

"If the cruelties of slavery could not stop us, the opposition we now face will surely fail. Because the goal of America is freedom, abused and scorned tho' we may be, our destiny is tied up with America's destiny." — Martin Luther King



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SERVING THE BLACK COMMUNITY WITHOUT FEAR OR FAVOR SINCE 1947

January 10 - 16, 2019

For many US towns and cities, deciding which streets to name after MLK reflects his unfinished work



More than 1,000 streets in the world bear the name of slain civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr.

At least 955 of those streets can be found in the U.S. They're in 41 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. Martin Luther King streets cross a diversity of neighborhoods – rural and urban, residential and commercial, large and small. The range of these named streets across the country makes it seem that remembering and memorializing King was inevitable.

Yet, for some communities, the drive to name public spaces in King's name has taken years as well as heated debates, boycotts, petition drives, marches and even litigation.

My research over the past 20 years has examined the role of African-Americans in the King street-naming process. I have found that the nation's Martin Luther King streets – while seen by some as celebrating the victories of a movement that left racism safely in the past – are one terrain on which a continuing struggle for civil rights has played out.

It started in Chicago

Just months after King's assassination in 1968, Chicago became the first city to rename a street for King. Alderman Leon Despres, a white liberal and King supporter, initially proposed renaming a street in the city's central business district. However, Mayor Richard J. Daley followed with a different resolution. He wanted to place King's name on South Park Way, a road more than 11 miles long that runs strictly through African-American communities on Chicago's South Side.

Daley was no fan of King and infamous for his shoot-to-kill order against rioters after the civil right leader's murder. When King came to Chicago in 1966 to challenge segregated housing, he encountered great hatred from taunting and violent white crowds.

According to journalists Adam Cohen and Elizabeth Taylor, in their book "American Pharaoh," Mayor Daley was seeking to mend his and the city's public image in the lead up to the 1968 Democratic National Convention. Indeed, he held the street renaming dedication ceremony a week before the convention. At the same time, the mayor didn't want to alienate his political base of racially hostile whites.

Two black city aldermen objected to Daley's proposal. One of them, Alderman A.A. "Sammy" Rayner, called the street renaming "tokenism" and called on city leaders to do "something bigger." He and William Cousins Jr. suggested renaming a proposed Crosstown Expressway. It was planned to cut across, and unite, different parts of Chicago. But the City Council eventually approved the mayor's plan to rename South Park Way as Dr. Martin Luther King Drive, which it remains today.

Even now, 50 years later, proponents still must fight to convince many municipal officials that King's name belongs on major roads.

More than just a name

Many of the activists with whom I have spoken view King streets as a way to carry on King's unfinished work to create racial equality and economic justice in the U.S.

Greater visibility, they argue, can communicate the legitimacy of King's message. More streets named after the civil rights leader, especially in prominent parts of town, can help educate a wider white public of the relevance and resonance of civil rights and black historical contributions.

Some cities honor King with important thoroughfares that connect a variety of neighborhoods. These include Albuquerque, Austin, New Bern in North Carolina, Oakland-North Berkeley, Savannah and Tampa.

However, public opposition over the past half century has led most cities to rename smaller streets or portions of roads located entirely within poor African-American neighborhoods. Opponents tend to be white business and property owners on affected roads. In public, most cite concerns over cost and inconvenience. Some suggest the association with King's name will stigmatize their neighborhood.

For example, when a Chattanooga real estate developer faced the prospect of his new development on West Ninth Street being named for King, he expressed concern about renting offices to potential clients because a MLK address, in his words, would create "racial overtones." Suggesting King's name was out of place on the road, he said: "West Ninth Street is not related to Dr. King. ... It is no longer a solid black street. ... It is no longer a residential street or rundown business street. It is a top class business street."

Many cities have resorted to dedicating a road to King, rather than force a full name and address change. Several cities such as Zephyrhills, Florida, and Statesboro, Georgia, also created renaming ordinances in direct response to King street-naming efforts. While these policies now apply to all renaming efforts, they were created with the original intent of limiting how and where citizens remember King within their communities. These policies echo a long history of black disenfranchisement, procedural injustice and segregated public spaces.

Continues on Page 2



If you are the facilitator of a newspaper, magazine, radio or television show, program, podcast, or other media outlet that disseminates information to the Black Community, it is imperative that you join us at the Dallas Black Press meet up on **Friday, February 8 at 9am.**

We are meeting to develop an agenda to present to our city representatives that will grant our interest access to the funding and resources we need to continue making an impact in our local community.

Location: 3620 W Camp Wisdom Road, Dallas, Texas 75237

Dallas Housing Authority to Redevelop Properties Through Public-Private Partnerships

First priority projects are in Oak Cliff/District 1



DALLAS – The Dallas Housing Authority (DHA) announced today that it has selected 12 firms to join its roster of qualified private developers as partners to create more affordable housing opportunities across North Texas. The initial group of partners are: AMTEX Multi-Housing, Carleton Development, Fairfield Residential, Matthews Southwest, McCormack Baron Salazar, Michaels Development Company, Ojala Partners, Steele Properties, The NRP Group, Trammell Crow Company, Volunteers of America National Services and the combined team of DFW Advisors, KRR Construction, and Michael R. Coker Company.

The partners will work with DHA to redevelop seven of its properties that currently encompass 650 housing units and nearly 146 acres of land, and other affordable housing projects. Additional development partners will continue to be vetted and may be selected to join this group.

The first project DHA is redeveloping the former Brooks Manor site located in Oak Cliff/District 1. Brooks Manor is a 6.694-acre tract of land, zoned for retirement housing. The site formerly assisted 225 households with public housing for seniors and persons with disabilities. DHA is seeking to redevelop the property to its highest and best use, including both market and subsidized rental housing. No specific developer has been selected to develop this project as of this announcement.

Continues on Page 2

O'DESSA BEATRICE MIMS JOHNSON CELEBRATED 109 YEARS OF LIFE ON Sunday, JANUARY 6, 2019



Beatrice (fondly known as Duss) was born on January 6, 1910, in Yard, Texas (Anderson County). She was the youngest of 10 siblings born to London and Julie Mims.

Ms. Johnson contributes her longevity to her belief that through Christ all things are possible. She has lived her life as a 'Virtuous Woman' as described in Proverbs 31:10-31. Beatrice has been a member of the First Shepherd Baptist Church for many years and was the "church mother" until her health prevented her from attending church services regularly.

Her family has followed her Christian faith and believes her strong belief and obedience to God has become a source of strength and guidance for her entire family.

She has three living children; Anna Faye Louis of Las Vegas, NV, Betty Dawkins, and Odell Spriggins both of Oklahoma City, OK. Four deceased children; Frankie Johnson, Queen Brown, James Phillips, and Gilder Brown. Her husband, Will Johnson, died in 1983.

Beatrice has two living nieces, Ruth Mims Holly of Anderson County who will celebrate her 102nd birthday on March 4, 2019, and Elzena Hill Nolly of Texas City, Texas.

The birthday celebration was extended to Beatrice by two of her remaining three children and a host of her family and friends on Sunday, January 6 in Oklahoma City, OK where she resides.

The Dallas Post Tribune family sends a special birthday wish to "Aunt Duss," Happy Birthday!



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The Black Press believes that America can best lead the world away from racial and national antagonisms when it accords to every person, regardless of race, color or creed, full human and legal rights. Hating no person, fearing no person, the Black Press strives to help every person in the firm belief that all are hurt as long as anyone is held back.

EDITORIAL PAGE

For many US towns and cities, deciding which streets to name after MLK reflects his unfinished work

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In places such as Tulsa, Indianapolis and the North Carolina city of Greenville, King roads have doubled as memorials and boundaries between King's supporters and those who do not identify with or desire to be associated with him. Extending King's name even a few blocks can become contentious.

For many African-Americans, the fight to have a voice in King street naming parallels recent activism against Confederate monuments and symbols of white supremacy. In the same way,

it is about claiming and exerting one's right to belong, and remembering and being remembered in communities where rights were denied for generations.

Roads of resilience

The neighborhoods through which many King streets run reflect both the resiliency and precariousness of black American life. In the words of journalist Doug Moore, King's road in St. Louis, Missouri, is "where hope and despair collide." King streets host disproportionately high numbers of churches, government offices and schools, as well as beauty parlors and barber

shops. These provided valuable refugee and mobilization spaces during the civil rights movement and today serve as hubs of resourcefulness, aid and creative community building. These institutions exist alongside high crime rates, poverty, abandoned buildings, food deserts and sputtering redevelopment efforts.

Revitalization is on the minds of many King street activists. They want to raise incomes, property values and quality of life without the forced displacement of gentrification. These efforts, while more formalized than in the past, have moved

slowly if not failed without private and public support.

These activists believe that convincing the larger public to care about King streets is of critical importance. King's namesakes don't just memorialize. They can open up critical discussions of the continuing power of racism. They can be avenues – literally and figuratively – to continuing the civil rights leader's work of battling racial and economic inequality and the creation of a black sense of belonging and place in the U.S.

Article Credit:
The Conversation

Michael Jackson's Mother, Katherine Jackson, Reportedly Gravely Ill

By Stacy M. Brown, NNPA
NewsWire Correspondent
[@StacyBrownMedia](https://twitter.com/StacyBrownMedia)

Katherine Jackson, the matriarch of the famed Jackson family, is reportedly gravely ill, with family members already fighting over her share of the late Michael Jackson's estate.

Outlets like Radar Online, the National Enquirer and even Atlanta Black Star have reported that Jackson, 88, is facing brain surgery.

Previously, the outlets reported that Jackson has had several strokes and other ailments that have left her wheelchair-bound and dependent upon caretakers.

The latest reports also suggest that several of Jackson's children have engaged in a fierce battle to control their mother's share of the late King of Pop's vast estate – valued at more than \$1 billion.

"Now everybody in the family is jockeying for position!" a source told the National Enquirer. Although a rep denied it, two family insiders claimed the great-grandmother has suffered from excruciating headaches, leading to a hospital visit in late summer, the tabloid reported.

"Katherine is in dire condition," another source told RadarOnline.com. "Now everybody in the family is jockeying for position."

"Her doctor thought she had a stroke," another unnamed source – described as an insider – told Radar. According to another source, Katherine remained hospitalized for about a week.

"More tests were conducted to see if her condition might be something even more serious – like a brain tumor," the source said.

The family insider said doctors discovered a golf ball-sized growth on Katherine's brain and declared she must undergo surgery as soon as possible.

While some doubt the veracity of unnamed sources, several members of the Jackson family are well-known for speaking off the record and requesting anonymity.

Michael Jackson, who died in 2009, provided stories about himself and his family to the National Enquirer, according to his former publicist and others around the Jacksons.

Earlier this year, family patriarch Joseph Jackson died at the age of 89 after a

bout with cancer.

Multiple outlets had reported that Joseph had been alienated from the family after he publicly tried to cash in on Michael Jackson's 2009 death by employing look-a-likes and holding press conferences to push new music and other material while the family mourned the "Thriller" singer.

Battles over the King of Pop's fortune reportedly began moments after he was pronounced dead, with Katherine, Latoya and others searching his Los Angeles home and beseeching Jackson's former nanny to tell them where cash may have been stashed inside.

Now, sources have told news outlets that Katherine's children are elbowing each other to ensure they get their slice of the pie before – and after – Katherine dies.

She currently pays out a combined \$37,000 a month to daughters La Toya, 62, and Rebbie, 68, a source told Radar.

Katherine also forks out \$12,000 to son Jermaine, 64, and nearly \$10,000 to pay the rent for some of Jermaine's and Randy's children.

"Some of those people want her to live so they can stay on the gravy train," a source told the tabloid. "Others would like to see her go, thinking they'll get even more from her estate!"

Born in Barbour County, Alabama, on May 4, 1930, Katherine and Joseph married in 1949 and had 10 children together including superstars Michael and Janet.

A musician and singer, Katherine, along with Joseph, encouraged the family to pursue a career in music. She's made very few recent public appearances – once at her grandson's concert in Los Angeles; later at another show featuring one of her granddaughters and at Joseph Jackson's funeral in August.

Katherine and Joseph Jackson had nearly 30 grandchildren and, despite varying media reports, the two never divorced.

On the latest news, a Jackson source told NNPA NewsWire that "Katherine is in good hands. Don't believe the hype."

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Event: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Celebration

Date: January 15, 2019 at 12:00 p.m.

Location: The Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center, 2922 MLK Boulevard, Dallas, Texas 75215

Description: The City of Dallas Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration Committee invites the community to celebrate the life and legacy of Dr. King. The keynote speaker for this event is Dr. Michael W. Waters, former MLK Advisory Board Chair, social activist, and Pastor of Joy Tabernacle AME Church. The birthday celebration will allow an opportunity for the community to rejoice in song and dance, as well as lay wreaths or flowers at the first original likeness of Dr. King located in the heart of the Sunny South Dallas community.

Dallas Housing Authority to Redevelop Properties Through Public-Private Partnerships

First priority projects are in Oak Cliff/District 1

Continued from Page 1

The developer selected for the redevelopment of Brooks Manor will also have an opportunity to redevelop the Cliff Manor site, which is also located in Oak Cliff/District 1. Cliff Manor is currently fully occupied. The residents (seniors and persons with disabilities) will be relocated prior to redevelopment. It is anticipated the majority of the Cliff Manor residents will be relocated to the redeveloped Brooks Manor site to ensure they continue to reside in affordable, safe and decent rental housing.

"We appreciate the willingness of these leading developers to form a public-private partnership to create more affordable housing

across North Texas," says Troy Broussard, president, and chief executive officer for DHA. "Our goal is to increase the amount of much needed affordable housing across the communities we serve. We look forward to working with this network of premier developers to generate fresh ideas for accomplishing this goal.

We can deliver better housing solutions by working together."

"I am pleased to see that the Brooks Manor and Cliff Manor public housing communities will be redeveloped by DHA with both market and subsidized rental housing so that these properties can better serve the community," says Scott Griggs, City of Dallas Councilman for District 1. "As we continue to

address poverty across our great city, ensuring our citizens have access to safe, decent affordable housing is key. I look forward to working with DHA in this effort."

Developers interested in learning more about these opportunities can contact DHA's vice president of Capital Programs, Tim Lott at tim.lott@dhantx.com.

About the Dallas Housing Authority (DHA)

DHA – Housing Solutions for North Texas provides quality, affordable housing to low-income families and individuals through the effective and efficient administration of housing assistance programs. The agency aims to create opportunities for program

participants to achieve self-sufficiency and economic independence. DHA provides housing opportunities to more than 54,000 people through public housing developments and Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8) programs. Our mission is to provide affordable quality housing and access to supportive resources across North Texas. DHA is governed by its Board of Commissioners and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. DHA is an independent, local government entity, separate from the Dallas City Housing/Community Services department, which is governed by the City of Dallas. For more information about DHA, please visit: www.dhantx.com.

Church Directory

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P. 214-421-4119 Email: gnz2210@sbcglobal.net



Rev. Joe S. Patterson, Pastor

Services
Bible Study

Tuesdays @ 11:00 a.m.
Wednesdays @ 7:00 p.m.

Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service 11:00 a.m.

Carver Heights Baptist Church
2510 E. Ledbetter, Dallas, Texas 75216
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Pastor, Daryl R. Carter

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Schedule of Services

Sunday School - 9:00 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship - 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday Prayer Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
Brotherhood (1st & 3rd Wed.) - 8:00 p.m.
Senior Mission (1st & 3rd Wed.) - 8:00 p.m.
Adult & Youth Bible Study (Fri.) - 7:00 p.m.

True Lee Missionary Baptist Church
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Email Address:
stphillipsmbc@att.net

Schedule of Activities
Sunday
Early Morning Worship- 8AM
Church School- 9AM
Morning Worship- 10AM

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6808 Pastor Bailey Dr.
Dallas, TX 75237
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Rev. Bryan Carter, Sen. Pastor

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The Lord's Supper
1st Sunday 5:30 P.M.

WEDNESDAY
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Awards Club 7:00 P.M.
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Patrick Worthey
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Johnnie Rodgers, Sr.

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Early Morning Worship 8:00 a.m.
Bible Class 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:45 a.m.
Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY
Prayer Service - 6:30 p.m.
Bible Class - 7:00 p.m.
THURSDAY
Bible Class - 11:00 a.m.

Dallas West Church of Christ
3510 N. Hampton Rd.
Dallas, Texas 75212
P. 214-631-5448
Website: www.dwcoc.com



Sammie Berry, Minister

Calendar of Events
Sunday Bible School 8:45 a.m.
Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday Song Practice 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Class 9:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.
Sunday Radio Broadcast 7:30 a.m. on 970 AM

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Community Council of Dallas Announces Virtual Career Fairs

DALLAS — The Community Council of Dallas is devising a new strategy in 2019 for connecting job applicants with employment opportunities—virtual job fairs and expos. The North Texas nonprofit has created Opportunity One, an online supportive employment portal, and will be launching several Virtual Career Fairs and Expos in 2019 for both Dallas-area employers and job seekers.

"Many of our nonprofit partners do an excellent job with workforce readiness, but our initiative takes things a step further," stated Ken Goodgames, president and CEO of the Community Council. "If you think about it, many of our job seekers most in need even have barriers when offered a shot at a live job fair or expo. Perhaps it's a lack of transportation or no available child care, or they may not even own a decent set of clothes to interview in person. So, we're offering them a way to connect with employers virtually."

The first in a series of virtual job fairs will be held Feb. 6-8, 2019, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. To participate as an employer or job seeker, register at <https://virtualfair.opportunityone.org/en> and follow

the prompts. This totally virtual job fair is offering job seekers the chance to find their next opportunity from the comfort of home or their smartphone. They will have the opportunity to live chat with employers who have open positions in information technology, health care, logistics, construction and more. In addition, some pop-up locations will be available throughout the city.

For employers, the Opportunity One Virtual Career Fair will feature higher quality candidates, an immersive virtual experience and an efficient method for recruiting new talent. There is also a huge cost benefit for employers. According to the Society for Human Resource Management, a traditional offline job fair has a cost to employers of about \$4,129 to source, recruit and staff every new hire. Virtual career fairs are a scalable way for recruiters to reach new audiences.

"This virtual career fair lowers recruiting costs and offers faster fill of high demand jobs with qualified candidates," Goodgames explained. "The Opportunity One program is a collaborative effort delivered by several non-

profit organizations including Community Council of Dallas, Dallas Area Interfaith, Skill QUEST, Achieve WORKS, Gifts for Moms and AdvanceNet Labs."

For more information on programs and resources, visit www.ccadvance.org; contact Samanda Gronstal or Velma Del Bosque at 469-416-0612; or email info@OpportunityOne.org.

About Community Council

The Community Council of Greater Dallas was founded in 1940 and offers a variety of programs and services for seniors and youth regarding information on health and wellness, as well as providing information through 2-1-1, a Referral Service hotline. The Community Council has recently received the Texas Health and Human Services Community Services Block Grant, which works to alleviate poverty for families in Dallas County who are living at or below 125 percent of the federal poverty level.

For more information on programs and resources, visit www.ccadvance.org.

Oscar Buzz Accompanies Release of 'If Beale Street Could Talk'



By Stacy M. Brown, NNPA
Newswire Correspondent
@StacyBrownMedia

Oscar discussions for "If Beale Street Could Talk" began in earnest after several screenings, including at a special premiere screening at New York's famed Apollo Theater. "[The movie] is a timeless work of Black Love set in Harlem," said Kamillah Forbes, the Apollo Theater's executive producer.

Forbes called the film an "important work in the community."

Written and directed by Barry Jenkins, based on the classic novel by James Baldwin, "If Beale Street Could Talk," tells the story of Tish, a newly-engaged Harlem woman who races against the clock to prove her lover's innocence while carrying their first-born child to term.

Producers of the Annapurna Pictures release call the movie a celebration of love told through the story of a young couple, their families and their lives, trying to bring about justice through love, for love and the promise of the American dream.

Others simply call "If Beale Street..." a Harlem love story that unfolds on the big screen, in the neighborhood that is home to its characters.

The movie stars KiKi Layne, Stephan James and

Colman Domingo; with memorable roles also portrayed by Teyonah Parris, Michael Beach, Dave Franco, and Regina King, among others.

It's scheduled to open nationwide on Nov. 30.

"I saw 'Beale Street' as part of the NMAAHC African American Film Festival," April Reign, a noted Washington, D.C.-based speaker and consultant. "Barry Jenkins has a way of showing us and our love that I've never experienced before on film. Go see 'Beale Street...'"

Reviewers have already earmarked "If Beale Street" for an Oscar.

Critics at Vulture wrote, "Rarely has a filmmaker's devotion to his material been more clear. Beale Street translates much of Baldwin's prose to voice-over, and it holds his characters in adoring close-up; there's not a filmmaker working today who's as good at shooting faces as Jenkins is."

"But where Baldwin went for kitchen-sink realism, this film turns Tish and Fonny's story into a romantic epic that seeks to capture all of Harlem in its lush, warm gaze."

"From the fantastic cinematography, to the impeccably re-created period details, to the nearly all-black cast, I don't think I've seen a movie that looked and felt quite like 'Beale Street.'"

Goldderby.com won-

dered, "Can Brian Tyree Henry win an Oscar in 12 minutes?"

Henry appears in a pivotal segment of 'If Beale Street... as Daniel Carty, an old friend of Fonny Hunt who recounts a harrowing experience.

Goldderby.com critics noted that Stephan James will be campaigning for recognition as a lead actor, which opens the door for Henry in the Best Supporting Actor race, and while you might think a shorter performance is at a disadvantage at the Oscars, tell that to Beatrice Straight, who made history by winning Best Supporting Actress for "Network" in 1976 and Judi Dench, who won Best Supporting Actress for "Shakespeare in Love," in 1998 despite just an eight-minute performance.

Forbes Magazine critics also fed into the Oscar buzz, opining that Jenkins could win Best Director in a new review this week.

Regina King, who plays Tish's mother Sharon Rivers in the movie, said the film helps further humanize black people and black love. "I want people to see us as human beings," she said on the Red Carpet of the NMAAHC African American Film Festival. "Even though we are all humans, I think a lot of times people see black first and don't see everything that exists. I want them to see love first," King said.

She continued: "Everyone that I know that has seen the movie, black or white or whatever, that's what they're getting from it. They felt like they left with a hug, a different understanding of black culture... this gives probably one of the most honest presentations of black families in a long, long time."

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SPORTS PAGE

7 Day Weather Forecast for DFW

Thursday, January 10	Friday, January 11	Saturday, January 12	Sunday, January 13	Monday, January 14	Tuesday, January 15	Wednesday, January 16
 H - 49° L - 45°	 H - 49° L - 45°	 H - 50° L - 38°	 H - 47° L - 36°	 H - 49° L - 36°	 H - 56° L - 44°	 H - 63° L - 43°

Cowboys turn season from bust to playoff boom, trip to LA

FRISCO, Texas (AP) — Before he knew the next opponent, owner Jerry Jones likened the recovery of his Dallas Cowboys from 3-5 to their first playoff win in four years to a boom-or-bust wagon train headed to California.

Lo and behold, Dallas is set for a divisional game Saturday night against the Los Angeles Rams, not far from where the journey began in training camp north of LA.

"You're going to have times when you're going to have to reinvent the wheel during a season," Jones said after a 24-22 wild-card win over Seattle. "Like the old wagon train guys. We're going to burn some of these wagons on the way out to California, break them down, float the Mississippi River. But I'm going to make it to California. I hope you're on the train with me."

The reinvention for the Cowboys (11-6) was a midseason trade that sent their first-round draft pick this coming spring to Oakland for receiver Amari Cooper. Dallas lost to Tennessee to drop to 3-5 in the first game with a new No. 1 threat, but has won eight of nine games since then.

The other big change, also during the open week, was firing first-year offensive line coach Paul Alexander and promoting someone familiar with what had helped the Cowboys mold one of the best blocking units in football in former player and assistant line coach Marc Colombo.

All along, one of the league's best defenses helped keep the Cowboys afloat.

"It's a credit to your coaching staff and players that when you bring players in like Cooper and you bring them in in the middle of the season that they can incorporate them into a team that can really execute and really have success," Jones said. "That says a lot about the team, too."

The Cowboys saw this resurgent version of the Rams, led by quarterback Jared Goff and running back Todd Gurley, early in the 2017 season.

In his first year, coach Sean McVay led LA to the NFC West title in the franchise's first winning season in 14 years, including a 35-30 victory at the Cowboys after falling behind 24-13.

"That's a long time ago," Cowboys coach Jason Garrett said. "Teams change year by year. Teams grow within the



year. Obviously we'll go back throughout the whole year as the week goes on and continue to evaluate them. They're a very impressive team in all three phases."

The Rams (13-3) cruised to the division title and another first-round bye as the No. 2 seed while improving by two wins, although they lost twice in December following an 11-1 start.

The Cowboys, seeded fourth in the NFC, were inches away from going to top-seeded New Orleans instead. Cody Parkey's potential winning field goal for Chicago hit the left upright and crossbar, sending Philadelphia to face Drew Brees and company.

"I was asked a bunch about who would you rather play, this in the dome or over here in LA," defensive lineman Tyrone Crawford said. "I never cared. Really it's just going to be me, man on a football field getting after it. That's all

I think about it anyway."

In some ways, the Cowboys and Rams think of each other as friendly neighbors. Dallas has gone to Oxnard for training camp every year since 2010, and Jones played a pivotal role in getting league approval of LA owner Stan Kroenke's move from St. Louis three years ago.

The Rams' new stadium doesn't open until 2020, so the first playoff meeting between these teams since 1986 will be in the same place as that 20-0 LA victory: Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum. The Cowboys held training camp in Southern California back then as well.

"I expect Cowboys nation to show up anywhere we go," Crawford said. "Been here for a while, and everybody know it's America's Team. A lot of people can try to call that past, but it is what it is. The star is definitely alive."

And the Cowboys are still kicking after a 3-5 start.

TABC [public] high school basketball rankings

SUGAR LAND, Texas (AP) — Texas high school boys and girls public and private school basketball rankings as compiled by the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches for the week of Jan. 7:

BOYS PUBLIC

Class 6A

- Galena Park North Shore, 19-1;
- Duncanville, 14-7;
- Dallas Jesuit, 18-3;
- Allen, 22-2;
- Denton Guyer, 18-4;
- Houston Eisenhower, 16-5;
- North Crowley, 22-3;
- Richardson Pearce, 16-7;
- Rockwall, 19-5;
- Austin Westlake, 21-3;
- South Garland, 13-6;
- DeSoto, 15-7;
- Houston Sam Houston, 16-5;
- Klein Forest, 17-3;
- Mansfield Lake Ridge, 19-5;
- Killeen Ellison, 18-5;
- Lake Travis, 22-3;
- Killeen Shoemaker, 18-5;
- Katy Morton Ranch, 17-6;
- Katy Cinco Ranch, 18-4;
- Fort Bend Elkins, 18-6;
- Wylie, 18-3;
- Laredo United, 20-1;
- Cibolo Steele, 16-6;
- Mansfield, 17-5.

Class 5A

- Lancaster, 17-2;
- SA Wagner, 17-5;
- Mansfield Timberview, 20-2;
- Justin Northwest, 17-6;
- Alvin Shadow Creek, 17-4;
- Sulphur Springs, 14-8;
- Lewisville The Colony, 19-4;
- EP Burges, 19-4;
- Fort Bend Hightower, 17-7;
- Mount Belview Barbers Hill, 19-5;
- Port Arthur Memorial, 15-6;
- Little Elm, 15-7;
- Dallas Kimball, 12-8;
- Red Oak, 18-5;
- FW Brewer, 17-4;
- Dripping Springs, 15-4;
- Austin LBJ, 11-5;
- A&M Consolidated, 17-3;
- Dallas South Oak Cliff, 12-10;
- Mansfield Legacy, 21-4;
- Pflugerville Connally, 14-6;
- College Station, 24-1;
- Frisco Lone Star, 13-7;
- Amarillo Caprock, 19-2;
- Amarillo Palo Duro, 15-1.

Class 4A

- Dallas Hutchins, 18-3;
- Dallas Faith Family, 18-6;
- Silsbee, 13-7;
- Houston Yates, 10-3;
- Dallas Carter, 14-5;
- Decatur, 21-3;
- Kennedale, 21-2;
- FW Dunbar, 11-13;
- Argyle, 16-7;
- Lubbock Estacado, 9-8;
- Palestine, 15-3;
- Clint, 15-7;
- Dallas Lincoln, 11-10;
- Longview Spring Hill, 25-2;
- La Marque, 13-11;
- Waco Connally, 11-7;
- Hardin-Jefferson, 19-7;
- Burkburnett, 14-8;
- Needville, 13-7;
- Liberty Hill, 17-5;
- Pleasanton, 19-3;
- Houston Wheatley, 10-3;
- Pampa, 17-6;
- Snyder, 18-5;
- Taylor, 18-3.

Class 3A

- Brock, 17-5;
- Winnie East Chambers, 12-2;
- Dallas Madison, 51-5;
- SA Randolph, 20-0;
- Commerce, 20-5;
- Grandview, 11-10;
- Bowie, 10-10;
- SA Cole, 21-3;
- Marion, 13-4;
- Shallowater, 12-4;
- Coldspring-

- Oakhurst, 20-2;
- Wall, 19-3;
- Brownfield, 11-5;
- Teague, 8-8;
- CC London, 16-8;
- Aransas Pass, 15-10;
- Edgewood, 19-1;
- Odem, 14-8;
- Peaster, 16-5;
- Crockett, 14-3;
- Jefferson, 12-6;
- Lytle, 17-1;
- Whitesboro, 14-7;
- Spearman, 18-1;
- Atlanta, 20-3.

Class 2A

- Shelbyville, 20-2;
- Muenster, 6-3;
- Gruver, 4-2;
- Martins Mill, 21-2;
- Big Sandy, 17-3;
- Snook, 12-5;
- Grapeland, 13-5;
- Woden, 20-2;
- Clarksville, 12-5;
- Tenaha, 9-3;
- Port Aransas, 21-6;
- San Perlita, 16-8;
- Floydada, 17-4;
- Hearne, 12-2;
- New Deal, 5-1;
- Cushing, 15-1;
- Weimar, 13-5;
- Celeste, 14-2;
- Thorndale, 11-5;
- Sanford-Fritch, 8-7;
- Albany, 4-2;
- Lovelady, 15-4;
- San Isidro, 21-2;
- Tom Bean, 16-4;
- Poolville, 17-6.

Class 1A

- Lipan, 21-1;
- Nazareth, 13-6;
- La Rue La Poynor, 18-3;
- Graford, 18-3;
- McLean, 5-2;
- Neches, 11-10;
- Slidell, 16-6;
- New Home, 18-2;
- Jayton, 11-2;
- Moulton, 12-12;
- Laneville, 13-8;
- Eula, 15-6;
- Waelder, 6-5;
- Dime Box, 14-6;
- Oakwood, 5-3;
- Texline, 15-7;
- Gail Borden County, 13-3;
- Lenorah Grady, 10-3;
- Paducah, 10-3;
- Coolidge, 8-2;
- Happy, 11-7;
- Leggett, 11-8;
- Priddy, 17-5;
- Milford, 4-1;
- Calvert, 6-2.

GIRLS PUBLIC

Class 6A

- Cedar Hill, 24-4;
- DeSoto, 15-4;
- Pflugerville Hendrickson, 28-1;
- Dallas Skyline, 15-7;
- Jersey Village, 22-2;
- Garland Sachse, 21-4;
- Duncanville, 22-5;
- Converse Judson, 23-4;
- South Grand Prairie, 18-7;
- Allen, 21-5;
- SA Northside Clark, 22-1;
- Cypress Creek, 24-4;
- Katy, 18-3;
- SA Northside Brandeis, 18-2;
- Prosper, 20-6;
- Wolfforth Frenship, 21-3;
- Cypress Ranch, 21-7;
- Beaumont United, 25-0;
- Humble Summer Creek, 21-6;
- SA Northside O'Connor, 18-6;
- Humble Atascocita, 20-7;
- Houston Westside, 22-4;
- Austin Westlake, 19-7;
- Arlington Bowie, 15-8;
- Langham Creek, 21-6.

Class 5A

- Mansfield Timberview, 25-1;
- Amarillo, 22-4;
- Fort Bend Hightower, 27-1;
- Kerrville Tivy, 24-1;
- Royse City, 23-2;
- Austin Crockett, 24-3;
- CC Veterans Memorial, 23-3;
- SA Veterans Memorial, 21-4;
- Cedar Park, 21-3;
- Manvel, 25-3;
- FW Boswell, 22-4;
- Mansfield Legacy, 19-5;
- NRH Birdville, 17-6;
- Frisco Lone Star, 15-7;
- 15.

Class 4A

- Levelland, 22-1;
- Canyon, 16-6;
- Waco Connally, 22-0;
- Hardin-Jefferson, 21-4;
- CC West Oso, 19-4;
- Dallas Lincoln, 17-4;
- Argyle, 18-7;
- Canton, 23-1;
- Stephenville, 17-6;
- Midlothian Heritage, 21-5;
- Lampasas, 22-3;
- Bullard, 24-6;
- El Campo, 25-0;
- Silsbee, 15-4;
- Fredericksburg, 20-7;
- Bridgeport, 17-7;
- Glen Rose, 23-4;
- Devine, 21-5;
- Houston North Forest, 18-3;
- Seminole, 15-6;
- Sunnyvale, 14-8;
- Lorena, 17-6;
- Houston Wheatley, 10-8;
- Beeville Jones, 20-4;
- Quinlan Ford, 15-12.

Class 3A

- Wall, 19-1;
- Mount Pleasant Chapel Hill, 24-0;
- Idalou, 18-5;
- Woodville, 24-1;
- Franklin, 24-1;
- Tuscola Jim Ned, 20-5;
- Shallowater, 18-2;
- Karnes City, 20-4;
- Cisco, 22-2;
- Buffalo, 14-2;
- Poth, 16-4;
- Brock, 21-7;
- Ponder, 18-8;
- Colorado City, 17-4;
- Keene, 19-6;
- Tatum, 16-5;
- Anderson-Shiro, 24-4;
- Pottsboro, 15-6;
- Denver City, 17-2;
- Bushland, 15-5;
- Howe, 14-8;
- Winnsboro, 13-10;
- George West, 15-8;
- Vanderbilt Industrial, 15-7;
- Luling, 13-7.

Class 2A

- Martins Mill, 23-0;
- Panhandle, 19-3;
- Mason, 25-1;
- Haskell, 20-1;
- Vega, 26-0;
- Collinsville, 19-1;
- San Saba, 22-3;
- Farwell, 21-2;
- Timpson, 21-3;
- Wellington, 17-5;
- Woden, 15-5;
- Grapeland, 15-8;
- Douglass, 18-5;
- Centerville, 22-4;
- Thorndale, 17-3;
- Era, 20-3;
- Gladewater Union Grove, 18-4;
- Poolville, 18-5;
- Marlin, 16-6;
- Goldthwaite, 19-6;
- Lovelady, 17-7;
- Santo, 17-4;
- Muenster, 20-5;
- Kerens, 14-8;
- Harper, 22-2;.

Class 1A

- Nazareth, 16-6;
- Ropesville, 20-2;
- Dodd City, 21-3;
- Moulton, 14-6;
- Whiteface, 18-1;
- La Rue La Poynor, 13-5;
- Garden City, 20-3;
- Lipan, 20-4;
- Huckabay, 23-3;
- Blackwell, 16-5;
- Hermleigh, 17-5;
- Rankin, 16-4;
- Eula, 16-8;
- Abbott, 15-2;
- Patton Springs, 10-3;
- Jayton, 17-4;
- Tilden McMullen County, 17-3;
- McLean, 16-3;
- Slidell, 20-2;
- Gorman, 18-7;
- Veribest, 15-4;
- May, 17-4;
- Aspermont, 19-2;
- Hamlin, 18-6;
- Rocksprings, 15-8.

Georgia man tells police R. Kelly's manager threatened him



STOCKBRIDGE, Ga. (AP) — A Georgia man involved with a recent documentary detailing abuse allegations against R. Kelly told police the singer's manager threatened him.

Timothy Savage told an officer on Jan. 3 that Don Russell had texted him saying it would be best for him and his family if the documentary didn't air, according to a Henry County police report.

Savage said he and his wife were involved with Lifetime's "Surviving R. Kelly" series. The series, which aired earlier this month, looks at the singer's history and allegations that he has sexually abused women and girls. He has denied wrongdoing.

Russell called Savage while the officer was there and Savage put the phone on speaker so the officer could listen, the police report says. It went on to say that Russell accused Savage of lying to Lifetime and said that if Savage continued to support the series, Russell and Kelly would be forced to release information that would show Savage was a liar and that would ruin him, his reputation, his business and his family.

Contact information for Russell could not be immediately found.

The report says the case is being forwarded to the criminal investigations division for review.

In Kelly's hometown Chicago, Cook County State's Attorney Kim Foxx addressed reporters Tuesday afternoon after her office had been inundated with calls about the allegations in the documentary, some tied to his Chicago-area home.

Foxx watched the series herself and said she found it "deeply, deeply disturbing."

"I was sickened by the allegations. I was sickened as a survivor. I was sickened as a mother. I was sickened as a prosecutor," she said.

But Foxx also said there's no active investigation of Kelly and launching one would require victims and witnesses.

A Cook County jury acquitted Kelly of all 14 counts of child pornography in 2008. Prosecutors had argued a videotape showed him engaged in graphic sex acts with a girl as young as 13. Kelly and the alleged victim, in her 20s at the time of the trial, denied it was them in the

video.

Kelly's Chicago attorney, Steve Greenberg, said in a phone interview Tuesday evening that the allegations in the Lifetime documentary were false.

"Ten and a half years after he was found innocent (at trial of child pornography charges) and to fill reality TV time — someone comes up with another round of stories," he said. "No one has found any sex slaves or underage girls because there aren't any."

Greenberg also said it was inappropriate for a state's attorney to characterize allegations she'd seen on TV, prior to charges or even an investigation.

"Who makes their assessment of the evidence based on reality TV?" he said.

Kelly rose from poverty on Chicago's South Side to become a star singer, songwriter and producer. Despite his legal troubles a decade ago, he still retains a following.

Kelly won a Grammy in 1997 for "I Believe I Can Fly," and is known for such raunchy hits as "Bump N' Grind" and "Ignition."



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Former Felons can Begin Registering to Vote in Florida

By ADRIANA GOMEZ LICON

MIAMI (AP) — The right to vote was restored for most Florida felons as of Tuesday, increasing the pool of eligible voters by as many as 1.4 million people in a battleground state infamous for its narrow margins in key elections.

The Florida Rights Restoration Coalition planned to get people together over breakfast before registering online or going to their local election supervisors' offices to fill out the forms.

"We are encouraging our members to celebrate," said organization's president, Desmond Meade. "Our members are going into the supervisor of elections with their loved ones. And that is very key— with their loved ones— because we really want to highlight that concept of love."

Nearly 65 percent of Florida voters last November approved Amendment 4, which was crafted so that it would take effect automatically, without further action needed by lawmakers. It applies to all felons who have done their time and completed the terms of their probation and parole, with the exception of people convicted of murder or sex offenses.

The American Civil Liberties Union of Florida says people don't need to present proof that they completed their sentence; they can simply fill out the existing application, signing under oath that their voting rights have been restored.

Civil rights groups have maintained the measure is self-executing, taking effect automatically on Tuesday, but just to be sure, they warned that they are ready to go to court if there are any delays.

Some offices posted notices at the offices and websites saying they will accept the existing registration application.

Until the amendment passed, Florida's constitution automatically barred felons from being able to vote after leaving prison. The state's clemency process allows the governor and three elected Cabinet members to restore voting rights, although the governor can unilaterally veto any request. The process has changed over the years.

Women in the House



The 116th Congress seated a historic 102 women members in the House of Representatives on Capitol Hill in Washington, Friday, Jan. 4, 2019. How they navigate as women leaders can teach us a lot about how we can shift thinking about women in power, including how to reject the likability myth. (AP Photo/Susan Walsh)

By Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson

The newly-elected House of Representatives has 102 women among its 435 members. Many of them hold significant positions of power and influence; including the Speaker of the House, Representative Nancy Pelosi from California, who would assume the presidency if its current occupant and the vice president were unable to continue their service.

These women who now find themselves at the very fountain of policy-making in the world's greatest democracy reflect the social, economic, intellectual and political fabrics of our country. They come from blue collar and white collar backgrounds. They are of a myriad of experiences and faiths. They are mothers, grandmothers, aunts, spouses and friends.

Without exception, the women, each representing approximately 710,000 people in their congressional districts, are compassionate public servants who have sacrificed greatly to get to where they are today.

The founders of the American democracy would

not recognize the legislative chamber that they created, one void of a female voice until 1917 when Representative Jeannette Rankin from Minnesota entered the all-male bastion.

No doubt, Representative Rankin, herself, would be greatly surprised if she were alive to witness the transformation of the legislative chamber in which she once served, now with nearly 25 percent of its members being female.

I believe that this new congressional reality bodes well for our country and its people. A widely-circulated 2018 study on the composition of government concluded that there was less corruption when women were among the decision-makers.

"Women politicians choose policies that are more closely related to the welfare of women, children and family," the study, published in the Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization, stated.

"The research underscores the importance of women empowerment, their presence in leadership roles and their representation in government," wrote Professor Sudipta Sarangi, one of the study's authors and an instruc-

tor of economics at Virginia Tech University.

Over the years, a number of academics who have studied women in political life have concluded that those countries in which there is a significant presence of women legislators are less likely to get involved in conflicts that lead to war.

Women in political life are less likely to be polemicists and, more frequently, choose to reason with their colleagues rather than verbally assault them. They understand the art and the importance of compromise.

I am extremely excited about the number of women in the House of Representatives, as are a number of my male colleagues who believe, as I do, that the presence of greater numbers of women will only make our decisions wiser, more equitable and just for our nation, and its people.

• Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson represents the 30th Congressional District of Texas in the United States House of Representatives.

City statement on VisitDallas Audit

Dallas benefits greatly from its tourism industry which brings millions of people to visit and enjoy our city as well as sustains jobs for thousands of workers.

The City of Dallas is fully committed to improving its monitoring and oversight of its contract with VisitDallas and increase assurances that valuable hotel and other tax revenues are being wisely invested in our economy.

We are working with VisitDallas to address the many important issues raised in the audit and began that process today with an initial meeting. We will update the City Council committee next month.

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