



High school football predictions, Week 8

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Roughly 12% of new cancer cases reported globally in 2024 could be traced back to just 12 infections, according to a new study. GETTY IMAGES

Common infections drive cancer cases

Millions worldwide could be preventable

Mary Walrath-Holdridge
USA TODAY

Millions of cancer cases worldwide, about 1 in 8, have an underlying cause that is not only treatable but entirely preventable, according to a new study. The answer lies in infections, according to research published in early October in The Lancet Oncology, including two of the most common infections in the United States. Roughly 12% of new cancer cases reported globally in 2024 could be traced back to just 12 infections, the authors found, meaning roughly 2.3 million cancer illnesses worldwide could potentially have been prevented. Five of those infections accounted

for more than 2.2 million of the estimated 2.3 million infection-attributable cancer cases recorded in the study, and two – the common stomach infection H. pylori and the sexually transmitted HPV – were behind about 1.5 million. The good news? According to the researchers, experts already know how to stop and treat these infections. The bad news? In some countries, that’s not happening. According to the study, the top five infections associated with cancer are: ● **Helicobacter pylori (also known as H. pylori):** A common stomach infection that can cause stomach pain, bloating, gas and similar symptoms. More than half of the world’s population may have an H. pylori infection at some point in their lives, according to Mayo Clinic. It is most associated with gastric cancers, the study found (approximately 760,000 cases, or 4%, of

new cancer diagnoses worldwide). ● **Human papillomavirus:** A common infection with more than 100 types, HPV is the most common viral sexually transmitted infection in the United States, infecting roughly 14 million people a year, according to Cleveland Clinic. Some strains are high-risk factors for certain cancers, including cervical, vaginal and vulvar. It was most associated with cervical cancer in the study (approximately 750,000, or 4%, of new cases). There is a vaccine that is ideally given before a person becomes sexually active. ● **Hepatitis B:** A vaccine-preventable, often asymptomatic liver infection that can range from a short, acute illness to a serious, chronic infection, according to the CDC. Acute infections are more common in people between

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Singers will feature South African music

Nida Tazeen
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USA TODAY NETWORK

Nova Singers will open its 41st season with a program celebrating South African music during performances in Galesburg and Davenport in October. The concerts are scheduled for Oct. 10 at First Lutheran Church in Galesburg and Oct. 11 at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Davenport, according to a community announcement. Internationally known conductor, educator, composer and choral clinician Michael Barrett of the University of Pretoria in South Africa will lead the second half of the program. The ensemble, directed by Laura Lane, will begin with an a cappella selection that includes works by Claudio Monteverdi, Fanny Mendelssohn Hensel and John Rutter. Barrett will then conduct a program featuring traditional and contemporary South African music, including selections composed by Barrett and emerging South African composers. Lane said the ensemble has embraced the rhythms, harmonies and contemporary works featured in the South African repertoire. “But I am absolutely thrilled that Michael Barrett will be here to lead Nova Singers in the second half!” Lane said. “The Singers and I are loving the traditional songs with their South African rhythms and harmonies, as well

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Nova Singers opens its 41st season with Music of South Africa concerts in Galesburg and Davenport featuring guest conductor Michael Barrett. PROVIDED BY NOVA SINGERS



Macomb received a \$45,500 Illinois grant to install an accessible kayak launch and replace aging docks at Spring Lake Park. PROVIDED BY CITY OF MACOMB

Upgrades will be coming to Macomb park

Nida Tazeen
Galesburg Register-Mail
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The City of Macomb has received a \$45,500 Illinois Department of Natural Resources grant to improve boating and water recreation access at Spring Lake Park. The funding was awarded through the Boat Access Area Development Grant Program, according to a community announcement. The state program provides financial assistance to local governments for projects that develop

or improve public boat and canoe access facilities across Illinois. The project at Spring Lake Park includes two upgrades: a new accessible kayak launch and replacement of the park’s aging tommy dock system. City officials said the kayak launch is designed to make it easier and safer for people of different ages and abilities to get into and out of kayaks and canoes. The effort also includes installation of 12 new docks to replace existing structures, creating safer and more reliable space for public boat docking and fishing. “We are extremely happy to work

with the city to improve the facility and add new accessibility,” said Spring Lake Management President Ryan Hansen. “These are projects I’ve wanted to get done for years the IDNR grant made this possible” he added. The accessible kayak launch has already been installed. Work to replace the tommy docks is underway. Grand opening planned A grand opening ceremony is scheduled See **UPGRADES**, Page 2A

