



Orange, Green, Garnet and Gold: A night of celebration at the Tuck

SPORTS, 1B

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

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MERCILESS MELISSA



People fill bags with sand in preparation for the arrival of Hurricane Melissa in Port Royal, Jamaica, on Oct. 26. OCTAVIO JONES/REUTERS

Worst case scenario for Jamaica unfolding in slow motion

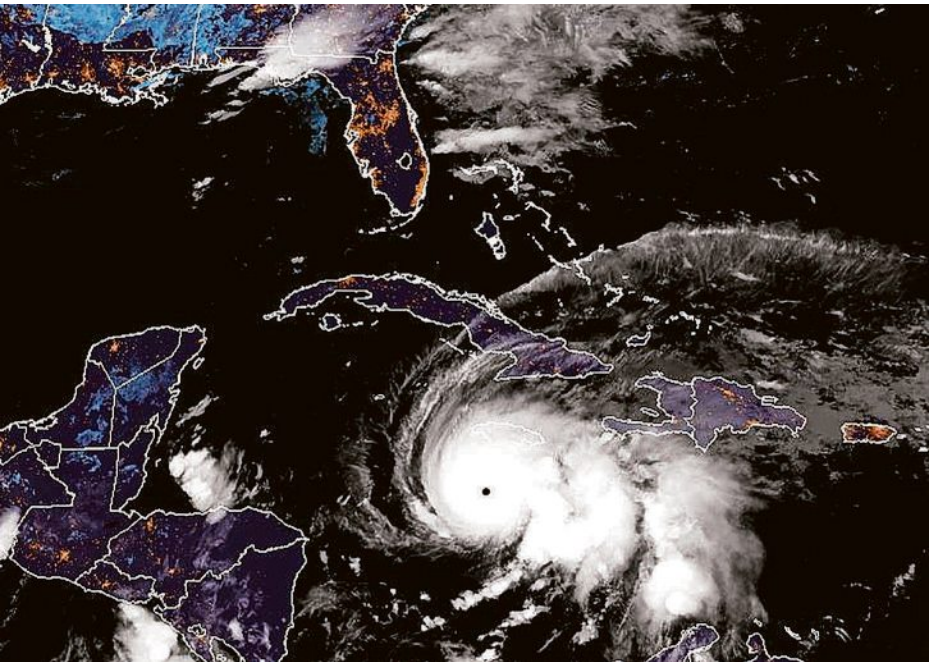


WeatherTiger
Ryan Truchelut
Guest columnist

Hurricane Melissa has charged into the top tier of the strongest Atlantic hurricanes of all-time, and is poised to be not only the worst landfall in Jamaican history, but one of the most intense hurricane landfalls ever on any landmass bordering the Atlantic, Gulf, or Caribbean.

As measured by Air Force and NOAA Hurricane Hunters, Melissa is now a Category 5 hurricane, with maximum sustained winds estimated to be 165 mph per the NHC's 11 a.m. Monday advisory. The minimum pressure in the center of Melissa's extraordinarily clear eye is estimated to be 908 millibars, and with intensification continuing, it is certainly possible that Melissa will join the elite group of just six Atlantic hurricanes

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ABOVE: Satellite image of Hurricane Melissa at 7 a.m. Oct. 27. PROVIDED BY NOAA

BELOW: A woman is standing on a street flooded by rains caused by Tropical Storm Melissa, in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, on Oct. 23. EDDY VITTINI/REUTERS



‘Project Vertigo’

OEV tries to entice UK company to bring 2,000 jobs to TLH airport

TaMarny Waters
Tallahassee Democrat
USA TODAY NETWORK – FLORIDA

Tallahassee officials are working to land a United Kingdom-based company looking to expand its operation overseas, generating an estimated 2,000 jobs in the process.

The unidentified company dubbed “Project Vertigo” is one of a half a dozen confidential companies working with the Tallahassee-Leon County Office of Economic Vitality, according to records obtained by the Tallahassee Democrat.

Inside

Companies with ties to Danfoss Turbocor considering Tallahassee. 2A

Prospective companies are offered an incentive package through OEV's Targeted Business Program if they are slated to generate a significant number of jobs and they fall under one of four categories: applied sciences and innovation, manufacturing and transportation/logistics, professional services and information technology and healthcare.

If “Project Vertigo” chooses to expand to the capital city and successfully generate jobs, it will be the largest private-sector job creator since Amazon's debut in 2023 – by about double.

The world's largest ecommerce company was called “Project Mango”

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Report shows Fla. state employees earn least in the country

James Call
USA TODAY NETWORK – FLORIDA

State of Florida employees are the rock-bottom lowest hourly earners in the country, trailing state workers in neighboring Alabama and Georgia by thousands of dollars to rank 51st among the states and Washington D.C. for government pay, according to the online job site ZipRecruiter.

Nearly 100,000 state employees handle the paperwork, maintain the facilities, and provide the services that keep the 16th largest economy in the world, and fourth among U.S. states at \$1.7 trillion, humming.

But they are compensated with, on average, \$26,000 fewer dollars than workers for Illinois, which has the 5th largest economy and get paid \$39,000 less than the workers in New York, who provide services for the third largest economy in the U.S.

Florida runs the leanest government, employing 96 people per 10,000 residents compared to the national average of 198, and is paying them the least amount of money in the nation.

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