

DEAR ABBY

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**TODAY
IN HISTORY**

By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, Oct. 13, the 286th day of 2021. There are 79 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

In **1792**, the cornerstone of the executive mansion, later known as the White House, was laid by President George Washington during a ceremony in the District of Columbia.

In **1775**, the United States Navy had its origins as the Continental Congress ordered the construction of a naval fleet.

In **1845**, Texas voters ratified a state constitution.

In **1943**, Italy declared war on Germany, its one-time Axis partner.

In **1944**, during World War II, American troops entered Aachen, Germany.

In **1960**, John F. Kennedy and Richard Nixon held the third televised debate of their presidential campaign (Nixon was in Los Angeles, Kennedy in New York).

In **1972**, a Uruguayan chartered flight crashed in the Andes; survivors resorted to feeding off the remains of the dead in order to stay alive until they were rescued more than two months later.

In **1974**, longtime TV host Ed Sullivan died at age 73.

In **1999**, the Senate rejected the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty.

In **2000**, South Korean President Kim Dae-jung was named winner of the Nobel Peace Prize. Longtime American communist Gus Hall died in New York at age 90.

In **2003**, the U.N. Security Council approved a resolution expanding the NATO-led peacekeeping force in Afghanistan.

In **2006**, The United Nations General Assembly appointed South Korean Foreign Minister Ban Ki-moon the next U.N. secretary-general. Banker Muhammad Yunus of Bangladesh won the Nobel Peace Prize for using microcredit to lift people out of poverty.

In **2010**, rescuers in Chile using a missile-like escape capsule pulled 33 men one by one to fresh air and freedom 69 days after they were trapped in a collapsed mine a half-mile underground.

Ten years ago: Raj Rajaratnam, the hedge fund billionaire at the center of one of the biggest insider-trading cases in U.S. history, was sentenced by a federal judge to 11 years behind bars.

Five years ago: Donald Trump heatedly rejected the growing list of sexual assault allegations against him as "pure fiction," hammering his female accusers as "horrible, horrible liars." Bob Dylan was named winner of the Nobel prize in literature. Death claimed Thailand's longtime monarch, King Bhumibol, at age 88 and Nobel Prize-winning Italian playwright Dario Fo at age 90.

One year ago: In the first of two days of questioning by the Senate Judiciary Committee, Supreme Court nominee Amy Coney Barrett deflected Democrats' questions on abortion, health care and a possible disputed-election fight; she declined to say whether she would recuse herself from any election-related cases involving President Donald Trump. Early voting began with long lines in Texas, one of the few places in the U.S. not allowing widespread mail balloting during the pandemic.

Today's Birthdays: Gospel singer Shirley Caesar is 84. Actor Melinda Dillon is 82. Singer-musician Paul Simon is 80. Musician Robert Lamm (Chicago) is 77. Country singer Lacy J. Dalton is 75. Actor Demond Wilson is 75. Singer-musician Sammy Hagar is 74. Pop singer John Ford Coley is 73. Actor John Lone is 69. Model Beverly Johnson is 69. Producer-writer Chris Carter is 65. Actor and former NBA star Reggie Theus is 64. Sen. Maria Cantwell, D-Wash., is 63. R&B singer Cherrelle is 62. Singer/TV personality Marie Osmond is 62. Rock singer Joey Belladonna is 61. Former White House press secretary Ari Fleischer is 61. NBA coach Doc Rivers is 60. Actor T'Keyah Crystal Keymah is 59. College and Pro Football Hall of Famer Jerry Rice is 59. Actor Christopher Judge is 57. Actor Matt Walsh is 57. Actor Reginald Ballard is 56. Actor Kate Walsh is 54. R&B musician Jeff Allen (Mint Condition) is 53. Actor Tisha Campbell-Martin is 53. Classical singer Carlos Marin (Il Divo) is 53. Olympic silver medal figure skater Nancy Kerrigan is 52. Country singer Rhett Akins is 52. Classical crossover singer Paul Potts is 51. TV personality Billy Bush is 50. Actor Sacha Baron Cohen is 50. R&B singers Brandon and Brian Casey (Jagged Edge) are 46. Actor Kiele Sanchez is 45. Former NBA All-Star Paul Pierce is 44. DJ Vice is 43. Singer Ashanti is 41. R&B singer Lumidee is 41. Christian rock singer Jon Micah Sumrall (Kutless) is 41. Olympic gold medal swimmer Ian Thorpe is 39. Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, D-N.Y., is 32. Actor Caleb McLaughlin (TV: "Stranger Things") is 20.

NFL

Davis' 'dream' hire of Gruden turns into Raiders nightmare

BY JOSH DUBOW

AP Pro Football Writer

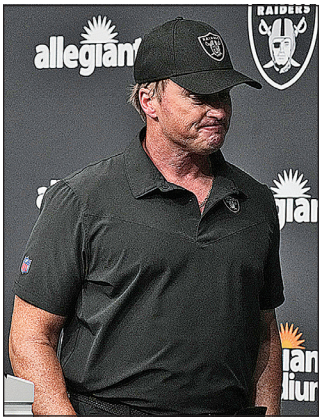
When Jon Gruden returned to the Raiders back in 2018 he was greeted with a pep rally news conference, owner Mark Davis calling it a "dream come true" and the "biggest day of his life."

There was much less pomp and circumstance surrounding the coach's rapid departure, with Davis sending out a simple statement: "I have accepted Jon Gruden's resignation as Head Coach of the Las Vegas Raiders."

While Gruden was done in by emails he sent in the years before he rejoined the Raiders that the Wall Street Journal and The New York Times reported were filled with racist, homophobic and misogynistic comments, his work on the field never quite lived up to what Davis hoped when he completed his years-long pursuit of the coach of his dreams.

The Raiders had a 22-31 record in three-plus seasons under Gruden, ranking 22nd in winning percentage, last in points allowed and 24th in scoring as his poor personnel moves ultimately sabotaged his coaching record.

The revelations of the emails also brought shame to an organization that prides itself on a history of inclusion which includes refusing to play an exhibition game in the segregated South of the 1960s; the hiring of the second coach of Mexican descent in Tom Flores; and the first Black coach in the modern



Rick Scuteri/AP file

Las Vegas Raiders head coach Jon Gruden leaves after speaking during a news conference after a game against the Chicago Bears in Las Vegas on Sunday.

NFL in Art Shell.

That wasn't what Davis signed up for after pining for Gruden ever since taking over the Raiders following the death of his father, Hall of Fame owner Al Davis, in 2011. Mark Davis made several trips to Tampa, Florida, to meet with Gruden over the years to get his opinions on the Raiders and gauge his interest in leaving the broadcast booth to return to the sideline.

He finally got the answer he wanted in 2017, leading Davis to fire Jack Del Rio — who led the Raiders to their only playoff berth in the past 18 seasons in 2016 and the only Raiders coach with a winning record since Gruden was traded to Tampa Bay following the 2001 season after turning the Raiders into a contender.

But Gruden's second tenure never matched the first, when he was the hot-shot offensive guru with the "Chucky" persona who took the Raiders to the AFC title game in his third season and the playoffs again the following year, when they lost in the "Tuck Rule" game at New England.

Gruden was traded to Tampa Bay after that season for a boatload of draft picks and cash, then beat the Raiders in the Super Bowl his first season in 2002.

But he never won another playoff game in 10 seasons as a coach and was unable to turn the Raiders into a contender in his second stint.

Armed with a 10-year contract and total control of personnel, Gruden opted to overhaul the roster rather than retool it with the Raiders only a year removed from a 12-win season.

He traded away the team's best player, edge rusher Khalil Mack, before the start of his first season for a package that included two first-round draft picks. He then dealt star receiver Amari Cooper for another first-round pick midway through the season as the Raiders stumbled to a 4-12 record.

The following offseason ultimately defined Gruden's second tenure as he made a failed push to contend in the Raiders' final season in Oakland. He handed out big free agent contracts to Trent Brown, Lamarcaus Joyner and Tyrell Williams, and got little production out of the three.

Carroll said.

"It's just been a while. ... He loves the fact that he's got this chance to help his team. That's why he's been here. He's been here for this opportunity when it does arise."

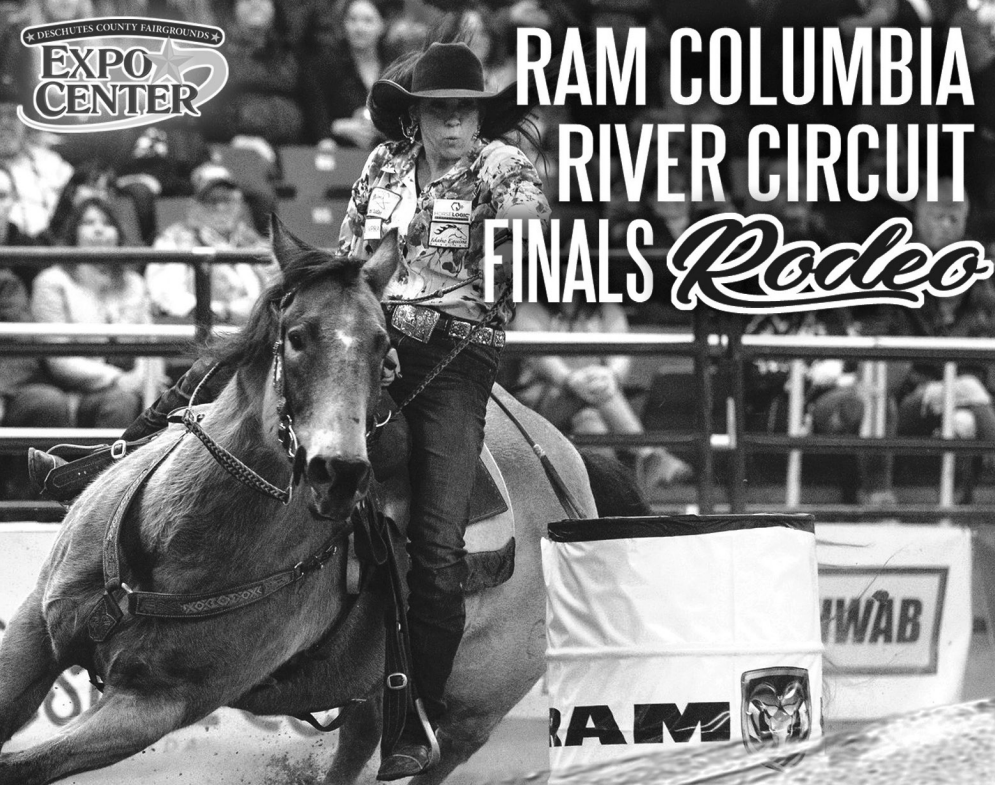
with about two minutes left after his intended target on the play fell.

"I think there's a lot of things that change in a young guy's mind when he gets this opportunity, but he's been there a lot,"

Wilson

Continued from A5

Smith completed 10 of 17 for 131 yards and led two scoring drives. The lone blemish for Smith was a late interception



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