

“Never be limited by other people's imagination; never limit others because of your own limited imagination.” - Mae C. Jemison



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SERVING THE BLACK COMMUNITY WITHOUT FEAR OR FAVOR SINCE 1947

December 7 - 13, 2023

## POLITICS

# Vice President Harris Makes History in Senate with 32nd Tie-Breaking Vote

By Stacy M. Brown

On Tuesday, Dec. 5, Vice President Kamala Harris broke the previous record set by John C. Calhoun in the 19th century for the most tie-breaking votes cast in the U.S. Senate. Harris has now cast 32 tie-breaking votes, eclipsing Calhoun's record of 31 during his tenure as vice president from 1825 to 1832.

The latest tiebreaker occurred during the confirmation of Loren Alikhan as a U.S. District Judge for the District of Columbia. As vice president, Harris serves as the president of the Senate, granting her constitutional authority to break ties.

Harris's accomplishment is noteworthy not only for its historical significance but also in the context of the current political landscape. The U.S. Senate has been narrowly divided throughout the Biden administration, comprising 48 Democrats, 49 Republicans, and three independents. Of the independents, Sens. Bernie Sanders of Vermont and Angus King of Maine caucus with Democrats, while Arizona Sen. Kyrsten Sinema left the Democratic Party in 2022 to register as an independent.

The surge in tie-breaking

votes contrasts with previous administrations, as former Vice President Mike Pence cast 13 tie-breaking votes, while President Joe Biden did not cast any during his vice presidential tenure in the eight years of the Obama administration.

In a speech on the Senate floor earlier this year, Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer praised her historic achievement. Schumer emphasized the circumstances of Harris's tenure, characterized by a closely divided Senate and a highly partisan environment.

He acknowledged the weighty responsibility placed on the vice president as president of the Senate, noting that Harris has played a crucial role in passing pivotal legislation. From the American Rescue Plan to the Inflation Reduction Act and the confirmation of federal judges, Schumer commended Harris for her contributions to the functioning of the Senate.

“When it's mattered most, Vice President Harris has provided the decisive vote on some of the most historic bills of modern times,” Schumer asserted. “All of us thank her for making the work of the Senate possible.”

## RACE AND ETHNICITY



Darryl George, 18, has been repeatedly disciplined by his school for violating the district's dress code, which places limits on the length of a male students' hair. His family argues the dress code is a violation of the Texas CROWN Act. Photo Credit: Michael Wyke/AP/FILE

# Texas student disciplined for length of his locs hairstyle returns to class only to be suspended again

By Chandelis Duster, CNN

CNN —

A Black Texas high school student who has been repeatedly disciplined by his school over the length of his locs hairstyle, returned to regular classes Tuesday after spending 30 days at an alternative school.

He was then suspended again for refusing to cut his

hair to comply with a dress code policy his family says is discriminatory.

On Tuesday morning, Darryl George, 18, briefly attended class at Barbers Hill High School before a school administrator referred him to in-school suspension, according to Candice Matthews, a

spokesperson for the family.

A copy of the school's referral notice obtained by CNN states, “Darryl's hair is out of compliance with the BH dress code when let down. If Darryl corrects his dress code violation he will be allowed to return to his regular classes.”

George will remain sus-

pending for 13 days, the notice states. Allie Booker, an attorney for George and his family, said she is working to try to get the suspensions stopped.

George's latest suspension follows three months of disciplinary action for

Continue Texas Page 3

FY2023-24#15

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# Lord, Have Mercy!' Jamie Foxx Returns to Spotlight

By Stacy M. Brown

In an emotional comeback, Oscar-winning actor Jamie Foxx took center stage at the Critics' Choice Association's Celebration of Cinema & Television on Monday, December 4, marking his first major Hollywood appearance since a medical emergency in April left him battling for his life.

Foxx, 55, made a surprise entrance at the event to honor Black, Latino, and AAPI achievements in the entertainment industry. Anita Bennett, the creator of Urban Hollywood 411, reported that Jurnee Smollett, Foxx's co-star in the Prime

Video film “The Burial,” introduced a montage of clips from Foxx's illustrious career and presented him with the night's prestigious Vanguard Award.

Bennett noted that as Foxx stepped onto the stage, the audience erupted in applause. The actor, known for his versatility in acting and music, delivered a mix of jokes, songs, and heartfelt moments. However, emotions ran high as he opened up about his recent health struggles.

Continue Foxx Page 4



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# EDITORIAL PAGE

## Tribute to Trini

*“My Day”*

By Dr. J. Ester Davis

Trinidad ‘Trini’ Garza changed addresses last month. I was flooded and grateful for the memories. Trini was born September 22, 1931. He had a beautiful family and deep respect from all cultures in and around the Trinity River, the state and our nation. His long distinguished career in business was followed with another full decorated life making a difference... with all the trimmings. Trini was a grand collaborative leader. He never sat down. He was in demand and his plate was always full. His heart and soul was grounded in education and you only had to talk to him a few minutes to realize that fact. The Middle College High School at Mountain View College in Southern Dallas carries his name.

There is too little said about true community leaders. There is too little said about these icons spending endless unselfish hours... for decades bridging-the-gaps and covering the ‘pot holes’ in our communities’. There is equally too little said about these ‘smooth operators’ who are flawless at crossing lines, communication styles, finishing the fight with a smile and a handshake and moving on in the same zip code.

I met Trinidad ‘Trini’ Garza decades ago. Our paths were always crossing.

As the Texas AARP Communication Leader for four(4)years, I saw his name a lot. I know he served with distinction as a member of the Dallas Commission on Aging, I think. I interviewed the sitting Chair because I was a host for Dallas Community Television(DCTV) at that time. Following that ‘duty’ Trini and another friend of mine were together as Texas Silver Haired Legislators in and out of Austin. And then all of a sudden, I term out with AARP. I am asked and appointed Chair of Senior Affairs Commission by Mayor Laura Miller. This appointment came with a set of instructions centered around Seniors becoming more involved, active with more services. Trini is appointed to serve on an adjacent commission. I knew him fairly well by this time and I sincerely needed his guidance and connection to present myself, get in and around the Latino Community. I had all these ideas that were destined to come into vogue, but I had limited knowledge about the Latino communities, and of course my Spanish was barely there. I needed a well-spoken guide, someone everybody knew, a major influencer. And .... there he was! At this time in our city’s history, the City of Dallas Senior



Trini Garza, Ester Davis, and former Dallas Mayor Tom Leppert

Affairs Commissioners hosted a grand midday luncheon called “Mayfair” celebrating Seniors during the month of May. We had a budget, corporate sponsors (Ebby Holliday herself) for several years), a speaker, a dance floor with the Dallas Tap Dazzlers and the ‘Red Hat Society’ welcoming in a guest list of several thousand at Reunion Arena. In cooperation with Time Warner Cable, we were “the first” city board/commission to tape our meetings. We taped our meetings in the basement of the Dallas Public Library Downtown. We chartered many worthwhile senior programs, but I think our most meaningful accomplishment was pounding out and rounding out the budget for buses with drivers to carry seniors to and from Parkland Hospital for their appointments. This was all before DART got their ‘act’ together. Dallas City

Council approved it and we started with two zip codes. We worked tirelessly on property taxes which was “word salad” in its finest form. We almost got the “playground for Seniors” after reporting to City Council the cost, the research and data from other cities and our proposed playground areas.

As Chair, I termed out after eight(8)years. Mike Rawlings is elected mayor and asked me to stay on serving until he appointed my replacement. Guess who was appointed? Of course! Trinidad Garza.

The key word in this article about Trini, is his wealth-of-knowledge that he willingly shared in and around our accomplished city. Building a world class city and “making-a-difference” starts with one person-at-time...spending time on a cause.

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## It Takes More to “Stop the Hate” Than Saying the Words

By: Dr. John E. Warren, Publisher  
San Diego Voice & Viewpoint Newspaper

“Stop The Hate, Spread The Love” are powerful words that convey the idea that we all should be able to get along. But the reality is that it takes more than just words to bring about the desired change in so much of our national attitudes and consciousness. We know that hate is rooted in the idea that the person or persons or groups hating are “better” than the objects of their hate and that those who are the objects of such hate, must first be dehumanized to justify the less than human feelings and attitudes against them.

Perhaps the answer has always been just in the mirror as we look at ourselves. One of the two golden rules that Jesus taught carries the answer. Simply that “We should love our neighbors as

we love ourselves.” Another way of stating this is that we should treat others as we would have them treat us. How many people do we know who actually hate themselves? We know that some do and that those have been diagnosed with mental problems.

While many people argue against religion even being mentioned outside of calls for a National Day of Prayer when disaster strikes, because of false assumptions about the Separation of Church and State, the reality is that prayer and prayer gatherings where people pray one for another, offset violent responses to acts of hate and harm from others engaged in such conduct. The Civil Rights demonstrations in which we saw peaceful gatherings met with

dogs and high pressure water hoses as well as violence, revealed that the failure to meet hatred and violence with hatred and violence, won out in the end. Those being beaten were not loving the people beating them, but they were not giving the desired response to justify the continuation of the inhumane treatment they were receiving.

We spread the love by doing what Jesus did when he said “Father forgive them, for they know not what they are doing” Sometimes, “forgiving” is harder than fighting. The solution is encouraging the development of personal reflections on the harm and inhumanity that is inflicted on others when we respond in hatred to that which either we do not understand, dis-



Dr. John Warren

like or have a fear of because of the difference we see in someone else.

Yes, it takes more to “Stop The Hate and Spread The Love” than just saying it. It takes self examination as to how we want others to treat us and realizing we must give that same treatment and respect because the objects of our thoughts are just as human as we are.

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# RELIGIOUS/NEWS

## Paul's Praise and Prayerful Concern for the Philippian Believers and His Perspective in View of His Hardship

Philippians 1:1-30  
Part II

By Rev. Johnny Calvin Smith



The church of Philippi was the first church founded by Paul during his second missionary journey (Acts Chapter 16). When Paul wrote to the believers in Philippi, he was nearing the end of his Roman imprisonment. In spite of his hardship, Paul was concerned more about the welfare of his friends in Philippi than about his situation. As the one who had first brought the gospel to them, Paul genuinely regarded the Philippians as his spiritual children. He also regarded them as partners and fellow laborers in Christ. This very affectionate letter of Philippians was written about A.D. 60-61 from Rome. Philippians 1:1-30 may be outlined as follows: I. Paul's Affirmation of Praise for the Philippian Believers – Philippians 1:1-8; II. Paul's Attitude of Prayer for the Philippian Believers – Philippians 1:9-11; III. The Perspective of Paul in view of His Hardship- Philippians 1:12-30.

### III. The Perspective of Paul in view of His Hardship Philippians 1:12-30

In verses 12-14, Paul wanted the Philippian believers to know that his ministry had not been threatened because of his bondage; however, really it was being advanced. His ministry was being advanced because the whole palace guard, as well as others, were hearing about Christ (vv. 12-13). The Roman soldiers composed of the praetorian guard, were hearing about Christ. Paul, according to custom, was chained to a soldier who heard the word! Paul was not in chains because he was a lawbreaker, but was in chains for Christ (v. 13).

In verse 14, instead of Paul's incarceration hindering the truth, other believers became bold and began speaking for Christ! These believers became more determined and fearless in view of mounting opposition. Paul received solid response from others as they began to speak courageously and fearlessly for Christ.

In verses 15-18, those who spoke boldly consisted of two types. Some preached Christ out of envy and rivalry;

whereas, others preached Him out of good will (v. 15). Those who preached out of goodwill and love understood that Paul was in chains because of his defense of the gospel (v. 16). In verse 17, those who preached Christ out of envy and rivalry did so out of selfishness. Their motive was only to stimulate trouble for Paul while he was in prison. Paul was under house arrest according to Acts 28:30. In verse 18, Paul's heart exuded with joy because Christ was being preached, although some preached from impure motives.

Paul greatly rejoiced that Christ was being preached, and not because a faction existed between the groups! As a man of resolute belief, Paul was convinced that his incarceration would eventually result in his deliverance (v. 19). The deliverance referred to in verse 19 was a reference to the final stage of his salvation.

Paul was not afraid of death because of his powerful statement in verse 21. The grand Apostle Paul was

grateful for the prayers of the saints and the help given by the Spirit of Jesus Christ. Paul was assured that he could rely upon the help (support) of the prayers of the saints and also on the ministry of the Holy Spirit (Romans 8:26-27).

Paul was not assured of his release from being incarcerated; however, whether being released or experiencing martyrdom, he wanted Christ to be magnified (exalted) in his body (v. 20). Paul faced the future with a valiant hope. Being released from being incarcerated would grant him the opportunity to preach Christ. However, his martyrdom would not hinder the preaching of Christ. Paul's central purpose in living was to glorify Christ (v. 21).

Christ was the very essence of Paul's life. However, in Paul's martyrdom, he knew that Christ would be glorified through the propagation of the gospel which would result from Paul's testimony in death. Paul also was assured that he would benefit from death because he would be with

Christ.

In verses 22-24, the Apostle Paul reveals the frustration of his mind. He revealed that if he continued to live, then there would be fruit from his labor (v. 22). Paul revealed his choice between continuing to live or to die for Christ. The choice he had to make was baffling. Although the choice was indeed baffling, Paul wanted to know which choice would bring glory to God and serve as an advantage to others. He had a personal desire to depart and be with Christ (v. 23). However, he knew that the Philippian believers needed him (v. 24). Paul reveals a selfless spirit in verse 24, for he places the needs of others before his desire to live.

Paul was convinced in verse 25 that his release unto them would result in the progression of their faith and great joy would be experienced. The Philippians would experience joy because Paul who had taught them about Christ, would be with them (v. 26). Regardless of Paul's release-

ment from bonds or martyrdom, Paul was concerned that the Philippian believers would honor and glorify Christ in their conduct (v. 27). As believers, we should behave in a manner that is worthy of the gospel of Christ. As believers, we need to remain "steadfast in one spirit, and strive for the faith of the gospel" (v. 27).

Paul urged the believers to live valiantly or fearlessly for Christ in the face of opposition and persecution (v. 28). Saints of God should never live in fear, knowing that we are always victorious in Jesus Christ. We need to go on in Christ, knowing that God will eventually defeat all adversaries. In verses 29-30, Paul reminded the believers that believing on Christ and suffering for Him had been granted to them (v. 29). Again, in verse 30, Paul reminded the Philippian believers that they are in the same conflict as himself. They are to remain encouraged as they face various hardships.

*May God Bless!*

Continued Texas Page 1

violating the school district's dress code, which states a male student's hair cannot be worn in a style "that would allow the hair to extend below the top of a t-shirt collar, below the eyebrows, or below the ear lobes when let down."

In October, David Bloom, a spokesperson for Barbers Hill Independent School District, told CNN George was referred to a Disciplinary Alternative Education Program, also known as an alternative school, for 30 days for multiple infractions, including failing to meet the school's dress code requirements.

The George family refutes the school's claims and refuses to cut the teen's hair – which they say he wears in braids to comply with the dress code. They argue the district's policy is a violation of the Texas CROWN Act, a law that prohibits discrimination on the basis of hairstyles "commonly or historically associated with race."

In September, George and his family filed a federal civil rights lawsuit against Texas Gov. Greg Abbott, the state's attorney general, and school officials for allegedly failing to enforce the state's CROWN Act law.

Bloom told CNN the George family have been told repeated violations of the school dress code would result in continued disciplinary action.

"Until he cuts [his] hair or we get [a] court ruling to

the contrary, he will stay in ISS," Bloom told CNN in an email.

But, he added, George's suspension will not affect his ability to graduate.

"As far as graduation impact, there is none. A program is in place for him to complete his courses in dress-code ISS if he chooses not to trim his hair," Bloom said, adding that a teacher is assigned to each ISS classroom to help students complete regular coursework.

Still, George's mother told CNN she is worried the suspensions and disciplinary action will affect her son's education.

"It's been very frustrating and overwhelming. It's ridiculous. We're trying to hang in there, get through the motions," Darresha George told CNN. "We're not going to back down. I don't care what tactics they try. We're not backing down."

Texas state Rep. Ron Reynolds, a Democrat and co-author of the state's CROWN Act law, told CNN the measure was passed to protect students such as George from hair discrimination – regardless of the length.

Reynolds said he is working to propose changes to the language of the law to expand protections.

"I will file an amendment to the bill during the next Legislative session that specifically addresses length to stop their pretextual argument to not comply with the Crown Act."

## George Santos Once Powerful And Now Pitiful The Republicans Don't Want Him

By James B. Ewers Jr. Ed.D.



James B. Ewers Jr. Ed.D.

Everyone wants to be respected and viewed in a positive light. We want to achieve that compliment from our friends and colleagues.

This goal of being respected starts at different points for each of us. When we achieve this platitude, we must remain humble. If you have a position of responsibility, you must continue to be a servant leader. It is my opinion that humility is a trait that can be outwardly seen.

Back in the day, I observed people who were successful, yet they were easy to talk with and to be around. They kept their egos in check.

In some ways today, egos rule. It almost seems that being respected and liked is pushed to the back-

burner. Being respected endures the test of time.

One of my mentors cautioned me years ago about the importance of being respected. He said that respect should always be the goal and that being liked is akin to the stock market. You are liked one day and disliked the next day. I have watched that philosophy unfold throughout my life.

I wonder if George Santos thought about being respected or liked during his brief stay in Congress. The former congressman from New York was expelled last week from Congress. He was booted out because of alleged ethics violations including using funds to get Botox treatments. He has denied these allegations and may mount a campaign to win back his seat.

Mr. Santos' background was called into question before he was sworn into office in January. It was not if he would face trouble, it was simply how much trouble he would face.

He believed that the Republicans would shield him however that was not the case. There were 105 Republicans who voted

against him along with 206 Democrats. He is the sixth member of the House of Representatives to be expelled. The last member expelled from the House was James Traficant (D-OH) in 2022. He was convicted of taking bribes.

With the Santos saga, it only leaves the Republicans with a 3-seat advantage. There is continuous speculation about what is happening in GOP circles. Almost at every level, Republicans are in the spin cycle of chaos and confusion.

As the Santos matter was being taken up by the House, Michael Guest, Republican from Mississippi and chairman of the House Ethics Committee said, "In years past, many members have chosen to resign instead of forcing Congress to take a vote to expel. But if you look at the report, if you read the findings again, they find substantial evidence of multiple violations which, in my case, clearly supported expulsion. We followed the Constitution in the way that this was to play out."

News reports have surfaced that HBO Films has

gotten the rights to Mark Chiusano's new book, *The Fabulist: The Lying, Hustling, Grifting, Stealing And Very American Legend of George Santos*.

Mr. Santos won't be endorsing the book or the proposed movie. What he should be is embarrassed and ashamed that his moral code of conduct has made him the laughingstock in the eyes of many people.

Now the political side of this debacle requires the state of New York to hold a special election in less than 90 days. Who will be running for the seat?

One of the candidates is Kellen Curry. He is African American and a graduate of the Air Force Academy. He wants to discuss kitchen-table issues such as the economy, crime and immigration. Does Mr. Curry support Donald Trump? In a recent interview on CNN, he said, "I can't worry about Donald Trump." Currently, he is walking a fine line regarding the former president.

In the meantime, George Santos has been disgraced by his removal from Congress. He has no one to blame but himself.



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# CLASSIFIEDS/NEWS



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## NEWS

Continued Foxx Page 1

"I've been through something. I've been through some things. It's crazy, I couldn't do that six months ago, I couldn't actually walk to..." Foxx's voice trailed off, and he fought back tears, prompting someone from the audience to encourage him to take his time.

"Six months ago, I could not fathom that I would be here," Foxx continued, alluding to the unexpected medical emergency that led to his hospitalization in Georgia on April 11 while filming the Netflix movie "Back in Action." Although he did not disclose the specifics of his illness, he shared that there were moments when he doubted his recovery.

"It feels good to be here. I cherish every single minute now. It's different," Foxx said, while also humorously recounting moments when strangers recognized him during his low-key rehabilitation in Chicago. He told the audience that early on, he wasn't sure he'd pull through. "I wouldn't wish what I went through on my worst enemy because it's tough... when it's almost over, when you see the tunnel. I saw the tunnel — I didn't see the light," he said. "I want to thank you for all the prayers."

Foxx continued: "The one thing that I have to get used to now is [when people say] 'Lord, have mercy, Jesus. I'll be driving, and somebody will pull up and hit me with that.'" He then recalled undergoing physical rehabilitation in Chicago after being released from the hospital.

Foxx said his family went to great lengths to protect his privacy, and he wore a face mask so no one would recognize him. "No one knew where I was. No one knew what was going on," he explained, adding that a woman who worked at the rehab center's front desk

Continue Foxx Page 5

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2461	<b>20X Cash Blitz</b> Overall Odds are 1 in 4.99	\$1	1/17/24	7/15/24
2498	<b>Ca\$h Payout</b> Overall Odds are 1 in 3.79	\$5	1/17/24	7/15/24
2516	<b>Instant \$1,000!</b> Overall Odds are 1 in 3.95	\$10	1/17/24	7/15/24
2465	<b>200X Cash Blitz</b> Overall Odds are 1 in 3.68	\$20	1/17/24	7/15/24

Texaslottery.com is the official source for all pertinent game information. Game closing procedures may be initiated for documented business reasons. These games may have prizes unclaimed, including top prizes. In addition, game closing procedures will be initiated when all top prizes have been claimed. During closing, games may be sold even after all top prizes have been claimed. Must be 18 or older to purchase a ticket. For help with a gambling problem, [ncpgambling.org](http://ncpgambling.org). © 2023 Texas Lottery Commission. PLAY RESPONSIBLY.



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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

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## Quinn Minute

# Christmas trees

By Rix Quinn

Christmas trees are like a distant cousin. They come to your house, surround themselves with presents, and stay a month. Then they begin to shed, and need somebody to drive them off.

People often do strange things with cut trees. One of my neighbors pulled out a chain saw and widened his front door three feet.

That allowed him to bring in the tree without bending it, and it made a great spectacle the neighbors could video.

Once inside the home, some people say you should cut a couple inches off the base of a live tree trunk, and immerse it in a tree stand filled with water.

Never use water on an artificial tree. And if you

cut anything off its trunk, you'll have a shorter tree next year.

Do not use flammable decorations on a tree. The new smaller, safer tree lights seem better. I even saw one guy try to wear these lights to a party, but his extension cord kept coming out.

Some people surround the tree with a decorative

tree skirt. I have never worn a tree skirt to a party, because I do not shave my legs.

After the holidays, dispose of your tree properly. Many cities will remove it from your lawn, and recycle it into mulch.

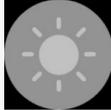
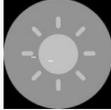
Therefore, do not dispose of your artificial tree. Plastic mulch will not grow anything.

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# SPORTS/NEWS PAGE

## 7 Day Weather Forecast for DFW

Thursday, Dec. 7	Friday, Dec. 8	Saturday, Dec. 9	Sunday, Dec. 10	Monday, Dec. 11	Tuesday, Dec. 12	Wednesday, Dec. 13
 H - 67° L - 58°	 H - 75° L - 65°	 H - 66° L - 40°	 H - 53° L - 39°	 H - 61° L - 45°	 H - 59° L - 45°	 H - 53° L - 41°

### Bills GM: Von Miller to practice, play while facing domestic violence charge in Dallas

Buffalo general manager Brandon Beane stressed Wednesday he wants the legal process to play out and not rush to making any judgements.

By The Associated Press

ORCHARD PARK, N.Y. — Though disappointed in the allegations of domestic violence made against Von Miller, Buffalo Bills general manager Brandon Beane stressed on Wednesday that he wants the legal process to play out and not rush to making any judgements.

Otherwise, Beane said, Miller will participate in practice and is expected to play on Sunday when the Bills (6-6) travel to play the Kansas City Chiefs (8-4). Beane spoke for the team as the Bills returned from their bye week off, and a week after Miller turned himself in to police in a Dallas suburb after being charged in a warrant with domestic violence against the mother of his children, who is pregnant.

Miller faces a charge of third-degree felony assault of a pregnant woman, which is punishable by 2 to 10 years in prison and a \$10,000 fine. He is free after posting a \$5,000 bond.

"No one wants their name associated with any accusation like that, so that's a natural disappointment. I'm sure he's disappointed," Beane said. "But things happen sometimes, and again, we have to remember people, we have to give them their fair due process. That can happen to anyone in this room. And I would hope we would all wait and let that play out before we rush to judgement."

Saying the Bills are following the NFL's lead, Beane called the allegations serious while adding they seemed "out of character" for a person he's come to know over the past year and a half since signing Miller in free agency.

In Dallas, the district attorney's office informed The Associated Press on Wednesday that it had no updates on the investigation since Miller turned himself in a day after the alleged assault occurred on Nov. 29. According to a police affidavit which officers wrote, Miller twice put his hands on the neck of the woman, pulled out a chunk of her hair and threw her onto a couch. The woman was treated for minor injuries, including bruising on her neck, police said.

The woman and Miller have been in a relationship for seven years and have children together, police wrote in an affidavit supporting the arrest warrant.

Speaking after Beane, Bills coach Sean McDermott said Miller wasn't going to practice on Wednesday but will practice fully on Thursday as part of a plan that was put in place before the bye week.

As for the allegations, McDermott said: "It's a very, very serious situation. There's no ifs, ands or buts about that." The coach then deferred to Beane in saying the GM spoke for the team,

while McDermott was placing his focus on practice.

Beane said he's discussed what happened with Miller and his representatives but preferred keeping those conversations private. Beane said he's also been in contact with the NFL and doesn't anticipate Commissioner Roger Goodell placing Miller on the exempt list.

The NFL issued a statement on Wednesday saying it continues gathering information and following all legal developments.

In the past, players aren't placed on the commissioner's exempt list until formal charges are filed by a prosecutor or through the findings of a grand jury, or when the league's own investigation concludes there was a potential violation of the NFL's personal conduct policy.

The woman told police she was six weeks pregnant and showed them a photograph of a positive pregnancy test and a screenshot of a text conversation with Miller in which they discussed the possible due date of the child and a doctor visit.

According to police, Miller threw the woman's laptop on the couch and stomped on it. After pulling out some of her hair and throwing her on a couch, he put both hands on her neck. She told police she recorded some of the attack and, when she threatened to call police he left.

### Dallas ISD scores highest rating in independent audit for the fourth straight year

BY THE HUB



BY THE HUB / Photo Credit: The HUB

For the fourth consecutive year, Dallas ISD has received a clean audit on its annual comprehensive financial report, meaning that the district's independent auditor issued an "unmodified" or clean opinion and found no material weaknesses, no significant deficiencies and no compliance shortcomings in the district's financial statements and federal programs. The unmodified opinion, issued by independent auditor Weaver and Tidwell, L.L.P., is the highest that an independent auditor can issue regarding a set of financial statements or federal programs.

"This is an excellent result for the district," said Dallas ISD Chief Financial Officer Tamika Alford-Stephens. "It indicates to stakeholders that they can rely on the district's financial reporting, and be assured that the district has strong internal controls and is a good steward of public funds." The district has achieved this result annually from Fiscal Year 2019 through Fiscal Year 2023.

The audit is done each year to comply with state law. Dallas ISD prepares a comprehensive annual financial report and has its fiscal accounts, the report, and its federal programs audited by the independent auditor. The auditor issues opinions on the report and the district's federal programs for the benefit of stakeholders such as the Board of Trustees, the public, bondholders, and state and federal agencies that need assurance that the district's financial reporting

is accurate and reliable and that the district has complied with federal program requirements.

In other measures demonstrating the high quality of Dallas ISD's financial management practices and financial transparency, the district received strong ratings and awards for financial reporting, budgeting, and financial transparency during Fiscal 2023. Among the accolades, Dallas ISD received:

- A "Superior Achievement" rating on the School Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas (FIRST) from the Texas Education Agency for 2023. This is the highest possible rating and demonstrates the high quality of the district's financial management practices. This is the twelfth consecutive year that the district has achieved the top rating on School FIRST.
- The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting, and the Association Of School Business Officials International (ASBO) Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting Award, for the Fiscal Year 2022 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report. These certificates are the highest recognition that a public school district can receive for governmental accounting and financial

- reporting.
- The Association Of School Business Officials International (ASBO) Meritorious Budget Award for the Fiscal Year 2023 Dallas ISD Budget. This award recognizes the district for achieving the highest standard a public school district can reach in the area of budget preparation and presentation.
- A Transparency Star in the area of Contracts and Procurement from the State of Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts. This is the first time the Dallas ISD Procurement team has achieved such recognition from the State of Texas. The Procurement team has also earned the Texas Association of School Business Officials (TASBO) Purchasing Award of Merit for the third year. This award recognizes school districts for following professional standards in the acquisition of goods and services.
- Excellent Permanent School Fund-backed bond ratings from Moody's Investor Service (Aaa), Standards & Poor's (AAA) and Fitch (AAA), indicating the district's strong ability to repay debt. The district's underlying debt ratings are Moody's Investor Service "Aa1", AA+ from Standard & Poor's, and AA+ from Fitch.

Continued Foxx Page 4

eventually made him remove the mask.

"The Black lady that was checking me in... at one point she said, 'Well baby, I'm gonna have to see your

face if I'm going to sign you in here. I run a tight ship, and I'm gonna have to see your face,'" Foxx said while doing an impression of the woman.

As he continued the story, he began to get emotional. "I

took the mask down and she saw me... she said, 'Lord, have mercy, Jesus. I've been praying for you,'" Foxx recalled. "I said, 'Wow.' And that indicated that once I did get out of all of this, I was going to be alright."

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# ‘Dictator’ Trump and Allies Forewarns Retaliatory Measures Against Media, Others in Potential Second Term

By Stacy M. Brown

On the far-right wing Steve Bannon’s podcast, a former Donald Trump ally, Kash Patel, who served in the Justice Department and held key positions in the Defense Department and National Security Council, made it clear that if the former president secures another term, his administration will take legal action against individuals in the media—both criminally and civilly.

During the podcast interview, Patel conveyed the intention of the prospective administration to target alleged conspirators within both government and media circles concerning the 2020 election, which Trump lost to President Joe Biden. The statement aligns with Trump’s persistent claims of election fraud, despite widespread refutations from federal and local officials, numerous courts, former campaign staff, and even his own attorney general.

In a subsequent Fox News Channel Town Hall on the same day, the twice-impeached former president, who faces 91 criminal charges that mainly stem from his alleged attempts to

fraudulently overturn his loss to Biden, evaded a direct commitment to abstain from potential retribution in a second White House term, responding to a question with an accusation against the Biden administration of abusing power. “We’re closing the border, and we’re drilling, drilling, drilling,” Trump proclaimed. “After that, I’m not a dictator.”

In the Bannon interview, Patel, who works for the Center for Renewing America, a conservative think tank connected to a network of groups hoping Trump will come back, made it clear that Trump would go after media figures who allegedly spread false information about the 2020 election.

Trump, whom a judge also found to have committed massive business fraud, was ordered to pay the writer E. Jean Carroll \$5 million this year after a civil jury concluded that he sexually assaulted her.

“We’re putting you all on notice,” Trump threatened in his Fox News appearance.

Trump’s history of targeting the media, labeling them

as “Fake News” and the “Enemy of the People,” has been a consistent theme throughout his political career. In a September post on his Truth Social network, Trump reiterated his intention to investigate NBC News and MSNBC for “country-threatening treason” and limit their access to airwaves, accusing them of threatening democracy.

In the same interview, Bannon hinted at Patel’s potential role as the director of the CIA in a hypothetical second term for Trump. Meanwhile, at a recent fundraising event, Biden expressed that he may not have sought reelection if Trump were not in the race. The president said democracy is “more at risk in 2024” and suggested that Trump and his allies aim to “destroy” democratic institutions.

Biden emphasized the urgency of preventing a Trump victory, portraying the former president as the embodiment of retribution for his supporters and someone committed to rooting out perceived “vermin in the country.”

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