



Independence’s tough test, and other predictions for Week 8 in area high school football

SPORTS, 1B

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CHS event center to be renamed

Building to be dedicated after late principal, MCPS superintendent Edward A. Hickman

Jay Powell
Columbia Daily Herald
USA TODAY NETWORK – TENNESSEE

Maury County Public Schools will rename the Columbia Central High School Event Center in honor of Edward A. Hickman, a former principal and superintendent, according to a Monday, Oct. 5 news release.

The ceremony will take place at 7

a.m. Oct. 9 at Columbia Central High School, 921 Lion Parkway. The event will include the dedication of a commemorative plaque recognizing Hickman’s contributions to the school district. The plaque was funded by the Columbia Breakfast Rotary Club.

Hickman served as principal of Columbia Central High School and later as superintendent of Maury County Public Schools.

The renaming of the event center is part of an effort to honor Hickman’s legacy and recognize his contributions to the district. The ceremony will be attended by members of the Hickman family, Superintendent Lisa Ventura and representatives from the Columbia Breakfast Rotary Club.

This story was produced by reporter Jay Powell, jpowell@c-dh.net, with the assistance of Artificial Intelligence (AI). Journalists were involved in every step of the information gathering, review, editing and publishing process.



Maury County Public Schools will rename Columbia Central High School’s event center in honor of former Superintendent Edward A. Hickman as part of a dedication ceremony Oct. 9.

PROVIDED BY MAURY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Checking into a legacy

Inside Dolly Parton’s SongTeller Hotel, her final vision for Nashville

Dolly Parton’s records hang on the wall of The Listening Lounge, an area inside the SongTeller Hotel where the hotel hosts daily “sip and sparkle” events.

HADLEY HITSON/
NASHVILLE TENNESSEAN

Hadley Hitson
Nashville Tennessean | USA TODAY NETWORK – TENNESSEE

When I walked into Dolly Parton’s new SongTeller Hotel in downtown Nashville during its opening week, her legacy captivated me. From top to bottom, every inch was unmistakably hers: the sparkly tiles, airbrushed glamour shots hanging on the walls and the hum of banjos and acoustic guitars playing over the sound system. Parton’s presence commands the entire 11-story building, embodying the “gaudy and flamboyant” style on which she prided herself.

I was lucky enough to be one of the very first guests to stay overnight at the SongTeller. What I found was more than her name slapped onto a place for tourists to stay; it was an authentic ode to the girl from Appalachia who became the Queen of Country Music.

A large patchwork-patterned guitar statue hangs over the front entrance on the corner of Commerce Street and Third Avenue. After handing my car over to the valet for \$65 per night, I walked beneath it, into a pristine lobby lined with screens playing a montage of Parton images and lyrics.

Butterflies hanging from a custom

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Beshear teases ’28 White House campaign

KY Gov. says Democrats can win in the South

Vivian Jones
Nashville Tennessean
USA TODAY NETWORK – TENNESSEE

After a 47-minute conversation in front of hundreds of people at Vanderbilt, Nashville Mayor Freddie O’Connell asked Kentucky Gov. Andy Beshear the question on everyone’s minds:

“Are you running for president?”

Benton Chapel erupted with cheers. A dozen people in the crowd shouted out “YES!” Someone held up a “Beshear 2028” T-shirt. The applause lasted nearly a minute.

Beshear, a Democrat, has fueled national speculation that he’s considering a 2028 presidential run by laying groundwork in early and Southern states as he promotes his new memoir, “Go and Do Likewise.”

He visited Nashville Oct. 3 to promote the book in a conversation with O’Connell organized by Dialogue Vanderbilt’s 250 Conversations on America series.

Earlier that morning, he spoke at a lively private fundraiser for Democratic congressional nominee Chaz Molder in Nashville’s Sylvan Park neighborhood. Kentucky First Lady Brittany Beshear accompanied her husband at both events.

So what did Beshear say?

“My lawyer is telling me I’m allowed to say, ‘Thank you for the encouragement,’” Beshear replied, smiling. “I don’t have an announcement today because I still have a lot of work to do in ‘26.”

He named candidates he’s working to support in the midterms.

“I remember in 2023, I walked off the stage after reelection, I looked at Brittany, and I said, ‘Whew! I’ll never have to run for anything ever again,’” he said. “Here’s what I can tell you

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