

"If we don't vote, we are ignoring history and giving away the future."

- Andra Chantim



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SERVING THE BLACK COMMUNITY WITHOUT FEAR OR FAVOR SINCE 1947

April 18 - 24, 2024

Football Legend O.J. Simpson Dies but the Obsession Remains Alive

By Lauren Victoria Burke, NNPA Newswire Correspondent



O.J. Simpson died on April 10, 2024. But the obsession around the former football legend widely suspected of murdering his second wife, Nicole Brown Simpson, and Ronald Goldman on June 12, 1994, continues.

Simpson was found not guilty on October 3, 1995, after a jury acquitted him. A 1997 civil trial found O.J. Simpson was liable for the deaths of Nicole Simpson and Goldman, and he was ordered to pay over \$33 million in damages. Over 150 million watched the trial live. At first, networks were reluctant to give the Simpson case major news attention. That changed when viewers tuned in in record numbers.

"He asserted his innocence from the very beginning," said Alan Dershowitz, one of Simpson's attorneys, on Piers Morgan Uncensored on April 16. Dershowitz also added that

Continue **O.J.** Page 4

Breaking News: Rev. Frederick D. Haynes III Resigns as President and CEO of Rainbow PUSH Coalition



Rev. Frederick D. Haynes III
(Photo Credit:
Friendship-West Baptist
Church)

By Stacy M. Brown,
NNPA Newswire

Less than three months after his formal installation as President and CEO of the Rainbow PUSH Coalition, Rev. Frederick D. Haynes III has announced his resignation. Roland Martin first reported the news.

In a dramatic public resignation letter, Haynes stated, "After continual prayer and deliberation, I have decided to step down from the position of Chief Executive

Officer and President of Rainbow PUSH Coalition, effective immediately." Despite his sudden departure, Haynes emphasized his commitment to honoring the organization's rich history and the legacy of its esteemed former leader, Rev. Jesse L. Jackson.

Shelly Davis, a Jackson spokesman, and officials at Rainbow PUSH have not yet responded to requests for comments regarding Haynes' resignation.

Jackson, a monumental figure in American politics and the Civil Rights Movement, has faced health challenges in recent years, including a diagnosis of Parkinson's disease. Although Jackson, who uses a wheelchair, did not speak at Haynes' installation ceremony in January, he was present.

Before his resignation, Haynes, 63, had expressed gratitude for Jackson's mentorship and the preparation

Continue **Haynes** Page 3

Brick by brick, old Parkland is slowly coming down

Hospital had served Dallas County residents for more than 60 years



Old Parkland Demolition

DALLAS — It is just before dawn when Eric Velasquez reports for demolition duty at the old Parkland Memorial Hospital. As a member of the Ecosystems crew charged with monitoring the air quality in and around the construction site, Velasquez is one of seven people who find

themselves in a rather unique position. He is working alongside the crew who is tearing down the hospital where he was born.

Velasquez, who had not been back to the hospital since his birth in 2003, said he had a chance to see the area of the hospital where he was born, but at times, "it

makes me sad that my kids will never see it."

For Julian Guerrero, a safety manager with The Beck Group, one of the construction groups working on the demolition site, it is bittersweet seeing the structure come down piece by piece. For more than two decades, Guerrero was with Grand

Prairie EMS and spent many hours in Parkland's Emergency Department.

"I remember seeing the canopy that covered the ambulance bays come down, and I kept thinking about how many times I had stood under it when we brought

Continue **Brick** Page 2

Countdown to Mother's Day

My Days Remembered:

By Dr. J. Ester Davis (esterdavis2000@gmail.com)



Gwendolyn K. Foster
Mother of 10

I remember Gwen Foster as a Mother who was always on top of everything.

Watching her and her children was "poetry in motion," whether at home, school, or church.

It was amazing! I was one of four(4)musicians at Greater New Zion Baptist Church at the time.

To this day, I wish I had a picture of her ten(10)children, dressed, orderly, and quiet, all on the front pew of our church. Mother Gwen was a singer and sang in the choir. Of course, being a member of the famed 'Phillips Family' where all are songbirds, Rev. Voice, our former pastor, had favorite songs

he often requested from the choir and Mother Gwen.

Last year, I was invited to the well-attended two-day Family Reunion.

The second generation formed a choir, referred to as "The Family," at St. Phillips Church, where Uncle and Pastor CJR Philips was in charge.



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EDITORIAL PAGE

Are You Raising One of the Next Generation of Hoodlums?

TIPS FOR RAISING A WELL-ROUNDED BOY

By Dr. Joyce Willard. Teal



Dr. Joyce W. Teal

It is important that as your son grows and begins to mature, he also begins to develop a well-rounded personality. But becoming well-rounded is not something that just happens because of your desire to have it happen. There are things that parents must do, and there are things that parents must not do to foster this.

One of the things you should do is to give your son some responsibility and make it clear to him that he is expected to assume that responsibility.

Talk to your son about why you go to work regularly, even when you don't necessarily feel like going. Help him to learn that you do this because you are responsible for taking care of the family, and by working regularly assists you to do this.

Teach your son that there is nothing wrong with showing his emotions in certain situations; don't ridicule him for doing so. Show him warmth, tenderness, and affection, and allow him to express his feelings.

Don't worry if your son is not acting "masculine" enough. Give him the opportunity to be a young boy as you set the model for him to emulate you as he grows toward adolescence and young manhood.

Provide opportunities for him to polish his social skills. Take him to appropriate places with you that provide him with opportu-

nities to do this. Encourage his interests, even if they aren't what you might consider "boy activities".

Help your boy learn self-control. And know that you can't do this if you regularly demonstrate that you lack self-control. As a normal human being, occasionally, you might not show that you have self-control one hundred percent of the time, but this behavior cannot be frequent if your aim is to teach your son self-control.

Teach your son chivalry. Certainly, teaching chivalry to boys is a noble endeavor that shapes their character and prepares them for navigating the complexities of today's society. So, let's look at some of the benefits of instilling chivalrous values and how you can play a vital role in shaping the next generation of gentlemen.

Because chivalry cultivates considerate and respectful behavior:

- 1 Teach your son to open the doors for others.
- 2 Teach him to give deference to girls. Teach your son to be chivalrous by lifting heavy things.
- 3 Teach your son to be chivalrous by giving up his seat, especially to a woman or an elderly person.
- 4 Teach your son to hold the elevator door to allow others to pass through.
- 5 The only way to really learn something is through practice. Provide your son opportunities to show chivalry.

Teach your son to show his love and respect by being courteous in his actions and conversations.

Visit

www.untealthen.com

Continued - Brick by brick, old Parkland is slowly coming down - Page 1



Parkland - Demolition Progress

patients to Parkland. I remember days when all the bays were filled, and the ambulances were two deep," he said. "And seeing parts of the ER going away ... it brought back a lot of memories."

For the last 22 months, architects, engineers, and contractors have been working diligently to prepare and plan the demolition of the former hospital. After eight months of selective demolition, hazardous material abatement, and interior demolition, the building's superstructure demolition is noticeable to those driving past the Harry Hines location.

With demolition well underway, the landscape is changing with every load of the excavator bucket. Of more than 14,000 truckloads of material which is expected to be removed from the site, 1,656 have

been removed through the end of March, equating to 28,553 tons of debris.

It has been a painstaking task to remove the structure that has stood tall since 1954. With connections to the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Children's Medical Center, and to the ER garage tunnel, the buildings had to be separated floor by floor, thus making an implosion impossible.

If a building can be resilient in its purpose to serve the community, Parkland is an example.

"I have seen a lot of buildings where you pull off one brick and the others just fall," Guerrero said. "But not Parkland. It was built with a lot of heavy steel and it has taken some work to come down. It has served its purpose well."

But coming down it is.

"I have been at Parkland 35 years and spent the first 25 in the old building. This prolonged demolition process has been painful," said Judy Herrington, MSN, RN, senior vice president of Nursing for Medicine Services. "I check the progress every few days to see if my office on the 10th floor is still standing but so many familiar landmarks are gone, the ER, the SICU. The main lobby. I had some of the best times of my nursing career in that building."

Sheila DePaola, MSN, RN, a nursing operations specialist at Parkland, has watched the changing landscape daily. Most days, DePaola rides the TRE to Parkland and walks by the demolition site. On those days, she opts to drive; parking on the roof of the old ER garage gives a bird's-eye view of the site.

"You cannot appreciate how quickly it is coming down. It takes your breath away," said DePaola. "I think about the patients and friends we made in that building. Working there made me the person I am today. One day, we are going to wake up, and it will be all gone. It will just be a memory."

For Grady Portis, Sr., the building has significant meaning. Not only was he born in Parkland, but it has been his work home for the last 24 years. As one of

Parkland's Life Safety Coordinators, Portis was one of the last employees stationed in the former hospital.

"It's a little sad that the building is coming down," Portis said. "There's so much history. I can remember my grandmother bringing me to the Emergency Department when I was just a kid and had gotten hurt. Before the building was completely closed off, I went up to the Labor & Delivery area and thought, 'This is where my life began!'"

But he, too, acknowledges that the building was no longer suitable for contemporary healthcare. The deterioration of its mechanical, plumbing, electrical, and life safety systems and the high cost of ongoing electrical power consumption even when it was in its "mothballed" state led Parkland leaders to make the fiscally sound decision to demolish the building. Currently, the future use of the land has not been determined.

Still, like many, Herrington says she hates "to see it come down, but I am looking forward to the next phase of our campus growth. Parkland keeps evolving, and it is exciting to be a part of it."

For more information about Parkland, visit www.parklandhealth.org

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RELIGIOUS/NEWS

The Motive and Conduct of a Man of God I

Thessalonians 2:1-20

PART II



By Rev. Johnny Calvin Smith

In this chapter, the critics of Paul were at their best. There are those who are always trying to undermine the good that you are doing. Paul had his critics during his lifetime, and so do we! The two main charges against this grand apostle were: unworthy motives and questionable behavior. These same two charges are basically the ones that our critics are, right now, discussing about us, even more so as the Lord is progressing our ministries. Some critics are constantly resisting the advancements in our ministries, and they will do anything to attempt to destroy the credibility and integrity of the minister to which God is using at the time.

As we related in our last article, the great Apostle Paul really cherished this church. The believers were "living out the gospel message" to such extent that everyone in their region and beyond heard about their

new-found faith. What a marvelous church! Our text I Thessalonians 2:1-20 may be outlined as follows: I. Paul's Ministry Being Scrutinized – I Thessalonians 2:1-12; II. Paul's Ministry Involving Suffering – I Thessalonians 2:13-20.

II. Paul's Ministry Involving Suffering – I Thessalonians 2:13-20

As previously discussed in I Thessalonians 2:7, 8, 11, the Thessalonian church was really an affection to the Apostle Paul and his associates. In verse 13, Paul's heart was filled with unusual joy because these believers were receptive to the word of God, conscious of the fact that its message found evidence that it was the very words of God. In other words, they heard the word of God, and its message had an extraordinary impact upon their lives. The

message in which Paul shared with the believers resulted in a dramatic change in their lives in the past, to such an extent, that in the present, it is producing an effect.

As believers today, let us share the message of God's grace to a dying and sin-sick world, and leave the results to God to effect the change in people's lives; indeed, I am a living witness that His word given through the power of the Spirit will produce a change in the lives of people (Isaiah 55:11). If the gospel is genuinely accepted by faith on the part of any unsaved person, I will assure one that God will truly save, for John 5:24, says: "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on Him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life."

Having received the word

genuinely, which resulted in their lives being transformed, Paul went on to impress upon them that God was still at work in them even if they were experiencing persecution from unbelievers (v.14). These believers were certainly being persecuted just as their brethren in Judea were. Sometimes, even in our present situation, we tend to feel that God is displeased with us when we are going through the sea of hard times. Not so! Suffering for the faith is a normal experience for every child of God. We have not been exempted from the problems of this world, and the believers in our text wasn't either. We need to know that God hasn't abandoned us when we are going through hard times, but that He is really maturing us (Romans 8:28).

Yes, we will suffer persecution as believers of God; but that fact should not cause us to give up in

despair! In verse 15, Paul is reminding these believers that suffering is a common experience of not only other believers, but even the Lord Jesus and the Old Testament prophets suffered. Those who persecute believers are really fighting against God and preventing unbelievers from experiencing salvation.

In verse 16, Paul goes on to say that unbelievers who are guilty of preventing other unbelievers from receiving salvation will eventually be judged severely by God. God will not allow unbelievers to hinder others from receiving the truth of God without punishment. God's wrath will be eventually poured out upon a rejecting world after the rapture of the church - the "tribulation period" (see I Thess. 5:3).

In verse 17, Paul explains to the Thessalonian believers that his departure from them was due to circum-

stances beyond his control. Paul revealed his feelings of being separated from them; however, Paul hoped that the separation would be brief. Paul and his associates indeed had an intense longing to see the believers again! In verse 18, Paul accused Satan for his failure to be able to return. Paul wanted to return to Thessalonica to provide spiritual nourishment and help to the new converts but was prohibited.

Finally, in the next verses (19-20), Paul was so overwhelmed with excitement over the spiritual development of these believers, for at judgment seat of Christ, they will be the climax of his joy when he sees them in glory. These believers had brought so much joy to the Apostle and Paul will be so blessed when he sees them in heaven at the judgment seat of Christ.

"May God Bless!"

THE KATHLYN JOY GILLIAM MUSEUM

"South Dallas Gilliam Debaters Do It Again!"

On Friday, March 8, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. – the Kathlyn Joy Gilliam Museum "South Dallas Gilliam Debate Team" won both rounds of competition at the Atlanta Urban Debate League Tournament (elementary competition). NOTE: Two teams of three and each team won both rounds! The tournament is sponsored each year by Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia. This would be the Dallas team's first competition since COVID. The debate program has been in existence since 2016. Each year of participation, they have come home with winning teams. This year they continue the tradition!

The 2023-2024 debate team members are Matthew Cash Hill; Jayce Allen Dabney; Ella Grace Najm; Savannah Louise Lewis; Jackson Ellington Yates and Claudette Pounders. All of the debaters are from the South Dallas community. This year the students were asked to come up with a plan to "reduce human-caused climate

change." The South Dallas Gilliam Debaters developed a campaign to get children involved in climate change. They call it the "Get it Right On Using Light" campaign. Their plan was precise and is very easy to do. They offered suggestions such as reducing the use of electricity; keeping home and business temperatures regulated; unplugging vampire devices and using high efficient light bulbs.

This team has a range of personalities – bold; confident; determined, outspoken and quite energetic. Coaches will continue to plant the seed for success in October 2024 when they will pick up where they left off -- working with this same group of bright minds. At least one new team of three will be invited to join the group in October 2024.

This season, the Museum welcomed two new coaches to work with the students. They are, Attorney Cheryl Wattle (Professor of Law at the University of North Texas Dallas) and son Andrew Wattle (Intellectual



Standup Comic). The coaches bonded instantly with the students. KJGM President and CEO, Connie Harris, comments, "This is a remarkable mother and son tag team who gave each student 100% of their time in preparing for the tournament. Such a unique pair – sharp and funny which allows the students to relate." The coaches offered their assistance on a volunteer basis to help broaden young minds. With their patience and genuine concern to see this group of young students succeed, they have truly made a difference. They have planted memories that

will follow each debater for many years to come.

Junior coaches for this class were Amir Najm (Kathlyn Joy Gilliam Collegiate Academy); LaDarius Buckner (St. Anthony Academy); and Aleigha West (Martin Luther King Jr. Arts Academy). All are from the South Dallas Community. Carla Ranger (retired DISD Board Trustee) also worked closely with the students in preparation for the tournament. Not to forget the amazing parents who encouraged and made sure each student showed up for some vigorous practices. We want to thank them all!, says Ms. Harris.

Continued Haynes Page 1

he received for leading Rainbow PUSH. "I'm appreciative of what he's poured into me, which makes me feel like I've been prepared for this experience and this moment," Haynes said.

Haynes envisioned building on Jackson's legacy, aiming to institutionalize the dynamism and charisma that Jackson brought to the organization. "Whereas he did the work of 50 people, we need 50 people to do the kind of work that Rev. Jackson did," Haynes remarked.

Remaining in his role as the senior pastor at Friendship-West Baptist Church in Dallas, a position he has held for over 40 years, Haynes had expressed plans to continue leading the Rainbow PUSH Coalition remotely from Dallas. He said he envisioned his work at the justice-oriented church complementary to the organization's mission.

Jackson, a protégé of Rev. Martin Luther King

Jr., founded Operation PUSH in 1971, which later evolved into the Rainbow PUSH Coalition. The organization has been instrumental in promoting minority hiring and voter registration drives in communities of color and has played a significant role in American politics.

Reflecting on his longstanding relationship with Jackson, Haynes recalled their first meeting in 1981 as a college student. "He comes to campus as this larger-than-life, charismatic, dynamic figure, and immediately I was awestruck," Haynes shared earlier this year.

Despite stepping down from his leadership role, Haynes concluded his resignation letter with a commitment to continue his fight for liberation and freedom. "Rest assured that my work in the fight for liberation and freedom continues," Haynes wrote.

The Rainbow PUSH Coalition, headquartered in Chicago, will now begin the search for a new leader to guide the organization forward.

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Continued O.J. Page 1

there was proven tampering with evidence.

"The prosecution messed the case up in every way... this was the American justice system working," he added.

That the trial was televised, turning it into an obsession that riveted the nation over weeks. O.J. Simpson's legal team was legendary and a key reason why he was able to win a case over public prosecutors. Simpson's team included Barry Scheck, F. Lee Bailey, Robert Kardashian and, perhaps most notably, famed defense attorney Johnnie Cochran.

A pivotal point in the Simpson trial came with the realization that one of the Detectives in the Simpson

case had made racist statements in the past. Los Angeles Police Detective Mark Fuhrman, now a former detective of the Los Angeles Police Department, was a central figure in the 1995 trial.

On Fox News, where Fuhrman was an on-air contributor, Jeanine Pirro and Richard Fowler pointed out that tapes that included racist comments by then-police detective Mark Fuhrman screwed up the prosecution's murder case against O.J. Simpson. They left out that Fuhrman has worked for Fox News for years. Fuhrman took the fifth when asked if he planted evidence.

So much of the analysis around the Simpson case ignores the general context of the criminal justice system's treatment of Black

men. Black men in America are disproportionately incarcerated and given longer sentences than white males. Because of Simpson's wealth, he was able to do something most defendants cannot do: Hire the best multi-expert legal team available. The reality of a Black man being acquitted in the murders of a white woman and man was clearly jarring to many commentators.

The family of O.J. Simpson will not be allowing his brain to be analyzed for any possible issues around Chronic traumatic encephalopathy (CTE). The brain disorder, which scientists have concluded is likely caused by repeated head injuries, is also related to suicides in NFL players and violence after their playing days ended.

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Quinn Minute

Baseball

By Rix Quinn

Hey, it's the 2024 baseball season!

For those who don't know this sport, it requires a glove and a moving bat, but it's got nothing to do with vampires.

It takes place on a "diamond," or four bases arranged in a square. There aren't real diamonds involved, so players won't get distracted by bright stones.

The pitcher stands in the middle of the square, and aims his throw at one of the bases, called home plate. The catcher stands behind the plate to catch the ball.

But next to the plate

stands an offensive team member – the batter – who holds a giant wood stick. His job is to hit the ball in places defensive players are not. Confused yet?

The pitcher's job is to throw the ball in such a way that the batter misses it. So, he throws pitches called a fastball, curve, screwball, slider, or knuckleball. If he makes the ball too easy to hit, the offensive team will love him. However, his own team will not, and they will remove him from the game and put in another pitcher.

Some defensive team members stand next to the

bases, while others stand elsewhere. Some might say they are "outstanding in their field." These players try to catch the ball hit by the batter.

So, the batter hits the ball and runs around the bases. If he touches all bases correctly, he scores a run. If he runs them randomly, he is considered "wacky" and is also called out. After three offensive players are called out, the other team gets a chance to bat.

One other thing...each team has a different uniform. That way, the home team fans will know which players to insult.

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Op-Ed: Why MAGA Policies Are Detrimental to Black Communities

Ron Reynolds,

Texas State Representative

As a representative deeply invested in the well-being of my constituents, I feel compelled to shed light on the harmful impact of the MAGA agenda. While its proponents claim to champion America's greatness, the reality is far from uplifting, especially for Black Americans.

Let's be clear: Make America Great Again (MAGA) is not a call for progress; it's a thinly veiled attempt to turn back the clock on the hard-fought gains of marginalized communities, including Black Americans. From voting rights to healthcare to economic opportunity, the policies espoused under the guise of MAGA pose a direct threat to the advancements we've made in the pursuit of equality and justice.

Take voting rights, for example. MAGA proponents peddle baseless claims of widespread voter fraud to justify voter suppression tactics that disproportionately target Black voters. The purpose of restrictive voter ID laws, purging voter rolls, and limiting early voting hours is to silence marginalized communities and maintain the status quo of power.

I would still like to play baseball myself, but I was terrible at it. I asked one of my coaches what position I should play, and he recommended "left out."

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SPORTS/NEWS PAGE

7 Day Weather Forecast for DFW

Thursday, Apr. 18



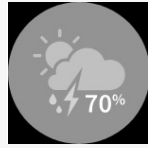
H 87°
L - 64°

Friday, Apr. 19



H - 65°
L - 62°

Saturday, Apr. 20



H - 62°
L - 53°

Sunday, Apr. 21



H - 62°
L - 48°

Monday, Apr. 22



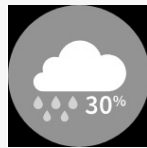
H - 67°
L - 58°

Tuesday, Apr. 23



H - 71°
L - 63°

Wednesday, Apr. 24



H - 74°
L - 65°

Colin Allred's fundraising for U.S. Senate race surpasses O'Rourke's early 2018 pace

S. Rep. Colin Allred raised over \$9.5 million for his U.S. Senate campaign this quarter, surpassing Beto O'Rourke's 2018 first quarter sum of \$6.7 million.

BY MATTHEW CHOI

WASHINGTON — U.S. Rep. Colin Allred raised over \$9.5 million for his U.S. Senate campaign in this year's first quarter, surpassing the campaign of his rival Sen. Ted Cruz.

Notably, Allred has also raised more money than Beto O'Rourke did by this point in his own history-making run against Cruz in 2018.

O'Rourke raised over \$6.7 million in the first quarter of 2018 against Cruz. The El Paso Democrat's haul that quarter was the biggest of any Democratic Senate candidate in the country.

Cruz raised over \$6.9 million from his official campaign this past quarter, according to filings with the Federal Election Commission. Still, the conservative senator remains a formidable fundraiser, bringing in over \$9.7 million across his fundraising entities. That includes money he has raised for other candidates.

O'Rourke broke new ground for Democrats in Texas with his meteoric rise. His team had to establish new campaign infrastructure where a Democrat hadn't won state-wide office in over 20 years. Alumni of O'Rourke's campaign and other Democrats in Texas have credited O'Rourke's near success for providing a better launching pad for future Democratic candidates.

O'Rourke's fundraising operation took off exponentially just before the general election in 2018. He broke records for a senate race, raising over \$38.1 million in the third quarter — more than twice he had raised in the prior two quarters and more than twice Cruz had raised cumulatively since the start of 2017.

Cruz still managed to beat O'Rourke that year with a 3-point margin, despite O'Rourke spending the majority of his money. O'Rourke finished 2018 with only \$477,000 of the over \$80 million he had raised in the bank.

Allred has raised over \$27.9 million since launching his campaign last May. He has had donations from

over 285,000 individual contributors, with the average donation totalling \$34.75. His first quarter haul far surpassed his \$4.8 million raised in last year's final quarter.

"Texans from every corner of the state are joining Congressman Allred's campaign to say it is time for new leadership in the Senate," said Paige Hutchinson, Allred's campaign manager, in a statement. "We are so grateful for the continued outpouring of support from Texans of all stripes. This campaign is about rejecting the divisiveness of Ted Cruz and fighting for Texans' freedoms. This continues our momentum to build a strong campaign to win in November and send Ted Cruz packing for good."

Cruz and national Republican groups have learned their lesson from his close call against O'Rourke, committing to take Allred's threat seriously.

Cruz had over 179,000 unique contributions this past quarter, with the average donation being \$35.73. He has raised money in every county in Texas and every state. Across his fundraising operations, he has over \$15.1 million in cash on hand. That includes his leadership political action committee and joint fundraising committee and the money he's raised for the National Republican Senatorial Committee and the Republican Party of Texas.

Cruz also has strong allies outside of his immediate orbit. Club for Growth, the deep-pocketed right-wing group, vowed to spend at least \$10 million for Cruz' reelection effort, the group told The Washington Post last month.

"Senator Cruz is off to a very strong start this year as the momentum to get him across the finish line in November continues to increase across the entire Lone Star State.

This article originally appeared in The Texas Tribune at <https://www.texastribune.org/2024/04/15/colin-allred-beto-orourke-ted-cruz-fundraising/>.

JROTC team to compete in national academic bowl championship

BY JENNA CARPENTER



Photo Credit: The HUB/DISD

Dallas ISD students are making history and headed to the nation's capital.

This summer, Jordan P., Angel C., Leonardo H., and Kyan H., JRTOC students at Emmet J. Conrad High School, will be going on an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C. to compete in the 2023-2024 JROTC Leadership & Academic Bowl.

Emmet J. Conrad High School was one of 1,844 JRTOC programs that competed in two preliminary rounds to qualify for the bowl, also known as JLAB. It is the first time a Dallas ISD school will be competing in the final round and Conrad is the only school in the district to qualify.

"This is a huge milestone and has never been accomplished in the history of the JROTC program," said Leon Johnson, JROTC instructor.

Representing Dallas ISD and Texas is an honor, Leonardo said.

"I have never been able to do something like this so it's very important to me that I

get to do it," he said. "I feel very happy that I'm going to make history at Conrad and that I get to do such an amazing thing."

The students say competing on the national stage showcases their hard work and dedication.

"It means a lot to me to represent in this way, to be able to represent the star state is something I thought I'd never do. It is quite frankly intimidating to think about," Kyan said. "It's an odd feeling and really makes me think about how far we've come."

It's also a reminder of their potential, Jordan said.

"It shows me that I can reach expectations further than my own and that I'm capable of being able to represent my school, and state," he said. "The highest role I've been given in my entire life."

For Angel — and many others — this will be the first time they are traveling outside of Texas.

"I'm looking forward to everything because I have never been to another state,

so I am excited to visit an entirely new place," he said.

To qualify for JLAB, Jordan, Leonardo, Kyan and Angel, who are all rising juniors, advanced through two phases of online competition, where they were evaluated on their knowledge of JROTC core curriculum and academic subjects. They were also tested on state and world current events, citizenship, leadership skills, and financial literacy.

"Each question had a 15 to 60 second timer," Jordan said. "If we aren't able to answer in time, it counted as wrong, and we are moved on to the next question."

Leonardo credits passing the qualifiers with high marks to his teammates.

"The preliminary rounds were very nerve-wracking. We just studied as a group and had good teamwork," he said.

With the preliminary rounds behind them, the group is now focused on getting ready for the final round.

"Our team is preparing for the competition in

Washington, D.C., by studying and quizzing ourselves on whatever materials are given to us," Kyan said.

Knowing they will be competing among the best JROTC programs in the country is fuel to give it their all at JLAB, Angel added.

"It will push me forward and motivate me in doing my absolute best because our group has the honor to represent all our district, which for me is important," he said.

"We are ready for whatever they will throw at us," Leonardo added.

Johnson said the team is more than capable of succeeding in D.C..

"I am truly blessed and honored to take this journey with my cadets, and I believed in them from day one. They are a special group, and I know that they can achieve whatever they believe. The sky is the limit for this group," he said.

The JLAB competition will be from June 16 to 20 at The Catholic University of America.

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CITY OF DALLAS

NOTICE OF ELECTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Dallas, Texas has called a bond election to be held within the City of Dallas, Texas on Saturday, May 4, 2024.

CITY OF DALLAS PROPOSITION A

- FOR THE ISSUANCE OF \$521,200,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS FOR STREET AND TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS AND THE LEVYING OF A TAX SUFFICIENT TO PAY PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST THEREON; THE ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF REPAYMENT, INCLUDING PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST BASED ON CURRENT MARKET CONDITIONS BEING \$726,415,188.
- AGAINST

CITY OF DALLAS PROPOSITION B

- FOR THE ISSUANCE OF \$345,270,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS FOR PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES AND IMPROVEMENTS AND THE LEVYING OF A TAX SUFFICIENT TO PAY PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST THEREON; THE ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF REPAYMENT, INCLUDING PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST BASED ON CURRENT MARKET CONDITIONS BEING \$481,211,813.
- AGAINST

CITY OF DALLAS PROPOSITION C

- FOR THE ISSUANCE OF \$52,100,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS FOR FLOOD PROTECTION AND STORM DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS AND THE LEVYING OF A TAX SUFFICIENT TO PAY PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST THEREON; THE ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF REPAYMENT, INCLUDING PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST BASED ON CURRENT MARKET CONDITIONS BEING \$72,606,125.
- AGAINST

CITY OF DALLAS PROPOSITION D

- FOR THE ISSUANCE OF \$43,530,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS FOR LIBRARY FACILITIES AND IMPROVEMENTS AND THE LEVYING OF A TAX SUFFICIENT TO PAY PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST THEREON; THE ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF REPAYMENT, INCLUDING PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST BASED ON CURRENT MARKET CONDITIONS BEING \$60,664,313.
- AGAINST

CITY OF DALLAS PROPOSITION E

- FOR THE ISSUANCE OF \$75,200,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS FOR CULTURAL AND PERFORMING ARTS FACILITIES AND IMPROVEMENTS AND THE LEVYING OF A TAX SUFFICIENT TO PAY PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST THEREON; THE ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF REPAYMENT, INCLUDING PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST BASED ON CURRENT MARKET CONDITIONS BEING \$104,801,750.
- AGAINST

CITY OF DALLAS PROPOSITION F

- FOR THE ISSUANCE OF \$90,000,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS FOR PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITIES AND IMPROVEMENTS AND THE LEVYING OF A TAX SUFFICIENT TO PAY PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST THEREON; THE ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF REPAYMENT, INCLUDING PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST-BASED ON CURRENT MARKET CONDITIONS BEING \$125,429,625.
- AGAINST

CITY OF DALLAS PROPOSITION G

- FOR THE ISSUANCE OF \$72,300,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS FOR FUNDING THE CITY'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS AND THE LEVYING OF A TAX SUFFICIENT TO PAY PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST THEREON; THE ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF REPAYMENT, INCLUDING PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST BASED ON CURRENT MARKET CONDITIONS BEING \$115,948,538.
- AGAINST

CITY OF DALLAS PROPOSITION H

- FOR THE ISSUANCE OF \$26,400,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS FOR HOUSING AND NEIGHBORHOOD INFRASTRUCTURE AND THE LEVYING OF A TAX SUFFICIENT TO PAY PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST THEREON; THE ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF REPAYMENT, INCLUDING PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST-BASED ON CURRENT MARKET CONDITIONS BEING \$42,334,113.
- AGAINST

CITY OF DALLAS PROPOSITION I

- FOR THE ISSUANCE OF \$19,000,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS FOR PERMANENT, SUPPORTIVE AND SHORT-TERM HOUSING FACILITIES FOR THE HOMELESS AND THE LEVYING OF A TAX SUFFICIENT TO PAY PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST THEREON; THE ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF REPAYMENT, INCLUDING PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST BASED ON CURRENT MARKET CONDITIONS BEING \$26,481,250.
- AGAINST

CITY OF DALLAS PROPOSITION J

- FOR THE ISSUANCE OF \$5,000,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO THE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY FACILITIES AND THE LEVYING OF A TAX SUFFICIENT TO PAY PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST THEREON; THE ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF REPAYMENT, INCLUDING PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST BASED ON CURRENT MARKET CONDITIONS BEING \$6,960,875.
- AGAINST

EARLY VOTING DATES AND TIMES FOR THE JOINT ELECTION*

April 22-26, 2024	Monday – Friday	8 am to 5 pm
April 27, 2024	Saturday	7 am to 7 pm
April 28, 2024	Sunday	12 pm to 6 pm
April 29-30, 2024	Monday – Tuesday	7 am to 7 pm

Dallas County Early voting and Election Day locations:

- <https://www.dallascountyvotes.org/early-voting/>
- <https://www.dallascountyvotes.org/election-day/>

Collin County Early voting and Election Day locations and dates/times:

- [Elections: Polling Locations \(collincountytx.gov\)](https://www.collincountytx.gov/elections/polling-locations)
- [Elections: Polling Locations \(collincountytx.gov\)](https://www.collincountytx.gov/elections/polling-locations)

Denton County Early voting and Election Day locations and dates/times:

- [0524 EV Locations.pdf \(votedenton.gov\)](https://www.votedenton.gov/0524-EV-Locations.pdf)
- [0524-Election-Day-Locations.pdf \(votedenton.gov\)](https://www.votedenton.gov/0524-Election-Day-Locations.pdf)

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT THE CITY SECRETARY'S OFFICE:
Bilierae Johnson (214) 670-5654 or Miroslava Martinez (214) 670-3809**