

“We should do everything we can to make sure this country lives up to our children’s expectations.” ~ Barack Obama



# The Dallas Post Tribune

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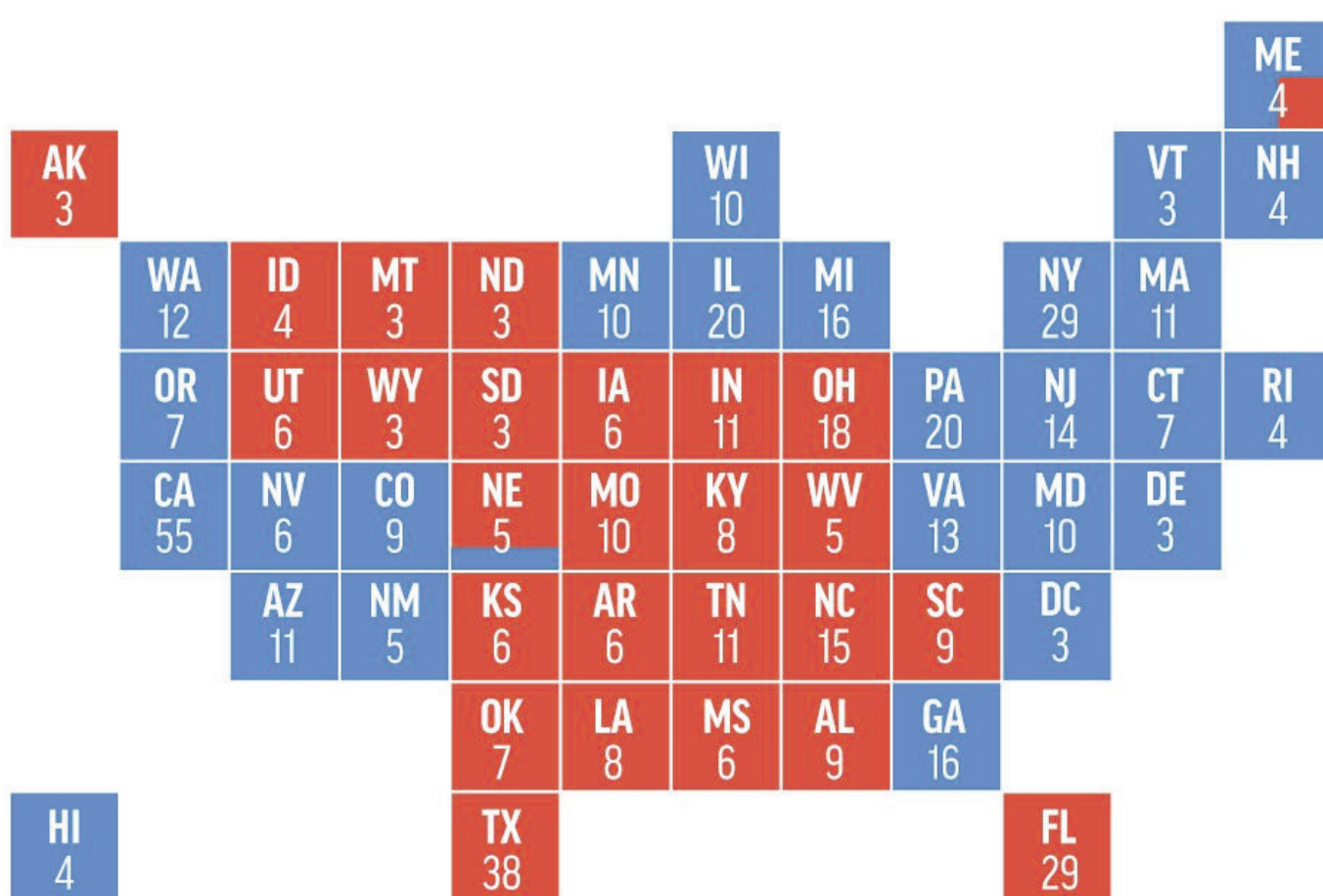
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VOLUME 73 NUMBER 14

SERVING THE BLACK COMMUNITY WITHOUT FEAR OR FAVOR SINCE 1947

December 17 - 23, 2020

## Electoral College vote count



NOTE: Maine and Nebraska split electoral votes  
Source AP Election Research Group; AP reports



## Why Trump’s latest Electoral College ploy is doomed to fail

By NICHOLAS RICCARDI

Even as President-elect Joe Biden’s victory was affirmed by the Electoral College on Monday, Republican electors supporting President Donald Trump met in a handful of battleground states won by Biden and tried to appoint themselves as “alternate electors” that could keep the president in office.

Would that deny Biden his presidency? In a word, no. The competing slates were just the latest effort by Trump and his allies to use the complex machinery of U.S. presidential elections to sow confusion and doubt about Biden’s victory.

Here’s an explanation of what really happened: CAN THESE “ALTERNATE ELEC-

TORS” CHANGE THE OUTCOME OF THE ELECTION?

Again, no. Biden won the election. Biden won more votes than Trump in 25 states and the District of Columbia, amassing a total of 306 electors. Those results have been certified, and the governor in each state signed off on a group of electors pledged to vote for the winner. That’s who voted Monday. The Republican “electors” were not designed by any state official and have no legal status yet.

The next step is on Jan. 6, when both chambers of Congress meet and accept the electors’ votes. A handful of Republicans

Continue Ploy Page 5

## BLACK SCIENTIST, LEAD IN SOLVING COVID-19 PANDEMIC MODERNA VACCINE

**Kizzmekia "Kizzy" Shanta Corbett** is an American viral immunologist at the Vaccine Research Center (VRC) at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Institutes of Health based in Bethesda, Maryland. Appointed to the VRC in 2014, she is currently the scientific lead of the VRC's Coronavirus Team, with research efforts aimed at propelling novel coronavirus vaccines, including a COVID-19 vaccine. In December 2020 the Institute's Director Anthony Fauci, said: "Kizzy is an African American scientist who is right at the forefront of the development of the vaccine."



Dr. Kizzmekia Corbett

Brooks. She grew up in Hillsborough, a rural town in North Carolina, where she had a large family of step-siblings and foster siblings.

Corbett went to Oak Lane Elementary School and A.L. Stanback Middle School. Her fourth grade teacher, Myrtis Bradsher, recalls recognizing Corbett's talent at an early age and encouraging

Kizzy's mother to place her in advanced classes. "I always thought she is going to do something one day. She dotted i's and crossed t's. The best in my 30 years of teaching," Bradsher said in a 2020 interview with *The Washington Post*.

In 2004, Corbett graduated from Orange High School in Hillsborough, North Carolina. In 2008, Corbett received a B.S. in biological sciences and sociology from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC), as a student in the Meyerhoff Scholarship Program. In 2014, Corbett received a PhD in microbiology and immunology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Continue Kizzy Page 6

## Charley Pride overcame racial barriers as country music star

By KRISTIN M. HALL

NEW YORK (AP) — Charley Pride, one of country music's first Black superstar whose rich baritone on such hits as “Kiss an Angel Good Morning” and “Is Anybody Goin’ to San Antone,” died Saturday in Dallas of complications from COVID-19, according to his publicist. He was 86.

The pride of Sledge, Mississippi, was the son of a sharecropper who initially turned to sports as a way to a better life.

He was a pitcher and outfielder in the Negro American League with the Memphis Red Sox and in the Pioneer League in Montana.

After playing minor league baseball, he ended up in Helena, Montana, where he worked in a zinc smelting plant by day and



Charley Pride, right, receives his Country Music Hall of Fame plaque from Merle Haggard at the Country Music Association Awards show at the Grand Ole Opry House in Nashville, Tenn. (AP Photo/Charlie Neibergall, File)

played country music in nightclubs at night.

Baseball was Pride's first success, but it was the Grand Ole Opry that his father insisted everyone listen to on their home radio that would

prove to be his lasting legacy.

“Everything we listened to was what he had tuned it to, so I got to listening to Grand Ole Opry

Continue Pride Page 2



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## District aims to increase Black students and English Language Learners in AP courses

BY THE HUB



Photo Courtesy/Dallas ISD HUB

For the past several years, a task force of educators within Dallas ISD has been focused on creating supports for students, teachers and campuses within the district in hopes of building enrollment, increasing Advanced Placement (AP) coursework and heightening achievement.

That work has taken on even more importance since the passage last spring of the Board of Trustee's resolution to address inequities for Black students and English Learners on issues ranging from overrepresentation in discipline statistics to underrepresentation in Advanced Placement classes and talented and gifted programming.

Of the 13,449 students

enrolled in at least one AP course, 2,101, or 15.6% are Black and 4,194, or 31.2% are English Learner students. Administrators are taking steps to improve those numbers through support for students and teachers, offered through Advanced Academic Services, said Mitch Morken, the department's director.

"The goal is to have all students [who "meet and master" a given subject on the STAAR test]enrolled in a Pre-AP course" for that subject, Morken said.

In a major step toward that end, the district has instituted a core content "opt-out" policy for Pre-AP math and science courses starting in sixth grade. What this means in practice is that all stu-

dents who "meet and master" the subject content in fifth grade will be automatically enrolled in the sixth grade Pre-AP track, rather than leaving enrollment up to chance, said Oswaldo Alvarenga, assistant superintendent of STEM.

Arlena Gaynor, the district's executive director for Language and Literature, said that in Reading and Language Arts, "We modeled what math and science did, and we ensured that there was automatic enrollment for students who scored at the meets or masters level into the Pre-AP pathway for Reading and Language Arts and social studies. That policy is in effect right now, but will impact the student schedule for next school year."

Continued **Pride** Page 1

and all when I was small and I got hooked on it and it just went from there," Pride told The Associated Press at the Grand Ole Opry in Nashville in 2017. "I had no idea that I was preparing myself for this, but I'm glad, especially since I didn't make it in baseball."

After a tryout with the New York Mets, Pride visited Nashville and broke into country music when Chet Atkins, head of RCA Records, heard two of his demo tapes and signed him.

His first few singles were sent to radio stations without a publicity photo. After his race became known, a few country radio stations refused to play his music, and some promoters were hesitant to book him.

Until the early 1990s, when Cleve Francis came along, Pride was the only Black country singer signed to a major label. During his career, other Black country artists such as Linda Martell, O.B. McClinton and Stoney Edwards were also charting country songs, as well as Ray Charles and the Pointer Sisters. In 1993, he joined the Grand Ole Opry cast in Nashville.

"They used to ask me how it feels to be the 'first colored country singer,'" he told The Dallas Morning News in 1992. "Then it was 'first Negro country singer;' then 'first Black country singer.' Now I'm the 'first African-American country singer.'

That's about the only thing that's changed. This country is so race-conscious, so ate-up with colors and pigments. I call it 'skin hangups' — it's a disease."

Still, he remains the only Black country artist to achieve many of those heights, a sign that country music still has a long way to go to breaking down the racial walls, even decades later.

Throughout his career, he sang positive songs instead of sad ones often associated with country music.

"Music is a beautiful way of expressing oneself, and I truly believe music should not be taken as a protest," he told The Associated Press in 1985. "You can go too far in anything — singing, acting, whatever — and become politicized to the point you cease to be an entertainer."

He was the first Black artist to win the genre's highest prize, CMA Award entertainer of the year in 1971, over nominees Haggard, Loretta Lynn, Jerry Reed and Conway Twitty. He was the first Black co-host of the CMA Awards in 1975 with Campbell and earned a lifetime achievement award at the CMA Awards this year. He received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Recording Academy in 2017.

Pride released dozens of albums and sold more than 25 million records during a career that began in the mid-1960s. Hits besides "Kiss an Angel Good Morning" in 1971 included "Is Anybody Goin' to

San Antone," "Burgers and Fries," "Mountain of Love," and "Someone Loves You Honey."

As a trailblazer, he inspired countless other Black country artists, including Darius Rucker, who moved from rock to country.

"My heart is so heavy," Rucker wrote on [Twitter](https://twitter.com). "He destroyed barriers and did things that no one had ever done. But today Im thinking of my friend. Heaven just got one of the finest people I know. I miss and love u CP!"

Pride joined up with country singer Jimmie Allen to perform "Kiss an Angel Good Morning" at the CMA Awards in November, his last performance.

"Thank you for unapologetically you and being the manifestation of our dreams. Our potential. The realization that WE can be anything we want to be. Even a country singer," said country singer Rissi Palmer on [Twitter](https://twitter.com). "I'm so angry about this death. This was preventable."

"I'd like to be remembered as a good person who tried to be a good entertainer and made people happy, was a good American who paid his taxes and made a good living," Pride told The AP in 1985. "I tried to do my best and contribute my part."

He is survived by his wife, Rozene, whom he married in 1956; three children, Kraig, Dion and Angela; and several grandchildren.



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# EDITORIAL PAGE

## ‘Turning the Tide: the CBC’s Role in Renaming Confederate Bases’



Chairwoman **Eddie Bernice Johnson (TX-30)**  
House Committee on Science, Space, & Technology  
United States House of Representatives

Last week, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2021. NDAA is an annual bill that authorizes the funding for our national defense strategy. Included in this year’s NDAA is an amendment, introduced by Senator Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) and Rep. Anthony Brown

(MD-04) in their respective chambers, that establishes a commission to rename military installations that honor Confederate officials.

The Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) played a critical role in ushering the amendment through the House, Senate, and conference committee deliberations to be included in the final bill. In one of the most significant steps towards inclusivity that the military has taken, the CBC finds itself once again at the heart of an effort towards achieving racial equity.

One such installation set to be renamed is right here in Texas – Fort Hood, which bears the name of Confederate General John Bell Hood. Fortunately, we do not have to look too far

when it comes to replacement names. Texas is unique in that it boasts an extraordinary number of heroes of color who called our state home. One such example would be Mr. Doris ‘Dorie’ Miller, was born and raised in my hometown of Waco, TX. Cook First Class Miller was a WWII veteran whose heroic instincts at Pearl Harbor earned him the Navy Cross and helped to save hundreds of lives aboard the *West Virginia* on December 7, 1941.

Another illustration of bravery came from Messman First Class Leonard Roy Harmon, who resided in Cuero, TX – geographically situated between Austin and San Antonio, was a WWII veteran, Navy Cross recipient, and the

first Black man to have a warship named in his honor, the *USS Harmon*. These two men, along with the countless others not listed, would be excellent namesakes for military installations and would reflect the increasing diversity of our armed forces.

Though the President has repeatedly expressed his intent to veto the legislation because of this amendment, I am proud that Congress will pass the NDAA with a veto-proof majority and that these bases will forevermore appropriately memorialize the contributions made by people of color. While the effects of renaming these installations may be beyond our vision, they certainly are not beyond our control.

### Young Black Lawyers’ Organizing Coalition launches *Black Ballots, Black Futures*—Georgia GOTV Voter Protection Effort to empower Black voters during the Georgia run-off elections

*This nonpartisan effort will amplify critical information about voter protection through a grassroots GOTV community outreach campaign*

Atlanta—The Young Black Lawyers’ Organizing Coalition (YBLOC) has announced the launch of its *Black Ballots, Black Futures*—Georgia GOTV voter protection campaign, which will seek to empower Black voters and protect Black voting rights during the Georgia run-off elections. To this end, YBLOC will host a series of non-partisan voter-protection education sessions with strategic partners and local media platforms to engage grassroots leaders to serve as voter protection ambassadors in their communities. Sessions will be held December 14-15 and December 28 focusing on the HBCU community and grassroots leaders such as local Black barbers. YBLOC will also engage in local advocacy to ensure the equitable administration of elections.

“As we head into the final weeks of the Georgia runoff elections, it is critical that we mobi-



Abdul Dosunmu, the founder, and chief strategist of the Young Black Lawyers’ Organizing Coalition

lize as young Black lawyers and law students to empower Black voters to protect their vote,” said Abdul Dosunmu, the founder and chief strategist of the Young Black Lawyers’ Organizing Coalition (YBLOC). “Building on our voter protection work during the November general election, YBLOC is working in collaboration with grassroots communities in Georgia to ensure that Black voters are able to

exercise their full political power.”

YBLOC’s *Black Ballots, Black Futures* November general election initiative, a seven-state voter-protection campaign, coordinated voting-rights litigation to protect 132,000 absentee voters in Arkansas. Prompted by the litigation, the Arkansas State Board of Election Commissioners issued an requiring that the counting of absentee ballots contin-

ue until complete. Prior to the order, Arkansas’s arbitrary counting deadline had placed thousands of absentee ballots at risk of not being counted.

During the November general election, YBLOC also distributed 180,300 items of personal protective equipment (PPE) to Black voters in Texas and South Carolina to ensure safe voting, led voter-protection training sessions in Black communities, engaged in robust local advocacy to hold state and local elections officials accountable, and mobilized legal volunteers to support national election protection work.

“In the Georgia runoff elections, Black voters will again have to navigate an election cycle fraught with voter suppression, the global coronavirus pandemic, and unprecedented attacks on democratic norms and traditions,” added Dosunmu. “It is imperative that we work to protect Black voters and Black ballots.”

The Young Black Lawyers’ Organization Coalition is the only network of young Black lawyers and law students mobilizing to protect and empower Black voters across the country through community-centered voter education, litigation and election protection support, and local advocacy. Through the *Black Ballots, Black Futures* campaign, YBLOC is activating 1,000 young Black lawyers and law students to protect and empower 500,000 Black voters in seven target states: Michigan, Pennsylvania, North Carolina, Texas, Georgia, South Carolina, and Arkansas.

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Early Worship - 9:30 a.m.  
Morning Worship - 10:45 a.m.  
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**The Mount Moriah Missionary Baptist Church**

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www.mountmoriahdallas.org

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**Sammie Berry**  
Minister

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7:00 p.m.


**Wednesday Bible Class**  
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**"A JOURNEY THROUGH THE GOSPEL OF JOHN"**  
*St. John 9:24-41*

**THE TESTIMONY OF THE ONCE BLIND BEGGAR**  
By Rev. Johnny Calvin Smith

We have come to the conclusion of this very inspiring account of the awesome healing of the once blind poor beggar. In the account, the grand and awesome Sovereign grace of God was demonstrated toward a man who didn't even appeal to the mercy of God nor did he elicit any cry for help. He was certainly in a helpless and hopeless condition, but as the Lord was passing by He had compassion for this grace victim. Although the Lord exhibited compassion, the Pharisees exhibited their heartless disdain for the person of Christ, displaying their cruel refusal to believe that Christ had wrought a miracle on the man despite the man's convincing testimony. Under strict interrogation in verse 25, the man on whom God's grace was manifested continued to tell what the Lord has done for him!

In verse 27, the man being questioned continued to answer forth rightly the questions being posed; however, he began to display anger in the utter unbelief exhibited by his inquisitors. Not able to attack the credibility of this man's testimony, his inquisitors in verse 28 resorted to name calling which evidenced that they were being defeated. It is apparent from verse 29, that the testimony of both the once blind man and his parents did not result in the Pharisees being convinced that Jesus wrought a miracle of mercy on this man. Thus, the Pharisees continued to dwell in the sphere of moral darkness and unbelief.

Continuing to remain resolve in his testimony, the grace victim on trial maintained that Christ opened his eyes (v. 30), and that Christ was not an impostor (v. 31). In verse 32, God's grace victim gives an interesting argument stating that in previous times no one had ever given sight to one who was born blind. The man was testifying that Moses or any of the other prophets had not even given sight to a victim born blind; yet, the Lord Jesus did so! The awesome wisdom of the once blind victim is evi-

dent, for he testifies that Jesus was a man of God (v. 33). In verse 34, the utter arrogance and unbelief of the Pharisees are exhibited in their refusal to accept the credibility of the man's testimony. Having given a simple and frank testimony, the victim on trial was excommunicated - forced out of the synagogue (v. 34). Having been force out of the synagogue, we find the gracious Master seeking this once blind victim (v. 35).

In His coming, Christ raised a most piercing question to the man when He said - "Dost thou believe on the Son of God?" The man's reply is evidence that the light of his understanding has increased for he addresses the Saviour as Lord (v. 36). In verse 37, the great healer of this once blind beggar is revealed, for Christ revealed that He is deity - the Son of God. After being severely tested by his religious enemies, the supreme faith of the man is displayed - "He believed and worshipped" (v. 38). Verse 39 must be understood in the light that the purpose of Christ's mission was to "seek and to save that which was lost (Luke 19:10). However, because of man's refusal to accept the Light (Jesus Christ), the effect of Christ's person brought judgment.

As we come to the conclusion of this chapter, it is tragic that the Pharisees are still dwelling in the region of unbelief, despite the convincing testimony by God's grace victim, the once blind beggar. In their pride and self-sufficiency, they stood condemned, being hardened in their unbelief (v. 40-41).

**May God Bless!**



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## DART Announces Christmas Day Schedule

Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) and the Trinity Railway Express (TRE) have announced their Christmas Day schedules for 2020:

- Friday, December 25**
- DART Administrative Offices: Closed
  - DART Buses and Light Rail: Operating on a Sunday schedule
  - DART GoLink: No service
  - DART Customer Information Center, Care Center and Lost and Found: Closed
  - TRE: No service
  - DART Paratransit: Paratransit services will operate on a Saturday schedule. DART Mobility Management's Paratransit Call Center will be closed Friday through Sunday. Customers wishing to schedule trips by phone for any of the three days will need to do so by Thursday, Dec. 24. Customers can also now schedule, view and cancel trips 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at [www.DART.org/paratransit](http://www.DART.org/paratransit).

Route and schedule information can always be found by calling 214-979-1111 or at [DART.org](http://DART.org) and [TrinityRailwayExpress.org](http://TrinityRailwayExpress.org).

Continued Ploy Page 1

the House have already signaled they plan to object to this. They need to find a Republican senator to potentially force a vote in Congress. But the existence of that alternative slate doesn't change the facts in Washington — Democrats control the House and aren't going to overturn Biden's election by rejecting his electors. Trump quite simply doesn't have the votes to change anything. Even in the GOP-controlled Senate, enough Republican senators have signaled objections to Trump's attempts to overturn the election to make it very unlikely that the chamber would select his alternate slate of "electors" over the Biden ones the battleground states are sending. If, somehow, the Senate did vote for the rival electors, the deadlock wouldn't necessarily help Trump. Federal law provides for electors appointed by a state's gover-

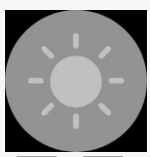
nor to win any split decisions in Congress. The governors of all the contested states won by Biden, Democratic and Republican, appointed electors for Biden. The existence of the rival slates does have a technical impact though — Congress will likely have to go through the motions of rejecting them, said Edward Foley, a law professor at Ohio State University. "They're dead on arrival and will be treated as frivolous and hardly worth the time of day," Foley said. Steven Vladeck, a law professor at the University of Texas, tweeted: "Don't be distracted by these preposterous mock electoral votes—they don't change how (asterisk)anything(asterisk) is going to unfold, since congressional Republicans could've objected (asterisk)without(asterisk) them. Either way, without a House majority, all Rs can do is slow the counting down on 1/6—not stop it." Vladeck added: "That doesn't mean they're not offensive; they are. But they aren't going to—change any of the legal calculus going forward." HAS ANYTHING LIKE THIS EVER HAPPENED BEFORE? Yes, actually. In the 1960 election between John F. Kennedy and Richard Nixon, Hawaii's Republican governor certified a Republican slate of electors after the initial count had Nixon winning the state by about 100 votes. But Democratic electors met anyway and insisted that Kennedy would win an ongoing recount. The Democrats were right, and when it came time for Congress to consider which group of electors to count, it chose the Democratic one. It was Nixon himself, who was presiding over Congress as the outgoing vice president, who made the decision. Pennsylvania's alternate slate of Republican electors even cited the 1960 Hawaii case in a press release Monday, saying they were simply following Hawaii Democrats' lead. "We took this procedural vote to preserve any legal claims that may be presented going forward," said Bernie Comfort, Pennsylvania chair of the Trump campaign. "This was in no way an effort to usurp or contest the will of the Pennsylvania voters." Still, there's an obvious difference — the outcome of the Hawaii election was actually unclear when the rival slates were appointed. Biden won Pennsylvania by 80,000 votes, and every court challenge the Trump campaign and its allies filed to contest has failed. Hawaii's governor ended up sending both slates of electors to Congress. Pennsylvania's governor is only sending Biden's. Under federal law, if there's a tie between the two chambers of Congress, the slates sent by governors will be declared the winner. That's the ultimate guarantee the pro-Trump slates will lose because none were endorsed by governors on Monday.

Continue Ploy Page 6

# SPORTS/NEWS PAGE

## 7 Day Weather Forecast for DFW

Thursday, Dec. 17



H - 58°  
L - 39°

Friday, Dec. 18



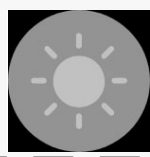
H - 62°  
L - 52°

Saturday, Dec. 19



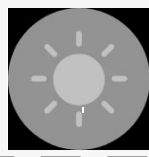
H - 56°  
L - 38°

Sunday, Dec. 20



H - 60°  
L - 42°

Monday, Dec. 21



H - 63°  
L - 43°

Tuesday, Dec. 22



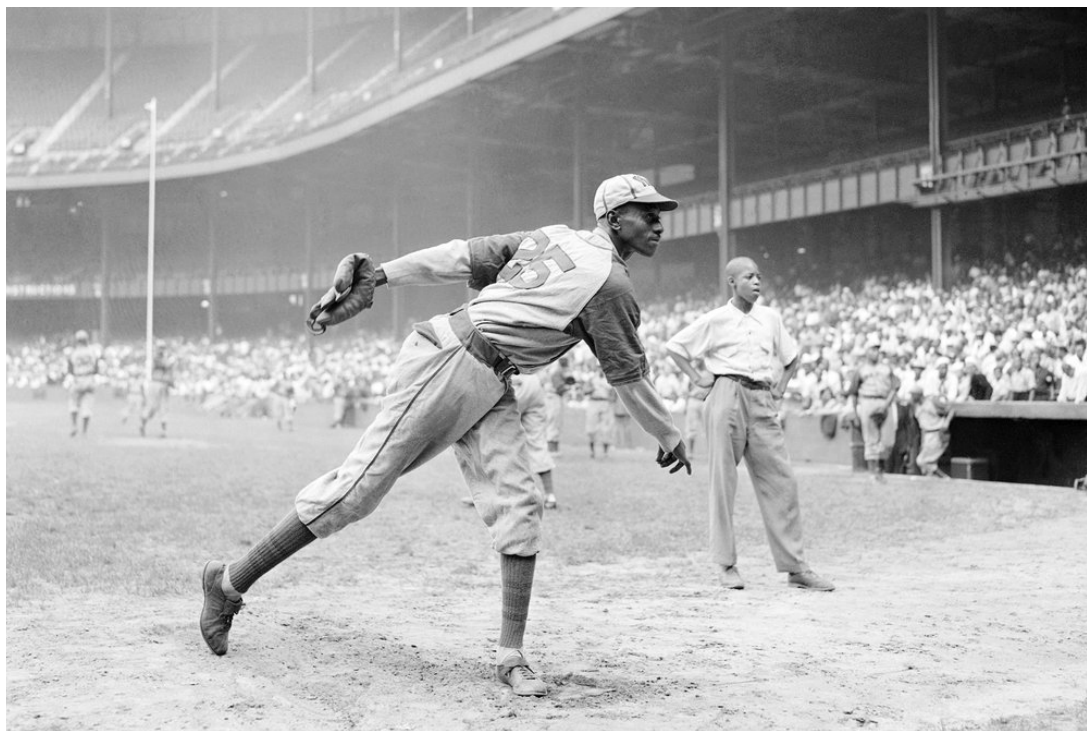
H - 63°  
L - 50°

Wednesday, Dec. 23



H - 64°  
L - 45°

## MLB RECLASSIFIES NEGRO LEAGUES AS MAJOR LEAGUE



FILE - In this Aug. 2, 1942, file photo, Kansas City Monarchs pitcher Leroy Satchel Paige warms up at New York's Yankee Stadium before a Negro League. (AP Photo/Matty Zimmerman, File)

NEW YORK (AP) — Willie Mays will add some hits to his record, Monte Irvin's big league batting average should climb over .300 and Satchel Paige may add nearly 150 victories to his total.

Josh Gibson, the greatest of all Negro League sluggers, might just wind up with a major league record, too.

The statistics and records of greats like Gibson, Paige and roughly 3,400 other players are set to join Major League Baseball's books after MLB announced Wednesday it is reclassifying the Negro Leagues as a major league.

MLB said Wednesday it was "correcting a longtime oversight in the game's his-

tory" by elevating the Negro Leagues on the centennial of its founding. The Negro Leagues consisted of seven leagues, and MLB will include records from those circuits between 1920-48. The Negro Leagues began to dissolve one year after Jackie Robinson became MLB's first Black player with the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1947.

Those leagues were excluded in 1969 when the Special Committee on Baseball Records identified six official "major leagues" dating to 1876.

"It is MLB's view that the Committee's 1969 omission of the Negro Leagues from consideration was clearly an error that demands today's designation," the league said in a statement.

The league will work with the Elias Sports Bureau to review Negro Leagues statistics and records and figure out how to incorporate them into MLB's history. There was no standard method of record keeping for the Negro Leagues, but there are enough box scores to stitch together some of its statistical past.

For instance, Mays could be credited with 17 hits from his 1948 season with the Alabama Black Barons. Irvin, a teammate of Mays' with the New York Giants, could see his career average climb from

.293 to .304 if numbers listed at Baseball-Reference from his nine Negro League seasons are accurate. And Paige, who currently is credited with 28 major league wins, should add at least 146 to his total.

While some have estimated Gibson slugged over 800 homers during 16 Negro League seasons, it's unlikely that enough records exist for him to officially pass Barry Bonds for the career record at 762.

Depending on what Elias and MLB rule, though, Gibson could wind up with another notable record. His .441 batting average in 1943 would be the best season mark ever, edging Hugh Duffy's .440 from 1894. Gibson's line came in fewer than 80 games, however, far short of the modern standard of 162.

"We couldn't be more thrilled by this recognition of the significance of the Negro Leagues in Major League Baseball history," said Edward Schauder,

legal representative for Gibson's estate and co-founder of the Negro Leagues Players Association.

"Josh Gibson was a legend who would have certainly been a top player in the major leagues if he had been allowed to play."

MLB said it considered input from the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum, the Negro League Researchers and Authors Group and studies by other baseball authors and researchers.

"The perceived deficiencies of the Negro Leagues' structure and scheduling were born of MLB's exclusionary practices, and denying them major league status has been a double penalty, much like that exacted of Hall of Fame candidates prior to Satchel Paige's induction in 1971," baseball historian John Thorn said. "Granting MLB status to the Negro Leagues a century after their founding is profoundly gratifying."

## State could receive Moderna vaccine as early as next week



Dr. Kizzmekia Corbett, left, senior research fellow and scientific lead for coronavirus vaccines. (AP Photo/Evan Vucci)

MADISON, Wis. (AP) — State health officials say Wisconsin could receive 100,000 doses of the Moderna coronavirus vaccine as early as next week. That's twice what the state received in its initial shipment from Pfizer.

While frontline health care workers started receiving doses of the Pfizer vac-

cine this week, another priority group is people in long-term care facilities.

Once pharmacy chains get the vaccine from the federal government, they will set up inoculation timetables for each facility in Wisconsin.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration is expected to green light the Moderna vaccine, possibly this week.

The Moderna vaccine is easier to handle than the one from Pfizer because it does not need to be kept in the deep freeze at minus 94 degrees Fahrenheit (minus 70 Celsius).

Continued **Kizzy** Page 1

While in high school, Corbett realized that she wanted to pursue a scientific career, and as part of a program called ProjectSEED, spent her summer holiday working in research laboratories, one of which was at UNC's Kenan Labs with organic chemist James Morkin. In 2005, she was a summer intern at SUNY StonyBrook in Gloria Viboud's lab where she studied Yersinia pseudotuberculosis pathogenesis. From 2006 to 2007, she worked as a lab tech in Susan Dorsey's lab at the University of Maryland School of Nursing.

After earning her bachelor's degree, from 2006 to 2009, Corbett was a biological sciences trainer at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), where she worked alongside Dr. Barney Graham. At the NIH, Corbett worked on the pathogenesis of respiratory syncytial virus as well as on a project focused on innovative vaccine platform advancement.

From 2009 to 2014, Corbett studied human antibody responses to dengue virus in Sri Lankan children under the supervision of Aravinda de Silva at University of North Carolina at Chapel

Hill. She studied how people produce antibodies in response to dengue fever, and how the genetics of dengue fever impact the severity of a disease. From April to May 2014, as part of her research for her dissertation, Corbett worked as a visiting scholar at Genentech Research Institute in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

In October 2014, Corbett became a research fellow, working as a viral immunologist, at the NIH. Her research aims to uncover mechanisms of viral pathogenesis and host immunity. She specifically focuses on development of novel vaccines for coronaviridae. Her early research considered the development of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) and Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) vaccine antigens. During this time, she identified a simple way to make spike proteins that are stabilized in a conformation that renders them more immunogenic and manufacturable, in collaboration with researchers at Scripps Research Institute and Dartmouth College.

At the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, Corbett started working on a vaccine to protect people from coronavirus disease.

Recognizing that the virus was similar to severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus, Corbett's team utilized previous knowledge of optimal coronavirus S proteins to tackle the novel coronavirus. S proteins form a "crown" on the surface of coronaviruses and are crucial for engagement of host cell receptors and the initiation of membrane fusion in coronavirus disease. This makes them a particularly vulnerable target for coronavirus prophylactics and therapeutics. Based on her previous research, Corbett's team, in collaboration with investigators at UT Austin, transplanted stabilizing mutations from SARS-CoV S protein into SARS-CoV-2 spike protein.<sup>[14]</sup> She was part of the NIH team who helped solve the cryogenic electron microscopy (CryoEM) structure of the SARS-CoV-2 spike protein. Her prior research suggested that messenger RNA (mRNA) encoding S protein could be used to excite the immune response to produce protective antibodies against coronavirus disease 2019.

To manufacture and test the COVID-19 vaccine Corbett's team partnered with Moderna, a biotechnology company, to rapid-

ly enter animal studies. Subsequently, the vaccine entered Phase 1 clinical trial only 66 days after the virus sequence was released. The trial, to be completed in at least 45 people, is a dose escalation study in the form of two injections separated by 28 days. Corbett's work afforded her the opportunity to be a part of the National Institutes of Health team that welcomed Donald Trump to the Dale and Betty Bumpers Vaccine Research Center in March 2020.

Corbett has called for the public to be cautious and respectful of one another during the coronavirus pandemic, explaining that regular hand washing and sneezing into one's elbow can help to minimize the spread of the virus. She has also emphasized that we should not stigmatize people who may be from areas where the virus started. When asked about her involvement with the development of the COVID-19 vaccine, Corbett said, "To be living in this moment where I have the opportunity to work on something that has imminent global importance...it's just a surreal moment for me".

*From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia*

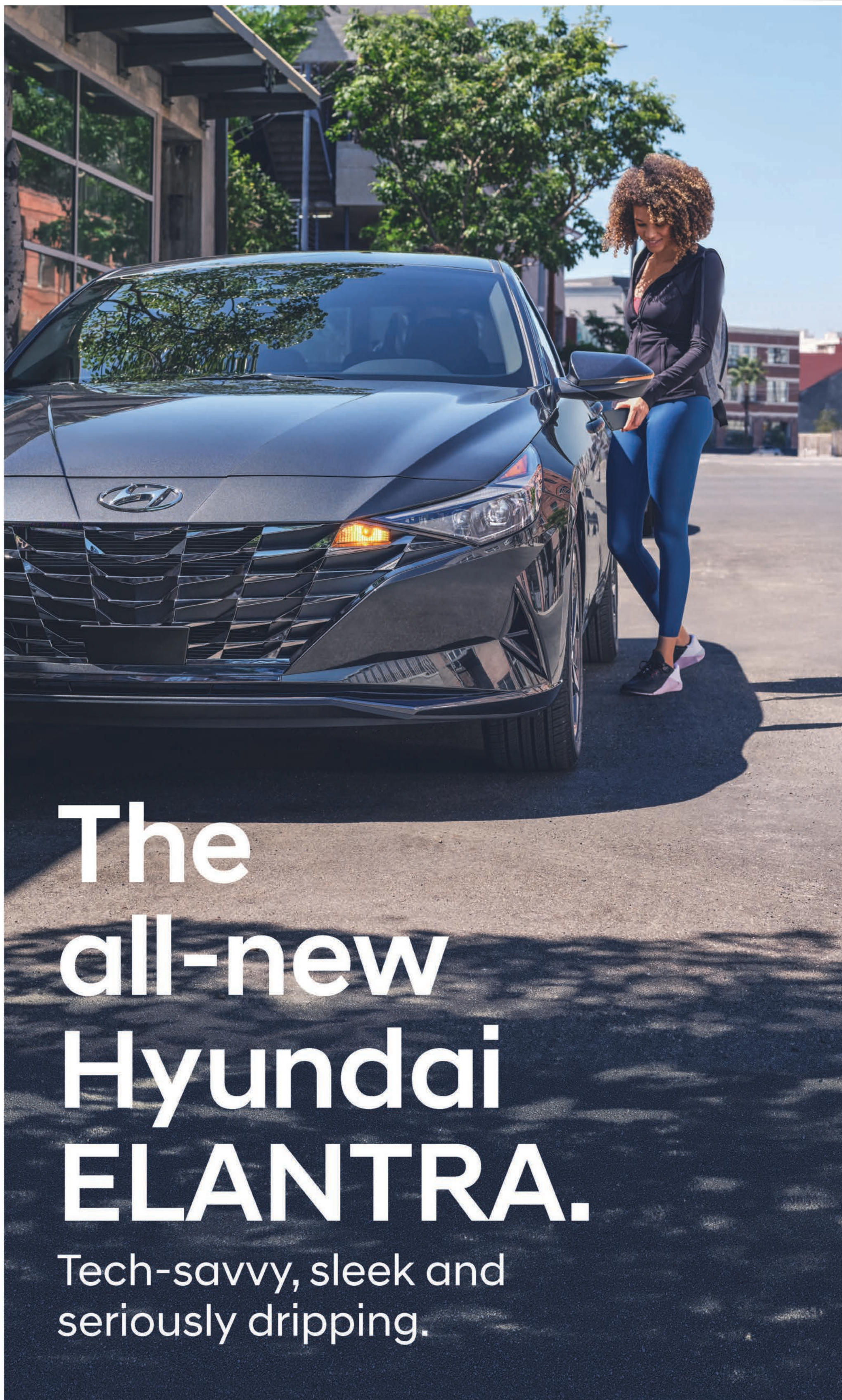
Continued **Ploy** Page 5

The other historical example is the election of 1876, where three states saw both parties submit rival slates of electors as having won their states. That chaos is what led to the federal law laying out the procedure for Congress to accept or reject rival slates of electors, which is what will lead to any "alternates" being rejected.

IF IT CAN'T WORK, WHY ARE TRUMP SUP-

PORTERS DOING THIS?

It's unclear. Trump and his allies have spent the past several weeks pursuing legal challenges that have virtually no chance of succeeding. But as he loses at each step, Trump has succeeded in convincing many Republicans that the election was flawed and that he was robbed of a second term. He's also raising millions of dollars. That money will likely keep coming in even if there's no chance of his latest gambit working.



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