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Jun Gai 281-498-4310

The best colleges in Texas for 2019



Inside C2

Southern DAILY

Make Today Different

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Publisher: Wea H. Lee
General Manager: Catherine Lee
Editor: John Robbins, Jun Gai
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More than one million under evacuation as Hurricane Florence nears Carolinas

HOLDEN BEACH, N.C. (Reuters) - Florence, the most powerful storm to menace the U.S. mainland this year, intensified into a Category 4 hurricane as it howled closer to the Carolinas on Monday, prompting evacuations of more than 1 million people to higher ground.

Packing maximum sustained winds of 130 miles per hour (209 kph), the storm was due to gain even greater strength before making landfall early on Thursday, bringing heavy rains with the potential to unleash widespread, severe flooding, according to the National Hurricane Center (NHC) in Miami.

"Florence is expected to be an extremely dangerous major hurricane through Thursday," the NHC said in a bulletin.

Maps of the storm's trajectory showed it likely to come ashore somewhere near the border of North Carolina and South Carolina. The governors of both states declared states of emergency. "We do not want to risk one South Carolina life in this hurricane," Governor Henry McMaster told a news conference.

He estimated about 1 million residents would flee the coast of his state, following earlier orders for the evacuation of more than 50,000 people from the southern-most Outer Banks barrier islands of North Carolina. An estimated 250,000 more people from the northern Outer Banks were due to be sent to higher ground starting Tuesday at midday.

"We are in the bull's-eye," North Carolina Governor Roy Cooper said at a news conference. "This is going to be a statewide event."

Florence grew into a major hurricane on Monday morning and was upgraded again to a Category 4 on the five-step Saffir-Simpson scale of hurricane strength at midday as its top sustained wind speeds reached 130 mph. At that point the storm was centered about 1,170 miles (1,880 km) east-southeast of Cape Fear, North Carolina, the NHC said.



South Carolina National Guard soldiers transfer bulk diesel fuel into fuel tanker trucks for distribution in advance of Hurricane Florence

China vows to respond if U.S. takes new steps on trade



Sacks of polyester-making chemicals, waiting to be shipped, are seen at Hengli Petrochemical's new refining, petrochemical complex at Changxing island in Dalian

BEIJING (Reuters) - China will respond if the United States takes any new steps on trade, the foreign ministry said on Monday, after President Donald Trump warned he was ready to slap tariffs on virtually all Chinese imports into the United States.

On Friday, Trump said he was ready to levy additional taxes on practically all Chinese imports, threatening duties on \$267 billion of goods over and above planned tariffs on \$200 billion of Chinese products.

"If the U.S. side obstinately clings to its course and takes any new tariff measures against China, then the Chinese side will inevitably take countermeasures to resolutely protect our legitimate rights," Foreign Ministry spokesman Geng Shuang told a regular briefing, when asked about Trump's warning.

He did not elaborate.

The United States and China have activated additional tariffs on \$50 billion of each other's goods since July, as trade friction between the world's two biggest economies worsened, despite several rounds of negotiations.

Trump has criticized China's record trade surplus with the United States, and has demanded that Beijing cut it immediately.

Tension has also persisted over limits on U.S.

firms' access to Chinese markets, intellectual property protection, technology transfers and investment.

In August, China unveiled a proposed list of retaliatory tariffs on \$60 billion of U.S. goods ranging from liquefied natural gas to some types of aircraft, should Washington activate the tariffs on its \$200 billion list.

The tariffs, ranging from 5 percent to 25 percent, would apply to 5,207 products, and U.S. actions will determine whether China adopts the additional duties, Beijing said at the time.

China has either imposed or proposed tariffs on \$110 billion of U.S. goods, representing most of its American imports, though crude oil and large aircraft are still not targeted for penalties.

The \$200 billion of Chinese goods on the U.S. list includes some consumer products such as cameras and recording devices, luggage, handbags, tires and vacuum cleaners, with additional tariffs ranging from 10 to 25 percent.

Spared until now, mobile telephones, the biggest U.S. import from China, would be engulfed if Trump activates the \$267 billion tariff list.

Trump's threatened tariffs cover a total of \$517 billion in Chinese goods, which would exceed last year's goods imports of \$505 billion from China.



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The best colleges in Texas for 2019

U.S. News & World Report's latest ranking of America's best colleges include dozens of Texas schools, including Rice University, University of Houston and Texas A&M.

With Monday's release, U.S. News has changed some major factors that determine how America's top schools were ranked.

For starters, researchers added a new metric, social mobility indicators, which measures how successfully colleges enroll and graduate students from low-income families.

"A university is not successful if it does not graduate its students, which is why the Best Colleges rankings place the greatest value on outcomes, including graduation and retention rates," said U.S. News' chief data strategist Robert Morse in a prepared statement. "By including social mobility indicators, U.S. News is further recognizing colleges that serve all of their students, regardless of economic status."

This year's rankings also ignore acceptance rates, putting more focus on the outcome of students rather than the number accepted at an institution. In other words, tough-to-get-into universities are no longer rewarded for being selective.

Despite the big changes, the list of America's best universities had some familiar names.

The top five national universities were:

1. Princeton University (N.J.)
2. Harvard University (Mass.)
3. Columbia University (N.Y.) (tie)
3. Massachusetts Institute of Technology (tie)
3. University of Chicago (tie)
3. Yale University (Conn.) (tie)



Gasoline prices headed for post-summer decline

By Jordan Blum

Prices at the pump fell by almost 2 cents a gallon last week, but more relief should be on the way as refineries soon make the switch to cheaper winter-grade fuels.

Gasoline prices in the Houston area fell by 1.7 cents last week down to an average of \$2.53 for a gallon of regular unleaded, while the national average dipped 1.6 cents to \$2.84 per gallon, according to GasBuddy, which tracks daily gasoline pricing across the country.

While fuel prices remain the highest seasonally since 2014, gasoline costs are the lowest they've been since April. That downward trend is expected to continue for much of the rest of the year with the industry changeover away from the pricier summer-grade fuels.

Gasoline used in the summertime has a more expensive formulation designed to withstand evaporation

and additional wear and tear during the busier and hotter summer driving months.

In the meantime, looking at weather patterns, the income Hurricane Florence along the East Coast may cause some price spikes and temporary shortages in the region, but the Gulf Coast refining system in Texas and Louisiana won't be impacted, said Patrick DeHaan, head of petroleum analysis for GasBuddy.

"Hurricane season aside, gasoline demand will likely drift lower nearly countrywide, putting some additional downward impact on prices in most communities over the next few weeks," DeHaan added. Initially, Oxford and Smith were transported to the Clark County Detention Center and charged with one count of child abuse or neglect. On Wednesday, following the autopsy, prosecutors added first-degree murder charges to both Smith and Oxford in the death of Daniel Theriot, the boy's biological father from Liberty, was in disbelief.



Fill your tank. While fuel prices remain the highest seasonally since 2014, gasoline costs are the lowest they've been since April.

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Editor's Choice



Lewis Cooper of Myrtle Beach lines up with other customers to buy propane at Socastee Hardware store, ahead of the arrival of Hurricane Florence in Myrtle Beach



South Carolina National Guard soldiers transfer bulk diesel fuel into fuel tanker trucks for distribution in advance of Hurricane Florence



Customers line up to buy propane at Socastee Hardware store, ahead of the arrival of Hurricane Florence in Myrtle Beach



A customer looks at books in the "Brouillon de Culture Sorbonne" bookstore in Nice



UEFA Nations League - League B - Group 2 - Sweden v Turkey



A customer reads a cartoon in the "Brouillon de Culture Sorbonne" bookstore in Nice, France September 10, 2018. REUTERS/Eric Gaillard



Evangelical Christians stand outside the Alianza Lima's soccer stadium Alejandro Villanueva after being chased out by fans of the club, in Lima



Sarah Sanders holds a press briefing at the White House in Washington

17 Years Ago Today

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

A Photo Tribute



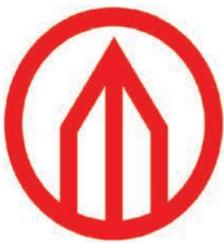
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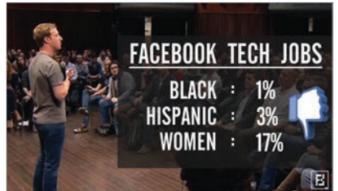
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(CNSNews.com) - The midterm election is about "safety and jobs," President Trump told a campaign rally in Montana Thursday night. He said the economy is "booming like never before," and on Friday, the unemployment report brought the president more good news: the unemployment rate for African Americans, 6.3 percent, is the second lowest on record (it was 5.9 percent in May); and job-growth remains strong.

For Hispanics, the unemployment rate increased two-tenths of a point from last month's record low of 4.5 percent. And the overall unemployment rate remained at a low 3.9 percent.

The number of jobs added -- 201,000 -- exceeded analysts' expectations. (After revisions, job gains have averaged 185,000 for each of the last three months.)

After three straight record-setting months, the number of employed Americans dropped by 423,000 in August, to 155,542,000 from last month's all-time high of 155,965,000. This number has set 11 records since Donald Trump took office.



In August, the nation's civilian noninstitutionalized population, consisting of all people age 16 or older who were not in the military or an institution, reached 258,066,000. Of those, 161,776,000 participated in the labor force by either holding a job or actively seeking one.

The 161,776,000 who participated in the labor force equaled 62.7 percent of the 258,066,000 civilian noninstitutionalized population, slightly below last month's 62.9 percent participation rate.

The participation rate remains stubbornly low as a growing number of people leave the labor force, led by baby-boom retirees.

BLS noted that the percentage of Americans not in the labor force -- meaning they neither have a job nor are looking for one -- increased to a record 96,290,000 in August.

6.3%: African-American Unemployment Rate Second-Lowest Ever

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



President Trump told a campaign rally in Montana Thursday the election is about "safety and jobs." (Photo: Screen capture)

Among the major worker groups, the unemployment rates for adult men (3.5 percent), adult women (3.6 percent), teenagers (12.8 percent), Whites (3.4 percent), and Asians (3.0 percent) showed little or no change in August.



And there's positive news on wage growth: In August, average hourly earnings for all employees on private nonfarm payrolls rose by 10 cents to \$27.16. Over the year, average hourly earnings have increased by 77 cents, or 2.9 percent.

Related

Here's where the jobs are — in one chart

- The business services sector tied with

the education and health sector for the largest employment gains for the month, with increases of 53,000 jobs each.

- Changes in retail employment included a loss of 5,900 jobs in August after clothing and clothing accessories stores cut more than 20,000 positions.

- The manufacturing industry was little changed, but nonetheless lost jobs for the first time since July 2017. The sector shed 3,000 positions over the month.

August jobs one-month net change

Professional and business services	53,000
Education and health services	53,000
Construction	23,000
Wholesale trade	22,400
Transportation and warehousing	20,200
Leisure and hospitality	17,000
Other services	13,000

Financial activities	11,000
Mining and logging	6,000
Utilities	300
Manufacturing	-3,000
Government	-3,000
Retail trade	-5,900
Information	-6,000

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

The business services, education and health services industries led job gains for the month of August, besting laggards like retail and manufacturing, according to the latest government jobs report.

CNBC analyzed the net changes by industry for August based on the data from the Labor Department, which found that the U.S. economy created 201,000 jobs last month, more than the 191,000 estimated increase from economists surveyed by Reuters.

The professional and business services sector tied with the education and health sector for the largest net employment gains for the month, with increases of 53,000 jobs each. The manufacturing industry lost jobs for the first time since July 2017, though the total decline was just 3,000.



The loss comes after the sector added a strong 37,000 jobs last month, nearly matching June's 36,000 print. Motor vehicle and parts manufacturing contributed a decline of nearly 5,000 jobs.

To be sure, manufacturing employment has been on a hot streak in recent months, up 254,000 over the year, according to the Labor Department.

For the business sector, more than half came from hiring in professional and technical services such as accounting, book-keeping and advertising.

In the education and health industry, medical providers like physicians, dentists and outpatient care clinics posted healthy numbers, with total ambulatory services adding 21,100 jobs over the month.



Transportation and warehousing also posted a strong month, adding 20,200 jobs. This industry includes jobs such as air, rail, water and truck transportation as well as warehousing and storage services.

Changes in retail employment, which tend to be more volatile than other sectors, included a loss of 5,900 jobs in August after clothing and clothing accessories stores cut more than 20,000 positions. (Courtesy https://www.cnbc.com)



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