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# Trump-backed Van Epps wins Tennessee primaries for US House special election

By JONATHAN MATTISE **Associated Press** 

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — A Tennessee special election to replace a Republican congressman who stepped aside this summer has resulted in crowded primaries for both major parties, a new test for one of three districts that GOP lawmakers drew as safely red in 2022 by dividing left-leaning Nashville.

The race to fill the seat vacated by former U.S. Rep. Mark Green could gauge the popularity of President Donald Trump's aggressive second-term agenda, especially with suburban Republican voters.

There had been 11 Republican candidates in the primary Tuesday, including state Reps. Jody Barrett, Gino Bulso and Lee Reeves, and a one-time appointee of Republican Gov. Bill Lee, Matt Van Epps, all of whom have pledged loyalty to Trump and disdain for anything perceived as liberal.

But Van Epps landed a late endorsement from Trump on Friday, prompting Reeves to announce he was suspending his campaign and backing Van Epps.

Four Democrats from Nashville, including state Reps. Vincent Dixie, Aftyn Behn and Bo Mitchell, and businessman Darden Copeland, have entered

their party's primary and are hoping the massive spending and tax cut bill Trump signed earlier this year will prove unpopular enough to win the Dec. 2 general election.

The unusually large field may be a product of an off-year election, which allows state House members to run for Congress without forfeiting their seats or running simultaneous races.

A Republican tussle

The 7th Congressional District spans 14 counties, bordering both Kentucky and Alabama. Its voters elected Green by 21 percentage points in 2024 and by nearly 22 points in 2022. Along with parts of Nashville, it includes rural areas, wealthy suburbs and part of the military installation Fort Campbell.

On the GOP side, the attention is largely centered on Bulso, Barrett and Van Epps, who got the late boost from Trump the day after in-person early voting ended.

But other Republicans have significant campaign cash, too.

Bulso, an attorney from Brentwood, has often sponsored socially conservative legislation aimed at the LGBTQ community, such as a failed 2024 bill that would have largely banned displaying

pride flags in public school classrooms.

Barrett is an attorney from Dickson whose website describes him as the "most conservative state rep. in Tennessee history." His vote against Gov. Lee's statewide school voucher expansion has drawn the ire of well-heeled school choice interest groups, who have spent heavily attacking him. He said he has fought "the left" and pushed back against the "elites in my own party." He has praised a school choice tax credit initiative touted by Trump.

Van Epps, until recently, was Lee's commissioner for general services, responsible for providing goods and services to state government. He has focused on his military experience, including as a Tennessee Army National Guard lieutenant colonel and an Army Special Operations helicopter pilot.

van Epps nas raised \$358,700 through mid-September and Barrett raised \$241,900. Bulso raised \$56,000 and loaned about \$494,000. Candidate cash is still coming in, including Bulso adding \$200,000 more of his money.

Mason Foley, a health care businessman and former staffer for Kentucky Sen. Mitch McCon-



U.S. Seventh Congressional District candidate Matt Van Epps speaks during a political forum Monday, Sept. 8, 2025, in Dickson, Tenn.

(AP Photo/George Walker IV)

nell, has raised \$71,300 and loaned his campaign \$325,000. Stewart Parks, who was pardoned by Trump after entering the Capitol during the Jan. 6. 2021, insurrection, raised \$35,500 and contributed roughly \$300,000 to his campaign through contributions and loans.

Outside groups have spent more than \$2.5 million, almost all on the GOP side, with about \$1 million opposing Barrett.

Also vying for the GOP nomination are Montgomery County Commissioner

Jason Knight; Stuart Cooper, a Franklin businessman; Adolph Agbéko Dagan, a Clarksville businessman; former state legislative staffer Tres Wittum; and Joe Leurs, a retired Nashville Police undercover detective.

Van Epps has landed endorsements from Lee and former Rep. Green; Barrett, from the House Freedom Fund and country musician John Rich; and Bulso, former NAS-CAR driver Darrell Waltrip.



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## **Safe Communities**

### Honoring Those Who Keep Them That Way

By Wilbur Jackson KPI Writer

Safe communities allow residents to thrive and live their lives to the fullest. Neighborhoods that offer peace of mind and security are among the most sought-after places to live. But achieving and maintaining such a sense of safety is no small task. Local police forces play a crucial role in ensuring their communities remain secure, and it's no surprise that residents often want to show appreciation for these dedicated professionals.

One effective way for communities to show support is by offering discounts to law enforcement officers and their families. Small businesses especially benefit from safe streets and secure shopping districts, so it's fitting they give back. Restaurant and shop owners can

provide year-round discounts to active and retired law enforcement officers and their families, increasing those perks during high-traffic seasons like the holidays. These small gestures go a long way in showing gratitude.

Another great way to build community support is to showcase officers on social media. Local governments or community organizations can feature a different officer each month, sharing their backgrounds, achievements, and motivations for joining the force. These profiles humanize officers and help strengthen the relationship between law enforcement and the people they serve.

Public events such as parades, school sports games, and holiday festivals also provide ideal opportunities to honor police officers. Officers can



be featured during halftime announcements or recognized in community parades. Residents can meet and thank the officers in person, putting a name and a face to those who help maintain the community's safety.

Lastly, supporting police during town council meetings is an important, often overlooked, way to show appreciation. Residents can advocate for improved pay, better equipment, and expanded training opportunities for local

officers. Supporting policies that benefit law enforcement ultimately contributes to a safer, more effective police force.

There are countless ways for individuals, businesses, and civic leaders to express their appreciation

for law enforcement. Whether through small acts of kindness, public recognition, or policy support, communities can ensure their officers feel valued and empowered to continue protecting the places we all call home.

## Many skilled professionals work in police departments

Each and every day, communities rely on law enforcement agencies to keep their cities and towns orderly and safe.

Uniformed patrol officers may be the most visible employees of police departments, but there are many individuals who work in concert to keep communities safe and precincts running smoothly. The following are some of the essential personnel who serve in local police departments across the country.

• Dispatcher/ telecommunicator: This may be the first person individuals speak with during an emergency situation.

Dispatchers typically work on the phone in police departments or from remote call centers. They patch information through to law enforcement so that officers can respond to situations.

• Civilian investigators: Some departments employ civilian detectives to strengthen their investigative services. They work primarily from desks within the police department. These investigators will look into a wide range of low-level crimes like traffic incidents, burglaries and financial crimes.

Sworn officers are able to devote their time elsewhere in the field as a result.

• Police technician:

A technician is an entry-level position who assists sworn personnel in followup investigations.

Technicians also may perform other tasks, including working on paperwork or filing incident reports.

• Officer/detective: The broadest rank in the police department belongs to those who are police officers, patrol officers and police detectives.

These people respond to emergencies and non-emergency calls, patrol areas, obtain warrants, and perform many other duties, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

• Information technology specialists:



Those with IT experience can work in police departments with video surveillance, in-car mobile data terminals, wireless communications, and global mapping technology to assist with crime prevention.

Some IT professionals enter cybercrime detective units to help solve crimes related to computers and the internet.

Victim advocates:
 These people help victims of crime cope with trauma and may

work in the services department of a police force. They typically inform victims of their legal rights, including their right to protection.

• Sheriff: According to Indeed, a sheriff is an elected official authorized by the state to enforce laws at a county level.

They cover areas that are wider than those covered by local police departments. Sheriffs also may manage local jails and ensure security in these areas.

• Evidence custodian: This is the person who oversees evidence and is responsible for cataloging and securing it safely in storage.

• Crime scene technician: The technician is a forensic expert who works with law enforcement to collect evidence found at crime scenes to help solve crimes.

• Additional officials: Police departments follow a hierarchy of rank advancement. Above officers one will find corporals, sergeants, lieutenants, captains, a deputy police chief, and a chief of police. Higher ranks may manage other officers, monitor budgets and programs, enforce policies, and serve as the public face of local police departments.

Various professionals work at police departments across the country.

# 14 facts about law enforcement

Law enforcement professionals are in the business of keeping people safe and secure. Statista reports that, in 2022, there were 70,566 police officers across Canada and 708,001 officer employed in the United States.

People from all walks of life work in law enforcement, where careers include dispatchers, crime scene technicians and police chiefs. The law enforcement field is vast and interesting, and the following are 14 facts about those who protect and serve, courtesy of Fact Retriever, Kiddle, the National Law Enforcement Memorial Fund, and the Law Enforcement Legal Defense Fund.

- 1. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police provide police services to every province in Canada except Quebec and Ontario.
- 2. In 1916, Georgia Ann Robinson be-

came the first African American police woman.

- 3. Law enforcement agencies are still staffed primarily with men. However, about 12 percent of sworn law enforcement officers in the U.S. are women.
- 4. The deadliest day in law enforcement history was on September 11, 2001. Seventy-two officers were killed while responding to the terrorist attack on the World Trade Center and other locations.
- 5. Police are trained in first aid and rescue because they usually are the first to arrive on the scene of an emergency.
- 6. The police are known by different names in other countries. In Ireland, for example, they are known as the Garda.
- 7. Around 90 percent of London's police officers do not carry firearms.
  - 8. Police in the Unit-



ed States cannot make an arrest without probable cause and the intent to prosecute.

- 9. The vast majority of Americans (71 percent) are satisfied with local police.
- 10. Most cops (95 percent) never fire their service weapons

on duty during their entire careers.

11. 99.9 percent of police calls are resolved peacefully.

12. In colonial America, law enforcement officers had less authority and personnel and were not effective at apprehending criminals. The church

congregation would hold trials to "catch" criminals.

13. The first policing organization was created in Egypt around 3000 BCE. However, Nicolas de la Reynie was the first Lieutenant General of the Paris police, and his views on law en-

forcement were used to form the basis for modern police forces.

14. Only about one-third of a police officer's time is spent actually enforcing crime. Officers spend the majority of their time maintaining the peace and solving problems.

## The most commons crimes in the U.S. and Canada

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chief of police. Higher
ranks may manage
other officers, monitor
budgets and programs,
enforce policies, and
serve as the public
face of local police
departments.

Various professionals work at police departments across the country.

# THANK YOU OFFICERS!





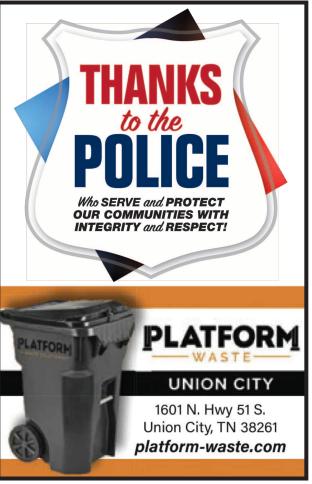
Exciting day today for the Paris Police department! One of our new Officers has officially graduated from the Tennessee Law Enforcement Training Academy. Please help us in congratulating Officer Gracie Webb on her accomplishment and encourage her as she begins this new chapter in her career!

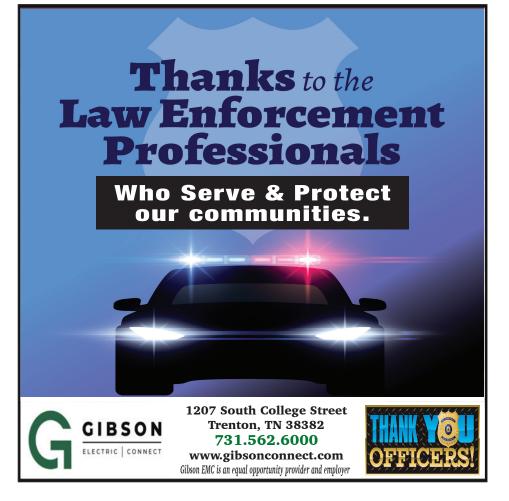






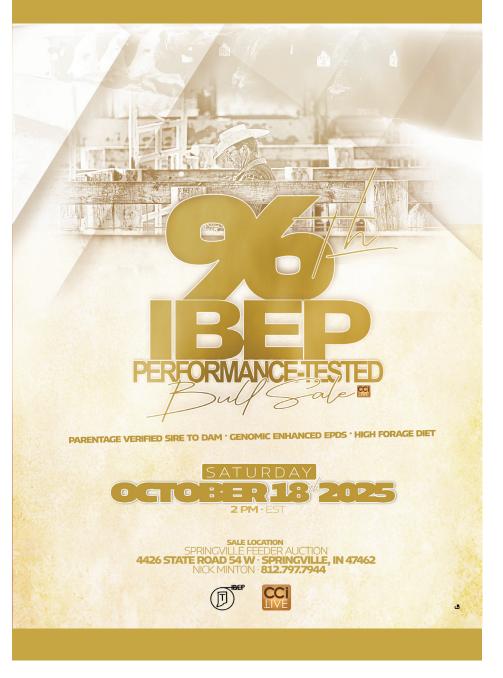












**AMENITIES** 

**BLACKOUT** 

**BOOKING** 

**CANCELLATION** 

CHECK-IN

**CHECK-OUT** 

CONFIRMATION

DESTINATION

**EXCURSION** 

FEES

HOTEL

HOUSEKEEPING

**INSURANCE** 

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PEAK

**POLICY** 

RENTAL

RESERVATION

SEASONAL

TRIP

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# pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test! いにのの大に 9 4 2 3

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your



Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

### **VACATION RENTAL WORD SEARCH**

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- **CLUES ACROSS**
- 1. Makes lacework
- 5. \_\_\_s goods to the poor
- 8. Tea spoonful (abbr.)
- 11. Margarines
- 13. 5th zodiac sign
- 14. Filled fried tortilla
- 15. Afrikaans
- 16. Tablet
- 17. Israeli politician Abba

ments

character

22. Builds up

31. Heat unit

25. W. Estes Blue Bloods

30. Loosen a bottle cap

- 18. La m\_\_ Sargasses
- 20. Town in Nigeria

21.

Vest-

tion

sword

- 57. European shad
- 56. Actress Ryan

55. Southern lash

32. Body atrophy

38. Cash machine 41. British molasses

43. Margulies drama 45. Astonishment

48. N.M. art colony

50. One-edged cavalry

49. Baseball stat

33. Caused cell destruc-

- 59. Snakelike fishes
- 60. Metal-bearing rock 61. Nobel Prize winner
- Fritz
- 62. Doctor of Education
- 63. Soviet Socialist Republic (abbr.)
- 64. Helicopter

#### **CLUES DOWN**

- Tater \_\_\_
- 2. Winglike structures
- 3. Rend
- 4. Disposed of to a purchaser
- 5. Llama pacos
- 6. Escaped fluid
- 7. Divided into sections
- 8. Delay until a later time
- 9. Strikebreakers
- 10. Opera soprano Lily

- 12. Point midway be-
- 14. Udder protuberance
- 19. Dried up or withered
- 23. Stitch clothing

tween S and SE

- 24. Tilted
- 25. Protrude
- 26. Nursing group
- 27. Mutual savings bank
- 28. Frozen water
- 29. Inferior substitute
- 34. Swerve off course
- 35. \_\_ fi (slang), like "Star Wars"
- 36. Ferrell Xmas movie
- 37. River in NE Scotland
- 39. Preserves tempera-
- ture of drinks 40. Parts of a whole
- 41. 2000 lbs.
- 42. Decays
- 44. \_\_ counter, measures radiation
- 45. Expressed pleasure
- 46. Form
- 47. Vipers
- 48. Overly precious (British)
- 51. Express pleasure
- 52. Nonsense (slang)
- 53. Czech River
- 54. Cambodian monetary unit
- 58. No seats available

# VICTORIOUS Juving ... in a troubled world

# **MYSTERIOUS SURGERY:**

He removes the stony heart and replaces it with a heart of flesh

By Teresa LeNeave Leneave2@comcast.net

Whether its health or salvation, change always comes from the inside. To me, that is Jesus' main message: "Verily, verily, I say unto thee, except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God" (John 3:3). That's not where it ends. There is more: something beyond being born again. Although, being born again is the gateway, the Bible teaches there is much more than just believing. In fact, "the devils also believe, and tremble" (James 2:19).

I'm reminded of a man named Nicodemus who was a devout Pharisee, a member of the Sanhedrin and a respected teacher of Jewish law. He had all the credentials for believing. He apparently, like all the other Jews of his time, was expecting a coming Messiah – a Messiah who would

be King of the Jews. At the same time, Jesus, a Rabbi who was healing the sick and drawing huge crowds, captured the attention of Nicodemus, but he just couldn't seem to connect all the dots. Nicodemus had lots of questions.

Because Nicodemus really did have a good heart toward God, and toward his fellowman, Jesus and His message, it was probably very enticing to Nicodemus. He was curious and wanted to know more about this mysterious man. Nicodemus being a highly educated man, was probably amazed at Jesus' wisdom and his ability to perform great miracles. He was sure that only someone who had been sent from God could do these things.

While Nicodemus was fascinated by Jesus, the rest of the Sanhedrin were upset with Jesus. They were strongly against a



law-defying, preacher turning the hearts of the people toward something they couldn't understand. Because of the Sanhedrin's opinion of Jesus, Nicodemus eventually arranges a secret meeting with Jesus in the darkness of night so no one would see him. He begins to question Jesus about the law.

He even tells Jesus, "All you're teaching - I'm doing".

After some conversation, Nicodemus admits he believes Jesus is truly the promised Redeemer since only a man sent from God could do what He was doing. Christ responds by saying, "...except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God". Nicodemus was shocked and quickly asked, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be reborn?"

This is where change comes from the inside: Jesus explains that a person who wants to follow God must be born two times. They must

be born once in the natural and once in the spiritual. Jesus was explaining that no matter how much a person knows, or how much good they do, everyone needs to be changed on the inside.

Unfortunately, at this meeting, Nicodemus chooses not to join Jesus' team. There were things he wasn't, yet, willing to give up. In my heart, I believe Nicodemus finally does commit his life to Christ, although we can't be sure of that. I also

believe Nicodemus represents most all of us. We want change, but change is uncomfortable. And, being born again is hard to understand, but it simply means we have a new identity with a new purpose for living.

Only Jesus can perform this miraculous surgery: He removes a stony heart and replaces it with a heart of flesh. He changes us from the inside out. God says, "A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh" (Ezekiel 36:26). What a great promise! This surgery takes us beyond simply believing Jesus is real to believing He lives in our heart and has the power to mysteriously transform us into His likeness.



I have hunted big game most of my adult life. I have written about my experiences over 20 years. Those experiences are not spectacular. Most of them have come in random places at random times, and without the resources to make them anything special. That is, I have only paid for one hunt but have relied on special friends for the opportunities I have been given. I have no trophies that would

cause anyone to think I am some special or gifted hunter. I am a blue-collar, mediocre private land hunter. Don't get me wrong, my Midwest opportunities are special, and they create for me an opportunity that many don't have. But even these only come because of special friends and their unmerited graciousness to me. I have also made ministry to men the biggest part of my life for these past

20 years as well. During that time, I have traveled and spoken at places I would have never dreamed. But again, most of the places fall within what most of us would call normal churches and venues. None of them fall into stadiums or coliseums. I have written 5 books. Four of these are compilations of my articles. Again, nothing outstanding. And their sales? Mediocre at best. But compared to some

others, I have been beyond blessed and extremely successful. Why am I telling you all of this? Because I want us all to see that privilege and blessings are not always by our good decisions. That our positions, prosperity, and health are not all actions of our decisions or our free will. Some things in fact many many things are predetermined by God. For instance, we had no say in what country we would be born in, what race we would be, what would be our mental capabilities - or incapabilities, or who, or what our parents would be. We had no say if our mother would be a drug addict, or our father would begin abusing us as a child. These were forced on each of us by God and by a sinful world. Why? I don't know. But what I do know

and believe is this. Jesus sat and ate with tax collectors and "sinners." He was criticized for it because everyone believed, at that time, tax collectors were dishonest and sinners were well, sinners. And those who were born blind or had other handicaps, were believed to be that way because of their sin or the sin of their parents. But Jesus knew better, and that's why he went to them. He understood that many of their predicaments had nothing to do with any decision they made. It had everything to do with what God determined and what sin in general, destroyed. He went to the hurting, hungry, and handicapped, and healed, fed, and restored. And then told his apostles to do the same. He used this sentence.

"I desire mercy and not sacrifice." He was telling the religious crowd that while your religious activity was fine and your spiritual sacrifices were okay, the compassion and kindness you show to those who have not had your privileges are the best.

Remember, if you are one who God has blessed with basics or abundance, find those who seemingly haven't been. It will remind you to be humble in your position and thankful for your determined and unmerited blessings. And perhaps who will be the one God uses to heal, feed, and restore – until God makes everything right in heaven.

I'll talk about this article on Tuesday morning at 6:30 central time. Find the zoom link on my website.





# Support



### LIVING ESTATE AUCTION

# SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2025 @ 9:01AM 204 Norris Hancock Road, Big Rock, TN 37023







REAL ESTATE DESCRIPTION: LIST: Speed Aire 220V Air Compressor 3/4 ACRE BUILDABLE LOT ON NORRIS HANCOCK ROAD. Ryobi Gas Weed Eater · Bug Lite · Troy-E Craftsman Router w/ Table · Coleman Stove · Ryobi Gas Weed Eater  $\cdot$  Bug Lite  $\cdot$  Troy-Bilt Push Mower · Craftsman Gas Pressure Washer · Disc/Belt Sander · Well Pitcher Pump · Magi-Kooler Leisure Chest · Lawn Trailer · Spot Sprayer · Small 2-Wheel Trailer · Cattle Panels · Several T-Posts · Farm Gates (2) Power Wheel Cars · Lite-Gait Patient Lift Black Jack Slot Machine · Craftsman Table Saw · Red Brand Barb Wire · Roll of Woven Wire · Job Box · Rigid 8,500 Watt Generator on Wheels w/ Yamaha Engine · 1-Man Saw · Milwaukee 18V Cordless Drill · Snap On Tool Box · Oak Rockers (2) · Kraut Cutter · 12 Gallon Crock · Foot Bench · Grand Ole Opry Coke Bottles · 4 Piece Wicker Set · Sickle/Scythe McCoy Bowl & Pitcher · Cookie Jar Collection (Approx 35) · Leather Shoulder Holster (New) Lots of Misc. Ammunition · And More. SPECIAL INTEREST: 1985 Ford F350, 460,

4-Speed, Flatbed w/ Dump & Goose Neck Ball 1974 Chevrolet Corvette L-82, 350 Auto, 400 Turbo Transmission · 2017 Kawasaki Teryx V-Twin 800, 37 Hours · Honda Foreman 400 4-Wheeler, 4X4, 2684 Hours • 1991 16' Bass Buggy Pontoon Boat w/ 50HP Johnson Outboard, 55 Gallon Steel Drums · 2002 GMC Z71 1500 4X4 w/ Extended Cab · Kubota MX-5100 4WD w/ LA 844 Loader, 541 Hours · 20' Goose Neck Trailer, 8-Lug Axles, New Floor John Deere Gator 6X4 (Needs Motor) · 8' wo-Wheel Camper.

FIREARMS: LONG GUNS: Browning A5 Semi Auto 12GA Shotgun, Round Knob, Solid Rib Remington 742 BDL Semi Auto 30-06 Rifle Winchester 1300 Pump 12GA Shotgun, Nickel · Henry Golden Boy Lever Action 22M Rifle (NIB) · Charles Daly Field VR Hunter, Semi Auto 20GA Shotgun (NIB) · Colt Courier Semi Auto 22 Rifle · Remington 514 Single Shot 22 Rifle · Savage Sporter Bolt Action 22 Rifle Remington 550-1 Bolt Action 22 Rifle akefield 64B Semi Auto 22 Rifle • British 1942 Model 4MK Bolt Action 303 Rifle · New England SB-1 Single Shot 10GA Shotgun Winchester Model 72 Bolt Action 22S Rifle elgium Browning Light Twelve Semi Auto 12GA Shotgun, Gold Trigger, Vent Rib · Savage Mark 1 Single Shot 22 Rifle · Winchester Model 12 Pump 12GA Shotgun · Ithaca Model 37 Feather Light Pump 12GA Shotgun · Remington Sportsman 58 Semi Auto 12GA Shotgun · Browning BPS Pump 10GA Shotgun · Savage Model 11 Bolt Action 223 Rifle · Remington Model 12 Pump 22 Rifle · BPS Pump 410 GA Sh Savage Model 110 Bolt Action 270 Rifle Remington Model 552 Speed Master Semi Auto 22 Rifle · Stevens Model 94M Single Shot 410GA Shotaun • Rossi Circuit Judge Revolver 45LC/410GA Rifle · Remington Mohawk Semi Auto 22 Rifle · Stevens Model 94F Single Shot 410GA Shotgun · Remington Model 572 Field Master Pump 22 Rifle - Belgium Browning Semi Auto 22 Take Down Rifle · Remington 597 Semi Auto 22 Rifle · Remington 1100 LT-20 Semi Auto 20GA Shotgun. HANDGUNS: AUCTIONEER COMMENTS: This Smith & Wesson Model 15 38Spl Revolver · is only a partial list of items to Smith & Wesson Model 29 44Mag Revolver be sold on the day of the JC Higgins Model 80 Semi Auto 22 Pistol JP auction. There's something Sauer & Son (Hawes Firearm Co) Texas here for everyone, don't miss it! Marshall 22 Revolver.



Terms: PERSONAL PROPERTY: Complete settlement on the day of the sale by cash, personal check, or credit card. Credit/debit card purchases will have a 3.5% surcharge fee added. Valid ID required. REAL ESTATE: A 10% non-refundable earnest money deposit is due on the day of the auction. The remaining balance is due at closing within 30 days.

Buyer's Premium: A 10% Buyer's Premium will be charged on all purchases, including the Real Estate. Background Check: Tennessee NICS Background Checks will be conducted on all firearm sales, the TN State fee of \$10 will be collected on all firearm transactions. Firearms buyers must be 21+ years old and from Tennessee, or a touching state. FFL Dealer transfers are accepted with a current FFL License and Valid Government ID, all Federal Gun Laws Apply.

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# **VOLS VAULT TO #12** IN ASSOCIATED PRESS, COACHES **POLLS**



KNOXVILLE, Tenn. -- Following an open date, Tennessee football has vaulted to No. 12 in both the Associated Press Top 25 and AFCA Coaches poll released Sunday.

The Volunteers (4-1, 1-1 SEC) are the seventh-highest ranked SEC team behind No. 4 Ole Miss, No. 5 Texas A&M, No. 6 Oklahoma, No. 8 Alabama, No. 10 Georgia and No. 11 LSU. UT moved up three spots from No. 15 in both polls.

Tennessee is ranked in the Coaches poll for the 54th consecutive week dating back to Sept. 11, 2022. Forty-nine of those 54 weeks have seen UT land in the top 20, including 24 straight polls. The current Coaches poll streak is the longest for the Vols since being ranked 92 consecutive weeks from Nov. 27, 1994 to Oct. 1, 2000.

The Vols head into Week 6 with the nation's top scoring offense at 51.0 points per game, and they have scored over 40 points in five consecutive games for the first time in program history. Tennessee has scored 33 touchdowns, and four of those have come on the defensive side of the ball, which leads the SEC and ranks second in the FBS.

Tennessee takes on Arkansas (2-3, 0-1) at 4:15 p.m. ET Saturday in Neyland Stadium. The venue is sold out for the 24th consecutive game. The contest will be televised on SEC Network and is the Vols' only home game during the month of October. Champions Weekend presented by Pilot is scheduled for Saturday.