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## Jack Smith: Order in Donald Trump documents case based on 'flawed' premise



**By Joe Fisher**  
UPI

Special prosecutor Jack Smith says the judge in the classified documents case against Donald Trump has issued an order that would distort the trial.

Smith told U.S. District Judge Aileen Cannon in a court filing Tuesday that her order for the prosecution and defense to propose jury instructions is based on a "fundamentally flawed legal premise."

The premise Smith is referring to is an interpretation of the Presidential Records Act argued by Trump's defense. The former president's attorneys argued that he had the authority to take and

keep classified documents after he left the White House. Cannon ordered the prosecution and defense to offer proposals based on the concept that Trump's argument is valid.

"That legal premise is wrong, and a jury instruction for Section 793 that reflects that premise would distort the trial," Smith writes. "The PRA's distinction between personal and presidential records has no bearing on whether a former president's possession of documents containing national defense information is authorized under the Espionage Act, and the PRA should play no role in the jury instructions on the elements of Section 793."

Smith argues that the Presidential Records Act does not apply because the charges against Trump relate to actions taken after he was president.

Smith also expresses concern that Cannon may wait to make a decision after jeopardy attaches. If she determines at that point that Trump is allowed to possess the documents in question, the case would end and the government would not have the ability to appeal. It would also not be allowed to try Trump again due to double jeopardy.

"Whatever the court decides, it must resolve these crucial threshold legal questions

See **SMITH**, page 6

## Trump Media sues co-founders over shares, leadership

**By Clyde Hughes**  
UPI

Trump Media & Technology Group sued two of its co-founders seeking to force them to give up their company and leadership.

Wesley Moss and Andrew Litinsky, both former contestants on Donald Trump's reality show The Apprentice, "failed spectacularly" in their leadership of the company and made "reckless and wasteful decisions" that damaged it, the lawsuit alleges.

The court documents, filed in Florida, said the damage was enough for Moss and Litinsky to surrender their shares and for the court to declare they have no rights to appoint members to the company's board, along with awarding damages.

Moss and Litinsky's company, United Atlantic Ventures, owns 5.5% of Trump Media with control of more than 7.5 million shares worth \$388 million, according to the Securities and Exchange Commission.

The two sued Trump Media earlier this year in Delaware Chancery

See **LAWSUIT**, page 6





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# OPINION

## A Conversation about Inheritance, What to Do with Big Mama's House, and Getting on a Path Towards Intergenerational Wealth

By Dominique Calhoun



My grandmother, the oldest of 14 siblings, passed away in 2018. She gave birth to seven children. Out of that lineage, none of them had a will. Luckily, all her children get along. Today, one of my aunts actually lives in my Grandma's house. And her siblings are supportive of that. Yet, for many that is not the case. However, because she passed intestate, the question that me and my cousins often ask is: What's next for Big Mama's House?

In Texas - and many other parts of the country, this experience is far too common. Take my family for example, you have seven siblings with an equal birthright to my Grandma's house. Upon each of their passing, the birthright will be given to their children if they do not leave a will or instructions regarding what to do with their property.

As an example, my mother owns one-seventh of my Grandma's house. If it passes without a will, then that one-seventh is now split between me, my older brother, and younger sister. Each of us would then also become owners of the property as was the case with my aunts and uncles.

Now instead of seven people owning the property, you have nine with me and siblings. That's two additional decision makers. To further illustrate the problem, what if my aunt, the one who lives in the house, was to pass in the same way - without a will. She has two children. Her daughter still lives in the same city but has her own house. However, her son, who unfortunately passed away, had three children. Now you take one-seventh that my aunt owned and you give one-half of that one seventh to her daughter. But because my cousin passed (also without a will) his three children now become owners of the same property. You have to take his one-half of one-seventh and divide according to the Texas Estate's code in threes to each of the children who may not own the same percentage. Whew!

You may now see the problem that many of our families find themselves in. And this pattern will continue as others pass away. Unfortunately, so many Black families are in similar places.

That's why the National Bar Association, the nation's oldest and largest association of Black attorneys, judges, and law professionals in the country, and the National Association of Real Estate Brokers, the oldest association of Black real estate professionals, are working together to educate Black families about property transfer. It plays a significant role in the creation of generational wealth. Historically, Black people have lost their property and suffered from gentrification because of

the exact problem I described. And it is my belief that for years, we are not been provided the same inheritance toolkits with comprehensive information that our white counterparts have relied on to grow intergenerational wealth for decades.

One of the things I always say is that talking about death doesn't beget death. It doesn't bring about death. It puts a family in a position to retain Black generational wealth. If the most prized possession you own is your house, and if you spent your life toiling to ensure that you could have that house, why wouldn't you do everything you can in life or death to protect it? And it's not to say that this is a failsafe and a magic wand to protect the Black community or that this will ensure that we manage and maintain property within our communities. But it does provide a safeguard from what I will call "The Vultures," the capitalists that come in our communities scheming and finding ways to gain control over the low-hanging fruit that are prized possessions for us.

When discussing how we manage the concept of wealth, we have to re-teach our community and retool ourselves to ensure that we're prepared to take care of Big Mama's House. We have to begin to talk about the relationship between our community and death. Not in a negative way. But we need to ensure that our people are educated and told about wills, estates, trusts, and estate plans. We all will likely have something to leave behind; whatever it is, but we must prepare the next generation for it.

Further, we must have conversations about what people intend to do with their property and possessions. I beg; please do not leave it to chance because depending on the jurisdiction that you live in, the outcomes can be very different for you. For example, I live in the state of Texas. If you leave it up to chance, the Texas law says is that the property goes down the lineage. So, as illustrated earlier, if my mother dies without a will or without instructions on what to do with her property, her house belongs to me, my brother, and my sister. And many different outcomes could occur if we can't agree on what to do with it.

If someone fails to pay taxes, it could be seized by the government. Now you have a property that was once beloved and well cared for being lost. To prevent this scenario, the first thing we must do is change the way we view conversations about death. Secondly, everyone needs to make plain what you want to happen with your property. And lastly, we need to prepare the next generation for what's ahead. In the instructions about what to do with your property, you must also prepare them for everything else that comes with that, meaning that someone must know what is happening in your life.

As attorneys, we have seen bad outcomes when families don't take time to get things in order. The reason is that many people have outstanding debts and obligations that nobody knows about. There may be personal loans and IOUs that a person may have and when they die those obligations come due and creditors begin to attach those debts to the assets that are owned. It would be best to tell someone where all that information is before you pass. There may be hidden accounts. Someone may be happily married, and there is a little slush fund sitting some place. It would be best if you told somebody where this stuff is. It would be best if you wrote it all down to help the next generation deal with your passing.

Write everything down. You can even leave instructions that be in a sealed envelope until you die. Many attorneys keep these types of instructions for you.

Upon a person's passing, all kinds of questions need to be answered. Would Big Mama have wanted a white casket? Does she like blue? What type of flowers should we have at the services? The list of questions is numerous when you want to pay respects to your loved ones. Meanwhile, as a survivor is sitting there trying to answer all of these questions in this moment of grief, all they really want is to celebrate the time that they had with the person. Imagine if all of those questions were resolved. Imagine if you, being the person who passed away, prepared everybody for it. Make it easy for your survivors. What if you son or daughter only had to pick up the phone and call one person.

That one person knows everything that you wanted. Everything is written down - from the burial plot to the funeral home to the casket. Nothing left to chance. Nothing left for someone to have to guess.

Your loved ones don't need to worry about these things. They should be able to talk about the grief they are experiencing or be able to celebrate your life. Let them do that. Don't overwhelm your loved ones and friends who are already consumed with losing you.

The National Bar Association decided as an organization that we would not hold this information about what to do with death any longer; we want to share it with our families and communities. Personally, at family get-togethers, I go around and ask, 'Do you have your will in order? Just tell me. I'll do it for you for free.'

We partnered with NAREB to say, "We have the legal expertise." And, at some point, NAREB's members will be the ones to help move the property because the family will want to sell it or make an investment of it. This is why we have partnered.

If we can educate the community about these things then maybe we can create better outcomes for families and our communities. What we don't want to happen is what we continuously see. Someone surprisingly receives a letter in the mail from the government because the taxes are due and no one was keeping up the property so now there is a forced sale. Or they find a cloud over the title because creditors are laying claim to it to cover a debt.

We want to help NAREB bring these conversations to families in a proactively way. So NAREB President Dr. Courtney Johnson Rose and I said let's go into the community for free, donate our time, and ensure we help protect Big Mama's House - ultimately create Black wealth.

Historically, this information was passed along in the Black church. But we've reached a point where there needs to be more venues for sharing this information. That's what we are creating with this partnership. By mixing lawyers and real estate professionals, we can reach more people and facilitate making Big Mama's House a resource for the next generation.

## Weaving Good News Into the Fabric of Society



ARMSTRONG WILLIAMS

When you turn on the news or take a ride in your car and listen to the radio, do you ever pause to think, "Where's all of the good news?" It seems nearly impossible today to find any good stories that lift the spirit, stories that remind you there is still good in humanity and that the human condition isn't uniquely bad. If an alien ever visited our world and only watched the news or listened to the radio, it would think we're an inherently

bad species quickly headed toward our own destruction and demise.

Everything in contemporary society is about sound bites. When you log onto social media, whoever posts the most salacious remarks typically gets the most likes and reposts. Social media company algorithms promote toxicity, and we further it by engaging with it. When you watch your favorite cable news programs, they're often devoid of depth and nuance, opting instead for sound bites and yelling matches from commentators on different sides. Seldom do we see hosts or their guests debate issues rationally and objectively, because it doesn't feed the social media clicks when they post their appearances online. In essence, our nation and, in many respects, our world are broken, but it's not irremediable, at least not yet.

With these realities in mind, it becomes important -- in fact, vital -- to find things that uplift the human spirit. Good news stories serve as a reminder of the potential for goodness and greatness -- it's that little spark of light in the dark forests that reminds us that daylight will eventually come. The human capacity for compassion, innovation, and collective action toward the common good is still there if we just look hard enough.

The importance of finding and sharing good news stories goes beyond mere escapism or naivety about the world's challenges; we all know what exists. However, it is a reminder that, despite the bad, there are people all over the world, in our country, and even in our individual communities who have dedicated themselves to doing the right thing. These stories offer a counterbalance to the prevailing narratives of conflict, despair, and cynicism, reminding us of the potential for a just and harmonious society.

The good in the world serves as inspiration to do the right thing. I've met countless people who have told me that they saw, read, or heard of a good deed and how it motivated them or their entire communities to engage in acts of kindness, innovation, and solidarity. These acts instill a sense of belonging, national responsibility, and cohesion among disparate people in a nation, and that's good for the individual and those being helped by said good deeds.

In a world increasingly fragmented by ideological divides and existential threats, the intentional search for and dissemination of good news stories is a radical act of resistance. It is a reaffirmation of our shared humanity and our collective capacity for moral and civic excellence. By feeding our thymotic hunger for recognition in positive and constructive ways, we lay the groundwork for a more empathetic, cohesive, and just society.

In our relentless pursuit of the truth, let us not overlook the power of good news to inspire, unite, and elevate. In honoring our thymotic desires for recognition, esteem, and belonging through stories that highlight the best of human nature, we not only enrich our individual lives but contribute to the realization of Plato's vision for a harmonious and just society.

*Armstrong Williams is the manager/sole owner of Howard Stirk Holdings I & II Broadcast Television Stations and the 2016 Multicultural Media Broadcast Owner of the Year.*



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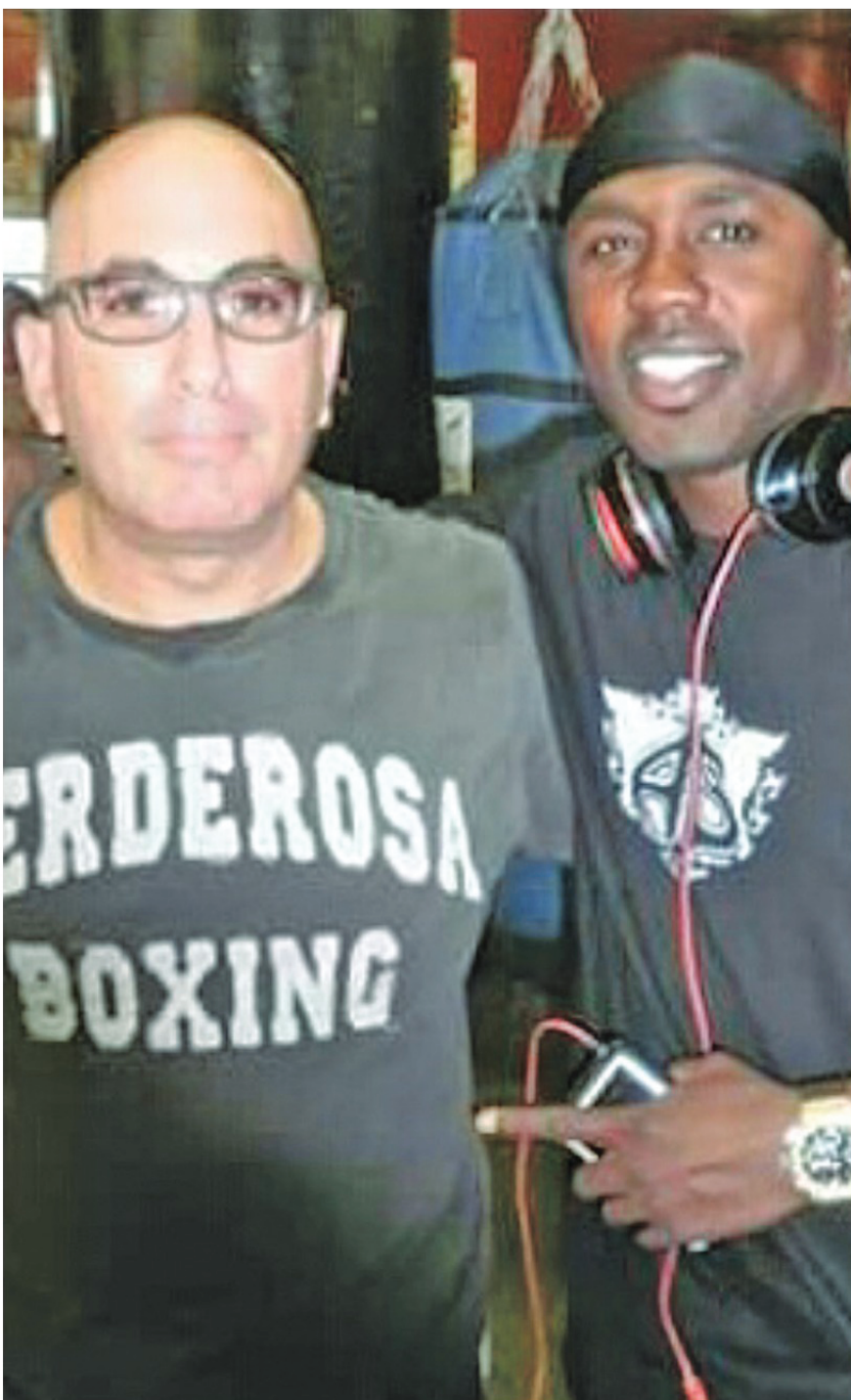
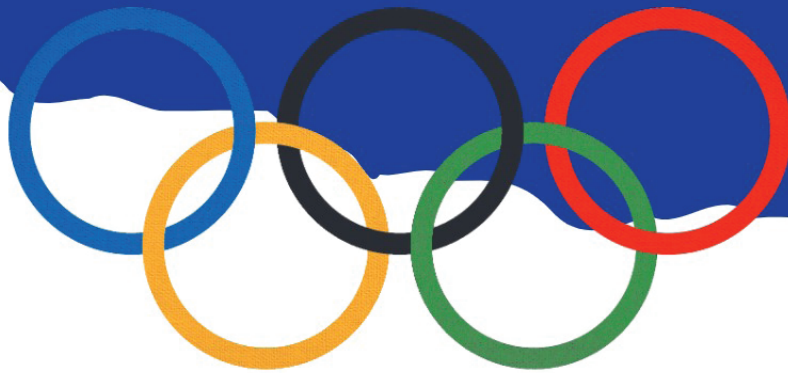
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# Josh Stein Continues "Real Time With Stein" Tour, Highlights Vision For Safer, Stronger North Carolina In Greene County



Today, Attorney General and Democratic nominee for Governor Josh Stein visited Snow Hill as he continues his "Real Time With Stein" listening tour to learn more about how he can bring people together to address the greatest challenges facing North Carolinians – from investing in public education to expanding economic opportunities in every corner of the state and keeping people safe in their communities.



Since becoming the Democratic nominee for Governor, Stein has been traveling across North Carolina meeting with students, small business owners, workers, and others to continue building a broad coalition of voters that will help him deliver a safer, stronger future for every North Carolinian.

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# Congressman Don Davis Emphasizes Need for Border Security, Curbing Fentanyl Epidemic

By Kirk Alexander

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Yesterday, Congressman Don Davis (NC-01) returned from Nogales, Arizona, where he toured U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) facilities and received briefings on narcotics trafficking, including the flow of fentanyl across the border. Nogales is the current epicenter of the fentanyl epidemic and the primary border crossing in the Tucson border patrol sector, which ranks number one in narcotics trafficking.

“Congress must stop the flow of deadly fentanyl into neighborhoods across our country by taking immediate action that includes securing our southern border,” said Congressman Davis. “More than 200 Americans, including 4 North Carolinians, are dying every day from fentanyl overdoses alone. We cannot stand by while Chinese-made and cartel-trafficked narcotics flood into communities across the country.”

During a briefing with Nogales Port Director Michael Humphries at the Mariposa Port of Entry, Congressman Davis learned that just last year, U.S. Customs and Border Protection personnel seized 51.4 million fentanyl pills in Nogales alone, accounting for nearly 70 percent of all fentanyl pills seized nationwide, thanks in large part to the tireless work of field operations officers.

“Our field operations and border patrol officers are overwhelmed,” said Congressman Davis. “They need more personnel, scanning technology, and bandwidth to ease their burden and to secure the border. At the same time, we must pass meaningful, lasting border security reform to reduce migrant crossings and drug flow.”

Congressman Davis continues to advocate for immediate and bipartisan action from Congress to address the evolving crisis at the border, along with other pressing national security challenges.

Since taking office, Congressman Davis has developed a track record of bipartisan cooperation on border security and fentanyl-related legislation. In January of this year, Congressman Davis traveled to Eagle Pass, Texas, at the height of the migrant crisis in the Del Rio Sector. In February, Congressman Davis co-led the introduction of H.R. 7372, the Defending Borders, Defending Democracies Act, legislation to provide an emergency fix to the border crisis while providing desperately needed security assistance to allies, Israel and Ukraine. Last year, he introduced H.R. 4988, the Modern Authentication of Pharmaceuticals (MAP) Act, a bill to cut down on the flow of counterfeit substances, namely fentanyl. In 2022 alone, authorities seized more than 50.6 million prescription pills laced with the deadly narcotic.



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## Smith

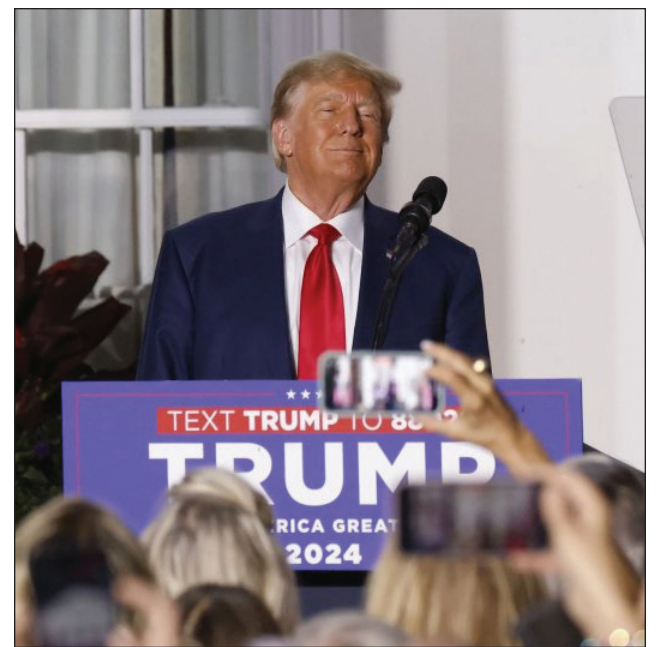
continued from page 1

promptly,” Smith says. “The failure to do so would improperly jeopardize the government’s right to a fair trial and deprive it of its right to seek appellate review.”

Two scenarios are meant to be under consideration under Cannon’s order.

The first is that the Espionage Act allows a former president to possess any document that a jury determines is a personal record, as defined by the Presidential Records Act. Jurors would be instructed to make those determinations.

The second is that a president can remove any document from the White House when he leaves office, and that those records are his personal records.



This would effectively end the prosecution if adopted. Smith says the prosecution should be entitled to a prompt review in the court of appeals in that case.

The filing reveals that Trump was contacted by Judicial Watch, a conservative nonprofit group. During conversations between

Trump, his attorneys and the group’s president as late as February 2022, Trump’s team acknowledged that the documents in question were presidential, not personal.

Trump faces 32 charges for mishandling classified documents, including national security secrets.

## Lawsuit

continued from page 1

Court claiming their stake should be more. They said they have a 2021 agreement signed by Trump at the company’s founding that guarantees them an 8.6% share of Trump Media.

Trump has said, through

a letter by Eric Trump, that he views the 2021 agreement as void.

The lawsuit comes as shareholders of Digital World Acquisitions Corp. approved a high-profile merger with Trump Media, which is the parent of the social media site Truth Social. It began trading under DJT on the Nasdaq last week.

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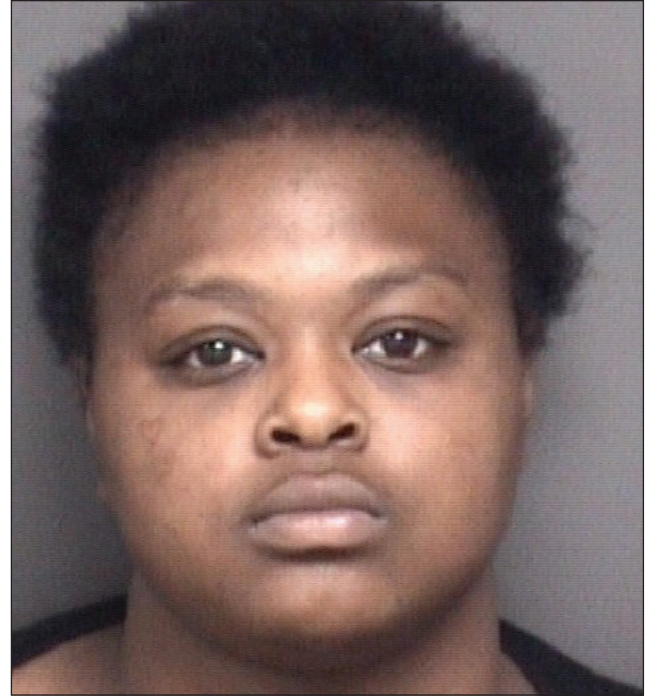
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# LSU basketball star Angel Reese declares for 2024 WNBA Draft

By Alex Butler  
UPI

LSU basketball star Angel Reese, who led the Tigers to a national title last season, declared for the 2024 WNBA Draft, she announced Wednesday on social media.

The three-time All-American made the announcement on Instagram and X. She also detailed her decision in an interview with Vogue.

"I'm leaving college with everything I ever wanted; a degree, a national championship and this platform I could have never imagined," Reese said in a video posted to her social media platforms.

Reese thanked her teammates, managers, trainers, family, God and others for their support throughout her career.

"Thank you for loving me and supporting me in everything I do," she said. "For standing by me at my lowest. For making every

second of the past four years a dream come true."

Reese, who led the Tigers in scoring and rebounding the last two seasons, said her decision to declare for the WNBA was "difficult."

"But I trust the next chapter because I know the author," she said. "Bayou Barbie, out."

Reese is projected to be a Top 10 pick in the 2024 WNBA Draft. The event will be held April 15 in Brooklyn.

"I've won a national championship," Reese told Vogue. "I've gotten SEC Player of the Year. I've been an All-American. My ultimate goal is to be a pro -- and to be one of the greatest basketball players to play, ever. I feel like I'm ready."

All-American guard Caitlin Clark, who led the Iowa Hawkeyes over Reese's Tigers in the Elite Eight, is expected to be the No. 1 overall pick in the 2024 WNBA Draft.



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# NFL owners ban hip-drop tackle, despite players' objections

By Alex Butler  
UPI

NFL team owners voted to ban the hip-drop tackle from games Monday at the league's annual meeting in Orlando, Fla.

The NFL competition committee proposed the measure, among other rule changes. The league adopted three proposals.

In another, teams now will have a protected third challenge if they get one of their first two challenges correct. Previously, teams needed to correctly win their first two challenges to be granted a third.

And the league will allow enforcement of a major foul by the offense before a change of possession in a situation in which both teams commit penalties.

The hip-drop tackle proposition was the most controversial. The competition committee defined the play by describing a defender grabbing a runner with both hands or wrapping the runner with both arms and "unweighting himself by swiveling and dropping his hips and/or lower body, landing on and trapping the runner's leg(s) at or below the knee."

Hip-drop tackles will now result in a 15-yard penalty and automatic first down.

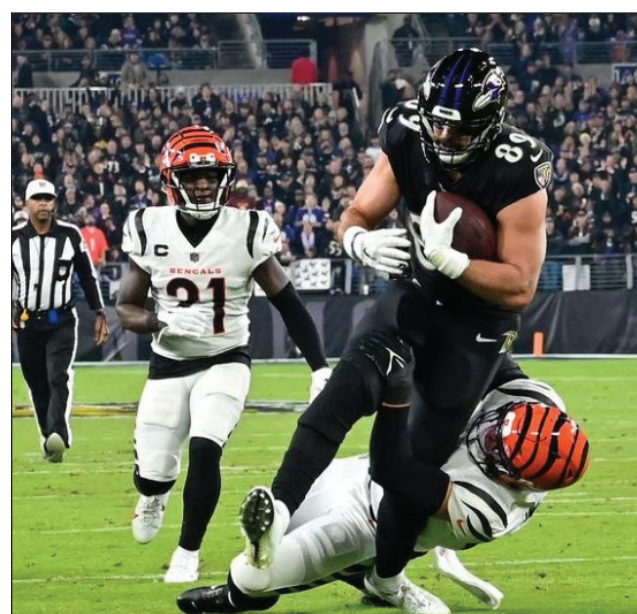
The majority of current and former NFL players to speak publicly about banning the hip-drop tackle opposed the decision. On Monday, several of those players again spoke out.

"Breaking news: tackling banned," Miami Dolphins safety Jevon Holland wrote on X.

Veteran defensive end Calais Campbell, a former Defensive Player of the Year, told reporters last month that the tackle should be allowed.

"A lot of rules that were put in place over the last 10-plus

See TACKLE, page 9





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# Phillies' Bryce Harper snaps slump with 3 homer night vs. Reds

By Alex Butler UPI

Bryce Harper hit more than 1,200 feet of home runs, snapping his 0 for 11 start to the 2024 campaign with a trio of long balls in a Philadelphia Phillies win over the Cincinnati Reds.



Harper went 3 for 4 with six RBIs and three runs scored in the 9-4 triumph Tuesday at Citizens Bank Park in Philadelphia. He raised his season average from .000 to .200 with his slugfest.

"I've actually felt really good," Harper told reporters. "Obviously, it's not the results you want. I thought I had some pretty good swings in the Atlanta series, and pretty good swings yesterday as well.

"I'm just trying to build that up and keep this going."

Harper started his night with a 420-foot solo shot off Reds starter Graham Ashcraft in the bottom of the first inning. He hit that 107.7-mph blast off a 1-2 Ashcraft cutter.

The Reds tied the score when center fielder Will Benson smacked an RBI double off Phillies starter Spencer Turnbull in the top

of the third.

Harper returned to the plate to lead off the bottom of the fourth. He gave the lead back to the Phillies on the first pitch of the half inning. Harper smacked that 367-foot solo shot off Ashcraft for a 103.3 mph to right field for a 2-1 Phillies edge.

Harper lined out in his next at-bat in the bottom of the sixth. The Phillies scored their third run two at-bats later, when shortstop Trea Turner touched home after a throwing error by Reds shortstop Elly De La Cruz.

Reds relief pitcher Brent Suter replaced Ashcraft in the bottom of the seventh. Phillies designated hitter Kyle Schwarber pushed the lead to 4-1 with an RBI single in the fourth at-bat of

the inning.

Two at-bats later, Harper came to the plate with the bases loaded. He proceeded to hit a 3-2 sinker to right center field for a 422-foot grand slam.

The Reds made the score 8-2 when catcher Tyler Stephenson scored on a throwing error in the top of the eighth. Phillies left fielder Brandon Marsh led off the bottom of the inning with a 356-foot solo shot to left field.

The Reds scored the final two runs of the night in the top of the ninth. Left fielder Spencer Steer made the score 9-3 with an RBI single in the third at-bat of the inning. Designated hitter Nick Martini followed with a sacrifice fly RBI to center for the final run of the night.

# Democrats Show Up Show Out



Greenville-Shown in Photo-Democratic Party Chair Molly Holdeman, Attorney Mario Perez, Sonny Mclawhorn, and Supreme Court Judge Anita Earls.

The Democratic Party leadership showed up and showed out at last Saturday's Democratic Convention held at the Pitt County Courthouse. The speaker for the event was Judge Anita Earls, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of North Carolina.

There was a lot for the Democrats to take credit for. For one, the stock market is at an all-time high. Gas prices are stabilizing,

and in some cases falling. The main item for the Democrats is the success of Bidenomics, with the flagship achievement being the cancellation of student debt for many. Nearly four million Americans have realized this accomplishment to the tune of \$143.6 billion in student loan forgiveness.

This also comes at a time when the main opponent of the Democratic

party and democracy is in court almost every day, facing nearly \$500 million in debt and over ninety-one court cases and civil suits. Yes, this is a time for the Democrats to show out, as it appears to be smooth sailing toward a great November both up and down the ballot. All candidates should benefit from such a healthy economy and a healthy slate of candidates.

# Tackle

continued from page 8

years that made the game a lot safer were big adjustments for players," Campbell said, according to Pro Football Talk.

"I feel like this particular rule change, I don't understand how you can police it the right way and allow us to do our job."

Hip-drop tackles led to several injuries this season. Baltimore Ravens tight end Mark Andrews sustained a cracked fibula and ankle ligament injury in November after Cincinnati Bengals linebacker Logan Wilson brought him down with a hip-drop tackle.

Andrews told reporters at the time that he didn't believe Wilson injured him on purpose.

"It kind of was just an unfortunate event," Andrews said. "I'm just going to let everybody else do their thing. If they want to ban the tackle, fine. I'm going to go hard

no matter what. I don't blame the guy. He was just playing hard."

Dolphins wide receiver Tyreek Hill and Seattle Seahawks quarterback Geno Smith were among other players injured by hip-drop tackles.

NFL executive vice president Jeff Miller said last month that research found hip-drop tackles resulted in an injury rate 20 to 25 times greater than other tackles. The NFLPA announced last week that players opposed the rule change and wanted the league to reconsider implementation.

"The players oppose any attempt by the NFL to implement a rule prohibiting a 'swivel hip-drop' tackle," the union said Wednesday. "While the NFLPA remains committed to improvements to our game with health and safety in mind, we cannot support a rule change that causes confusion for us as players, for coaches, for officials and especially, for fans."



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# La Voz Latina

## U.S. Customs and Border Protection to increase travel program fees

By Clyde Hughes  
UPI

U.S. Customs and Border Protection said Tuesday it will increase the fees for some of the most well-known Trusted Travel Programs.

As of Oct. 1, the fee for NEXUS, a joint program managed by the Customs and Border Protection and the Canada Border Service Agency that allows dedicated processing between the United States and Canada, will increase from \$50 to \$120, and Global Entry fees will increase from \$100 to \$120.

CBP said that applicants under 18 will be exempt from the application fee when a parent or legal guardian is a member

of, or is applying for, NEXUS, SENTRI or Global Entry.

“While a key goal of the programs is to expedite travelers through the process, members may still be selected for further examination when entering the United States,” the CBP said in a statement.

“To maintain a strict standard in establishing [Trusted Travelers Programs] members as low-risk travelers, any violation of a program’s terms and conditions will result in the appropriate enforcement action and termination of the traveler’s membership privileges.”

The Department of Homeland Security’s Trusted Travel Programs offer modified screening for pre-approved members, and officials say it improves security by being



more efficient during screenings for legitimate trade and travel.

CBP officials said the program fees have not been updated in more than 15 years, and the new changes will take effect

October 1.

The Transportation Security Administration and U.S. Customs and Border Protection operate five distinct trusted traveler programs in which millions of international travelers are enrolled: TSA PreCheck, CBP’s Global Entry, NEXUS, Secure Electronic Network for Travelers Rapid Inspection (SENTRI), and Free and Secure Trade (FAST).

Though the programs are popular, in February, the General Accounting Office said many travelers who lose their membership in any of the traveler programs often are in the dark as to why. The agency recommended that CBP address the matter and provide detailed documentation to affected travelers.

## German soccer jersey to be redesigned over allegations it resembles Nazi symbol

By Chris Benson  
UPI



A soccer jersey in Germany showing the number 44 is being redesigned over allegations that it resembles a Nazi symbol.

A spokesperson for Adidas -- the company making the jerseys -- said they stopped buyers from being able to design them on their online store.

It is alleged the design looks like the “SS” Nazi military group symbol that is banned in Germany.

“Any attempts to promote divisive or exclusionary views are not part of our values as a brand,” an Adidas company official told NBC News.

Soccer officials in Germany and 11 teamsports -- a business partner -- were the responsible parties in creating the design.

A political science professor at University of the Bundeswehr in Munich called the SS an “instru-

ment of oppression” during the rise of Hitler and the Holocaust and said that people today began to notice similarities between the two designs.

On social media, Germany’s Football Association -- the DFB -- said it had submitted the design for review to the governing authority for European soccer -- the UEFA -- and failed to find “any proximity to Nazi symbolism in the creation process of the jersey design.”

The DFB recently switched from Adidas to Nike in a deal DFB said is for a better financial arrangement for the sporting association.

Officials at DFB added that “we take the information very seriously and do not want to provide a platform for discussions.”

“As a company we actively oppose xenophobia, anti-Semitism, violence and hatred in any form,” Adidas had said.

## ‘Extremely violent criminal’ caught in Mexico after leaving a Calif. halfway house

By Mike Heuer  
UPI

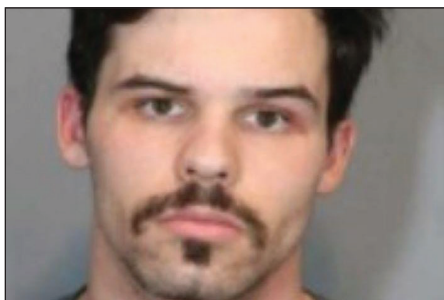
A 20-year-old man described by authorities as an “extremely dangerous and violent criminal” and multiple escapee has been arrested in Mexico after a manhunt, California officials say.

A manhunt that lasted a week ended when Ike Nicholas Souzer was arrested in Rosarito, Mexico, and returned to California’s Orange County, District Attorney Todd Spritzer announced this week.

“My prosecutors have spent years and years trying to do everything they can to keep this criminal behind bars,” Spritzer said, describing Souzer as “an extremely dangerous and violent criminal.”

“At every turn, the very judges who are elected to protect public safety have done little to do so and instead have given him break after break after break.

“This is not someone who deserves a break,” he added. “He has turned every opportunity to turn over a new leaf into a new opportunity to break the law.”



Souzer is in custody in the Orange County jail after he left a halfway house while on probation after he pleaded guilty to one count of felony vandalism on March 20.

Souzer was sentenced to 90 days in jail but earned credit for time served while awaiting the outcome of the case for which he pleaded guilty to the vandalism charge.

Orange County Superior Court Judge Larry Yellin placed Souzer on two years’ probation, but he left the halfway house in Santa Ana to which he was assigned and fled to Mexico on March 20, NBC News reported.

Prosecutors opposed Souzer’s 90-day sentence due to his criminal history, which includes stabbing and killing his mother when he was 13 and assaulting three correctional officers while in jail. He also manufactured and possessed a shank while he was housed at the Orange County Jail.

Agents with the U.S. Customs and Border Protection worked with Mexican law enforcement to catch Souzer Wednesday after being informed of his likely whereabouts by the Orange County District Attorney’s office, according to KABC-TV.

Souzer has a history of escaping custody, starting with an escape from a juvenile hall in 2019 while he was on trial for killing his mother. A jury found him guilty of voluntary manslaughter, and he was found at an Anaheim McDonald’s restaurant the day after he escaped from detention at the juvenile hall.

Souzer in 2022 escaped from a halfway house in Santa Ana but was found several days later living at an Anaheim homeless encampment.



## Music legend Diana Ross turns 80

By Wade Sheridan  
UPI

Music icon Diana Ross, best known as the lead singer of The Supremes and for her hit songs “Ain’t No Mountain High Enough,” “I’m Coming Out” and “Endless Love,” turns 80 on Tuesday. Ross also starred in films such as “Lady Sings the Blues” and “The Wiz.”