

NORTH CHANNEL STAR

Your News, Your Newspaper

#18 Jackets Patrick Lee scores on a 25yd Kendall Combs pass. (Photo by Allan Jamail). See Story Below & on page 3



Serving all of the North Shore -- Channelview, Cloverleaf, Sheldon, Galena Park, Jacinto City
VOLUME 13, NO. 40 (#588) THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2025 www.northchannelstar.com

CHANNEL CURRENTS

Woodland Acres Elementary

FALL FESTIVAL FUNDRAISER

SATURDAY, OCT. 18, 2025
12 NOON - 3 P.M.

Location:

12936 Sarahs Lane
Houston, TX 77015

Activities:

- Haunted House
- Games
- Food
- Bingo
- Loteria
- Prizes
- Moonwalk
- Music & More

Probate Court Seminar on Oct. 11, 2025

HOW TO PREPARE FOR PROBATE COURT.

Join Representative Ana Hernandez for a free informative seminar on the probate courts' procedures for wills. Presentation by Probate Judge Pamela Medina, Q&A by Lone Star Legal Aid attorneys.

Saturday, October 11, 2025, from 9:30am - 11:30am, at Jacinto City Town Center - 1025 Oates Rd., Jacinto City, 77029. Breakfast & coffee will be provided please RSVP by Thursday, Oct. 9, 2025 by calling 713-675-8596 or emailing to District143.Hernandez@house.texas.gov.

Jacinto City Officer Injured, DWI Suspect Arrested

By Allan Jamail

Jacinto City, TX. ~ Friday, October 3, 2025 ~ At about 10:20 pm Jacinto City's Patrolman Abraham Hernandez was on routine patrol going east in the 10400 block of Market Street when he turned on his police cruiser's emergency lights to pulled over a white pickup truck for a traffic stop investigation.

Officer Hernandez exited his patrol car which was on the shoulder of the street and walked to the driver's side of the stopped truck also on the street shoulder to confront the driver.

While Hernandez was talking to the stopped motorist a car heading east recklessly veered out of its lane and left the roadway and crashed into Hernandez's patrol car.



Motor vehicle accident scene in Jacinto City where JC's Officer Abraham Hernandez's patrol car was struck-from-behind. (Photo by Allan Jamail)

The tremendous impact to the patrol car sent it crashing into a telephone pole on the streets utility easement where it stopped up against the pole. (see photo)

The reckless driver's car skidded along the side of the truck where Hernandez was standing on the street shoulder and knocked him to the ground. It came to a rest a few feet in front of the stopped pickup truck.

Other Jacinto City (JC) patrol vehicles upon learning of the accident raced to the scene to help the injured Hernandez.

I arrived at the scene within a couple minutes and observed Officer Hernandez lying on the pavement and then saw JC officers with the reckless driver in custody and handcuffed.

Jacinto City's Emergency Technicians arrived and transported the injured

Hernandez by ambulance to Memorial Hermann Hospital. He's since been released in stable condition while suffering from injuries.

The handcuffed prisoner's name is Nolasco Gomez, Martin Antonio. He was given a Roadside DUI Test/Field Sobriety Test and placed in a police car.

The Harris County Sheriff's Office (HCSO) and the Harris County District Attorney's Office han-

dled the criminal investigation.

The HCSO took custody of the suspect. He's charged with: A. Aggravated Assault with Deadly Weapon (motor vehicle) - Felony. B. DWI (Driving While Impaired).

Officers from the City of Galena Park Police investigated the vehicle accident scene.

Continued. See OFFICER HOSPITALIZED, Page 5

North Shore Mustangs Walloped Kingwood 71-7

By Allan Jamail

Houston, TX. ~ October 3, 2025 ~ The North Shore Mustangs defense and offense proved to be too much for the visiting Humble ISD Kingwood Mustangs. They clobbered them 71-7 to the delight of their homecoming fans. The number 8 state ranked East Side Boys are in first place in District 23-6A Region III.

Nshore's East Side Boys gave the Kingwood team an old fashion whooping. It was only until the final minutes of the game that Kingwood's first offensive team scored on Head Coach Willie Gaston's second defensive unit.

Nshore scored 10 touchdowns (TD's) on passing, running plays and a Special Team's Pick 6 pass interception by defensive back Tommie Anderson (see photo).

Continued. See OFFICER HOSPITALIZED, Page 6



Mustangs #2 Dorian Barnes hauls in a Kaleb Maryland 60 yd TD pass. (Photo by Allan Jamail)

Yellow Jackets Soar Past Spring Tigers 34 -14

By Allan Jamail

Houston, TX. October 2, 2025 ~ Playing a home game the Gold-Blooded Galena Park Yellow Jackets put on an aerial and running display to the pleasure of their homecoming fans. The district win over the Spring Woods Tigers; 34-14; extends their winning streak to two.

Head Coach Spiro Amantoso's offense revealed some new offensive weapons in this game than the first 6 games this season including the last 2 seasons. His addition of more passing plays made his offense unpredictable.

The game started with only one touchdown (TD) each... the Jackets took the opening kickoff and on their first possession the Tigers scored on an intercepted pass. The Jackets followed with a TD. The

Continued. See JACKETS DOMINATE TIGERS, Page 3



#88 Jackets Domingo Perez scores on a 40 yd Kendall Combs pass. (Photo by Allan Jamail)

Districts Move to Dismiss Teachers Following Charlie Kirk Comments

By David Taylor
Managing Editor

Two east Harris County school districts have initiated termination proceedings against teachers following controversial remarks related to the recent death of political activist Charlie Kirk. On September 11, 2025, Goose Creek CISD began investigating Lee High School English teacher Jennifer Courtemanche after reports surfaced of inappropriate comments made on social media about the tragedy. The district received hundreds of communications, some threatening, demanding the teacher's immediate dismissal. The teacher was suspended that morning and has not returned to work. After a swift investigation, the

administration determined the teacher's conduct violated district standards and constituted good cause for termination.

In a rare vote by the school board, only board members Mercedes Renteria and Richard Clem supported the termination, while the others abstained. Board member Jessie Martinez was absent from the meeting. According to TEA, the two affirmative votes were enough to support the motion to dismiss Courtemanche.

Superintendent Dr. Randal O'Brien informed parents that the district remains committed to an inclusive and hate-free environment.

Another teacher accused of insensitive remarks was not

recommended for termination, as their comments, according to the district, did not meet the threshold for dismissal.

Courtemanche, facing termination, has retained legal counsel and does not intend to resign voluntarily. Under Texas law, the teacher is entitled to a hearing before an independent examiner, ensuring due process before any final decision is made.

At a special called meeting of the Crosby ISD Board of Trustees, they voted to propose the termination of Jacqueline Brookreson, a probationary English Language Arts teacher at Crosby High School.

State Representative Briscoe Cain publicly

Continued. See GOOSE CREEK, CROSBY DISTRICTS MOVE, Page 6

Dan Mims Enters Race for Texas's 9th Congressional District

By David Taylor
Managing Editor

The race for Texas's newly redrawn 9th Congressional District has become even more competitive as Dan Mims, a lifelong Texan, businessman, and community leader, officially launches his campaign. Mims joins the contest alongside State Representative Briscoe Cain and Alexandra del Moral Mealer, expanding the Republican field for this key congressional seat.

"Washington, D.C. has become a three-headed monster of regulations, taxes, and lawyers that strangles small businesses and workers. I know firsthand that our entrepreneurs, educators, and workers—not bureaucrats—hold the key to Texas's future. That's why I'm running: to help President Trump complete his 'America First' agenda, bring some conservative commonsense to Washington, fight for jobs and opportunity, and put Texas values first," Mims said in his campaign announcement.

Alexandra del Moral Mealer, a current METRO board member and previous Harris County judge candidate, is also in



Dan Mims, getting in the race for Texas's 9th Congressional District.

the race, though she does not reside within the district and refers to herself as a "dark horse." State Rep. Briscoe Cain, who has represented much of the area in District 128, hails from Deer Park. Mims, meanwhile, is a Channelview native, graduate of Channelview High School, and has served as chairman, officer, and trustee of the San Jacinto College District board.

Continued. See Dan Mims joins growing field for, Page 3

SHELDON ISD NEWS

King High School Panthers Celebrate Homecoming with Big Win Over Atascocita

C.E. King High School celebrated a memorable Homecoming on September 26 with an electrifying 70-55 victory over Atascocita High School. The Panthers showcased outstanding teamwork and determination on the field, thrilling fans in the stands and bringing the community together in full Panther spirit. The evening highlighted both the talent of our student-athletes and the pride of our students, staff, and community, making it a truly unforgettable Homecoming celebration.



Sheldon ISD showcases Academic Programs and fine arts at Chamber State of Education

On October 3, Sheldon ISD had the opportunity to participate in an education panel at the annual North Channel Area Chamber of Commerce Superintendent State of Education in an effort to make the community aware of important opportunities public education is facing and showcase the amazing programs we offer. The district also had an opportunity to share highlights of academic programs and ways the community can support public education. The King High School theater arts students showcased a performance from their upcoming musical and senior FFA President Emily Mireles served on the panel with Superintendent Dr. Demetrius McCall.



Monahan Academy Students Shine in 16 de Septiembre Celebration

On Tuesday, students in the International Academy at Monahan Elementary brought history and culture to life as they celebrated 16 de Septiembre with a festive campus parade. Dressed in vibrant attire, students proudly waved flags from various countries while parents cheered them on along the route.

The celebration was more than a parade—it reflected the mission of the International Academy, which is designed to enhance bilingual proficiency, cultural competence, and global awareness. Through immersive experiences, interactive learning, and real-world applications, students gain opportunities to explore cultures and strengthen language skills. From field trips to storytelling and cultural



showcases, the program offers weekly enrichment that broadens elementary students' perspectives. The program is a part of the Compass Schools program in Sheldon ISD and is offered at Monahan Elementary and Royalwood Elementary.

KHS Panther Dionne Sims Named Player of the Week



King High School senior football player Dionne Sims has been named the Built Ford Tough Texas High School Football Class 6A Player of the Week after an incredible performance against Atascocita High School on September 26 with:

- 32 carries, 435 rushing yards, 5 rushing touchdowns
- 1 reception, 34 yards, 1 receiving touchdown for a total of 469 yards and six touchdowns in one game.

This honor recognizes student-athletes for their performance, leadership and commitment to excellence. He was featured on Dave Campbell's Built Ford Tough Player of the Week Show on Texan Live on Thursday, October 2.

C.E. King Coach Pat Roberson Earns Statewide Recognition



At the September 26 C.E. King High School's varsity football game, Coach Pat Roberson was presented with the Recruiting Coordinator Spotlight Award by Dave Campbell's Texas Football. The award is in partnership with Summersports and recognizes outstanding work guiding and supporting student-athletes. The award highlights top recruiting coordinators across Texas, and Coach Roberson's dedication, leadership, and commitment to players make him a standout in the state.

Sheldon Shuffle 5K Set for October 25

Sheldon ISD invites the community to lace up their running shoes for the Sheldon Shuffle 5K, happening Saturday, October 25, at 7:30 a.m. at Panther Stadium.

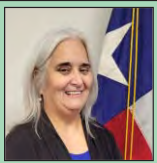
This annual event brings together students, families, staff, and community members for a morning of fitness and fun. Proceeds from the race will benefit the Sheldon ISD Education Foundation, which supports innovative classroom projects and teacher grants across the district.

Mark your calendars and join us at Panther Stadium to celebrate health, community, and education—one step at a time. Immediately following the event is the district's fourth annual Fall Festival at King High School from 9-12. To register for the race, go to www.sheldonisd.com.



CHARLOTTE'S WEB

By Charlotte Jackson



Dan Mims joins growing field for 9th District race,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

After graduating from Texas A&M, Mims returned home to help grow his family's business, Mims Meat Company, transforming it into a leading foodservice distributor serving over 1,200 clients across southeast Texas. Under his leadership, the company reached \$50 million in annual sales and created hundreds of local jobs. He also managed Mims Investment Inc., focusing on property and cold storage logistics.

Mims has long been dedicated to education, spending decades supporting San Jacinto College. He played a pivotal role in passing a \$425 million bond referendum that modernized campus facilities and expanded opportunities for students to become job ready. His leadership helped earn San Jacinto College national recognition as a Rising Star by the Aspen Institute, distinguishing it as one of the country's top community colleges.

"I've been creating jobs and getting people job ready for 40 years. I can tell you the best way to do that is to get Washington out of the way. I'll fight for less regulation, a secure border and letting taxpay-

ers and businesses keep more of our hard-earned money," Mims added.

Community service has also been a cornerstone of Mims's career. As past president of the North Shore Rotary Club, he contributed to local scholarships. He has served on the Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo as vice chair and committee member, supporting youth, agriculture, and Texas traditions. Mims has also held leadership roles in the Greater Houston Restaurant Association, UniPro Foodservice, the Texas Community and Technical College Leadership Council, the Association of Community College Trustees, and the Community College Association of Texas Trustees.

A native of Channelview, Mims says his Texas upbringing taught him the values of faith, hard work, and perseverance that continue to shape his approach. He and his wife Mary have raised their family in southeast Texas, where he remains active as a husband, father, grandfather, and community leader.

Learn more at www.danmimsfortexas.com.

ASK DIAMOND JIM



Diamond Jim: "What can you tell me about mined diamonds?"

Millions of people buy diamonds every single year as gifts or even as investments, but now more than ever, consumers are focused on how to obtain quality, mined diamonds, and with good reason. Over the past several years, some have turned to other stones or even lab-grown diamonds instead of the beautiful, naturally occurring stone that has been a symbol of love for decades.

Fortunately, it's easier than ever to get high-quality, mined "natural" diamonds, but the key is to understand where to turn as you begin to shop.

Where Do Mined Diamonds Come From?

Diamonds are found close to the surface of the earth in a few key places. A little-known fact is that mining companies unearthing the diamonds are held to very strict standards around the world. Mining companies are required to create a positive impact on the environment and societies located around the mines. According to De Beers, nearly 76% of their mining sightholders undertake social initiatives outside of the mining process.

Those initiatives include a number of different programs including offering food and shelter to orphaned children and the homeless population, as well as scholarship funding for those who cannot afford an education at any level. For example, diamond manufacturer Shree Ramkrishna Exports is committed to sustainability, and they were the first to achieve a LEED Gold Green Building Certification.

They've since attained additional green certifications including an ISO 50001 and ISO 14001 environmental certification for their ongoing efforts to conserve energy.



From the Mine to the Jeweler

Once they're pulled from the earth, companies like De Beers hold Sights or events that allow them to market "rough" diamonds to sightholders. Typically, nearly 90% of diamonds are sold this way, and customers include some of the biggest diamantaires who work with the major diamond centers in the world today.

These kinds of events happen routinely, about ten times a year, in London. Customers usually inspect the rough diamonds, then decide whether they wish to make a purchase. Every diamond at these events, though, comes from De Beers Group's operations, all of which have been certified by the Responsible Jewelry Council Code of Practices. Moreover, they're compliant with today's Best Practice Principles that help guide the industry.

Often there are auctions, too, to help manufacturers and retailers meet their sourcing needs. In most cases, the manufacturers or retailers must be registered buyers, but because the industry is growing so quickly, big names like De Beers understand that this is the ideal way forward, serving as a catalyst for the diamond business today.

The Benefits of Working with Pineforest Jewelry

Diamond Jim of Pineforest Jewelry is a diamond dealer. He purchases our diamonds from a few very well respected diamond dealers or directly from known and certified sightholders in Antwerp, Belgium. The sightholders have had the rough diamonds cut and polished into masterpieces of diamond crystals. We then purchase those finished diamonds based upon the 4 C's...Cut, Color, Clarity, and finally Carat weight.

This offers our customers a huge advantage. We know exactly where our diamonds came from and that they're conflict free diamonds. As an active part of the Kimberly process, we help support the integrity of the diamond supply chain. You know you're getting the best when you work with us.

Thank you for reading the "Ask Diamond Jim" column and for supporting the North Channel Star Newspaper!

Diamond Jim is a master jeweler, diamond dealer and precious metals broker. Pineforest Jewelry has been a proud member of the Independent Jewelers Organization (IJO) and the Retail Jewelers Organization (RJO) for many years. See more at: www.pineforestjewelry.com.

If you have questions pertaining to jewelry, watches, diamonds, precious stones, precious metals, and other questions related to the jewelry industry, email jmills@pineforestjewelry.com.

He wishes he could read your mind

Now he can! Just fill out our **WISH LIST!**

When he comes in, we'll show him what's on your mind. You'll both love it when he surprises you with a gift you love!



Diamond Jim's Pineforest Jewelry Experience

Pride in Our Community

Several years ago, I met an interesting gentleman in our community. You may have seen him active, making a difference in the community. He is not someone that many know by name, yet if you have traveled on the roads in Channelview, especially early in the day or late in the afternoon, you may have seen him. If you stop at the North Channel Library and notice an older gentleman, wearing a fluorescent safety vest, using a "grabber" to pick up debris littering the grounds. Or you have seen him on Sheldon Road as part of the Channelview Health Improvement Coalition (C.H.I.C.) on a Saturday collecting trash on a Saturday.

Mr. Glass is always hard at work cleaning the roadways of litter as well as "bandit signs." For those of you who are not familiar with the term "bandit signs," they are typically either homemade signs with a wooden stake attached to them or a corrugated plastic sign printed to advertise some business, garage sale, or event. After I first met him, I asked why the passion for cleaning up the roadways. He explained that as a retiree, he wanted to be effective in the area. He went on to share that while many people do not realize that even though the county is ultimately responsible for the removal of litter and other trash, he realized that due to limited resources, perhaps roadside cleanups were not as much of a priority as some of the other things that the County is responsible for. And another thing he mentioned was that if people feel good about their community, they feel better about themselves.

He had learned about the monthly cleanup of Sheldon Road from attending one of the C.H.I.C. meetings and while there, he met Luz Lopez. She was there as a guest speaker from Commissioner Garcia's office sharing information on events as well as about the class available for community members to learn the laws and guidelines for removing the bandit signs. Eager to take the class and become certified to remove the signs, Mr. Glass signed up and has been actively cleaning up the roadways and neighborhood ever since.

There are several other sections of roads in the North Channel area that are now part of the "Adopt a Mile" program in our area. Under the leadership of Crystal Jackson of the Hampton Inn and Suites on Karissa Court at the Beltway, there is a section that has been adopted for monthly clean ups, as well as another section adopted by members of the North Channel Area Chamber of Commerce. And within the past few weeks, there is a mile of Uvalde which has been adopted by the TTMR organization.

Knowing how members of the area enjoy volunteering, especially with beautification opportunities, such as to either do the litter pickups or to enroll in the bandit sign removal program, I would like to encourage you to reach out to Luz Lopez with Commissioner Garcia's office to learn more.

In the words of Mr. Glass, "If you feel good about your community, you feel better about yourself."

IMPORTANT 2025 ELECTION DATES	
OCTOBER 6	VOTER REGISTRATION DEADLINE
OCTOBER 20	FIRST DAY OF EARLY VOTING
OCTOBER 24	BALLOT-BY-MAIL APPLICATION DEADLINE
OCTOBER 31	LAST DAY OF EARLY VOTING
NOVEMBER 4	ELECTION DAY

Jackets dominate Tigers, celebrate homecoming triumph,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



Jackets #5 Cary Clay gets a hi-5 as he crosses the goal from #9 Darick Runnels on a 94 yd TD run. (Photo by Allan Jamail)



Jackets #14 Christian Hollins defensive back sacks Tiger quarterback. (Photo by Allan Jamail)

first quarter ended with the Jackets 7 trailing the Tigers 8.

In the second quarter the Jackets gained the lead 13 - 8 at halftime. The third quarter was all Jackets making two more TD's to close the quarter leading 21 - 8. The final quarter the Jackets scored two more TD's and the Tigers one TD making the final score 34 - 14. Jackets had 6 TD's Tigers 2.

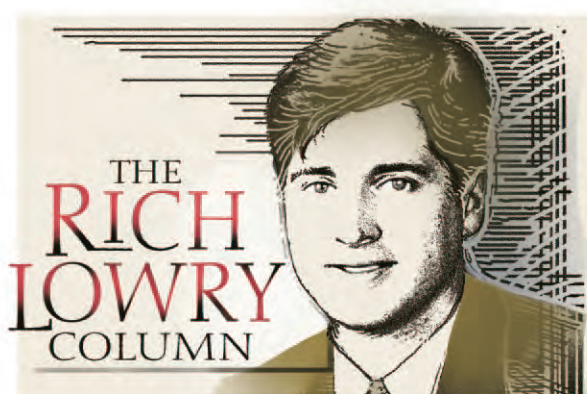
Quarterback Kendall Combs spread his passing to; Patrick Lee, Domingo Perez, Darick Runnels, Chase James and Cary Clay.

Offense scorers: Cary Clay 3 TD's, Kendall Combs 1 TD, Patrick Lee 1 TD, Domingo Perez 1 TD and extra point kickers, Juan Soto & Adrian Guzman. Linda Jamail, statistician.



#18 Jackets Patrick Lee scores on a 25 yd Kendall Combs pass. (Photo by Allan Jamail)

OPINION PAGE



Mississippi is The Education Future

A miracle defies the laws of nature. This is why "the Mississippi Miracle," the sobriquet for the extraordinary gains that students in the Gulf state have made in reading in recent years, is a misnomer.

There's nothing miraculous about a state that adopts phonics and that sets high standards for its kids to get better results in reading instruction. This, to the contrary, is a predictable outcome, and a replicable one, as other Southern states that have taken up similar policies have shown.

Mississippi went from 49th in fourth-grade reading results on the National Assessment about a decade ago to 9th in 2024. Its low-income children are ranked first in the nation. It's Black kids are number three in the nation and it's Hispanic kids number one. Overall, when adjusted for socioeconomic and demographics, Mississippi has the best fourth-grade results in the nation.

The derisive cliché was always, "Thank God for Mississippi," since it could be trusted to save other states from coming in 50th in various metrics. Now, the phrase can be used with sincerity and admiration, since the state recognized and did something about its literacy crisis.

In 2011, about four out of five fourth graders in Mississippi weren't proficient in reading. In 2013, the state passed a reform to require teachers to understand the science of reading (basically, phonics), to deploy literacy coaches to schools, to identify students struggling to read early, and to hold back students in third grade who weren't ready to advance.

Alabama, Tennessee and Louisiana have now done much the same, and have also made gains. The original source of all this was a 2002 reading law in Florida that boosted student achievement in the Sunshine State.

In a piece headlined "Illiteracy is a policy choice" at the website The Argument, Kelsey Piper makes the case that it would be irresponsible and wrong to ignore the lesson of Mississippi and the Southern states.

She notes that Mississippi outperforms her native California, even though the Golden State is richer and spends substantially more on education per pupil. More than half of Black fourth graders in Mississippi are at or above basic level, while only 28% of Black fourth graders in California are.

It may be galling for Blue States that have prided themselves on their commitment to education and looked down on the South to have to acknowledge that Mississippi, of all places, has figured out a model for the nation, but it is imperative all the same.

"We have been spending lots of money on schools," Piper writes of Blue States, "but we have not been willing to muster the political will and effort necessary to hold those schools accountable for results and adopt teaching practices that actually work."

The so-called reading wars between the whole-language approach and phonics was won, on the merits, by phonics long ago. Yet, ineffectual methods hung around even though they'd been discredited. This is why it's so important to get teachers to embrace research-based reading instruction.

There must also be high expectations, rigorously enforced. This is what the Mississippi third-grade retention policy is about. If a teacher and a parent know that a child is going to be held back, they will do all they can to get that child to basic proficiency. Research in Florida shows that getting held back not only helps the academic performance of the students who are retained, but their younger siblings as well.

With reading scores nationally sliding the wrong way, especially for the bottom 10% of students, Mississippi and the other Southern states offer a beacon of hope. Their example shows that, no, it's not impossible to teach children, and no, it's not very costly. It's a good sign that even California just passed a phonics bill.

It's fully within our power, so long as we insist on the basics, to give kids a skill absolutely essential to their development and their futures. No miracles necessary.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

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EDITOR'S NOTE: Opinions expressed here are not necessarily that of this newspaper or its staff. YOUR OPINION is welcome. Send a letter for possible publication to Grafikpress Newspapers, 5906 Star Lane, Houston TX 77057 or an email to GRAFIKSTAR@aol.com. Please limit your words to about 200. Letters will be subject to editing. Thank you.

Fun Fact: The first US state to require license plates was New York, in 1901. Each car owner ordered their own plate to be made, out of porcelain baked onto iron, or out of ceramic materials. Sources: www.inspectaride.com, leatherlicenseplates.com



STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS By Gary Borders

In-state Tuition Guidance Creating Confusion

Advocates for undocumented college students claim some students have been told incorrectly they are no longer eligible for low in-state tuition rates, the Texas Tribune reports. They are asking for clear guidance on the issue.

In June a federal court ruled unconstitutional the Texas Dream Act, a state law which granted in-state college tuition rates for undocumented college students. The June court ruling came after the state declined to defend a suit filed by the U.S. Justice Department.

Advocates say some schools are confusing students previously eligible under the Dream Act with students attending under the federal Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals or DACA, who are considered to be living legally in the United States.

"The rules don't help at all. They create even more confusion... You're just going to have, again, more people getting wrongly denied," said Julieta Garibay, co-founder of United We Dream, a national immigrant advocacy group. The advocates say several colleges, including Blinn College and Laredo College, initially said on their websites that DACA recipients can no longer obtain in-state tuition.

An assistant commissioner for the coordinating board, Charles W. Contéro-Puls, said repealing the Texas Dream Act would not negatively affect the state's economy, a claim disputed by the American Immigration Council. Its analysis concluded rescinding in-state tuition for undocumented students could cost the state more than \$460 million annually in lost wages and spending power.

AI 'GOLD RUSH' SWEEPS TEXAS

As Gov. Greg Abbott helped unveil the new Stargate facility in Abilene, he praised the state's increasing role in the rapid growth of the artificial intelligence center. The Dallas Morning News reported the governor hinted that upcoming data center buildouts will be "far larger" than the nearly \$500 billion center opening in Abilene.

Financial and technology companies are staking claims in the state, Abbott said. Stargate's facility in Abilene is part of a joint venture of OpenAI, Oracle, Softbank and the federal government. It plans to increase capacity at the flagship sites and add two other facilities in Shackelford and Milam counties.



Abbott hinted the sites unveiled are just the beginning of the economic growth spurred by AI.

"When you see the demand for them for artificial intelligence, you will see the power that it will inject into the future of the Texas economy," he said. While there are concerns about high energy demand by the data centers, Abbott said the state's capacity is more than sufficient.

"We have wind, solar, nuclear, which we're adding even more to, and, of course, natural gas. And so we have low-cost power, abundant power, that is attracting the AI data centers," he said.

ERCOT WARNS AGAINST POWER GRID 'COMPLACENCY'

The agency that manages the state's electric grid said a relatively mild summer put less strain on the state's power grid, but officials are still warning against complacency. The Electric Reliability Council of Texas board met recently and credited the milder weather and rapid growth of solar energy and battery storage for an "uneventful" summer for the Texas grid.

In previous hotter summers, ERCOT operators have warned the grid was nearing capacity during prolonged heat waves.

"We've had so many well-above-average summers in a row that this seems like a cool summer relative to those," said Dan Woodfin, ERCOT's vice president of system operations. "But this is more what a normal summer looks like."

Peak power demand has not reached record levels since the summer of 2023, but the state's overall energy consumption has seen "extremely rapid" growth,

ERCOT CEO Pablo Vegas said. The state's energy consumption is rising five times faster than national average growth was from 2000 to 2020, he said.

Vegas said the lack of extreme weather events has overshadowed the state's rapid growth in power demand, in large part due to the data centers being built across the state.

"It's important to not ever be lulled into complacency," Vegas said. "We are just at the inflection point of an acceleration of demand growth ahead of us."

GOP OFFICIALS DROP ORIGINAL REDISTRICTING RATIONALE

In a new court filing, Texas officials acknowledge that the Justice Department's rationale for pushing the state to redraw congressional maps was flawed, but the state is still well within its rights to do so, the Austin American-Statesman reported.

"Its ham-fisted legal conclusions notwithstanding, the DOJ Letter apparently sought to provide political cover for Texas to engage in partisan redistricting," the Texas Attorney General's Office said in a 41-page document.

The state is fighting lawsuits filed since the redistricting plan passed during the summer, likely giving the GOP five more congressional seats in Texas. The move was pushed by President Donald Trump for the party to maintain or increase its razor-thin majority in the House.

The Justice Department originally argued the state's 2021 redistricting plan was replaced because it districts were unconstitutionally based on race. The state is now rejecting that argument, saying the latest redistricting was done for partisan political purposes, which courts have ruled is allowable.

Democrats and their allies have accused Republicans of seeking to silence the voices of Black and Hispanic Texans by diluting their votes.

ABBOTT SIGNS NEW 'BATHROOM BILL'

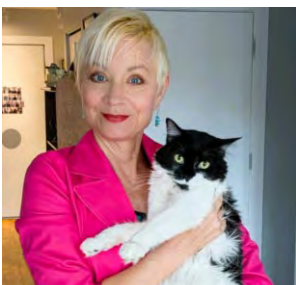
The governor has signed a bill passed in the last special session that requires people in public buildings to use restrooms and locker rooms matching the gender listed on their birth certificates, kut.org reported. Abbott said the so-called "bathroom bill" will keep men out of women's restrooms and "is just common sense." It takes effect Dec. 4 and applies to public schools, universities, prisons and jails, along with other public buildings. The only exceptions are for people accompanying children under 10, along with custodians, law enforcement, and medical workers.

If someone violates the law, the facility would be subject to a fine of \$25,000 for the first offense and \$125,000 for subsequent offenses. Critics say there is no proof transgender women in Texas are entering bathrooms and causing harm.

Gary Borders is a veteran award-winning Texas journalist. He published a number of community newspapers in Texas during a 30-year span, including in Longview, Fort Stockton, Nacogdoches, Lufkin and Cedar Park. Email: gborders@texaspress.com

THE POSTSCRIPT By Carrie Classon

Getting it Right



I am going to New York. I have not been to New York since before the pandemic. I bought a half-price ticket to see a show on Broadway before catching my flight home. I was very glad I went, since it was such a long time before I could see another play.

But now I am going back because the publisher of my book is having an open house for the authors with books coming out in 2025 and 2026, and I think that sounds like a lot of fun. They are serving snacks and beverages, and all the editors will be there. I've Googled where their office is, and it appears to be right in the center of things, and—if I'm going to New York—that's where I want to be.

I think it will be great fun to meet these other authors and meet all the editors who make the books possible. The only thing that truly worries me is what to wear.

Maybe you think I'm kidding. I'm not.

Knowing what I will wear is a great comfort to me. Once I know what I will wear, I can picture myself in a place, and this is hugely reassuring. If I can't imagine myself, I start to get anxious. You might think I'd be more worried about what I will say to all these important writers and editors, but somehow, this does not feel like nearly as big a problem.

"What is your book about?" would be appropriate to say to anyone who's written a book. "When did it come out?" sounds like a great follow-up. I could ask how many books they had written and if they're working on anything else and, if so, what that was about. Before you know it, the party is breaking up, and I've only talked to one person.

If I'm talking to an editor, I'd ask, "How many books do you work on at a time?" I'd like to know what they did before they started this job, and what their favorite part of the job is. Again, I can easily see how the evening would pass before I know it—what with eating and drinking all the promised snacks and beverages.

No, the talking part does not feel like a problem. It's getting dressed that is hard.

I think this is because going to New York, for many of us who grew up in the Midwest, seems like a very big deal. New York does not seem quite real. It seems like the sort of place where a person would need to get things right.

This is where my anxiety kicks in. What does "getting things right" look like?

I dig through my closet. I dig through my drawers. I try things on. I discard things. I start to feel emotional, wondering if I am a person who belongs in New York at all—a person who is incapable of dressing herself.

Until I remember that no one—absolutely no one—is expecting me to get anything right. Anyone who has read my writing will know that sophistication is not my brand. Instead, I try to imagine how I would dress if I simply wore the kind of thing I write.

Instead of wearing black, I pull out a pink blazer. It is a little loud and very cheerful and not particularly sophisticated. If it says anything at all, it says that I like bright colors and warm feelings, and I am not afraid to show it.

I'm wearing the jacket. And I feel better now. Till next time, Carrie

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FOOTBALL SEASON WEEK 7: Texas, OU meet in key SEC game: Lions, Chiefs face off on Sunday Night Football

The second week of October is approaching, which means the State Fair of Texas will be in full swing and the annual Red River Rivalry will take place in the Cotton Bowl as No. 5-ranked Oklahoma takes on No. 9-ranked Texas in their annual blood-bath.

A year ago, Steve Sarkisian's team dominated their SEC rival, 34-3, but OU head coach Brent Venables has a defense (allowing just 9 points per game) that could give a Texas offense troubles come Saturday at 2:30 p.m. on ABC. OU will be without star QB John Mateer (1,215 passing yards, 6 TDs/190 rushing yards, 5 TDs), who is out with a broken thumb. That means former starter Michael Hawkins gets the start, against a very good Texas defense.

This is a good weekend on the college schedule, but not so much on the NFL schedule. The Texans, who picked up their first win of the year two weeks ago against the lowly Tennessee Titans, have a bye week.

The SEC has another big game as No. 10-ranked Alabama visits a very dangerous opponent in No. 19-ranked Missouri, while No. 1-ranked Ohio State takes on No. 22-ranked Illinois on the road. In another big Big 10 game, No. 9-ranked Indiana visits No. 2-ranked Oregon.

The NFL heads into Week 6 as the Dallas Cowboys visit Carolina. Two weeks ago, the Dallas offense woke up and put up 40 points in Micah Parsons and the Green Bay defense, but its defense also gave up a 40 burger as Jerry Jones' team had to settle for a tie in Parsons return to Dallas. Dallas moved to 1-2-1 after that game, and needs to beat bad teams if it hopes to contend for an NFC Wild Card spot.

Also in Week 6, the Los Angeles Rams visit a struggling Baltimore Ravens team, which fell to 1-3 after its 37-20 loss at Kansas City two weeks ago. It didn't help that star QB Lamar Jackson left the game in the second half with a mild hamstring injury, but Ravens fans had better hope it's mild and nothing more, or their team could be done for the season.

Also in Week 6, San Francisco visits Tampa Bay in a key game for both teams. There's a good one for the Sunday Night Football crew as Detroit visits Patrick Mahomes and the Kansas City Chiefs on NBC.

In District 14-6A play, the Nimitz Cougars look to make a statement against the perennial power in the league when they face Spring Westfield on Thursday night at Thorne Stadium. Also on Thursday, Davis visits Planet Ford Stadium in Spring to take on Dekaney. On Friday, Aldine and MacArthur face off in Thorne Stadium, while Eisenhower visits Spring High at Planet Ford Stadium.

Before we take a look at this week's games, let's review last week's record. A so-so 7-5 week brought the record to 34-24 (57%).

Now, onto this weekend's games.

NCAA

Alabama at Missouri - No. 10-Alabama hits the road for the second time in three weeks to face No. 19 Missouri. Two weeks ago, Kalen DeBoer's team picked up a huge road win with a 24-21 upset of Georgia in Athens. That game probably took a lot of heat off of DeBoer, who has come under criticism from Crimson Tide fans since their season-opening loss at Florida State. The 'Bama offense should be able to move the ball against a suspect Tigers defense. Look for QB Ty Simpson (1,138 yards, 11 TDs) to attack the Mizzu secondary with strikes to big-play wideouts Germie Bernard (20 receptions, 310 yards, 4 TDs) and Ryan Williams (15 receptions, 238 yards, 2 TDs), which should open up the running lanes for



Crimson Tide backs. The Alabama defense will get a stern test from an explosive Tigers offense, led by QB Beau Pribula (1,203 passing yards, 9 TDs/121 rushing yards, 3 TDs), running backs Ahmad Hardy (730 yards, 9 TDs) and Jamal Roberts (350 yards, 3 TDs) and wide receivers Kevin Coleman Jr. (39 receptions, 386 yards, 1 TD) and Marquis Johnson (18 receptions, 275 yards, 2 TDs). Look for the 'Bama defense to make a play or two late to pull off another big road win. My pick, Alabama 30, Missouri 26

Ohio State at Illinois - Like Alabama, No. 1-ranked Ohio State hits the road for the second time in three weeks to take on No. 22-ranked Illinois. Two weeks ago, the Buckeyes earned a hard-fought 24-6 win at Washington, while the Illini upset USC, 34-32 at home. OSU will bring one of the top defenses in the country into Champaign on Saturday. In their first four games, the Buckeyes have allowed just 5.5 points per game, while amassing 13 sacks (five by defensive end Caden Curry). The OSU offense is starting to come around behind QB Julian Sayin (987 yards, 10 TDs), running back Bo Jackson (no, not that Bo Jackson), (297 yards, 1 TD) and two big-play wideouts in Jeremiah Smith (28 receptions, 396 yards, 4 TDs) and Carnell Tate (15 receptions, 252 yards, 3 TDs). Illinois has a solid offense led by QB Luke Altmyer (1,183 yards, 11 TDs), running back Kaden Feagin (300 yards, 3 TDs) and wide receiver Hank Beaty (27 receptions, 383 yards, 1 TD). I think Illinois hangs around for awhile, but look for the Buckeyes defense to stifle that unit late to help lead Ohio State to another big road win. My pick, Ohio State 27, Illinois 13

Indiana at Oregon - Two weeks ago, I had the good pleasure to see the No. 8 ranked Hoosiers up close and personal when I took in the Indiana-Iowa game in Iowa City. The Hoosiers pulled out a gritty 20-15 win behind QB Fernando Mendoza (1,208 yards, 16 TDs) and big-play wide receiver Elijah Sarratt (30 receptions, 388 yards, 6 TDs). The Hoosiers also have two productive runners in Roman Hemby (351 yards) and Kaelon Black (344 yards, 2 TDs). The Indiana offense should be able to move the ball against the Ducks defense, but Oregon's offense should be able to do the same. The Ducks, who two weeks ago picked up a huge road win with a 30-24 overtime win at Penn State, have a pretty good offense of their own. The Ducks average 47 points per game, led by QB Dante Moore (1,210 passing yards, 14 TDs/122 rushing yards), running backs Dierre Hill (270 yards, 2 TDs) and Jayden Limer (27 yards, 3 TDs) and wideouts Dakorian Moore (19 receptions, 286 yards, 2 TDs) and Malik Benson (16 receptions, 212 yards, 2 TDs). The Hoosiers are a tough team and will be in this one, but look for the Oregon offense to be too much for Indiana's defense to handle in the second half. My pick, Oregon 33, Indiana 23

Oklahoma vs. Texas - No. 4 OU and No. 9 Texas meet in the Cotton Bowl with the State Fair of Texas as a backdrop at 2:30 p.m. on ABC. This game pits two of the top defenses in the SEC and country as the Sooner "D" has allowed just 9 points per game, while the Longhorn "D" has allowed just 6 points per game. OU enters this game without its best offensive player as QB John Mateer (1,215 passing yards, 6 TDs/180 rushing yards, 5 TDs) will miss this

game with a hand injury. That means backup Michael Hawkins (783 passing yards, 3 TDs/204 rushing yards, 1 TD in 2024) will run the offense. That's a big dropoff for the OU offense. Hawkins will need help from running back Tory Blaylock (190 yards, 5 TDs), tight end Jaren Karnak (18 receptions, 307 yards) and wide receivers Isiah Sategna III (22 receptions, 284 yards, 1 TD) and Deron Burks (23 receptions, 265 yards, 2 TDs). UT QB Arch Manning (888 passing yards, 9 TDs/123 rushing yards, 5 TDs) must protect the ball against an aggressive OU defense. He should have his top two runners back as CJ Baxter and Quintrevion Wisner return after missing three weeks with minor injuries. If they are unable to go, Jerrick Gibson (155 yards, 1 TD) will be the top back in the 'Horns offense. When Manning throws, he will look to make plays to wideouts Parker Livingstone (11 receptions, 222 yards, 3 TDs) and Ryan Wingo (13 receptions, 190 yards, 3 TDs). I think this is a low-scoring game. Look for the UT defense to outplay OU's as Texas picks up a big conference win. My pick, Texas 20, Oklahoma 12

NFL

Dallas at Carolina - If the Cowboys are going to contend for a Wild Card spot, they need to beat bad teams, and the Panthers are a bad team. Two weeks ago, the Dallas offense came alive in its 40-40 tie against Green Bay. QB Dak Prescott (1,119 yards, 6 TDs) had a big night, making plays all over the field to first-year wideout George Pickens (21 receptions, 300 yards, 4 TDs) and tight end Jake Ferguson (34 receptions, 223 yards, 1 TD). Dallas appears to have found a productive runner in Javonte Williams (312 yards, 4 TDs). Carolina QB Bryce Young (753 yards, 5 TDs/3 interceptions) should have success against a banged up Dallas secondary. He will look to make plays to rookie wideout Tetarian McMillen (18 receptions, 225 yards, 1 TD). My pick, Dallas 34, Carolina 16

Los Angeles Rams at Baltimore - The Rams head east to face a desperate Ravens team on Sunday. Two weeks ago, LA improved to 3-1 with a home win over the Colts, while the Ravens lost at Kansas City, 37-20. Star QB Lamar Jackson (869 passing yards, 10 TDs/166 rushing yards, 1 TD) sustained a hamstring injury, but head coach John Harbaugh said the injury is not serious. Ravens fans had better hope so, because if Jackson is lost for any length of time, Baltimore's season could be over. The Ravens need running back Derrick Henry (284 yards, 3 TDs) and wideout Zay Flowers (23 receptions, 305 yards, 1 TD) to get going. The Rams are solid on offense led by QB Matthew Stafford (1,114 yards, 8 TDs), running back Kyren Williams (303 yards, 1 TD) and wide receivers Puka Nuccia (42 receptions, 503 yards, 1 TD) and Davante Adams (17 receptions, 269 yards, 3 TDs). Baltimore needs this more than the Rams do, but its defense must start playing much, much better. My pick, Baltimore 30, Los Angeles Rams 27

San Francisco at Tampa Bay - The 49ers head to the Sunshine State to take on the Bucs in a key game for both teams. Two weeks ago, SF lost to Jacksonville at home, while TB did the same tot the Eagles. SF QB Brock Purdy (586 yards, 4 TDs in 2 games) suffered a toe injury two weeks ago and his status

Officer hospitalized after drunk drive slams into patrol unit,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



JC's Patrolman Abraham Hernandez lying injured on the pavement awaiting emergency technicians to take him to the hospital. (Photo by Allan Jamail)



DWI suspect Nolasco Gomez, Martin Antonio's wrecked car that rear-ended the JC Police cruiser. (Photo by Allan Jamail)



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HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL SCORES/SCHEDULES

LAST WEEK'S SCORES

Thursday, Oct. 2
Galena Park 34, Spring Woods 14


Friday, Oct. 3
C. E. King 70, Goose Creek Memorial 20
North Shore 71, Humble Kingwood 7
Humble 32, Channelview 21

THIS WEEK'S GAMES

Thursday, Oct. 9
C. E. King at Summer Creek at 7 p.m., at Turner Stadium in Humble

Friday, Oct. 10
Galena Park at Houston Waltrip at 7 p.m., at Delmar Stadium
North Shore at Goose Creek Memorial at 7 p.m., at Stallworth Stadium in Baytown

Saturday, Oct. 11
Channelview vs. Kingwood at 6 p.m., at Turner Stadium in Humble



could be up in the air for this game. If Purdy is out, backup Mac Jones will rely on running back Christian McCaffrey (225 rushing yards/31 receptions, 305 yards, 2 TDs) to make plays on the ground and in the passing game. TB will look for QB Baker Mayfield (904 yards, 8 TDs), running back Buddy Irving (237 yards, 1 TD) and sensational rookie wideout Emeka Egbuka (18 receptions, 282 yards, 4 TDs) to make plays against a banged-up 49ers defense. My pick, Tampa Bay 30, San Francisco 26

Detroit at Kansas City - A great one for the Sunday Night Football crew as the

Lions take on the Chiefs in KC. This could be an offensive shootout as the Lions can score from anywhere on the field behind QB Jared Goff (929 yards, 9 TDs), running backs Jahmyr Gibbs (271 rushing yards, 4 TDs/20 receptions, 214 yards, 1 TD), and David Montgomery (245 yards, 3 TDs) and wide receiver Amon-Ra St. Brown (27 receptions, 307 yards, 6 TDs). After losing their first two games, the Chiefs look to be rounding into form with two straight wins. QB Patrick Mahomes (939 passing yards, 7 TDs/130 rushing yards, 2 TDs) is starting to click with wideouts Marquise

Brown (22 receptions, 209 yards, 1 TD) and Tyquan Thornton (10 receptions, 182 yards, 3 TDs) and he still has Mr. Reliable, tight end Travis Kelce (15 receptions, 182 yards, 1 TD) to go to when he needs a big play. The Chiefs also got back a big weapon two weeks ago when speedy wide receiver Xavier Worthy returned after missing two games with five receptions for 83 yards in KC's 37-20 win over Baltimore. This should be a fun game to watch. Look for Mahomes to outduel Goff as the Chiefs continue their roll. My pick, Kansas City 36, Detroit 33.

Mustangs dominate kingwood in lopsided homecoming win,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



#17 Mustangs defensive back Tommie Anderson intercepts a Kingwood pass for a pick-6 TD. (Photo by Allan Jamail)



Mustangs #99 defensive lineman Za'Qwuan Nunn sacks QB Landon Hinson. (Photo by Allan Jamail)

Nshore quarterback Kaleb Maryland continues to spearhead the offense. He passed for 5 TD's for 336 yds; completing 9 out of 15 passes for a 65% pass completion average. In 5 games he's thrown 15 TD's.

Other Scorers: Dorian Barnes 3 TD's, Jaylen Bocard 1 TD, Avery Johnson 1 TD, Tommie Anderson 1 TD, Michael Comacho Jr. 1TD, Hezeki-

ah Johnson 1 TD, Marcus Stewart 1 TD, Isai Navarro 1 TD and kicker, Jorge Campos and Jonathan Campos.

Nshore has scored 233 points in 5 games and the defense has only allowed 54 yds and has a 5 game

winning streak. Linda Jamail statistician.

North Shore will travel to play Baytown's Goose Creek Memorial Patriots in a district game on Friday, October 10th at Stallworth Stadium.

Goose Creek, Crosby Districts move to dismiss teachers,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

called for the dismissal of both teachers following comments they made online about Charlie Kirk.

"The parents and taxpayers in Crosby deserve to have schools with real teachers, not woke indoctrinators," he said in a post on his Facebook account.

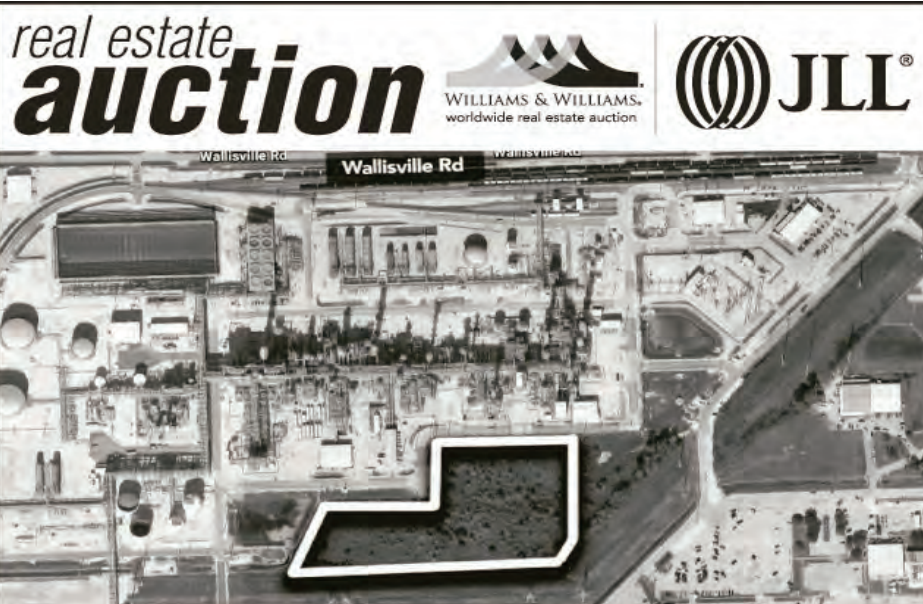
The district did not dis-

close specific details, but it confirmed that the matter is unrelated to social media. Brookreson will remain on administrative leave during the legally required termination process.

Both districts emphasized their commitment to professional integrity and compliance with Texas

Education Code, which mandates a strict process for teacher dismissals, including the right to a hearing before any contract is terminated.

These cases highlight the heightened scrutiny educators face regarding public statements and the importance of due process in employment decisions.



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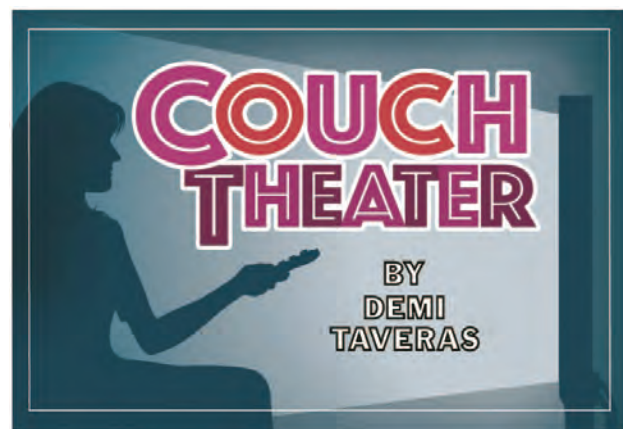
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Keira Knightley, left, and Daniel Ings stars in 'The Woman in Cabin 10.'

'The Woman in Cabin 10'

'The Woman in Cabin 10' (R) — Kiera Knightley of 'Pirates of the Caribbean' fame is back in a leading role in this psychological thriller premiering Oct. 10. She plays Laura Blacklock, an award-winning journalist who gets assigned to cover a three-day voyage of a luxury cruise. While on board the extravagant yacht, Laura encounters a variety of guests who apparently 'run the world,' including yacht owner Richard Bullmer (Guy Pearce), Heidi (Hannah Waddingham), and Grace (Kaya Scodelario). Later on in the voyage, Laura coincidentally sees someone in the water who looks as if they were thrown overboard, but upon reporting it, she is told that every guest and crew member is account-

ed for. Knowing that what she saw was real and not a figment of her imagination, as others suggest, Laura must decide whether she wants to chase the story or let herself be silenced. If you liked the thriller film 'Opus,' this pick will be right up your alley! (Netflix)
'Play Dirty' (R) — Mark Wahlberg ('Flight Risk') is back in another action-packed film, co-starring LaKeith Stanfield ('Sorry to Bother You') and Rosa Salazar ('Undone'). The film follows a thief named Parker (Wahlberg), who had a romantic encounter with another thief Zen (Salazar), and is now suffering the consequences of their affair after she killed everyone who was a part of his last job. Once Parker tracks her

down, he forces her to divulge the heist that she's currently working on: stealing sunken treasure that is worth \$1 billion. The only catch is that they have to outsmart a South American dictator, the New York mafia, and one of the world's richest men. With his ragtag team behind him and Zen now on his side, Parker attempts to pull off this heist of a lifetime. Out now! (Amazon Prime Video)

'Honey Don't!' (R) — Sticking with the thriller theme for this week, this neo-noir detective film is directed by Ethan Coen ('No Country for Old Men'), who claims that this is the second film in his 'lesbian B-movie trilogy.' (The first was 'Drive-Away Dolls.') Margaret Qualley is back as Coen's leading woman as a private investigator named Honey O'Donahue. Honey gets called to the scene of a staged car accident, where she recognizes the dead driver as a client who had asked to meet with her earlier that same day. Through some clues found at the scene, she is led to a cultish church called the Four-Way Temple, led by Reverend Drew Devlin (Chris Evans). Since Honey is convinced that Drew has something to do with the staged accident, she probes deeper with the help of police officer MG (Aubrey Plaza). But trust me, you won't be able to guess how this mystery gets solved. Watch it now! (Peacock)

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HOLLYWOOD by Tony Rizzo

HOLLYWOOD — Please indulge me while I remember the Robert Redford, who left us on Sept. 16 at 89 and was also someone I knew. I met a drop-dead gorgeous, young Robert in 1960 (I was 14), when he had a small role in a Julie Harris play on Broadway. I met and took pictures of him a year later when he had a bigger role in the play 'Sunday in New York.'

Two short years later, he was starring on Broadway in 'Barefoot in the Park' with Elizabeth Ashley. One Saturday, as I shot photos of him, he asked, 'Why do you take so many photos of me?'

'You're going to Hollywood to become a major movie star,' I foretold. He laughed, 'I've been to Hollywood. I did a 'Twilight Zone' episode and a movie with Alec Guinness and Mike 'Mannix' Connors. And nobody cared!'

When he shot the film 'Barefoot in the Park' with Jane Fonda in Central Park, Robert pulled me from behind the barricades and allowed me to shoot him with Jane in an open carriage. He explained to her, 'He says I'm going to be a big movie star,' to which Jane proclaimed, 'Well, he should know!'

In 1976, at a press conference for 'All the President's Men,' Robert tapped me on the shoulder as I was leaving and said, 'Tony, I want to shake your hand. You were the first person to ever say I was going to be a movie star!' Every time I saw him after this, he treated me like a special friend and corresponded with me on Facebook.

His creation of Sundance and its film festival have done more for the film industry than any other entity. There will never be another like him again!

Are you ready for yet another man-eating, giant, deadly 'Anaconda'? The first 'Anaconda' film in 1997 starred Jennifer Lopez, Jon Voight, Owen Wilson, Eric Stoltz and Ice Cube. It cost \$45 million and grossed \$136.8 million



Robert Redford (1936-2025) Courtesy of Paramount Pictures

despite tepid reviews.

This new 'Anaconda' is billed as an action-comedy/thriller film. And why not? It stars Jack Black (didn't he wrestle with 'King Kong'?) and a former People's 'Sexiest Man Alive' Paul Rudd. Steve Zahn and Thandiwe Newton co-star. What's more is that they'll unwrap it in theaters on Christmas Day!

If actor/director Ben Stiller's negotiations with Barbra Streisand are successful (she's holding out for more money), she will appear in the third sequel to 'Meet the Parents' (2000). It's called 'Focker-In-Law' and also stars Stiller, Robert De Niro, Ariana Grande, Blythe Danner and Owen Wilson. It'll hit theaters in November 2026.

After all the triumphs of Streisand's career including 'Funny Girl,' 'Hello, Dolly!' 'Yentl' and 'The Way We Were' (with Robert Redford), it would be a shame for her to end her illustrious film career by playing a mother Focker!

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ENTERTAINMENT

Amber Waves

Comic strip by Dave T. Phipps. Panel 1: 'OK, EVERYONE, YOU'RE ALL IN FOR A REAL TREAT! I'VE OUTDONE MYSELF.' Panel 2: 'I SHOULD HAVE WRITTEN IT DOWN AS I MADE IT UP.' Panel 3: 'YOU CAN'T GO BY THE WAY IT LOOKS OR SMELLS. IT'S AN ACQUIRED TASTE.' Panel 4: 'UH, I THINK MY DAD CAME UP WITH A FIFTH FOOD GROUP?'

Comic strip by Bud Blake. Panel 1: 'WHATCHA DOING?' Panel 2: 'FOLLOW THE LEADER! STRIPES THE LEADER.' Panel 3: 'I DON'T WANT TO SEE ANM MORE.'

Comic strip by Jeff Pickering. Panel 1: 'BIG DEAL... SO I FORGOT HER BIRTHDAY.' Panel 2: '...AT LEAST I REMEMBERED HER WEIGHT.'

The Spats comic strip. Panel 1: 'BIG DEAL... SO I FORGOT HER BIRTHDAY.' Panel 2: '...AT LEAST I REMEMBERED HER WEIGHT.'

Weekly SUDOKU puzzle grid and instructions. Difficulty: Moderate. HOCUS-FOCUS puzzle by Henry Boltinoff.

HOCUS-FOCUS puzzle by Henry Boltinoff. Find at least six differences in details between panels.

October 6, 2025 Posting Date King Crossword

King Crossword grid and clues. ACROSS: 1 Surrenders, 6 Tennis match division, 9 Cover, 12 Fold, 13 Sch. founded by Jefferson, 14 Blackbird, 15 Shadow, 16 Utter disaster, 18 Author Lurie, 20 Bump into, 21 Soup cooker, 23 Cowboys quarterback Prescott, 24 Has an intense craving, 25 Actor Guinness, 27 Toothpaste holders, 29 Strange thing, 31 Deceived, 35 Welsh pooch, 37 Bargain, 38 'Downton —', 41 ER workers, 43 Quilters' get-together, 44 Tragic king, 45 Rum cocktail, 47 TV anchor Norville, 49 'Glee' guitarist, 52 Packed away, 53 Historic period, 8 Bar bill, 9 Shoe fasteners, 10 Cove, 11 Losing ventures?, 17 Ticked, 19 Nymph pursuer, 21 Kung — chicken, 22 Vintage, 24 Floral garland, 26 Roman orator, 28 Russian pan-cakes, 30 Playpen item, 32 Deducted, 33 — kwon do cheer, 34 Flamenco cracker type, 38 Actors Robert and Alan, 39 Borscht base innocents, 40 Play for time, 45 Stallion's mate, 46 Operatic solo, 48 Rule, for short, 50 Chemical suffix, 51 Curved letter.

Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez. 1. MOVIES: In the United States, what is the title of the first Harry Potter movie? 2. GEOGRAPHY: The Prime Meridian Line runs through which major city? 3. HISTORY: When did federal child labor law start in the United States? 4. ACRONYMS: What does the acronym VPN stand for? 5. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Which president appeared on the 1960s comedy show 'Laugh-In'? 6. TELEVISION: Which teen show starred Mayim Bialik before she got the role as Amy Fowler on 'The Big Bang Theory'? 7. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: Where did the Minoan civilization flourish? 8. SCIENCE: What pH balance is considered neutral? 9. LITERATURE: In which of Shakespeare's plays does the character Polonius appear? 10. ANIMAL KINGDOM: In which African country can the Bonobos species of ape be found in the wild? Solution time: 26 mins.



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