



Seven under-the-radar NFL rookies who could surprise in preseason

SPORTS, 1B

Abilene Reporter-News

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First day of class



Sierra Sanchez (left) asks her daughter Aielli Treider a question as they check out her new kindergarten classroom during a meet-the-teacher event at Stafford Elementary School Thursday. Tuesday is the first day of school at Abilene ISD.

PHOTOS BY RONALD W. ERDRICH/REPORTER-NEWS

School days return as students, parents ready themselves for new year

Ronald W. Erdrich
Abilene Reporter-News
USA TODAY NETWORK – TEXAS

For many, Tuesday will be a day of firsts. Not only is it the first day of school in Abilene ISD, it will also be the first day for Mann Middle School’s new identity, Mann STEAM Academy.

Most Key City students and their parents have spent the last week readying themselves for the first day of class. Those days were filled with meet-the-teacher events across AISD campuses, the exception being Abilene High School.

Along with Wylie ISD, the Eagles held their meet-the-teacher encounters on Monday.

Speaking of Wylie ISD, those students will enjoy an additional day of summer vacation when their first day of instruction begins Wednesday.



Parents and families line up outside Stafford Elementary School during a meet-the-teacher event Thursday.

Most Key City students and their parents have spent the last week readying themselves for the first day of class.

Texas Dem battles GOP on own turf

Thinks redistricting fight will prove to be historic

Rick Jervis
USA TODAY

AUSTIN – State Rep. Richard Peña Raymond, a South Texas Democrat, has spent the past week prowling near-empty halls in the Texas state Capitol, talking to any Republican lawmaker who would listen and trying to avert a U.S. Supreme Court showdown.

On the nearby House floor, Republican lawmakers maneuvered to try to launch a rare mid-decade redistricting effort. They’ve drawn up a new map of U.S. House districts that could give the GOP five more seats and help the party maintain control of the narrowly divided chamber.

Most of Raymond’s Democratic colleagues left Texas in an attempt to bust the quorums needed for the legislature to pass the measure. But he stayed behind, trying to cajole, convince, pressure or plead his way out of the crisis.

For Raymond, it’s déjà vu all over again.

In 2003, when Texas Republican lawmakers again tried to redraw districts outside the norms of the once-a-decade process that follows each new census, Raymond was on the redistricting committee and became an ardent voice of the opposition. When the measure passed, he was named as a plaintiff in a lawsuit that ultimately ended up in front of the U.S. Supreme Court.

This time, he said, the stakes are even higher.

“Two-thousand-three was a big deal. We went through a lot,” Raymond, 64, told USA TODAY from his first-floor office at the Capitol. “I could see that that was history making and what’s going on right now will be history making.”

Midterm battle

The current showdown began when

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Trump sending National Guard into DC

Order comes despite significant drop in crime

Joey Garrison, Tom Vanden Brook, Cybele Mayes-Osterman and Josh Meyer
USA TODAY

WASHINGTON – President Donald Trump said he will deploy 800 National Guard troops to Washington and take federal control of the city’s police department as part of an aggressive federal effort to crack down on crime in the nation’s capital.

“I’m announcing a historic action to rescue our nation’s capital from crime, bloodshed, bedlam and squalor and

worse,” Trump said Aug. 11 from the White House Briefing Room, flanked by Attorney General Pam Bondi and Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth. “This is Liberation Day in DC, and we’re going to take our capital back.”

Trump signed two executive orders earlier in the day. One invoked Section 740 of the Home Rule Act to allow the Trump administration to take control of the DC Metropolitan Police Department. Separately, Trump signed a presidential memorandum directing Hegseth to deploy National Guard troops in Washington and authorizing him to coordinate with other governors to utilize their states’ National

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Drug Enforcement Agency agents stand guard in Dupont Circle on Aug. 10 as part of a federal law enforcement deployment to the nation’s capital.

ANDREW LEYDEN/GETTY IMAGES

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