

*David Bourne for MacinTech SIG: 23 October 2025*

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# iOS 26

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*A Review of Changes in iOS 26  
Many apply to macOS 26, iPad 26 etc.*

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# Liquid Glass

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- ❖ Liquid Glass, a visual effect introduced in iOS 26, primarily enhances the appearance of app icons by applying a semi-transparent, glossy effect.
- ❖ Dynamic rendering which reacts to movement. More subtle animations.
- ❖ Included in many app such Camera, Photos, Safari, FaceTime, etc.
- ❖ In early betas LG was more intrusive. Menu bar items were hard to see.
- ❖ Betas of iOS 26.1 appear to provide an option to turn it off

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# Spatial Scenes

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- ❖ In Lock Screen
  - ❖ Long-press on Lock Screen
  - ❖ Tap “+” to add a new wallpaper
  - ❖ iOS 26 will suggest comp
- ❖ In the Photos App
  - ❖ When viewing a photo tap the  icon to ‘convert’ to a Spatial image

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# Camera and Photos App

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- ❖ Chris has already discussed the Camera App changes.
- ❖ The Photos app layout in a moving target with separate tabs for Library and Collections

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# Safari

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- ❖ Updated navigation
- ❖ IMHO: The tab side bar is broken ;-)
  - ❖ The tab groups auto expand making it harder to scroll through the choice.

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# New Tab Bars

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- ❖ Apple Music, News and Podcasts have tab bars that float above the content.

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# Apple Intelligence (AI)

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- ❖ ChatGPT is now integrated into the system. Free use with a daily limit
  - ❖ More access with your own ChatGPT paid account
- ❖ Visual Intelligence understands what is on your screen using ChatGPT(?)
- ❖ Image Playground support ChatGPT image generation
  - ❖ Available in many apps
- ❖ Apple's LLM Foundation Models and MLX frameworks can be added to Apps by independent developers (stay tuned for some attempt at this)

# Apple I

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AskPK

## Ask Away

Provide four multiple choice questions on the topic of Denver sports team

Show Me the Answer

Here are four multiple-choice questions about Denver's professional sports teams:

- 1. Which of the following is not a professional sports team based in Denver?**
  - A) Denver Broncos
  - B) Denver Outlaws
  - C) Colorado Rockies
  - D) Denver Nuggets

**Answer: B) Denver Outlaws**
- 2. Where do the Denver Broncos play their home games?**
  - A) Empower Field at Mile High
  - B) Ball Arena
  - C) Coors Field
  - D) Dick's Sporting Goods Park

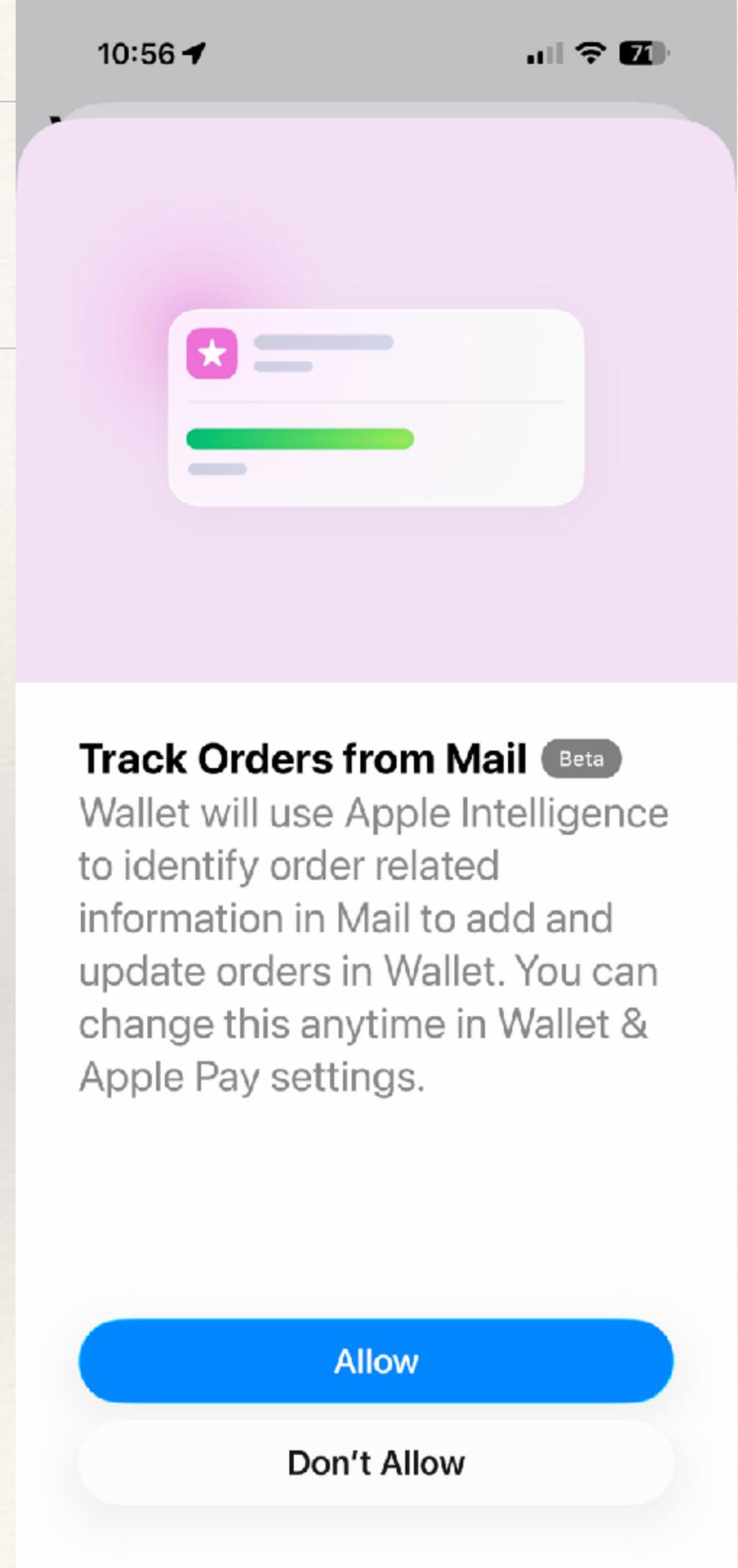
**Answer: A) Empower Field at Mile High**
- 3. Which team is associated with Major League Soccer (MLS) based in Denver?**
  - A) Denver Broncos
  - B) Colorado Rapids
  - C) Denver Nuggets
  - D) Colorado Avalanche

**Answer: B) Colorado Rapids**
- 4. Which venue hosts the Colorado Avalanche, an NHL team?**
  - A) Empower Field at Mile High
  - B) Coors Field
  - C) Ball Arena
  - D) Ball Arena

**Answer: C) Ball Arena**

# Wallet App

- ❖ AI can scan your emails for orders and present tracking information
- ❖ Boarding passes in Wallet support Live Activities
- ❖ Supports paying in installments and rewards on in-store purchases



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# Shortcuts App

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- ❖ Shortcuts can include
  - ❖ Summarize text and create images
  - ❖ A MacMost shortcut uses AI to create an image description which can be added as ALT text in web/html tag

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# Phone App

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- ❖ Rearranged the Layout. Takes some getting used to
- ❖ New Call screening feature. So far just one call since turning it on. Unknown callers are asked for name and reason for the call
- ❖ Hold assist when put on hold

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# Messages App

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- ❖ Screen text from unknown sender > Unknown senders folder
- ❖ Group texts have typing indicators
- ❖ Send and Receive Apple Cash
- ❖ Polls (under the + icon) with help from AI

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# Music App

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- ❖ Lyrics Translation and Lyrics Pronunciation
- ❖ AutoMix using AI for transitions

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# Maps App

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- ❖ Supports Visited Places
  - ❖ Wasn't available at first and then popped up as an option
- ❖ Preferred Routes and Predicted Destinations (also given as an option)

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# Games App

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- ❖ A new app with games all in one place

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# Carplay App

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- ❖ Widgets and Live Activities
- ❖ Tapback options to pin 'important' conversations
- ❖ Compact view for incoming calls

# AirPods 4 and AirPods Pro 2

- ❖ Use as a remote to take photo or record a video (using the timer ;-)
- ❖ Live translation via the Translate App

