

Lighting The Road To The Future

New Orleans

Data

News Weekly

"The People's Paper"

Macron Visits New Orleans

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A Data News Weekly Exclusive

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Election Day is December 10, 2022

Vote Lambert Boissiere in the Race for Louisiana Public Service Commission

Terry B. Jones
Publisher, Data News Weekly

On Dec. 10th, the runoff will take place for the District 3 seat on the Louisiana Public Service Commission. Data News Weekly in its job as “The People’s Paper” is encouraging all to get out and vote.

In these trying times, visionary leadership is important. Today we need people in office who will champion our issues.

Therefore, we are endorsing Lambert Boissiere III. We believe he is the best candidate for the job. During the primary he placed first, receiving 43% of the vote in a crowded field of candidates. In this race we are asking all who voted to get out and to the polls and to encourage others to support a candidate that is a competent and committed leader.

The five-member PSC regulates utilities, phone and cable companies, trucking companies and other common carriers outside New Orleans. District three is the PSC’s only majority-Black district.

Further, Boissiere has the experience and knows how to get things done. This is important because having institutional knowledge is what is necessary in this job.

In his years on the PSC, he has accomplished many things including:

Leading the efforts to provide, and expand, broadband internet access to rural and underserved communities in our state.

Authorized the Public Service Commission to sue Entergy to hold it accountable for its bad business decisions. This suit will result in millions of dollars in savings for customers and lower utility rates.

Recognized for his leadership in fighting for lower utility rates by the Alliance For Affordable Energy and other community



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Lambert Boissiere has a record of proven leadership. Data News Weekly is endorsing him in his bid to continue his post as a member of the Louisiana Public Service Commission.

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DATA NEWS WEEKLY

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groups

Additionally, Boissiere has an eye on the future leading the push for utilities to invest more in solar and other “green” energy sources, and that he has been honored as a consumer champion by the Alliance For Affordable Energy, a local advocacy group.

He has received endorsements from business, civic and elected leaders that include Governor John Bel Edwards and Congressman Troy Carter.

So, on December 10th get out and vote for Lambert Boissiere III, an experienced, committed proven leader.



Lambert Boissiere is endorsed by leaders from business, civic and elected leaders including Louisiana Governor John Bel Edwards.



AM I OKAY TO DRIVE?

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Tracee Dundas
Fashion Stylist

No outfit is complete without the ideal accessories. This season be prepared to include lots of sparkle, twinkle, glitter & shine! These glamorous baubles are the perfect finishing touches. No matter what you add make sure you shine through.

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Bon Appétit: 14k matte gold plated bar chain with polished brass bar drop into tourmaline quartz crystal and Sterling silver ball and bar ring provided by Designer Kazaru; Tropical blue and crystal cuff bracelet provided by Yvonne La Fleur; Hand-painted silk scarf provided by Designer Kathleen Olson Grumich



Sugar & Spice: Copper Necklace with patina etched New Orleans Bayou St. John pendant and Copper Cuff with patina etched of New Orleans Historical both provided by Designer Brandi Couvillion; Gold plated arrow ring and cuff provided by Designer Reagan Charleston



Haute Chocolate: Antique brass and crystal Cosmo earrings and pendant provided by Designer Jess Leigh; Clear plastic oversize floral ring provided by Designer Stern



Left - Savory Sensation: Sterling silver, amethyst druzy and Swarovski crystal ring, and Amethyst, Quartz and Citrine trifecta necklace both provided by Designer Jess Leigh; White milk glass stone ring provided by Maiya; Crystal drop earrings by Yvonne La Fleur

Above - Icing on Top: Three floral design costume rings provided by Designer Stern

French President Emmanuel Macron Visits New Orleans



Jacques Baran, Cultural Attache' at the French Consulate, Legendary Singer Charmaine Neville, Trumpeter and all-around entertainer James Andrewes, French President, Emmanuel Macron, International star Troy "Trombone Shorty" Andrews and France's First Lady Brigitte Macron.

Data News Staff Edited Report

Last week French President Emmanuel Macron visited Louisiana, the American state most closely aligned historically with his country, to celebrate their longstanding cultural ties and also discuss energy policy and climate change.

Macron met with political leaders and strolled with first lady Brigitte Macron through New Orleans' historic French Quarter, the heart of the city, stopping to talk and shake hands with bystanders. He paused next to a street brass band and nodded and clapped as they played "When the Saints Go Marching In."

Macron's itinerary started at Jackson Square. New Orleans Mayor LaToya Cantrell walked him to the Historic New Orleans Collection where Macron discussed climate change impacts with Gov. John Bel Edwards. The French President also met with energy company representatives.

In addition, Macron met for a dinner at the Winsor Court with culture bearers, musicians, and a host of others regarding cultural exchange between France

and New Orleans.

Macron told Edwards he was overcome by the reception in the city.

"What I think this signifies is a special relationship we have with France. It is historical and cultural," Edwards said.

During a brief meeting, the governor and Macron signed a memorandum of understanding "to further expand and enhance the strong cultural connections between France and Louisiana in the areas of the economy, clean energy and the environment," Edwards' office said.

"Like me, President Macron believes that climate change is real," Edwards said.

Louisiana is named for Louis XIV, the famous Sun King who ruled France for 72 years starting in 1643. New Orleans is where the Louisiana Purchase was finalized. The deal transferred the Louisiana Territory, which encompassed much of what is today the central United States, from France to the U.S. in 1803.

Macron's New Orleans visit also included a stop at the Cabildo, where ceremonies marking the land transfer were held.



French President Emmanuel Macron greets crowd during his visit in New Orleans. He was surrounded by local leaders that included New Orleans Mayor LaToya Cantrell, Mitch Landrieu, Senior Advisor to President Joe Biden, and Troy Carter, Louisiana Congressman.



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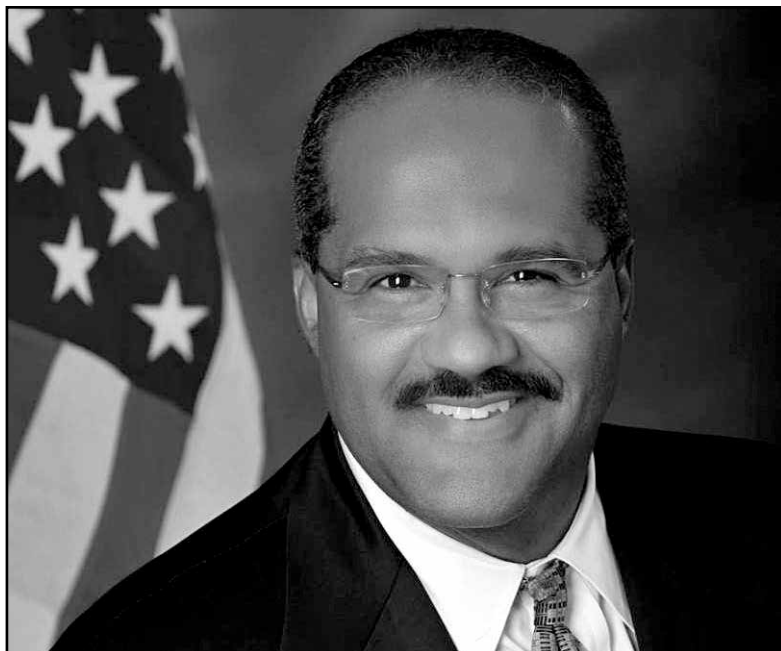
**EVERY
WEEKNIGHT
FROM
4PM -
7PM**

Congressman Troy Carter Elected Congressional Black Caucus Second Vice-Chair

Data News Staff Edited Report

Last week Congressman Troy A. Carter, Sr. (D-La.) was elected to serve as the Congressional Black Caucus' (CBC) Second Vice-Chair in the 118th Congress. This is the third-most senior position in caucus leadership and is a member of the Executive Committee. This role was previously filled by Congresswoman Brenda Lawrence of Michigan, who is finishing her fourth term in Congress. Congressman Carter will take on this role during his sophomore congressional term.

"I am humbled and grateful for the opportunity to serve as Second Vice-Chair in the powerhouse institution that is the Congressio-



Troy Carter, U.S. Congressman of Louisiana 2nd Congressional District.

nal Black Caucus, and I thank my colleagues for entrusting me with this leadership position" said Congressman Troy Carter. "I came to Congress to be the voice of my constituents, and it is a job that I take very seriously. I also serve on Capitol Hill as the only Black congressman in a delegation representing a state that is one-third African American. This is an enormous responsibility, and I know that the greater Black community in my state depends on me to advocate for our shared community within systems that too often are designed to silence our voices. I will not be silent. In this leadership role in the Congressional Black Caucus, and every day as a Congressman, I will continue fighting for the issues that make a

difference to all Louisianians and Americans."

Since its establishment in 1971, the Congressional Black Caucus has been committed to using the full Constitutional power, statutory authority, and financial resources of the federal government to ensure that African Americans and other marginalized communities have a shot at the American Dream. The CBC is often referred to as the "Conscience of the Congress."

While the CBC has predominately been made up of members of the Democratic Party, the founding members of the caucus envisioned a non-partisan organization. Consequently, the CBC has a long history of bipartisan collaboration and members who are both Democrat and Republican.

Sports

HBCUs Attract more Top Black Student Athletes

Kareemah A. Muhammad
Data News Weekly
Contributor
Photos Courtesy By Xavier Athletics

For athletic programs at Historically Black Universities, it is once again "Prime Time." The National Student Clearinghouse Research Center found that since the Pandemic, more Black top-level high school athletes are committing to HBCUs at a rate not seen in recent years. While college enrollment has been down across the nation, HBCUs have seen a reverse trend with an uptick in enrollment and their athletic programs have been put in the spotlight.

Public figures such as Professional Football Hall-of-Famer Deion Sanders, who has led the Jackson State University Tigers for two years (2020 to 2022) as head football coach revived Jackson's football program and provided the Mississippi HBCU with its first undefeated season ever.

Prime, who is a Florida native, brought national broadcast networks and major celebrities back to the HBCU campus to spotlight the iconic half-time performances and the tailgate experience, as well as the talent. "Coach Prime's" main



Coach Deion Sanders made the cover of Sports Illustrated in June 2022 for his successful run as Head Coach at Jackson State University.

strategy was also securing high level recruits. He drew five-star recruit Travis Hunter straight out of his high school career, making Hunter the first highest-ranked prospect to select an HBCU.

In other popular sports, four-time NBA Championship Winner Shaquille O'Neal's son, Shaqir O'Neal, committed to play basketball at HBCU Texas Southern University. While Sanders recently accepted the head coach position at the University of Colorado-Boulder, student athletes in the past said they were often told that HBCU athletic programs could not take their careers to the next profession-

al level. However, now HBCU student athletes are increasingly being considered for professional teams, which has changed the college possibilities for Black student-athletes.

"To be able to see top Black high-school basketball players show interest in HBCUs, then deciding to commit is really inspiring," said Lance Williams, a sophomore guard on the men's basketball team who is from Baton Rouge and is studying Business Management. "It makes me feel like I made the right decision, and it makes others recognize that HBCUs can compete at the same level of all of the top PWIs sports too," Williams said.



Lance Williams is a Baton Rouge native and a sophomore guard who chose to play college basketball at Xavier University in 2020.

HBCUs do not always have the same resources. Prime took a salary of \$300,000 at Jackson State and is reported to earn roughly \$5.9 million a season and a total of \$30 million for a 5-year deal. HBCUs are often overlooked by Black student athletes as predominantly White institutions are said to put forth more money, and resources into their programs, which ultimately attracts more top athletes seeking a professional career after college. However, in most recent years, that has all started to change.

"Growing up in Los Angeles top football players going to HBCUs wasn't really promoted nor were

HBCUs heavily recruiting on the west coast either," said retired NFL player and University of California Los Angeles alumnus, Gaston Green Muhammad.

"Although I am grateful for my journey, I thought I had to go to a school like UCLA or USC to get to the NFL. Knowing what I know now, I wish I would have been more open about going to an HBCU. The culture that surrounds HBCUs and being in a program that is meant for Black student-athletes is special. If I would have known then what I know now, I might have done things a lot differently," Green Muhammad said.

The Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) found that since 2020 Morgan State University (MSU) and Howard University have had a 60-percent and 11-percent increase in applications with a 9-percent and 28-percent increase in enrollment since 2019.

"People are able to see the diversity that surrounds these HBCUs, and they gravitate towards them. When you crave that sense of authenticity that HBCUs carry, it is hard to look away," Williams added.

Some of the biggest obstacles HBCU athletic programs have to face is the lack of funding and

HBCU's, Continued on page 7.

Attorney Ben Crump Brings Star-Studded TheGrio Awards Crowd to its Feet in Dr. King-Inspired Acceptance Speech.

Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Senior
National Correspondent

Byron Allen's inaugural TheGrio Awards honored comedian Dave Chappelle with the Cultural Icon Award, Allyson Felix with the Sports Icon Award, and Patti LaBelle with the Music Icon Award.

And while trailblazers like Tyler Perry and Jennifer Hudson also received honors, the recently televised awards spotlighted the work of "America's Black Attorney General."

Ben Crump, the renowned civil rights attorney and freedom fighter, elicited the night's biggest applause when he accepted the newly minted Justice Icon Award.

"It was an honor to accept the Justice Icon trophy in the company of so many Black leaders in our community," Crump remarked.

"This award represents our fight for tomorrow's future – our children's future," he asserted. "We will never stop demanding equality and justice."

Those words were just a sample of Crump's four-minute acceptance speech that brought the crowd of dignitaries to its feet and prompted LaBelle to remark, "Ben, you sure talking truth, and we all were listening."

Crump, who has represented the families of George Floyd, Breonna



Attorney Ben Crump

Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, and others, said if Black America doesn't fight for its children's future, they couldn't expect anyone else to go to battle.

"We have to be willing to fight for our children's future until hell freezes over, and then, we have to be ready to fight on the ice," Crump demanded.

"We have to make sure our children believe Black lives matter, where it can't be lip service, it has to be action."

Crump also recalled the words of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

"Dr. King concluded that there comes a time when one must take

a position that's neither popular nor politically correct or not even safe," Crump told the audience, who loudly cheered their affirmation.

"But that being said, there comes a time when we must take a position because their conscience tells them it is the right thing to do. I submit to you at the first annual TheGrio Awards that it is the right thing to do to stand up for our children's future."

Broadcast on Nov. 26, the awards celebrated excellence in film, music, comedy, television, sports, philanthropy, business, fashion, social

justice, environmental justice, education, and the cultural icons and innovators whose many contributions positively impact America.

"The National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) fervently salutes Attorney Benjamin Crump for receiving TheGrio Award for being our courageous global freedom-fighting lawyer," said National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) president and CEO, Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr.

Taped at The Beverly Hilton in Los Angeles, Allen designed the star-studded, black-tie event special to pay tribute to and amplify the history makers, change agents, and artists who define and influence the Black world.

"I created 'TheGrio Awards' to celebrate and amplify African American excellence and the incredible champions from other communities who truly support us," Allen said in a release.

"As a child, strong, positive African American icons such as Berry Gordy, Jr., Rosa Parks, Muhammad Ali, and Martin Luther King, Jr. helped me see myself differently and changed the trajectory of my life. Celebrating and amplifying iconic individuals is something we can never do enough of, especially for our children."



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HBCU's, Continued from page 6.

resources needed to attract and keep top recruits. Highlighting and promoting the success for HBCU programs and athletics becomes difficult in comparison to PWIs where their accomplishments hit the national stage for more regularly, which puts their athletes in the eyes of the professional teams, students said.

The lack of funding from HBCUs introduces another obstacle as they are not always able to provide full athletic scholarships, which is especially needed given that HBCU students are more likely to come

from lower income families in comparison to other institutions.

However, what HBCU athletic programs lack in resources they offer in rich pride in fostering a cultural environment that appeals to Black student-athletes.

"I feel like regardless of the sport, it's really cool to see top athletes that are well known show love to HBCUs," said Tracy Steele, a sophomore guard on the men's basketball team who is from North Little Rock, Ark. "It has really initiated a strong force of recognition for HBCUs that's well deserved and I'm grateful to be a part of that change as well," Steele added.

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Job Opportunity

Freelance Writers Wanted

Data News Weekly, "The People's Paper," is looking for freelance writers to join our team print and digital team. We need writers who can cover New Orleans news stories, ranging from local high school sports, community events, City Hall and entertainment. Experience in print is necessary, experience in digital and social media are encouraged.

Compensation is competitive and great story ideas will be appreciated.

If you are interested, please email your resume and 3 writing samples to: terrybjones@bellsouth.net and datanewseditor@bellsouth.net.

**We can't wait to
hear from you!**

Job Opportunity

Administrative Assistant Wanted

Data News Weekly, "The People's Paper," is looking for an administrative assistant.

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