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This grassroots publication is the life source for a community that is not easily afforded viable access to diverse and accessible media. San Antonio and the surrounding counties have become accustomed to relevant news brought to them in both English and Spanish since 1913.

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The vision is a vibrant Westside community where people want to live, work, and visit.

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Let's talk about it...

By Yvette Tello

I just overheard a very interesting conversation between a Mother and her son; he was about 10 years old. As they waited for their dinner, they watched another Trump headline on the television. Mom called him an idiot and said someone should put a stop to this nonsense. He asked her," Who did you vote for?" She explained she had not voted because she felt their was not a qualified candidate to vote for. The young boy said," then you shouldn't complain because when you had a chance to vote, you didn't." Mother just stared at him. He then continued, "so next time you have the chance to vote. I think you should." I remember many people felt very much like the mother during the election, me included. Did you vote? If you knew then what you know now, would you still have made the same choice? Let's talk about it...

Mary Svetlik Watkins I did not vote for Trump or his opponent. I'm a card carrying libertarian. However, it irritates me to no end when people call the president names - horrible things yet get upset that he does the same. It's the whole "that idiot called me and idiot" scenario. When ever you point fingers, three point back at you.

Jazmin D Zuñiga I voted & I encouraged ALOT of ppl to do so, some did some didn't & I don't Regret My Vote & there were a few who were voting for Trump Because of religious believes against abortion & I tried to explain that even if abortion is legal, you are the one that makes that decision not the law.. Not sure which way they went..

Eliseo Moreno I didn't vote for either one of them and would not for either one of them again. Between the two there were no decent can-

didates to vote for . I'm not going to vote for something / someone that I believe is wrong . Also makes no sense , just to be able to complain I should vote for one of the candidates that I don't believe are good people ??

Barbara Ann Mendoza Mead Maga 2020

Regina Deseri Gonzales I voted for Trump because the other choice I felt was more dangerous. I do not agree with everything he's done but I do believe he's working hard. I support the office of the Presidency and have even when whomever I voted for may not have won. I'm pro America, pro Democracy and pray for our country's leaders. Yes I would vote the same...and respect difference of opinions.

Eliseo Moreno He is doing great work but if he could only work with people in a more positive manner I believe he could achieve great things. It just seems so counter productive the way he goes about some things.. wish him the best but seems like when it comes to relations he keeps digging deeper.

Henry Shamdas I agree and also disagree with you. Yes respect the office of the president and as such he should also respect that office and be above petty name calling and fighting. Be above it because you represent us on the world stage not the ones calling him names.

Regina Deseri Gonzales
Eliseo Moreno I completely
agree. He's not tactful at all
and seems to put people off
rather than encourage unity.
It's what makes me sad. Ultimately though he SHOULD
be more diplomatic, not sure
he will ever be great at it.
Praying for the best always

A Note from the Editor: Celebrating Grandparents Day

San Antonio is a city of grandmas and tias, of mothers and sisters. An extremely ancient family place like the families who have been here since before the borders, watching the city change from ranches to roadways.

Today we cherish our grandparents, our ancestors, their experience and how we continue their legacy. Dr. Romo has shared an incredible story in this issue (page 8) of his family beginnings in the south, the connections to Mexico and a parallelled family work ethic that has helped him reach his goals.

Where do we come from? Origins. It is in my blood and what I put in front of myself.

I could live anywhere and I

chose to live in the same neighborhood as my grandma. I like to see her and talk to her. She speaks only spanish.

She teaches me how to cook and how to garden and most importantly how to speak spanish.

She is 83 years old. Her name is Cointa and she was born on February 8, 1935 in Panuco Veracruz, Mexico.

I will be driving her to dallas this weekend to visit my tia and I am looking forward to all of the things she will tell me.

My Grandmothers were born on the same day. The same kind of chick, I think. My Grandma Hopie was born on February 8, 1944 in Reynosa, Mexico.

I carry their journey with me and cherish every moment with them. Happy Grandparents day.



Me and my cousin Dominique chilling with our Grandma Hopie and our Great Grandma Petra at the Nombrana Family Reunion in 1995

About the Cover Artist: Lucy Llera

Por Melissa Bryant

Today we have the honor of sharing our cover with Artist: Lucy Llera. The artwork featured is entitled, Don Jesús. Lucy Llera has been living in San Antonio since 1982 and received her Art Degree from the University of Texas at San Antonio. But her desire and pursuit of being a contributor to the expression of art and the knowledge of the arts, Ms. Lucy was a bilingual elementary teacher for 17 years and was a high school art teacher for 13 years. She continually advances her own artist skills as she studied under the guidance and direction of Warren Hunter, a well regarded watercolorist, participated in painting workshops with Lesta Frank and Gladys Roldan de Moras, Daniel Green and Dalhart Weinberg among other endeavors.

Lucy Llera lives a life that is a blossoming rich fragrance of love and passion and observation, through and for the breath of arts. Born tage, culture and traditions in Cayey, Puerto Rico her artwork reflects the antiquity and long reaching, heritage and culture of the island. She is drawn to the display of the foundations and commitments that she observes that are being embodied by the artisans of Puerto Rico. The cover art that is featured today is an up close vantage point; a profound segment, of her many experiences which are in the world around her. She shared with me her appreciation of the heavy responsibility that the artisans undertake to preserve the traditions and customs and truths of Puerto Rican culture. The cover image of Don Jesús captures



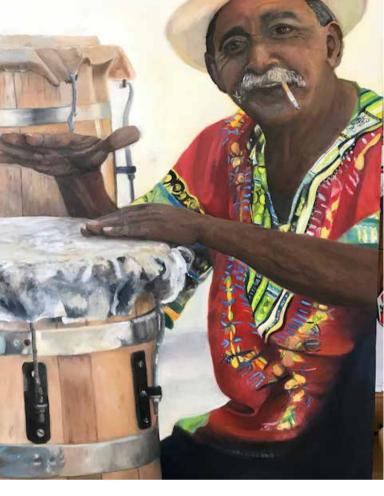
Puerto Rico performing in the historic Puerto Rican Festival of San Juan. Don Jesús made by hand the conga that he is playing and stretched and treated the leather covering that tautly drapes the instrument. His shirt is intentional and celebrates the honor and history of the African herithat are prominent fibers of Puerto Rican life.

I asked Lucy to share with me her heart and her motivations for her art through her eyes and this is what she said," I believe that artisans, musicians, dancers and painters have the responsibility of preserving culture, wishing that traditions do not die. My inspiration through art is to showcase culture, especially that of my beloved island of Puerto Rico. But I also paint the landscapes of places I have visited abroad. I want people to see in my oil paintings and watercolors the ver mis óleos y acuarelas vean beauty of traditions and land- la belleza de las tradiciones y scapes. I paint the nostalgia, los paisajes. Pinto la nostal-

the real life person living in or the memory of a past that I want to preserve.

I paint traditional landscapes, like the flamboyant that invites you to sit down and rest. It is the flamboyant that, as a song says, dressed in red, looks like the king of Spring. Also, I enjoy painting children and adults. In their faces and in their traditional dresses that so much call my attention, I can see their pride in their culture."

Please enjoy her words in Español:"Creo que los artesanos, músicos, bailarines y pintores tenemos en nuestras manos la responsabilidad de preservar la cultura, deseando conservar vivas nuestras tradiciones. Mi inspiración a través del arte es llevar al público el conocimiento de la cultura de los pueblos, especialmente la de mi querida isla de Puerto Rico. Pero también pinto los paisajes de sitios que he visitado en mis viajes. Deseo que la gente al



gia, el recuerdo de un pasado que quiero conservar en mis obras.

Pinto la naturaleza típica, como el flamboyán que te invita a sentarte y a descansar. Es el flamboyán que, como dice la canción, vestido de rojo, luce el rey de la primavera. También, disfruto pintar niños y adultos. Trato de captar su orgullo en su cultura tanto en sus caras como en sus vestidos típicos que tanto me llaman la atención."

We are living in a world where there are many artificial influences that are powerful and pressing and have strong impacts on how we interact and engage with the world we live in. But that can be the beauty of the life of an artist. They can create the world they want to live in.

To see more of her work:

Upcoming Exhibition: Essence Exhibit Freight Gallery 1913 S Flores St. Saturday, Nov. 10, 2018 6pm-9pm

Puerto Rican Heritage Society 16th Festival Sunday, Nov. 18, 2018 San Antonio Shrine Auditorium 901 North Loop 1604 W 12pm-6pm

If you are a local artist or know an artist from San Antonio who would like their work featured on the cover of La Prensa Texas, Please contact Melissa Bryant at info@ laprensatexas.com or call 2106860600

Southern Soul Blues Legend "Marvelous Mel" Commemorated with Mel

Waiters Way Street in Hometown San Antonio treated everybody he encoun-

Hundreds gathered on the Eastside of San Antonio, Texas Saturday morning for the dedication and ribbon cutting.

The ceremony of "Mel Waiters Way" the newly named street running from north to south in honor of the late hometown Blues Legend 'Marvelous' Mel Waiters. He grew up in the East Terrace Neighborhood where he honed his skills as an artist.

Waiters was known throughout the South for his hits including "Got My Whiskey" and "Hole in the Wall," where his music set the tone for dancing and socializing. Mel Waiters passed on May 28, 2015.

Public officials including San Antonio Mayor Ron Nirenberg, County Commissioner Pct. 4 Tommy Calvert, City Councilman District 2 William "Cruz" Shaw, and State Representative District 120 Barbara Gervin-Hawkins joined Mel's widow and daughter, Portia and Brittney Waiters, for remarks commemorating the music legend at the intersection of Mel Waiters Way and Paso Hondo streets.

A recurring theme amongst speakers was Mel's constant jovial demeanor that lifted people's spirits and the generosity and kindness he extended everybody he came in contact with.

"He took care of people and

treated everybody he encountered with respect, I don't think there was ever a time he said the word 'no' to anybody, ever, when they needed help," said Portia Waiters.

Earlier this year the Mayor and City Council voted unanimously after the majority of the citizens on Rio Grande Street signed the petition to name the street after the famous, late Blues Singer.

Local non-profit community radio station KROVFM. com, Restore Our Voice, was on the scene conducting a live remote along with sponsors VIA Metropolitan Transit, Judge Genie Wright, Confidential Search Solutions, Done and Done Property Solutions, Sundt Davila and the Neighborhoods First Alliance.

Mel Waiters used to say "I sing about real life from the experiences I've gone through and people respond to it because they've been through it too."

More than 300 people attended this historic event. Mel Waiters is only the second African American, and first musician, in San Antonio, the seventh largest city in the nation, to have a street named after him

BELOW: A large crowd gathers to for the dedication and ribbon cutting ceremony of "Mel Waiters Way" - Photo Courtesy of Tha1Radio



Send News Tips to info@laprensatexas.com



ABOVE: Mel Waiter's Family and Councilman William "Cruz" Shaw BELOW: (L-R) Councilman William 'Cruz' Shaw, Mayor Ron Nirenberg, Precinct 2 County Commissioner Tommy Calvert Jr., State Representative, District 120 Barbara Gervin-Hawkins Photos Courtesy of Tha1Radio



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New West Side Education and Training Center Facility Announced for Construction in Spring 2019

By S. Duran

Alamo colleges announced last week that a new WETC facility will replace the existing one with a celebration at its current location near highway 151 and Enrique M. Barrera Pkwy. Students enjoved tacos and refreshments as the district unveiled their new plans.

A decision has not been made on whether to build it where the current building sits or at a different site. The design plan process spans from September 2018 to April 2019.

Kay Hendricks, a spokesperson for Alamo Colleges said, "The planning process takes some time because this is a partnership effort and the community is very involved and we want everyone to have their voice heard in the design process."

The size of the facility is not determined yet, but \$23 million was set aside for the project from the Alamo Colleges 2017 bond issue of \$450 million.

"The Westside Education and Training Center exemempowering our diverse communities for success, and one of our most important values: being communityengaged,"said Alamo Col-Bruce Leslie.

"I have been chancellor for mand for this program. the 12 years since the WETC opened in its current form, and I am deeply gratified to see how the Westside commuand our efforts to improve seats by fall 2020.











lives through the power of education and skills training. The new WETC building will allow us to serve more students with more programs plifies both our mission of so that we can build on the success of the past 12 years."

The Health Profession Opportunity Grant program that trains healthcare workers will continue at the new location leges District Chancellor Dr. and be able to enroll more students to meet the large de-

Construction on the new facility is planned to begin in May 2019 and completed by the summer of 2020 so that nity has embraced the center students can be in their new



Photos taken by Steve Walker



Social Page













Join us as we celebrate veterans across all generations, honoring tradition, respect and pride – traits deeply embedded in the westside culture. This very special event highlights, honors and pays reverence to veterans from across our community and acknowledges the courage, history and legacy of their contributions and recognizes those who made the ultimate sacrifice while serving our country. Please save the date and share with others.

A VERY SPECIAL "THANK YOU!" TO DUR SPONSORS

























Página Social

Tres dias de fiesta en Market Square por Labor Day

Por Roberto Perez

Con beneplacito para locales y turistas la Ciudad de San Antonio y los comerciantes de Market Square ofrecieron tres días de fiesta ofrecieron en las escenarios de El Mercado con motivo de Labor Day.

Con este motivo la celebración fue ininterrumpida el såbado, domingo y lunes con música variada en vivo, exhibición de artesanías, comida tradicional de Texas y presentación de magos ambulantes quienes se han hecho muy populares en lugares en eventos festivos en diferentes partes de la ciudad.













Everyday Work in Texas



My grandfather, Jose Maria Saenz, came to America in 1882, the year of the first Labor Day parade in New York City. He came to Texas from the Mexican state of Nuevo Leon where work was scarce and salaries seldom matched the hard work.

His older brothers had settled in Benavides, Texas, a small ranching and agricultural community in South Texas. He would spend much of his life in those fields and ranches.

Although my grandfather came to be with his family, he never returned to his birthplace as he considered economic opportunities in America superior to those of Mexico.

In the first Labor Day parade in New York, ten thousand workers took an unpaid day off to march for the rights of workers. These rights included decent wages and working conditions. In all the workplaces, which included factories, steel mills, mines and sweatshops, men and women worked twelve hour days with no paid holidays or benefits.

U.S Department of Labor data from the 1880s shows an average wage of \$1.34 daily with an annual income of \$345. Thus, in some cases, workers earned pennies per hour. The exploitation of





Photos by Ricardo Romo LEFT: Produce Worker in San Antonio RIGHT: Ferry Boat Workers on the Rio Grande

and nine years of age, was common in most industries. especially in the mines and mill works. Children earned an average of \$8.00 per month for a sixty-hour week of work or 240 hours.

Ranch work was no easier. My grandfather, who worked with cattle and horses, was up at sunrise, usually by five in the morning, and worked until sunset. A Texas wage report for that time period shows that ranch hands made \$30 per month in the 1880s, with housing and food included, which would average about \$1.15 a day for a six day week. However, many ranch hands were always on the job. The ranch hands often drove cattle to market, which meant little home life for weeks or months at a time. They ate and slept, rain or shine, under an open sky.

The salary for ranch hands actually seems a bit high given that the same Texas report showed male teachers earning \$72.00 per year, while women teachers earned only \$54.50. Thus male teachers earned \$8.00 per month for nine months with no salary

while women teachers earned Federation of Labor (AFL) salary gains came at a snail's \$6 per month!

labor demonstrations on the East Coast turned violent as protestors and police clashed in the streets. Some labor organizers believed a holiday and celebration was needed and they pushed for a special day to recognize, in their words, the "social and economic achievements of increase in wages for blue American workers."

By 1894, Texas had joined 23 other states in adopting the holiday. That year the U.S. Congress passed Labor Day legislation making the legal holiday.

actually protesting several increased substantially over tions. The demonstrations and strikes led to greater leaders paved the way for later service workers, nurses did

children, as young as eight during the summer months formation of the American better financially. No doubt, and the Congress of Indus- pace. Nurses who averaged In the 1880s, numerous trial Organizations (CIO) \$3-\$5 daily for 20 hour shifts labor organizations. These in 1908 still only earned \$140 organizations were able to per month in 1950, or \$35 per eventually succeed in limiting the number of hours that employers could demand of workers and end the use of child labor.

> data actually shows a slight collar workers in America over the following years when labor organizations gained strength in the decade of the 1880s.

Labor organizations first Monday in September a also made possible the expansion of work opportunities for There is irony to the fact women. Today women still that my grandfather's family do not earn the same wages came to Texas in the year of as men, but many industries great labor unrest in America. are catching up. An example The workers who marched of this is in the nursing proin New York in 1882 were fession where wages have incidents whereby police had the last fifty years and where shot and killed labor protes- there seems to be greater eqtors in strikes and demonstra- uity between male and female nurses.

Fields such as nursing did organization of labor and the not have strong labor affiliarise of several charismatic tions, but as wages increased labor leaders. These labor for skilled blue collar and

week.

In the last 20 years, the nursing profession has made significant gains, as nurses today average \$68,000 annually U.S. Department of Labor nationally. There is currently a high demand for health profession workers, and many hospitals have problems finding enough well trained and skilled healthcare providers.

> The high demand for nurses in California today is such that the average hourly wage is \$45, while the annual average wage has risen to \$94,120. Other states that are losing nursing staff to California are making salary adjustments.

> Thus workers have made significant gains over the past century which calls for a celebration. Labor Day is when we barbecue and say good bye to the summer, but this holiday is also the day when we thank all the workers in the past who made it possible for us to afford the grill and

Just a Thought: 9-11 Remembrances



Steve Walker is a Vietnam Veteran. former Justice of the Peace and Journalist

Tuesday we celebrate the 17th anniversary of the 9-11 massacre of nearly 3-thousand people during a series of four coordinated terrorist attacks on New York City and the Washington D.C. area on that fateful Tuesday morning. Many of us remember vividly where we were and what we were doing when the disaster happened.

On that day, I was a Special Education Teacher at was getting the needed material when a fellow teacher burst into the room and shouted that planes had just crashed into the World Towers in New York City.

The other teacher immediately turned on the television and we watched aghast as the scenario played out in front of us. All day long, students and faculty in various classrooms were glued to the TV. Students and teachers were engaged in numerous discussions about the repercussions. It touched us all.

At lunchtime, one of my fellow teachers shared with us that her father was scheduled to be in the Pentagon that day and she hadn't heard from from one of my brothers who him. She was a mess. The next

Kingsborough Middle School had been in the Pentagon mo- York. He was scheduled to be Ecuadorians, Cubans, Arin Harlandale ISD. I recall ments before the plane struck sitting in the back of the the side of the building where classroom at the computer he normally would have been. gathering information for my The plane struck his office students. The lead teacher was area. As luck would have presenting a lesson while I it, he left the Pentagon just moments earlier for another appointment, thus saving him from being one of the nearly 3,000 to perish.

> her aunt was standing near the Towers at the time, when a huge piece of concrete weighing hundreds of pounds fell off the tower and landed very near her.

> The impact was so great the backlash threw her more than 20 feet away. When she woke up two days later she didn't remember anything. She did suffer a broken collar bone. Thank God she lived to tell about it.

Closer to home, I heard was living in North Caro-

on the very plane that crashed into the Pentagon. He related to me that he cancelled minutes before the plane left the airport because he received a message that he needed to return to the office of a client whom he had previously visited. He then rescheduled a later flight that day to accom-Another teacher I taught modate the client. Once again with told us days later that it could have been devastating for my family.

> People also forget that numerous Hispanics perished in that terrorist attack. The Dominican community contributed the highest quota of fatalities, (25) among all the Hispanics who died in the carnage that fateful day. But today, 17 years after the terrorist attack, very few remember many of those victims and how it continues to affect their loved ones.

ures, 9 percent of all citizens that died that day were Thought." Dominicans, Columbians,

gentinians, Chilean, Haitians, Mexicans and others from El Salvador, Honduras, Jamaica, Peru, Venezuela, Paraguay, and even some from Guyana.

We recall that four passenger airliners were hijacked by 19 Al-Qaeda terrorists. 227 civilians and the hijackers aboard those four planes died. It was also the deadliest catastrophe for firefighters and law enforcement officers with 343 and 72 respectively.

The words of President Franklin Roosevelt when Pearl Harbor was bombed, ring loud and clear many years later quote: "It is a day that will live in infamy." It certainly applies to September 11th, 2001.

On a more positive note, I remarried my wife, Linda, three years ago

Tuesday on 9-11. That is According to official fig- also a day I won't forget!

As always, I write "Just a



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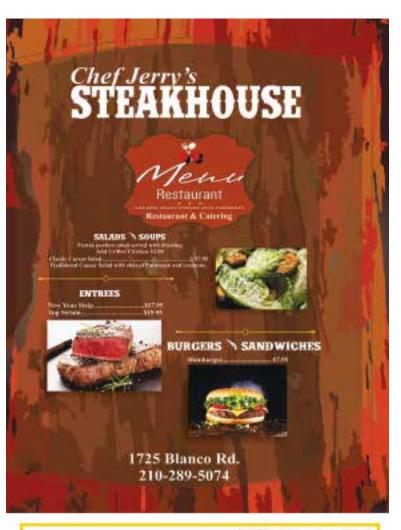
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SPORTS

NFL Season Kicks Off

Por Jessica Duran

season descends upon us. Will the Eagles be back to hold the Lombardi trophy again or will a new team be crowned champions? The season kicked off on Thursday, September 6 with the Atlanta Falcons taking on the Philadelphia Eagles, as part of League tradition for the defending Super regular season.

as more teams are starting to

ers. The biggest move coming as the Bears signed him to a NFL fans rejoice as a new out of the end of preseason is the acquisition of former Oakland Raider linebacker Khalil Mack who is now heading to the Chicago Bears. Unhappy with his Oakland contract, Mack held out of preseason and training camp hoping that would leverage the team into his desired contract. It worked, except, it worked for Bowl champion to kick off the himself instead of the Raiders. Mack's fate was sealed This season should prove for a plethora of draft picks to be an exciting one for fans including two first rounds picks for next year's draft. merge as either conference. He is now the highest paid

6 year deal worth \$141 million. His first big test will be tonight in prime time against Aaron Rodgers and the Packers in another chapter of one of the most historic rivalries in sports history.

In other big news leading up to the regular season, Cowboys fans were rocked with news of kicker Dan Bailey's release. With a field goal accuracy of 88% over the course of his career, Bailey is the most accurate kicker in Cowboys history and is the 2nd most accurate kicker in

and back injuries may have stirred the pot to his release. Bailey was set to make \$4 million next year but will now instead try to get a roster spot with the New York Jets.

For Jets fans, this could be the start of a new era, the Sam Darnold era. With the Teddy Bridgewater trade and with 38 year old veteran Josh McCowan's lackluster preseason, Darnold has earned himself the starting quarterback job for week one against the Detroit Lions. Darnold did not throw a single interception in preseason and was about leaders or even league lead- defensive player in history NFL history. Multiple groin as efficient as a successful

veteran quarterback. First year head coach Matt Patricia from the Lions may have his hands full against Darnold in the bright lights of Monday Night Football.

With teams following the lies of "Super Teams" in the NBA, teams are gathering prime athletes to hoist up the Lombardi trophy in February. So far, it's looking like it's anyone's year. Get your football game snacks ready and buckle up for a wild ride. The NFL is back!

Auburn and Notre Dame Sneak into Top 5 Poll

Por Jessica Duran

number 3 spot in week two polls following a 21-16 victory over Washington. Washington's offense led by senior quarterback Jake Browning, couldn't shake Auburn's powerhouse defense. Some wonder if this Auburn team will be the team to face either Georgia or Alabama in the SEC Championship. Number three Auburn will face Alabama State, a matchup that will look more like a Shea Patterson. Patterson scrimmage game for the War made headlines this summer Eagles.

care of business against Lou- Harbaugb, escaping a bowlisville in the Camping World less Ole Miss. Harbaugh kickoff game. The Roll Tide is under the scope after the rolled over the Cardinals in loss to their longtime rival a 51-14 result. Sophomore and currently in the hot seat

got the start instead of Senior Jalen Hurts. Tua proved he's Auburn sneaks into the the real deal and might have sealed Jalen Hurts' fate. The Roll Tide will face Arkansas State on Saturday.

Despite being ranked higher, many thought a victory over Michigan would be considered an upset for the Fighting Irish of Notre Dame now ranked number four in the nation. Despite the criticism and doubt, Notre Dame was able to keep in check Michigan's quarterback transfer transferring to Michigan to Alabama of course took play under popular coach Jim quarterback Tua Tagovailoa coaching now to save his job.

number two spot in the top 25 following the death of their for the Tigers throwing for 3 touchdown passes. Lawrence may come out of the shadow that was cast over the position after the loss of former quarterback and now Houston Texans quarterback De-Shaun Watson. The Clemson Tigers will face Texas A&M the freshman, this will also be a test for A&M Coach Jimbo Fisher and the Aggies. If A&M wants to crack the Top 25, they'll need to shock Bowling Green this week. the nation in an upset over Clemson.

in week one was the Texas Longhorns. Now ranked 18

Clemson moved up to the an inspired performance poll after defeating Furman former teammate Jordan 48-7. Freshman quarterback McNair. MacNair died dur-Trevor Lawrence led the way ing summer workouts from a heatstroke under team supervision. The Terrapins honored their teammate in a stunning 34-29 victory over the Longhorns. Longhorns quarterback Sam Ehlinger threw two interceptions with just sloppy play throughout the game which was reciproin what will be a big test for cated by the defense. Shane Buchele may be in line to take over the quarterback job as Texas will face Tulsa this week. Maryland will face

Week one of college football, despite some predicted The biggest disappointment results, was a fun one proving this year could be a year Alabama will have a challenge Maryland Terrapins played on their hands from whoever

joins them in the playoffs as they are an almost sure fire to be one of the four teams in the playoffs at the end of this season. Who will join them is the question. So far, Clemson, Wisconsin, Auburn, Georgia, Notre Dame, and Ohio State could be in a race for a spot to which all seems to lead to Alabama.

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