

“I will permit no man to narrow and degrade my soul by making me hate him”
— Booker T. Washington



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SERVING THE BLACK COMMUNITY WITHOUT FEAR OR FAVOR SINCE 1947

May 25 -31, 2023

Tim Scott launches 2024 presidential bid seeking optimistic contrast with other top rivals

By Will Weissert and Meg Kinnard



Republican presidential candidate Tim Scott delivers his speech announcing his candidacy for president of the United States on the campus of Charleston Southern University in North Charleston, S.C., Monday, May 22, 2023. (AP Photo/Mic Smith)

NORTH CHARLESTON, S.C. (AP) — South Carolina Sen. Tim Scott launched his presidential campaign on Monday, offering an optimistic and compassionate message he's hoping can serve as a contrast with the political combativeness that has dominated the early GOP primary field.

The Senate's only Black Republican, Scott kicked off the campaign in his hometown of North Charleston, on the campus of Charleston Southern University, his

alma mater and a private school affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention. He repeatedly mentioned his Christian faith in his kickoff speech, crying, "Amen! Amen! Amen!" and at several points elicited responses from the crowd, who sometimes chanted his name.

But Scott also offered a stark political choice, saying "our party and our nation are standing at a time for choosing: Victimhood or victory." He added that Republicans

will also have to decide between "grievance or greatness." "I choose freedom and hope and opportunity," Scott said. He went on to tell the crowd that "we need a president who persuades not just our friends and our base" but seeks "commonsense" solutions and displays "compassion for people who don't agree with us."

That was a far cry from former President Donald Trump, who has played to the

Continue **Scott** Page 4

TRAVEL ALERT



NAACP Issue Travel Ban on Florida in Response to Governor's 'Hostility' toward Minorities

According to a news release from the nation's oldest civil rights organization, the travel advisory comes in direct response to Gov. Ron DeSantis' "aggressive attempts to erase Black history and to restrict diversity, equity, and inclusion programs in Florida schools."

By Stacy M. Brown, NNPA Newswire Senior National Correspondent@StacyBrownMedia

The NAACP Board of Directors has issued a formal travel advisory for the state of Florida.

According to a news release from the nation's oldest civil rights organization, the travel advisory comes in direct response to Gov. Ron DeSantis' "aggressive attempts to erase Black history and to restrict diversity, equity, and inclusion programs in Florida schools."

The formal travel notice states, "Florida is openly hostile toward African Americans, people of color and LGBTQ+ individuals.

"Before traveling to Florida, please understand

that the state of Florida devalues and marginalizes the contributions of, and the challenges faced by African Americans and other communities of color."

NAACP President and CEO Derrick Johnson said he wanted the message to resonate.

"Let me be clear – failing to teach an accurate representation of the horrors and inequalities that Black Americans have faced and continue to face is a disservice to students and a dereliction of duty to all," Johnson stated.

"Under the leadership of Governor DeSantis, the state

of Florida has become hostile to Black Americans and in direct conflict with the democratic ideals that our union was founded upon," he continued.

"He should know that democracy will prevail because its defenders are prepared to stand up and fight. We're not backing down, and we encourage our allies to join us in the battle for the soul of our nation."

According to the release, the travel advisory was initially proposed to the Board of Directors by NAACP's Florida State Conference.

Continue **Ban** Page 4

BREAKING NEWS

Rock Legend Tina Turner Dies at 83



Tina Turner, Pop and R&B vocalist, as holds up a Grammy Award, Feb. 27, 1985, in Los Angeles. (AP Photo/Nick Ut, File)

Article Page 6

The First Lady's Luncheon

“My Day”

By Dr. J. Ester Davis
Esterdavis2000@gmail.com

In a word the entire experience was an 'epic' one!

I receive more than a generous number of telephone calls and messages per day. And you would think you have possibly received generally all the array of big subjects messages you can imagine as it relates to my 30+ years in some form of media. In March, 2023, I received a call from an admired friend who is a native of New York. She was inviting me to Washington, DC, for the "First Lady's Luncheon". Her Dad was a former Member of Congress from New York. Even though we communicate often, our last time together was at the United Nations in New York for the global 'Commission on

the Status of Women'. I reported on the week both locally and globally for UPI and PAX TV. Our audiences for JED World Media, CAN (Community Affairs Network) aka Ester Davis Show spans ten(10) countries and a very loyal viewership.

April 9, 2023, the official mail arrived addressed to 'Honorable Ester Davis'. That really got my attention! I was indeed very excited and more than a little 'blown away'.

My letter was two pages, explaining background and history of the Congressional Club and the First Lady's Luncheon. The First Lady's Luncheon was chartered by Congress

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First Lady Jill Biden
Photo Credit: The White House



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EDITORIAL PAGE

CONTINUED

The First Lady's Luncheon

"My Day"

By Dr. J. Ester Davis



Dr. J. Ester Davis

In 1908, I was invited to attend the 110th First Lady's Luncheon and the Silver Reception. The event was attended by invited guests, current and former spouses of Members of Congress, Members of Congress, the United States Supreme Court and the President's Cabinet. While I was there, I noticed a lot of personalities in the hallway I see on television... and everybody is speaking to everybody. Security was commanding and not speaking.

Each year at the luncheon there is a chair and a theme. This year the chair

was from New York. The theme of this year's event "Empire State of Mind", showcasing the State of New York.

The day of the luncheon started early, the President was to leave for the G7 Summit in Japan. That was an obvious high profile awareness with a lot of changes placed in capable hands. Exiting my hotel which was across the street from the Congressional Club, you see these vehicles that have little presence in Dallas.... marked blatantly United States Secret Service everywhere. Everything was decent and in order with a quiet rush wisp of protocol. Entering the lobby there was a grand piano with a pianist in a tuxedo at 9:00 AM. Credentials were checked. Directions were given and everybody was properly on duty moving not lingering dressed exquisite for their assign-

ments. A light breakfast was the order of the morning, but it was designed for pre-introductions before moving to the main event. Our table of invited guests were to meet, greet, be briefed again before the regimented move to the luncheon. I remember when our breakfast table was assigned, I could still hear the beautiful patriotic piano music.

We were reminded that two of our international guest were still missing. I was looking forward to meeting everyone before the luncheon. Information from the International Association of First Ladies, the two missing were from the Dominican Republic (DR). One was a Supreme Court Judge for County of Nassau New York State, looking forward to retirement and the other an Ambassador from the Dominican Republic. And we knew they spoke

several languages. When they arrived, they both looked professional, comfortable and engaging, but I took a mental note that they must know each other. They turned out to be sisters. The Ambassador, an older sister, was still living in the DR, and the judge lived in upper state New York. They were real down home regular siblings. We had a great time together right up to our departing times.

The introduction of First Lady Jill Biden was handsomely made by the Second Gentleman Doug Emhoff. The entertainment superb and the luscious gifts unimaginable.

I am so grateful for the opportunity, for Dallas, WFWP US and across the globe... and for the acknowledgement of my work everywhere. You are the greatest!!

Esterdavis2000@gmail.com

College Graduates Celebrate Their Day And Now Have Unlimited Opportunities

By James B. Ewers Jr. Ed.D.



Dr. James Ewers

College graduations have taken center stage. Final examinations are over, and students were approved to receive their degrees. There was unbridled excitement and joy.

The hard work and long hours paid off. Sacrifices that were made by your family members have now made you a member of the select company of college graduates.

Being a college graduate requires discipline, flexibility and commitment, especially during these days as there are more non-traditional students. They are juggling family and work responsibilities while attending school.

According to reports in 2023, 1.9 million students earned bachelor's degrees and 989,000 students earned an associate degree. Further reporting says almost 35% of people 25

and over earned a bachelor's degree.

There is a debate at some levels about the importance of a college degree. Critics of a college degree say that companies give you the necessary training for the position, thus a college degree is not needed.

Proponents of a college degree say that knowledge acquired while there gives you a foundation for an ever-changing world. They further say attaining a college education will make you more marketable in the workforce.

My old school habits and mores have always been on the side of having a college education. While growing up in North Carolina, my parents stressed the importance of education. Attaining as much education as you could assured you a better quality of life. They believed in that axiom.

In my neighborhood not everyone had a college degree, yet education was still the gateway to success.

Going to high school back in the day meant that you were being taught by men and women who had college degrees and had certificates for teaching.

Teachers were widely respected in my hometown of Winston-Salem. During my high school years, my teachers talked about the importance of going to college.

Fortunately for us, they prepared us for that next step. Some of us received academic scholarships while some of us received athletic scholarships. Regardless, we still had to take and get a good score on the SAT (Scholastic Aptitude Test).

Our college graduations were filled with pomp and circumstance. Like most senior citizens, we can remember our college days like they were yesterday.

It is my measured opinion that college allows you to grow cognitively and emotionally. In addition, you meet people who are now lifelong friends.

I entered Johnson C. Smith University, an HBCU (Historically Black College and University) located in Charlotte NC as a traditional 1st year student. Over time, I met students from many parts of the world.

I graduated from college more confident and self-assured. During my college years, I developed some life goals and aspira-

tions. The college experience for many of us was a defining moment in our lives.

Still now in 2023, college is a place where you see role models and you have unique and wonderful experiences. Today's students are traveling around the world learning new skills and ways of doing cutting edge research. The learning they get overseas broadens their perspective and how they view the world.

College degrees are recognized in all walks of life. It is still something that people want to achieve. In a way, it is a calling card.

Almost daily, you hear about professional athletes who have made millions of dollars, yet still want that elusive college degree.

Michael Jordan, Venus Williams, Shaquille O'Neal and Todd Bowles are just a few examples of professional athletes and coaches who returned to school. These days, you see more athletes leaving early for professional careers. However, we know that not everyone makes it to the next level. This is why having a degree is so important.

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PAUL'S EPISTLE TO THE GALATIANS THE GOSPEL OF GOD'S GRACE GALATIANS 1:1-24



By Rev. Johnny Calvin Smith

The grand epistle of Galatians was written by the Apostle Paul between A.D. 49 or 55. The book of Galatians is a sturdy defense of the Gospel that a man is justified solely by God's grace apart from the Law. If mankind is to be saved, he or she must appropriate God's grace through Christ's death and triumphant resurrection. As we observe our text in Galatians 1:1-24, it may be outlined as follows: I. Paul's Certification of the Gospel Message that He Preached – Galatians 1:1-10; II. A Defense of Paul's Authority – Galatians 1:11-24.

I. Paul's Certification of the Gospel Message that He Preached – Galatians 1:1-10

In the very opening of Galatians, we are introduced to Paul, a great champion and servant of the Gospel message of God. Formerly he was Saul, a prominent opponent of Christianity! However, after his life-changing experience on the road to Damascus, he immediately began proclaiming vigorously that Jesus Christ was indeed the Son of God (Acts 9:20). Paul became an Apostle of God not because he had decided to do so; however, God chose him for the lofty task (v. 1). The word "Apostle" literally means "one sent forth"; thus, Paul was sent forth to preach the word to the Gentiles (Acts 14:27). Paul

also labored hard to preach the word to his people, the Jews.

In writing this letter to the saints of Galatia, he extends both "grace and peace". The "grace and peace" enjoyed by the Galatians came from "God the Father and from our Lord Jesus Christ" (vv. 2-3). Christ is identified as the One "who gave Himself for our sins" (v. 4). One of the great tenets of our faith is the belief that "Christ died for our sins" (I Corinthians 15:3). We also believe that God's salvation by grace is a free gift offered to mankind through faith apart from any merit of mankind. In this grand epistle, Paul is confronting the heretical teaching of the Judaizers, who attempted to distort the Gospel message of God's grace! The Judaizers claimed belief in Jesus Christ; however, they wanted Gentile converts to keep all the rules and regulations of the Mosaic Law; in essence, they wanted to Judaize the Christian faith.

In this epistle, Paul will give a sturdy and strong defense that a man is justified by God through faith in Jesus Christ apart from the law! Reverting to verse 4, Paul also conveyed the fact that Christ came to "deliver us from this present evil world." This present age in which we live is characterized by evil. Even though we presently reside in the midst of temptation and sin,

we will ultimately be delivered from the very presence of sin (I John 3:2). Because of God's great deliverance, Paul and all believers can offer a doxology of praise to God "for ever and ever" (v. 5).

In verse 6, being in a state of great astonishment, Paul was deeply troubled in the fact that the Galatian believers were defecting from the true Gospel "so soon." The reference to "Him that called you into the grace of Christ" is probably a reference to God, who calls all believers to salvation through the Gospel (II Thessalonians 2:13-14). Paul was deeply astonished because the Judaizers were actually preaching "another gospel," as opposed to the true Gospel of Jesus Christ (II Corinthians 11:4). The word translated "another" in Galatians 1:6 is the Greek "heteros" and means "other or different." In verse 7, the Judaizers had completely perverted the true Gospel message that Paul preached! The word translated "another" in verse 7 is different from the one used in verse 6. The word "another" in verse 7 comes from the Greek word "allos" and means "another" of the same sort (vine). What Paul was saying was that the message proclaimed by the false teachers (Judaizers) was not just another version of the same gospel, but a completely different mes-

sage! Paul taught salvation by God's grace through faith (Ephesians 2:8); however, the false teachers (Judaizers) taught salvation by law through works. What the false teachers preached was not the Gospel; that is, it was not good news at all. To add to the plan of salvation or to deny the basic facts of the gospel message is to "pervert the Gospel of Christ" (Galatians 1:7).

In verses 8-9, you will find one of several severe warnings in the Bible not to alter God's message (Deut. 4:2; 12:32; Prov. 30:5-6; Matt. 5:18-19; Rev. 22:18). To do so is to be placed under a Divine curse. The Judaizers were adding to the Gospel by requiring circumcision and other rituals of the Mosaic law. This was a distortion of the Gospel and so serious that Paul pronounced a curse on those who did this. The word "accursed" is the Greek "anathema" that literally means devoted to destruction. Paul declared to the Galatians that if he or his co-workers or even angels from heaven were to preach anything that deviated from the Gospel they had already heard from Paul, that new message must be rejected! In verse 10, as a servant of God, Paul's aim was to please God and not men.

II. A Defense of Paul's Authority – Galatians 1:11-24

In verses 11-12, first and foremost, Paul certified that the Gospel message did not originate with man. The Apostle Paul also declared or asserted that he did not receive the Gospel from any human. Paul readily affirmed that he received the Gospel message by revelation from Jesus Christ. Referring to his life before he was saved in verses 13-14, Paul disclosed how zealous he was to profit as a Pharisee in Judaism. He spoke of the way he excelled over other Jews his own age. Paul loved the law and was very zealous for the traditions of his fathers. Having described the manner of his pre-conversion life (vv. 13-14), Paul now related the dramatic intervention of God in his life (vv. 15-16a). This marvelous intervention by God in the life of Paul is described in Acts chapters 9, 22, 26. As believers, we can all certify that we have also experienced a "But God" intervention as it relates to our salvation!

In verses 15-16a, Paul related three things God did for him: First, God set him apart from birth; Second, God called Paul by His grace; Third, God was pleased to reveal His Son in Paul. Paul was commissioned to preach Christ to the Gentiles. Paul was emphasizing that both his conversion and commission were of God and not from

man! In verses 16b-17, Paul affirmed that after his conversion, that he did not consult anyone from the Jerusalem church with regard to receiving the Gospel message. Rather, he went immediately into Arabia and was trained by the Lord. In verses 18-20, to bolster his previous argument that he did not receive the Gospel message from the Jerusalem church, Paul asserted that he waited three years after his conversion to go to Jerusalem. When he went to Jerusalem, he (Paul) made a personal visit that lasted only for 15 days. Paul had a meaningful visit with Peter; however, Peter did not instruct Paul theologically nor did Peter convey any apostolic endorsement for his ministry! Paul also met James, the Lord's brother, who was a leader in the church at Jerusalem (Acts 12:17).

After visiting the Jerusalem church, Paul worked extensively in Syria and Cilicia, which is a great reason why he was relatively unknown to the churches of Judea (Acts 9:30; 11:25). In verses 23-24, the churches of Judea had only heard that Paul who had once persecuted the church was now preaching the faith he had once tried to destroy. In receiving this report, the Judean believers praised God because of Paul.

May God Bless!

5 takeaways from AP's series on health disparities impacting Black Americans

By Kat Stafford

The Associated Press spent a year examining how racial health disparities have harmed generations of Black Americans.

From birth to death, Black Americans fare worse in measures of health compared to their white counterparts. They have higher rates of infant and maternal mortality, higher incidence of asthma during childhood, more difficulty treating mental illness as teens, and higher rates of high blood pressure, Alzheimer's disease and other illness as adults.

Here are the key takeaways from each story:

WHY ARE BLACK BABIES AND MOTHERS MORE LIKELY TO DIE?

Black women have the highest maternal mortality rate in the United States — 69.9 per 100,000 live births for 2021, almost three times the rate for white women, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The 2021 rate was a significant increase from the prior year.

Black babies are also more likely to die, and also far more likely to be born prematurely, setting the stage for health issues that could follow them through their lives. In 2020, there were 364,487 preterm births

in the nation, about 1 in 10. Preterm birth rates were highest for Black infants, 14.2%, between 2018 and 2020.

Multiple factors contribute to these disparities, according to the CDC and advocacy organizations, such as underlying health conditions. But more doctors and experts have pointed to the role of structural racism that has created inequitable access to health care, implicit bias and discriminatory care. Poor health care or outcomes for Black mothers in turn can create issues for their babies, putting them at risk for future health problems down the road.

WHY DO MORE BLACK KIDS HAVE ASTHMA?

Black children are more likely to have asthma and to be exposed to certain triggers, like mold and air pollution. Their asthma often is more severe and less likely to be controlled. About 4 million kids in the U.S. have asthma. The percentage of Black children with asthma is far higher than white kids; more than 12% of Black kids nationwide suffer from the disease, compared with 5% of white children.

Some of the high rates of asthma among Black children are tied to genetics — family histories of allergies,

and frequent respiratory infections. But much of the disparity lies in the same racist factors that afflict Black peoples' health from birth to death.

With asthma, especially for kids, where you live makes all the difference. And where you live often depends on your race. Black Americans are more at risk of living in homes with asthma triggers, like cockroaches, dust mites, mold and rodents. Research also shows that air pollution can worsen asthma.

Across America, nearly 4 in 10 Black children live in areas with poor environmental and health conditions compared to 1 in 10

white children. Factories spew nitrogen oxide and particulate matter. Idling trucks and freeway traffic kick up noxious fumes and dust.

The disparities are built into a housing system shaped by the longstanding effects of slavery and Jim Crow-era laws. Many of the communities that have substandard housing today or are located near toxic sites are the same as those that were segregated and redlined decades ago.

HOW DOES RACISM AFFECT BLACK TEENS' MENTAL HEALTH?

About 50% of Black youth experience moderate

to severe symptoms of depression, and about 18% said they were exposed to racial trauma often or very often in their life.

The drivers of the mental health crisis for Black children begin early and persist through a lifetime. Black children's first encounters with racism can start before they are even in school, and Black teenagers report experiencing an average of five instances of racial discrimination per day. Young Black students are often perceived as less innocent and older than their age, leading to disproportionately harsher discipline in

Continue Black Page 5




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HEALTH

May is Mental Health Awareness Month

The staff at Parkland Health is here to remind you that it is okay to not be okay.

Have you ever thought about what could be going on inside the minds of those around you? Maybe you quietly questioned why someone aggressively honked at you on the road or why a normally positive coworker snapped at you out of the blue as if you did something to offend them. Mental illness can affect anyone at any time and may look different for everyone.

May is Mental Health Awareness Month and the staff at Parkland Health is here to remind you that it is okay to not be okay. Mental illnesses or behavioral health disorders are common in the United States. It is estimated that more than one in five U.S. adults lives with a mental illness. Behavioral health disorders include psychotic disorders like schizophrenia, mood disorders like depression and bipolar disorder, personality disorders, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), substance use, anxiety and eating disorders, among others.

Consider these steps toward an improvement in your behavioral health journey:

- **Acknowledge the problem:** Financial stress and family factors can cause difficulty at any point of the year. If you are feeling overwhelmed, you may need support. Admitting you are struggling is brave and is the first step in finding a resolution.
- **Ask for help from loved ones:** It can be hard to ask for support, especially when others depend on you. Remember that by taking care of yourself you are also taking care of others. When you're ready, try saying something as simple as:
 - "I am having a hard time mentally and may not be as present. Thank you for being patient with me."
 - "I am overwhelmed and need support. Is it ok if I talk to you about how I am feeling?"
- **Wind down, alone:** Spend time in nature, try meditating, exercise and get enough sleep. This is crucial for your overall health and can severely affect your behavior day to day.
- **Seek professional help:** Don't be afraid of talking to a healthcare professional. Counseling and medications can be helpful tools for managing health. Ask your primary care provider to refer you to one of Parkland's behavioral health services. Visit www.parklandhealth.org for more information.

If you or a loved one struggles with behavioral health disorders, ask your primary care provider to refer you to our behavioral health team. If you or someone you know is in crisis, help is available 24/7. **Simply call or text 988.**

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Continued SCOTT Page 1

GOP's most loyal supporters with repeated lies about his 2020 election loss as he campaigns for a second term in office. Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis, who could launch his own bid as soon as this week, has pushed Florida to the right by championing contentious new restrictions on abortion and LGBTQ rights and by seeking to limit the corporate power of Disney, one of his state's most powerful business interests.

Scott, 57, planned to huddle with home-state donors Tuesday, then begin a two-day campaign swing

to Iowa and New Hampshire, which go first on the GOP presidential voting calendar.

His announcement event featured an opening prayer by Sen. John Thune of South Dakota, the No. 2 Senate Republican, who said, "I think our country is ready to be inspired again." Republican Sen. Mike Rounds, South Dakota's other senator, has already announced his support for Scott.

A number of high-profile GOP senators have backed Trump's third bid for the White House, including

Scott's South Carolina colleague, Lindsey Graham. Trump nonetheless struck a conciliatory tone Monday, welcoming Scott to the race and noting that the pair worked together on his administration's signature tax cuts.

A source of strength for Scott will be his campaign bank account. He enters the 2024 race with more cash on hand than any other presidential candidate in U.S. history, with \$22 million left in his campaign account at the end of his 2022 campaign that he can transfer to his presidential

coffers.

Scott also won reelection in firmly Republican South Carolina -- which has an early slot on the Republican presidential primary calendar -- by more than 20 points less than six months ago. Advisers bet that can make Scott a serious contender for an early, momentum-generating win.

But Scott is not the only South Carolina option. The state's former governor, Nikki Haley, who once served as Trump's former United Nations ambassador, is also running.

Continued BAN Page 1

NAACP's collective consideration of the advisory is a result from unrelenting attacks on fundamental freedoms from the Governor and his legislative body, the organization asserted.

Following DeSantis' ordering the state to reject students' access to AP African American studies course in March, the NAACP distributed 10,000 books to 25 predominantly Black communities across the state in collaboration with the

American Federation of Teachers' Reading Opens the World program.

Most of the books donated were titles banned under the state's increasingly restrictive laws.

The NAACP vowed to continue to encourage local branches and youth councils to start community libraries to ensure access to representative literature.

The organization said in the release that it has encouraged all Florida residents to join the effort to

defeat the "regressive policies of this Governor and this state legislature."

"Once again, hate-inspired state leaders have chosen to put politics over people. Gov. Ron DeSantis and the state of Florida have engaged in a blatant war against principles of diversity and inclusion and rejected our shared identities to appeal to a dangerous, extremist minority," said Chair of the NAACP Board of Directors, Leon Russell.

"We will not allow our

rights and history to be held hostage for political grandstanding," Russell stated.

"The NAACP proudly fights against the malicious attacks in Florida, against Black Americans. I encourage my fellow Floridians to join in this fight to protect ourselves and our democracy."

The NAACP asked that interested residents and supporters visit www.naacp.org for additional information and updates.

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SPORTS/NEWS PAGE

7 Day Weather Forecast for DFW

Thursday, May 25



H - 82°
L - 67°

Friday, May 26



H - 83°
L - 65°

Saturday, May 27



H - 83°
L - 66°

Sunday, May 28



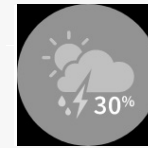
H - 84°
L - 69°

Monday, May 29



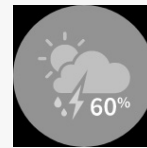
H - 85°
L - 70°

Tuesday, May 30



H - 86°
L - 70°

Wednesday, May 31

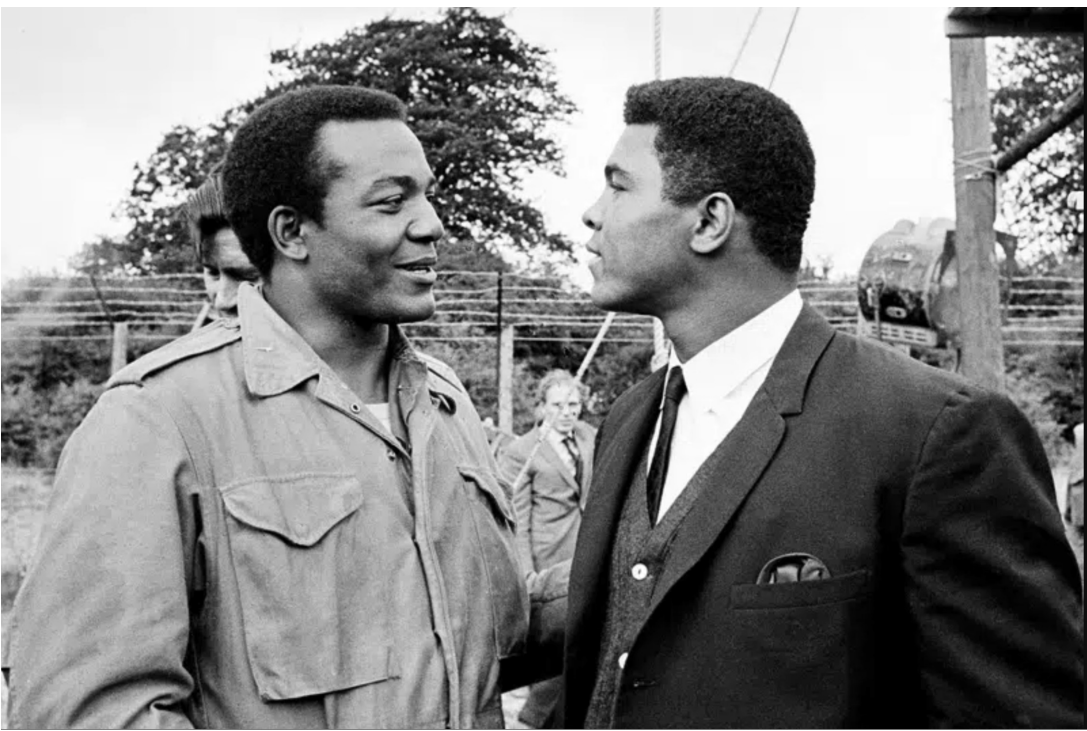


H - 87°
L - 72°

Legendary NFL, Movie Star and Activist Jim Brown Dies at 87

Voted pro football's greatest player of the 20th century, Brown earned induction into the Hall of Fame in 1971. But football wasn't the only sport in which he excelled.

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Senior National Correspondent
@StacyBrownMedia



FILE - In this Aug. 5, 1966, file photo, heavyweight boxer Muhammad Ali, right, visits Cleveland Browns running back and actor Jim Brown on the film set of "The Dirty Dozen" at Morkyate, (AP Photo/File)

Jim Brown, the superstar Cleveland Browns running back who quit football at the very height of his hall-of-fame career, has died at 87. Perhaps the greatest running back ever, Brown quit football to pursue an acting career at 30. From 1957 to 1965, the perennial all-pro helped lead a Cleveland Browns ground game that won an NFL championship in 1964. Voted pro football's great-

est player of the 20th century, Brown earned induction into the Hall of Fame in 1971. But football wasn't the only sport in which he excelled. He played basketball, track, and lacrosse at high levels. He was inducted into the Lacrosse Hall of Fame in 1984. But football is where he chiefly left his mark. Notably, in 1965,

Cleveland Browns' owner, Art Modell, issued an ultimatum to the superstar, telling him that if he continued filming the hit movie, "The Dirty Dozen," which was delayed because of technical problems, Brown would face fines for reporting late to training camp. Ever independent, Brown defied Modell and called a press conference to announce his retirement from football.

Brown also didn't hesitate to speak out on issues affecting African Americans and openly supported the civil rights movement. He started and helmed the Negro Industrial and Economic Union to create jobs for Black people in Ohio. The organization also helped secure loans for Black businesses. Brown also formed a coalition to denounce the federal government's role in stripping boxing legend Muhammad Ali of his title because Ali refused to fight in the Vietnam War. Brown's popularity grew, and he cemented himself into film lore, becoming the first Black man to have onscreen sexual relations with a white woman, Raquel Welch, in the film "100 Rifles." Brown was born on St. Simons Island, off the southern coast of Georgia, where he had a difficult childhood, according to biography.com. Brown was only two weeks old when his father abandoned the family; Brown's mother left him alone after she took a job in

New York as a maid. While living with his grandmother, Brown's mother sent for him when he was 8. During his senior year at New York's Manhasset High School, Brown played running back and recorded a mind-boggling 14.9 yards per carry, more than good enough to earn him a spot at Syracuse University. In college, Brown dominated the competition on the football field and the basketball court. He also ran track and was a talented lacrosse player, according to biography.com. Brown earned national attention as a running back for his strong, explosive play. In the final regular-season game of his senior year, Brown capped off his college career by rushing for 197 yards, scoring six touchdowns, and kicking seven extra points. In 1957, the Cleveland Browns selected Brown as the sixth overall pick in the National Football League draft. "Brown wasted little time adjusting to the new competition, leading the league in rushing yards with 942 on

his way to capturing the league's Rookie of the Year honors," his biographers wrote. "Over the next seven seasons, Brown became the standard-bearer for all NFL running backs," Brown's biographers continued. At a time when defenses were geared toward stopping the ground game, Brown bulldozed his way past the opposition, posting remarkable season totals: 1,527 yards (1958), 1,329 (1959), 1,257 (1960), 1,408 (1961), 1,863 (1963), 1,446 (1964), and 1,544 (1965). His only "down" year came in 1962, when Brown rushed for 996 yards. It was the one season in his brilliant but brief football career where he failed to lead the league in yards. In 1964, Brown steered Cleveland to the NFL championship, where the club routed Baltimore 27-0 to win the title. In the game, Brown ran for 114 yards. "But Brown saw a life for himself outside of football, and before the start of the 1966 season, he stunned the sports world by announcing his retirement."

Continued **Black Page 3**
schools. Black adolescents are far less likely than their white peers to seek and find mental health care. In part, that's because Black families often distrust the medical system after generations of mistreatment — from lack of access to care to being subjected to racist practices and experimentation. The country also has a shortage of providers who understand the roles that racial identity and racism play in shaping young Black people's mental health. Research and health surveillance data point to a growing mental health crisis among Black youth over decades. Between 1991 and 2019, Black adolescents had the highest increase among any other group in prevalence of suicide attempts — a rise of

nearly 80%. **WHAT ROLE HAS HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE PLAYED IN COVID DEATHS OF BLACK AMERICANS?** High blood pressure has played a major role in COVID deaths, and especially in the COVID deaths of Black people. Together, they have created a deadly combination: While it is listed as a contributing factor in 15.5% of the deaths of white COVID sufferers, the figure for Black victims is 21.4% — the highest of any racial group. About 56% of Black adults have high blood pressure, compared to 48% of white people. Three in four African Americans are likely to develop the disorder by age 55. While only 32% of white adults with high blood pressure have their condition

under control with medication, the figure for Black Americans is even lower — 25%. And it's likely to get worse: By 2060, the number of Americans battling cardiovascular disease is expected to drastically increase. High blood pressure rates alone are projected to rise 27.2%, or from roughly 127.8 million to 162.5 million Americans. Among white people, the prevalence of cardiovascular risk factors and disease is projected to decrease over time. Yet significant increases are projected among people of color, especially Black and Latino Americans. Like many conditions, genetics do play a part. Experts also blame poor diets, high cholesterol, obesity and smoking — risk factors that often exist at higher rates in Black com-

munities. Also, in recent years, more academics and doctors have called attention to structural inequities that have an outsized impact. Black neighborhoods are more likely to experience a lack of access to healthy foods or be inundated with fast food options. **WHY DO SO MANY BLACK PEOPLE DEVELOP ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE?** Black Americans are more likely than white people to develop Alzheimer's. About 14% of Black Americans over the age of 65 have Alzheimer's, compared with 10% of white Americans, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Experts believe the rates could be even higher. Health conditions like cardiovascular disease and

diabetes experienced in earlier stages of life are known risk factors — both of which are more common among Black and Latino populations. Depression, high blood pressure, obesity and chronic stress are also risk factors. The CDC also acknowledges the impact of "higher rates of poverty, and greater exposure to adversity and discrimination" as risk factors. Across the board, Black people are also unlikely to receive the health care that white people do — including necessary medication to treat Alzheimer's and dementia-related disorders. A preliminary study released this year by Mount Sinai researchers found that Black people are less likely to receive dementia-related medications than white people. Black and Latino popula-

tions are expected to rise in coming years, and so are the number of their cases of Alzheimer's and related disorders. Cases among Black Americans are projected to increase four times over today's estimates and Latino Americans could increase seven times, according to the CDC. Some advocates estimate that by 2030, nearly 40% of all Americans living with Alzheimer's could be Black or Latino. But the projected rise in cases isn't just tied to population growth. While evidence exists that certain genetic risk factors could differ by race and be a driver, the large disparities among racial groups can't be explained just by genetics, experts say. And the sheer trauma of experiencing racism is also believed to be a contributing factor.

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Tina Turner, unstoppable superstar whose hits included 'What's Love Got to Do With It,' dead at 83

By Hillel Italie



FILE - Tina Turner performs in a concert in Cologne, Germany on Jan. 14, 2009. (AP Photo/Hermann J. Knippertz, file).

NEW YORK (AP) — Tina Turner, the unstoppable singer and stage performer who teamed with husband Ike Turner for a dynamic run of hit records and live shows in the 1960s and '70s and survived her horrifying marriage to triumph in middle age with the chart-topping "What's Love Got to Do With It," has died at 83.

Turner died Tuesday, after a long illness in her home in Küsnacht near Zurich, Switzerland, according to her manager. She became a Swiss citizen a decade ago.

Few stars traveled so far — she was born Anna Mae Bullock in a segregated Tennessee hospital and spent her latter years on a 260,000 square foot estate on Lake Zurich — and overcame so much. Physically battered, emotionally devastated and financially ruined by her 20-year relationship with Ike Turner, she became a superstar on her own in her 40s, at

a time when most of her peers were on their way down, and remained a top concert draw for years after.

With admirers ranging from Beyoncé to Mick Jagger, Turner was one of the world's most successful entertainers, known for a core of pop, rock and rhythm and blues favorites: "Proud Mary," "Nutbush City Limits," "River Deep, Mountain High," and the hits she had in the '80s, among them "What's Love Got to Do With It," "We Don't Need Another Hero" and a cover of Al Green's "Let's Stay Together."

Her trademarks were her growling contralto, her bold smile and strong cheekbones, her palette of wigs and the muscular, quick-stepping legs she did not shy from showing off. She sold more than 150 million records worldwide, won 12 Grammys, was voted along with Ike into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in

1991 (and on her own in 2021) and was honored at the Kennedy Center in 2005, with Beyoncé and Oprah Winfrey among those praising her. Her life became the basis for a film, a Broadway musical and an HBO documentary in 2021 that she called her public farewell.

Until she left her husband and revealed their back story, she was known as the voracious on-stage foil of the steady-going Ike, the leading lady of the "Ike and Tina Turner Revue." Ike was billed first and ran the show, choosing the material, the arrangements, the backing singers. They toured constantly for years, in part because Ike was often short on money and unwilling to miss a concert. Tina Turner was forced to go on with bronchitis, with pneumonia, with a collapsed right lung.

Other times, the cause of her misfortunes was Ike himself.

As she recounted in her memoir, "I, Tina," Ike began hitting her not long after they met, in the mid-1950s, and only grew more vicious. Provoked by anything and anyone, he would throw hot coffee in her face, choke her, or beat her until her eyes were swollen shut, then rape her. Before one show, he broke her jaw and she went on stage with her mouth full of blood.

Terrified both of being with Ike and of being without him, she credited her emerging Buddhist faith in the mid-1970s with giving her a sense

of strength and self-worth and she finally left in early July, 1976. The Ike and Tina Turner Revue was scheduled to open a tour marking the country's bicentennial when Tina snuck out of their Dallas hotel room, with just a Mobil credit card and 36 cents, while Ike slept. She hurried across a nearby highway, narrowly avoiding a speeding truck, and found another hotel to stay.

"I looked at him (Ike) and thought, 'You just beat me for the last time, you sucker,'" she recalled in her memoir.

Turner was among the first celebrities to speak candidly about domestic abuse, becoming a heroine to battered women and a symbol of resilience to all. Ike Turner did not deny mistreating her, although he tried to blame Tina for their troubles. When he died, in 2007, a representative for his ex-wife said simply: "Tina is aware that Ike passed away."

Little of this was apparent to the many Ike and Tina fans. The Turners were a hot act for much of the 1960s and into the '70s, evolving from bluesy ballads such as "A Fool in Love" and "It's Going to Work Out Fine" to flashy covers of "Proud Mary" and "Come Together" and other rock songs that brought them crossover success.

They opened for the Rolling Stones in 1966 and 1969, and were seen performing a lustful version of Otis

Redding's "I've Been Loving You Too Long" in the 1970 Stones documentary "Gimme Shelter." Laurence Fishburne and Angela Bassett gave Oscar-nominated performances as Ike and Tina in the 1993 movie "What's Love Got to Do With It," based on "I, Tina," but she would say that reliving her years with Ike was so painful she couldn't bring herself to watch the movie.

Ike and Tina's reworking of "Proud Mary," originally a tight, mid-tempo hit for Creedence Clearwater Revival, helped define their assertive, sexual image. Against a background of funky guitar and Ike's crooning baritone, Tina began with a few spoken words about how some people wanted to hear songs that were "nice and easy."

"But there's this one thing," she warned, "you see, we never ever do nothing nice and easy."

"We always do it nice — and rough."

But by the end of the 1970s, Turner's career seemed finished. She was 40 years old, her first solo album had flopped and her live shows were mostly confined to the cabaret circuit. Desperate for work, and money, she even agreed to tour in South Africa when the country was widely boycotted because of its racist apartheid regime.

Rock stars helped bring her back. Rod Stewart convinced her to sing "Hot

Legs" with him on "Saturday Night Live" and Jagger, who had openly borrowed some of Turner's on-stage moves, sang "Honky Tonk Women" with her during the Stones' 1981-82 tour. At a listening party for his 1983 album "Let's Dance," David Bowie told guests that Turner was his favorite female singer.

More popular in England at the time than in the U.S., she recorded a raspy version of "Let's Stay Together" at EMI's Abbey Road studios in London. By the end of 1983, "Let's Stay Together" was a hit throughout Europe and on the verge of breaking in the states. An A&R man at Capitol Records, John Carter, urged the label to sign her up and make an album. Among the material presented to her was a reflective pop-reggae ballad co-written by Terry Britten and Graham Lyle and initially dismissed by Tina as "wimpy."

"I just thought it was some old pop song, and I didn't like it," she later said of "What's Love Got to Do With It."

Turner's "Private Dancer" album came out in May 1984, sold more than eight million copies and featured several hit singles, including the title song and "Better Be Good To Me." It won four Grammys, among them record of the year for "What's Love Got to Do With It," the song that came to define the clear-eyed image of her post-Ike years.