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**NEWS
RELEASE**

01/29/2026

El Paso Zoo and Botanical Gardens African Lion to Predict Super Bowl Winner

WHO: El Paso Zoo and Botanical Gardens
WHAT: African Lion to predict Super Bowl winner
WHEN: 3:30 p.m. Saturday, February 7
WHERE: El Paso Zoo, 4001 E. Paisano Dr.

The El Paso Zoo and Botanical Gardens invite the community to watch Hodari, the Zoo's African lion, predict the winner of this year's Super Bowl LX between the New England Patriots and the Seattle Seahawks.

As part of the Zoo's animal enrichment program, Hodari will make his pick by choosing between two helmet-shaped piñatas, one representing the New England Patriots and the other representing the Seattle Seahawks. Both piñatas will be filled with identical treats and placed by zookeepers.

"Enrichment activities like Super Bowl predictions help keep our animals mentally and physically stimulated," said El Paso Zoo and Botanical Gardens Interim Director Gary Lunsford. "We provide enrichment every day to encourage natural behaviors and give animals opportunities to explore, problem-solve, and interact with their environment."

This fun and educational event is one of the many enrichment activities Zoo animals receive daily to promote wellbeing and support natural behaviors.

This will be Hodari's first year predicting the big game. Last year, the Zoo's mountain lions correctly predicted the Philadelphia Eagles would win.

Visitors are encouraged to come dressed in their favorite NFL team jerseys or game-day attire.

To learn more about the El Paso Zoo, visit www.ElPasoZoo.org

About the El Paso Zoo and Botanical Gardens

The El Paso Zoo and Botanical Gardens spans 35 acres and is home to over 220 animal species, including many that are critically endangered. The El Paso Zoo celebrates the value of animals and natural resources. It creates opportunities for people to rediscover their connection to nature. For more information, visit www.ElPasoZoo.org.

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Promoting **Transparent & Consistent Communication**
Among All Members of the Community

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