. Israel's offensive has killed over 43,000 Palestinians, according to Gaza health authorities.

SPAIN

Flood survivors hurl mud at royals

Residents outraged at officials with needs left unmet, 205 dead

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PAIPORTA, Spain — A crowd of enraged survivors hurled clots of mud left by storm-spawned flooding at the Spanish royal couple on Sunday during their first visit to the epicenter of their nation's deadliest natural disaster in living memory.

Spain's national broadcaster reported the barrage included rocks and other objects and that two bodyguards were treated for injuries. One could be seen with a wound on his forehead.

It was an unprecedented incident for a royal house that carefully crafts the image of monarchs adored by their country of more than 48 million people.

Spanish fury has been unleashed against a state that appears overwhelmed and unable to meet the needs of people used to living under an effective government.

Officials also rushed Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez from the scene soon after his contingent started to walk the mud-covered streets of one of the hardest-hit areas, where over 60 people died. The disaster fueled by climate change killed at least 205 in eastern Spain.



Carlos Luján/Europa Press



David Melero/The Associated Press

Above: Spain's Queen Letizia, in front of Spain's King Felipe VI, spoke Sunday with a woman affected by the floods in Paiporta, Spain. **Left:** Angry survivors confront the king Felipe VI in Paiporta.

OKLAHOMA

Tornadoes, storms hurt at least 11

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

OKLAHOMA CITY — Severe storms and tornadoes battered Oklahoma early Sunday, tossing cars and ripping roofs off buildings in the middle of the night and leaving tens of thousands of homes and businesses without power. Among numerous injuries, 11 people required hospitalization, officials said.

Much of the damage occurred in and around the state capital, Oklahoma City, near the state's center, although there were reports of damage around the state and early morning storms set off tornado warnings that extended south to the Arkansas line. Heavy rains caused flash flooding in some areas and one lightning-sparked house fire was reported.

More than 99,000 Oklahoma homes and businesses lost power during the overnight storms. By midday that number was reduced to fewer than 34,000. No fatalities had been reported as of midday.

Richard Thompson, a forecast chief for the National Weather Service, said he believes six or more tornadoes hit the state overnight.

In Choctaw, east of Oklahoma City, Mayor Chad Alcox said a neighborhood had been leveled. Debris hindered search-and-rescue efforts, he said.

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Fencing set up at White House, VP home

Businesses, residents worry about potential for repeat of post-election violence

By SPENCER S. HSU
The Washington Post

Rings of new security fencing enveloped the White House, U.S. Capitol and Vice President Kamala Harris' residence on Sunday as federal and District authorities braced for potential unrest in Washington after Tuesday's presidential election.

For weeks, D.C. officials have sent messages of reassurance to residents and businesses still scarred by damage incurred during some 2020 racial justice and post-election protests. Authorities know of no credible threats, Washington's police chief said at a news conference, adding there is "no need for any alarm."

Still, signs of caution proliferated this weekend, as the Secret Service erected new, 8-foot-high metal fences around the White House and Treasury Department complex, and adjacent parts of Lafayette Square, as well as outside the Naval Observatory grounds and Harris' residence.

The Capitol reintroduced temporary bicycle-rack barriers posted with signs stating, "Police Line: Do not cross," surrounding its perimeter. The agency also is installing physical security measures outside the West Palm Beach, Fla., convention center where Donald Trump will hold his election-night party, not far from his residence at Mar-a-Lago.

"The Secret Service is working closely with federal, state and local partners in Washington, D.C., and Palm Beach County, Florida to ensure heightened levels of Election Day safety and security," the agency said Sunday. "These enhancements are not in response to any specific issue but are part of wide ranging public safety preparations for Tuesday's election."

As authorities worked to fortify public assets, some business and property owners braced for the worst, surging private security, shoring up street-level windows and entrances, and finalizing contingency plans in anticipation of possible looting or rioting. Owners of commercial buildings near the White House boarded up or added fencing outside

businesses and shops, with business association leaders saying they would rather overprepare than sustain damage in the event of street violence, although District officials have said there is no need to cover windows.

"There is concern around the city. We're not expecting full-fledged pandemonium like we saw after Jan. 6," said Eric Jones, vice president of government affairs for the Apartment and Office Building Association of Metropolitan Washington, whose members own 76 million square feet of commercial office space and about 110,000 apartment units in the District.

"Honestly, it's just fear," Jones said, adding some retailers far removed from downtown worry about opportunistic looting with police attention focused elsewhere. "People would rather be overprepared and have nothing happen, as opposed to the alternative."

All eligible 3,300 D.C. police officers will work 12-hour shifts with most leave canceled through at least the election, Police Chief Pamela Smith said last week.

Winning over other gender key in race

Continued from Page 1A

GOP's assault on abortion rights and the fall of Roe vs. Wade, which had protected abortion rights in America for 50 years before it was overturned in 2022. Trump, who has run a campaign infused with pugnacity and machismo, is doing far better among men — and his advisers have mapped a path to victory that relies on turning out younger men who have traditionally been more infrequent voters.

Polling findings

Janet Bethune is supporting Harris in part because of the rollback of abortion rights during Trump's presidency. But Dick Bethune believes that Trump is better equipped to improve the economy. The couple's starkly different views have made it difficult to navigate this election cycle, but they have settled on a system to avoid arguments.

"We mute the TV when the political ads come on," Janet Bethune said. "We want to stay friendly. We've been married 53 years, so we want to keep it that way."

A *Washington Post* average of October national polls shows Harris leading by an average of 11 points among women while Trump leads by 10 points among men — a 21-point gap in the vote margin. That's roughly on par with 2020 and 2016 national exit polls. Biden in 2020 won women by 15 while Trump won men by 8 (a net 23-point gap); while in 2016, Hillary Clinton won women by 13 and Trump won men by 11 (a 24-point gap).

Those findings suggest that this cycle's gender gap may end up within historical norms. But some Democrats believe that the polling — which is based on differing assumptions about turnout that factor in patterns from previous election results — may not adequately account for the strong reaction to the Supreme Court's decision striking down Roe.

One advantage for Harris as she tries to assemble a winning coalition is that women make up a larger share of the electorate than men. But the Harris and Trump campaigns have doubled down on efforts to improve their standing with the gender that they are weakest with in recent weeks.

"The formula is very clear: Harris has to win women by more than she loses men, and she has to make sure they turn out to vote," said Celinda Lake, a veteran Democratic pollster, noting the campaign's efforts to fire up younger women who have been less reliable voters. "Trump has to win men by more than he loses women — and make sure the men turn out to vote." The size of the gender gap is difficult to predict because it will depend heavily on whether the lower-propensity voters that both campaigns are counting on to win turn out in greater numbers than they have in past elections. In early voting data, a Harris campaign official said Thursday that women are turning out at a higher clip than men, making up about 55% of early voters across the battleground states.

Learning from the past

Amy Walter, the publisher and editor in chief of the *Cook Political Report*, noted that the gender gap is tracking fairly close to where it was in 2016 during the Clinton-Trump face-off. But one of Harris' biggest challenges is that she is running as much as 5 points behind Biden's 2020 showing with men, Walter said.

"If there were a humongous gender gap benefiting Harris right now, she would be leading in all of the states," Walter said. "But when you're talking about a race that is going to be decided on the margins, just improving by a few points is the whole ballgame. Does it mean we're actually looking at a massive realignment of our gender politics? I don't know — but it's certainly a part of the [Harris] strategy given that women are a bigger percent of the electorate."

As both candidates try to address their weaknesses with the opposite gender, "It's like whack-a-mole," Lake said. "As you maximize your male vote, do you alienate women? And as you maximize your female vote, do you risk alienating men? They both have turnout issues — and they're both gearing a lot of their campaigning toward their base — because they know that some of the voters that each of them is relying on to take them over the top do not necessarily have that regular vote history."

Since Clinton's 2016 loss, Democrats have focused on shoring up their support among non-college-educated white women — in part by ensuring they do not need to feel compelled to vote the same way as their husbands — and they are trying to persuade them to back Democrats to protect reproductive rights. On the flip side, because Harris is doing better than expected among college-educated voters — men and women — Republicans are trying to prevent college-educated men from voting the same way as their wives.

Different approaches

White voters with college degrees favor Harris by an average of 15 percentage points over Trump, according to five high-quality national polls in October, larger than Biden's eight-point advantage in 2020, according to an average of exit polling, AP VoteCast and Pew's validated voter survey.

Within that college-educated demographic, Lake said: "Their wives are telling them, 'I don't know how you can possibly consider voting for someone who would give your daughter fewer rights than we had.' While the men are saying, 'I just don't know who is better on the economy and right for the future.' So it's been really interesting to see that dynamic."

At this late stage, Janet and Dick Bethune are both firmly set on their choices. Janet said in an interview that she believes Trump has "brought meanness into the political scene."

"Never in America have we heard candidates call the opposing person a slut or mentally incompetent," she said, adding that she can't understand how voters can continue to support Trump given his refusal to accept the 2020 election results, his conduct before and during the Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the Capitol and the fact that "he's a convicted felon" who is "clearly running to stay out of jail," she said.

But her husband, she acknowledged, "has not yet seen the light."

Dick Bethune rejects his wife's arguments — including her view that Trump, 78, has deteriorated mentally since 2016 and that he is too old for the job: "Oh no, he's not," he said, as his wife left the Bill Clinton event in Rocky Mount carrying a Harris-Walz lawn sign. "He is the greatest."

Appealing to the margins

Trump has taken a scattershot approach to courting female voters, many of whom he has alienated with insults, race-baiting rhetoric and his boasting about his central role in overturning Roe. He has employed a dual-pronged strategy to win them back. Many of his campaign ads are aimed at motivating female voters through the politics of fear — warning that a Harris presidency will bring a wave of violent criminals across the border putting Americans at risk in their own homes. He has also made elaborate promises aimed at women, like his vow to force insurance companies or the government to cover expensive infertility treatments.

At a rally in Green Bay, Wis., on Wednesday, Trump once again described himself as a "protector" of women, noting that some of his advisers said the line was "inappropriate." But Trump dismissed those concerns: "Whether the women like it or not, I'm going to protect them," he said.

To address her shortfall among male voters, Harris refashioned some of her economic policies and her wealth-building agenda to try to sway younger men, who are impressed by Trump's wealth and his background as a businessman. Her campaign has also deployed popular surrogates like former President Barack Obama and Dallas entrepreneur Mark Cuban to argue that Trump's business career has been more defined by failure than success.

The Harris campaign also embarked on an intensive effort to court men — especially men of color in the battleground states — through smaller gatherings and policy roundtables. Actors like Don Cheadle, Delroy Lindo and Cornelius Smith Jr. have joined her for intimate conversations where she outlined her "opportunity agenda for Black men."

Meanwhile, the Bethunes, agreeing to disagree, both have different predictions for Tuesday's election outcome.

In the interest of preserving their marriage, they have agreed not to gloat. "When Kamala wins, I'm not going to toot my horn too loud," Janet said, as her husband laughed.



Jacquelyn Martin/The Associated Press

Democratic presidential nominee Kamala Harris spoke at a rally in East Lansing, Mich., on Sunday.



Evan Vucci/The Associated Press

Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump spoke at a rally in Lititz, Pa., on Sunday.

Harris, Trump campaign in final swing state push

VP speaks at Michigan church; rival rallies in Pennsylvania

By NANDITA BOSE and STEVE HOLLAND
Reuters

Democrat Kamala Harris made her closing pitch for the U.S. presidency at a historically Black church in the battleground state of Michigan on Sunday while her Republican rival Donald Trump embraced violent rhetoric at a rally in Pennsylvania.

Opinion polls show the pair locked in a tight race, with Vice President Harris, 60, bolstered by strong support among women voters while former President Trump, 78, gains ground with Hispanic voters, especially men.

Voters overall view both candidates unfavorably, according to Reuters/Ipsos polling, but that so far has not dissuaded them from casting ballots. More than 77 million Americans have already done so ahead of Tuesday's Election Day, according to the University of Florida's Election Lab, approaching half the total 160 million votes cast in 2020, in which U.S. voter turnout was the highest in more than a century.

Control of the U.S. Congress is also up for grabs on Tuesday, with Republicans favored to capture a majority in the Senate while Democrats are seen as having an even chance of flipping Republicans' narrow majority in the House of Representatives. Presidents whose parties have not controlled both chambers have struggled to pass major legislation over the past decade.

"In just two days we have the power to decide the fate of our nation for generations to come," Harris told parishioners at Greater Emmanuel Institutional Church of God in Christ in Detroit. "We must act. It's not enough to only pray; not enough to just talk. We must act on the plans He has in store for us, and we must make them real through our works, in our daily choices, in services to our communities, in our democracy."

Trump, at his first of three rallies on Sunday, frequently abandoned his teleprompter with off-the-cuff remarks in which he denounced polls showing movement for Harris. He called Democrats a "demonic party," ridiculed Democratic President Joe Biden and complained about the price of apples.

Trump, who survived an assassination attempt in July when a gunman's bullet grazed his ear in Butler, Pennsylvania, on Sunday complained to supporters about gaps in the bulletproof glass surrounding him as he spoke and mused that an assassin would have to shoot through the news media to get him.

"To get me, somebody would have to shoot through the fake news and I don't mind that so much," said Trump, who has long criticized the media and sought to rile public sentiment against them.

Last week he suggested prominent Republican critic former congresswoman Liz Cheney should face gunfire in combat over her hawkish foreign policy, leading an Arizona prosecutor to open an investigation.

Campaign spokesperson Steven Cheung issued a statement saying Trump was not directed toward the media but rather, "It was about threats against him that were spurred on by dangerous rhetoric from Democrats."

Trump later spoke in Kinston, N.C., and was due to end his day with an evening rally in Macon, Ga.

Of the seven U.S. states seen as competitive, Georgia and North Carolina are the second-biggest prizes up for grabs on Tuesday, with each holding 16 of the 270 votes a candidate needs to win in the state-by-state Electoral College to secure the presidency. Pennsylvania is first with 19 electors.

Nonpartisan U.S. election analysts reckon Harris would need to win about 45 electoral votes in the seven swing states to win the White House, while Trump would need about 51, when accounting for the states they are forecast to win easily.

'I shouldn't have left'

Near the end of his Pennsylvania speech, Trump — whose false statements that his 2020 loss was the result of fraud inspired his supporters' Jan. 6, 2021, assault on the U.S. Capitol — mused that he would have preferred not to have handed over power.

"We had the safest border in the history of our country the day that I left. I shouldn't have left. I mean, honestly, because we did so, we did so well," Trump said.

Trump said during his remarks that election results should be announced on election night, despite warnings by officials in multiple states that it could take days to ascertain the final outcome.

Democrats say they have plans in place should Trump try to prematurely claim victory this time.

Harris told reporters on Sunday that she trusts the U.S. election system.

"We have, and support, free and fair elections in our country. We did in 2020 — he lost," she said. "And the systems that are in place for this election in 2024 have integrity."

Harris' Michigan woes

After her Detroit appearance, Harris was headed to East Lansing, Mich., a college town in an industrial state that is viewed as a must-win for the Democrats.

She faces skepticism from some of the state's 200,000 Arab Americans who are frustrated Harris has not done more to help end the war in Gaza and scale back aid to Israel. Trump visited Dearborn, Mich., the heart of the Arab American community, on Friday and vowed to end the conflict in the Middle East without saying how.

Harris, who has met behind closed doors with select Arab American and Muslim leaders, focused her energy on Black neighborhoods on Sunday.

Samah Nouredine, 44, a Lebanese American from Grosse Ile, a town near Detroit, said she voted for Biden in 2020 but was casting a ballot for Jill Stein of the Green Party this year.

"I'm upset because Harris is funding the genocide and if we get Trump we're going to suffer too," she said. "I'm sick of both of them."

Officials hope for calm, plan for disruption

Continued from Page 1A

preparing for Election Day with elevated vigilance. In some states, that's come in the form of bulletproof glass, boarded-up windows, rock fortifications, panic buttons and de-escalation training, according to *The New York Times*.

Such measures come as threats of political violence and unrest have appeared more prevalent ahead of Tuesday's general election in the U.S., which has already seen a host of brazen crimes. Former president Donald Trump, the Republican presidential nominee, survived two assassination attempts earlier this year, and early voting has drawn its own share of incidents.

A man in Philadelphia threatened to skin alive a party official recruiting volunteer poll watchers, according to a federal complaint. Tempe police in Arizona said a man was arrested on suspicion of shooting into the Democratic Party's campaign office on three occasions in recent months. Authorities suspect he was plotting a mass casualty attack, according to The Associated Press.

In San Antonio last month, a man in a hat supporting Trump punched an election worker who told him that wearing items endorsing a candidate isn't allowed, the AP reported. Texas law prohibits clothing endorsing or opposing a candidate inside polling places.

The increased risk of violence during this year's contentious election cycle is understood by North Texas elections administrators. Election officials here haven't reported crimes of that magnitude, but said they've kept an eye on incidents elsewhere to inform their own security preparations.

"The climate's charged," said Bruce Sherbet, Collin County's elections administrator. "There's a lot of emotions with this election and very strong opinions with this election. In terms of people being on edge, I think there is some tension, obviously. We all know that and recognize it."

Local law enforcement officials would not disclose specific plans or officers' schedules, but several told *The Dallas Morning News* they've implemented training and plans and are ready to make adjustments if issues arise.

Dallas police spokesperson Lt. Tramese Jones said the city has not seen a higher volume of political threats or attacks on poll workers during early voting.

Interim Dallas police Chief Michael Igo told the city's public safety committee on Tuesday the department altered officers' schedules in recent months for more training in the event of protests. The department's "Special Response Group" team gets specialized crowd-control training for civil unrest, disorder and demonstrations. Jones would not specify how much overtime was approved for election purposes, referring a reporter to file an open records request.

Dallas police are sharing intelligence with other agencies, Jones said, and offered additional help to the Dallas County Sheriff's Department, which oversees many safety procedures during the election process. Douglas Sisk, a spokesperson for the sheriff's department, declined to answer questions about their plans and whether it has received any security guidance.

Safety for officials

With an abundance of conspiracy theories and allegations of voter fraud in recent years, protection for election officials has become more pressing in some counties.

Heider Garcia, Dallas County's elections administrator, did not respond last week to multiple requests over phone and email for an interview about election safety. He has previously advocated for legislation to better protect election officials

in Texas.

Garcia told the U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary in 2022 that he, his family and his staff were threatened while he served as Tarrant County's elections administrator in 2020. People wrote online that he should be hunted down and his lifeless body should be hung in public. He said he installed security cameras around his home after his address was leaked online.

"Can you imagine the level of stress this put on us?" Garcia said during a hearing about protecting election workers. "I could not sleep that night, I just sat in the living room until around 3:00 a.m., just waiting to see if anyone had read this and decided to act on it."

Lynch, Rockwall's elections administrator who said he

served in the Army for more than two decades, said he hasn't worried for his own safety but knows it "comes with the job" that his personal and private life are "susceptible to people that are just crazy."

Rockwall County reported at least two instances during early voting of people being unruly toward election workers and voters, he said. Ideally, he'd want a police officer at every location on Election Day, but it's not possible to do so from a staffing perspective, Lynch said.

"The environment has changed so much in the last eight years as far as just the general attitude of people toward election officials and this narrative of distrust and mis- and disinformation," Lynch said. "It definitely makes our jobs more difficult because it's impossible

to have a rational conversation with an irrational person."

Sherbet said Collin County's early voting — where more than 408,000 people cast their ballots — has gone just as smoothly as past years. He believes the risk of tense incidents that can escalate is especially high in swing states, but officials still try to prepare for any situation.

He said officials have trained judges and poll workers about de-escalating tensions if someone comes in angry or on edge.

"It's just one of those things where you have your eyes open and just understand what's going on around you," Sherbet said.

Early voting is a good indicator for how Election Day will go in terms of security, he said.

"I've had no reports — and that's just this election — of

threats, of violence or actions that resulted in violence," Sherbet said.

"So, I guess maybe I've just been very lucky and I'm going to knock on wood."

Voter intimidation

While acts of violence spur headlines and grab attention nationwide, election-related crimes also occur in forms of voter intimidation.

There are always individual instances of people encountering voter intimidation, said Ashley Harris, an attorney at the ACLU of Texas. During early voting this year, the election has been "overwhelmingly good and smooth," she said.

"One of the big things we're seeing is high turnout and more people voting in person, longer

lines, which is to be expected," Harris said. "People should be prepared for [it], and not alarmed by [it], but you have an opportunity to go vote with [the] community."

The Justice Department has said it will send monitors to polls across the U.S. on Election Day, including in Dallas County, to watch for compliance with federal voting rights laws.

The department regularly visits precincts during elections. But this year, the number of cities and counties expecting monitors will be nearly double compared to the 2020 election.

Harris said that while voting has been going well, issues to look for could include being threatened by anyone over political affiliation, race or other attributes. Guns are not allowed at polling places. Also, no one should not make it so other people cannot enter a polling place or made to feel threatened by force or intimidation, she said.

"They shouldn't feel any intimidation from others when they go to vote," Harris said.

If there's trouble, the ACLU recommends reaching out to a poll worker, the county elections office or calling the election protection hotline, which is provided by a nonpartisan coalition of organizations for voter rights.

The hotline has nonpartisan poll monitor volunteers who can stay outside the 100-foot boundary at polls to handle questions and observe locations, Harris said. The hotline also has attorneys who help evaluate whether federal or state laws are being broken, she said.

The election protection hotline provides information in English at 866-687-8683 and in Spanish at 888-839-8682. Phone numbers for other languages can be found at texasvoterprotection.org.

'Voting is a right'

While some counties plan to place officers near polling places in case of emergencies, the presence of law enforcement at polling places has been criticized as a potential form of voter intimidation. In creating safety plans for Election Day, many North Texas police officials acknowledged such concerns.

Arlington police spokesperson Tim Ciesco said the city hasn't historically encountered issues at polling places, and the department doesn't anticipate that changing. That said, he added, "we're certainly cognizant of the current political climate across the country."

He said officers may patrol areas near polling places more frequently on Election Day, but the department's goal "is to have as limited a presence at polling places as possible, so that it does not cause concern and/or potentially deter a citizen from voting."

But if there is a safety concern or incident that rises to a criminal offense, "we will certainly intervene," Ciesco said.

"Free and fair elections are the foundation of our democracy," he said. "We will not tolerate any criminal activity meant to deter, intimidate, or harass someone from exercising their Constitutional right to vote."

In Plano, officers will have a uniformed presence at each polling place, but "in such a manner as to not interfere or intimidate in any voting activities," said police spokesperson Detective J.D. Minton. Other officers will be on standby, which isn't uncommon, he said.

Some polling places identified as having a higher volume of voters will be staffed accordingly, Minton said, but declined to specify which locations. Minton added that police are monitoring social media sites and are in constant contact with local, state and federal agencies.

"Voting is a right and every citizen has the same opportunities to exercise that right to elect their representatives in local, state and federal governments," he said.

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Mass transit agencies offer rides to polls

By **AMBER GAUDET**
Staff Writer
amber.gaudet@dallasnews.com

North Texas voters looking to cast their ballots Tuesday can catch a free ride to the polls.

Dallas Area Rapid Transit and Trinity Metro will offer riders within their service areas complimentary rides to and from polling locations. DART riders can show their voter registration card or government ID to ride free on all DART buses, trains, GoLink, the Dallas Streetcar, paratransit services and the Trinity Railway Express between EBJ Union and CentrePort/DFW Airport stations.

GoLink riders can use promo code VOTEPRES at checkout for a complimentary adult local day pass in the DART GoPass app.

Passengers visiting the Dallas



Juan Figueroa/Staff Photographer

DART riders can show their voter registration card for a free ride to polling places on all DART buses, trains and paratransit services.

County Elections Training Warehouse should use Bus Route 207. DART's Mobility Management Services will provide accessible shuttle vans to take riders from the bus stop at Titan Drive and Empress Row to the polling location at 1460 Round Table Drive. The shuttle will run from 6:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Trinity Metro riders can notify their driver that they are traveling to or from

a polling place to get a free ride on any Trinity Metro bus, rideshare and paratransit service or TEXRail. Free rides also include Trinity Railway Express stations in Tarrant County, including CentrePort.

To find your polling place and to access sample ballots, visit *The Dallas Morning News'* free voter guide or your county's election webpage.

Allred, Cruz make final pitches to voters

Continued from Page 1A

The outcome also could determine which party controls the Senate next year, high stakes evident in the amount of money spent in the race.

The two campaigns have raised more than \$160 million combined, with outside groups pouring in many millions more, filling the air waves with attack ads.

Allred highlights abortion

Protecting abortion access has been a core theme for Allred, who highlighted the stories of two Texas women who died after not receiving medically necessary abortions.

He blamed Cruz for those stories, saying the senator advocated for the judges and state-level politicians responsible for the state's tight abortion restrictions.

"This is his life's work," Allred said. "He's gotten nothing done in the Senate, except for one thing. He's accomplished one goal, and that was taking away a fundamental right from Texas women and putting them in these dangerous positions."

Billye Summers and Mary Brooks of the Texas Democratic Women of Ellis County attended the Oak Cliff event together. They said their group is interested in the economy, immigration and attacks on the transgender community.

They blamed Cruz and Donald Trump for the stories of Texas women suffering and dying after being denied abortions needed to protect their health or fertility.

"I'm a retired registered nurse, it makes me sick at my stomach," Brooks said. "It makes me angry."

Cruz was asked by reporters at his campaign stops how officials can address the uncertainty Texas doctors have about what Texas law allows.

Cruz expressed sympathy for the women who died. He suggested the "far left" is deliberately spreading confusion and said Texas law allows abortions to save a mother's life or protect her health.

"I would call on the Texas Medical Board to make absolutely clear that every doctor has an obligation to do everything necessary to save the life of a mother. That is clear already under Texas law, and it should happen every time," Cruz said.

Immigration key for Cruz

During his 40-minute stump speech at rallies in Collin and Tarrant counties, Cruz tied Allred to Vice President Kamala Harris and the current administration's immigration policies. He said those policies are inhumane, encouraging human trafficking and allowing violent crim-



Annie Mulligan/The Associated Press

Berteal Binion and Linda Terry cheered as U.S. Rep. Colin Allred, D-Dallas, took the stage for a rally at Texas Southern University in Houston on Tuesday. Allred has focused on abortion in his closing message.

inals into the United States.

"When Donald Trump was president, I worked hand in hand with him to secure the border, and we achieved incredible success," Cruz said. "We produced the lowest rate of illegal immigration in 45 years. We did it before, we'll do it again."

He pointed to Jocelyn Nungaray, a 12-year-old Houston girl murdered in June. Authorities say she was killed by two Venezuelan immigrants who were released from detention after entering the country illegally.

Cruz cited Allred's votes against Republican proposals to crack down on illegal immigration and past comments about a border wall being racist.

"If you care about security, there is no greater threat to our security right now than the chaos at our southern border under Kamala Harris and Colin Allred," Cruz said.

Allred has said he supports bipartisan proposals for addressing illegal immigration and border security, faulting Cruz for helping tank a bill Democrats negotiated with Sen. James Lankford, R-Okla.

He said Cruz opposed the bill because he would rather use the issue for political gain than try to address immigration by working with Democrats.

Allred has highlighted his Rio Grande Valley roots, saying his family is from Brownsville and his grandfather was a customs officer.

Economy and inflation

Allred held a Thursday roundtable in Dallas with local leaders and small business owners to discuss the importance of measures such as the CHIPS and Science Act. Cruz voted against that bill, objecting to its use of direct government subsidies to private companies. Cruz later helped

write a bill that eased the permitting requirements for the new microchip-making facilities.

Allred said the CHIPS Act has produced billions of dollars in investments across the state, including in new facilities in Sherman.

"These investments don't happen on their own," Allred said. "You have to have leaders who actually want to do them."

Allred also said the bipartisan infrastructure law he backed is helping Texas with projects needed to accommodate waves of new residents. Cruz voted against that proposal and has opposed bills to keep the government funded.

"If Ted Cruz had his way, then every single time that one of these budgets came up, the government would shut down," Allred said. "And you just can only get by so long with extremists like this in the U.S. Senate. A lot of what we have done economically here in Texas has been in spite of Ted Cruz, and we don't have to have a leader like that."

During his Friday rally in Plano, Cruz quoted a satirical news headline that said Texas has built hundreds of miles of border wall out of U-Haul trucks abandoned by waves of Californians moving to the state.

Those recent transplants from left-leaning states are fleeing high taxes and burdensome regulations, yearning for the freedom of conservative Lone Star governance, Cruz said.

He said Democrats' spending bills have driven up inflation.

"Colin Allred has voted for trillions of new spending, trillions in debt. You want to know why you're paying more at the grocery store, at the gas pump, in rent, with health care, with electricity?" Cruz said. "It's because Kamala Harris and Colin Allred spent and printed trillions of



Eric Gay/The Associated Press

Darren Mosley signed Republican Sen. Ted Cruz's campaign bus during a rally on Tuesday in Jourdan. In his final pitch to voters, Cruz is highlighting border security.

dollars we didn't have."

That message resonated with audience members Susan Gregory and her sisters Sandra Laurents and Linda Lee. In their early 70s, the three sisters live together in Plano.

They said high prices mean draining their retirement accounts to pay for basic staples.

The recent price of butter was a shock, Gregory said.

"I just about died because it's almost the holidays," she said about the cookies and other seasonal goodies waiting to be baked.

Transgender issues

In the late stages of the campaign, Cruz has leaned into attacks focused on transgender rights.

He slammed Allred for signing onto a letter urging the removal of Republican provisions from a defense bill, including restrictions on "medically necessary care for transgender servicemembers or their family members."

Cruz said the letter represents Allred advocating for taxpayer-funded "sex-change surgeries for soldiers" and drag shows on military bases.

He also criticized Allred's vote against the "Protection of Women and Girls in Sports Act," which would bar school athletic programs from allowing individuals whose biological sex assigned at birth was male to participate in programs for women or girls.

"In Colin Allred's world, in Kamala Harris' world, don't our daughters have any rights?" Cruz said. "How about the right to be in a changing room not next to a naked, grown-ass man?"

The attacks prompted Allred to respond with ads saying he does not support "boys playing girls' sports" and accusing Cruz of trying to dis-

tract voters.

"Ted Cruz is lying about my record because he can't defend his own," Allred said in an ad. "He has done nothing to secure the border and he wants to raise the retirement age for Social Security."

The bottom line

Allred voted with fellow Democrats so consistently during his first four years in office that he's better suited to a seat on the San Francisco City Council than representing Texas, Cruz said at his rallies. He repeatedly mocked Democrats for policies on transgender rights and other issues that he described as simply wacky.

"This is no longer a battle between Republicans and Democrats. This is no longer a battle between conservatives and liberals," Cruz said. "This is a battle between sane and crazy. These people are nuts."

Allred said Cruz is the one out of step and insisted Texans can't count on him after Cruz abandoned them to freeze in the dark when he took his family to Cancun during the deadly 2021 blackouts.

He said Cruz spread lies questioning the legitimacy of President Joe Biden's 2020 election, spurring the Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the Capitol, and then hid from rioters in a supply closet.

Texans have political differences, but Allred said he would rather seek common ground to find a way forward, while Cruz prefers to sow fear and division and pit people against one another.

"That's my biggest issue with Ted Cruz, that he spent 12 years not trying to serve us," Allred said. "Twelve years getting attention for himself and finding the seams in our society and pulling them apart for his own benefits."

Millions vote early with few problems

D-FW elections officials say all systems go for Tuesday, urge preparation, patience

By ALEX NGUYEN

Staff Writer
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With the early voting period now over, millions of North Texans have cast their ballot, though turnout lags that of 2020. Meanwhile, county officials across the region have reported few issues in the lead-up to Election Day.

As of Saturday afternoon, unofficial results show that more than 8.77 million Texas voters — or 47.1% of those registered — have made their choice, either in person or by mail.

In North Texas, 44.9% of Dallas County voters, 50.3% of Tarrant County voters and 58.2% of Collin County voters cast their ballot early.

"It meets expectations," said Bruce Sherbet, elections administrator for Collin County.

In Rockwall County, the smallest county in Texas by land area, turnout hit 60.3%.

"We definitely made a concerted effort to really socialize the idea of, 'Hey, don't wait till Tuesday, go out early, take a day in that two-week window and just go get it done,'" said Christopher Lynch, elections administrator for Rockwall County.

Still, he admits to being "a little" concerned about the wait times on

Election Day.

"If 20,000 people are waiting to vote on Tuesday, that's going to be a long day and probably a bad day," Lynch said.

Based on historical election records, turnout is 7 to 11 percentage points lower than in 2020.

Lynch attributed some of the dip to increased misinformation around early voting in general.

Meanwhile, Sherbet noted the last presidential election had different circumstances: a pandemic and six extra days of early voting.

"When we now revert back to what would be a normal type of early voting period, I think we had a very good turnout," Sherbet said.

Smoothing out the process

Despite Collin County being one of the fastest-growing regions in Texas, Sherbet said that he has encountered few problems. He expects Election Day to also go smoothly, noting that the county has added more equipment, staffed up and done "a lot of training" for poll workers.

"We're almost there," Sherbet said. "We got through our early voting just great. ... So I think we're ready in Collin County."

Meanwhile, the two largest counties in North Texas did encounter issues, though elections officials looked to have successfully addressed them prior to Election Day.



Smiley N. Pool/Staff Photographer

Voters waited outside the Haggard Library polling place in Plano on the first day of early voting Oct. 21. County officials suggest using a different polling place Tuesday where allowed if it means avoiding a long line. They also recommend studying a sample ballot ahead of time and leaving political apparel at home.

Although Dallas County's early voting period started off with technical glitches and ballot mistakes, elections administrator Heider Garcia said the last two weeks brought consistent turnout. He also said that he noticed nothing unusual on the last day of early voting.

In Tarrant County, a video in which a voter said that his paper ballot didn't reflect his vote for president went viral last month. But county officials, including elections administrator Clint Ludwig, attributed the incident to a common voter error instead.

Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick also recently chimed in to debunk stories about voting machine fraud.

"As of today, there have been less

than ten allegations of vote flipping out of nearly 7 million votes cast across the state. There has NOT BEEN A SINGLE confirmation that it actually happened," he wrote in a Friday social media post.

Planning for the big day

With just a day to go until Election Day, elections administrators are now advising voters to come to their polling place prepared in order to save time.

This could mean reading sample ballots to be informed and leaving political apparel or accessories behind as they are prohibited at voting locations. Voters can go to dallasnews.com

to find more information about the accessibility of voting locations in Dallas County and how to decide if they should mask up at the polls amid respiratory illness season.

In addition, where countywide voting is permitted, county officials are encouraging voters to consider using a different polling station if it means avoiding a long line.

"We've been working hard on this to try to get the word out that there are different places that you can go vote," said Lynch. "Because [people] are conditioned in this county to vote at the library, they'll stand in that line when within a five-minute radius there are three other locations that are less busy."

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EDITORIAL

We Recommend

Proposition A: Change contributions to the city Employees Retirement Fund

VOTE YES

This proposition is intended to address a \$1.4 billion shortfall in the city's civilian pension fund. The amendment to the city code is necessary to move forward with changing actuarially determined contributions from employees and the city. The code requires voter approval to change city rules governing the retirement fund. Note that this does not relate to the more severely underfunded police and fire pension system.

Proposition language — *Shall Chapter 40A of the Dallas City Code, known as the employees' retirement fund of the City of Dallas, be amended in accordance with Ordinance No. 32801 to: add, revise, and delete various definitions; provide amended terms and term limits of the board; modify the retirement fund board's powers and duties; specify the date the board shall adopt the actuarially determined contribution rate, the current total adjusted total obligation rate, the current total obligation rate, and the pension obligation bond credit rate for each fiscal year; provide amended contribution amounts for the city and employees; provide a contribution maximum for Tier A and Tier B employees; provide that the city may contribute additional monies to the retirement fund in its sole discretion; amend the modifications of contribution rates; provide guardrails with respect to the calculation of the actuarially determined contribution and incorporating the guardrails into actuarial assumptions; and amend the procedure to amend Chapter 40A?*

Proposition B: Add a preamble to the city charter

VOTE NO

The city charter does not need a preamble. This amendment was born of an effort by a single council member to add progressive political language to the city's charter in line with similar preambles adopted by progressive city councils around the country. After much controversy and dispute, it was watered down into a statement that Dallas is an "equitable democracy." The phrase is innocuous in itself, but it raises questions about what the city's responsibility is to fulfill the equity mission that would be added to the charter. We urge voters to decline inserting language into the charter that has ambiguous consequences.

Proposition language — *Shall the Dallas City Charter be amended by adding a preamble that declares the city to be an equitable democracy, comprised of representatives that act to make the city fair, equitable, just, and safe for all residents?*

Proposition C: Increase salaries for the mayor and council members

VOTE NO

It's been a long time since service on the Dallas City Council was a volunteer role, as it was originally intended to be. No one doubts that being on the council can be hard work, but we aren't ready to see it become a high-paying full-time job either. Council members currently make \$60,000 a year, and the mayor is paid \$80,000 by charter. Many council members have other jobs. The fact that council members spend so much time answering constituent service concerns or dealing with zoning matters is a signal that our municipal government isn't delivering service as it should be and that council members have become too engaged in the day-to-day work of city government.

Council members want to see council salaries increased 50% to \$90,000 and the mayor's salary 37.5% to \$110,000 a year, effective Jan. 1. They also want to tie future raises to inflation. Wouldn't we all like that?

Dallas residents have been displeased with the service they get from City Hall for some

This election, Dallas voters will be asked to weigh in on 17 propositions to amend the charter and one to amend city code. They are lettered Propositions A-U. (Note that there are no propositions lettered K, M or N, as these were removed prior to making the ballot.)

These propositions are often confusing, so we have attempted here to clearly explain what each would do along with our recommendation of how you should vote. We think four of these propositions — R, S, T and U — are extremely dangerous to the city of Dallas, and we urge you to give special attention to each of these. These propositions arose from activist-led petitions.

The remaining propositions come through the Dallas City Council. Some of these also raise serious concerns, while others are necessary amendments to the charter. Charter changes are, by their nature, legalistic and complex. We hope that the explanations here clarify these important referendums for our city and help inform your vote.



Staff Photo

Ready to vote?

For all of *The Dallas Morning News* recommendations go to dallasnews.com/opinion/we-recommend

Compare candidate responses to questionnaires with the Voter Guide. dallasnews.com/voterguide

Election Day: Tomorrow

For more information:

Collin County	800-687-8546	collincountytx.gov/elections
Dallas County	214-819-6300	dallascountyvotes.org
Denton County	940-349-3200	votedenton.com
Ellis County	972-825-5195	co.ellis.tx.us/312/Elections
Kaufman County	972-932-0298	kaufmancounty.net/elections
Rockwall County	972-204-6200	rockwallvotes.com
Tarrant County	817-831-8683	access.tarrantcounty.com/en/elections.html

For more help, including how to check your registration status, contact the Texas secretary of state at 1-800-252-8683 or visit votetexas.gov

time. The council is ultimately responsible for ensuring city management delivers good service. There aren't many jobs where you can ask for a huge raise when you aren't getting the job done. Voters should remind council members that they voluntarily ran for office. Dallas does not need a professional political class serving on the council. That's what salaries at this level would create. We need citizens who are prepared to step forward to do a service.

Proposition language — *Shall Chapter III, Section 4(a) of the Dallas City Charter be amended to increase the annual salary for the mayor to \$110,000 and the annual salaries for councilmembers to \$90,000 with salaries subject to a yearly adjustment equal to the year-over-year percentage increase in the local consumer price index, effective January 1, 2025?*

Proposition D: Remove May election date from charter

VOTE YES

With some hesitation, we encourage voters to approve this amendment. The hope is that removing the charter requirement to elect council members in May will lead to elections being moved to November of odd-numbered years. We have some concern because this

proposition does not specify the month in which elections would be held, and we worry that could lead to problems. That said, on balance this represents a good opportunity to improve abysmal voter turnout in local races.

Proposition language — *Shall Chapter IV, Section 3 of the Dallas City Charter be amended by deleting the requirement that elections for members of the city council be held in May and instead be held according to state law and as designated by city resolution or ordinance?*

Proposition E: Place hard term limits on council members and mayor

VOTE YES

We strongly encourage voters to support strengthening term limits for council members and the mayor. Certain council members don't seem to know that eight years is enough. So they sit out at least one term, as required by charter, and then run again. We need fresh eyes and voices on the council. This amendment would ensure that council members don't make this a perpetual job.

Proposition language — *Shall Chapter III, Section 3A of the Dallas City Charter be amended to eliminate the ability for members*

of the city council to run for city council again after serving the maximum four two-year terms and to eliminate the ability for the mayor to run for mayor again after serving the maximum two four-year terms?

Proposition F: Provide the city secretary and auditor with employees

VOTE YES

This technical amendment would permit the city secretary and the city auditor to more easily hire rank-and-file employees vs. what the charter describes as "assistants." Both of these offices need staffing flexibility that this amendment would provide.

Proposition language — *Shall Chapter II-IA, Section 2 and Chapter IX, Section 2 of the Dallas City Charter, which requires the city council to provide assistants to the city secretary and city auditor, be amended to also require the city council to provide employees to the city secretary and city auditor?*

Proposition G: Strengthen requirements to serve on redistricting commission

VOTE YES

This amendment strengthens the requirements and accountability for a person to sit on the city's redistricting commission that is charged with drawing council district lines. There have been examples of council members trying to place their political consultants or others with clear conflicts of interest on the commission. Spelling out that people with clear conflicts cannot serve is necessary.

Proposition language — *Shall Chapter IV, Section 5(b)(2) of the Dallas City Charter, which establishes the redistricting commission, be amended by adding eligibility criteria for serving on the redistricting commission?*

Proposition H: Remove citizenship requirement to serve on certain city boards and commissions

VOTE NO

This amendment is part of a broader effort on the part of some council members to diminish the charter's requirement that members of key city boards and commissions be citizens. These boards and commissions have significant power, and those who serve on them should be citizens.

Proposition language — *Shall Chapter IV, Section 5; Chapter XV, Section 3; Chapter XVI, Section 1; and Chapter XVII, Section 2 of the Dallas City Charter be amended by eliminating the requirement that members of the redistricting commission, city plan commission, civil service board, and park and recreation board be registered to vote, qualified voters, or qualified taxpaying citizens?*

Proposition I: Loosen requirements to change or introduce city ordinances through referendums

VOTE NO

This amendment would diminish the requirements to set up voter referendums to introduce new city ordinances or to alter city ordinances. It would double the number of days to gather signatures to start a referendum and reduce the number of required signatures. Petition-driven referendums are bad ways to govern, in our view, and should have a high threshold for being placed before voters. Two months is enough time to gather signatures for referendums. Extending the time period to four months gives activists more time to use misleading campaigns that can hurt representative government.



Staff Photo

Proposition language — *Shall Chapter XVIII, Section 11 of the Dallas City Charter, which establishes procedures for initiative and referendum of ordinances, be amended to extend the deadline petitioners must meet to collect required signatures from 60 days to 120 days and reduce the number of signatures required on a petition from 10 percent of the qualified voters of the City of Dallas to five percent?*

Proposition J: Permit council members to replace board and commission appointees prior to the completion of their appointment term

VOTE YES

This amendment would permit elected council members to more quickly replace unelected board and commission members who are holdovers from prior council members. To the greatest degree possible, board and commission appointments should be the appointees of current elected council members.

Proposition language — *Shall Chapter XXIV, Section 17(b) of the Dallas City Charter be amended to allow city council's appointments to city boards and commissions to be replaced by city council prior to completion of a member's two-year term?*

Proposition L: Add an independent Office of Inspector General

VOTE YES

This amendment would create an independent office of inspector general for the city, and provide adequate staff to that inspector general. Dallas government needs a watchdog with teeth who can investigate ethics, fraud, waste, abuse and corruption.

Proposition language — *Shall Chapter XI, Section 2 be amended and a new chapter be added to the Dallas City Charter that establishes the Office of the Inspector General with the Inspector General being appointed by city council and lists the duties of the Inspector General?*

Proposition O: Strengthen criteria to serve as a municipal judge and alter appointment procedure

VOTE YES

This amendment strengthens the qualifications for the city's municipal judges and requires that they be residents of the city of Dallas. It also ensures greater accountability by aligning judicial terms with those of council members.

Proposition language — *Shall Chapter VIII, Section 6 of the Dallas City Charter be amended to clarify the terms of associate municipal judges and state that associate municipal judges are appointed by city council, receive assignments from the administrative judge or the administrative judge's designee, and must be residents of Dallas within four months of the date of appointment and practicing attorneys in good standing?*

Proposition P: Remove cost for city employees appealing discharge or demotion

VOTE NO

This amendment would lift the requirement that city employees who are appealing their discharge or demotion pay half of the cost for an administrative law hearing.

We think that employees who face demotion or discharge should have some skin in the game by the time such an act reaches the point of a hearing.

Proposition language — *Shall Chapter XVI, Section 12.1 of the Dallas City Charter be amended by deleting the requirement that a city employee who appeals his or her discharge or reduction in grade to an administrative law judge pay one-half of the costs attributed to having the administrative law judge conduct the appeal hearing?*

Proposition Q: Multiple charter amendments that affect public notice of city actions, council benefits and citizenship requirements among other concerns

VOTE NO

This confusing proposition is being advertised to voters as "technical changes" to the charter, but it actually sweeps in important and substantial matters. This proposition should have been considered under separate propositions to offer greater clarity to the public.

For example, one proposed change would permit five residents rather than citizens to initiate proposed ordinance changes to the City Council.

The proposition would also make council members salaried city employees rather than people compensated for service to the city, conferring substantial benefits on them. It would also relieve the city from publicly publishing through a general interest newspaper critical city information, from contract bid opportunities to new city ordinances.

Yes, that last part could affect this newspaper, but the larger problem in this proposition is a city that is backing away from public transparency.

Proposition language — *Shall Chapter III, Section 3; Chapter III, Section 4; Chapter III, Chapter 8(b); Chapter III, Section 13(a); Chapter III, Section 19; Chapter IV, Section 6(a); Chapter IV, Section 6(c)(2); Chapter IV, Section 13; Chapter XI, Section 1; Chapter XI, Section 3; Chapter XII, Section 4; Chapter XIII, Section 2(2); Chapter XIII, Section 9; Chapter XIV, Section 8; Chapter XV, Section 3; Chapter XV, Section 4; Chapter XVI, Section 3(b)(1); Chapter XVI, Section 7; Chapter XVI, Section 10(a); Chapter XVI, Section 11(b); Chapter XVIII, Section 7; Chapter XVIII, Section 11(1); Chapter XVIII, Section 15; Chapter XIX, Section 7; Chapter XXII, Section 2; Chapter XXII, Section 3; Chapter XXII, Section 4(1); Chapter XXII, Section 10; and Chapter XXIV of the Dallas City Charter be amended to conform to state law, conform to the city code, match actual practices, correct terms, clarify language, and other technical amendments?*

Petition-based referendums

We strongly urge you to vote against the last four propositions on the ballot.

These propositions did not arise from council discussion or the city's charter amendment commission. They instead came about through what we believe were misleading and manipulative petitions that misrepresent the harm that will come from their passage.

The first, Proposition R, is the work of a left-wing activist group called Ground Game Texas that seeks to undermine the statewide debate around marijuana legalization through local referendums.

The last three, Propositions S, T and U, arise from a right-wing activist group known as Dallas Hero. The three referendums it placed on the ballot again came about through what we believe were misleading claims about the proposals and their potential consequences.

Proposition R: Reduce or eliminate enforcement of marijuana laws

VOTE NO

This proposition describes itself as the Dallas Freedom Act. It would more honestly be called the Dallas Drug Dealers Act. In contravention of state law, it would diminish police enforcement of marijuana laws. Outgoing police Chief Eddie García has said this would make the city less safe, and we wholeheartedly agree. This referendum is not about avoiding criminalization of small amounts of marijuana. It would instead give great latitude to people in possession of up to 4 ounces. That is an amount that only a dealer would carry at any given time. Debate over marijuana legalization is something that should happen in an open and honest way, not in the underhanded manner that this referendum represents.

Proposition language — *Shall the Dallas City Charter be amended by adding a new section in Chapter XXIV that reforms marijuana possession enforcement by prohibiting the Dallas Police Department from making arrests or issuing citations for marijuana possession or considering the odor of marijuana as probable cause for search or seizure, except as part of a violent felony or high priority narcotics felony investigation; making enforcement of Class A (currently, two to four ounces) and Class B (currently, up to two ounces) misdemeanor marijuana possession the Dallas Police Department's lowest enforcement priority; and prohibiting city funds or personnel from being used to test cannabis-related substances to determine whether a substance meets the legal definition of marijuana, except in limited circumstances?*

Proposition S: Give residents license to sue City Hall for perceived charter or ordinance enforcement failures

VOTE NO

If enacted, this proposition would spell disaster for the city of Dallas by giving any resident the right to sue the city for perceived violations of the city's charter or ordinances or state law. Every day, city employees, from the city manager to police officers to sanitation workers, must make individual decisions that someone might believe violates one of those categories. Should a police officer avoid citing someone for speeding to go stop a robbery? Is that a lawsuit waiting to happen? This is nonsense, and the public should reject it as such.

Proposition language — *Shall the Dallas City Charter be amended by adding a new chapter that grants standing to any resident of Dallas to bring a lawsuit against the city to require the city to comply with provisions of the city charter, city ordinances, and state law; entitles claimants to seek declaratory and injunctive relief against the city and recover costs and reasonable attorney's fees; and waives the city's governmental immunity from suit and liability in claims brought under this amendment?*

Proposition T: Use a public survey to reward or fire the city manager

VOTE NO

This proposition would make the city manager's employment and compensation contingent on a public survey.

Imagine, for a moment, the annual political campaign over what the survey results should be. Should the city manager be fired or have her salary doubled based on the survey results?

If you wanted to create a perfect environment for lobbyists, contractors and other interested parties to mess with local government, it would be hard to dream up a crazier scheme than this.

Proposition language — *Shall Chapter VI of the Dallas City Charter be amended by adding a new section compelling the city to conduct the city-commissioned Community Survey on an annual basis, to be completed by a minimum of 1,400 Dallas residents on their satisfaction on quality of life issues, the results of which will result in the city manager earning additional performance compensation (between 0 percent and 100 percent of the city manager's annual base salary) or the termination of the city manager?*

Proposition U: Use charter to require hiring of hundreds of additional police officers

VOTE NO

This proposition will sound tempting to many of us who feel Dallas needs to be safer. But read this carefully before you vote. It would require the city of Dallas to budget for at least 4,000 police officers, an increase of 800 to 900 officers. That sounds great on its face until you dig into the reality of what that would cost. That's not to mention the fact that, even if we could afford it, there aren't enough police recruits available to fill that number. The city budget already devotes most of its general fund dollars to public safety spending. Policing accounts for the biggest slice of the pie.

This requirement, by charter, would spell doom for spending on parks, streets, libraries and other city services. Meanwhile, it would be impossible to fulfill. The city already budgets each year to expand its police force. The problem is getting people to take on this rewarding but challenging career. Managing the annual budget by charter referendum is fiscal malpractice.

Proposition language — *Shall Chapter XI of the Dallas City Charter be amended by adding a new section compelling city council to appropriate no less than 50 percent of annual revenue that exceeds the total annual revenue of the previous year to fund the Dallas Police and Fire Pension, with any monies remaining of that 50% to be appropriated to increasing the starting compensation of officers of the Dallas Police Department and to increase the number of police officers to a minimum of 4,000, and to maintain that ratio of officers to the City of Dallas population as of the date of passage of this amendment?*



2024 File Photo/Tom Fox

Greyhound's strategy has been to move local operations to an intermodal terminal where it can share space with a public transit agency. But without a major transit hub in Dallas, Greyhound has had to be creative, CEO Kadir Boysan said.

CEO: Dallas big part of Greyhound's plan

Continued from Page 1A

town Greyhound station at 205 S. Lamar St., which first opened around 1946, was originally set to expire in October. Dallas real estate developer and businessman Ray Washburne finalized a deal to buy the property and extended Greyhound's lease to April 2025 to give the bus operator time to relocate.

Once the move happens, Washburne plans to revamp the site as part of a larger downtown redevelopment plan. The 26,000-square-foot property is worth \$2.8 million, according to the Dallas Central Appraisal District.

When German company Flix purchased Greyhound in 2021, the deal didn't include the properties that terminals were located in — often prime real estate in city centers. Instead, Flix signed lease agree-

ments for more than 30 sites that were sold to venture capital firm Twenty Lake Holdings in 2022. As Greyhound's leases have begun expiring, the company has closed stations across the U.S., many of which have been in place for decades.

That has stirred fears about passengers being left out in the cold as they wait for their connections. Elderly, disabled and low-income passengers without easy access to other means of travel often rely on intercity buses to reach their destinations.

The company's strategy has been to move local operations to an intermodal terminal where it can share space with a public transit agency, according to Boysan. But without a major transit hub in Dallas, Greyhound has had to be creative.

Flix settled on the new location after talks with city offi-

cials and police, Boysan said.

"It has close proximity to DART's Bachman station on Harry Hines; it's close to our garage, which helps us in terms of logistics; and it's going to provide superior service to our passengers vs. where we are now," Boysan said.

Greyhound hopes to maintain a small presence in downtown Dallas. Company leadership is in talks with DART about using the East Transfer Center in the Central Business District for pickups and drop-offs.

Boysan is adamant that passengers won't be dumped on Dallas streets.

"I can tell you confidently that we are working with all authorities to make sure that the build-out is completed in time ... so there's absolutely no interruption in the services," Boysan said. "It's critical for us as well as for the city."

MONTANA

Sheriff: Beer can leads to arrest in camping murder

Authorities tie alleged killer's DNA found at scene of the crime

By **BEN BRASCH**
The Washington Post

Dustin Kjersem had set up his tent for a weekend camping trip three weeks ago in southwest Montana when he saw a man approach. Kjersem, alone at the remote campsite for the night, offered the stranger a beer, authorities said.

It was that friendly gesture that eventually led law enforcement to the man they say brutally killed Kjersem on Oct. 11. Investigators said the suspect, 41-year-old Daren Christopher Abbey, tried to avoid being caught by removing items he'd touched from the campsite. But it seems Abbey forgot the act of kindness.

Law enforcement officials in Montana's Gallatin County announced Thursday that Abbey confessed to killing Kjersem after being apprehended days earlier thanks to DNA left on the beer can that matched his own. An attorney for Abbey was not listed on the county court's website Saturday.

Upon finding her boyfriend's body on the morning of Oct. 12, Kjersem's girlfriend called 911 saying Kjersem may have been killed by a bear due to the savagery of the scene.

But it had been Abbey, not a bear, that hit Kjersem with a piece of wood before stabbing him in the neck with a screwdriver and then taking an ax to the 35-year-old man, according to authorities.

"This appears to be a heinous crime committed by an individual who had no regard for the life of Dustin Kjersem," Gallatin County Sheriff Dan Springer said at a Thursday news conference.

Local law enforcement and an agent from Montana's Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks who is an expert in bear attacks inspected the site in the Moose Creek camping area of Gallatin Canyon, but did not find any signs of bear activity, leading authorities to treat the case as a homicide. An autopsy later confirmed Kjersem had suffered multiple chop wounds, according to authorities.

Investigators say they believe the two men didn't know each other and that the alleged homicide was a chance encounter. Abbey planned to camp in the spot, across the border from Yellowstone National Park, where Kjersem had already put up his tent, Springer said.

Kjersem planned to spend the first night alone before picking up his girlfriend the next day for a second night together in the wilderness. His girlfriend was worried when he didn't show the morning of Oct. 12, Springer said, so she drove out to the campsite and found Kjersem dead in the tent.

The sheriff's office began an intense, three-week investigation.

Kjersem's sister, Jillian Price, on Oct. 16 asked the public to help them find her brother's killer.

"He was a loving, helpful

and adoring father who in no way deserved this," she said.

But there were few good leads and little usable evidence, Capt. Nathan Kamerman, head of investigations for the sheriff's office, said Thursday.

The big break came Oct. 25, when the crime lab staff told investigators they had a DNA match on the beer can, Springer said. Abbey had previously been arrested for driving under the influence, according to state corrections records.

Authorities arrested Abbey the next day and interviewed him Oct. 29, which is when he confessed to the killing, according to authorities.

Abbey is from about 90 miles away in Basin, Mont., but he was in the area working a construction job, Springer said.

Abbey removed items from the campsite he thought would tie him to the slaying, Springer said. That's why investigators asked the public on Oct. 24 to keep an eye out for a blue Estwing camp ax, a 12-gauge Remington II-87 shotgun, a .44-caliber Ruger Blackhawk revolver and an orange YETI cooler.

Springer thanked his investigators, other agencies who assisted and the lab technicians who broke the case. He also had a message for Kjersem's family.

"I hope this can bring a little bit of peace to all of you," he said.

Abbey is being held with a \$1.5 million bond on a charge of deliberate homicide and two counts of tampering with evidence, according to Gallatin jail records.

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THE BLACK ACADEMY OF ARTS AND LETTERS

Singer shot on stage, in stable condition

Founder to implement increased security after unprecedented event

By **LANA FERGUSON**
Staff Writer
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A singer is in stable condition after being shot Saturday while signing autographs at The Black Academy of Arts and Letters in downtown Dallas, according to reports.

A Dallas police spokesperson said officers responded just before 6 p.m. to a shooting call in the 1600 block of South Akard Street and found the victim suffering from a gunshot wound.

She was taken by ambulance to the hospital, where she was reported to be in stable condition, police said.

A suspect in the shooting left the location but was arrested nearby and a handgun was recovered, according to police.

Micah Williams, 26, was arrested and faces an aggravated assault with a deadly weapon charge, police said. She was booked into the Dallas County jail late Saturday and remained in custody on a \$200,000 bail, records show.

The victim, Jada Thomas, was signing autographs onstage after finishing a performance when the suspect approached Thomas and shot

her, according to an email obtained by *The Dallas Morning News* that was sent from police to the Dallas mayor and City Council members.

The investigation is ongoing. It was not immediately clear if Thomas knew the suspect and police did not disclose a motive for the shooting.

Thomas was scheduled to perform shows with two other women at 3 and 8:15 p.m. Saturday at the academy, according to a poster advertising the event.

Curtis King, founder and president of The Black Academy of Arts and Letters, released a written statement late Saturday saying the organization would immediately implement en-

hanced safety measures due to the "unprecedented incident" earlier in the day.

The heightened security measures include amplifying screening processes and decreasing the number of entry points into the building to allow for a more focused approach on prohibiting weapons from the building.

"For 48 years, TBAAL has proudly maintained a tradition of safe, family-oriented events and a welcoming environment," King wrote. "Our audiences are made up of responsible citizens, upstanding members of the community, and ardent supporters who trust us to provide a secure space to enjoy the arts."

King said the organization's volunteers and board of directors are well trained and play an integral role in TBAAL's success.

"As we continue forward, our mission to enrich the community through the arts remains unwavering," he wrote.

TBAAL is a "multi-discipline arts institution whose mission is to create and enhance an awareness and understanding of artistic, cultural, and aesthetic differences utilizing the framework of African, African American and Caribbean Arts and Letters," according to its website.

Staff writer *Devyani Chhetri* contributed to this story.

WINGS OVER DALLAS

Nearly two years after midflight crash killed 6, federal inquiry nears end



File Photo

This image released by the National Transportation Safety Board shows a Boeing B-17 Flying Fortress (left) and a Bell P-63F Kingcobra (center) just before their midair collision over Dallas Executive Airport during the Wings Over Dallas air show Nov. 12, 2022. The agency initially said the final report on the crash would probably take 12 to 18 months. Now, officials say it is likely to be published near the two-year mark.

Event's fate is still up in the air

By **LANA FERGUSON**
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The federal investigation of the midair collision between two World War II-era aircraft that killed six experienced crewmen in front of a large crowd in Dallas almost two years ago is nearing a close, while the fate of the air show remains undecided.

The National Transportation Safety Board launched an investigation soon after the crash between a Boeing B-17 Flying Fortress and a Bell P-63 Kingcobra during the

Commemorative Air Force's annual Wings Over Dallas event at Dallas Executive Airport.

The victims

The crash on Nov. 12, 2022, killed Terry Barker, Craig Hutain, Kevin Michels, Dan Ragan, Lloyd "Len" Root and Curtis Rowe. No one else was injured.

Though the NTSB has not yet published a cause for the crash, some information tied to the collision has been released, including the NTSB's

preliminary report, the air traffic control recording from moments before the collision, and roughly 2,000 pages of documents tied to the investigation.

The status of the investigation is listed as "ongoing" on the agency's website.

In the days after the crash, the agency said the investigation would be a "long process" with the final report likely to take 12 to 18 months to complete. Now, officials say the report is likely to be published closer to the two-year mark.

"We are in the final stages of that investigation," an NTSB spokesperson wrote in an email last week. "The accident report is expected to be published in the coming weeks."

The aftermath

Wings Over Dallas, first held in 2016, hasn't resumed since the crash, and no decision has been made on whether it will.

The Commemorative Air Force

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POLITICS



GROMER JEFFERS JR.
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One race, multiple outcomes

The U.S. Senate showdown between Republican Ted Cruz and Democrat Colin Allred is one of the most watched Election Day contests in the nation, and its result will play a role in determining which party controls the Senate.

The outcome also will serve as a barometer on how firm a grip Republicans have on Texas, which for decades has been a reliably red state.

Allred, a Democratic congressman from Dallas and former NFL player, is trying to give his party its first statewide victory since 1994.

Cruz, the Republican incumbent, is seeking his third term and doesn't want to fumble away a seat in what polls show is another close election.

Here are some factors that could shape Tuesday's election, including the Texas race for president.

In 2020, Donald Trump beat Joe Biden in Texas by 5.6 percentage points, which meant he underperformed other Republicans on the ballot, including Sen. John Cornyn, who beat Democrat MJ Hegar by 10 points.

If Trump improves on his 2020 Texas totals against Vice President Kamala Harris, that should help Cruz.

A Trump slip could give Allred an edge after Cruz defeated Beto O'Rourke by only 2.6 percentage points in 2018.

Harris' performance will be important as well.

Allred needs her to turn out Democrats, particularly in the state's urban areas, and a late-October rally that drew 30,000 enthusiastic Harris supporters to a Houston arena could

See **ALL** Page 5B

LEGISLATURE '25

Texas agrees to delay Medicaid contract proposal

Move gives lawmakers time to weigh concerns about coverage changes

By **KAREN BROOKS HARPER**
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Texas health and human services officials have agreed to delay signing new Medicaid contracts until summer so lawmakers can weigh in on a proposal to force three nonprofit children's hospital plans out of

the program and change coverage for 1.8 million low-income Texans.

The delay, detailed in court filings last week, temporarily halts a challenge to a court-ordered ban on new contracts that included a proposed \$116 billion overhaul for managed care organizations covering low-income Texans in the state's Medicaid STAR program and Children's Health Insurance Program.

Officials with Cook Children's Health Plan in Fort

Worth, one of the nonprofits affected by the proposed changes, called the agreement good news and said it looks forward to working with lawmakers "to ensure a just and equitable solution."

"As we've consistently maintained, this issue is of paramount importance, affecting thousands of children and families in many underserved communities across Texas," officials said in a written statement to *The Dallas Morning News*. "This is undoubtedly the right

course of action. Thank you to everyone involved."

The proposed contract procurement, which emerged in March from an 18-month bidding process, would have displaced nearly half the Texans who receive Medicaid STAR and CHIP coverage from six managed care organizations across the state, switching them to new plans in late 2025.

It would have eliminated from the program health plans run for two decades by three of the state's four major nonprofit

children's hospitals: Cook Children's Hospital, Driscoll Children's Hospital in Corpus Christi and Texas Children's Hospital in Houston.

Dropping those three plans would displace about 700,000 members from their current coverage. Officials from Cook and Driscoll have said their plans would shut down if their contracts weren't renewed. The hospitals are not in danger of closing, officials have said.

The proposed change also would displace hundreds of

thousands of residents from three other plans that have operated under the program since 2012.

The number of national for-profit chains operating STAR and/or CHIP in Texas would increase under the proposed new contracts, displace highly rated plans with new untested ones, reduce the number of local managed care organizations and shrink the overall number of managed care organizations

See **NEW** Page 5B



Hojun Choi/Staff

The new passport office at the Collin County Courthouse in McKinney opens Monday. The county stopped processing applications in 2018 after a five-year fraud inquiry by the feds.

COLLIN COUNTY

Passport service finally resumes

Opening of new office today marks end of long wait after fraud inquiry

By HOJUN CHOI
Staff Writer
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More than five years after the State Department revoked Collin County's ability to process passports, the service is returning in a new office.

The office opens Monday at the Collin County Courthouse, 2100 Bloomdale Road in McKinney. In the first couple of months of operation, the passport office will only take appointment reservations through the district clerk's website.

All the time slots available Monday have been filled, Collin County District Clerk Mike Gould said.

The office, which will be open from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, could add walk-in hours in the future.

Collin County stopped processing passport applications in 2018 after a five-year investigation by the State Department into fraud at its passport offices.

Then-District Clerk Lynne Finley publicly refuted the fraud allegations, but the feds ultimately revoked the county's authorization to process passports at its Plano and McKinney offices. Finley lost to Gould in a 2022 primary race.

People have had options for accessing passport services in and near Collin County, such as some post offices and a passport office in a neighboring county. Before the county's two offices were shuttered, they processed

tens of thousands of passports annually.

"In preparation for the reopening, the District Clerk's office has implemented new procedures and auditing measures to ensure the highest level of accountability and customer service," the office said in an October news release.

Gould and other county officials went to Washington in March 2023 to meet with lawmakers to "seek their assistance" in getting the State Department to reinstate the passport services.

The State Department notified the county in February that its passport processing had been reinstated. County commissioners approved \$334,593 and five employees to start the new office as part of its 2025 budget adopted in August.

Gould said one of the positions, lead clerk, was filled internally. The clerks, lead clerk and a senior administrator from the district clerk's office will help ensure the accuracy of information on passport documents.

U.S. Rep. Keith Self, R-McKinney, who led discussions with the State Department, congratulated the district clerk's office shortly after its October announcement. He said Reps. Pat Fallon, R-Frisco, and Colin Allred, D-Dallas, were part of the effort.

"Passport assistance is one of the top requests my office receives, and having a local facility will streamline service and greatly benefit residents throughout the region," Self said in a statement Thursday.

MCKINNEY

Officer resigns after assault allegation

Attorney says he turned himself into authorities after learning of warrant

By ARIA JONES
and KELLI SMITH
Staff Writers

A McKinney police officer resigned Friday after allegations that he inappropriately touched a woman, his attorney confirmed.

Matthew Rehman was booked into the Collin County jail Friday on a charge of misdemeanor assault from the McKinney Police Department, online records show. He was released that day.

An attorney for Rehman, Todd Shapiro, said the officer gave his resignation Friday after learning of the warrant and surrendered himself to authorities. The alleged incident occurred when Rehman was at a golf tournament with the McKinney Police Association on Monday, Shapiro said.

"My hope is at some point in

some juncture, obviously, we find out all the facts as they pertain to this, and then we'll be able to hopefully get the charge dismissed or take the case to trial," Shapiro said.

Rehman worked for the department for two years, said McKinney police spokesman Darryl Saffold. He was previously listed online as a vice president for the McKinney Police Association. On Saturday, he was no longer listed on the website, and Rehman confirmed he stepped down from the association.

The association did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

"We take these matters very seriously, and both an internal and criminal investigation are underway to ensure a thorough and transparent process," Saffold said in an email.

Saffold declined to comment further, citing an active investigation.

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WEATHER

D-FW sees warmest October

With highest average on record of 75.7, North Texas faced unseasonable temps

By LANA FERGUSON
Staff Writer
lana.ferguson@dallasnews.com

Last month the Dallas-Fort Worth area topped the charts as the warmest October since the National Weather Service began record keeping in 1898.

The determination comes after a number of days last month were reported as unseasonably warm with above-normal temperatures.

The monthly average temperature for this October at DFW International Airport was 75.7 degrees, according to weather service data.

This year's average was a jump up from 69.2 in October 2023 and 69.1 in October 2022.

This October was the first to break 75 degrees for the monthly average, according to historical data. The previous warmest October was set at 74.1 degrees in 2016 followed by 73.5 in 1963 and 73.2 in 1947 and 1934.

Though this October was the warmest based on an average of the daily temperatures throughout the month, its hottest day was three degrees below the hottest maximum temperature record-



Smiley N. Pool/Staff Photographer

Even though this October faced the highest average, its hottest day was three degrees below the hottest maximum temperature in 2014 that hit 98 degrees.

ed in other Octobers.

The highest maximum daily temperature in October at DFW Airport was 98 degrees in 2014, historical data shows. The heat hit 97 degrees in October 1989, 1991 and 2019, and temperatures rose to 96 degrees in October 2015, 2017, 2020 and 2023.

October 2024's hottest day was 95 degrees on the 13th, tied with the hottest days in October 1990 and 2022.

There were eight days this October

that had a high temperature of 90 degrees or higher, according to a monthly report.

Seventeen days had highs in the 80s and five days had highs in the 70s. Only one day in the middle of the month had a high that didn't leave the 60s.

In addition to being warm, this October was also extremely dry.

No amount of traceable rain was recorded until nearly the end of the month.



Jacob Sanchez/Fort Worth Report

Students Ulises Hernandez (from left), Ava Berg and Bianca Lopez listened as Kathleen Barbee, vice president of Junior Achievement of the Chisholm Trail, asked a question during the nonprofit's annual breakfast on Thursday at the Omni Fort Worth Hotel. All three shared life lessons they learned through their time with the chapter.

FORT WORTH ISD

Three young students take the stage to share finance, career tips

After working with a local nonprofit, these adolescents open up to room of adults

By JACOB SANCHEZ
fortworthreport.org

Ulises Hernandez knows all about personal finance.

He can explain why you need assets and liabilities.

He even knows how to budget his money to cover his rent and other living expenses and still have money left over for savings and fun.

Ulises is a sixth grader at Fort Worth ISD's Applied Learning Academy. He was one of three Fort Worth students who spoke about his experiences with Junior Achievement of the Chisholm Trail at the organization's recent annual breakfast.

The nonprofit teaches students financial literacy, work and career readiness, and entrepreneurship.

"We learned about finances by playing Monopoly," Ulises said. "The point of that was to figure out the difference between an asset and a liability, so we figured out what to sell to make money and what to keep to raise money."

Beyond their years

The ballroom on the second floor of the Omni Fort Worth Hotel filled with murmurs.

"Whaaaaaat," Kathleen Barbee, vice president of Junior Achievement of the

Chisholm Trail, said to laughs.

Ava Berg, a fifth grader at Eagle Mountain-Saginaw ISD's Hatley Elementary, recently learned about entrepreneurship. Afterward, Ava and a friend sat down and came up with a plan.

They want to start a groomer business, either for puppies or horses — Ava wasn't too sure just yet.

However, Ava knew the steps she needed to take first.

"To get everything we need, we're going to have to start with a little business. So we're going to start a lemonade stand to get enough money," Ava said.

Bianca Lopez learned about the career paths in front of her — an important lesson as she has a major decision to make soon.

She has to decide which high school to attend once she completes the eighth grade at the Leadership Academy at Forest Oak Middle School in Fort Worth ISD.

She also is deliberating over her career path.

At 13.

Bianca is still deciding, but Junior Achievement-sponsored field trips to Ben E. Keith and Autobahn helped her better understand the paths in front of her.

"I learned what I don't want to do because, yes, the field trips were fun and interesting, but I just realized that's not the line of work I want to do. It showed me what my true interests were," Bianca said, adding she loved sitting inside of expensive luxury cars.

Key takeaways

The trio learned other important life lessons through Junior Achievement.

Ulises learned about time management.

With quick glances at his watch, he even kept track of time as he spoke during the breakfast.

"If you can't manage your time, if you don't finish your job fast enough, then they'll just send someone else to do your job," he said.

Ava picked up useful hard skills, but she learned she will also need to know how to use soft skills to succeed in her future career.

"You have to have soft skills. You can have hard skills, and if you don't know how to work with other people, they might kick you out," Ava said to laughs.

"I'm being honest," she said, grinning.

Bianca learned the value and importance of communication and how to change up your style so you can listen to others.

"There's different ways of communication with people. You can't talk to one person like you would talk to the other," Bianca said.

Bianca encouraged students to explore different careers.

"Get to experience it yourself," she said. "Especially when you want to get a Porsche."

Fort Worth Report is a nonpartisan, nonprofit news source dedicated to providing free, fair and local reporting for our community.

ARLINGTON

Nuns say dismissal 'moot' in fiery response

Fort Worth diocese said membership in order has been revoked

By SARAH BAHARI
Staff Writer
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Arlington nuns at the center of a bitter dispute with the Fort Worth bishop called their dismissal from religious life ridiculous and egregiously false.

In a fiery response Wednesday, the nuns said the dismissal, announced last week by the Fort Worth diocese, is a "moot point" because they do not recognize the authority of Mother Marie of the Incarnation, who issued the order.

"The Vows we have professed to God cannot be dis-

missed or taken away," the nuns said in the written statement. "By virtue of them we belong to Him and are His."

Mother Marie said in a statement the women are no longer considered nuns by the Vatican, nor are they members of the Order of Discalced Carmelites, to which they belonged. The statement said they could return as nuns only if they repent.

But the nuns said the dismissal is invalid because they have aligned with the traditionalist Society of St. Pius X. In their statement, the nuns appeared to take aim at Fort Worth Bishop Michael Olson, with whom they have been locked in a feud for the past year-and-a-half.

"Disputes about one man's wishes and man-made rules do not exclude us from the Church," the nuns said. "Given that we pray every day for the Holy Father, Pope Francis and our Ordinary, Michael Olson, any claim that we have departed from the Catholic faith is ridiculous."

A spokesperson for the diocese directed questions to an attorney for Mother Marie. The attorney did not immediately respond to an email Wednesday night from *The Dallas Morning News*.

Beginning of feud

The feud between the nuns and diocese began in April 2023 when the bishop accused

the Rev. Mother Teresa Agnes Gerlach, the monastery's head nun, of violating her vow of chastity with a priest. The reverend mother and monastery then filed a civil lawsuit against the bishop and diocese, accusing Olson of invading the sisters' privacy and overstepping his authority.

Since then, the extraordinarily public battle has included dueling statements, civil court hearings and police investigations, drawing both local and international attention.

Gerlach told Catholic church leaders that she broke her vow of chastity, but has also said she only spoke to the priest by phone. The reverend mother has been hospitalized for seizures and was taking pain

medication as a result. Gerlach uses a wheelchair and needs a feeding tube.

Olson attempted to dismiss Gerlach in 2023, but the nuns refused to recognize the bishop's authority. In August 2023, Olson warned they could face excommunication if they continued to do so.

Fight escalates

Earlier this year, the Vatican weighed in and placed the nuns under new authority, an association of Carmelite nuns led by Mother Marie of the Incarnation. But the Arlington nuns said the decree amounted to a hostile takeover, and they have barred both Olson and Mother Marie from the premises.

In September, the nuns reopened the monastery to the public for prayer and daily Mass. In response, Olson warned members that worshipping with or providing financial support to the nuns would amount to "scandalous disobedience."

The nuns also transferred ownership of their monastery, set on 72 wooded acres in Arlington, to a new foundation. The women have said for months that Olson started the feud in a bid to acquire the land, which he has denied.

The nuns live and work at the Arlington monastery, rarely leaving the premises. Before last year, they had little interaction with the Fort Worth diocese.

Dallas air show's fate still undecided

Continued from Page 1B

hosted its annual Veterans Day event without an air show last year, restructuring it to have more of a festival atmosphere.

The event, deemed Aviation Discovery Fest, returned for a second year earlier this month sans an air show. More than 6,000 people attended both years.

Although organizers last year said they intended to bring back the air show in 2024 and although the organization hosts air shows throughout Texas, including the CAF Wings Over Houston air show the weekend before last this past weekend, the Commemorative Air Force has not determined whether it will resume hosting air shows in Dallas, the group's vice president of marketing, Leah Block, said in

an Oct. 28 email.

At least two lawsuits stemming from the crash are pending.

The wife and daughters of Len Root, a retired American Airlines pilot who was the copilot of the B-17 Flying Fortress, filed a lawsuit August 2023 in Dallas County against the Commemorative Air Force, American Airpower Heritage Flying Museum Inc. and American Airpower Heritage Museum Inc.

The mother, wife and sons of Terry Barker, also a former American Airlines pilot copiloting the Boeing aircraft, filed a lawsuit in Dallas County against the same defendants and air show boss days after Roots' family, an online filing shows.

Both lawsuits are scheduled for a jury trial Aug. 12, 2025, according to online records.



2022 File Photo/Shafkat Anowar

David Coleman of Hutchins (left); his wife, Diane Holley; and his daughter Christy Coleman of Mesquite prayed with muralist Roberto Márquez in front of a memorial at Dallas Executive Airport dedicated to the six crew members killed in a midair crash at Wings Over Dallas two days earlier.

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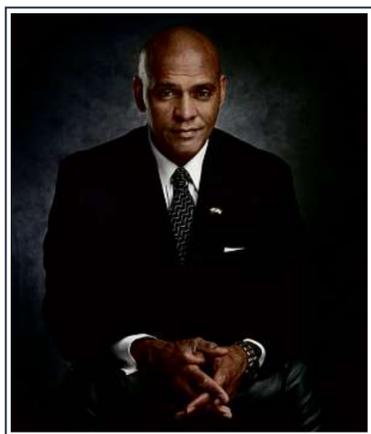
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The Metrocrest Hospital Authority intends to sell certain real property on or about December 6, 2024 to the Town of Addison, City of Carrollton, City of Coppell, and the City of Farmers Branch. The property is the western approximately 4.3 acres out of Lot 2, Block 1, Trinity Medical Center Lots 1R1, 2, & 3, Block 1, an addition to the City of Carrollton, Denton County, Texas, according to the plat records of Denton County, Texas. This Notice is provided in compliance with Sec 262.032 of the Texas Health and Safety Code.

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Bids & Proposals

PUBLIC RELEASE - BID ANNOUNCEMENT

Child Development Schools, Inc. (CDS), d/b/a Childcare Network located at 6053 Veterans Parkway Ste 204 Columbus, GA 31909 is accepting formal Invitation for Bids for food items for the Child and Adult Food Care Program (CACFP). CACFP is a federal nutrition program funded by the USDA to ensure children and adults throughout Georgia have access to nutritious meals. Child Development Schools, Inc. (CDS), d/b/a Childcare Network will be serving an estimated 120,000 meals for breakfast, lunch and snack Monday-Friday across the states of AL, AR, AZ, FL, GA, KY, NC, OK, TN, TX, and VA. We are seeking vendors who can service for the procurement of all food, paper, and cleaning products to be used for food services in child care centers in our eleven states. Affirmative steps shall be taken to ensure Small, Minority and Women Owned Businesses/Enterprises are utilized when possible.

The contract period is December 1st 2024 thru September 30th 2025. The renewals will follow the CACFP Fiscal Year of October 01 to September 30

Interested respondents should contact Kimberly Harrison, USDA Coordinator at (706) 562-8600 Ext. 7051 or email kharrison@childcarenetwork.com in order to receive a solicitation package. The invitation for Bid will close on Tuesday, November 19th, 2024, and must be submitted to Ms. Harrison no later than 5:00pm through email or mail. If sent via email, you will receive a response confirming receipt of the bid in the subject line. If mailing, please mail certified mail, return receipt requested to Child Development Schools, Inc. (CDS), d/b/a Childcare Network, Attention Kimberly Harrison, 6053 Veterans Parkway Columbus, GA 31909. The return receipt will serve as confirmation that the bid was received.

A virtual bid opening will be held on Friday, November 22, 2024 at 10:00am through Zoom. The link information is: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/77423195577?pwd=517G6ZlYBeA2NZAOUuMUAQ530Qp4JDx.1> Meeting ID: 774 2319 5577 Passcode: 5hu966 Contracts will be reviewed by Bright from the Start.

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NOTICE TO BIDDERS - City of Carrollton, Texas

Bids for 25-008 Boring and Trenching and 25-013 Water Chemicals will be accepted via the IonWave Technologies, Inc., bidding system <https://carrolltonbids.ionwave.net/Login.aspx> until the hour as specified below, at which time bids duly delivered and submitted will be considered for supplying the items listed below.

Description	Publication Dates	Opening Date	Opening Time
BID #25-008 Boring and Trenching	11/04/24 & 11/11/24	11/20/24	3:00 PM
BID #25-013 Water Chemicals	11/04/24 & 11/11/24	11/20/24	3:30 PM

CITY OF HEATH LEGAL NOTICE REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Sealed proposals addressed to the City of Heath, (Owner) will be received at Heath City Hall located at 200 Laurence Drive, Heath, TX 75032 until 2 P.M. on November 22, 2024. Sealed proposals will then be promptly opened and read for furnishing all necessary material, equipment and labor required for the construction of the following project:

CITY OF HEATH PUBLIC WORKS OPERATIONS BUILDING

The project includes constructing a 10,859 SF single-story building with a 1,222 SF storage mezzanine. The building program includes administrative offices, staff support areas, maintenance shop, warehouse storage area, and associated mechanical, electrical, plumbing, fire suppression, and fire alarm systems. Site work generally includes concrete pavement, water main and service, sanitary sewer main and service, stormwater detention pond, franchise electric and gas services, emergency electric generator, lighting, landscaping, and irrigation system at the Public Works Operations Center, 1284 FM 740 Heath, TX 75032.

No bids will be opened or considered if received after the specified time.

Prequalification is not required. The City reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive any irregularities and/or accept the bid or bids deemed best for the City.

Bidders must submit with their bids a Cashier's Check or a Certified Check in the amount of five (5%) percent of the maximum amount of bid payable without recourse to the Owner or a Bid Bond in the same amount. The successful Bidder will be required to furnish a Performance Bond in the amount of the contract, a Payment Bond for the protection of all claimants supplying labor and materials, and a two-year, 100% Maintenance Bond.

Contract Documents, Proposal Forms, Specifications, and Plans are on file and may be examined without charge at the offices of the Engineer, Freeman-Milligan, Inc. located at 9330 Lyndon B. Johnson Fwy., Suite 1225, Dallas, TX 75243, and obtained at www.civcast.com. All questions are required to be asked from the CIVCAST website. Available beginning November 5, 2024.

/s/ Norma Duncan, City Secretary

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The Town of Addison is accepting submittals for Jimmy Doolittle Reconstruction Project. Submittals will be accepted until 2:00 p.m., 12/5/24 at the Finance Building, 5350 Belt Line Rd., Dallas, Texas 75254 at which time they will be opened. Late submittals will not be considered. Specifications and other information are available on www.civcastusa.com. The Town reserves the right to waive any formalities and to reject any or all submittals and to select the submittal deemed most advantageous to the Town.

Pre-Bid: 11/13/24, 1:00pm local time; Addison Airport Administrative Building, 4545 Jimmy Doolittle Drive, Addison, TX 75001

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METRO

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O'BRIEN, Patricia Brown

O'BRIEN, Patricia Brown



Patricia Brown O'Brien (Pat) of Dallas, Texas died peacefully at home surrounded by her family on October 29, 2024. Born on July 21, 1935, she was the daughter of Ethel Mae Ryan and William Joseph Brown.

Pat fell in love with Neil Justin O'Brien, another Dallasite. They married in 1956 and were inseparable for almost 70 years. Throughout her life, Pat was the epitome of a loving wife, mother, grandmother, great grandmother and friend.

A 1952 Ursuline Academy graduate, the Ursuline tradition ran deep in Pat's family: her mother-in-law, Alice Hickey O'Brien (class of 1922), both her daughters, a daughter-in-law, and numerous granddaughters also attended. Pat served as a long-time member of the Ursuline Foundation Board and was instrumental in leading capital campaigns. In 2016, Ursuline presented Pat and Neil with their President's Award for extraordinary leadership in the school community.

Pat attended St. Mary's of Notre Dame and completed her education graduating from SMU in 1956.

Because of her love for her grandson, Luke, who was born with Down syndrome, Pat became highly involved with Notre Dame School of Dallas, raising money for a \$2 million project and creating a \$250,000 endowment. She was a Member and President of their Board and chaired their annual gala. It was said of Pat that she was "loyal, generous, hardworking and always came from her heart."

The call to Serviam, which she learned at Ursuline, meaning I serve, was what drove her.

Pat was a woman of great faith and was a lifelong member of Christ the King Parish, where she served early in her adult life as President of Christ the King School's PTA. She was on the Board of Trustees for Catholic Charities and was also involved with The Catholic Foundation where she and Neil were recognized as Volunteers of the Year. Pat was also dedicated to Jesuit College Preparatory School of Dallas, where Neil and her two sons graduated, and where she and Neil received the St. Aloysius Gonzaga Award, one of Jesuit's highest honors, awarded to those individuals who exemplify the Jesuit spirit of service to others.

In addition to those involvements and so much more, Pat was on the Agency Review Committee of the United Way of Metropolitan Dallas, where she became board chair in 1996-1997. She was an active member of the Junior League, participating in recent years in their Topics & Trends Study Group.

She did this service never to get attention herself, but always for the purpose of improving the lives of others. One can easily see why Neil called Pat, "Ol' Roll 'Em 'Up", because she rolled up her sleeves and got to work every day.

She had fun, too, with lots of hobbies and lighter activities. Pat played bridge with friends and at the Bridge Academy of North Dallas for many years with Neil. She played Onze with friends at Brook Hollow where she and Neil were members. She enjoyed ice skating, tennis, walking and reading. Pat knit baby blankets for newborn babies in need, and listened to music, constantly, if she could. The songs she loved the most are what sustained her through her final few days. She often joked that she was going to come back as a singer and dancer in her next life. Maybe she wasn't kidding.

Pat loved her early days at Camp Waldemar in Hunt, Texas, for which her daughters, many granddaughters and now great granddaughters have a shared joy. She and Neil belonged to Little Sandy Hunting & Fishing Club, which they loved. They traveled extensively. In 2005 they took their entire family - four children and their spouses, with their 16 grandchildren, on a first-class trip to Italy, "A table for 26, please." During this excursion, they all enjoyed a private family tour of the Vatican and Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel.

Known affectionately as "PBOB" by her grandchildren and great grandchildren, she loved to open her house for Saturday lunch with lots of little ones swimming, jumping on the trampoline and playing basketball in the backyard.

Pat was predeceased by her parents and both of her siblings, Bill Brown of Oklahoma City, and Joy Bell of Dallas.

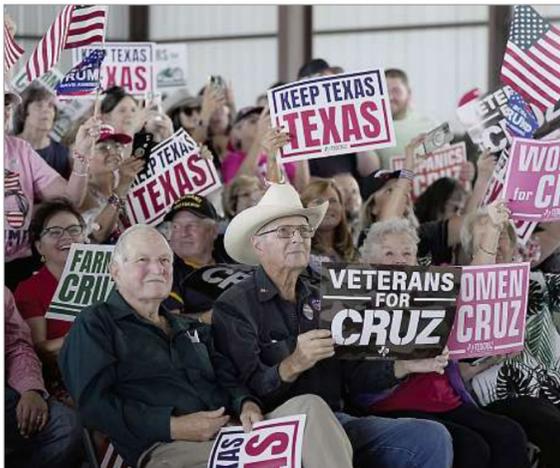
She is survived by her husband Neil, children Cynthia O'Brien Robinson (Tim), Scott O'Brien (Anne Wunderlick), Laurie O'Brien Todd (Carter), Rick O'Brien (Caroline Clark), grandchildren Laurie (Dan Schmidt), Jill (Michael Hylden), Amy (Cameron LaGrone), Luke, Patrick (Katie Schermerhorn), Buck (Kari Pinke), Jake (Natalie Crain), Pete (Brenna Linehan), Molly (Patrick Yen), Neily (Wilson Boyd), Jennie (Jeremy Jones), Hudson (Josie Smithson), Cate (Jack Mallick), Gretchen, Meg, Elly, and 23 great-grandchildren, Walker, Elliot, Charlotte, Marshall, John Michael, Parker, Jackson, Henry, Annie, Johnny, Grace, Lela, Declan, Beverly, Remy, Tate, Finley, Barnes, Lawrence, Audrey, Carter, Hayden, Felix, and several more on the way.

A funeral mass for Pat will be held on Thursday, November 7 at 12:30 p.m. at Christ the King Catholic Church, followed by a reception at Brook Hollow Golf Club. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to the Notre Dame School of Dallas.

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For more information about Obituaries, contact us at

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Eric Gay/The Associated Press

Supporters cheered for Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, during a campaign rally Tuesday in Jourdan. Republicans have generally done well with rural and outer suburban voters.

GROMER JEFFERS JR.

All eyes are on result of Cruz, Allred race

Continued from Page 1B

be a wild card.

In many ways, the Senate race has enough distinguishing qualities that presidential coattails aren't as critical as they are for down-ballot candidates who are unknown to voters.

Still, most people turn out in presidential elections to vote for president, so it's all connected.

The new voters

Since Ted Cruz ran for re-election in 2018, the number of registered voters in Texas grew by nearly 3 million, giving both campaigns little or no information on their voting patterns, particularly for those who recently turned 18 and have no voting history at all.

Cruz is a national figure and well-known to voters across the country. It's likely new voters have formed an opinion of him

— negative or positive.

Allred is lesser known, and the party affiliation of new voters is not always clear.

Encouraging unknown voters to cast a ballot can be risky, sending an opponent's supporters to the polls.

Previous elections show the swelling voter rolls have not changed the state's partisan power dynamic, though the results of statewide elections are closer than they were a decade ago, when Texas Gov. Greg Abbott beat Democrat Wendy Davis by 20 percentage points.

Abbott won his latest race by 11 points in 2022.

Urban vs. rural

Republicans win in Texas by crushing Democrats in small towns and rural areas and winning the outer suburbs. If Cruz repeats the formula, he'll likely be headed to victory.



Annie Mulligan/The Associated Press

Supporters listened as Rep. Colin Allred, D-Texas, spoke at Texas Southern University on Tuesday in Houston. A win would be the first statewide victory for Dems since 1994.

"I'm watching the suburbs, places like Williamson County and Tarrant County," said political consultant Brendan Steinhilber.

Allred has focused much of his campaign on wooing independents and some Republicans. While the success of that effort is important, he'll need a big turnout from the five largest counties in the state.

Matt Angle, director of the Lone Star Project, said it would be ideal for Democrats and Allred if the five largest counties comprised 42% of the overall turnout.

"There's a concentration of Texans in the urban areas who support Democrats and are represented by Democrats, so it's critical for Democrats to turn out voters in those urban areas," Angle said.

Issues that resonate

Polls show border security is

the best issue for Cruz and Republicans.

Cruz has also hammered Allred on the question of transgender rights and tried to link Allred to Harris.

Allred is stressing the need to protect reproductive rights, blaming Cruz for supporting Texas' strict abortion ban that critics say has endangered the lives of women.

As important as those issues have been in the campaign, there's also the likeability and trust question.

Cruz has negatives that include his trip to Cancun during the 2021 winter storm.

Conservatives insist Allred is a pseudo bipartisan who most of the time marches in lockstep with leaders of his party, including former House Speaker Nancy Pelosi.

The candidate who is trusted by a majority of voters could have a distinct advantage.

New Medicaid contracts delayed so lawmakers can mull proposal

Continued from Page 1B

operating Medicaid programs in the state.

In the Fort Worth area, about 77% of Medicaid STAR and CHIP recipients would lose their current plan if Cook Children's Health Plan and Wellpoint, formerly Amerigroup, were eliminated. The four insurers that would operate in the area under the new plan are for-profit national chains, of which only Aetna currently operates in the area.

The proposed changes would require a massive outreach effort on the heels of the agency's botched 2023 reduction in Medicaid rolls, ordered by state and federal officials at the end of the pandemic emergency, that resulted in 2 million Texans losing coverage, more than half because of paperwork issues, not lack of eligibility.

The proposal has triggered criticism from lawmakers, hospitals and health care advocates who said the procurement was unfair, against the law and failed to take into consideration high performance ratings by plans that had been in the market for a decade.

The lawsuit also alleged the procurement was tainted by the early release of documents to Aetna Better Health of Texas — which wound up being one of the proposal's biggest winners.

Seeking specifics

HHS Executive Commissioner Cecile Erwin Young had defended the new contracts and was poised to sign them this year. In early October, state District Judge Laurie Eiserloh of Travis County blocked Young from finalizing the set of contracts.

On Wednesday, the state appealed Eiserloh's order but attached a joint motion to delay action on the case until the Legislature's regular session ends June 2, 2025.

The motion included an agreement to abide by the court-ordered ban until after the session, even if the appeals court does not pause the case. Aetna and Molina Healthcare of Texas, which would receive hundreds of millions in new contracts under the proposed procurement, have filed to intervene in the lawsuit and are expected to oppose the delay, lawyers for one of the plans said.

State Rep. James Frank, a Wichita Falls Republican and chair of the House Human



Juan Figueroa/Staff Photographer

Texas health and human services officials have agreed to delay signing new Medicaid contracts until summer to give lawmakers a chance to address concerns when the Legislature reconvenes at the Capitol in Austin (pictured).

Services Committee, said Wednesday he was glad lawmakers would get the chance to examine the laws that governed the entire process — something he had asked Young to do months ago.

He said he hoped to pass legislation to "take a more specific, thoughtful approach to the procurement and management of MCOs that provide Medicaid managed care to millions of Texans."

"I believe there is a need for much more specific legislative direction in the managed care procurement process," he said in a written statement. "At a minimum, this must include at least some consideration of actual plan performance."

In an earlier plea filed with the court, lawyers for Aetna asked for the opportunity to defend the company against allegations made by plaintiffs that the process had been tainted and was illegal.

The contracts, Aetna lawyers said, were selected "through a fair, transparent and objective bidding process."

"HHSC's procurement and scoring processes were lawful and well within the agency's broad discretion," the brief said. "Aetna won contracts in its service areas on objective and appropriate merit."

Performance concerns

Texas' Medicaid STAR and CHIP pro-

vide coverage for a range of medical services, including routine, acute and emergency care.

The STAR program primarily serves pregnant women and low-income children and their caregivers. CHIP offers health coverage to children from low-income families whose earnings exceed Medicaid's eligibility threshold — which in Texas is among the lowest in the nation.

Texas is among 10 states that have not expanded access to Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act and has the highest rate of uninsured residents in the country.

Medicaid managed care contracts are among the most expensive state contracts, and those in Texas are some of the nation's highest. This is the third time the state has failed to successfully procure new contracts for the STAR and CHIP programs.

In an August letter to Young, Frank asked the agency to delay the contracts "so the legislature can provide additional clarifying direction that would include at least some reliance on past performance."

"The main problem I have with this proposal is that many of the best-performing plans — according to HHSC's own measurements — were not awarded a new STAR/CHIP contract," Frank wrote. "Either the state's quality measures are not accurately identifying the best plans, or the procurement process is not."

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GOLD STANDARD AUCTIONS



5-DAY FORECAST FROM NBC 5 WEATHER EXPERTS David Finrock, Samantha Davies, Rick Mitchell, Grant Johnston, Kevan Smith, Adrienne Vonn

TODAY Wind S 10-20 UV Index: 1. On a 15-point scale, 1 is low Ozone: Green, good



24-hour high 77 24-hour low 56

Hour-by-hour forecast table with times and temperatures

Forecast for Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday with weather icons and conditions

DIARY

Table showing yesterday's temperatures and relative humidity from midnight to 11 p.m.

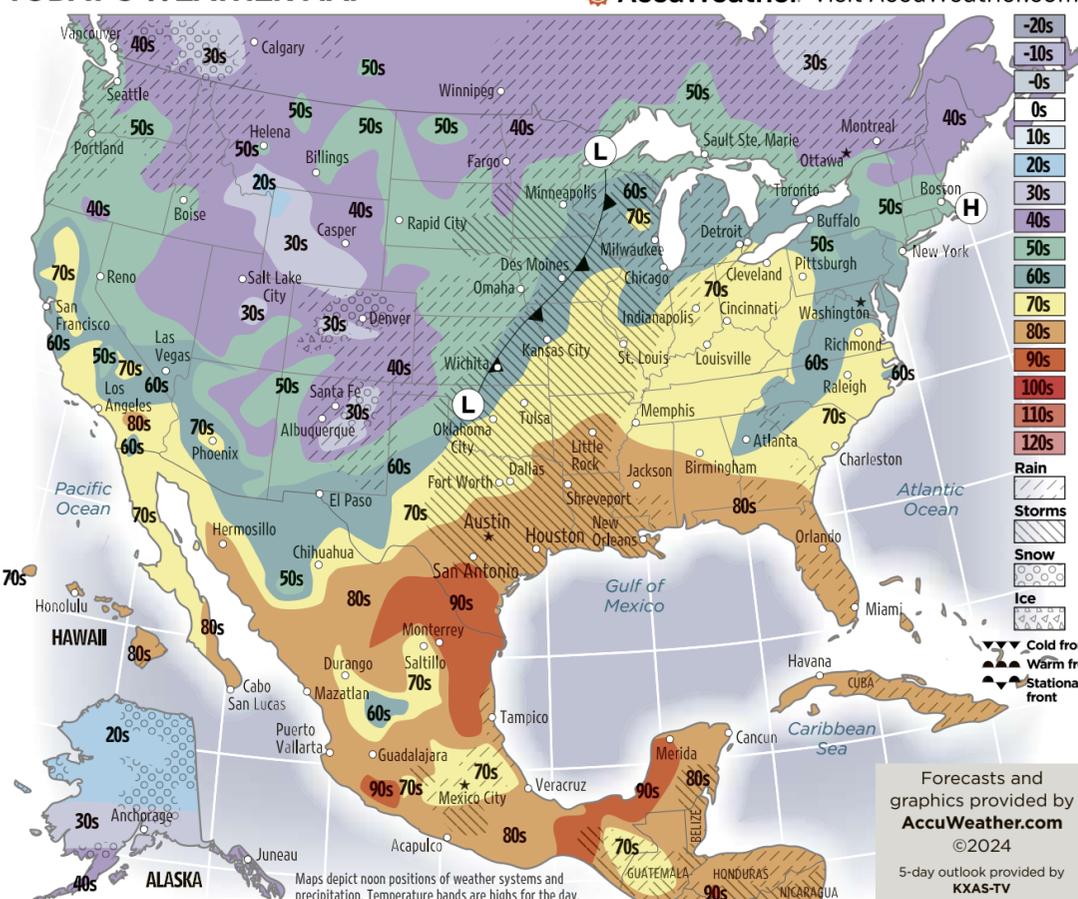
DAILY HIGH 80 at 3:53 p.m.

Temperatures are forecast estimates.

WIND CHILL

Wind chill chart showing temperature and wind speed combinations

TODAY'S WEATHER MAP



NATIONAL HIGHS, LOWS & FORECAST

Table listing national high and low forecasts for various cities across the country.

HIGHS & LOWS U.S. HIGH

Table showing high and low temperatures for Laredo, Texas and other locations.

DUST & DANDER

Today's Dust & Dander Forecast: Low. Indoor dust and dander levels will be low.

INTERNATIONAL FORECAST & HIGHS AND LOWS

Table providing international forecasts for Mexico, Canada, Asia-Pacific, Europe, Latin America-Caribbean, and Africa.

SKY WATCH



First qtr. Nov. 8, Full Nov. 15, Last qtr. Nov. 22, New Dec. 1. Sunrise, Sunset, Moonrise, Moonset times.

Venus, the brilliant Evening Star, is quite low in the southwest as night falls.

by UT McDonald Observatory, 512-471-5285, www.as.utexas.edu/mcdonald/mcdonald.html

The Planets

Table showing the rise and set times for Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune.

OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES HUNTING FORECAST

4 Fair. The AccuWeather Hunting Forecast accounts for the solar and weather factors that play a role in hunting.

RUNNING FORECAST

5 Good. The AccuWeather Running Forecast takes into consideration all of the weather factors that impact your safety, comfort, and ability to run outdoors.

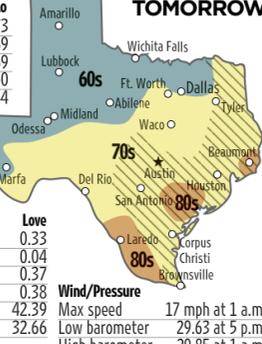
FISHING FORECAST

4 Fair. The AccuWeather Fishing Forecast combines solar and weather information to measure the day's peak conditions for fishing.

FOR THE RECORD

Table showing record high and low temperatures for D/FW Int'l Airport and other locations.

TEXAS TOMORROW



TEXAS REPORT

Table showing weather reports for various Texas cities, including high and low forecasts.

FORT WORTH

City marks Arbor Day with 3 new 'heritage' trees

Outgoing parks director says event is testament to environmental success

By NICOLE LOPEZ fortworthreport.org

Richard Zavala, Fort Worth's retiring parks and recreation director, commenced Arbor Day on Friday by reminiscing on previous celebrations.

His first time recognizing Arbor Day was at Harrold Park in 1993, a year after he was named director. Arbor Day is a testament to the city's environmental successes, said Zavala.

"If you think about every holiday that we celebrate, it's about things that happened in the past. Arbor Day is about things that will happen in the future and that is just amazing," said Zavala.

This year, the parks department celebrated the event by adding three trees to the city's Heritage Tree Program. Created in 2009, the program gives tree species a "heritage" status to promote their significance to the community.



City of Fort Worth

The Millennium Tree outside the Tarrant County Courthouse is one of three trees granted a "heritage" status for Arbor Day on Friday. Planted by the city in 1895, the tree signifies the start of new beginnings.

significant to the region; be located on a historic site or contribute to the history of an area; or serve as a well-known landmark and contribute to significant community ties in order to earn the status, according to the program's website. The first tree honored for its significance was the Camp Bowie Arizona Ash. Now considered vulnerable, the species' presence in Tarrant County was first discovered in 2018 but was likely present several years prior, city forester Craig Fox said.

the division headquarters for the historic training site that was Camp Bowie.

The Millennium Tree was the second species given the heritage status. Planted by the city in 1895 and located at the Tarrant County Courthouse, the tree signifies the start of new beginnings for the city and prosperity, Fox said.

The TCU Original Oak was the third and last tree to receive the honorary status. Its canopy overlooks the middle of the Texas Christian University campus. The tree represents the first graduating class from TCU's Fort Worth campus after the university first opened its doors in 1911.

The tree population in Fort Worth and the Heritage Tree Program support the city's goals surrounding open space and green space efforts, said City Council member Michael Crain.

"I'm very proud of this council and especially Mayor Mattie Parker, who has looked at how we are growing at an exponential rate here in Fort Worth, Texas, trying to figure out how we save open space," said Crain.

Open space in Fort Worth has become a top priority under Parker's leadership, since voters approved \$15 million in bond funding in 2022 to go toward the conservation program. She also launched her Good Nutured initiative in October 2023, which aims to preserve 10,000 acres of green space, including parkland, by 2028.

"Arbor Day has been a celebrated observance, which promotes the planting care and preservation of trees," said Parker in a proclamation read by Crain. "Trees foster a more sustainable community in which to live, work and play."

Fort Worth Report is a nonpartisan, nonprofit news source dedicated to providing free, fair and local reporting for our community.



NEXT: vs. Philadelphia, 3:25 p.m. Sunday (Ch. 11)

Cowboys/NFL coverage inside, 4-7C

TAKEAWAYS: While Dak Prescott was always on the run, his counterpart, Kirk Cousins, was unbothered and efficient. **4C**
STINGING LOSS: Owner Jerry Jones was emotional while discussing the team's struggles but remains optimistic. **5C**
THE WOUNDED: Prescott, CeeDee Lamb and Tyler Guyton joined the long list of Cowboys battling injury. **6C**

Feeling the pain

Dallas struggles early; Dak (hamstring) misses 4th stanza



Elias Valverde II/Staff Photographer



TIM COWLISHAW
 tvcowlshaw@dallasnews.com

Cowboys keep 3rd-quarter woes coming in Atlanta

Mike McCarthy was still talking to Fox Sports' Pam Oliver, telling the audience the one thing Dallas could not afford in the second half was getting behind the chains, when the whistle blew and referee Scott Novak cited tackle Terence Steele for a false start.

Yes, I know those interviews are recorded, but I'm talking about what the TV crowd saw, and it wasn't pretty Sunday. The Cowboys' entire 2024 season feels like a false start. And after a 27-21 loss to the Atlanta Falcons at Mercedes-Benz Stadium, Dallas is 3-5, trailing Washington by 3½ games. I'm checking the math to see if the Cowboys can be eliminated from the NFC East

See **3RD** Page 6C

Atlanta linebacker Arnold Ebiketie (on ground) sacks Cowboys quarterback Dak Prescott during the first half. Prescott finished the day 18-of-24 passing for 133 yards and a touchdown before exiting after three quarters with a hamstring injury. He also rushed three times for 30 yards.

Elliott's absence raises questions about continued role on team

COWBOYS INSIDER



DAVID MOORE
 dmoore@dallasnews.com

ATLANTA — You wonder what was going through Ezekiel Elliott's mind as he watched the Cowboys lose another game.

Does he feel bad that he wasn't here for his teammates? Not that his presence would have done much, if anything, to

avert a 27-21 loss to Atlanta. Those days are gone.

Does Elliott even want to finish out this 3-5 season for the Cowboys in his current role? Just as importantly, do the Cowboys want him back? Should they want him back? Answers to those questions

will come in the next 48 hours.

No one was saying much in the wake of the team's third consecutive loss. This is known:

Elliott has always had a casual acquaintance with punc

See **RESOLUTION** Page 5C

Quartered

The third quarter has not been kind to the Cowboys, especially in their five losses, being outscored 51-9. A breakdown, with opponent, final score and date:

6-3	New Orleans	44-19	Sept. 15
7-0	Baltimore	28-25	Sept. 22
10-3	Detroit	47-9	Oct. 13
21-0	San Francisco	30-24	Oct. 27
7-3	Atlanta	27-21	Nov. 3

SCORES

NBA, 3C		NFL, 7C	
at Dallas108	Atlanta126	at Atlanta27	Washington27
Orlando85	at New Orleans111	Dallas21	at NY Giants22
Detroit106		at Baltimore41	at Arizona29
at Brooklyn92		Denver10	Chicago9
		at Buffalo30	at Philadelphia28
		Miami27	Jacksonville23
		at Carolina23	Detroit24
		New Orleans22	at Green Bay14
		at Cincinnati41	LA Rams26
		Las Vegas24	at Seattle20
		LA Chargers27	at Minnesota21
		at Cleveland10	Indianapolis13
		at Tennessee20	
		New England17	

INSIDE

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Colleges9-10	Motor sports9	NHL2	Tennis8
Golf2,8	NBA3	Soccer2,8	Transactions8



Gareth Patterson/The Associated Press

Doncic starts fast in romp

Luka Doncic (left) scored 25 of his game-high 32 points in the first half, helping the Mavericks cruise to a 108-85 victory over short-handed Orlando, insider Mike Curtis writes. **3C**
 ■ Duncanville alum Anthony Black is earning a bigger role with the Magic. **3C**

STARS

Trip an eye opener

Stars insider Lia Assimakopoulos gained insight on her travels into the distance she has felt between the team's Finnish players and the media. **2C**

MOTOR SPORTS

Blaney makes finale

Ryan Blaney kept his bid to repeat as champion alive with a win at Martinsville, which lived up to its reputation for mayhem. **9C**

COLLEGES

SMU holds the keys

After its rout of Pittsburgh, the now No. 13 SMU football team controls its destiny in the ACC and playoff races, insider Shawn McFarland writes. **10C**

ALSO INSIDE

■ Bobby Witt Jr. won a Gold Glove for the first time. **3C**
 ■ Prosper Walnut Grove, Frisco Legacy Christian players recognized as week's best. **8C**

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TODAY'S TV

Table with columns: EVENT, TIME, TV. Lists various sports events including NBA, NCAA men's basketball, and NFL.

Table with columns: EVENT, TIME, TV. Lists various sports events including Ohio State vs. Texas, Rider at UCLA, and NCAA women's basketball.

TODAY'S RADIO

NBA: Indiana at Mavericks, 8:45 p.m., KEGL-FM 97.1 The Eagle
NFL: Tampa Bay at Kansas City, 7 p.m., KTCK-AM 1310; KTCK-FM 96.7 The Ticket
NCAA men's basketball: UNT-Dallas at UT-Arlington, 11 a.m., KTNO-AM 620; KMAD-FM 102.5 Radio Luz; Florida A&M at TCU, 7 p.m., WBAP-AM 820

MAIN EVENTS

Grid of event listings for Home Games in Bold, Cowboys, Mavericks, Stars, and Lone Star Park with dates and times.

THE LINE

Large table listing NFL, College Football, and NBA matchups with favorite, open, today, and underdog indicators.

BRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

GOLF
Takeda prevails in marathon playoff
SHIGA, Japan — Japan's Rio Takeda won the LPGAs To-to Japan Classic on Sunday in a playoff that lasted six sudden-death holes, defeating Marina Alex of the United States. It was Takeda's first victory on the LPGA Tour. Takeda made birdie on the par-5 18th to edge Alex after the pair tied at 15-under 201 through 54 holes.

ELSEWHERE

Moises Caicedo's stunning

long-range volley secured a 1-1 draw for Chelsea and left Manchester United on 12 points — its lowest total after 10 games in England's top-tier since the 1986-87 season.
Ademola Lookman netted twice in the first half as Atlanta stunned Serie A leader Napoli 3-0 on the road. It was Napoli's second loss of the season, and first since opening day.
The Netherlands' Abdi Nageeye and Kenya's Sheila Chepkirui used strong kicks in the final mile to pull away from their nearest competitors and win their first titles at the New York City Marathon.

NHL

Six eye-opening days in Finland

STARS INSIDER



LIA ASSIMAKOPOULOS
lia.assimakopoulos@dallasnews.com

'You don't realize the impact of the NHL is everywhere'

TAMPERE, Finland — Let me preface this by saying I'm not really the adventurous type.

I'm an indoorsy girl that lives for my routine and is rarely caught thrill-seeking. I refused to get on a roller coaster until high school, and it's taken me years to try foods I actually love because I convinced myself I wouldn't.

So, many of my experiences in Finland were out of character.

Whether it was experiencing a 100-degree temperature change from a Finnish sauna to the frozen Baltic Sea, or stomach-aching fish — my least favorite food — for the first time in 22 years because salmon soup is Roope Hintz's favorite, I told myself I'd commit to new experiences in Finland.

I figured it was the only way I'd be able to answer the questions I've had for the last 17 months.

Since I first started covering the Stars during the 2023 Western Conference finals, I felt a distance between the Finnish players on the team and the media. While we managed to bridge the gap with other European players like Nils Lundkvist and Radek Faksa, the Finns remained the most reserved.

I could never tell whether it was the language barrier, their personalities or something I wasn't doing right.

On my journey to Finland, I was on a mission to bridge that gap I've felt in the Stars locker



Lia Assimakopoulos/Staff Reporter

Lia Assimakopoulos visited Nokia Arena during the NHL Global Series in Tampere, Finland, on Saturday.

room — and learn more about where these players come from and how they've become the people and hockey players they are.

It didn't take me long to figure out where we had gone wrong. I never truly tried to meet them where they are.

Since the Finns arrived in Dallas, we've not only asked them to communicate in a language that isn't the one they're most comfortable with, but we've asked them to be comfortable in an environment that couldn't be farther from the one they were raised in.

There's no sea, no saunas on every street corner and not even a Finnish restaurant in Dallas, according to Hintz. The only way they feel connected to home is through cooking and spending time with each other.

In Finland, I witnessed a 180. I met Miro Heiskanen shortly after getting off the plane at the ice rink where he learned to play hockey. Compared to how he is in the Stars locker room, he was loquacious, chatting and laughing with his agents and the photographer we contracted in Finland. Not understanding a word of their conversation, I felt a role reversal. No wonder it

can be a challenge to get him to open up in Dallas.

That night, I shadowed Esa Lindell during his return to Jokerit, the Finnish professional team that he co-owns. Lindell may be the most open of the three Finns on the roster, known for always smiling and often cracking jokes. But somehow, he was even happier than normal. He said multiple times during the week that he got emotional — both during the Jokerit games and the Stars games. Those are emotions we rarely see from him.

With Hintz, it just took one conversation, largely not about hockey, to get a glimpse into his personality that it feels like he sometimes hides in Dallas. As we sat at a restaurant — and I tried to eat as much of the salmon soup as I could (I will admit: the broth had good flavor, but I just really don't like fish) — we talked some hockey, but spoke more about food, travel, fashion and his favorite places in Tampere, the area where he grew up. There's much more to him than the speed and goal-scoring abilities we see on the ice.

The non-Finnish Stars seemed to experience something similar to what I did this

STARS SCHEDULE

Table with columns: Date, Opponent, TV, Time. Lists Stars schedule for November.

week. Each time one of them spoke, they said how happy Heiskanen, Lindell and Hintz were. Everyone saw a different side of them once they were in their element.

Spending time in both Helsinki and Tampere gave me a glimpse into Finnish culture in general, beyond the three players on the Stars. The people were kind, polite and welcoming — but reserved at the same time. They have a lot of pride for their country, and especially the hockey players that come from it.

Stars coach Pete DeBoer made an interesting point on one of our last days there.

'Until you play overseas here, you don't realize the impact of the NHL everywhere in the world,' DeBoer said. 'It's eye-opening ... I foresee a worldwide NHL. There's always been rumblings about a European division of the NHL. I have no doubt at some point in the future — hopefully, I'm around to see it — that that'll be the case.'

Beyond the long travel, time change and logistical nightmare, it makes too much sense to have a European NHL division in the future, and Finland would undoubtedly be at the forefront if that proposal ever grows legs. The Global Series and February's 4 Nations Face Off are the first steps toward bringing it to fruition.

If that day ever does come, I hope I'm around, too. European players on the Stars and across the NHL deserve more opportunities to be met in their comfort zones — even if it means we have to eat some food we don't like and feel like our lungs are collapsing in the frigid Baltic Sea.

NHL AT A GLANCE | JETS 7, LIGHTNING 4

Jets quicker than Lightning

Ehlers becomes highest-scoring Danish NHLer of all time

WINNIPEG, Manitoba — Dylan Samberg scored the go-ahead goal midway through the third period to help the Winnipeg Jets to a 7-4 win over the Tampa Bay Lightning on Sunday.

Nikolaj Ehlers and Cole Perfetti added empty-net goals for the Jets, who lead the NHL with 22 points this season. It was a milestone goal for Ehlers, who became the highest-scoring Danish NHLer of all time with 474 points.

Alex Iafallo, Mark Scheifele, Logan Stanley and Vladislav Namestnikov also scored for the Jets. Nikita Kucherov, Mitchell Chaffee, Brayden Point and Brandon Hagel replied for Tampa Bay.

Connor Hellebuyck made 26 saves for Winnipeg. Jonas Johansson stopped 27 shots for Tampa Bay.

The Lightning gave the Jets all they could handle. Kucherov had a two-point effort, including his 10th goal of the season. The Lightning jumped out to an early 2-0 lead but Winnipeg pulled even early in the second period and never trailed from there.

Hurricanes 4, Capitals 2: In Raleigh, N.C., Dmitry Orlov had two goals to lead Carolina to a win over Washing-

NHL REPORT

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Table with columns: CENTRAL, GP, W, L, OTL, Pts, GF, GA. Lists Western Conference standings.

Table with columns: PACIFIC, GP, W, L, OTL, Pts, GF, GA. Lists Pacific Division standings.

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss. Top three teams in each division and two wild cards per conference advance to playoffs.

SATURDAY'S RESULTS

Table with columns: Team, Score, Location. Lists Saturday game results.

SUNDAY'S RESULTS

Table with columns: Team, Score, Location. Lists Sunday game results.

TODAY'S GAMES

Table with columns: Team, Location, Time. Lists today's game schedule.

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Table with columns: ATLANTIC, GP, W, L, OTL, Pts, GF, GA. Lists Eastern Conference standings.

Table with columns: METROPOLITAN, GP, W, L, OTL, Pts, GF, GA. Lists Metropolitan Division standings.

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss. Top three teams in each division and two wild cards per conference advance to playoffs.

SUNDAY'S RESULTS

Table with columns: Team, Score, Location. Lists Sunday game results.

TODAY'S GAMES

Table with columns: Team, Location, Time. Lists today's game schedule.

nesota to a win over Toronto.

Boldy and Marco Rossi worked a 2-on-0 breakout after defenseman Jared Spurgeon chased down a loose puck in the neutral zone. He fired down the ice to Rossi, who tapped it ahead to Boldy. The Wild forward made a move on Toronto goalie Anthony Stolarz to bury the game winner.

Filip Gustavsson made 27 saves in the win for Minnesota. Stolarz stopped 31 shots.

Ryan Hartman scored his third of the year on a goal that was initially reviewed to put the Wild up 1-0 midway through the first. William Nylander answered for Toronto with his team-leading ninth goal of the year.

Boldy's winner was the only shot on goal for either team in overtime. Minnesota improved to 1-2 in overtime, while Toronto is now 0-2 in overtime games.

Blackhawks 4, Ducks 2: In Anaheim, Calif., Connor Bedard had three assists, Teuvo Teravainen got his first goal in 10 games and the Chicago Blackhawks picked up their second straight win in Southern California.

Oilers 4, Flames 2: In Calgary, Alberta, Zach Hyman, Jeff Skinner and Mattias Janmark, with an empty-netter, scored for the Oilers (6-5-1). Edmonton goaltender Stuart Skinner stopped 29 shots in the win.

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MAVERICKS 108, MAGIC 85

Short-handed Orlando is no match

Doncic's 25 points in first half enough vs. Banchemo-less Magic

MAVERICKS INSIDER



MIKE CURTIS
mike.curtis@dallasnews.com

Orlando Magic coach Jamahl Mosely didn't want to say or do anything to antagonize Luka Doncic.

"I'm not trying to wake him up," Mosely said during his pre-game news conference.

But Doncic didn't need any additional motivation after a handful of sluggish first-half scoring performances through the first five games of the season. Also, the Dallas Mavericks collectively needed to get off to a better start in the first quarter. And what better of a time to do so than against a Magic team playing without its best player?

Doncic awoke from his offensive slumber by scoring 25 of his game-high 32 points in the first half, which helped the Mavericks (4-2) cruise to a 108-85 win Sunday over the Magic (3-4), who played without Paolo Banchemo.

It was apparent that Doncic rediscovered his offensive groove late in the second quarter of the game when he caught the ball in stride, positioned his



Gareth Patterson/The Associated Press

Luka Doncic, shooting over the Magic's Tristan da Silva, finished with 32 points, nine rebounds and seven assists.

Doncic entered the NBA in 2018. Doncic added nine rebounds and seven assists. He made 11 of his 22 field goal attempts.

Sunday's game marked the first time the Mavericks faced an Eastern Conference opponent after five consecutive games against intraconference foes. It was also the Magic's second game without Banchemo, who is out indefinitely with a torn right oblique. The third-year All-Star forward was fresh off the NBA's first 50-point performance of the season before the injury occurred Wednesday night in Chicago.

Franz Wagner led the Magic

in his absence with 13 points, six rebounds and six assists. Jalen Suggs added 10 points, four rebounds and two assists. Duncanville native Anthony Black played 21 minutes off the bench and finished with two points, four rebounds and two assists.

There were several other Mavericks who had productive nights. Daniel Gafford regained his footing and finished with 18 points and eight rebounds on 9-of-13 shooting from the field. He scored six points in his first four-minute stretch and all three of his field goals occurred in different ways. Gafford opened scoring for the Mavericks with a

MAVERICKS SCHEDULE

Day	Date	Opponent	TV	Time
Mon.	4	Indiana	Ch. 29	8:45
Wed.	8	Chicago	Ch. 29	7:30
Fri.	8	Phoenix	ESPN	6:30
Sun.	10	at Denver	Ch. 29	7:00
Tue.	12	at Golden State*	TNT	9:00

*-NBA Cup group stage games

hook shot, which was followed by an alley-oop dunk. He also hustled for a putback on a missed shot by Kyrie Irving.

"They said they were going to go to me with the first play and I said, 'OK, bet,' I just had to be ready for it," Gafford said. "I took my time and got my shot up. I feel like the flow of the game just came to me one play at a time down the stretch."

Irving scored 17 points and had three assists. Dereck Lively II recorded a double-double with 11 points and a season-high 11 rebounds. Klay Thompson added nine points, five rebounds and four assists.

Doncic's recent shooting struggles played a significant part of the Mavericks' first-quarter lulls, along with their excessive fouling and a lack of presence in the rebounding battle, but that wasn't the case on Sunday. Dallas closed the quarter on a 22-7 run and Doncic was on the floor for every second of it. It was the first time this sea-

son that Doncic played the entire first quarter, which was part of last season's regular rotation pattern. He finished the quarter with a layup as he was fouled by Jonathan Isaac with 0.5 seconds left on the clock.

Dallas expanded that scoring binge to a 32-9 run through the first two minutes of the second quarter, which opened up the game. Mavericks coach Jason Kidd pulled Doncic and Gafford, who were the last of his remaining starters, with a little under eight minutes left in the game. Doncic played 32 minutes, while Irving, Thompson and P.J. Washington had 28 minutes of action, which means they should be well-rested for the second night of a back-to-back in Monday's home game against the Indiana Pacers. Tip-off is slated for 8:45 p.m. since all 30 NBA teams will be in action ahead of Tuesday's league-wide off-night because of Election Day.

"It's really big. We took care of business tonight," Gafford said. "We got another team coming in and they play a lot of fast ball. Being able to get rest for them is going to be really good. But it is a later game so we're gonna get a lot of rest."

ANTHONY BLACK

Local product's role increases

Known for his defense, he's expected to get more chances to score

By COLIN CAPECE
Staff Writer
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For Magic guard Anthony Black, who played at Duncanville and was a five-star recruit in the class of 2022, Sunday's game against the Mavericks was both a homecoming and a chance to further solidify himself in Orlando's rotation.

With All-Star power forward Paolo Banchemo sidelined indefinitely with a torn right oblique, the Magic are going to need more from just about everyone on their roster going forward. Head coach Jamahl Mosley indicated before the game that Black would be one of the players Orlando would count on to fill the offensive void left by the loss of its lead scorer.

"It will be very similar to what we're asking from Jalen [Suggs] with regards to being a



Gareth Patterson/The Associated Press

Magic guard Anthony Black, a former Duncanville player, is expected to have an increased role with the team after the injury to star forward Paolo Banchemo.

table setter who pushes on the break and is smart enough to get everyone into our [offensive] actions," Mosley said, describing how Black's role will expand. "It's a great opportunity for him."

Black had a difficult rookie season after Orlando selected him sixth overall in 2023, averaging just 4.6 points and 1.3 assists per game, and he played in

less than 11 minutes of the Magic's seven-game playoff series with the Cavaliers. This season, however, Black has started to find his footing. He entered Sunday averaging 8.2 points and 4.5 assists per game while playing 26 minutes per game.

Black's signature moment of the year so far came Monday against the Pacers, when he drilled a go-ahead three with

33 seconds to go in the game. After playing 31 minutes, Black validated the trust his coach showed having him on the floor late in the game, and it appears Mosely isn't afraid to go back to him in another critical situation.

"He thrives in these moments, with his poise and his toughness," Mosley said. "He's been fantastic for us this year."

Black's increased offensive production has to be a welcome sign for Orlando, considering he was known more for his defense coming out of Arkansas. In his lone season with the Razorbacks, Black was third in the SEC in steals per game with 2.06 and set a freshman record with 74 total steals. Last season, Black had 35 steals in 69 games played.

"He's got a unique ability to defend guys, in a way that I haven't really seen before," Mosley said.

At Duncanville, Black was at the center of a lengthy legal battle over his eligibility. The UIL ruled him ineligible before

Mavericks 108, Orlando 85

ORLANDO	M	FG	3-pt	FT	Tot.	Reb.	Ast.	F	Stl	TO	Blk	Sea. Avg.	High Game
F. Wagner	25:11	6-15	1-2	0-0	13	1-6	6	3	0	0	0	17.7	29
da Silva	31:07	2-7	0-0	2-2	7	1-5	2	0	0	0	0	8.5	17
Carter Jr.	8:52	2-5	0-2	2-2	6	1-1	2	1	1	0	0	8.8	14
Caldwell-Pope	26:00	2-6	2-6	1-1	7	1-3	1	3	0	0	0	5.8	10
Suggs	28:39	4-13	1-5	1-2	10	1-4	2	2	1	1	2	18.7	28
Howard	22:08	4-12	2-8	2-2	12	0-1	0	1	1	2	0	4.3	12
Black	20:43	1-2	0-0	0-0	2	2-4	2	2	0	6	0	8.2	10
M. Wagner	20:30	3-10	0-0	4-4	10	0-6	0	4	2	0	0	11.5	18
Isaac	15:56	1-6	0-4	1-2	3	2-5	1	3	1	0	0	5.3	8
Anthony	14:22	3-6	1-2	2-4	9	0-3	3	2	1	1	0	2.0	9
Harris	14:19	2-6	0-3	0-0	4	1-1	0	0	2	1	0	4.0	18
Houston	6:59	1-3	0-0	0-0	2	1-2	0	1	0	0	0	2.0	6
Joseph	5:14	0-2	0-1	0-0	0	2-2	0	0	0	1	0	2.0	3
Totals	240:00	31-93	8-41	15-19	85	13-43	19	22	8	14	4	11.7	119

DALLAS	M	FG	3-pt	FT	Tot.	Reb.	Ast.	F	Stl	TO	Blk	Sea. Avg.	High Game
Thompson	28:36	4-10	1-5	0-0	9	1-5	4	0	0	1	2	15.6	22
Washington	28:26	3-4	1-2	0-0	7	1-4	2	1	1	1	0	10.2	17
Gafford	20:07	9-13	0-0	0-1	18	3-8	0	3	1	3	0	9.0	18
Doncic	31:43	11-22	5-13	5-7	32	1-9	7	3	0	4	0	27.2	40
Irving	28:26	5-11	1-2	6-7	17	0-2	3	2	2	1	0	24.6	35
Marshall	21:16	2-5	0-2	0-0	4	0-5	5	1	2	1	0	3.2	4
Lively II	20:05	5-7	0-0	1-3	11	4-11	1	3	0	1	0	9.0	15
Grimes	17:27	2-4	1-2	0-0	5	0-3	0	2	2	1	0	3.2	9
Dinwiddie	15:49	0-1	0-1	0-0	0	0-0	2	1	0	0	1	4.5	11
Hardy	8:34	1-3	1-2	0-0	3	0-1	0	1	0	3	0	3.0	11
Powell	7:48	0-0	0-0	0-2	0	0-2	0	3	0	1	2	1.5	4
Prosper	5:57	0-2	0-1	0-0	0	2-2	0	1	0	0	0	0.0	0
Williams	5:46	0-3	0-2	2-3	2	0-1	1	1	0	0	0	1.0	2
Totals	240:00	42-85	10-32	14-23	108	12-53	25	22	8	18	5	110.8	120

ORLANDO	1	2	3	4	OT	F	2FG%	3FG%	TFG%	FT%
ORLANDO	22	18	21	24	—	85	.442	.195	.333	.789
DALLAS	30	35	23	20	—	108	.604	.313	.494	.609

Halftime: Mavericks 65-40. Third quarter: Mavericks 88-61. Opponents' largest lead: 7. Mavericks' largest lead: 33. Lead changes: 1. Attendance: 19,977. Time: 2:19. Technical fouls: Mavericks (1) Doncic 8:10 3rd. Flagrant fouls: Orlando (1) Anthony-FLG1 5:46 4th. Officials: Ben Taylor, Aaron Smith, Pat O'Connell.

NBA AT A GLANCE

Hawks top Pels' reserves

New Orleans missing four starters; balanced effort carries Pistons

NEW ORLEANS — Jalen Johnson scored 29 points and the Atlanta Hawks snapped a four-game skid with a 126-111 victory over the short-handed New Orleans Pelicans on Sunday night.

Pelicans star forward Zion Williamson was scratched from the lineup with right hamstring tightness shortly before the game, leaving Brandon Ingram as the club's only usual starter in uniform.

Ingram scored 32, but it wasn't enough to overcome a Hawks squad with six players with at least 11 points.

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NBA REPORT

WESTERN CONFERENCE

W	L	Pct	GB	L10	Str
Oklahoma City	6	0.1000	—	6-0	W-6
Phoenix	5	1.833	1	5-1	W-4
Golden State	5	1.833	1	5-1	W-3
Dallas	4	2.667	2	4-2	W-1
LA Lakers	4	2.667	2	4-2	W-1
Memphis	3	3.571	2 1/2	4-3	W-2
San Antonio	3	3.500	3	3-3	W-2
Minnesota	3	3.500	3	3-3	L-1
Houston	3	3.500	3	3-3	L-1
Sacramento	3	3.500	3	3-3	L-1
Denver	3	3.500	3	3-3	W-1
New Orleans	3	4.429	3 1/2	3-4	L-1
LA Clippers	2	4.333	4	2-4	L-3
Portland	2	5.286	4 1/2	2-5	L-2
Utah	0	6.000	6	0-6	L-6

EASTERN CONFERENCE

W	L	Pct	GB	L10	Str
Cleveland	7	0.1000	—	7-0	W-7
Boston	6	1.857	1	6-1	W-2
New York	3	2.600	3	3-2	W-2
Miami	3	2.600	3	3-2	W-1
Chicago	3	3.500	3 1/2	3-3	L-1
Orlando	3	4.429	4	3-4	L-3
Atlanta	3	4.429	4	3-4	W-1
Brooklyn	3	4.429	4	3-4	L-1
Washington	2	3.400	4	2-3	L-1
Charlotte	2	4.333	4 1/2	2-4	L-1
Toronto	2	5.286	5	2-5	W-1
Detroit	2	5.286	5	2-5	W-1
Philadelphia	1	4.200	5	1-4	L-2
Milwaukee	1	5.167	5 1/2	1-5	L-5

SATURDAY'S RESULTS

Boston	113	at Charlotte	103
Memphis	124	at Philadelphia	107
at Toronto	131	Sacramento	128
Cleveland	114	at Milwaukee	113
Golden State	127	at Houston	121
at San Antonio	113	Minnesota	103
Miami	118	vs. Washington	98
at Phoenix	103	Portland	97
at Denver	129	Utah	103
Oklahoma City	105	at LA Clippers	92

SUNDAY'S RESULTS

at Dallas	108	Orlando	85
Detroit	106	at Brooklyn	92
Atlanta	126	at New Orleans	111

TODAY'S GAMES

Indiana	at Dallas	(Ch. 29) 8:45
Milwaukee	at Cleveland	6:00
Golden State	at Washington	6:15
LA Lakers	at Detroit	6:30
Boston	at Atlanta	6:45
Memphis	at Brooklyn	7:00
Sacramento	at Miami	7:15
Utah	at Chicago	7:30
New York	at Houston	7:45
Charlotte	at Minnesota	8:00
Orlando	at Oklahoma City	8:15
Portland	at New Orleans	8:30
Toronto	at Denver	9:00
Philadelphia	at Phoenix	9:15
San Antonio	at LA Clippers	9:30

Detroit. Tobias Harris and Malik Beasley scored 18 points each, Jaden Ivey finished with 15, Tim Hardaway Jr. added 14 and Jalen Duren had 13 for the Pistons.

Duren also grabbed 17 rebounds, and Detroit has won two of its last three games.

Leading by six points entering the fourth quarter, the Pistons held the Nets to 15 points in the fourth to earn their second win of the season.

The Hawks played without starter DeAndre Hunter, plus rotation players Bogdan Bogdanovic, Vit Krejci and Kobe Bufkin due to injury.

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BASEBALL BRIEFS

Royals SS Witt captures Gold Glove for 1st time

Kansas City re-signs Wacha; Nationals cut Gallo loose

ST. LOUIS — San Francisco third baseman Matt Chapman won his fifth Gold Glove and Kansas City shortstop Bobby Witt Jr. was among 14 first-time winners of baseball's most famous fielding honor.

Cleveland second baseman Andrés Giménez and left fielder Steven Kwan won for the third consecutive year along with Arizona first baseman Christian Walker and Chicago Cubs left fielder Ian Happ, Rawlings announced Sunday.

Rockies center fielder Brenton Doyle won for the second straight season.

Royals re-sign Wacha: The Royals are bringing back right-hander Michael Wacha on a three-year, \$51 million contract that includes a club option for the 2028 season, a

GOLD GLOVE WINNERS

Pos.	Player	Team
P	Seth Lugo	Royals
C	Cal Raleigh	Mariners
1B	Carlos Santana	Twins
2B	Andrés Giménez	Guardians

Replay Falcons 27, Cowboys 21

SCORING

	3	7	3	8	21
	7	7	7	6	27

FIRST QUARTER

Dal—FG Aubrey 34, 9:32.
Drive: 7 plays, 59 yards, 3:32.
Cowboys 3, Falcons 0
Atl—D.London 9 pass from Cousins (Koo kick), 5:23.
Drive: 7 plays, 78 yards, 4:09.
Falcons 7, Cowboys 3

SECOND QUARTER

Atl—Mooney 36 pass from Cousins (Koo kick), 8:28.
Drive: 5 plays, 53 yards, 2:50.
Falcons 14, Cowboys 3
Dal—Dowdle 3 pass from Prescott (Aubrey kick), 4:01.
Drive: 9 plays, 70 yards, 4:27.
Falcons 14, Cowboys 10

THIRD QUARTER

Atl—McCloud 11 pass from Cousins (Koo kick), 10:23.
Drive: 5 plays, 38 yards, 2:47.
Falcons 21, Cowboys 10
Dal—FG Aubrey 57, :00.
Drive: 9 plays, 22 yards, 4:11.
Falcons 21, Cowboys 13

FOURTH QUARTER

Atl—Allgeier 6 run (pass failed), 11:08.
Drive: 7 plays, 66 yards, 3:52.
Falcons 27, Cowboys 13
Dal—Tolbert 4 pass from Rush (Lamb pass from Rush), 1:28.
Drive: 14 plays, 86 yards, 3:28.
Falcons 27, Cowboys 21
A—72,665.

STATISTICS

COWBOYS													ATLANTA												
PASSING													PASSING												
Player	Att.	Comp.	Yds.	Sks.	TD	Lng.	Int.	Player	Att.	Comp.	Yds.	Sks.	TD	Lng.	Int.										
C. Rush	25	13	115	0/0	1	22	0	K. Cousins	24	19	222	2/12	3	36	0										
D. Prescott	24	18	133	3/7	1	27	0	Totals	24	19	222	2/12	3	36	0										
B. Anger	1	0	0	0/0	0	0	0	RUSHING																	
Totals	50	31	248	3/7	2	27	0	Player	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Lng.	TD	Player	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Lng.	TD						
RECEIVING													RECEIVING												
Player	No.	Yds.	Lng.	TD	Player	No.	Yds.	Lng.	TD																
C. Lamb	8	47	10	0	B. Robinson	7	59	29	0																
J. Ferguson	7	71	27	0	D. Mooney	5	88	36	1																
R. Dowdle	5	32	13	1	R. McCloud	3	28	11	1																
K. Turpin	3	36	22	0	D. London	2	27	18	1																
J. Tolbert	3	19	12	1	K. Pitts	1	11	11	0																
J. Brooks	2	26	16	0	H. Hodge	1	9	9	0																
H. Luepke	2	4	7	0	Totals	19	222	36	3																
R. Flournoy	1	13	13	0	PUNT RETURNS																				
Totals	31	248	7.9	2	Player	No.	FC	Yds.	Lng.	TD															
PUNTING													PUNTING												
Player	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TB	In20	Lng.	Player	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TB	In20	Lng.												
B. Anger	3	139	46.3	0	2	53	B. Pinion	5	245	49.0	0	1	62												
Totals	3	139	46.3	0	2	53	Totals	5	245	49.0	0	1	62												
KICKOFF RETURNS													KICKOFF RETURNS												
Player	No.	Yds.	Lng.	TD	Player	No.	Yds.	Lng.	TD																
K. Turpin	1	28	28	0	A. Williams	2	53	29	0																
[TOUCHBACK]	4	0	0	0	R. McCloud	2	42	21	0																
Totals	1	28	28	0	Totals	4	95	29	0																
INTERCEPTIONS													INTERCEPTIONS												
Player	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Lng.	TD	Player	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Lng.	TD														
None	0	0	0	0	0	None	0	0	0	0	0														
Totals	0	0	0	0	0	Totals	0	0	0	0	0														
FIELD GOALS													FIELD GOALS												
Player	M-A	Blk.	Dist.	missed	Player	M-A	Blk.	Dist.	missed																
B. Aubrey	2-2	NA	NA	NA	None	0-0	0	0	0																
Totals	2-2	NA	NA	NA	Totals	0-0	0	0	0																
DEFENSIVE STATISTICS													DEFENSIVE STATISTICS												
Player	T	A	S	Player	T	A	S	Player	T	A	S	Player	T	A	S										
E. Kendrick	5	4	0	T. Diggs	1	2	0	K. Ellis	8	5	1	D. Onyemata	2	0	0										
D. Wilson	4	4	0	M. Hooker	1	2	0	N. Landman	4	6	0	D. Malone	2	0	0										
C. Carson	6	1	0	C. Lawson	2	0	2	A. Terrill	5	4	0	M. Judon	1	0	0										
Overshown	4	3	0	L. Joseph	1	0	0	D. Alford	7	1	0	M. Hughes	1	0	0										
J. Lewis	4	2	0	C. Watkins	0	1	0	J. Bates	3	3	0	Smith-Williams	1	0	0										
C. Golston	2	3	0	T. Wheat	0	1	0	A. Ebiketie	3	2	1	T. Graham	0	1	0										
Odighizuwa	2	1	0					J. Simmons	3	1	0	D. Harris	0	1	0										
								G. Jarrett	2	0	1														

Passes defended — Cowboys 3 (Diggs 2, Lufau); Atlanta 4 (Alford 2, Bates, Judon)
 Fumbles forced — Cowboys 2 (Kendricks, Lawson); Atlanta none
 Fumbles recovered — Cowboys 1 (Wilson); Atlanta none

TEAM STATISTICS

DAL	ATL	Punts-avg.	3-46.3	5-49.0
Total first downs	23	17	Had blocked	0
Rushing	9	12	Total return yards	37
Passing	13	0	Punt return no.-yards	3-37
Penalty	1	0	Int. return no.-yards	0-0
3rd Down made-att.	3-13	4-13	x-Kickoff return no.-yards	1-28
3rd Down efficiency	23.1%	30.8%	x-not included in total return yardage	4-95
4th Down made-att.	1-5	2-2	Penalties-yards	9-55
Total net yards	378	310	Fumbles-no. lost	1-0
Total offensive plays	74	56	Touchdowns	2
Avg. gain per play	5.1	5.5	Rushing	0
Net yards rushing	137	100	Passing	2
Total rushing plays	21	30	Return	0
Avg. gain per rush	6.5	3.3	PAT made-att.	2-2
Net yards passing	241	210	Two-point conv. made-att.	1-1
Sacks-yards lost	3-7	2-1	Field goals made-att.	2-2
Gross yards passing	248	222	Time of possession	30:40
Att.-comp.-had int.	50-31-0	24-19-0		29:20
Avg. gain per pass	4.5	8.1		



Elias Valverde II/Staff Photographer

Cowboys running back Rico Dowdle (left) makes a juggling catch in the end zone in front of Atlanta Falcons cornerback **Dee Alford** late in the first half.



Photos by Elias Valverde II/Staff Photographer

Cowboys quarterback Dak Prescott throws on the run during the second half against the Atlanta Falcons. He was forced out of the game in the fourth quarter with a hamstring injury.

TAKEAWAYS

Season continues to unravel

Battered Prescott leaves game; Cousins tears up secondary

By **DAVID MOORE**
Staff Writer
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ATLANTA — The Cowboys are in bad shape. Not only did Dallas lose to Atlanta 27-21 to drop to 3-5, but they lost quarterback Dak Prescott in the fourth quarter with a hamstring injury. Running back Ezekiel Elliott never even made it to Atlanta for a disciplinary reason.

The season is unraveling. Philadelphia, next week's opponent, would love nothing more than to pull another thread.

Prescott hurting

Prescott, who had thrown two interceptions in three consecutive games, ended that streak Sunday. But he was under siege from the start. Prescott was forced to play from behind for most of the game, and the three sacks by Atlanta doesn't come close to getting across the pressure he was under. He rarely had time to get anything down the field and had to chip away underneath.

He finished completing 18 of 24 passes for just 133 yards and one touchdown. He was forced to leave the game in the fourth quarter with a hamstring injury, leaving the final 11:08 of the game to Cooper Rush.

Sinking deeper

Dallas lost its third consecutive game Sunday. It now has five losses, equaling its total in each of the last three seasons. The Cowboys haven't lost three straight since it carried



Cowboys defensive tackle Osa Odighizuwa (right) pressures Atlanta Falcons quarterback **Kirk Cousins** (18) as Cousins throws a pass during the first half.

a four-game losing streak into early November in Mike McCarthy's first season as the team's head coach. Those four losses in 2020 came immediately after Prescott suffered a compound fracture and dislocation of his ankle and was out for the season.

This is the first time Prescott has presided over three straight losses since he lost three straight heading into December 2019.

Turnover drought ends

A Dallas defense that once forced turnovers in bunches ended a two-game drought Sunday.

Defensive end Carl Lawson forced a fumble on a strip sack in the second quarter and safety Donovan Wilson recovered the fumble. It was the first turnover the defense had forced since a fumble against Pittsburgh on Oct. 6.

The Cowboys offense responded by giving the ball back to Atlanta on downs. Opportunity squandered.

Cousins carves up secondary

Atlanta's Kirk Cousins was the quarterback in Minnesota when Mike Zimmer was the head coach.

Zimmer, who is now the Cowboys defensive coordinator, was asked going into this game if his knowledge of Cousins would help.

"Well, Kirk has pretty good knowledge of me, too," Zimmer responded.

Edge, Cousins. The veteran quarterback completed 13 consecutive passes early in Sunday's game. When the Falcons took a 27-13 lead early in the fourth, Cousins was 18 of 21 for 215 yards with three touchdowns and nothing close to an interception. He finished 19-of-24 passing for 222 yards and three touchdowns.

A sore spot

The third quarter has been an issue for the Cowboys this season.

Sunday was no different. Dallas had been out-

scored 61-19 in the third quarter going into this game. The Cowboys were coming off a game against San Francisco where they were outscored 21-0 and outgained 167 yards to 12 yards in the third quarter.

It wasn't that bad in Atlanta. The Falcons only held a 7-3 edge to take a 21-13 lead into the final period.

But that's a bit deceiving. Bryan Anger's pass on a fake punt on the Cowboys' first possession of the second half had no chance at a completion. The Falcons took advantage of the short field with a quick touchdown.

The Cowboys wanted to go for it on fourth-and-1 on their next possession but failed because Dalvin Cook was on the field when he shouldn't have been and Dallas was flagged for 12 men in the huddle.

Catch David Moore and Robert Wilonsky as they co-host Intentional Grounding on The Ticket (KTCK-AM 1310 and 96.7 FM) every Wednesday from 7-8 p.m. through the Super Bowl.

COWBOYS WEEK-BY-WEEK SCHEDULE/RESULTS

SEPT. 8	SEPT. 15	SEPT. 22	SEPT. 26	OCT. 6	OCT. 13	WEEK 7	OCT. 27	NOV. 3
Dal 33 Cle 17 Cowboys win all 3 phases in opener	NO 44 Dal 19 Saints score TDs on first 6 drives	Bal 28 Dal 25 Ravens average 6.1 yards per rush	Dal 20 NYG 15 Defense steps up against run	Dal 20 Pit 17 Late score ends rain-delayed game	Det 47 Dal 9 Slow start leads to drubbing, jeers	Bye week	SF 30 Dal 24 Third quarter ultimately spells ruin	Atl 27 Dal 21 Cowboys: 19-of-24, 222 yards, 3 TDs
NOV. 10 VS. PHI 3:25 p.m. (Ch. 11)	NOV. 18 VS. HOU 7:15 p.m. (ESPN/ESPN2)	NOV. 24 at WAS noon (Ch. 4)	NOV. 28 VS. NYG 3:30 p.m. (Ch. 4)	DEC. 9 VS. CIN 7:15 p.m. (Ch. 8/ESPN/ESPN2)	DEC. 15 at CAR noon (Ch. 4)	DEC. 22 VS. TB 7:20 p.m. (Ch. 5)	DEC. 29 at PHI 3:25 p.m. (Ch. 4)	TBD VS. WAS TBD (TBD)

Falcons 27, Cowboys 21/NFL Week 9

COWBOYS INJURIES

Dak's hamstring tops casualty list

QB's MRI today with Eagles status in doubt; Lamb, Guyton hurt

By CALVIN WATKINS
Staff Writer
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ATLANTA — Cowboys quarterback Dak Prescott suffered a hamstring injury on his right leg late in the third quarter of the loss to the Falcons on Sunday.

Prescott said he felt a pull after a scramble and thought it would go away. But it got worse several plays later when he attempted a pass toward receiver Jalen Brooks.

"Tough to walk on it at that point," Prescott said after the game. "Saw the medical team and I asked could I make it worse, and at that point they said I wouldn't be able to protect myself and made the call."

Prescott didn't play the fourth quarter. He finished 18 for 24 with 133 yards and one touchdown. Prescott also rushed for 30 yards on three scrambles.

Prescott said he'll undergo an MRI exam Monday to determine the damage to the upper part of the leg.

Whether he'll play Sunday against the Eagles will be the biggest question going into that game.

"I mean it's hard for me to



Cowboys wide receiver CeeDee Lamb has his shoulder examined during the second half. He left the game briefly but returned, even catching a two-point conversion pass. Lamb caught eight passes for 47 yards.

say. I would say that I'll be out there next week," he said. "Once again, I've got to see. Luckily, I can say I've healed fast, I've progressed fast on injuries and things. So thankful for that. Gotta get a picture of it. When

we get a picture of it, I guess we'll see how bad it is, and it'll take a lot for me to not be out there, I'll say, personally."

Cooper Rush replaced Prescott and threw a touchdown pass on 13-of-25 passing for 115

yards and a touchdown. In 2022, Rush won four of five games subbing for Prescott, who missed five games with a fractured thumb.

The Cowboys have confidence in Rush if he has to play

against the Eagles, but there remains worry about Prescott.

"Well I am concerned about that," Cowboys owner and general manager Jerry Jones said. "It concerns me when I saw the players. I saw him have a reac-

tion to any weakness he might have had there in his [hamstring]. We just have to take a look at that. I'll be very candid with you, you've got to give Rush a little positive here, not a little, he came in there, and I'm proud of him. I thought he played well."

Prescott wasn't the only Cowboys player to suffer an injury.

Safety Juanyeh Thomas left in the fourth quarter with a concussion and didn't return. Wide receiver CeeDee Lamb suffered a right shoulder injury. He left the game briefly but returned, even catching a two-point conversion pass.

Lamb caught eight passes for 47 yards on 12 targets.

Left tackle Tyler Guyton didn't start the second half with a neck injury, but he returned on the second series of the half.

The biggest health issue revolves around Prescott.

With the Cowboys amid a three-game losing streak, Prescott feels the need to play, but his long-term health is a major concern.

It was very difficult for him to leave the game Sunday.

"Yeah, very difficult," he said. "I guess in that sense of just asking can I make it worse, if I can, like know how much we needed this one. Yeah, wanted just to get out there and compete. Get out there and fight. Yeah, crazy."

Cowboys cornerback Trevon Diggs reaches for Atlanta running back Bijan Robinson in the first half. The former Texas rusher finished with 86 yards on 19 carries.



Elias Valverde II/Staff Photographer

TIM COWLISHAW

3rd quarters stymie Dallas

Continued from Page 1C

title before they play their first game against Dan Quinn's Commanders on Nov. 24.

(Actually, Dallas can only be 5½ out with seven to play. Consider this club alive at your own risk).

The first play of the third quarter Sunday was emblematic of Dallas' entire season in the third quarter. Is there a worse NFL team coming out of the locker room after halftime? A KaVontae Turpin punt return against Cleveland, which feels like four months ago but was only eight weeks back, remains the Cowboys' only touchdown in the third quarter this season. Dak and CeeDee and friends are still searching for that first trip to the end zone in the third quarter, the Cowboys being outscored 68-22 in the third period.

This was made even worse by Prescott not playing beyond the third quarter — he left the game with a hamstring injury that he appeared to suffer throwing a pass but, this being the first time Dak has run the ball at all this season, I wouldn't discount that playing a role. CeeDee was in and out of the game in the fourth quarter after appearing to hurt his right shoulder on several occasions.

Earlier this season, the Cowboys won a road game in New York while losing Micah Parsons and DeMarcus Lawrence, the most costly of defeats. Neither has made it back more than a month later. I don't know whether Prescott's or Lamb's

injuries have a chance to linger or recur, but a team this far behind Washington and Philadelphia — with the Eagles coming to town Sunday — can hardly afford more bad news coming in defeat.

Cowboys owner Jerry Jones said he was "concerned" about Dak's hamstring injury. When you're pondering injuries and what they mean or what they have done to this team, keep in mind that the club is 3-5 with a healthy Dak. And while the Parsons and Lawrence losses were crippling along the defensive line, both played against New Orleans when the Saints scored touchdowns on their first six possessions. Both played a week later when Baltimore had put 21 on the AT&T Stadium scoreboard by halftime.

The Steele penalty was just the beginning of Dallas' third-quarter problems. After a three-and-out punt on that possession, the Falcons' Kirk Cousins fired his third touchdown pass of the afternoon for a 21-10 lead. Dallas had a fourth-and-1 in Atlanta territory and was going for it, but the club was called for "12 men on the field" when Dalvin Cook didn't realize Lamb was lining up at tailback for the play. The Cowboys punted once more.

Prescott would leave the game at the end of three quarters with the Cowboys trailing 21-13. While he accomplished his first goal of staying away from turnovers, Prescott had just 133 yards passing on 24 attempts. The Cowboys' defense made enough stops in the fourth

quarter that Cooper Rush actually went 13-for-25 just in the fourth quarter, but it was for a paltry 115 yards, and the touchdown came too late to matter. The Cowboys threw 50 passes Sunday and yet ended up with 241 yards passing when you factor in the three sacks. That's 4.5 yards per pass on 53 pass plays — basically a reasonable rushing average but not a passing number that will keep this team alive past November.

The Cowboys are a communications nightmare. The secondary appeared completely confused on Cousins' second TD pass, Trevon Diggs getting caught up in traffic and Darnell Mooney running wide and free for a 36-yard touchdown. On offense, the false starts are a weekly death knell.

And on this particular day, Dallas was especially awful on fourth-down conversions. Teams don't even try to make first downs on fourth down unless they feel like the odds are in their favor. The Cowboys went 0-for-4 before finally converting a fourth on their final drive.

"We know we have five losses," McCarthy said. "We clearly understand where that puts us as far as what it will take."

Three-and-a-half games behind Washington and three games behind the Eagles. A team that shoots itself in the foot with presnap penalties suddenly has no margin for error, not to mention an injured quarterback. If they weren't already past all the wrecks they can survive, the Cowboys reached that point Sunday in Atlanta.

NFL BRIEFS

Brown leaves Eagles' game with knee injury

Lions' Branch, Rams' Nacua ejected; Saints' coach on hot seat

PHILADELPHIA — Philadelphia Eagles wide receiver A.J. Brown left Sunday's game against Jacksonville with a knee injury.

Brown was slow to get up following his final catch of the game late in the first half. He had two catches for 36 yards before he was ruled out in the second half.

The Eagles held on to beat Jacksonville 28-23.

Brown already missed three games this season with a hamstring injury. He has two 100-yard receiving games this season and entered Sunday with 21 catches for 408 yards and three touchdowns.

Brown had 106 catches for 1,456 yards and seven touchdowns last season for the Eagles and has been one of the top receivers in the NFL since his rookie season with Tennessee in 2019. Brown signed a three-year contract extension in April that included \$84 million in guaranteed money.

Lions safety ejected for hit: Detroit Lions safety Brian Branch was ejected Sunday at Green Bay after delivering a helmet-to-helmet hit to Packers receiver Bo Melton.

Branch hit Melton near the Packers sideline after Jordan Love tried to connect with him on a deep pass on second-and-20 in the second quarter. Branch was flagged for unnecessary roughness, and then the hit was deemed serious enough to warrant an ejection.

Branch was irate about being thrown out and was penalized again for unsportsmanlike conduct for gesturing at fans in the Lambeau Field stands before he was escorted off the field and into the locker room.

Instead of facing third-

and-20 from their own 38-yard line, the Packers ended up with a first down from Detroit's 32. But the Packers failed to capitalize on the situation. Their drive ended with Brandon McManus missing a 46-yard field goal attempt wide left.

Nacua tossed for throwing punch: Los Angeles Rams wide receiver Puka Nacua was ejected for throwing a punch at Seattle Seahawks linebacker Tyrel Dodson in the second quarter of Sunday's game between the NFC West rivals.

Dodson blocked Nacua after Seahawks cornerback Riq Woolen intercepted a pass by Matthew Stafford that was intended for Nacua with 33 seconds left in the first half. Woolen was ruled down by contact, but Dodson continued to engage with Nacua, who then tried to punch him.

Nacua was active for the game after being listed as questionable with a knee injury.

The Rams beat the Seahawks 26-20 in overtime.

Hail to the roof: The Arizona Cardinals opted to open the roof at State Farm Stadium for Sunday's game against the Chicago Bears.

Of course it hailed. Rain started early in the second quarter, picked up to a downpour and turned to hail, forcing the Cardinals to close the roof. It takes about 12 minutes for the roof to close, and the rain had mostly dissipated by the time it finished.

The brief weather deluge didn't affect play on the field, though some fans under the roof opening headed up the stairs get out of the rain.

The Cardinals typically keep the roof closed early in the season when it's still hot in the desert, often opening it later in the year when it cools.

Saints receiver carted off: New Orleans Saints wide receiver Chris Olave was put on a backboard and carted off

the field in the first quarter of Sunday's game against the Carolina Panthers after taking a shot from safety Xavier Woods.

Olave was on the field for more than five minutes as trainers attended to him. He was moving his arms as he was carted to the locker room.

Olave was coming across the middle as he was sandwiched by Woods and cornerback Dane Jackson.

Immediately four flags came flying and Woods was penalized for an unnecessary roughness. Woods was not ejected.

Allen feeling heat: Dennis Allen was feeling optimistic after the New Orleans Saints started the season 2-0.

But a seven-game losing streak, including a 23-22 road loss to NFL cellar dweller Carolina on Sunday, has Allen answering questions about his job security.

Allen went 7-10 in his first season with the Saints and improved to 9-8 last year.

But with the Saints headed for a third straight season of playoff-less football during his tenure, his seat is getting hotter in New Orleans.

"I just think we've got to be better," Allen said when asked about his job.

When asked if he thinks he's doing his job, Allen said, "obviously, when you're not winning, it's hard to say you are. I've got to be better for our guys. ... Here's what I'll say: I'm going to keep coming in every day and fighting my [butt] off just like I've done since I've been here."

Allen and the Saints had hoped quarterback Derek Carr's return to the lineup following a three-game absence would give them a spark.

It would give them a spark. The Panthers (2-7), a team they throttled 47-10 in Week 1 at the Superdome. Carr threw for two yards and three TDs in that game.

The Associated Press

NFL Week 9

COMMANDERS 27, GIANTS 22

Torrid start continues for Washington

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — Sensational rookie Jayden Daniels threw two touchdown passes to Terry McLaurin, and Washington beat bumbling New York for its best start to a season in almost 30 years.

Daniels hit McLaurin on scoring passes of 1 and 18 yards in the first half, and Austin Ekeler, filling in for the injured Brian Robinson, scored on a 1-yard run as the Commanders completed a season sweep of the NFC East rival Giants (2-7). Washington is 7-2 for the first time since 1996.

Austin Seibert, who kicked seven field goals in the Commanders' 21-18 win in September, added two more.

The Associated Press

Washington	7	14	3	3	—	27
N.Y. Giants	0	7	3	12	—	22

First Quarter		
Was	—	Mia
Was—McLaurin 1 pass from Daniels (Seibert kick), 7:04.		
Second Quarter		
NYG	—	Was
NYG—Manhertz 2 pass from D.Jones (McAtamney kick), 12:21.		
Was	—	NYG
Was—Ekeler 1 run (Seibert kick), 6:21.		
Was	—	NYG
Was—McLaurin 18 pass from Daniels (Seibert kick), :06.		
Third Quarter		
NYG	—	Was
NYG—FG McAtamney 31, 5:27.		
Was	—	NYG
Was—FG Seibert 33.		
Fourth Quarter		
NYG	—	Was
NYG—D.Jones 2 run (run failed), 9:25.		
Was	—	NYG
Was—FG Seibert 20, 3:46.		
NYG	—	Was
NYG—T.Johnson 35 pass from D.Jones (pass failed), 2:48.		
Was	—	NYG
Was—FG Seibert 33, 2:00.		

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS		
RUSHING —Washington, Rodriguez 11-53, Ekeler 11-42, Daniels 8-35, McNichols 8-20. N.Y. Giants, Tracy 16-66, Jones 7-54, Singletary 7-33, Slayton 1-11.		
PASSING —Washington, Daniels 15-22-0-209. N.Y. Giants, Jones 20-26-0-174.		
RECEIVING —Washington, McLaurin 5-60, Ekeler 3-41, Zachausas 2-48, McLaurin 2-19, D.Brown 1-24, Sinnott 1-12, Ertz 1-5. N.Y. Giants, Nabers 9-59, T.Johnson 3-51, Slayton 3-49, Robinson 3-10, Tracy 1-3, Manhertz 1-2.		
SACKS —Washington, Fowler 3-3-2. N.Y. Giants, none.		
MISSED FIELD GOALS —None.		

EAGLES 28, JAGUARS 23

Eagles hold on to beat lowly Jags

PHILADELPHIA — Saquon Barkley made a dazzling backward hurdle during a stellar performance and Nakobe Dean had a game-saving interception to help Philadelphia to a fourth straight win.

Barkley had 27 carries for 159 yards and a touchdown.

The Eagles (6-2) held on after coach Nick Sirianni wasted chances to put easy points on the board. Jake Elliott missed a 57-yard field goal with 2:16 left, giving the Jaguars (2-7) the ball at their own 47-yard line.

But Jacksonville's rally ended when Trevor Lawrence's pass was picked off in the end zone by Dean.

The Associated Press

Jacksonville	0	0	16	7	—	23
Philadelphia	7	9	6	6	—	28

First Quarter		
Phi	—	Jac
Phi—Barkley 20 pass from Hurts (Elliott kick), 10:22.		
Second Quarter		
Phi	—	Jac
Phi—FG Elliott 43, 9:20.		
Phi	—	Jac
Phi—Barkley 19 run (run failed), :22.		
Third Quarter		
Phi	—	Jac
Phi—Hurts 18 run (run failed), 9:25.		
Jac	—	Phi
Jac—Lawrence 1 run (B.Thomas pass from Lawrence), 5:26.		
Jac	—	Phi
Jac—Walker 35 fumble return (Engram pass from Lawrence), 5:12.		
Fourth Quarter		
Phi	—	Jac
Phi—D.Smith 25 pass from Hurts (pass failed), 7:43.		
Jac	—	Phi
Jac—Lawrence 4 run (C.Little kick), 4:04.		

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS		
RUSHING —Jacksonville, Etienne 3-24, Bigsby 8-22, Lawrence 5-8, D.Johnson 2-6. Philadelphia, Barkley 27-159, Hurts 13-67, Gainwell 5-9, A.Smith 1-2.		
PASSING —Jacksonville, Lawrence 16-31-2-169. Philadelphia, Hurts 18-24-0-230.		
RECEIVING —Jacksonville, Engram 5-45, Washington 3-41, Trammell 2-40, B.Thomas 2-22, Etienne 2-6, T.Jones 1-10, Farrell 1-5. Philadelphia, Calcuterra 5-20, D.Smith 4-87, Barkley 3-40, A.Brown 2-36, Dotson 1-36, Gainwell 1-1, A.Smith 1-0, Vansumeren 1-0.		
SACKS —Jacksonville, Hines-Allen 2. Philadelphia, Sweat 2.		
MISSED FIELD GOALS —Philadelphia, Elliott 57.		

PANTHERS 23, SAINTS 22

Young helps team end losing skid

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Chuba Hubbard scored on a 16-yard run with 2:18 left and Carolina snapped a five-game losing streak in beating New Orleans.

Bryce Young completed 16 of 26 passes for 171 yards a touchdown to improve to 1-3 against the Saints in his career.

Hubbard ran for 72 yards and two touchdowns.

The Panthers (2-7) got big games from a pair of rookies as tight end Ja'Tavion Sanders caught four passes for 87 yards and wide receiver Xavier Legette had his fourth touchdown of the season.

Alvin Kamara had 215 yards from scrimmage for the Saints (2-7).

The Associated Press

New Orleans	6	7	3	6	—	22
Carolina	0	10	7	6	—	23

First Quarter		
NO	—	Car
NO—FG Grupe 29, 10:51.		
NO	—	Car
NO—FG Grupe 33, 3:08.		
Second Quarter		
Car	—	NO
Car—Legette 3 pass from B.Young (Pineiro kick), 9:59.		
NO	—	Car
NO—Hill 7 run (Grupe kick), 4:13.		
NO	—	Car
NO—FG Pineiro 48, :38.		
Third Quarter		
Car	—	NO
Car—Hubbard 1 run (Pineiro kick), 9:55.		
NO	—	Car
NO—FG Grupe 51, 4:15.		
Fourth Quarter		
NO	—	Car
NO—Moreau 17 pass from Carr (pass failed), 11:55.		
Car	—	NO
Car—Hubbard 16 run (pass failed), 2:18.		

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS		
RUSHING —New Orleans, Kamara 29-155, Hill 5-19, Mims 5-13, Hayball 1-11, J.Jackson 1-(minus 1). Carolina, Hubbard 15-72, Young 4-10, Legette 1-6, Thompkins 1-(minus 2), M.Sanders 2-(minus 5).		
PASSING —New Orleans, Carr 18-31-0-236, Hill 0-1-0-0. Carolina, Young 16-26-1-171.		
RECEIVING —New Orleans, Kamara 6-60, Hill 4-41, Johnson 2-41, Wilson 2-34, Mims 1-25, Moreau 1-17, Olave 1-13, Valdes-Scantling 1-5. Carolina, J.Sanders 4-87, Legette 4-33, Coker 2-36, Moore 2-20, Hubbard 2-0, M.Sanders 2-(minus 5).		
SACKS —New Orleans, Granderson 5, Shepherd 5. Carolina, C.Harris 5, Clowney 5.		
MISSED FIELD GOALS —None.		

TITANS 20, PATRIOTS 17 (OT)

Folk boots game-winner for Titans

NASHVILLE — Nick Folk kicked a 25-yard field goal with 2:32 left in overtime and Tennessee beat New England, giving coach Brian Callahan his first victory at home this season.

The Titans (2-6) snapped a three-game skid overall and at Nissan Stadium.

The Patriots (2-7) got rookie Drake Maye back after the third overall pick out of North Carolina cleared the concussion protocol Saturday. He started after being knocked out of last week's win over the Jets and used his legs, running for a career-best and team-high 95 yards.

Tennessee also had four sacks and forced three turnovers.

The Associated Press

New England	0	3	7	0	—	17
Tennessee	7	0	3	7	—	20

First Quarter		
Ten	—	NE
Ten—Vannett 9 pass from Rudolph (Folk kick), 10:24.		
Second Quarter		
NE	—	Ten
NE—FG Slye 52, 7:13.		
Third Quarter		
NE	—	Ten
NE—Stevenson 1 run (Slye kick), 7:39.		
Ten	—	NE
Ten—FG Folk 21, 3:41.		
Fourth Quarter		
Ten	—	NE
Ten—Westbrook-Ikhine 6 pass from Rudolph (Folk kick), 4:27.		
NE	—	Ten
NE—Stevenson 5 pass from Maye (Slye kick), :00.		
Ten	—	NE
Ten—FG Folk 25, 2:32.		

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS		
RUSHING —New England, Maye 8-95, Stevenson 10-16, Hasty 1-0, Gibson 1-(minus 1). Tennessee, Pollard 28-128, Chestnut 5-22, Rudolph 4-19, Boyd 1-3, Jackson 1-(minus 5).		
PASSING —New England, Maye 29-41-2-206. Tennessee, Rudolph 20-33-1-240.		
RECEIVING —New England, Henry 7-56, Douglas 7-35, Stevenson 5-38, Bourne 4-41, Boutte 2-18, Gibson 1-12, Hooper 1-8, Bell 1-1, Hasty 1-(minus 3). Tennessee, Ridley 5-73, Westbrook-Ikhine 5-50, Okonkwo 3-38, Pollard 3-26, Vannett 2-33, Whyte 1-12, Jackson 1-8.		
SACKS —New England, Wise 1. Tennessee, Gibbens 5, Landry 1, Simmons 1, Joseph-Day 5.		
MISSED FIELD GOALS —New England, Slye 56.		

CARDINALS 29, BEARS 9

Surging Cardinals dominate

GLENDALE, Ariz. — Emari Demercado ran 53 yards for a touchdown just before half-time, James Conner added 107 yards on the ground and Arizona put together a dominant victory over Chicago.

The Cardinals (5-4) have won three in a row for the first time in three seasons. Kyle Murray (Allen) completed 13 of 20 passes for 154 yards.

It's another tough loss for the Bears (4-4), who have dropped two straight. They lost to the Commanders 18-15 last week on a Hail Mary.

Chicago rookie quarterback Caleb Williams was sacked six times, completing 22 of 41 passes for 217 yards. The Bears had just 241 yards total.

The Associated Press

Chicago	0	9	0	0	—	9
Arizona	7	14	3	5	—	29

First Quarter		
Ari	—	Chi
Ari—McBride 2 run (Ryland kick), :46.		
Second Quarter		
Chi	—	Ari
Chi—FG Santos 29, 11:51.		
Ari	—	Chi
Ari—Benson 1 run (Ryland kick), 3:14.		
Chi	—	Ari
Chi—FG Santos 53, :26.		
Ari	—	Chi
Ari—Demercado 53 run (Ryland kick), :04.		
Third Quarter		
Ari	—	Chi
Ari—FG Ryland 29, 4:53.		
Fourth Quarter		
Ari	—	Chi
Ari—FG Ryland 55, 14:02.		
Ari	—	Chi
Ari—safety, 7:54.		
A	—	Chi
A—64, 6:09.		

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS		
RUSHING —Chicago, Swift 16-51, R.Johnson 3-13, Ca-Williams 4-5, Arizona, Conner 18-107, Demercado 4-59, Benson 3-37, Murray 2-6, McBride 1-2, Dallas 1-2.		
PASSING —Chicago, Ca.Williams 22-41-0-217, Arizona, Murray 13-20-0-154.		
RECEIVING —Chicago, Swift 6-31, Oduze 10-45, Allen 4-36, D.Moore 4-33, R.Johnson 2-8, Everett 1-5, Arizona, Higgins 2-34, Demercado 2-21, Benson 1-24.		
SACKS —Chicago, Byard 1, Martin 1, Ch.Williams 1, Arizona, White 5, Collins 2, X.Thomas 1.5, Collier 5, Luketa 1, Stills 5.		
MISSED FIELD GOALS —None.		

BILLS 30, DOLPHINS 27

Bass nails 61-yard FG to lift Bills

ORCHARD PARK, N.Y. — Tyler Bass kicked a career-best 61-yard field goal with 5 seconds left, Josh Allen threw three second-half touchdown passes and Buffalo continued its domination of Miami.

The teams traded leads four times in a thrilling second half that included seven consecutive scoring drives — four by Buffalo (7-2) and three by Miami (2-6).

Buffalo's final drive stalled at the Miami 43 following a spike and two incompletions, and coach Sean McDermott put his faith in the inconsistent Bass. Bass not only split the uprights, but had enough length to reach the first row of fans.

The Associated Press

Miami	3	7	3	14	—	27
Buffalo	3	3	14	10	—	30

First Quarter		
Mia	—	Buf
Mia—FG Bass 40, 6:30.		
Mia	—	Buf
Mia—FG Sanders 39, 1:19.		
Second Quarter		
Mia	—	Buf
Mia—Achane 14 pass from Tagovailoa (Sanders kick), 3:20.		
Buf	—	Mia
Buf—FG Bass 49, :07.		
Third Quarter		
Buf	—	Mia
Buf—Holins 1 pass from Allen (kick failed), 7:20.		
Mia	—	Buf
Mia—FG Sanders 23, 2:59.		
Buf	—	Mia
Buf—Davis 63 pass from Allen (Coleman pass from Allen), 2:07.		
Fourth Quarter		
Mia	—	Buf
Mia—Achane 8 run (Sanders kick), 12:14.		
Buf	—	Mia
Buf—Morris 2 pass from Allen (Bass kick), 6:18.		
Mia	—	Buf
Mia—Waddle 7 pass from Tagovailoa (Sanders kick), 1:38.		
Buf	—	Mia
Buf—FG Bass 61, :05.		

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS		
RUSHING —Miami, Achane 12-63, Mostert 10-56, Wright 6-18, M.Washington 1-9, Tagovailoa 2-3, Buffalo, Cook 10-44, Ty.Johnson 3-23, Davis 4-20, Allen 2-7.		
PASSING —Miami, Tagovailoa 25-28-0-254. Buffalo, Allen 25-39-1-235.		
RECEIVING —Miami, Achane 8-58, J.Smith 5-46, T.Hill 4-60, Beckham 3-45, Mostert 2-32, Waddle 2-19, Smythe 1-4, Buffalo, Shakir 6-50, Holins 5-30, Cook 5-25, Kincaid 4-32, Davis 2-70, Coleman 1-21, Knox 1-5, Morris 1-2.		
SACKS —Miami, Robinson 1. Buffalo, Rousseau 1.		
MISSED FIELD GOALS —None.		

RAMS 26, SEAHAWKS 20 (OT)

Robinson's catch seals deal for Rams

SEATTLE — Demarcus Robinson made a one-handed, 39-yard touchdown reception in overtime, and Los Angeles stunned Seattle.

With the Rams (4-4) needing only a field goal after stuffing the Seahawks (4-5) on fourth down on the first possession of OT, Matthew Stafford went for the win by throwing a deep ball to Robinson, who was well covered by cornerback Riq Woolen. With his one free hand, Robinson grabbed the ball in the end zone and secured it as he fell to the turf.

Stafford (Highland Park) threw for 298 yards and two touchdowns for the Rams, who have won three straight after losing four of their previous five.

The Associated Press

LA Rams	0	3	10	7	6	—	26
Seattle	0	13	0	7	0	—	20

First Quarter		
LA	—	Sea
LA—Lockett 30 pass from G.Smith (kick failed), :51.		
Sea	—	LA
Sea—Smith-Njigba 24 pass from G.Smith (Myers kick), :05.		
Third Quarter		
LA	—	Sea
LA—Robinson 1 pass from Stafford (Karty kick), 8:28.		
LA	—	Sea
LA—FG Karty 21, :28.		
Fourth Quarter		
LA	—	Sea
LA—Kinchens 102 interception return (Karty kick), 10:59.		
Sea	—	LA
Sea—Smith-Njigba 14 pass from G.Smith (Myers kick), :51.		
LA	—	Sea
LA—Robinson 39 pass from Stafford, 4:57.		

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS		
RUSHING —LA Rams, K.Williams 22-69, Stafford 1-0, Corum 1-(minus 1). Seattle, Walker 25-83, G.Smith 6-16, Charbonnet 2-8.		
PASSING —LA Rams, Stafford 25-44-1-298. Seattle, G.Smith 21-34-3-363.		
RECEIVING —LA Rams, Kupp 11-404, Robinson 6-94, T.Johnson 3-38, K.Williams 1-26, Atwell 1-16, Nacua 1-11, Allen 1-5, Long 1-4. Seattle, Smith-Njigba 7-180, Barner 4-27, Lockett 3-63, Walker 3-24, White 2-49, Charbonnet 2-25.		
SACKS —LA Rams, Hoelt 1, Turner 1, Young 1, Verse 1, Fiske 2, Davis 5, Lockett 5, Seattle, none.		
MISSED FIELD GOALS —None.		

BENGALS 41, RAIDERS 24

Burrow has 5 TD passes in blowout

CINCINNATI — Joe Burrow tied a career high with five touchdown passes, Chase Brown rushed for a career-high 120 yards and Cincinnati got its first home win.

Burrow was 27 for 39 for 251 yards. He threw touchdown passes to Brown, Andrei Iosivas, Drew Sample and the last two to Mike Gesicki. But he also had an interception that was returned by Jack Jones for a TD early in the fourth quarter.

Brown got a season-high 27 carries and picked up chunks of yards for the Bengals, who have struggled running the ball.

The Associated Press

Las Vegas	7	3	0	14	—	24
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HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

OFFENSE | PROS. WALNUT GROVE QB HAYES HACKNEY

What he did: Hackney was 22-for-36 passing for 380 yards and three touchdowns with no interceptions as Walnut Grove, ranked No. 5 in *The Dallas Morning News'* Class 5A area poll, beat No. 11-ranked Melissa 37-28. Walnut Grove (8-1, 6-1), a second-year program, clinched its first playoff berth and remained tied for the District 4-5A-II lead with Lovejoy.

The stats: Hackney's touchdown passes went for 70, 15 and 30 yards. The first was to Zaiden Crain on Walnut Grove's first offensive play from scrimmage. The third was to Luke Watkins with six seconds left in the first half to tie the score at 28-all.

Hackney had a 6-yard pass to Hayden Cooley on a fourth-and-4 play to extend a drive that ended with Dominic Sciano making a 45-yard field goal for the game's final points with 4:01 remaining.

Who is he? A 5-9, 155-pound freshman quarterback. Hackney is 141 for 215 (65.6%) on pass attempts for 2,578 yards and 29 touchdowns with four interceptions. He has also rushed for



158 yards on 35 carries heading into Friday's home game and regular-season finale against Frisco Independence (2-7, 2-5). Hackney, who played for Rogers Middle School in Prosper last year, is receiving recruiting interest from Boston College.

He said it: "My favorite play was the one just before halftime because it was a big momentum shift. My line did a great job blocking and Luke [Watkins] ran a great route. I just got the ball up there and he made a great play."

Coach said it: "Hayes has been pretty consistent since Day 1. During the season you see him becoming more confident, but he has always been consistent. I have never coached a player this consistent this early in his high school career." — Walnut Grove coach Tommy Allison.

Did you know? Hackney has played football since he was 6 years old. His first team was a Prosper flag-football team called the Sun Devils. He has played quarterback every year since then.

Rick Kretzschmar

Honorable mentions

Name	School	Cl.	Pos.	Stats
Leo Anguiano	Prosper	Sr.	RB	14 carries for 177 yards, 5 TD vs. Princeton
Darrion Bowers	Arlington Bowie	Sr.	RB	26 carries for 244 yards, 4 TD vs. Arlington Lamar
C.J. Daughtry	Mesquite Horn	Jr.	QB	20-for-28 passing for 310 yards, 5 TD vs. Cedar Hill
Harrison Day	Lake Highlands	Sr.	QB	276 total yards, 4 TD vs. Richardson
Edward Griffin	Coppell	Sr.	QB	425 total yards, 5 TD vs. Flower Mound
Presley Harper	Richardson Pearce	Sr.	QB	20-for-29 passing for 355 yards, 4 TD vs. Ir. Nimitz
Michael Henderson III	Wylie East	Sr.	RB	11 carries for 190 yards, 5 TD vs. Garland
Keenan Jackson	Haltom	Sr.	RB	32 carries for 176 yards, 3 TD vs. S. Grand Prairie
Chris Jimerson Jr.	North Crowley	Sr.	QB	377 total yards, 4 TD vs. Mansfield
Bryson Jones	Frisco Lone Star	Sr.	WR	7 receptions for 180 yards, 4 TD vs. Fr. Lebanon Trail
Luke Lawrence	Frisco Legacy Ch.	Jr.	QB	365 total yards, 6 TD vs. Fort Worth Nolan
Cayson Maupin	Sunnyvale	So.	QB	398 total yards, 4 TD vs. Wills Point
Matthew McClain	Pl. Prestonwood	Jr.	WR	6 receptions for 199 yards, 2 TD vs. TCA-Addison
Lovell Neal	W.T. White	So.	WR	9 receptions for 226 yards, 4 TD vs. N. Mesquite
Taylor Ogden	Shelton	Sr.	RB	9 carries for 282 yards, 4 TD vs. Tyler All Saints
Charlie Peters	Jesuit	Sr.	QB	305 total yards, 3 TD, 1 INT vs. Rich. Berkner
Buck Randall	Highland Park	So.	QB	299 total yards, 3 TD, 1 INT vs. Bur. Centennial
Angelo Renda	Southlake Carroll	Jr.	QB	256 total yards, 5 TD vs. Keller Central
Deondrae Riden Jr.	DeSoto	Sr.	RB	12 carries for 208 yards, 3 TD vs. Skyline
Jaquil Rodgers	Wilmer-Hutchins	Sr.	WR	194 total yards, 2 TD vs. North Dallas

DEFENSE | FRISCO LEGACY CHRISTIAN LB SAM JONES

What he did: Sam Jones Jr. had 19 tackles (9 solo, 10 assisted), 4 tackles for loss and 2.5 sacks in Frisco Legacy Christian's 56-33 win over Fort Worth Nolan Catholic on Friday night.

Who he is: A 6-foot, 205-pound junior who has been a varsity player since his freshman year and is a captain this season.

The stats: Jones has 103 tackles, 15 tackles for loss and 2.5 sacks this year.

He said it: "I'd say I've grown more into my leadership role this year, realizing that I need to be the voice on defense. I need to step up and make



plays whenever I have the opportunity."

Coach said it: "Nolan Catholic has probably the best scrambling quarterback I've ever seen, so we put Sam on him as a spy, and his ability to track him down and get good hits on him gave the defense a lot of confidence." — head coach Doug Hix

Did you know?: Jones said his older brother, who has special needs, participates with Legacy Christian when they play. "He runs out of the tunnel with us and is like a little coach on the sideline. It's been an awesome experience for me and my family this year," Jones said.

Colin Capece

Honorable mentions

Name	School	Cl.	Pos.	Stats
Rhyan Sewell	Lewisville	Sr.	DE	9 tackles, 4 TFL, 2 FF, 3 sacks vs. Denton Guyer
Grayson Smith	Sunnyvale	So.	S	8 tackles, 2 TFL vs. Wills Point
Chance Fanus	Kaufman	Jr.	DB	9 tackles, 3 PBU, 1 INT, 1 DEF TD vs. Greenville
Sean Davault	Sachse	Sr.	LB	16 tackles, 2 TFL, 2 sacks, 1 INT vs. Naaman Forest
Ryan Schirato	Lake Highlands	Sr.	LB	14 tackles, 2 TFL vs. Richardson
Alec Turnbow	Lovejoy	Sr.	DB	6 tackles, 1 TFL, 1 sack, 1 FF, 1 FR vs. Denison
Jake Faults	Jesuit	Sr.	DB	6 tackles, 1 TFL, 2 PBU, safety vs. Rich. Berkner
Anders Corn	Highland Park	Sr.	LB	7 tackles, 1 TFL, 1 INT, 1 DEF TD vs. Bur. Centennial
D'Mitri Fratzelle	Irving MacArthur	Sr.	CB	9 tackles, 1 FF, 1 INT, 1 DEF TD vs. Irving
Cedric Thornton	Frisco Wakeland	Jr.	LB	9 tackles vs. Sherman
Jaire Scott	Plano East	Jr.	LB	6 tackles, 1 INT, 1 FR vs. McKinney
Ja'Coreyon Swinney	Car. Newman Smith	Sr.	LB	8 tackles, 2 TFLs, 1 sack, 1 FR vs. West Mesquite
Eric Harris	Kimball	Sr.	DT	5 tackles, 3 TFLs, 1 sack, 1 FF vs. Conrad
Dillon Arkansas	Denton Ryan	Sr.	LB	7 tackles, 2 TFLs, 1 sack, 1 PBU vs. Brewer
DJ Rumph	DeSoto	So.	DE	4 tackles, 4 TFL, 3 sacks vs. Skyline
Camran Savage	Bryan Adams	Sr.	LB	23 tackles, 1 sack, 1 FF, 1 PBU vs. Sunset
Josh Shaw	Allen	Jr.	DE	5 tackles, 4 sacks vs. McKinney Boyd
Omar Tyner	Ferris	So.	DE	7 tackles, 6 TFL, 1 PBU vs. Kemp
Julius Green-King	Wilmer-Hutchins	Jr.	DE	7 tackles, 1 TFL, 1 sack vs. North Dallas
Kevin Magee	Lovejoy	Sr.	LB	7 tackles, 3 TFL, 1 FF, 1 PBU vs. Denison

Scoreboard

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SOCCER

MLS CUP PLAYOFFS

ROUND ONE
Best-of-3
LA FC vs. Vancouver
Series tied 1-1

Day	Date	Result	
Sun.	027	at Los Angeles 2 Vancouver 1	
Sun.	N3	at Vancouver ...3 Los Angeles 0	
Day	Date	Location	Time
Fri.	N8	Los Angeles	10:00

SEATTLE VS. HOUSTON

Seattle wins 2-0

Day	Date	Result
Mon.	028	at Seattle ...0 (5) Houston 0 (4)
Sun.	N3	Seattle 1 (7) at Houston 1 (6)

SALT LAKE VS. MINNESOTA

Minnesota wins 2-0

Day	Date	Result
Tue.	029	Min. ...0 (5) at RSL 0 (4)
Sat.	N2	at Min. ...1 (3) RSL ...1 (1)

LA GALAXY VS. COLORADO

LA Galaxy wins 2-0

Day	Date	Result
Sat.	026	at Galaxy ...5 Colo. ...0
Fri.	N1	LA Galaxy ...4 at Colo. ...1

MIAMI VS. ATLANTA

Series tied 1-1

Day	Date	Result	
Fri.	025	at Miami ...2 Atlanta ...1	
Sat.	N2	at Atlanta ...2 Miami ...1	
Day	Date	Location	Time
Sat.	N9	Miami	7:00

ORLANDO VS. CHARLOTTE

Series tied 1-1

Day	Date	Result	
Sun.	027	at Orlando ...2 Charlotte ...0	
Fri.	N1	at Charlotte 0 (3) Orlando 0 (1)	
Day	Date	Location	Time
Sat.	N9	Orlando	5:00

CINCINNATI VS. NYC FC

Series tied 1-1

Day	Date	Result	
Mon.	028	at Cincinnati ...1 New York ...0	
Sat.	N2	at New York ...3 Cincinnati ...1	
Day	Date	Location	Time
Sat.	N9	Cincinnati	3:00

COLUMBUS VS. NEW YORK

New York wins 2-0

Day	Date	Result
Sun.	029	New York ...1 at Columbus ...0
Sun.	N3	at NY ...2 (5) Columbus ...2 (4)

USL SUPER LEAGUE

	W	L	T	GF	GA	PTS
Carolina	5	0	5	13	6	20
Brooklyn	6	3	2	12	8	20

GOLF

LPGA TOUR TOTO

JAPAN CLASSIC

(At Otsu, Japan)

SUNDAY'S FINAL RESULTS

Seta GC, par 72

x-won on sixth playoff hole

201 (13 under) \$300,000

x-Rio Takeda 69-65-67

201 (15 under) \$182,538

Marina Alex 69-68-67

202 (14 under) \$132,418

Hae-Ran Ryu 69-67-66

203 (13 under) \$92,443

Saiki Fujita 69-66-68

Yealimi Noh 68-66-70

204 (12 under) \$54,467

Ariya Jutanugarn 67-66-71

Yui Kawamoto 70-67-68

N. Koerstz Madsen 70-66-68

Hana Wakimoto 63-68-73

205 (11 under) \$38,975

Ayaka Furue 66-70-69

Chisato Iwai 68-68-69

206 (10 under) \$31,800

Linn Grant 66-72-68

Dallas 3 1 4 13 9 13

Tampa Bay 3 3 3 11 8 12

Ft. Lauderdale 3 4 1 10 10 10

DC Power 2 5 4 6 12 10

Spokane 2 4 3 9 12 9

Lexington 2 6 2 14 23 8

SATURDAY RESULTS

at Dallas Trinity 1 Ft. Lauderdale 0

at Tampa Bay 3 Lexington 1

SUNDAY'S RESULT

Carolina 1 at DC Power 0

SATURDAY, NOV. 9 MATCHES

Dallas Trinity at Lexington 6:00

Spokane at Carolina 6:00

Tampa Bay at Ft. Lauderdale 6:30

TENNIS

ATP PARIS MASTERS

(at Palais Omnisports de Paris-Bercy, Paris)

SUNDAY'S INDOOR MEN'S SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIP

Alexander Zverev (3, Germany), d. Ugo Humbert (15), France, 6-2, 6-2.

MEN'S DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP

Nikola Mektic, Croatia, and Wesley Koolhof (6), Netherlands, d. Lloyd Glasspool, Brit-

Mi Hyang Lee 71-66-69	Erika Hara 68-71-72	Shiho Kuwaki 69-72-73	Arl. Martin (30-10) vs. Richardson (15-19)
Yuna Nishimura 71-65-70	Grace Kim 69-72-70	Momoko Osato 71-73-70	7:00 Tuesday at South Oak Cliff
Miyuu Yamashita 70-68-68	Alexa Pan 72-68-71	215 (1 under) \$4,797	REGION II
207 (9 under) \$27,383	Yuka Yasuda 70-69-72	Brooke Henderson 70-71-74	vs. Rockwall-Heath (12-29)
Hikaru Yoshimoto 69-68-70	Na Rin An 72-69-71	Shina Kanazawa 73-71-71	6:30 Monday at Caddo Mills
208 (8 under) \$23,945	Lala Anai 72-69-74	Jenny Shin 66-77-72	Wazahachie vs. Bryan
Gemma Dryburgh 72-69-67	Seon Woo Bae 69-69-74	216 (even) \$4,347	6:00 Tuesday at Hubbard HS
Hyo Jo Kim 66-71-71	Minami Hiruta 71-72-69	Miyuu Abe 70-71-75	Rockwall (29-13) vs. Sachse (23-17)
Xiyu Lin 69-71-68	Akie Iwai 72-73-67	Wei-Ling Hsu 70-71-75	6:30 Monday at Rowlett
Hira Naveed 70-66-72	Jiyai Shin 72-73-67	A Lim Kim 75-70-71	Waco Midway vs. Duncanville
Karen Tsuruoka 69-67-72	Sakura Koiwai 69-67-76	Minjee Lee 67-75-74	6:30 Monday at Corsicana
209 (7 under) \$20,213	Minyoung Lee 72-72-68	Somi Lee 73-71-72	CLASS 6A DIVISION II
Pajaree Anannarukarn 71-68-70	Shuri Sakuma 69-75-68	Gabriela Ruffels 73-67-76	REGION I
210 (6 under) \$16,065	Kotone Hori 69-73-71	Leona Maguire 69-72-76	Southlake Carroll (25-10) vs. FW Boswell
Ayako Kimura 68-72-69	Haruka Kawasaki 70-68-75	Sarah Schmelzel 72-73-72	6:30 Monday at Boswell
Jin Young Ko 65-70-74	Hana Lee 69-71-73	218 (2 over) \$3,897	Hebron (33-6) vs. McKinney Boyd
Archihaya Yuboi 72-67-70	Lucy Li 73-70-70	Paula Reto 69-76-73	6:30 Monday at Prosper Walnut Grove
210 (6 under) \$16,065	H. Morita-Wanyalu 70-72-71	219 (3 over) \$3,799	Richardson Pearce (27-9) vs. Arlington Lamar
Haruka Amamoto 67-67-72	Amiyu Ozeki 72-68-73	Jin Hee Im 72-72-75	6:00 Tuesday at Coppell
Minami Katsu 70-72-68	Hinako Shibuno 72-71-70	Mitsuki Kobayashi 72-75-72	TC Byron Nelson (34-1) vs. Weatherford
Jennifer Kupcho 73-67-70	Jiyai Shin 72-73-67	Wichanee Meechai 73-69-77	6:00 Tuesday at Byron Nelson
Mao Saigo 70-66-72	Linnea Strom 70-73-70	221 (5 over) \$3,704	Plano West (25-7) vs. Flower Mound (23-15)
Kokona Sakurai 67-69-70	Sayaka Takahashi 72-71-70	223 (7 over) \$3,657	6:00 Tuesday at Colleyville Heritage
Yuka Saso 69-67-74	Serena Aoki 72-72-70	Peiyun Chien 71-75-77	Arlington (23-17) vs. Richardson Berkner
Chanettee Wannasana 69-70-71	Allisen Corpus 76-69-69		Frisco Lone Star vs Frisco Reedy
211 (5 under) \$2,292			(Frisco's Ford Center)
Nataliya Guseva 69-69-73			DISTRICT 5-A Div. I

AIN, and Adam Pavlasek, Czechia, 3-6, 6-3, 10-5.

WTA WORLD TOUR MERIDA OPEN AKRON

(at Merida, Mexico)

SUNDAY'S RESULTS

Surface: Hardcourt outdoor

WOMEN'S SINGLES SEMIFINAL

Zeynep Sonmez, Turkey, d. Alina Korneeva, Russia, 7-6 (5), 6-2.

WOMEN'S DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP

Ingrid Gamarra Martins, Brazil, and Quinn Gleason (1), United States, d. Magali Kempen and Lara Salden, Belgium, 6-4, 6-4.

ATP MOSELLE OPEN

LATE SATURDAY | BAYLOR 37, TCU 34

Bears pay back Frogs with FG

Baylor wins on final play this time; RB's 4 TDs, 196 yards key win

By SCHUYLER DIXON
The Associated Press

WACO — Bryson Washington had career highs with 196 yards and four touchdowns rushing, and Isaiah Hankins kicked a 33-yard field goal on the final play to give Baylor a 37-34 victory over TCU on Saturday night.

The Bears faced fourth-and-9 from the TCU 44 with 16 seconds left when Sawyer Robertson threw a 15-yard pass to Michael Trigg. Washington then ran 13 yards to set up Hankins' kick with five seconds to go.

"We're going to go for it," Baylor coach Dave Aranda said. "Those things are always hard. I think I've been up here before when they don't go well and there's a whole bunch coming the other way. I think when you attack, then the guys feel like they're attacking."

Baylor (5-4, 3-3 Big 12) won the same way TCU did two years ago in Waco, and fans rushed the field to celebrate. The Horned Frogs set up with the clock running for the final-play field goal in a 29-28 victory on their way to a 12-0 regular season in 2022 and a trip to



Rod Aydelotte/Waco Tribune-Herald

the national championship game.

TCU (5-4, 3-3) got even on Josh Hoover's 24-yard touchdown pass to Jack Bech with 1:55 to go. Hoover (Rockwall Heath) threw for 333 yards and two touchdowns while

running for a score. Bech had two TDs.

The Bears won a third consecutive game after ending a pair of eight-game Big 12 losing streaks the previous two weeks — one overall and the other in conference home

games. The Horned Frogs also were going for a third straight win and trying to stay on the fringe of the race for the Big 12 championship game.

Washington scored on runs of 8, 40 and 35 yards before a 1-

yarder to cap a 13-play, 81-yard drive for the lead. After TCU got even again, Robertson led an 11-play drive for the victory. Savion Williams had 92 yards receiving and 57 rushing while throwing a touchdown pass for the Horned Frogs.

LATE SATURDAY

TCU	7	10	10	7	34
Baylor	7	6	7	17	37

First Quarter
TCU—Bailey 8 pass from Hoover (Lemmermann kick), 6:42.
BAY—Washington 8 run (Hankins kick), 1:48.

Second Quarter
BAY—Washington 40 run (kick failed), 8:41.
TCU—FG Lemmermann 46, 5:18.
TCU—Hoover 1 run (Lemmermann kick), :50.

Third Quarter
TCU—FG Lemmermann 47, 9:04.
BAY—Pendergrass 1 run (Hankins kick), 5:09.
TCU—Bech 6 pass from S.Williams (Lemmermann kick), 2:3.

Fourth Quarter
BAY—Washington 35 run (Hankins kick), 14:03.
BAY—Washington 1 run (Hankins kick), 4:54.
TCU—Bech 24 pass from Hoover (Lemmermann kick), 1:55.
BAY—FG Hankins 33, :00.
A—44,171.

	TCU	BAY
First downs	25	31
Total Net Yards	444	499
Rushes-yards	32-105	44-257
Passing	339	242
Punt Returns	2-5	2-21
Kickoff Returns	0-0	1-19
Interceptions Ret.	0-0	0-0
Comp-Att-Int	26-35-0	19-34-0
Sacked-Yards Lost	1-8	2-15
Punts	4-44-0	4-48-0
Fumbles-Lost	1-0	0-0
Penalties-Yards	6-55	8-75
Time of Possession	31:35	28:25

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS
RUSHING—TCU, Williams 8-57, Payne 7-21, Battle 6-18, Hoover 7-7, Richardson 1-3, Cook 3-(minus 1). Baylor, Washington 26-196, Pendergrass 8-33, Robertson 9-28, Reese 1-0.
PASSING—TCU, Hoover 25-34-0-333, Williams 1-1-0-6, Baylor, Robertson 19-34-0-242.
RECEIVING—TCU, Williams 8-92, Bech 5-98, Payne 4-26, McAllister 3-48, Bailey 2-18, Dabney 2-14, Rogers 1-40, Richardson 1-3, Baylor, Trigg 5-51, Cameron 4-59, A.Hawkins 3-36, Presley 3-29, Washington 2-22, Baldwin 1-40, Yates 1-5.
MISSED FIELD GOALS—None.

TCU called timeout when Baylor lined up outside of field goal range. Had the Bears turned over the ball on downs, the Horned Frogs might have had time to set up a winning kick on the same end as Griffin Kell's 40-yarder two years ago.

"We weren't quite sure what they were going to do," TCU coach Sonny Dykes said. "I thought they might try to draw us offside to try to get a shorter field goal for the kicker. You've got to give them credit. They made a nice play."

NASCAR CUP SERIES

Blaney earns chance to defend title in finale

Review determines last finalist after controversial pass

By JENNA FRYER
The Associated Press

MARTINSVILLE, Va. — Ryan Blaney earned a chance to defend his Cup Series championship with a victory Sunday at Martinsville Speedway, where a controversial finish forced NASCAR to decide if Christopher Bell or William Byron took the final spot in the winner-takes-all season finale.

The ending was marred by NASCAR's lengthy review of Bell potentially committing a safety violation with his last-lap pass of Byron. Bell hit the wall and rode a portion of it for momentum — the same thing Ross Chastain did two years ago in a move that has since been banned by NASCAR.

Bell's pass of Byron left the two tied in points for the final spot next week in the title-decider at Phoenix Raceway. After an awkwardly long delay, Bell's move was deemed illegal, and Byron was given the final spot.

"I understand that the rule is made to prevent people from riding the wall, but my move was completely different from what Ross did," said Bell, who was denied a third consecutive trip to the championship race.

"I slid into the wall and kept my foot into it. I guess that is a losing move," Bell continued. "I didn't intentionally



Chuck Burton/The Associated Press

Defending Cup champion Ryan Blaney (center) celebrates in victory lane at Martinsville Speedway, where his victory earned him the opportunity to defend his title in the finale.

floor it and go into the fence — I slipped into the wall, and that's all she wrote."

The ruling saved the playoffs for Hendrick Motorsports, which put three drivers in the round of eight vying for four spots in the championship. Had NASCAR not ruled Bell's move illegal, not a single Hendrick car would be racing for the Cup Series title.

"He rode the wall, and there's a clear rule against rid-

ing the wall," Byron said. "So in my eyes, that's what counts. If it happened in the past, it was fair game. But now the rule is against it."

Blaney, meanwhile, passed Chase Elliott with 15 laps to go to win at the Virginia track for a second consecutive year and take a spot in the championship race next week at Phoenix Raceway. Blaney will race Penske teammate Joey Logano, Tyler Reddick of 23XI

Racing and Byron.

The title goes to the highest-finishing driver next Sunday.

"To have another shot at the championship is really special," Blaney said. "Try to go back-to-back next week. I've got nothing left. Oh my God, I'm tired."

Blaney last week lost an automatic berth into the finale when Reddick passed him in the final turn at Homestead-

NASCAR CUP SERIES XFINITY 500 SUNDAY'S RESULTS

- (at Martinsville Speedway, Ridgeway, Va.)
Lap length: 0.53 miles
(Start position in parentheses)
- (14) Ryan Blaney, Ford, 500 laps, 55 points.
 - (2) Chase Elliott, Chevrolet, 500, 45.
 - (9) Kyle Larson, Chevrolet, 500, 46.
 - (4) Austin Cindric, Ford, 500, 33.
 - (37) Denny Hamlin, Toyota, 500, 40.
 - (6) William Byron, Chevrolet, 500, 46.
 - (10) Austin Dillon, Chevrolet, 500, 37.
 - (22) Ross Chastain, Chevrolet, 500, 29.
 - (18) Brad Keselowski, Ford, 500, 39.
 - (12) Joey Logano, Ford, 500, 29.
 - (25) Noah Gragson, Ford, 500, 28.
 - (29) Shane Van Gisbergen, Chevrolet, 500, 0.
 - (7) Alex Bowman, Chevrolet, 500, 31.
 - (8) Ryan Preece, Ford, 500, 31.
 - (4) Chase Briscoe, Ford, 500, 30.
 - (11) Josh Berry, Ford, 500, 21.
 - (15) Daniel Hemric, Chevrolet, 500, 20.
 - (19) Bubba Wallace, Toyota, 499, 19.
 - (21) Erik Jones, Toyota, 499, 18.
 - (28) Ricky Stenhouse Jr., Chevrolet, 499, 17.
 - (36) Zane Smith, Chevrolet, 499, 16.
 - (22) Christopher Bell, Toyota, 499, 20.
 - (20) Daniel Suárez, Chevrolet, 498, 14.
 - (1) Martin Truex Jr., Toyota, 498, 13.
 - (27) Carson Hocevar, Chevrolet, 498, 12.

- (13) Todd Gilliland, Ford, 498, 11.
 - (33) Kaz Grala, Ford, 497, 10.
 - (23) Kyle Busch, Chevrolet, 497, 9.
 - (30) Justin Haley, Chevrolet, 497, 8.
 - (26) Chris Buescher, Ford, 497, 7.
 - (32) John H. Nemechek, Toyota, 496, 6.
 - (5) Ty Gibbs, Toyota, 495, 5.
 - (17) Michael McDowell, Ford, 490, 4.
 - (34) Tyler Reddick, Toyota, brakes, 458, 3.
 - (34) Corey LaJoie, Ford, garage, 365, 2.
 - (6) Harrison Burton, Ford, engine, 347, 1.
 - (35) Josh Billicki, Ford, brakes, 131, 0.
- RACE STATISTICS**
Average Speed of Race Winner: 75.68 mph.
Time of Race: 3 hours, 28 minutes, 31 seconds.
Margin of Victory: 2.593 seconds.
Caution Flags: 9 for 66 laps.
Lead Changes: 15 among 7 drivers.
Lap Leaders: M.Truex 0-41; C.Elliott 42-84; W.Byron 85-86; C.Elliott 87-140; W.Byron 141-185; C.Elliott 186; R.Blaney 187-202; B.Keselowski 203-263; R.Blaney 264; B.Keselowski 265-373; B.Wallace 374-379; C.Elliott 380-401; W.Byron 402-405; K.Larson 406-476; C.Elliott 477-485; R.Blaney 486-500.
Leaders Summary (Driver, Times Led, Laps Led): B.Keselowski, 2 times for 170 laps; C.Elliott, 5 times for 129 laps; K.Larson, 1 time for 71 laps; W.Byron, 3 times for 51 laps; M.Truex, 1 time for 41 laps; R.Blaney, 3 times for 32 laps; B.Wallace, 1 time for 6 laps.

Miami Speedway. The victory gives team owner Roger Penske two chances to win a third title this year: Penske teams won the sports car championships in both IMSA and on Saturday in the World Endurance Championship.

Blaney's win was the 100th for Team Penske since it partnered with Ford. Logano won the title in 2022, Blaney won in 2023 and now Penske has a shot at three consecutive Cup titles.

"A lot of momentum. It's nice to have two Penske cars in," Blaney said. "It's nice to join [Logano] and have a decent shot to bring Roger another title, a third title in a row, so these guys are the best at what they do and it's been so much fun to get to run with them and share wins and championships."

"It's super strong right now

in our organization and hopefully it carries over."

Elliott finished second at Martinsville, Kyle Larson was third and Penske driver Austin Cindric was fourth but not eligible for a championship berth.

Denny Hamlin drove from last to fifth but was eliminated from the finale and Byron was sixth and given the final spot in the championship field when Bell's pass was ruled illegal. Bell finished 22nd after an early spin in the race. He had a large enough point cushion that left him tied with Byron for the final spot in the championship field.

Byron and Blaney return to the championship race for the second consecutive year; Logano is the only two-time champion in the field; and Reddick is making his title-race debut.

FORMULA ONE

Epic effort lifts Verstappen's bid for 4th straight crown

Dutchman masters rainy Interlagos while rivals slip and slide

SAO PAULO — Red Bull driver Max Verstappen took a major step toward securing his fourth straight F1 title by winning the Brazilian Grand Prix on Sunday despite starting 17th and boosted his lead over McLaren's Lando Norris from

44 to 62 points with three races remaining.

The Dutchman could secure the trophy in Las Vegas later this month.

In one of the best drives of his career, Verstappen overcame punishments before the race as well as the wet weather at Interlagos to earn his first victory since June and his eighth Grand Prix win of the year.

He won by almost 20 seconds and clocked the fastest lap at Interlagos 17 times during the race to receive an extra point.

Norris started on the pole but finished in a disappointing sixth position. He avoided losing more points in an investigation by stewards, who fined him and Mercedes' George Russell \$5,440 for breaching FIA's start procedure.

FORMULA ONE BRAZILIAN GRAND PRIX SUNDAY'S RESULTS

- (at Jose Carlos Pace Race Track, Sao Paulo, Brazil)
Length: 4.00 kilometers
(Start position in parentheses)
- (17) Max Verstappen, Netherlands, Red Bull, 69, 2:06:54.430, 25 points.
 - (4) Esteban Ocon, France, Alpine, 69, +19.477 seconds, 18.
 - (13) Pierre Gasly, France, Alpine, 69, +22:52.15.
 - (2) George Russell, Great Britain, Mercedes, 69, +23:26.12.
 - (6) Charles Leclerc, Monaco, Ferrari, 69, +30:17.10.
 - (1) Lando Norris, Great Britain, McLaren, 69, +31:37.8.

- (7) Yuki Tsunoda, Japan, Racing Bulls, 69, +42:05.6.
 - (8) Oscar Piastri, Australia, McLaren, 69, +44:94.3, 4.
 - (5) Liam Lawson, New Zealand, Racing Bulls, 69, +50:45.2.
 - (18) Lewis Hamilton, Great Britain, Mercedes, 69, +50:75.3, 1.
 - (12) Sergio Perez, Mexico, Red Bull Racing, 69, +51:53.1.
 - (25) Oliver Bearman, Great Britain, Haas, 69, +57:08.5.
 - (11) Valtteri Bottas, Finland, Kick Sauber, 69, +1:03:58.8.
 - (9) Fernando Alonso, Spain, Aston Martin, 69, +1:18:04.9.
 - (19) Guanyu Zhou, China, Kick Sauber, 69, +1:19:44.9.
 - (20) Carlos Sainz Jr, Spain, Ferrari, did not finish, 38.
 - (16) Franco Colapinto, Argentina, Williams, did not finish, 30.
 - (18) Nico Hulkenberg, Germany, Haas, Disqualified, 30.
- DRIVER STANDINGS** — 1. Verstappen, 393 points; 2. Norris, 331; 3. Leclerc, 307; 4. Piastri, 262; 5. Sainz Jr, 244; 6. Russell, Great Britain, Mercedes, 192; 7. Hamilton, 190; 8. Perez, 151; 9. Alonso, 62; 10. Hulkenberg, 31.
MANUFACTURER STANDINGS — 1. McLaren, 593; 2. Ferrari, 557; 3. Red Bull Racing, 544; 4. Mercedes, 382; 5. Aston Martin, 86; 6. Alpine, 49; 7. Haas, 46; 8. Racing Bulls, 44; 9. Williams, 17.

12th and trying to clock a fast lap to reach the final part of the session.

The two Alpine drivers, Esteban Ocon and Pierre Gasly, completed the podium. Ferrari's Charles Leclerc, who started the race with a long shot at the drivers' title, finished fifth.

The race under rain in Sao Paulo had an aborted start when Aston Martin's Lance

Stroll went off course on the formation lap. Norris could not hold his first position in the first turn, losing it to Russell. Norris struggled until the end of the race to find his line under the rain, which Verstappen clearly managed to do from the start, finding grip where others could not on the inside of the track.

The Associated Press

LATE SATURDAY | NO. 20 SMU 48, NO. 18 PITTSBURGH 25

Ponies control ACC destiny with win

Mustangs, now No. 13, can take league title if they claim last 3 games

UNIVERSITY PARK — The majority of the postgame questions focused on either the small-picture details of how SMU orchestrated its most complete win of the season or the big-picture probes that asked how the Mustangs arrived at this juncture in the first place. The answers, for the most part, related back to focus, belief and execution.

The shortest response might've meant the most though.

"Did y'all see that Clemson lost?" one reporter asked Saturday night after No. 20 SMU's 48-25 win over previously unbeaten No. 18 Pitt.

"Yeah," defensive back Ahmad Walker said, and let a subtle grin creep across his face.

Walker didn't expand on his one-word answer. Didn't have to, either, because the smile said it all: SMU, after its win vs. Pitt and Clemson's first conference loss to Louisville on Saturday, now controls its own destiny in the Atlantic Coast Conference. The Mustangs (8-1, 5-0) are one of two teams with an unblemished conference record alongside undefeated Miami, and because the ACC does not have divisions, the conference championship will be played between the two teams with the best league record.

In other words: The Mustangs are guaranteed a spot in

COLLEGES



SHAWN MCFARLAND
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the ACC championship game if they win their last three regular-season games.

It's nice to have a say in how things shake out, isn't it?

"That's what we've been working towards all year," said Walker, a Liberty transfer. "So that's what we're going to do."

The Mustangs climbed to No. 13 in The Associated Press Top 25 on Sunday. They haven't been ranked that high since 1985 — before the death penalty — and only one ACC team (No. 4 Miami) is ranked above them. The USA Today coaches' poll has the Mustangs at No. 15. ESPN's Football Power Index ranks them No. 16. They are, according to the major evaluators, squarely in the mix of things.

Still, they'll wait a beat longer for the most-major validation.

"Tuesday, the rankings that matter come out," SMU coach Rhett Lashlee said. "Don't get me wrong, we've been humbled to be ranked in the AP poll and in the coaches' poll. That's a big deal for our program anytime — definitely in year one [as an ACC team]. But now, Tuesday night, you find out the group whose rankings matter now the rest of the way think about you." The first of six College Foot-



Smiley N. Pool/Staff Photographer

SMU tight end Matthew Hibner celebrates after his 80-yard touchdown catch with 9:56 left in the game that put the Mustangs in front of Pittsburgh 48-11.

ball Playoff rankings will be unveiled on Tuesday night. The selection committee, which consists of athletic directors, former players and coaches, will rank teams Nos. 1 through 25 to determine a 12-team field that will compete in the first expanded postseason. The five highest-ranked conference champions and the next seven highest-ranked teams overall will make up the field.

The Mustangs have the 13th-best odds (a 47% chance) to make the playoffs, according to ESPN's predictor. An ACC championship would, theoretically, punch SMU's ticket into the postseason and could even

land it a first-round bye. The selection committee could also vote the Mustangs into the postseason without a conference championship in hand if it felt that their body of work was strong enough without one. As CFP Executive Director Rich Clark said Wednesday, "we're not trying to pick the most deserving teams, we're trying to pick the best teams."

"We're just ignoring it," Walker said. "Just playing football."

It's a smart strategy. It's a practical one, too. If the Mustangs beat Boston College, Virginia and Cal to finish the season, they'll become the first

Group of Five transplant to reach a conference title game in their first season as a power conference team.

Lashlee, of course, swatted back most championship talk on Saturday night. The Mustangs will host Boston College, which they lost to in last year's Fenway Bowl, in two weeks after a bye. They'll travel to Virginia one week later and welcome a once-ranked Cal team to Gerald J. Ford Stadium the week after.

"We've got three games left," Lashlee said. "If we go out and don't take care of our business, then it doesn't matter." Fair, but, it can't hurt that

LATE SATURDAY

Pittsburgh	3	0	8	14	-25
SMU	7	24	3	14	-48

First Quarter
SMU—L. Johnson 2 run (C. Rogers kick), 12:19.
PITT—FG Sauls 44, 5:55.

Second Quarter
SMU—Daniels 3 run (C. Rogers kick), 14:15.
SMU—B. Smith 71 run (C. Rogers kick), 10:43.
SMU—B. Smith 3 pass from Jennings (C. Rogers kick), 1:53.
SMU—FG C. Rogers 50, 0:2.

Third Quarter
SMU—FG C. Rogers 27, 9:41.
PITT—Reid 1 run (Holstein run), :36.

Fourth Quarter
SMU—B. Smith 18 run (C. Rogers kick), 12:46.
SMU—Hibner 80 pass from Jennings (C. Rogers kick), 4:01.
PITT—K. Johnson 13 pass from Yarnell (Sauls kick), 4:01.
PITT—Thomas 1 pass from Yarnell (Sauls kick), :23.
A—34,648.

	PITT	SMU
First downs	30	19
Total Net Yards	453	467
Rushes-yards	32-103	36-161
Passing	350	306
Punt Returns	4-40	1-1
Kickoff Returns	3-80	1-42
Interceptions Ret.	0-0	1-0
Comp-Att-Int	39-58-1	18-31-0
Sacked-Yards Lost	3-16	2-11
Punts	5-31.2	6-44.667
Fumbles-Lost	3-1	1-0
Penalties-Yards	6-66	10-85
Time of Possession	31:44	28:16

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS
RUSHING—Pittsburgh, Reid 13-49, Holstein 10-19, Hammon 4-17, Carter 1-9, Nwabuko 2-7, Yarnell 1-4, Davis 1-minus 2; SMU, B. Smith 23-161, L. Johnson 6-6, Hernandez 3-4, Daniels 1-3, (Team) 1-minus 2, Jennings 1-minus 4, Luster 1-minus 7.

PASSING—Pittsburgh, Holstein 29-47-1-248, Yarnell 9-10-0-99, Junko 1-0-3, SMU, Jennings 17-25-0-306, (Team) 0-1-0-0, Luster 1-2-0-0, Stone 0-3-0-0.
RECEIVING—Pittsburgh, K. Johnson 8-81, Mumphield 6-68, Reid 6-44, Overman 4-48, Bartholomew 4-21, Reynolds 3-32, Thomas 2-22, R. Williams 2-19, Hammond 2-10, Lee 1-3, Nwabuko 1-2, SMU, B. Smith 4-21, Hibner 3-108, K. Smith 3-89, Dixon 2-35, Daniels 2-30, Hudson 2-26, Campbell 1-0, L. Johnson 1-minus 3.
MISSED FIELD GOALS—Pittsburgh, Sauls 47.

LATE SATURDAY | SOUTH CAROLINA 44, NO. 10 TEXAS A&M 20

Gamecocks hand A&M first conference loss

QB Sellers keys win over Aggies with 2 TD passes, scoring run

By JEFFREY COLLINS
The Associated Press

COLUMBIA, S.C. — LaNorris Sellers ran for 106 yards and threw for 244 more, and South Carolina finally knocked off one of the Southeastern Conference's playoff contenders, beating No. 10 Texas A&M 44-20 on Saturday night.

The Gamecocks (5-3, 3-3) took LSU and Alabama to the wire this season before losing. But this time their freshman quarterback and senior transfer Raheim Sanders ran all over Aggies (7-2, 5-1), who came into Saturday allowing just 104.5 yards a game.

LATE SATURDAY					
Texas A&M	3	17	0	0	-20
South Carolina	14	6	10	14	-44
First Quarter					
SCAR	—Sellers 23 run (Al. Herrera kick), 10:46.				
SCAR	—Simon 15 pass from Sellers (Al. Herrera kick), 8:24.				
TXAM	—FG Bond 52, 5:15.				
Second Quarter					
TXAM	—FG Bond 55, 13:12.				
SCAR	—FG Al. Herrera 25, 8:45.				
TXAM	—Daniels 56 run (Bond kick), 7:29.				
TXAM	—Barber 2 pass from Reed (Bond kick), 1:08.				
SCAR	—FG Al. Herrera 44, :02.				
Third Quarter					
SCAR	—R. Sanders 52 run (Al. Herrera kick), 9:19.				
SCAR	—FG Al. Herrera 43, 6:50.				
Fourth Quarter					
SCAR	—Simon 57 pass from Sellers (Al. Herrera kick), 3:24.				
SCAR	—R. Sanders 7 run (Al. Herrera kick), 2:22.				
A	—80,298.				
	TXAM	SCAR			
First downs	19	26			
Total Net Yards	350	530			

Rushes-yards	42-144	43-286
Passing	206	244
Punt Returns	1-2	0-0
Kickoff Returns	3-39	1-28
Interceptions Ret.	0-0	1-2
Comp-Att-Int	18-28-1	13-27-0
Sacked-Yards Lost	3-24	0-0
Punts	5-40.2	4-40.0
Fumbles-Lost	4-1	1-1
Penalties-Yards	7-68	3-25
Time of Possession	30:48	29:12

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS
RUSHING—Texas A&M, Daniels 13-83, Reed 16-46, Smith 8-15, Moss 2-8, (Team) 1-minus 1, N. Thomas 1-minus 2, Bussey 1-minus 5, South Carolina, R. Sanders 20-144, Sellers 15-106, Adaway 8-36.
PASSING—Texas A&M, Reed 18-28-1-206, South Carolina, Sellers 13-27-0-244.
RECEIVING—Texas A&M, Barber 7-80, Allen 3-40, N. Thomas 2-24, Walker 2-13, Moss 1-20, T. Watson 1-14, Daniels 1-8, Bussey 1-7, South Carolina, R. Sanders 5-92, Simon 4-132, Bennett 2-19, J. Brown 1-1, Larvadain 1-0.
MISSED FIELD GOALS—None.

to get better," Gamecocks coach Shane Beamer said about the quarterback who played only his fourth full game in college. "When he had those two losses against LSU and Alabama he was inexperienced."



Artie Walker Jr./The Associated Press

Beamer said he felt like all he heard before the game was how powerful Texas A&M was on both lines. He was proud his team gained 286 yards on the ground and shut out the Aggies in the second half.

"We're a pretty freaking physical team around here too," Beamer said is a raspy voice with a thick black chain with a Gamecock logo around his neck that was given to him by a student storming the field.

The Aggies ground their

way through the SEC to be the last undefeated team in the league and worked their way back to a lead before halftime after falling behind 14-0 less than six minutes into the game.

But South Carolina's chaotic defense came through when needed. It stopped the Aggies twice on fourth-and-1, picked off Marcel Reed's pass as the freshman threw off his back foot as Texas A&M drove early in the fourth quarter, then scooped up Reed's fumble to

South Carolina running back Raheim Sanders rushes for a 52-yard touchdown with 9:19 left in the third quarter that put the Gamecocks ahead for good at 27-20.

squash A&M's last hope.

Reed was 18 of 28 for 206 yards and ran for 46 yards as the Aggies starter Conner Weigman didn't play. Texas A&M coach Mike Elko said Reed is the starter right now but that could always change.

Texas A&M rushing leader Le'Veon Moss left the game early and didn't come back. Elko said his injury didn't look as serious as first thought, but he was waiting for more information.

COLLEGE BRIEFS

Top four seeds same ahead of first CFP release

Indiana cracks top 10 for first time; Tech to host FOX pregame

AP TOP 25 COLLEGE FOOTBALL POLL			
Rnk.	Team	Rec.	Pts.
1.	Oregon (62)	9-0	1550
2.	Georgia	7-1	1449
3.	Ohio St.	7-1	1442
4.	Miami	9-0	1348
5.	Texas	7-1	1310
6.	Penn St.	7-1	1158
7.	Tennessee	7-1	1150
8.	Indiana	9-0	1123
9.	BYU	8-0	1084
10.	Notre Dame	7-1	1066
11.	Alabama	6-2	867
12.	Boise St.	7-1	853
13.	SMU	8-1	752
14.	LSU	6-2	707
15.	Texas A&M	7-2	662
16.	Mississippi	7-2	653
17.	Iowa St.	7-1	592
18.	Army	8-0	468
19.	Clemson	6-2	447
20.	Washington St.	7-1	351
21.	Colorado	6-2	234
22.	Kansas St.	7-2	227
23.	Pittsburgh	7-1	203
24.	Vanderbilt	6-3	130
25.	Louisville	6-3	115

USA TODAY COLLEGE FOOTBALL COACHES POLL			
Rnk.	Team	Rec.	Pts.
1.	Oregon (53)	9-0	1,349
2.	Georgia (1)	7-1	1,267
3.	Ohio State	7-1	1,245
4.	Miami	9-0	1,194
5.	Texas	7-1	1,138
6.	Tennessee	7-1	1,039
7.	Penn State	7-1	982
8.	Notre Dame	7-1	961
9.	BYU	8-0	916
10.	Indiana	9-0	916
11.	Alabama	6-2	772
12.	Mississippi	7-2	657
13.	LSU	6-2	653
14.	Boise St.	7-1	615
15.	SMU	8-1	603
16.	Texas A&M	7-2	518
17.	Clemson	6-2	513
18.	Iowa St.	7-1	511
19.	Army	8-0	404
20.	Washington St.	7-1	284
21.	Kansas St.	7-2	201
22.	Missouri	6-2	192
23.	Pittsburgh	7-1	178
24.	Colorado	6-2	124
25.	Vanderbilt	6-3	85

WEEK 11 SCHEDULE REGIONAL SCHEDULE THURSDAY'S GAMES	
Appalachian St. at Coastal Carolina (ESPN) 7:00	FAU at East Carolina (ESPN2) 7:00
FRIDAY'S GAMES	
California at Wake Forest (ACC) 7:00	Rice at Memphis (ESPN2) 8:00
SATURDAY'S GAMES	
Florida at Texas (Ch. 8) 11 am	Texas State at UL-Monroe (ESPN) 11 am
West Virginia at Cincinnati (FS1) 11 am	Miami at Georgia Tech (ESPN) 11 am
Tarleton St. at West Georgia (ESPN+) 1:00	Alabama A&M at Pine Bluff (ESPN+) 2:00
Nicholls at Houston Christian (ESPN+) 2:00	Florida A&M at Prairie View (ESPN+) 2:00
Texas Southern at Alcorn St. (ESPN+) 2:00	Lamar at Incarnate Word (ESPN+) 2:30
Alabama at North Texas (ESPN2) 2:30	Iowa St. at Kansas (FS1) 2:30
Clemson at Virginia Tech (ESPN) 2:30	Georgia at Mississippi (Ch. 8) 3:00
Kennesaw St. at Texas Tech (Ch. 4) 3:00	Abilene Christian at Austin Peay (ESPN+) 3:00
Colorado at Vanderbilt (SEC) 3:15	Stephen F. Austin at TAMU-Commerce (ESPN+) 3:30
UCF at Arizona St. (ESPN) 6:00	Mississippi St. at Tennessee (FS1) 6:00
Oklahoma St. at TCU (FS1) 6:00	Florida St. at Notre Dame (Ch. 5) 6:30
Alabama at LSU (Ch. 8) 6:30	Oklahoma at Missouri (SEC) 6:45
BYU at Utah (ESPN) 9:15	

show of the sort since Nov. 1, 2008.

FOX will construct its set in the green space student tailgating area just west of Jones AT&T Stadium with the show beginning at 9 a.m., according to a Texas A&M release.

Staff report

South Carolina fined: South Carolina was fined \$250,000 by the Southeastern Conference for fans rushing the field after the Gamecocks' 44-20 win over then No. 10 Texas A&M on Saturday night.

The school was fined by the league for its second violation under its policy, which was last amended in 2023. The Gamecocks were fined \$100,000 in January when the men's basketball team defeated No. 6 Kentucky 79-62.

The latest fine, per SEC policy, will go to Texas A&M.

The SEC's policy says institutions must limit access to com-

MEN'S BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

TODAY'S TOP 25 GAMES	
No. 17 Purdue vs. Texas A&M-CC (BigTen) 5:00	No. 7 Duke vs. Maine (ACC) 6:00
No. 12 Tennessee vs. Gardner-Webb (ESPN+) 6:00	No. 13 Texas A&M at UCF (ESPN+) 6:00
No. 20 Cincinnati vs. UABP (ESPN+) 6:00	No. 23 Kentucky vs. Wright St. (ESPN+) 6:00
No. 1 Kansas vs. Howard (ESPN+) 7:00	No. 4 Houston vs. Jackson St. (ESPN+) 7:00
No. 5 Iowa St. vs. MVSU (ESPN+) 7:00	No. 18 Marquette vs. Stony Brook (FS1) 7:30
No. 21 Florida vs. South Florida (SEC) 7:30	(at VyStar Veterans Memorial Arena, Jacksonville, Fla.)
No. 24 Mississippi vs. LIU (ESPN+) 7:30	No. 2 Alabama vs. UNC-Asheville (ESPN+) 8:00
No. 9 North Carolina vs. Elon (ACC) 8:00	No. 10 Arizona vs. Canisius (ESPN+) 8:00
No. 19 Texas vs. Ohio St. (TNT) 9:00	(at T-Mobile Arena, Las Vegas)
No. 22 UCLA vs. Rider (FS1) 9:30	No. 6 Gonzaga vs. No. 8 Baylor (ESPN2) 10:30
(at Spokane Arena, Spokane, Wash.)	

TODAY'S SOUTHWEST GAMES	
UNT-Dallas at UT-Arlington (ESPN+) 11 am	Robert Morris at West Virginia (ESPN+) 6:00
North Florida at South Carolina (ESPN+) 7:00	West Georgia at Mississippi St. (ESPN+) 6:30
Tennessee Tech at Georgia St. (ESPN+) 6:30	Trinity (Tex.) at UTSA (ESPN+) 7:00
Mid.-Eastern Shore at Vanderbilt (ESPN+) 7:00	Missouri at Memphis (ESPN+) 7:00
Florida A&M at TCU (ESPN+) 7:00	Tarleton at SMU (ESPN+) 7:30
Alcorn St. at Utah (ESPN+) 8:00	Green Bay at Oklahoma St. (ESPN+) 8:00
Eastern Wash. at Colorado (ESPN+) 8:00	Lindenwood at Oklahoma (ESPN+) 8:00

petition areas to the athletes taking part, along with coaches, officials and authorized support personnel "for the safety of participants and spectators alike."

A subsequent offense would cost South Carolina \$500,000.

The Associated Press

NBA

ATLANTA.....	33	25	35	33	—	126
NEW ORLEANS.....	30	29	26	26	—	111

ATLANTA	FG		FT		Reb	A	PF	PTS
	Min	M-A	M-A	O-T				
Johnson.....	37:54	12-20	5-6	2-9	8	2	29	
Risacher.....	29:52	4-13	2-2	1-5	1	3	11	
Capela.....	20:39	4-5	0-0	0-4	0	1	8	
Daniels.....	24:49	7-10	0-0	2-5	3	3	16	
Young.....	31:21	8-15	2-2	1-4	12	1	23	
Roddy.....	25:51	3-3	0-0	1-3	3	1	8	
Nance Jr.....	24:38	6-8	0-0	2-6	0	0	14	
Wallace.....	21:57	3-7	0-0	1-2	1	2	6	
Mathews.....	20:16	3-7	2-2	0-3	1	4	11	
Barlow.....	2:23	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	
Totals	240:00	50-88	11-12	10-41	29	17	126	

NEW ORLEANS	FG		FT		Reb	A	PF	PTS
	Min	M-A	M-A	O-T				
Green.....	23:31	1-2	1-1	0-2	1	2	3	
Ingram.....	29:30	12-19	4-5	1-7	2	4	32	
Missi.....	25:55	2-6	0-0	3-6	3	0	4	
Alvarado.....	28:34	3-12	2-2	1-3	7	2	9	
Hawkins.....	31:17	7-18	2-2	1-3	3	2	19	
Boston Jr.....	30:09	4-10	5-6	3-5	4	2	14	
Robinson-Earl.....	24:55	2-8	0-0	6-7	2	1	6	
Cain.....	17:52	4-7	3-4	2-3	0	1	14	
Theis.....	17:38	3-4	0-0	0-3	0	2	7	
Jemison.....	3:33	0-2	0-0	1-3	0	0	0	
Nowell.....	3:33	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	
Reeves.....	3:33	1-2	0-0	0-1	0	0	3	
Totals	240:00	39-90	17-20	18-43	22	16	111	

Pct.: FG .568, FT .917.
3-Point Goals: 15-36, 417 (Young 5-10, Mathews 3-6, Roddy 2-2, Nance Jr. 2-3, Daniels 2-5, Risacher 1-5, Wallace 0-1, Johnson 0-4).
Team Rebounds: 4. Team Turnovers: None.
Blocks: 3 (Johnson 2, Capela).
Turnovers: 16 (Johnson 4, Daniels 2, Mathews 2, Risacher 2, Wallace 2, Young 2, Nance Jr., Roddy).
Steals: 10 (Risacher 3, Johnson 2, Wallace 2, Daniels, Nance Jr., Young).
Technical Fouls: None.

DETROIT.....	29	23	31	23	—	106
BROOKLYN.....	25	32	20	15	—	92

DETROIT	FG		FT		Reb	A	PF	PTS
	Min	M-A	M-A	O-T				
Hardaway Jr.....	22:31	5-9	1-1	0-0	2	4	14	
Harris.....	34:38	8-13	1-1	3-5	4	1	18	
Durham.....	33:15	5-5	3-4	3-17	4	3	13	
Cunningham.....	35:25	8-13	2-3	1-6	5	3	19	
Ivey.....	35:05	4-15	6-7	0-5	5	2	15	
Beasley.....	29:19	6-15	2-3	0-1	1	3	18	
Fontecchio.....	23:55	1-6	4-5	2-8	1	1	7	
Stewart.....	13:42	0-0	2-2	0-5	0	6	2	
Holland II.....	10:20	0-1	0-0	0-0	1	2	0	
Moore Jr.....	0:54	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	
Sasser.....	0:54	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	
Totals	240:00	37-77	21-26	9-47	25	25	106	

Pct.: FG .481, FT .808.
3-Point Goals: 11-36, 306 (Beasley 4-11, Hardaway Jr. 3-6, Cunningham 1-4, Fontecchio 1-4, Harris 1-4, Ivey 1-7).
Team Rebounds: 10. Team Turnovers: 4.
Blocks: 6 (Duren 3, Stewart 2, Ivey).
Turnovers: 17 (Cunningham 7, Duren 4, Ivey 4, Harris, Stewart).
Steals: 4 (Beasley 2, Duren, Ivey).
Technical Fouls: None.

BROOKLYN	FG		FT		Reb	A	PF	PTS
	Min	M-A	M-A	O-T				
C.Johnson.....	30:03	9-19	5-6	0-1	3	3	26	
Simmons.....	24:28	2-4	0-0	0-6	6	2	4	
Finney-Smith.....	28:23	3-5	1-1	2-3	0	3	9	
Schroder.....	33:20	3-7	0-0	0-5	4	3	7	
Thomas.....	31:08	6-17	4-4	0-2	2	0	17	
Claxton.....	21:56	2-4	4-12	0-1	4	5	8	
Wilson.....	21:49	3-6	1-2	1-3	2	0	8	
Clowney.....	16:43	1-3	1-2	1-2	1	2	4	
Z.Williams.....	16:00	2-5	0-0	0-2	0	3	4	
K.Johnson.....	12:55	1-1	3-4	0-1	0	3	5	
T.Martin.....	1:36	0-0	0-0	0-1	0	0	0	
Milton.....	1:36	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	
Totals	240:00	32-71	19-31	4-27	22	24	92	

Pct.: FG .451, FT .613.
3-Point Goals: 9-31, 290 (C.Johnson 3-12, Finney-Smith 2-3, Wilson 1-1, Clowney 1-2, Schroder 1-3, Thomas 1-7, Z.Williams 0-3).
Team Rebounds: 12. Team Turnovers: 1.
Blocks: 3 (C.Johnson, Finney-Smith, K.Johnson).
Turnovers: 13 (Claxton 3, Simmons 3, Thomas 3, Finney-Smith 2, Schroder 2).
Steals: 9 (Schroder 3, Finney-Smith 2, C.Johnson, Claxton, K.Johnson, Simmons).
Technical Fouls: (Claxton, 9:13 fourth.
A: 17,086 (17,732).

NBA LEADERS					
Through Saturday					
SCORING					
Player, team	G	FG	FT	Pts	Avg.
Davis, Lal.....	6	67	55	191	31.8
Antetokounmpo, Mil.....	6	76	34	186	31.0
Tatum, Bos.....	7	67	51	212	30.3
Ball, Cha.....	6	63	25	181	30.2
Joki, Den.....	6	65	33	179	29.8
Maxey, Phi.....	5	50	34	149	29.8
Banchero, Orl.....	5	48	38	145	29.0
Edwards, Min.....	6	60	18	170	28.3
Thomas, Bkn.....	6	54	43	169	28.2
Young, Atl.....	6	47	54	166	27.7
Doncic, Dal.....	5	48	26	136	27.2
Booker, Pho.....	6	49	42	160	26.7
Gilgeous-Alexander, Okc.....	6	57	33	159	26.5
Lillard, Mil.....	6	46	43	157	26.2
Durant, Pho.....	6	54	32	155	25.8
Brown, Bos.....	6	52	38	154	25.7
Brunson, Ny.....	5	47	20	127	25.4
Derozan, Sac.....	6	53	41	152	25.3
Powell, Lac.....	6	56	17	151	25.2
Cunningham, Det.....	6	58	18	150	25.0
Iring, Dal.....	5	46	12	123	24.6
Mitchell, Cle.....	7	65	19	171	24.4
Green, Hou.....	6	49	24	145	24.2
Fox, Sac.....	6	51	28	141	23.5
Ingram, No.....	6	55	13	138	23.0
Randle, Min.....	6	50	25	137	22.8
Lavine, Chi.....	6	46	22	136	22.7
Hield, Gs.....	6	47	9	133	22.2
James, Lal.....	6	47	24	133	22.2
Poole, Was.....	5	36	17	111	22.2
Towns, Ny.....	5	39	22	111	22.2
Schröder, Bkn.....	6	45	20	132	22.0
Harden, Lac.....	6	39	38	131	21.8
Sabonis, Sac.....	6	46	31	129	21.5
Vu Evi, Chi.....	6	48	19	129	21.5
Williamson, No.....	5	38	29	107	21.4
Dick, Tor.....	7	52	24	147	21.0
Herro, Mia.....	5	36	14	104	20.8
Jackson, Mem.....	5	39	18	102	20.4
Morant, Mem.....	6	39	37	120	20.0
Slakam, Ind.....	6	48	10	119	19.8
Coulibaly, Was.....	5	34	19	97	19.4
Ivey, Det.....	6	42	18	116	19.3
White, Chi.....	6	39	17	116	19.3
Mann, Cha.....	6	43	13	115	19.2
Simons, Por.....	7	42	30	132	18.9
Bane, Mem.....	5	35	11	94	18.8
Suggs, Orl.....	6	37	20	112	18.7
White, Bos.....	7	44	18	131	18.7
Grant, Por.....	7	45	20	130	18.6

REBOUNDS					
Player, team	G	Off	Def	Tot	Avg.
Sabonis, Sac.....	6	19	59	78	13.0
Zubac, Lac.....	6	23	55	78	13.0
Antetokounmpo, Mil.....	6	11	63	74	12.33
Joki, Den.....	6	23	51	74	12.33
Davis, Lal.....	6	14	58	72	12.0
Poeltl, Tor.....	7	29	55	84	12.0
Enguen, Hou.....	6	26	46	72	12.0
Drummond, Phi.....	5	22	37	59	11.8
Ayton, Por.....	7	20	59	79	11.29
Towns, Ny.....	5	11	45	56	11.2
Kessler, Uta.....	6	23	44	67	11.17
Allen, Cle.....	7	15	63	78	11.14
Vucevic, Chi.....	6	18	48	66	11.0
Carter, Orl.....	5	11	41	52	10.4
Gobert, Min.....	6	15	47	62	10.33
Hart, Ny.....	5	12	38	50	10.0
Johnson, Atl.....	6	13	47	60	10.0
Richards, Cha.....	5	20	30	50	10.0
Holmgren, Okc.....	6	10	49	59	9.83
Wembanyama, Sa.....	6	12	47	59	9.83

ASSISTS			
Player, team	G	Ast	Avg.
Young, Atl.....	6	70	11.7
Harden, Lac.....	6	65	10.8
Joki, Den.....	6	59	9.8
Morant, Mem.....	6	59	9.8
Paul, Sa.....	6	52	8.7
Schröder, Bkn.....	6	48	8.0
Haliburton, Ind.....	6	44	7.3
Pippen, Mem.....	7	51	7.3
Cunningham, Det.....	6	43	7.2
James, Lal.....	6	43	7.2
Jones, Pho.....	6	41	6.8
Lillard, Mil.....	6	40	6.7
George, Uta.....	6	39	6.5
Gilgeous-Alexander, Okc.....	6	39	6.5
Antetokounmpo, Mil.....	6	38	6.3
Ball, Cha.....	6	38	6.3
Garland, Cle.....	7	44	6.3
Sabonis, Sac.....	6	38	6.3
Giddey, Chi.....	6	37	6.2
Simmons, Bkn.....	5	31	6.2
Mitchell, Tor.....	7	43	6.1
Doncic, Dal.....	5	30	6.0

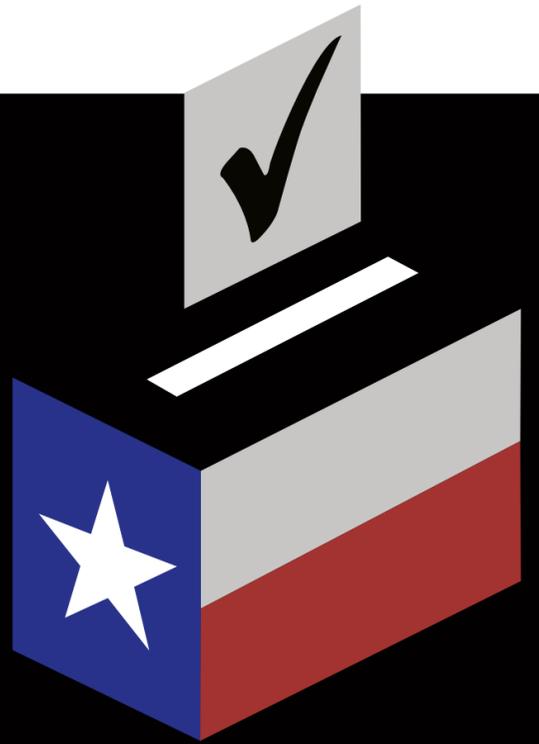
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BACK TO THE BALLOT



The Dallas Morning News

ARIZONA (3-6)

A31 New Mexico W 61-39
 S7 N. Arizona W 22-10
 S34 at Kansas St. L 31-7
 S28 at Utah W 22-10
 O2 Texas Tech L 28-22
 O12 at BYU L 41-19
 O19 Colorado L 34-7
 O26 West Virginia L 31-26
 N2 at UCF L 56-12
 N15 Houston 9:35
 N23 at TCU TBD
 N30 Arizona St. TBD

CINCINNATI (5-3)

A31 Towson W 38-20
 S7 Pittsburgh L 28-27
 S14 at Miami (Ohio) W 27-16
 S28 at Texas Tech W 22-10
 S28 at Texas Tech L 44-41
 O12 at UCF W 19-13
 O19 Arizona St. W 42-14
 O19 Houston W 24-14
 O26 at Colorado L 34-23
 N9 West Virginia 11 am
 N16 at Iowa St. TBD
 N23 at Kansas St. TBD
 N30 TCU TBD

KANSAS (2-6)

A29 Lindenwood (Mo.) W 48-3
 S7 at Illinois L 23-17
 S13 UNLV L 23-20
 S21 at West Virginia L 23-29
 S28 TCU L 39-27
 O5 at Arizona St. L 35-31
 O19 Arizona St. W 42-14
 O19 Houston W 24-14
 O26 at Kansas St. L 29-27
 N9 Iowa St. 2:30
 N16 at BYU TBD
 N23 Colorado TBD
 N30 Baylor TBD

KANSAS (2-6)

A31 Abilene Christian W 52-51
 S7 at Washington St. W 37-16
 S14 North Texas W 64-21
 S21 Arizona St. W 30-21
 S28 Cincinnati W 44-41
 O5 at Arizona St. W 28-22
 O19 Baylor L 59-35
 O17 at Virginia Tech L 24-14
 O25 Louisville L 31-27
 N9 Syracuse 11 am
 N16 at SMU TBD
 N23 North Carolina TBD
 N30 Pittsburg TBD

TEXAS TECH (6-3)

S2 at Florida St. W 28-13
 S7 Duquesne W 56-0
 S14 at Missouri L 17-21
 S21 Michigan St. W 29-14
 S28 W. Kentucky W 21-20
 O5 at Virginia Tech L 24-14
 O17 at Virginia Tech L 42-21
 O25 Louisville L 31-27
 N9 Syracuse 11 am
 N16 at SMU TBD
 N23 North Carolina TBD
 N30 Pittsburg TBD

BOSTON COLLEGE (4-4)

S2 at Florida St. W 28-13
 S7 Duquesne W 56-0
 S14 at Missouri L 17-21
 S21 Michigan St. W 29-14
 S28 W. Kentucky W 21-20
 O5 at Virginia Tech L 24-14
 O17 at Virginia Tech L 42-21
 O25 Louisville L 31-27
 N9 Syracuse 11 am
 N16 at SMU TBD
 N23 North Carolina TBD
 N30 Pittsburg TBD

GEORGIA TECH (5-4)

A24 Florida St. W 24-21
 A31 Georgia St. W 35-12
 S7 at Syracuse L 31-28
 S14 Virginia Tech W 59-7
 S21 at Louisville W 24-20
 O19 Miami L 52-45
 O25 at Boston College W 31-21
 O12 at Clemson W 33-27
 N16 at Stanford TBD
 N23 Wake Forest TBD
 N30 at North Carolina TBD

CALIFORNIA (4-4)

A31 UC Davis W 31-13
 S7 at Auburn W 21-14
 S14 San Diego St. W 31-10
 S21 at BYU L 48-21
 S28 Colorado L 48-21
 O5 at Florida St. L 24-13
 O12 at Pittsburg L 17-15
 O19 NC State L 24-23
 O26 Oregon St. W 44-7
 N8 at Wake Forest 7:00
 N16 Syracuse TBD
 N23 Stanford TBD
 N30 at SMU TBD

LOUISVILLE (6-3)

A31 Austin Peay W 62-0
 S7 Jacksonville St. W 31-19
 S21 Georgia Tech W 31-19
 S28 at Notre Dame W 41-15
 O5 SMU L 48-25
 O12 at Virginia W 24-20
 O19 Miami L 52-45
 O25 at Boston College W 31-21
 O12 at Clemson W 33-27
 N16 at Stanford TBD
 N23 Wake Forest TBD
 N30 at North Carolina TBD

BYU (8-0)

A31 S. Illinois W 41-13
 S6 at SMU W 38-15
 S14 at Wyoming W 34-14
 S21 Kansas St. W 38-9
 S28 at Baylor W 44-28
 O12 Arizona W 41-19
 O18 Oklahoma St. W 38-35
 O26 at UCF W 37-24
 N9 at Utah 9:35
 N16 Kansas TBD
 N23 at Arizona St. TBD
 N30 Houston TBD

HOUSTON (4-5)

A31 UNLV L 27-7
 S7 at Oklahoma L 16-12
 S14 Rice W 33-7
 S21 at Cincinnati L 34-9
 S28 Iowa St. W 20-0
 O4 at TCU W 30-19
 O19 at Kansas L 42-14
 O26 Utah W 17-14
 N2 Kansas St. W 24-29
 N15 at Arizona 9:35
 N23 Baylor TBD
 N30 Oklahoma St. 11 am

OKLAHOMA ST. (3-6)

A31 S. Illinois W 41-13
 S6 at SMU W 38-15
 S14 at Wyoming W 34-14
 S21 Kansas St. W 38-9
 S28 at Baylor W 44-28
 O12 Arizona W 41-19
 O18 Oklahoma St. W 38-35
 O26 at UCF W 37-24
 N9 at Utah 9:35
 N16 Kansas TBD
 N23 at Arizona St. TBD
 N30 Houston TBD

UTAH (4-4)

A29 S. Utah W 49-0
 S7 Baylor W 23-12
 S14 at Utah St. W 38-21
 S21 Oklahoma St. W 23-19
 S28 Arkansas St. L 42-20
 O5 at West Virginia L 39-14
 O11 at Arizona St. L 27-19
 O19 TCU L 13-7
 O26 at Houston L 38-28
 N9 BYU 9:15
 N16 at Colorado TBD
 N23 Iowa St. TBD
 N29 at UCF 7:00

UTAH (4-4)

A29 S. Utah W 49-0
 S7 Baylor W 23-12
 S14 at Utah St. W 38-21
 S21 Oklahoma St. W 23-19
 S28 Arkansas St. L 42-20
 O5 at West Virginia L 39-14
 O11 at Arizona St. L 27-19
 O19 TCU L 13-7
 O26 at Houston L 38-28
 N9 BYU 9:15
 N16 at Colorado TBD
 N23 Iowa St. TBD
 N29 at UCF 7:00

CLEMSON (6-2)

A31 at Georgia L 34-3
 S7 Appalachian St. W 66-20
 S21 NC State W 59-35
 S28 Stanford W 49-14
 O5 at Florida St. W 29-13
 O12 at Wake Forest W 49-14
 O19 Virginia W 48-31
 N2 Louisville L 33-21
 N9 at Virginia Tech 2:30
 N16 at Pittsburg TBD
 N23 The Citadel TBD
 N30 at North Carolina TBD

DUKE (6-3)

A30 Elon W 26-3
 S6 at Northwestern W 26-20
 S14 UConn W 26-21
 S21 at Middle Tennessee W 45-17
 O5 at Oklahoma St. W 21-20
 O5 at Georgia Tech L 24-14
 O18 Florida Tech W 23-16
 O26 SMU L 58-31
 N9 at Miami L 53-31
 N9 at Virginia Tech TBD
 N23 Wake Forest TBD
 N30 at Syracuse TBD

MIAMI (9-0)

A31 at Florida W 41-17
 S7 Florida A&M W 56-9
 S14 Ball St. W 62-0
 S21 at South Florida W 50-15
 S27 Virginia Tech W 38-34
 O5 at California W 28-25
 O19 at Louisville W 52-45
 O26 Florida St. W 36-14
 N2 Duke W 53-31
 N9 at Georgia Tech 11 am
 N23 Wake Forest TBD
 N30 at Syracuse TBD

NORTH CAROLINA (5-4)

A29 at Minnesota W 19-17
 S7 Charlotte W 38-20
 S14 NC Central W 45-10
 S21 James Madison L 70-50
 S28 at Duke L 21-20

ALABAMA (6-2)

A31 W. Kentucky W 63-0
 S7 South Florida W 42-18
 S14 at Wisconsin W 42-10
 S28 Georgia W 41-34
 O5 at Vanderbilt L 40-35
 O12 South Carolina W 27-25
 O19 at Tennessee L 24-17
 O26 Missouri W 34-0
 N9 at Alabama 6:30
 N16 Mercer 1:00
 N23 at Oklahoma TBD
 N30 Auburn TBD

GEORGIA (7-1)

A31 Clemson W 34-3
 S7 Tennessee Tech W 48-3
 S14 at Kentucky W 13-12
 S28 at Alabama L 41-34
 O5 Auburn W 31-13
 O12 Mississippi St. W 41-31
 O19 at Texas W 30-15
 N2 Florida W 34-0
 N9 at Mississippi L 25-20
 N16 Tennessee TBD
 N23 UMass 11:45 am
 N29 Georgia Tech 6:30

MISSISSIPPI ST. (2-7)

A31 E. Kentucky W 69-3
 S7 at NC State W 51-10
 S14 Kent St. W 71-0
 S21 at Oklahoma W 15-15
 O5 at Arkansas W 29-14
 O12 Florida W 23-17
 O19 Alabama W 41-31
 O19 Alabama A&M L 34-24
 O26 Arkansas L 58-25
 N9 Mississippi 6:00
 N16 at Georgia TBD
 N23 UTEP Noon
 N30 at Vanderbilt TBD

TENNESSEE (7-1)

A31 Chattanooga W 69-3
 S7 at NC State W 51-10
 S14 Kent St. W 71-0
 S21 at Oklahoma W 15-15
 O5 at Arkansas W 29-14
 O12 Florida W 23-17
 O19 Alabama W 41-31
 O19 Alabama A&M L 34-24
 O26 Arkansas L 58-25
 N9 Mississippi 6:00
 N16 at Georgia TBD
 N23 UTEP Noon
 N30 at Vanderbilt TBD

FLORIDA ST. (1-8)

A24 at Georgia Tech L 24-21
 S2 Boston College L 28-13

ARMY (8-0)

A30 Lehigh W 42-7
 S7 at FAU W 24-7
 S21 Rice W 37-14
 S26 at Temple W 42-14
 O5 at Tulsa W 49-7
 O12 UAB W 44-10
 N19 East Carolina W 45-28
 N2 Air Force W 20-3
 N9 at North Texas 2:30
 N23 at Notre Dame 6:00
 N30 UTSA 11 am
 D14 Navy 2:00

CHARLOTTE (3-6)

A31 James Madison L 30-7
 S7 at North Carolina L 38-20
 S14 Gardner-Webb W 27-26
 S21 at Indiana L 52-14
 N8 Rice 8:00
 N16 UAB TBD
 N28 at Tulane 6:30

NAVY (6-2)

A31 Bucknell W 49-21
 S7 Temple W 38-11
 S21 Memphis W 56-44
 S28 at UAB W 41-18
 O5 at Air Force W 34-7
 O19 Charlotte W 51-17
 O26 Notre Dame L 51-14
 N2 at Rice L 24-10
 N9 at South Florida 11 am
 N16 Tulane 11 am
 N29 at East Carolina 11 am
 D14 at Army 2:00

RICE (3-6)

A31 Sam Houston St. L 34-14
 S7 Texas Southern W 69-7
 S14 at Houston L 33-7
 S21 at Army L 37-14
 S28 Charlotte L 21-20
 O12 UTSA W 29-27
 O19 at Tulane L 24-10
 O26 at UConn L 17-10
 N2 Navy W 84-0
 N8 at Memphis 2:00
 N23 at UAB TBD
 N30 South Florida TBD

ARKANSAS (5-4)

A29 Ark.-Pine Bluff W 70-0
 S7 at Oklahoma St. L 39-31
 S14 UAB W 37-27
 S21 at Auburn W 24-14
 S28 at Texas A&M L 21-17
 O5 Tennessee W 19-14
 O19 LSU L 34-10
 O26 at Mississippi St. W 58-25
 N2 Mississippi L 63-31
 N16 Texas 11 am
 N23 Louisiana Tech TBD
 N30 at Missouri TBD

KENTUCKY (3-6)

A31 Southern Miss. W 31-0
 S7 South Carolina L 31-6
 S14 at Tennessee L 13-12
 S21 Auburn W 41-6
 S28 at Mississippi W 20-17
 O12 Vanderbilt L 20-13
 O19 at Houston L 48-20
 O26 Auburn L 24-10
 N2 at Tennessee L 28-18
 N16 Murray St. 12:30
 N23 at Texas TBD
 N30 Louisville TBD

MISSOURI (6-2)

A29 Murray St. W 51-0
 S7 Buffalo W 38-0
 S14 Bowling Green W 27-21
 S21 Vanderbilt W 30-27
 O5 at Texas A&M L 41-10
 O12 at UMass W 45-3
 O19 Auburn W 21-17
 O26 at Alabama L 34-0
 N9 Oklahoma 6:45
 N16 at South Carolina TBD
 N23 at Mississippi St. TBD
 N30 Arkansas TBD

OKLAHOMA (5-4)

A30 Temple W 51-3
 S7 Nicholls W 16-12
 S14 Tulane W 34-19
 S21 Tennessee L 25-15
 S28 at Auburn W 27-21
 O12 Texas L 34-3
 O19 South Carolina L 35-9
 O26 at Alabama L 26-14
 N2 Maine W 59-14
 N23 at Missouri TBD
 N28 Alabama TBD
 N30 at LSU TBD

TEXAS (7-1)

A31 Notre Dame L 23-13
 S7 McNeese St. W 52-10
 S14 at Florida W 33-20
 S21 Bowling Green W 26-20
 S28 Arkansas W 21-17
 O5 Missouri W 41-10
 O19 at Mississippi St. W 34-24
 O26 LSU W 38-23
 N2 at South Carolina L 44-40
 N16 New Mexico 6:45
 N23 at Auburn TBD
 N30 Texas A&M TBD

EAST CAROLINA (4-4)

A31 Norfolk W 42-3
 S7 at Old Dominion W 20-14
 S14 Appalachian St. L 21-19
 S21 at Liberty L 35-24
 S28 UTSA W 20-29
 O5 at Charlotte L 55-24
 O19 at Army L 45-28
 O26 Temple W 56-34
 N7 FAU 7:00
 N14 at Tulsa 6:30
 N23 at North Texas TBD
 N29 Navy 11 am

FAU (2-6)

A30 at Michigan St. L 16-10
 S7 Army L 24-7
 S14 E. Illinois W 38-20
 S21 at UConn L 48-14
 S28 Wagner W 41-10

TEMPLE (2-6)

A30 at Oklahoma L 51-3
 S7 at Navy L 38-11
 S14 Coastal Carolina L 28-20
 S21 Utah St. W 45-29
 S26 Army L 42-14
 O5 at UConn L 29-20
 O19 Tulsa W 20-10
 O26 at East Carolina L 56-34
 N9 at Tulane 3:00
 N16 FAU TBD
 N22 at UTSA 6:00
 N30 North Texas TBD

TULANE (7-2)

A29 SE Louisiana W 52-0
 S7 Kansas St. L 34-27
 S21 Oklahoma L 34-19
 S21 La-Lafayette W 45-10
 S28 South Florida W 33-30
 O5 at UAB W 71-20

FLORIDA (4-4)

A31 Miami L 41-17
 S7 Samford W 45-7
 S14 Texas A&M L 33-20
 S21 at Mississippi St. W 45-28
 O5 UCF W 24-13
 O12 at Tennessee L 23-27
 O19 Kentucky W 48-20
 N2 at Georgia L 34-20
 N9 at Texas 11 am
 N16 LSU TBD
 N23 Mississippi 11 am
 N30 at Florida St. TBD

LSU (6-2)

S1 at Southern Cal L 27-20
 S7 Nicholls W 44-21
 S14 at South Carolina W 36-33
 S21 Arkansas W 34-17
 S28 South Alabama W 42-10
 O5 at Georgia W 29-26
 O19 at Arkansas L 34-20
 O26 at Texas A&M W 38-23
 N2 Alabama 6:30
 N16 at Florida TBD
 N23 Vanderbilt TBD
 N30 Oklahoma TBD

MISSISSIPPI (7-2)

A31 Old Dominion W 23-19
 S7 at Kentucky W 31-6
 S14 LSU L 16-13
 S21 Georgia Southern W 52-13
 S28 Kentucky L 20-17
 O12 at South Carolina W 27-3
 O12 at LSU L 29-26
 O26 Oklahoma W 26-14
 N2 at Arkansas W 63-31
 N9 Georgia W 2-30
 N23 at Florida 11 am
 N29 Mississippi 2:30

SOUTH CAROLINA (5-3)

A31 Old Dominion W 23-19
 S7 at Kentucky W 31-6
 S14 LSU L 16-13
 S21 Georgia Southern W 52-13
 S28 Kentucky L 20-17
 O12 at South Carolina W 27-3
 O12 at LSU L 29-26
 O26 Oklahoma W 26-14
 N2 at Arkansas W 63-31
 N9 Georgia W 2-30
 N23 at Florida 11 am
 N29 Mississippi 2:30

VANDERBILT (6-3)

A31 Virginia Tech W 34-7
 S7 at Kentucky W 35-20
 S14 UTSA W 52-10
 S21 La.-Monroe W 51-3
 S28 Mississippi St. W 35-13
 O12 at Oklahoma W 34-3
 O19 Auburn L 30-15
 O26 at Vanderbilt W 27-24
 N9 Florida 11 am
 N16 at Kentucky 11 am
 N23 at Arkansas TBD
 N30 at Texas A&M TBD

MINNESOTA (6-3)

A29 North Carolina L 19-17
 S7 Rhode Island W 48-0
 S14 Nevada W 27-14
 S21 Iowa L 31-0
 S28 at Michigan L 27-24
 O5 Southern Cal W 24-17
 S28 at UCLA W 23-17
 O26 Buffalo W 49-23
 N2 at Illinois W 25-17
 N9 at Rutgers 11 am
 N23 Penn St. TBD
 N30 at Utah TBD

OHIO (5-3)

A31 at Syracuse L 38-22
 S7 North Alabama W 27-20
 S14 Morgan St. W 21-6
 S21 at Kentucky L 41-6
 S28 Akron W 30-10
 O12 at Cent. Michigan W 27-25
 O19 at Miami (Ohio) L 30-20
 O26 at UAB L 31-14
 O12 at Georgia Tech L 42-7
 O26 at Virginia Tech W 51-14
 N9 Florida St. 2:30
 N16 Virginia Tech TBD
 N23 Army 6:00
 N30 at Southern Cal TBD

OHIO (5-3)

A31 at Syracuse L 38-22
 S7 North Alabama W 27-20
 S14 Morgan St. W 21-6
 S21 at Kentucky L 41-6
 S28 Akron W 30-10
 O12 at Cent. Michigan W 27-25
 O19 at Miami (Ohio) L 30-20
 O26 at UAB L 31-14
 O12 at Georgia Tech L 42-7
 O26 at Virginia Tech W 51-14
 N9 Florida St. 2:30
 N16 Virginia Tech TBD
 N23 Army 6:00
 N30 at Southern Cal TBD

OHIO (5-3)

A31 at Syracuse L 38-22
 S7 North Alabama W 27-20
 S14 Morgan St. W 21-6
 S21 at Kentucky L 41-6
 S28 Akron W 30-10
 O12 at Cent. Michigan W 27-25
 O19 at Miami (Ohio) L 30-20
 O26 at UAB L 31-14
 O12 at Georgia Tech L 42-7
 O26 at Virginia Tech W 51-14
 N9 Florida St. 2:30
 N16 Virginia Tech TBD
 N23 Army 6:00
 N30 at Southern Cal TBD

ARKANSAS ST. (5-3)

A31 Cent. Arkansas W 38-34
 S7 Tulsa W 24-21
 S14 at Michigan L 28-18
 S21 at Iowa St. L 52-7
 O5 South Alabama W 18-16
 O12 at Texas State L 41-9
 O19 at Southern Miss. W 44-28
 O26 Troy W 34-31
 N9 at La-Lafayette 4:00
 N16 at Georgia TBD
 N23 La.-Monroe 2:00
 N30 Old Dominion 2:00

INDIANA (9-0)

A31 FIU W 31-7
 S6 W. Illinois W 77-3
 S14 Charlotte W 42-13
 S21 Charlotte W 52-34
 S28 Maryland W 42-28
 O5 at Northwestern W 41-24
 O19 Nebraska W 56-17
 O26 Washington W 31-7
 N9 Michigan W 47-10
 N23 at Ohio TBD
 N30 Purdue TBD

INDIANA (9-0)

A31 FIU W 31-7
 S6 W. Illinois W 77-3
 S14 Charlotte W 42-13
 S21 Charlotte W 52-34
 S28 Maryland W 42-28
 O5 at Northwestern W 41-24
 O19 Nebraska W 56-17
 O26 Washington W 31-7
 N9 Michigan W 47-10
 N23 at Ohio TBD
 N30 Purdue TBD

LA-LAFAYETTE (7-1)

A31 Grambling St. W 40-10
 S7 at Kennesaw St. W 34-10
 S21 Tulane L 41-33
 S28 at Wake Forest W 43-18
 O5 at Southern Miss. W 21-33
 O12 Appalachian St. W 34-24
 O19 at Carolina W 20-13
 O26 at Alabama W 27-24
 N9 Florida 11 am
 N16 at Kentucky 11 am
 N23 at Arkansas TBD
 N30 Tennessee TBD

LA-LAFAYETTE (7-1)

A31 Grambling St. W 40-10
 S7 at Kennesaw St. W 34-10
 S21 Tulane L 41-33
 S28 at Wake Forest W 43-18
 O5 at Southern Miss. W 21-33
 O12 Appalachian St. W 34-24
 O19 at Carolina W 20-13
 O26 at Alabama W 27-24
 N9 Florida 11 am
 N16 at Kentucky 11 am
 N23 at Arkansas TBD
 N30 Tennessee TBD

LA-LAFAYETTE (7-1)

A31 Grambling St. W 40-10
 S7 at Kennesaw St. W 34-10
 S21 Tulane L 41-33
 S28 at Wake Forest W 43-18
 O5 at Southern Miss. W 21-33
 O12 Appalachian St. W 34-24
 O19 at Carolina W 20-13
 O26 at Alabama W 27-24
 N9 Florida 11 am
 N16 at Kentucky 11 am
 N23 at Arkansas TBD
 N30 Tennessee TBD

LA-LAFAYETTE (7-1)

A31 Grambling St. W 40-10
 S7 at Kennesaw St. W 34-10
 S21 Tulane L 41-33
 S28 at Wake Forest W 43-18
 O5 at Southern Miss. W 21-33
 O12 Appalachian St. W 34-24
 O19 at Carolina W 20-13
 O26 at Alabama W 27-24
 N9 Florida 11 am
 N16 at Kentucky 11 am
 N23 at Arkansas TBD
 N30 Tennessee TBD

LA-LAFAYETTE (7-1)

A31 Grambling St. W 40-10
 S7 at Kennesaw St. W 34-10
 S21 Tulane L 41-33
 S28 at Wake Forest W 43-18
 O5 at Southern Miss. W 21-33
 O12 Appalachian St. W 34-24
 O19 at Carolina W 20-13
 O26 at Alabama W 27-24
 N9 Florida 11 am
 N16 at Kentucky 11 am
 N23 at Arkansas TBD
 N30 Tennessee TBD

LA-LAFAYETTE (7-1)

A31 Grambling St. W 40-10
 S7 at Kennesaw St. W 34-10
 S21 Tulane L 41-33
 S

Nothing to wear? Time for closet questions

KING FEATURES SYNDICATE

Dear Heloise: Sometimes we look in our closets and see lots of clothing but nothing to wear. If this is you, then it's time to do a reassessment of your wardrobe. (Gone are the days when if it wasn't black, brown or navy blue, it wasn't sensible clothing!) Let's do it:

■ Is it the wrong color? Does yellow make you look sallow, or does beige make you look like a cadaver? Toss it out or donate it to a friend or a charity.

■ Does it fit? If it fit two years ago but not anymore, give it to a friend who'll love it. If it's too big or too small, it won't do you any favors when you wear it.

■ Does it hurt when you wear it? Why dress uncomfortably? If it causes sores on your feet or scratches on your neck all day, it will only make you feel miserable and cranky. Remove the offending item from your closet, no matter how much you paid for it.

Randy and Greg,
Los Angeles



HINTS FROM
HELOISE

heloise.com

Dear Heloise: Like so many of your readers, I have several electronic devices from phones to toothbrushes. Each one has its own cord, and I can never remember which cord goes to which item. So, I attach a file folder label with the name for the device that the cords go to, and this saves me a lot of time hunting for the correct cord.

Gary R., Indiana

Dear Heloise: I love parsley (the Italian type) and put it in mostly everything I cook; plus it is good for us. I keep it fresh for a month in a heavy jar or glass of water in the door of my refrigerator. I just



Getty Images

pull out it out whenever I need it.

I also put dried parsley in the microwave on a paper towel for about 30 seconds — not a second longer.

Lucille, Reseda, Calif.

Dear Heloise: As a senior citizen, I attend many programs and lectures. Almost without exception, speakers

do not know how to use a microphone. Speakers should talk right into the microphone, which should be a few inches directly in front of their mouth.

A good example is watching a singer hold a microphone. And keep in mind that they must keep the microphone in place. If they decide to wander away from

the place they started, they need to keep holding the microphone up to their mouths.

Sarah Thomas,
Springfield, Ill.

Dear Heloise: Whenever I get clear plastic clothing bags from department stores or the cleaners, I fold them up and place them in one of three plastic bags that are labeled either 36-inch, 50-inch or 72-inch. I then use these bags to put my patio cushions in for the winter and store them in the garage so when I want to get these items out, the items are clean.

I also store my monthly front door floral arrangements in these bags, although clear bags don't prevent the fading of the flowers as much. In addition, I keep smaller but heavier plastic bags in my suitcase for dirty clothes.

Marilyn Burrees

Dear Heloise: I read your column daily and get so much helpful information. Many of the cooking shows use wooden cutting boards for many different foods, but none explain

how they clean them. So, how do you clean them?

Sue, Fort Wayne, Ind.

Sue, use hot water and a mild soap to wash your cutting board, then dry it. If it still has moisture in the wood, then let it air-dry.

You can use a combination of vinegar and lemon juice to kill surface bacteria and keep it from absorbing odors. Afterward, oil it with mineral oil to help keep it from absorbing other liquids and food particles.

Once in a while, give your wooden cutting board a light sanding with fine sandpaper. Then wipe it off with a damp cloth and apply a coat of mineral oil to keep the wood from drying out.

Never place your cutting board in a dishwasher. This will shortly dry out the wood and cause it to warp.

Heloise

Dear Heloise: When I check out library books for my grandkids, I put a sticky note on the inside of the back cover. I let it stick out a little so that it's easily seen. That way, it's easier to find among their other books.

M.C., Alabama

Estate planning cuts out siblings

ANDREWS McMEEL
SYNDICATION

Dear Abby: When my husband, "Sid," was a young adult, his mother died by suicide. A few years later, when his maternal grandparents died, his mother's two siblings inherited his grandparents' estate. Other family members have commented that it seemed wrong for Sid and his sister to be disinherited from their mother's share of the estate. Because Sid and his sister were young adults, they didn't have enough confidence or support to question their aunt and uncle. Their father was out of the picture.

Forty years later, this is still a source of pain for Sid and his sister. They feel they were intentionally disinherited, while their closest relatives act like nothing is wrong. Is there a way to approach the family to resolve this pain?

Sad for Sid in Nevada

Dear Sad: I strongly suspect that ship sailed 40 years ago. However, I am not a lawyer. Your husband and his sister should ask an attorney who specializes in wills, estates and trusts this question to see what exactly happened back then and if anything can be done now to change it.

Dear Abby: I will turn 18 in six months. I know I should be happy, but to be completely honest with you, I'm scared to become an adult. I don't feel I'm ready to grow up and leave my childhood behind. What should I do? What can I do?

Unhappy Birthday

Dear Unhappy: What, precisely, are you afraid of? All people do not mature at the same rate. It takes some individuals until they are well over the age of 21 to assume the responsibilities of being an adult. Others are ready at 18, provided they have already been given



DEAR ABBY

JEANNE PHILLIPS
dearabby.com

some responsibilities by their parents. The insecurities you are experiencing are things you should be talking about with them. You might also discuss this with a trusted teacher or counselor at school. If you do, you may realize that you are far from alone in the feelings you are having.

Dear Abby: I have been unlucky in love ever since I started dating, and I'm feeling like I just can't put myself out there again. My last relationship looked promising — I even saw a wedding on the horizon — but my partner cheated on me, and it all fell apart. Now I'm scared. This is just the latest in a long string of bad relationships. How can I keep dating if I'm feeling so hopeless? Am I just not cut out for the "married with 2.5 kids" life?

Failure in Oregon

Dear Failure: Considering your mindset, I'm not sure you should be dating right now. Your time might be better spent trying to figure out what went wrong in each of those failed relationships, because your problem may not be the kind of men you are attracting, but those you are attracted to.

If there are common denominators among those men in your past, it would benefit you to recognize what they are so you won't be hurt again. In the meantime, occupy yourself with friends and activities you enjoy. It's an effective way to combat depression, and it may also give you an opportunity to make some new acquaintances.

He wants an affair and reputation, too

WASHINGTON POST
WRITERS GROUP

Adapted from online discussions.

Dear Carolyn: My husband of 20-plus years has been having an affair with a woman he says he is in love with, and after being granted some time to "decide what he wants," he has decided what he wants is the other woman.

We are just at the beginning of sorting out a divorce, and friends have expressed shock at the end of our "perfect" (ha!) marriage. When a mutual friend recently asked what happened, I told her the truth: He's been having an affair and decided he wants to be with the other woman.

My husband is livid and told me it isn't anyone's business but ours. Was I out of line by answering with a direct and non-editorialized truth? If so, what should I say when people ask?

Dear Truth-Telling

Dear Truth-Telling: If it's so bad, then maybe he shouldn't have done it.

You're under no obligation to cover for him. It also isn't anyone's business, so you're under no obligation to satisfy curiosities if you don't want to, and are welcome to find your most comfortably civil way not to answer such an intrusive question. "Stuff happened."

But he really thinks he has standing to try to control what you say? That's pretty rich.

Dear Carolyn: Do you think it's true that it never hurts to ask? My son, daughter-in-law and grandchild are moving a few days before Christmas, and I would love to spend it with them! They haven't invited us, but we usually see them in December or January to celebrate. My husband says I would add stress by asking if we could be there. They always make Christmas feel very special, but I understand they will be in transition.

In the past they have come to see us, but their son



CAROLYN HAX

tehlme@washpost.com

is 5 and I'm guessing they'll want to start celebrating at their house. What are your thoughts?

Annapolis

Dear Annapolis: If you're asking to join them in hopes they will "make Christmas feel very special" for you, then yes, it can hurt to ask. Yikes.

If you intend to ask whether your being there could help them primarily with their move, and with their celebration as a bonus, then, OK. It never hurts to offer four extra hands to people who are juggling a 5-year-old, a major life upheaval and a major holiday, as long as you make it clear the two extra mouths aren't their responsibility to feed. And they can decline, no hard feelings.

As long as you're up for a Christmas of one-way giving, then specify that you're available to travel there, stay in a hotel, and take whatever jobs off their hands — babysitting, unpacking, running to stores, carting off boxes. You two can be a godsend.

You can feel as if you received a gift, too; just abandon upfront all expectation of being hosted, and accept they will be stressed and possibly not always on their best behavior.

If they accept and you rise to the occasion, then this could be the un-Christmassy Christmas that tests everyone's nerves, gives you a chance to surprise yourselves and brings everyone closer. Picture the Grinch feasting with Whos.

If they say no, then have a lovely Plan B holiday for yourselves — pie, for example. Then, whenever they're ready for you, celebrate a silly Christmas in Whateveruary. That kind of thing sends most 5-year-olds over the moon anyway.

Houseguests are breaking the bank

ANDREWS McMEEL
SYNDICATION

Dear Miss Manners: I am a young adult who bought a home in one of the highest-cost resort areas of the country — a purchase that strains me financially, but is well worth it.

While I love my friends and family, I have been astounded by the number of people who came out of the woodwork, asking to come visit, when they learned where I lived. It's been everyone from distant college acquaintances to cousins who rarely spoke to me before. I have lived all over the country, and no one bothered to visit when I lived in Nebraska or Kansas.

Shortly after buying my home, it felt like I was being taken advantage of, and that my living situation was the reason to visit, not spending time with me. I quickly learned to set personal boundaries so my place did not turn into a bunkhouse. But some time has passed, and I am in a better situation to host on occasion.

Still, it is financially burdensome to do so; I would drown if I allowed each friend to visit even once a season. Many friends have asked, and it adds up: My utilities would be unmanageable in this high-cost area. Though it may be awful, I would be more inclined to host if folks offered to chip in for utilities and food, since I would be saving them at least \$300 a night for a hotel. But this may seem like I am treating my friends as short-term renters.

I am considering allowing a few friends to stay over for one weekend each, but worry that this will open the floodgates and irritate other friends. I also do not have the interest or the energy to host every weekend.

Is it rude to ask guests to chip in? Thoughts on where to draw the line?

Gentle Reader: Here is a



MISS MANNERS

JUDITH MARTIN
missmanners@gmail.com

I have been astounded by the number of people ... asking to come visit when they learned where I lived.

novel idea: You only entertain guests whom you have decided to invite. Repeat after Miss Manners: "It's my house, and I'm the only person authorized to do the inviting."

And you may add "...if and when I feel like it."

Of course, that is never what you should tell others. Rather, people who try to usurp this privilege should be told, in a tone of regret, "Sorry, I'm not doing much entertaining now" (which you will not be, once you unload the self-invited who were not interested in visiting you elsewhere).

Turning your house into an unauthorized resort is not a solution. If costs are still too much, you can say to your invited guests, "I'd love to have you stay, but I can't offer meals," and hope that they have the grace to take you out instead.

Dear Miss Manners: I am invited to a wedding where the invitation came with a color palette of what to wear.

Is this a new trend? Seems a bit demanding. What do you think?

Gentle Reader: That they are demanding that guests act as extras at their extravaganza — costumed to serve as background scenery.

HOROSCOPE

By NANCY BLACK Tribune Media Services

NOVEMBER 4 BIRTHDAY: Rake in profits this year. A winter transition inspires restorative dreaming. Grow stronger in spring with help from friends. Adapt around summer physical changes, before autumn creativity surges.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Today is an 8 — Explore fresh terrain. Bring someone interesting. Keep things practical. You don't need to go far. Enjoy a change of scenery.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Today is an 8 — Contribute to shared accounts. Monitor assets and resources for growth. Bargain and deal. Expand family fortunes.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Today is a 7 — Listen to what your partner wants. Things may not match fantasies. You don't know everything. Discover another view.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — Today is a 9 — Get your body moving and blood pumping. Energize your heart for strength and endurance. Take good care of the machinery.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Today is an 8 — Romantic fantasies may not match reality. Love is your lifeline, so hang on. Relax and enjoy favorite people, places and pursuits.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Today is an 8 — Focus on family matters. Not everything goes as planned. Clean messes and get everyone fed. Resist impulsive purchases.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — Today is an 8 — Practice creative arts. Stay patient when things don't go as expected. A mistake can become a breakthrough. Keep an open mind.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — Today is a 9 — Now you're cooking! What you're serving is in demand. Get terms in writing. Stick with what works.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — Today is a 9 — Take time to recharge. Avoid controversy, chaos or illusions. Consider personal dreams and ambitions. Nurture yourself.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Today is a 7 — Meditate on upcoming moves. Slow to consider options. Expect communication or transportation delays. A difficult puzzle can be solved.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — Today is an 8 — Collaborate with friends. Untangle misunderstandings right away. Keep messaging simple and clear. Let your love shine.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) — Today is an 8 — Consider possibilities. Prioritize practicalities. Public obligations could interfere with private time. Stretch old boundaries.

ARGYLE SWEATER By Scott Hilburn



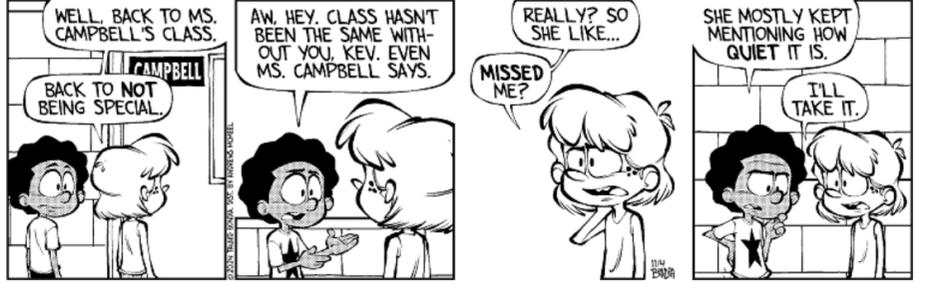
DENNIS THE MENACE By Hank Ketcham



FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



CRABGRASS By Tauhid Bondia



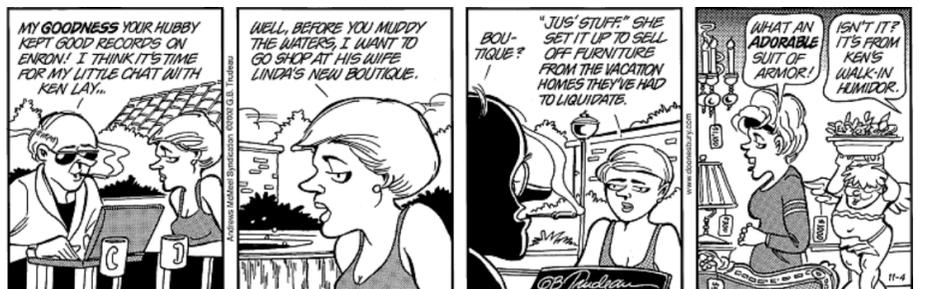
CRANKSHAFT By Tom Batiuk and Chuck Ayers



CURTIS By Ray Billingsley



DOONESBURY This week's strips are reprints. By Garry Trudeau



GARFIELD By Jim Davis



NEW YORK TIMES DAILY CROSSWORD

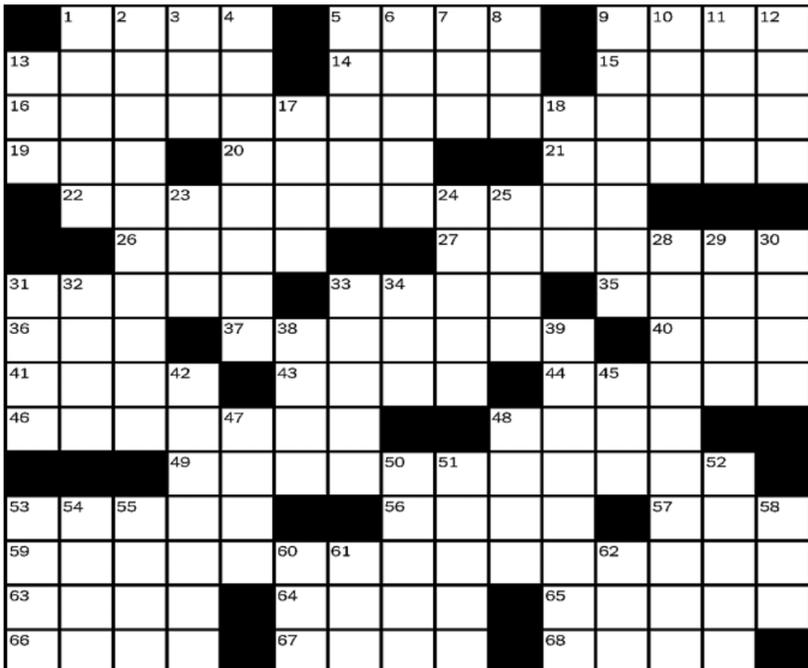
No. 0930

Puzzle by Alexander Liebeskind

Edited by Joel Fagliano

- ACROSS 1 Wheel's place on a ship 5 It beats a high card but nothing else 9 Activist Parks 13 Elder Obama daughter 14 New York Times opinion writer Klein The "Iliad," for one 16 Sentence that often appears in the first paragraph of an essay 19 Mover's vehicle 20 Shoe brand named for a Greek goddess 21 Loses on purpose, as an NBA team 22 Quick confirmation of feasibility 26 Jokes around 27 Massachusetts college town 31 Overused and uncreative 33 Part of the hand 35 Kinda

- DOWN 1 Laughing sounds 2 Supreme Court justice appointed by Barack Obama 3 Fleur-de-lys 4 Key point 5 Irksome 6 Empire whose capital city was Tenochtitlán 7 NPR host 8 Glass 8 Tattle (on) 9 2023's "Fatal Attraction" and "The Little Mermaid" 10 Word before ended, handed or minded 11 Drop in the ocean? 12 Laws passed by Congress 13 Cable channel that first showed "Beavis and Butt-head" 17 Plops oneself down 18 ___ A Sketch (classic toy) 23 Zilch 24 Ceases



GET FUZZY This week's strips are reprints. By Darby Conley



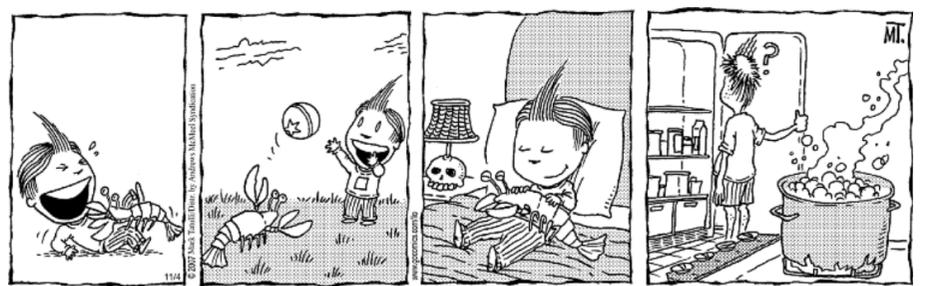
HEART OF THE CITY By Steenz



JUDGE PARKER By Francesco Marciuliano and Mike Manley



LIO By Mark Tatulli

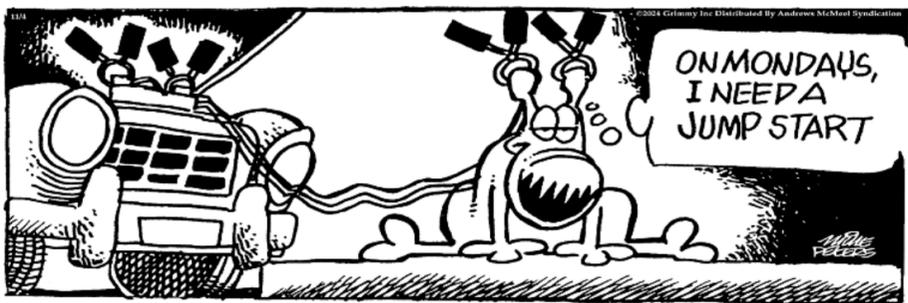


LUANN By Greg Evans and Karen Evans



MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM

By Mike Peters



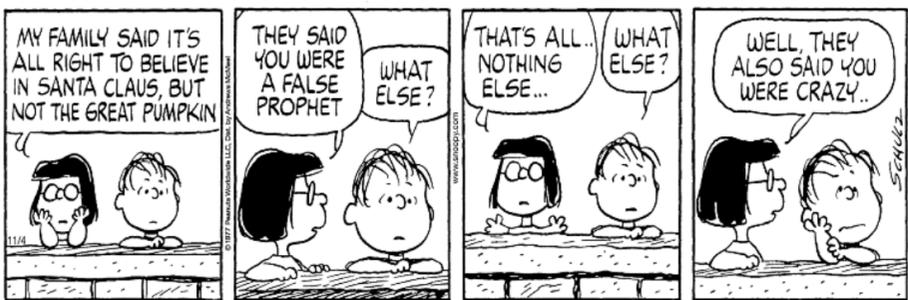
ONE BIG HAPPY

By Rick Detorie



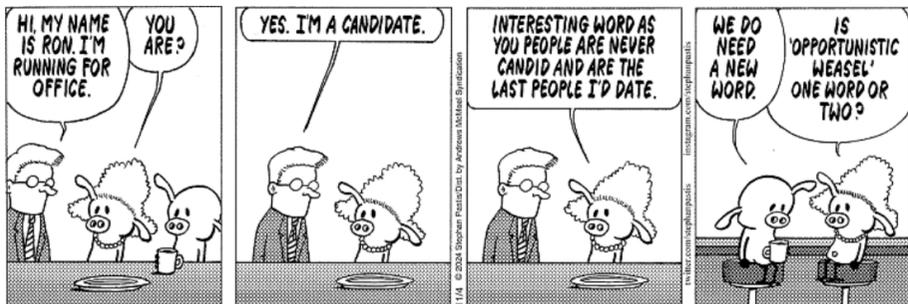
PEANUTS

By Charles M. Schulz



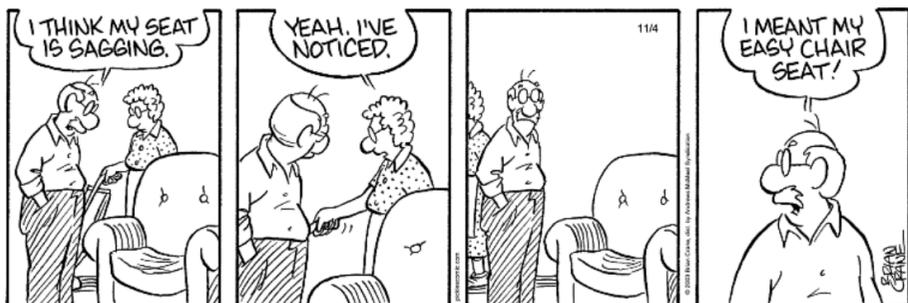
PEARLS BEFORE SWINE

By Stephan Pastis



PICKLES

By Brian Crane



ROSE IS ROSE

By Pat Brady



SALLY FORTH

By Francesco Marciuliano and Jim Keefe



SHERMAN'S LAGOON

By J.P. Toomey



ZITS

By Jerry Scott and Jim Borgman



TODAY IN HISTORY

The Associated Press

In 1922, the entrance to King Tutankhamen's tomb was discovered in Egypt.

In 1979, the Iran hostage crisis began as militants stormed the United States Embassy in Tehran...

In 1980, Republican Ronald Reagan won election to the White House for the first time as he trounced President Jimmy Carter.

In 1991, Ronald Reagan opened his presidential library in Simi Valley, Calif.; attending were President George H.W. Bush and former Presidents Jimmy Carter, Gerald R. Ford and Richard Nixon...

In 1995, Yitzhak Rabin, prime minister of Israel, was assassinated by a right-wing Israeli minutes after attending a peace rally.

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

MAKE A FRIEND

Solution: 9 letters



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11/4

Accept, Appreciate, Best, Book Club, Brave, Buddy, Café, Caring, Community, Compliment, Confident, Considerate, Conversation, Enjoy, Fairness, Forgive, Game, Generous, Genuine, Giggle, Giving, Group, Hope, Introduce, Laugh, Like, Mutual, Play, Polite, Positive, Protect, Share, Sincere, Smile, Social, Support, Team, True, Welcome

Last Saturday's Answer: Childhood For WONDERWORD apps, books & more, visit Wonderword.com, or call 1-855-232-2367.

In 2007, King Tutankhamen's face was unveiled for the first time to the public more than 3,000 years after the pharaoh was buried in his Egyptian tomb.

In 2008, Democratic Sen. Barack Obama of Illinois was elected the first Black president of the United States, defeating the Republican candidate, Sen. John McCain of Arizona.

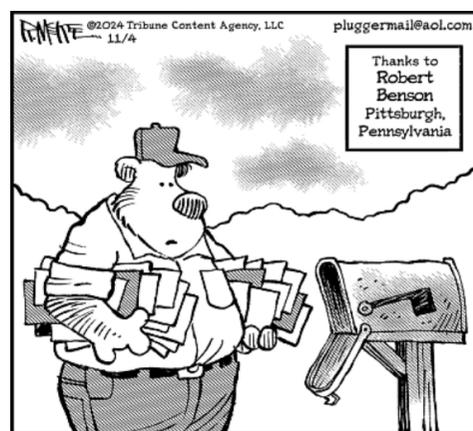
LOVE IS...

By Kim Casali



PLUGGERS

By Rick McKee

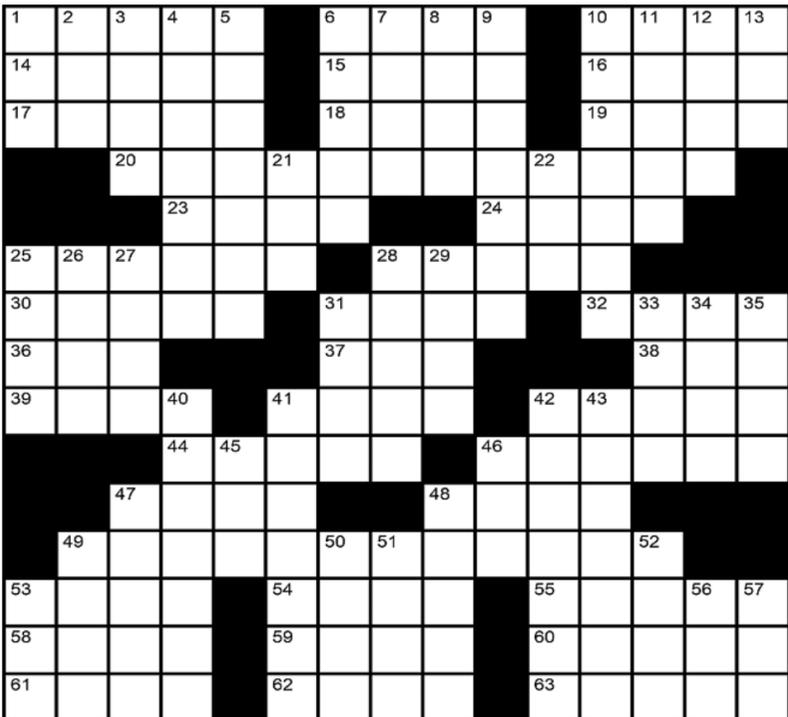


During election season, a plugger wonders when the post office will approve a 55-gallon mailbox.

COMMUTER PUZZLE

Edited by Stella Zawistowski Tribune Content Agency

ACROSS, DOWN, YESTERDAY'S ANSWER, and 32-63 clues for the Commuter Puzzle.



Created by Stella Zawistowski Email: tcacustomerservice@tribpub.com 11/4/24

WALLACE THE BRAVE

By Will Henry



PHOEBE AND HER UNICORN

By Dana Simpson



BIG NATE

By Lincoln Peirce



BREAKING CAT NEWS

By Georgia Dunn



JUMPSTART

By Robb Armstrong



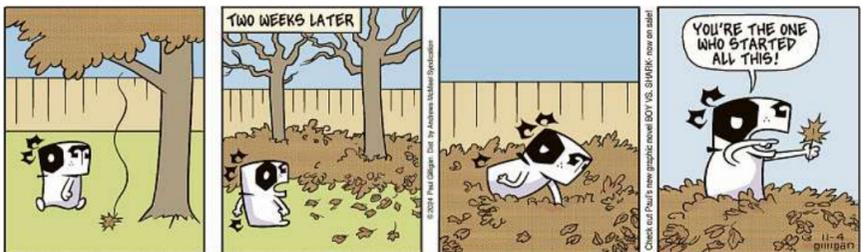
RED & ROVER

By Brian Basset



POOCH CAFE

By Paul Gilligan



FRAZZ

By Jef Mallett



NANCY

By Olivia Jaimes



DARK SIDE OF THE HORSE

By Samson



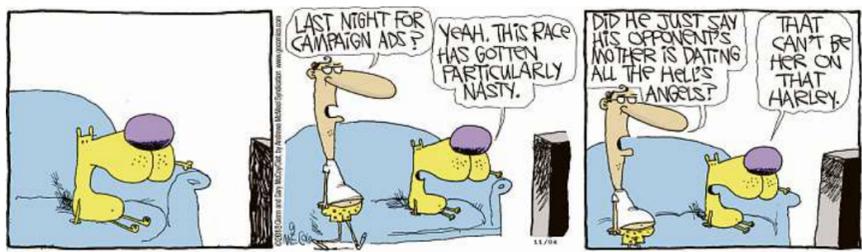
ADAM@HOME

By Rob Harrell



THE DUPLEX

By Glenn McCoy and Gary McCoy



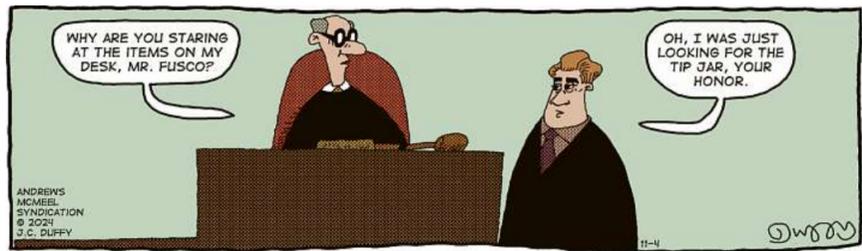
CUL DE SAC

By Richard Thompson



THE FUSCO BROTHERS

By J.C. Duffy



LOLA

By Todd Clark



WUMO

By Wulff and Morgenthaler



FRANK AND ERNEST

By Thaves



THATABABY

By Paul Trap



CLOSE TO HOME

By John McPherson

OFF THE MARK

By Mark Parisi

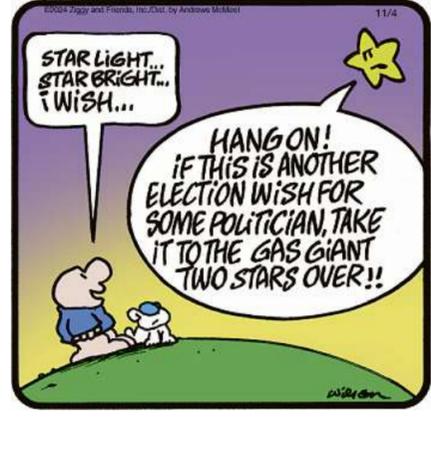


MODERATELY CONFUSED

By Jeff Stahler

ZIGGY

By Tom Wilson and Tom II



Universal Crossword

Edited by David Steinberg

- ACROSS**
- 1 Get a move on
 - 5 Golfer's ride
 - 9 Demean
 - 14 "Tell Mama" singer James
 - 15 "Not a chance"
 - 16 Lip ointments
 - 17 Lima's land
 - 18 "Stop talking!"
 - 20 Grad student's major hurdles
 - 22 Big Aussie bird
 - 23 Depend (on)
 - 24 Postnatal alternatives to baby showers
 - 27 Hurricane's center
 - 28 Narrow incision
 - 29 Powdery mineral
 - 31 "Boo" accompaniment
 - 34 Ages and ages
 - 37 Old Testament song
 - 40 Old Testament transport
 - 41 "How's it goin', bro?"
 - 43 Long Island iced
 - 44 Site of Acadia National Park
 - 46 "Ditto"
 - 47 "This can't wait!"
 - 48 ___ de gallo
- DOWN**
- 1 Seized autos, for short
 - 2 Nine-month starter homes?
 - 3 Backpack part
 - 4 Get a move on
 - 5 Texted reply to "Why?"
 - 6 Poke bowl tuna
 - 7 South Asian currency
 - 8 "Scarborough Fair" herb
 - 9 Dhabi
 - 10 Distillery containers
- 50 Slightly open
- 52 Tic-__-toe
- 53 Leader with a periscope
- 59 Reference
- 60 Baton Rouge sch.
- 61 Record's less popular half, often
- 62 Overnight star's path
- 25 ___ and a description of the word ladder at the starts of 18-, 24-, 41- and 53-Across?
- 66 French friend
- 67 Make amends (for)
- 68 Name found in "teen idol"
- 69 Give briefly
- 70 Luxury watch brand
- 71 Took the bus, for instance
- 72 Bold and unconventional
- 11 Prowling felines in cities
- 12), in an emoticon
- 13 Award with Best Team category
- 19 Topple from power
- 21 "Weekend Update" show, in brief
- 25 "Mon ___!"
- 26 Ceases
- 30 Orangutan, e.g.
- 31 Honey-glazed deli offering
- 32 401(k)
- 33 alternative Rescuers on the slopes
- 35 Doc that ensures secrecy
- 36 Poison oak relative
- 38 Pasture
- 39 Navigator's aid
- 41 Brief moment, briefly
- 42 ___ vu
- 45 "Great job!"
- 47 Certain auction transaction
- 49 Norwegian capital
- 51 Police alert, in brief
- 52 Link with
- 54 Expert at finding Broadway seats
- 55 Good, in Spanish
- 56 Prepared to throw a dart
- 57 Putting a name to a face, say
- 58 Wanting constant approval
- 59 Tycoon
- 63 The Alamo's home: Abbr.
- 64 Clear (of)
- 65 Poem of praise

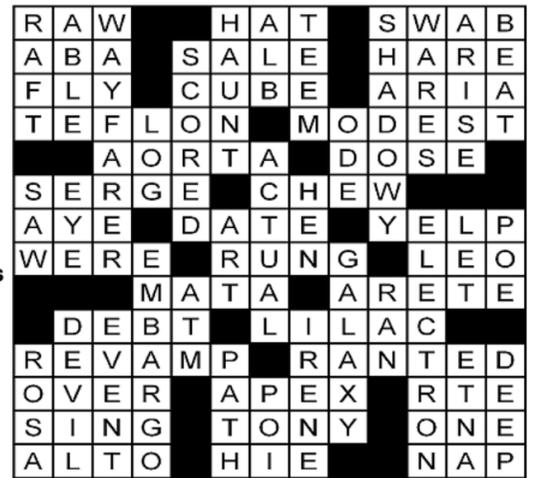


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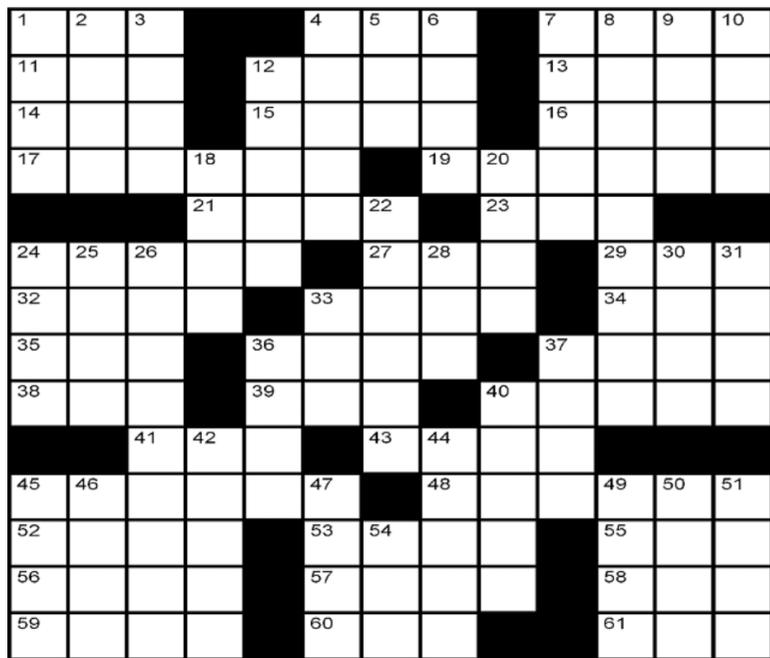
NEA Crossword Puzzle

- ACROSS**
- 1 Bottle top
 - 4 Bit to drink
 - 7 Roasting rod
 - 11 Lubricant
 - 12 Skin mark
 - 13 Gaelic
 - 14 "___ to a Nightingale"
 - 15 Walking stick
 - 16 Buds
 - 17 Stir-fry veggie
 - 19 "Kingdom of the ___ of the Apes"
 - 21 Eject
 - 23 Antlered animal
 - 24 Bias
 - 27 Teeny-tiny
 - 29 "Mayday!"
 - 32 Charter
 - 33 Move spasmodically
 - 34 Make lace
 - 35 Newt
 - 36 Sharp tooth
- DOWN**
- 1 Chicken housing
 - 2 ___ -de-camp
- 37 Flat-topped hill
- 38 Agnus ___
- 39 Scrap of food
- 40 Like a toad
- 41 Greek letter
- 43 "The Seven ___ Itch"
- 45 "Look!"
- 48 Turkey's capital
- 52 Shakespeare's river
- 53 Church area
- 55 Bed
- 56 Victory goddess
- 57 Told a tale
- 58 Yoga need
- 59 Winter glider
- 60 Long fish
- 61 Big bird

Answer to Previous Puzzle



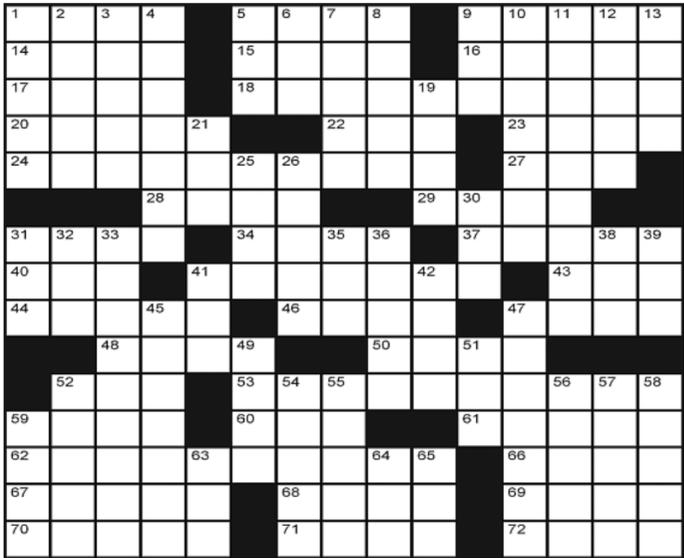
- 3 Entreaty
- 4 Quite a lot
- 5 007 creator — Fleming
- 6 Make ready
- 7 Flower part
- 8 Practical joker
- 9 Ait
- 10 Exam
- 12 Pathfinder
- 18 Cornbread
- 20 Onion relative
- 22 Double sawbuck
- 24 Lean-to
- 25 "The Secret ___ of Walter Mitty"
- 26 Spinach- ___ dip
- 28 Work unit
- 30 Kiln
- 31 Collar insert
- 33 Jolt
- 36 Frustrate
- 37 Actor — Hamill
- 40 Dwindled
- 42 Sharpened
- 44 Painting support
- 45 Outlaws
- 46 Up to no good
- 47 Racer — Earnhardt
- 49 Summit
- 50 Go aimlessly
- 51 Alaskan island
- 54 Boston cream ___



11-4

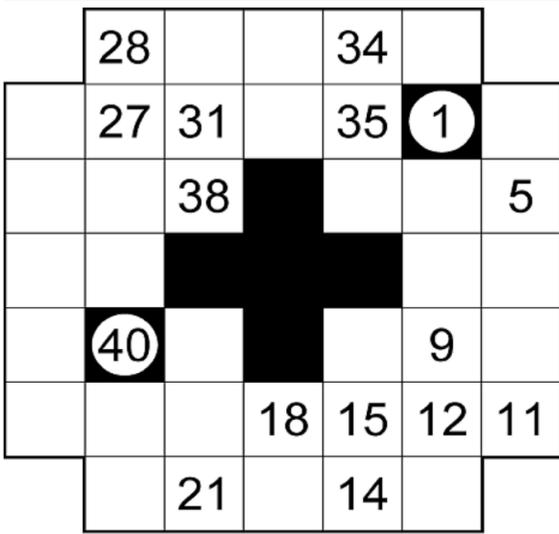
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Sudden Success by Drew Schmenner



11/4

HIDATO
FIND THE PATH - SOLVE THE PUZZLE



www.hidato.com

Dif. ★☆☆☆☆

The goal is to fill the grid with consecutive numbers that connect horizontally, vertically or diagonally. Each puzzle has only one possible solution. The first and last numbers of a puzzle will be in circle markers.

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

33	34	35	15	14	12	10
32	31	30	36	16	13	11
25	27	29	37	18	17	5
26	24	28	19	38	4	3
23	22	20	42	40	39	1
75	21	77	43	41	64	61
74	76	44	46	65	63	62
73	72	45	69	47	66	49
71	70	68	67	48	52	53

www.whatzit.com

WHATZIT?

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

CCCCCCCCCCCC



sees uqIH

UP & DOWN Words™ By David L. Hoyt and Russell L. Hoyt

- 1. SALVATION
- 2. _____
- 3. _____
- 4. _____
- 5. _____
- 6. _____
- 7. _____ COUNTRY

CLUES

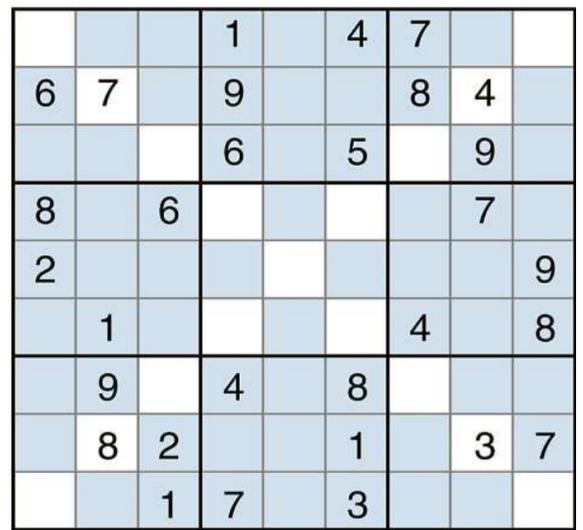
- 1. Longtime charity organization
- 2. George Patton, famously
- 3. U.S.-based conglomerate
- 4. Alternative to a gas fireplace
- 5. Get warmer
- 6. Austria, to Slovenia
- 7. 2005 Theron/Renner movie

Saturday's Answer

- 1. EMERGENCY
- 2. LANDING
- 3. STRIP
- 4. STEAK
- 5. KNIVES
- 6. OUT
- 7. FOR

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SUDOKU X



11/4

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Level: Easy

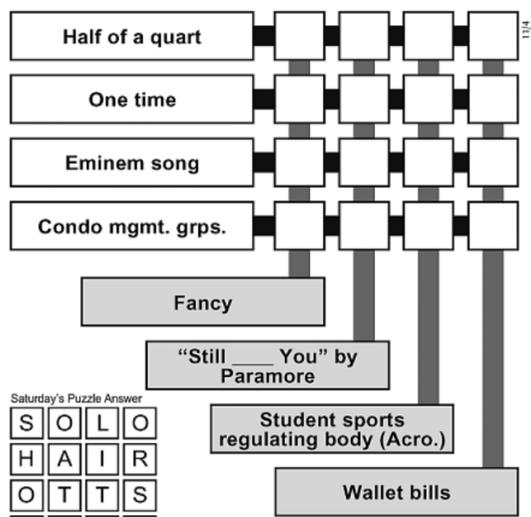
PREVIOUS SOLUTION

4	1	8	5	3	6	7	2	9
7	2	6	4	8	9	5	1	3
5	3	9	1	2	7	8	6	4
9	6	5	8	1	3	2	4	7
3	4	1	9	7	2	6	8	5
8	7	2	6	4	5	3	9	1
6	9	4	3	5	8	1	7	2
1	5	7	2	6	4	9	3	8
2	8	3	7	9	1	4	5	6

11/2

Follow all of the rules of a classic Sudoku game -- no repeats within the same row, column or 3x3 grid -- but be careful. Each axis of the X of black squares that criss-crosses the puzzle is another no-repeat zone.

PLAY4 By John Wilmes



Saturday's Puzzle Answer

S	O	L	O
H	A	I	R
O	T	T	S
T	H	E	O

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LEXIGO

Start at the double hexagon. Spell solutions to the clues below by winding your way through the grid. You can backtrack to use letters more than once. Each new word starts with the last letter of the previous word.



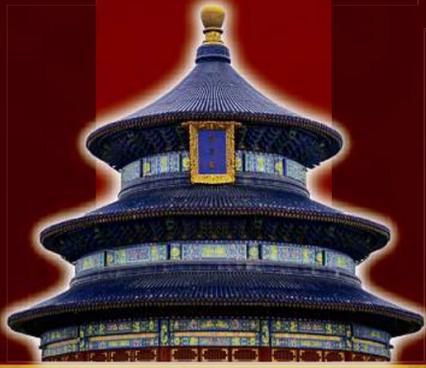
- 1. Cut into pieces D _ _ _ _
- 2. Makes changes to a text _ _ _ _ _
- 3. Announcing S _ _ _ _
- 4. Support beam _ _ _ _ _
- 5. Put to rights R _ _ _ _

Previous Puzzle: AVATAR, RATES, STRAND, DONATED, DETHRONE

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MON-THUR
11AM-CLOSE
DINE IN ONLY!

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f a x



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748 NOV



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