



Which QBs could be benched in 2026?

SPORTS, 1B

THE COURIER

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Lafayette chef to represent state in national cook-off



Chef Kris Allen prepares his award-winning crab-stuffed flounder during the 2026 Louisiana Seafood Cook-Off in Jefferson Parish. Allen won the competition to earn the title of King of Louisiana Seafood and will represent the state at the Great American Seafood Cook-Off in New Orleans. PROVIDED BY LOUISIANA SEAFOOD COOK-OFF

Aaron Gonsoulin
Lafayette Daily Advertiser
USA TODAY NETWORK

Lafayette chef Kris Allen will represent Louisiana at the 22nd annual Great American Seafood Cook-Off on July 25 in New Orleans after winning the title of 2026 King of Louisiana Seafood. Allen, executive chef of Pamplona Tapas Bar and Restaurant and Gravy Lafayette, will represent the Bayou State against 12 of the nation's top seafood chefs at the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center in New Orleans. The competition, hosted by the Loui-

siana Seafood Promotion and Marketing Board and Lt. Gov. Billy Nungesser, is considered the country's premier seafood cooking championship. For Allen, the opportunity is more than another culinary competition — it's a chance to showcase the flavors and traditions that shaped him. Born and raised in Southwest Louisiana, Allen credits his love of cooking to childhood days spent aboard his father's shrimp boat and countless hours in the kitchen with his grandmother, Cynthia. Those early experiences fostered a lifelong appreciation for Louisiana's seafood industry and the

generations of families who depend on it. Grounded in fresh ingredients, local seafood and traditional Cajun and Creole cooking, Allen has built a reputation as one of Acadiana's standout chefs while leading the kitchens at Pamplona Tapas Bar and Restaurant and Gravy Lafayette. Allen punched his ticket to the national competition after defeating 12 chefs from across Louisiana at the 19th annual Louisiana Seafood Cook-Off in Jefferson Parish on June 26. See CHEF, Page 2A

State AG to appeal \$245K fee in Caddo lawsuit

Ian Robinson
Shreveport Times
USA TODAY NETWORK

Louisiana Attorney General Liz Murrill said Wednesday her office plans to appeal a district court ruling ordering it to pay nearly \$245,000 in legal fees of the Caddo Commission and the seven commissioners named individually in the Open Meetings Law lawsuit stemming from the commission's resolution welcoming U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders to Shreveport. In 2025, Murrill filed suit against seven Caddo Commissioners alleging that they violated the state's Open Meeting Laws regarding a resolution involving Sanders. The case originated from a June 2025 complaint from two Commissioners accusing their seven colleagues of violating the open meetings laws. The lawsuit

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CYCLOSPORIASIS OUTBREAK

Food groups experts recommend limiting

Presley Bo Tyler
Shreveport Times
USA TODAY NETWORK

Cases of cyclosporiasis are on the rise in the U.S., with the CDC receiving reports of at least 1,645 cases as of July 13. Cyclosporiasis is an illness from the parasite cyclospora that causes watery, sometimes explosive, diarrhea and other stomach problems, according to Cleveland Clinic. This parasite usually spreads from

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