

Biles, Oh, Parton and teachers named 'People of the Year'

By The Associated Press



Olympic gymnast Simone Biles appears at the MTV Video Music Awards in New York on Sept. 12, 2021, left, actor Sandra Oh appears at the season two premiere of "Killing Eve" in Los Angeles on April 1, 2019, center, and Dolly Parton appears in concert in Nashville, Tenn., on July 31, 2015. People magazine has named Biles, Oh, Parton and the nation's teachers as its "People of the Year." (AP Photo)

NEW YORK (AP) — People magazine has named Olympic gymnast Simone Biles, actor Sandra Oh, country icon Dolly Parton and the nation's teachers as its "2021 People of the Year."

"This year has been a transformative one, pushing us all to

create something new and hopefully better for our lives," the magazine said. "This issue reflects that spirit: Our People of the Year cover stars have all led the way in their fields to help make the world a little bit better."

Parton was cited for giving away millions

of books and supporting COVID-19 research and Oh was celebrated for fighting anti-Asian hate and working on "transformative stories." People said Biles' focus on mental health "redefined what it means to win in sports." And the nation's more than 3 million teachers have "gone

above and beyond to ensure our nation's kids have bright opportunities ahead."

The new issue hits newsstands Friday.

Last year, People named George Clooney, Dr. Anthony Fauci, Selena Gomez and Regina King as the "2020 People of the Year."

Powell: Fed 'not at all sure' inflation will fade next year

By CHRISTOPHER RUGABER | AP

WASHINGTON (AP) — In a fresh sign of his growing concerns about inflation, Chair Jerome Powell said Wednesday that the Federal Reserve can't be sure that price increases will slow in the second half of next year as many economists expect.

Powell told the House Financial Services Committee that most economists regard the current price spikes, which have sent con-

sumer inflation to a three-decade high, as largely a response to the pandemic's persistent disruptions to supply and demand. As Americans have spent more time at home, they have ramped up spending on furniture, appliances, laptop computers. Soaring demand for such goods, combined with parts shortages, has resulted in supply chain snarls and higher prices.

In the past, Powell, who was nominated last week to a second four-year term by President Joe Biden, has frequently expressed his belief that these supply-and-demand imbalances should fade as the pandemic eases, which would reduce inflation. But on Wednesday, he said that

while such an outcome is "likely," it is only a forecast.

"The point is, we can't act as if we're sure of that," he said. "We're not at all sure of that. Inflation has been more persistent and higher than we've expected."

At the same hearing Wednesday, Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen clashed with many committee Republicans, who charged that excess spending by the Biden administration has been a major contributor to high inflation. The administration's proposed \$2 trillion social and environmental spending bill, they further argued, would further accelerate inflation.

"It is the multiple trillions of dollars that this Congress and this administra-

tion is spending that is putting jet fuel on the fires of this economy," said Rep. Patrick McHenry from North Carolina, the senior Republican on the committee. "It is making things worse."

Yellen countered that the new spending would occur over a decade and would be paid for, which would reduce its inflationary impact. She also argued that the administration's proposals to spend more on child care subsidies, universal early child care education and the child tax credit would make it easier for many women to return to work after having children. Their return, Yellen said, would help address the labor shortages that are contributing to higher inflation.



By John Harris Jr. VILLAGER Sports Columnist

(VILLAGER) - When he took the job at Prairie View A&M, Coach Eric Dooley faced a formidable task.

Hired prior to the 2018 season, Dooley was tasked with elevating a football program that last won a Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC) championship a decade earlier and hadn't been in the title hunt lately.

"I wanted to change the culture," Dooley said.

"The culture that exists within my coaching philosophy. That was to let these guys know that when you've got grown men telling them that you love them,

that's a huge difference. Tough love. I'm going to coach you up on the field, but I'm going to also be that extended parent away from home."

Dooley's culture change has caught on like wildfire. The rejuvenated Jaguars face Jackson State in the SWAC championship game Saturday in Jackson, Mississippi. The winner faces the MEAC champion in the Celebration Bowl Dec. 18 at Mercedes-Benz Stadium in Atlanta.

"Everybody's expectation once you start the season is to roll to the championship," Dooley said. "Our desire has been one game at a time. The acronym that we use is WIN - what's important now. What's important now is that game at that particular

time."

That game has come down to this: PV against a Jackson State squad coached by Pro Football Hall of Famer Deion "Prime Time" Sanders, whose fiery presence has uplifted Black college football and transformed HBCU programs into a destination.

PV senior quarterback Jawon Pass is a prime example.

After turning down a scholarship offer from Nick Saban at Alabama, Pass signed with Louisville, where he was NFL superstar Lamar Jackson's backup for two years.

Injuries and a coaching change resulted in Pass transferring - first to Towson, then to PV, where he made the important decision to spend his final

year of college in Texas with a legitimate chance to prove himself on the football field.

In his first and only season with the Jaguars, Pass has thrown for 2,592 yards and 16 touchdowns. He's playing with a confidence and at a skill level that displays his vast array of talents.

"I'm a grad transfer. So it was different for me versus a true freshman who's just coming to college," Pass said. "I wanted to make sure I came to the right situation. PV was the best situation for me to come in and play right away. It's no secret I can play football. It's no secret I can make every throw. It's no secret I can do everything. It's just showing people what I can do."

Prairie View A&M Faces Jackson State in SWAC Championship Game

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