



New Eagles Gilyard, McCoy, Renes shine in preseason win

SPORTS, 1B

NORTHWEST FLORIDA

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‘ALLIGATOR ALCATRAZ’



Sonia Bichara speaks to the crowd during a vigil outside Alligator Alcatraz on Aug. 10. Her fiancée was detained July 7. MICKENZIE HANNON/NAPLES DAILY NEWS/USA TODAY NETWORK – FLORIDA

Conditions ‘deplorable,’ detainee’s fiancée says

Mickenzie Hannon
Naples Daily News
USA TODAY NETWORK

Standing in the sticky August heat on Sunday, Aug. 10, Sonia Bichara gripped a microphone outside the gates of the migrant detention facility in the Everglades, a site now officially known as Alligator Alcatraz.

She recounted to more than 100 people what her fiancé, Rafael Collado, had de-

scribed from inside: worms in the food, toilets overflowing and undrinkable water that smells. After one month inside, she said, he joined other detainees in a hunger strike.

While she was speaking to the crowd, her phone rang. A detainee named Alex Reyes was calling from inside the facility. Bichara put him on speaker, and the vigil crowd fell silent. He spoke in Spanish, describing the stifling tents and meager meals. Bichara cried as she listened.

In an email to the Naples Daily News and The News-Press, Stephanie Hartman, director of communications at the Florida Division of Emergency Management, rejected those allegations of poor treatment.

“These claims are false,” Hartman wrote. “Detainees have access to clean, sanitary facilities with fully functioning air conditioning in all tents. They also

See **CONDITIONS**, Page 4A

Chrisley returns to prison camp as guest

Mollye Barrows
Pensacola News Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK

Todd Chrisley - media personality, entrepreneur and former inmate of Federal Prison Camp Pensacola at Naval Air Station Saufley Field - was back at the prison camp on Aug. 14, this time as an invited guest.

Chrisley spoke at the final Residential Drug Abuse Program Graduation Ceremony at Federal Prison Camp Pensacola (FPC Pensacola) at the invitation of the director of the bureau of prisons.

The News Journal caught up with Chrisley on Thursday afternoon just outside the guarded gate at NAS Saufley Field, when he stopped to speak with the media on his way in to speak to the graduates.

See **CHRISLEY**, Page 2A



TV personality and pardoned felon Todd Chrisley talks outside the Federal Prison Camp at NAS Saufley Field Aug. 14 in Pensacola. GREGG PACHKOWSKI/PENSACOLA NEWS JOURNAL

OKALOOSA COUNTY

7 women to be inducted into prestigious Hall of Fame

Northwest Florida Daily News

The 2025 Okaloosa County Women’s Hall of Fame induction ceremony will be at 6:30 p.m. Aug. 25 at the Destin-Fort Walton Beach Convention Center.

There will be a cash bar at 5:30 p.m. with the induction program will beginning at 6:30 p.m. There is no charge to

attend; however, please RSVP at occsweventrsvp@gmail.com.

This is the 30th anniversary of the Hall of Fame. Past members of the commission are invited to attend and share their memories.

What is the Okaloosa County Women’s Hall of Fame?

Since 1995, 147 women have been inducted into the Okaloosa County Women’s Hall of Fame. This award was created to honor and recognize women, past and present, who have made important contributions to Okaloosa County through the arts, athletics, business, education, government, the humanities, philanthropy and science, ac-

cording to the Okaloosa County Commission on the Status of Women website, occsww.com

Induction into the Hall of Fame is the Okaloosa County Commission of the Status Women’s oldest and most prestigious award.

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