

**2023 AUSTIN AFRICAN AMERICAN BOOK FESTIVAL**

**OUR UNDEFEATED LEGACY** SATURDAY JUNE 24 10AM TO 4PM FREE ADMISSION

AUSTIN AFRICAN AMERICAN BOOK FESTIVAL AT THE CARVER LIBRARY AND MUSEUM

KWAME ALEXANDER GAYLE JESSUP WHITE DR. PENIEL JOSEPH ANNE WYNTER PATRICK OLIVER KYMBERLY KEETON

The 17th annual Austin African American Book Festival will be held on Saturday, June 24, from 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM at the Carver Museum and Library. This year will feature award-winning authors Kwame Alexander, Gayle Jessup, Dr. Peniel Joseph, and Austin's own Anne Wynter. For people inspired to trace their own family odysseys, historian Kymberly Keeton, will host a genealogy workshop and suggest

resources available locally and online.

The Austin African American Book Festival strives to build a love of reading and strengthen community by sharing literature by and about African Americans. The festival includes a vendor market place and a showcase where emerging writers will read from recent work. This event is free and open to the public. To learn more visit us online at: [www.aaabookfest.org/](http://www.aaabookfest.org/)

## How ex-Confederates spread racist attitudes far and wide after the Civil War

by Curtis Bunn | NBC NEWS

(NBC NEWS) - A new study outlines how white people's migration during and after the Civil War, from the Confederate South to the West, bolstered white supremacy and institutional racism in non-slave states, helping create the vast racial disparities that exist today nationwide.

Five researchers from separate colleges collaborated on the study, called "Confederate Diaspora," to compile and study census data that tracked the migration to the West of white Americans, including 60,000 former plantation owners. The former Southerners took on local positions of authority, like police officers, clergy and politicians, giving them influence to create a post-Civil War culture that continued to oppress Black people even after slavery had ended.

This results in structural and systemic racism in almost every walk of life today — education, housing, jobs, health care and wealth, among other areas — that continues to hamper progress for Black people, according to a working paper by the National Bureau of Economic Research this month.

The former Confederates "continued to transmit norms to their children and non-Southern neighbors," the researchers wrote, "shaping racial inequities in labor, housing, and policing."

Researcher Patrick Testa, an assistant professor of economics at Tulane University in New Orleans, said the impact of the Confederates on other parts of the country was deep and long-lasting.

In the three decades following the Civil War, white Southerners were more likely than other white people to take on work in governance, he said, and former slaveholders were even more likely to assume those positions, he said.

"What we show ultimately is that these migrants," Testa said, "through these governance channels and channels of public-facing authority, helped lay the groundwork for these types of symbols and racial norms and a broad-base Confederate nostalgia to really take off at a national level by the early 20th century."

One of those "norms" was the institution of the Ku Klux Klan and the racial terror it inflicted in many parts of the country. In the report, the researchers identify "overrepresentation of first-and second-generation migrants in the KKK," adding that the second generation of the KKK established in 1915 helped to "rejuvenate and mainstream Confederate culture."

Those born in the South were 11% more likely to belong to the KKK in the Denver metropolitan area, for example, a major hub of Klan activity in the 1920s beyond the South, the report said.

"The harmful legacies of slavery persist beyond those that experience being slaves, but across generations and across places," Testa said.

Along with census data, the group of researchers analyzed KKK membership records of second-generation Confederate migrants who were born outside of the South but maintained slavery-era norms. "This suggests," Testa said, the passing down of racial animus from generation to generation may have been "an important vehicle for sustaining diaspora influence long after the initial Confederate migrants had passed."

As the California Reparations Task Force is set to hand over its recommendations to the state's Legislature next week, this new study crystalizes how states that did not legally allow slavery, like California, still contributed mightily to oppressing Black people.

Some detractors of reparations have argued that California was not a slave state and therefore, it should not offer reparations. But in the later part of the 19th century it became the home of numerous former Southerners and it was populated by so many Confederate-aligned citizens that it supported John C. Breckinridge in the 1860 presidential election. Breckinridge advocated for the expansion of slavery and supported the 1850 Fugitive Slave Law, which required the return of an enslaved person to a plantation even if he was found in a "free state."

"It's important to look beyond the South, even to places like California," Testa said, "and look for ways such as reparations ... to heal these divisions, to heal the socio-economic gaps."

Because many parts of California favored Breckinridge, it became a popular destination for Southerners at the time. "Outside of the South, California is maybe the most intense in terms of a cultural index that indicates how it accepted racism," Testa said.

Studying the spread of former Confederates was important, Testa said, because it provides clear data on how the ills of slavery and the Confederate ideology spread across America.

"For the purposes of understanding the multifarious roots of racial division in American society, which continues to be persistent long after, it's important," Testa said.

This article was originally published on [NBCNews.com](http://NBCNews.com).

## Texas Longhorns Showing Different Attitude During Summer Workouts

by CASEY SMITH | SI.com



Texas Longhorns Scott Halleran/Getty Images

(AUSTIN, TX) - The Texas Longhorns seem to have their heads in the right places during summer workouts, carrying a moxie about them that could help lead to a Big 12 title.

The Texas Longhorns' window is now, and they realize that.

The past few days the Texas football Twitter account has posted videos of the Longhorns' workouts and there's a certain purpose about them on their quest for their first Big 12 Championship since 2009. This comes just a week after Texas' 2024 Southeastern Conference schedule reveal was met with over 35 players and coaches posting a photo of its 2023 slate, emphasizing where their focus lies.

With the Longhorns heading to the Southeastern Conference starting in 2024, this season is the final chance they have at conquering the Big 12. The last time Texas played its final season in a conference — when the Southwest Conference folded in May 1996 — it won the championship during the 1995 football season.

Head coach Steve Sarkisian enters his third season at the helm with something to prove. Despite an 8-5 season in 2022, his overall record is 13-12 in the previous two seasons with a loss in last year's Valero Alamo Bowl in his lone postseason

game.

He has the right quarterback to do so in Quinn Ewers, who returns for his second season under center in Austin looking to rebound after a disappointing 2022 season.

Ewers has all the tools to be successful: a backfield that consists of two returners who each scored five touchdowns and a 2023 five-star, above-average pass-catching options in wide receivers Xavier Worthy and Adonai Mitchell and tight end Ja'Tavion Sanders and all five starting offensive linemen returning.

The defense will need to hold up its end of the bargain for an offense that looks to be top 10 in the country and one of the best in the Big 12.

The Longhorns know it's now or never to hoist the Big 12 Championship trophy before heading to even more of an uphill conference-title climb in the SEC.

They have the right pieces and they have the right mindset in summer workouts, but can they put it all together on the field in 2023? Only time will tell, especially with their first litmus test on the road against Alabama in week two.

A win against the Crimson Tide, and you might want to start telling yourself Texas is back.

## House fails to override Biden's veto of bill repealing student debt relief

By Michael Stratford | POLITICO

(CAPITOL HILL) - The House on Wednesday failed to undo President Joe Biden's veto of Republican-led legislation that would have repealed his plan to cancel up to \$20,000 of student debt for tens of millions of Americans.

The override attempt lost on a 221-206 vote, falling far short of the two-thirds majority needed to overcome a presidential veto.

The result was expected since Congress passed the resolution overturning student debt relief earlier this month on a narrow margin, largely along party lines. A handful of moderate Democrats joined with Republicans to pass the measure, but it didn't come close to creating a veto-proof majority.

Biden vetoed the legislation two weeks ago, defending the debt cancellation program as vital assistance for middle- and working-class families. Republican critics argue the \$400 billion plan is too costly for taxpayers and unfair to Americans who didn't attend college or already repaid their student

loans.

With Wednesday's vote, the GOP legislative effort to kill the plan under the Congressional Review Act is now over. But Biden's program remains in limbo at the Supreme Court.

The justices are preparing to rule, potentially as early as Thursday, on whether to allow the Biden administration to proceed with student debt cancellation. Republican state attorneys general and a conservative group are suing to stop the program, arguing that it's an illegal abuse of executive power.

The vetoed resolution also would have repealed the freeze on student loan repayment and interest. But Congress separately, as part of the bipartisan deal to raise the debt ceiling, passed a law that ends the payment pause in the coming months.

Interest in federal student loans is slated to resume on Sept. 1, and the Education Department is preparing to begin collecting monthly payments from borrowers in October.