

February 10, 2017

The Patriots' Comeback & Opinions on Free Speech

Learn more about this topic! Each section gives more detail on one of the lyrics from the song. Read each section, and then respond by answering the question or taking notes on key ideas.

Lyric: Congrats to the New England Patriots, They won the Super Bowl



The New England Patriots won in overtime.

The New England Patriots and the Atlanta Falcons competed in Super Bowl 51. The Falcons had a 28-3 lead in the third quarter of the game. However, the Patriots made a historic comeback, tying the game 28-28 and forcing it into overtime. It was the first overtime in

Super Bowl history. The Patriots defeated the Falcons 34-28 in overtime. The Patriots won their fifth Super Bowl title, and their comeback is considered one of the greatest in Super Bowl history. Tom Brady, the Patriots' quarterback, became the first quarterback in NFL history to win five Super Bowls.

Notes

Lyric: Betsy DeVos was confirmed as the Secretary of education this past week.



Betsy DeVos

On Tuesday, the Senate confirmed Betsy DeVos as the country's education secretary. DeVos' nomination faced enormous criticism across the country. Teacher's unions and some charter school organizations protested her nomination. Critics argued that she is unqualified for the position. Every Democratic senator, two Independent senators and two Republican senators voted against DeVos. On the other hand, 50 Republican senators voted in favor of

confirming her. This resulted in the Senate split at 50-50. Vice President Mike Pence was required to cast a historic tiebreaking vote. It was the first time a vice president has been required to break a tie for a cabinet nomination. Pence voted in favor of DeVos, and she was confirmed as education secretary 51-50.

Notes

Lyric: New approval for a pipeline to finish construction: The Dakota Access Pipeline,

Notes



Construction had been halted on the pipeline, but it is now scheduled to start again.

On Tuesday, the Army approved the construction of the Dakota Access Pipeline. The decision allows for the completion of the 1,172-mile oil pipeline.

The pipeline's construction has been surrounded by controversy. The Standing Rock Sioux Tribe opposes the pipeline, arguing it could contaminate their water supply and destroy their cultural sites. Native tribes and environmental activists have protested the pipeline for months. Two months ago, the Army said it would explore alternative routes for the pipeline and further assess its environmental impact. However, two weeks ago, President Trump ordered the Army to speed up its review. As a result, the Army said it had enough information for approval. The Standing Rock Sioux tribe promised to fight the decision in court.

Lyric: Your First Amendment right is freedom of speech, But there's levels to what high schoolers think you can speak.

Notes



Students have different opinions on free speech.

Since 2004, high school students' support for the First Amendment has increased. The First Amendment protects the right to free speech. According to a survey of almost 12,000 high school students, 91% believe that people should be allowed to express unpopular

opinions. However, only 45% of students support this right when the opinions are offensive to others and made in public.

Lyric: And in Stockholm, it seems they've found a way to make it Less trafficky, by charging a driving fee,

Notes



Stockholm, Sweden

In 2006, Stockholm, Sweden, implemented "congestion pricing." This is a system that charges people a fee for driving during rush hour. In Stockholm, drivers were charged for driving in crowded areas during busy times. This system is meant to reduce traffic and

pollution. A study was undertaken to determine this system's effects. Researchers discovered that it reduced air pollution by 5-10%. They also determined that children would have suffered 45% more asthma attacks without congestion pricing. Overall, researchers concluded that this system can improve air quality and help children's health.

Lyric: Congrats to Kyra Poh, the world's fastest flyer At the Wind Games

Notes



Indoor skydiving

Kyra Poh is a 14-year-old indoor skydiver from Singapore. Poh competed in the Wind Games, one of the sport's biggest competitions. As part of the Games, competitors perform routines in a wind tunnel. In the tunnel, the winds move as fast as 143 miles per hour. About 200

indoor skydivers competed in the Wind Games. However, Poh was one of the only females to compete and was also one of the youngest competitors. During the Games, Poh was crowned the "world's fastest flyer" by winning gold medals in the solo speed and freestyle categories.

Lyric: Banff National Park just got a herd of bison.

Notes



A herd of bison

This weekend, plains bison were reintroduced into Canada's oldest national park. Canada transferred 16 plains bison to Banff National Park, an area where they used to live in abundance. The bison used to roam the plains freely, but they almost went

extinct due to overhunting. This is the first time in over 100 years that there are bison in the park. The animals' transfer will restore their role in the park's ecosystem. The bison is also spiritually significant to Canada's native populations, and they welcomed the transfer. The bison will be kept in an enclosed area of the park under observation until 2018.