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Houstonians flock to Astrodome for a last look before $105M renovations begin. Page 3

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Dome gets last hurrah before repurposing

Months before the Eighth Wonder of the World is repurposed for its next chapter of use, thousands of Houstonians flocked to get one last look at the Astrodome's historic, evocative interior. Long lines stretched late into the night Monday on the 53rd anniversary of the Dome's opening.

HPD to give training on transgender issues

With deadly violence against LGBTQ people at a 20-year high, Police Chief Art Acevedo pledged Wednesday that all Houston officers will get transgender competency training. Acevedo acknowledged that anti-gay hate crimes are among the most underreported, largely because people in the LGBTQ community feel uncertain they'll be protected by law enforcement. HPD hasn't previously offered competency training for transgender issues, and Acevedo said that gap in training has left the door open for some mistakes.

Stockman convicted of fraud

A federal jury in Houston on Thursday convicted former U.S. Rep. Steve Stockman of being the mastermind behind a wide-ranging fraud scheme, using hefty charitable donations to cover personal expenses and campaign debts. The jury found Stockman guilty of all but one of the 24 counts brought against him. He could face 20 years in prison on each count.

Report card gets sunnier outlook

Relative to the rest of the country, Texas' average test scores on the National Assessment of Educational Progress do not appear overly favorable near the bottom in reading achievement, roughly average in math. Those results, however, do not account for students' backgrounds and statistical likelihood to perform well on the test. In fact, an analysis by the Urban Institute estimates Texas students perform very well in math and above-average in reading when accounting for demographics.
How the Astrodome was saved

By Ally West

"The Astrodome was a natural disaster," said a former employee who worked there. "It was like a giant, concrete bowl that was never meant to be a stadium."

The dome was built in 1965 as part of the World's Fair in Houston. It was designed by Minoru Yamasaki, the architect of the Empire State Building in New York City.

But over time, the Astrodome began to fall into disrepair. The roof leaked, the seats were damaged, and the stadium was no longer viable for hosting major sporting events.

In the late 1970s, the Houston City Council voted to tear down the Astrodome. But a group of citizens formed the Save the Astrodome Committee, and they successfully lobbied the council to save the dome.

The committee raised money through a series of events, including a benefit concert featuring The Who. They also pitched ideas for repurposing the dome, such as using it as a convention center or a performing arts venue.

In the end, the Astrodome was saved. It reopened as an events venue in 1980, and it continues to be a beloved landmark in Houston.

The Astrodome was a symbol of Houston's commitment to innovation and progress. It showed that even when things don't work, we can find a way to make them work.

The dome is now a museum and a reminder of Houston's past.

The Eighth Wonder of the World is going anywhere.

The <i>Revisonist</i> defined by actors' stage presence

By Wei-Chun Chan

"The Revisonist" is a smart and thought-provoking play about the nature of truth and justice. The play is set in a legal office, where a lawyer is defending a defendant charged with murder.

The main character is a lawyer, played by an actor who is known for his portrayal of a classic hero with a tragic flaw. The lawyer is struggling with his own morality and the pressures of the legal system.

The play explores themes of justice, truth, and the human condition. It is a challenging and rewarding work that will appeal to audiences of all ages.

The <i>Revisonist</i> is a must-see production that will leave you thinking long after the curtain falls.