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O'Rourke gets tough in U.S. Senate battle in Texas, but is it too late?

(Reuters) - It was no more Mr. Nice Guy for Beto O'Rourke. U.S. Rep. Beto O'Rourke speaks during a debate with U.S. Senator Ted Cruz (not shown), at the KENS-5 TV studios in San Antonio, Texas, U.S., October 16, 2018. Tom Reel/San Antonio Express-News/Pool via REUTERS

Falling behind in the polls and running out of time, the Democratic contender for the U.S. Senate went on the attack against Republican incumbent Ted Cruz in a raucous debate in Texas on Tuesday night, calling him dishonest and resurrecting President Donald Trump's campaign nickname, "Lyn" Ted.

Cruz fired back repeatedly, casting O'Rourke as out of touch with the values of Texas voters during a free-swinging debate that turned personal over divisive issues such as healthcare, climate change and the possible impeachment of Trump.

"Senator Cruz is not going to be honest with you. He is going to make up positions and votes that I've never held," O'Rourke said during the debate in San Antonio. O'Rourke used the nickname that Trump gave Cruz during the 2016 Republican presidential campaign. "He's dishonest," O'Rourke said. "It's why the president called him 'Lyn' Ted," and why the nickname stuck.

It was a change in strategy for O'Rourke, who has been hesitant to attack Cruz while portraying himself as a post-partisan, Kennedy-esque figure who could bring Texans together.

But with polls showing him slipping farther behind just three weeks before the Nov. 6 election, and six days before early voting starts in Texas, O'Rourke had to do something.

"You have to paint in bold colors if you want people to remember what you are saying," said Cal Jillson, a political scientist at Southern Methodist University in Dallas. "But I don't think it changes the dynamics of the race."

Cruz noted the more aggressive stance from O'Rourke and pointed to his fading standing in the polls.

"It's clear Congressman O'Rourke's pollsters have told him to come out on the attack," Cruz said.

Texas is seen as one of the Democrats' best chances to gain a Republican-held U.S. Senate seat in November. Democrats must pick up two seats nationwide to seize a Senate majority that would allow them to block Trump's agenda and exercise oversight of his administration.

Trump said he watched the debate, and weighed in on Twitter on Wednesday morning with strong praise of Cruz for securing cuts in taxes and regulations and protecting gun rights. "Beto O'Rourke, who wants higher taxes and far more regulations, is not in the same league with Ted Cruz," Trump said.

O'Rourke needs a comeback. O'Rourke will need a comeback in conservative Texas, which has not elected a Democrat to statewide office since 1994. A poll average compiled by Real Clear Politics gives Cruz a lead of 7 percentage points, and a CNN poll published on Tuesday gave Cruz a similar margin.

The Democrat's uphill campaign has attracted



national attention and a flood of financial donations. O'Rourke set a Senate record for a single three-month period with \$38 million in third-quarter donations, more than triple the haul for Cruz.

Cruz has made gains in Texas by hammering O'Rourke as out of step with Texas voters because of his liberal stances, including his support for universal healthcare, a path to citizenship for illegal immigrants, and some gun-control measures.

He kept up those attacks during the debate, saying O'Rourke had repeatedly showed his willingness to align himself with the Democrats' liberal wing over the needs of Texans. "Every time there is a choice between left-wing national activists and the people of Texas, he goes with left-wing national

activists," Cruz said.

O'Rourke countered that Cruz was ineffective and self-serving in the Senate, more interested in his political career than in helping Texans. "Ted Cruz is for Ted Cruz," he said, adding the senator's re-election campaign was "based on fear."

Cruz said O'Rourke was eager to begin impeachment proceedings against Trump that would lead to a partisan circus. O'Rourke shot back: "It's really interesting to hear you talk about a partisan circus after your last six years in the U.S. Senate." Cruz will get help next week when Trump will be top billing at a Houston campaign rally for Cruz and other Texas Republicans.

O'Rourke criticized Cruz for his unwillingness to stand up to Trump on a range of issues, and said he had failed to stop the president from pushing

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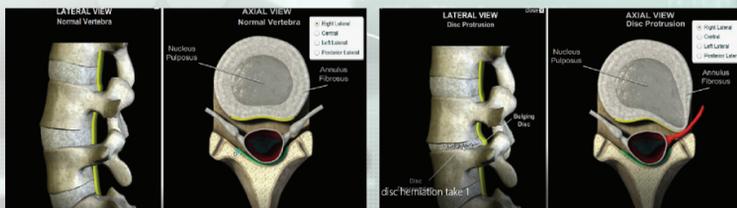
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SJRA begins controlled release of water from Lake Conroe

By Catherine Dominguez

The San Jacinto River Authority is releasing water from Lake Conroe after recent rains have caused the lake to rise above its normal pool.

According to the SJRA website, as of noon Wednesday, officials were releasing about 1,059 cubic feet of water per second. Officials began the controlled release to pass a portion of the inflows coming into the lake at 2 a.m. The site indicates the lake is at 201.4 feet. Normal pool for the lake is 201 feet.

With an average of 3.96 inches of rainfall across the watershed for the current event, the Lake Conroe water level has risen over 1.26 feet.

Throughout this entire storm event, SJRA officials said in a press release, information regarding lake level and releases has been sent, in real-time, to SJRA's core partners, including Montgomery County, Montgomery County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, City of Houston, Harris County, Harris County Office of Homeland Security

and Emergency Management, Harris County Flood Control District, National Weather Service and Coastal Water Authority.

"Depending on the rate and amount of additional rainfall, the lake will continue to slowly rise, and releases will be adjusted in order to buffer the amount of flow leaving the reservoir," the released stated. "The operational guidelines for Lake Conroe are designed to ensure that the peak rate of flow released from the dam is lower than the peak flow coming into the lake. Since it is difficult to accurately predict how far the lake will ultimately rise, Lake Conroe personnel will continue actively monitoring the storm and communicating with local officials."



According to the SJRA website, as of noon Wednesday, officials were releasing about 1,059 cubic feet of water per second from Lake Conroe.

Season for aches and pains as cooler weather rolls in

By Samantha Ketterer

Some people in the Houston area likely knew fall weather would hit when they woke up with headaches



or joint pain earlier this week.

COLD WEATHER: Cold front brings storms, cooler temperatures. Unfortunately, those are common symptoms of seasonal changes, likely brought on by increased inflammation throughout the body, according

to Houston pain management doctor Matthias Wiederholz.

"Antigens (like pollen and other common antigens) often activate the immune system which results in an inflammatory reaction," he said. "That increased inflammation can result in headaches and joint pains."

Other medical experts have said changes in temperature, humidity and atmospheric pressure may affect the way the brain blocks pain, according to Weather.com.

After several hot days to start October, high temperatures for the rest of the week aren't expected to rise above 73 degrees, according to the National Weather Service.

Wiederholz advised people to talk about an immune therapy plan with their doctor if they're experiencing any physical weather-related issues.



A Houston doctor advised people to consult with their physician if they're experiencing headaches or joint pain associated with the changing temperatures.

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Meet Dr. Beth Yip



Beth Yip, M.D., F.A.A.P.
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"I consider it a privilege to be allowed to help take care of patients and their families and make a difference in the life of a child. I view myself as a partner with the parents and patient and derive great satisfaction through our interactions. I love working with kids, a simple smile or hug will brighten my day."

-**Beth Yip, M.D.**, co-managing physician, Pearland Clinic

Dr. Yip is a board-certified pediatrician who completed her medical degree, internship and residency at Baylor College of Medicine. She is a fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics and member of the American Medical Association, Texas Medical Association, Harris County Medical Society and Texas Pediatric Society.

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Editor's Choice



Nicol Bertozzi of Italy hits the ball over the net as Mariia Bocharova of Russia jumps to block in the Beach Volleyball Women's Gold Medal Match at the Beach Volleyball Arena, Green Park, Buenos Aires, Argentina, October 17, 2018. Ivo Gonzalez for OIS/IOC/Handout via REUTERS ATTENTION EDITORS - THIS IMAGE HAS BEEN SUPPLIED BY A THIRD PARTY.



Dan Thompson and her partner, Nick Frankruyter, share a joint on the day Canada legalizes recreational marijuana at Trinity Bellwoods Park



FILE PHOTO: A picture of Bulgarian journalist Viktoria Marinova and a condolence book are seen before her funeral service in Holy Trinity Cathedral in Ruse



Hindu devotees perform Garba, a traditional folk dance, during the celebrations to mark the Navratri festival, in which devotees worship Hindu goddess Durga, at Surat



FILE PHOTO: Secretary of Defense Jim Mattis speaks with the media before an enhanced honor cordon arrival of Greek Minister of Defense Panagiotis Kammenos at the Pentagon in Washington



German Chancellor Angela Merkel takes part in a EU Summit in Brussels



Trump holds a Cabinet meeting at the White House in Washington



U.S. Transportation Secretary Elaine Chao speaks as U.S. President Donald Trump holds a Cabinet meeting at the White House in Washington, U.S., October 17, 2018. REUTERS/Kevin Lamarque

“The Artist Delivers Performances That Are Compelling And Passionate”
Houston: A Consummate Classical Violinist Resides In Our Midst

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

for Modern Music, Opera Vista, Aperio Americas, Musiqua, Shreveport Symphony and Victoria Bach Festival. She is a member of the Classical Music Institute Chamber Orchestra of San Antonio (CMI). Ms. Dancewicz was appointed the interim concertmaster of the Opera in the Heights in Houston for the past two seasons.

An avid chamber musician, Dominika Dancewicz has performed with ensembles in Europe, Asia and the United States. She is the founding member of two Houston-based groups: the Axiom Quartet and The Dancewicz-Doucet Duo. The Axiom Quartet holds the position of the String Quartet In-Residence at the University of St. Thomas in Houston. In the summer of 2018 the quartet traveled to China for their first international tour. The Dancewicz-Doucet Duo is an acclaimed violin and piano ensemble that hosts regular concert series at the University of St. Thomas in Houston, and has been invited to perform in San Antonio, Dallas, Colorado and Louisiana. Both groups have recently released their debut CDs to critical acclaim.

Ms. Dancewicz is also a highly sought-after teacher. She is a Violin Professor at the University of St. Thomas in Houston, where she teaches college level students, as well as private lessons and master classes. Her students are highly achieving on the citywide and regional level. She is also the faculty of the Houston Youth Symphony Melody Program that provides violin lessons to underserved children in the Houston area. More information about the artist can be found on her official website: www.blondviolin.com

My Story: Violinist Dominika Dancewicz – In Her Own Words

“I came to Houston to pursue my Master’s Degree in Violin Performance at Rice University Shepherd School under Kenneth Goldsmith in 2001. Before coming to the US I was a member of a very prominent Polish orchestra, and traveled the world with them. After finishing my Master’s in Houston I went to Colorado to pursue doctorate in violin performance, however, I realized I prefer to perform rather than

teach academics, so I pursued an Artist Diploma (performance certificate) instead. Along the way, I still planned to come back to Poland, but at some point things turned, I changed my mind and Houston became my home.

“There’s so much I could tell you about how my career developed. I was always a so-called “freelancer”, doing tons of performances with many Houston-based ensembles. I always however had a hunger for creating my own performance venues and opportunities. I organized recitals in a yoga-studio, I gathered friends at my house to have house concerts. I invited musician friends and colleagues to join me in duets, trios, quartets to perform music I always loved in unconventional places, to make it more accessible and understandable to the listeners. I developed and nourished the idea of talking to the audience during the concerts. Nowadays everyone does it, but back in 2007 our concerts were pioneering in that sense.

“Things really started changing for me about 5-6 years ago when, along with my friend Patrick Moore (cellist), we founded Axiom Quartet, which is now a leading chamber music ensemble in Houston. We have released our first album with Navona label (branch of Naxos) in March 2018, and we have just returned from our first international tour of China. We are Artists-in-residence at the University of St. Thomas and we host a subscription concert series at Palmer Episcopal Church. The upcoming concert on October 27 is very unusual, we will be playing on electric instruments to accommodate repertoire that was written for amplified string quartet. The title of the concert is “Black, Death and Metal”, and aside from Schubert and George Crumb, we will also be playing some heavy metal songs!

The Dancewicz-Doucet Duo also host a recital series at the University of St. Thomas. Their upcoming concert will be held at the university’s Cullen Hall on November 10 at 7.30 PM. The

concert is titled, “Identity,” and the duo will be exploring and presenting music by Polish and American composers (including a woman composer, Amy Beach), and the renowned locally based composer and Shepherd School professor, Art Gottschalk Admission is FREE, but donations are accepted. (suggested donations are \$20/adults and \$10/students and children).

“Another life-changing artistic event for me was meeting and starting the collaboration with an excellent Houston-based pianist Donald Doucet. In fact, Donald cold-called me after hearing me perform with Axiom Quartet back in 2013, and asked if I wanted to explore a different repertoire - the violin and piano works by some of the greatest composers. We started with a recital at the gorgeous South Main Baptist Church in 2013, and we haven’t stopped performing since. We became The Dancewicz-Doucet Duo and we released our first full-length album in January of 2018, which was recently enthusiastically reviewed.

“The Dancewicz-Doucet Duo is highly renowned for our excellent programs, passionate, impeccable performances and fun, education banter with the audience we always include in our concerts. We are enjoying a growing number of out-of-town performances, including Georgetown, Colorado, San Antonio, Cave Without a Name in Boerne, TX, Lake Charles, Louisiana, Dallas-Fort Worth, TX.



The concerts presented by the Dancewicz-Doucet Duo usually carry powerful themes and the concert scheduled at St. Thomas on November 10th is no exception. As Ms. Dancewicz explains, “We strive for all of our recitals to be not only artistic, but also intellectual, though-provoking adventures. We research each piece and composer thor-

oughly, and we often combine contrasting, unique music within one concert to highlight the scope and broad range of eras, social conditions, personalities, etc. Our November program is called “Identity”, because we want to highlight the personal, political and social conditions that shape artists/composers during their lives, and give them their unique voices.

“We will perform Ignacy Jan Paderewski’s Violin Sonata - an extremely rare gem in the chamber music literature. Paderewski was a super start pianist of his era (1860-1941), but also a politician and spokesman for the Polish independence. He was the prime minister of Poland in 1919, and was an avid agitator for the country’s freedom (Poland was partitioned between Russia, Prussia and Austria from late 1700s till the end of the Great War in 1918). Paderewski used his artistic charisma, talent, good looks and passion for freedom to fight for what was most deeply concerning to him - his country’s fate.

“Next we have a fun, lighthearted “Rag-time” by Rice University’s professor and nationally and internationally renowned composer Arthur Gottschalk. The piece is bustling with humor, and is an absolute embodiment of what a true rag should be, but not without certain funny musical inserts and quotes, which the composer sprinkles here and there: American folk tunes, cartoon music, etc. Gottschalk’s personality is easily reflected in the piece - warm-hearted, well-natured jovial wonderful man, who enjoys life in all its shades.

“Lastly, we have an epic, gorgeous and extremely ambitious piece by an American woman composer of the Victorian era, Amy Beach. Proclaimed a prodigy when still a child, she was an extremely talented pianist and composer, whose prolific talent could be easily compared to Brahms’. Alas, a product of her own times, Amy Beach easily and without much fight submitted to her husband’s will not to perform almost at all after she got married. Although her husband supported her composition and even encouraged her to develop her skills, he never fully allowed her to spread her wings as a musician, and she only became more independent and internationally renowned after his death. Her Violin Sonata is one of the staples of the violin and piano literature, truly a gigantic work of Brahmsian proportions, with gorgeous melodies, fascinating tonal colors, and supreme compositional technique.”

The best source of information on The Duo is their official website: www.theddduo.com. The link to The Duo’s album is: www.bit.ly/theddduoalbum.



To a non-musician, the musical notes on a page may appear like so many “dots and dashes and symbols” with no clear connection or meaning. But to a trained and accomplished musician, a page of musical notes presents both an opportunity and a challenge to bring those carefully structured notes and directions to life drawing upon one’s knowledge of music and skills on a given musical instrument.

And once the artist takes command of a musical composition, he or she can transport musical works from centuries before to the present day while at the same time reflecting the skills, emotions and passions of the composer who left this life long ago. Case in point: Houston resident violinist Dominika Dancewicz.

Violinist Dominika Dancewicz has been praised as “passionate and charismatic,” and her performances have been hailed as “transporting and thought provoking.” Ms. Dancewicz holds Master of Music degrees from Music Academy of Krakow (Poland) and from Rice University in Houston, Texas. She has also earned an Artist Diploma at Denver University, Colorado.

As an orchestra and ensemble musician she has performed on the world’s most prestigious concert stages: the Berlin Philharmonic, Concertgebouw in Amsterdam, Salle Pleyel in Paris, Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. and Carnegie Hall in New York. During her career she has collaborated with artists such as Christoph Eschenbach, Krzysztof Penderecki, Krystian Zimerman, Barry Douglas, Tabea Zimmermann to name just a few. Her recording credits include Deutsche Grammophon, Dux and Navona labels.

Since arriving in the United States Ms. Dancewicz has performed with several renowned music groups: the River Oaks Chamber Orchestra, Houston Ballet, Foundation



teaches college level students, as well as private lessons and master classes. Her students are highly achieving on the citywide and regional level. She is also the faculty of the Houston Youth Symphony Melody Program that provides violin lessons to underserved children in the Houston area. More information about the artist can be found on her official website: www.blondviolin.com

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Overview

California has the highest percentage of non-English speakers with 44 percent.

In Los Angeles, 59 percent of the population does not speak English at home.

The fewest is in West Virginia where the number is less than two percent.

A record 67 million people living in the United States do not speak English at home, a new study has revealed, accounting for just over a fifth of the population.

The study was carried out by **The Center of Immigration Studies** and was released on Wednesday. It is based on the newly released Census Bureau Data for 2017.

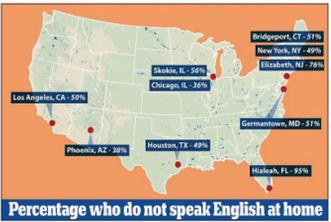
California has by far the highest number of non-English speakers per state, with 16.5million people (44 percent of its population) favoring other tongues.

Texas, where the number of 36 percent, has the second highest percentage, followed by New Mexico, New Jersey, and Nevada.

In the country's five major cities, the numbers are especially high.

Nearly half of the residents in the nation's five biggest cities do not speak English at home, choosing instead their native language, according to the latest Census Bureau data that details the impact of a decade of soft immigration policies.

Overall, a record 67 million do not speak English at home, said the bureau. That is nearly double in 27 years.



In its just-released analysis of the Census data, the Center for Immigration Studies said, "As a share of the population, 21.8 percent of U.S. residents speak a foreign language at home — roughly double the

Includes Half Of Houston And New York City, Per Study
67 MILLION People Living In U.S. Do Not Speak English At Home

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor



11 percent in 1980."

The Center added, "In America's five largest cities, 48 percent of residents now speak a language other than English at home. In New York City and Houston it is 49 percent; in Los Angeles it is 59 percent; in Chicago it is 36 percent; and in Phoenix it is 38 percent."

The findings come as more and more reports emerge about both Americans and foreigners getting into heated debates over speaking English.

In one case in New York last May, a man threatened to call immigration police if employees and customers didn't stop speaking English in a restaurant. Last week, in Florida, a Taco Bell patron was turned away because a worker said nobody spoke English and couldn't take the order.

Among the top findings from the Center for Immigration Studies report:

- In 2017, a record 66.6 million U.S. residents (native-born, legal immigrants, and illegal immigrants) ages five and older spoke a language other than English at home. The number has more than

doubled since 1990, and almost tripled since 1980.

- As a share of the population, 21.8 percent of U.S. residents speak a foreign language at home — roughly double the 11 percent in 1980.

- In America's five largest cities, 48 percent of residents now speak a language other than English at home. In New York City and Houston it is 49 percent; in Los Angeles it is 59 percent; in Chicago it is 36 percent; and in Phoenix it is 38 percent.



Houston, Texas skyline.

- In 2017, there were 85 cities and Census Designated Places (CDP) in which a majority of residents spoke a

foreign language at home. These include Hialeah, Fla. (95 percent); Laredo, Texas (92 percent); and East Los Angeles, Calif. (90 percent). Perhaps more surprisingly, it also includes places like Elizabeth, N.J. (76 percent); Skokie, Ill. (56 percent); and Germantown, Md., and Bridgeport, Conn. (each 51 percent).

- Nearly one in five U.S. residents now lives in a city or CDP in which one-third of the population speaks a foreign language at home. This includes Dale City, Va. (43 percent); Norwalk, Conn., and New Rochelle, N.Y. (each 42 percent); and Aurora, Colo., and Troy, Mich. (each 35 percent).

- In contrast to many of the nation's cities, in rural areas outside of metropolitan areas just 8 percent speak a language other than English at home.

- The data released thus far indicates that nationally nearly one in four public school students now speaks a language other than English at home. In California, 44 percent of school-age (5-17) children speak a foreign language at home, and it's roughly one-third in Texas, Nevada, New Jersey, New York, and Florida.

- Of school-age children (5-17) who speak a foreign language at home, 85 percent were born in the United States. Even among adults 18 and older, more than one-third of those who speak a foreign language at home are U.S.-born.

- Of those who speak a foreign language at home, 25.9 million (39 percent) told the Census Bureau that they speak English less than very well. This figure is entirely based on the opinion of the respondent; the Census Bureau does not measure language skills.

In New York City and Houston, the figure is 49 percent. In Los Angeles, it is 59 percent, it is 36 percent in Chicago and 38 percent in Phoenix.

The highest percentage per city of anywhere in the country is in Hialeah, Flori-

da, where 95 percent of the population do not speak English.



New York City skyline.

MOST POPULAR LANGUAGES

- 1) Spanish
- 2) Chinese
- 3) Tagalog
- 4) Vietnamese
- 5) Arabic
- 6) French
- 7) Korean
- 8) Russian
- 9) German
- 10) Haitian

For the most part, the non-native English speakers are instead conversing in Spanish which is spoken by 40million of the 67million listed.

The next most popular languages are Chinese (3.5million), the Filipino language Tagalog (1.7million), Vietnamese (1.5million), Arabic (1.2million), French (1.2million) and Korean (1million).

Only 20 states across the country have a population of non-native English speakers that is lower than 10 percent.

The lowest is in West Virginia, where only 2 percent do not speak it at home.

The increase since 1980 is startling. Then, only 11 percent of the country (23million people) did not speak English at home.

Nevada has seen the sharpest increase over the last 37 years.

In 2010, the number was 718,000. Now, it is 875,000.

Washington DC saw the highest increase between 2010 and 2017 with a rise of 36 percent. (Courtesy dailymail.co.uk)

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