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New Orleans

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Election Night Highlights

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Bayou Classic 2017

Showdown in the Superdome



The Bayou Classic brings over 200,000 people and over \$50 million to New Orleans. While the Game Day is the flagship event of the Bayou Classic, the event has transformed into a hub for college recruitment, family-centered events, Greek Step Show, Battle of the Bands and more.

By Eric Craig
Data News Weekly Contributor

After Grambling State University reigned as Champion of the Bayou Classic during last year's game, Southern University is coming back with vengeance. On Saturday, Nov. 25th, the Grambling State Univer-

sity Tigers and the Southern University Jaguars will hold their 44th Annual match at the Mercedes-Benz Superdome at 4 p.m. Tickets can be purchased on the Bayou Classic's official website. NBC's sports Network will also broadcast the event.

"We are geared up to host the Grandfather of all HBCU Classics in the City of New Orleans. People

come from North, South, East and West to meet at the Bayou Classic and help further the support of both Grambling State University and Southern University," said Dottie Belletto, President and CEO of New Orleans Convention Company, Inc. (NOCCI), the Management Firm of the Bayou Classic, in an official release. "Why? Because we are one as this

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Cover Story, Continued from page 2.

year's theme touts. When we stand together, think as one and do as one in support of HBCUs, we help to strengthen our future and the lives of the students who attend them and that's what Bayou Classic is all about."

This year, organizers and officials at the Bayou Classic Foundation will present the competition's first-ever Lifetime Achievement Award to Randy Jackson, former American Idol Judge, for his "established history of distinguished service, lasting contributions to schools and society, and his positive influence on culture at the national level." Jackson graduated Southern University in 1979.

Earlier this year, Data News Weekly held an interview with Belletto about the future of the Classic. She mentioned this year would include a ramped-up BizTech Challenge and a new program celebrating classic MVPs.

The Bayou Classic organizers started the BizTech Challenge in 2016, where students from Louisiana's six HBCUs competed to create an app to help small businesses recover from national disasters. This competition will play a larger role in the 2017 Festivities. This year over 24 teams from eight Historically Black Colleges and Universities will compete in Advanced Manufacturing, Clean Energy, and Digital Technologies categories. The winning team will win \$10,000 in cash.

"We have created incubators on both campuses of their intelligence that is coming forward in technology. We are then creating something that will be continually sustainable for Grambling and Southern that will open opportunities with students," Belletto said.

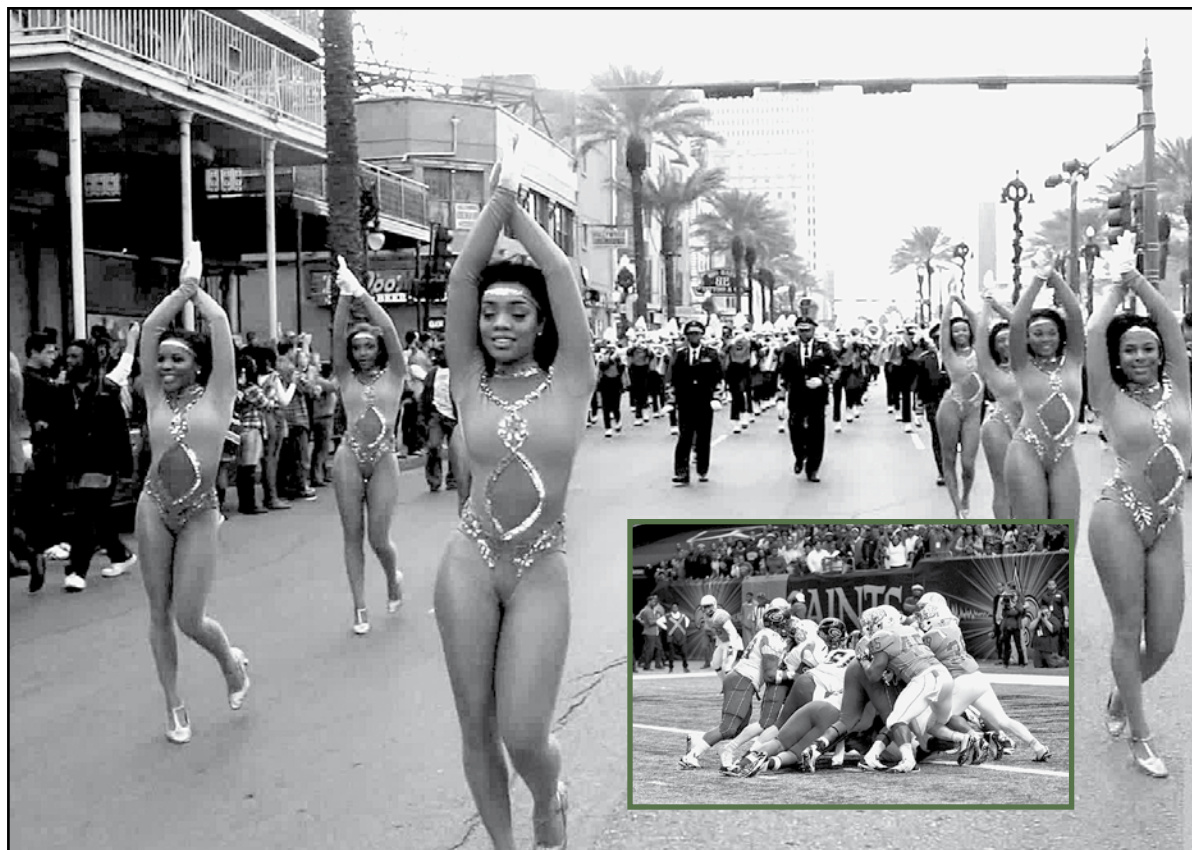
To keep up with the Bayou Classic, be sure to download the official application, which is available on the Apple App Store and the Google Play Store.

The Stats

Competing in the 44th Annual Bayou Classic, Grambling State has a 6-0 record in the Southwestern Athletic Conference, while Southern follows with a 5-1 record. Both teams are in good standing to win the 2017 SWAC Championship.

The 2016 Classic also broke the tie for series wins, with Grambling having a total of 22 wins and Southern having 21 wins over the Classic's 43-year history.

The winner of Saturday's Classic will compete in the Toyota SWAC Football Championship in Houston on December 2nd.



The History

The tradition of Bayou Classic began 43 years ago, as the two highest-performing football teams, Grambling State Tigers and Southern University Jaguars, faced off in the Southwestern Athletics Conference.

The Bayou Classic took off as a media phenomenon in 1990s, after being moved to the Mercedes-Benz Superdome. Since then the game has traditionally been played on the Saturday following Thanksgiving Day.

The overseeing foundation held The Classic every year at the Mercedes-Benz Superdome since 1990, except in 2005, when Hurricane Katrina devastated New Orleans.

The New Orleans Convention Company, Inc., took over as the official event planner for the Bayou Classic nearly five years ago. It increased attendance at the Dome from 40,000 in 2012 to nearly 60,000 on Game Day.

"We took it from the grassroots and built it up. We had to get all the way down and build the foundation," said Belletto in a previous interview with Data News Weekly. "We had to change the perception that Bayou Classic wasn't dying—it was well alive."

Impact on the City

The Bayou Classic brings over 200,000 people and over \$50 million to New Orleans. While the Game Day is the flagship event of the Bayou Classic, the event has transformed into a hub for college recruitment, family-centered events, Greek Step Show, Battle of the Bands and more.

Event Calendar:

FRIDAY

Bayou Classic BizTech Challenge

Friday, November 24th
Hyatt Regency New Orleans, 601

Loyola Avenue, NOLA 70113 at 1 p.m.

Greek Show & Battle of the Bands

Friday, November 24th
Mercedes-Benz Superdome, 1500
Sugarbowl Drive, NOLA 70112
Doors Open at 5 p.m.

SATURDAY

Doc Griggs 2X Around the Dome

Saturday, November 25th
Mercedes-Benz Superdome, 1500
Sugarbowl Drive, NOLA 70112
8 a.m.

Bayou Classic Parade

Saturday, November 25th
French Market to the Mercedes-Benz Superdome
Parade will begin at 9:30 a.m.

Fan Festival

Saturday, November 25th
Champions Square, LaSalle St,
NOLA 70112
11:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

The 44th Annual Bayou Classic

Grambling State University Tigers
vs. Southern University Jaguars
Saturday, November 25th
Mercedes-Benz Superdome, 1500
Sugarbowl Drive, NOLA 70112
Kick-off at 4 p.m.

The Official Bayou Classic After Party

Saturday, November 25th
Metropolitan Nightclub, 310 Andrew Higgins, NOLA 70130
Doors open at 11 p.m.

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42 Tribes

WEEK 7

Big Chief Kendell "Suge" Trepagnier Black Eagle Tribe

By: Glenn Jones
Data News Weekly
Contributor

TRIBAL TIMELINE

1951 – 1967 Big Chief Lawrence Fletcher
1967 – 1981 Big Chief Percy "P" Lewis
1982 – 2011 Big Chief Gerard "Rardi" Lewis
2012 – present Big Chief Curtis "Suge" Williams

Big Chief Suge has a rich lineage from Big Chief Curtis "Suge" Williams, masking in the 50's with Golden Blade Big Chief Paul Lonpre, then ultimately Sr. bringing out Cheyenne Hunters in 1970. The Jr. Big Chief Suge, will be bringing out, for his first time, the Black Eagle Tribe. The Bloodline Chief is Michael Lewis, who has been masking under Big Chief Walter of the Creole Wild West. After Big Chief Suge Sr. returned to New Orleans, before he passed, he encouraged Jr. to get back to masking. But Chief became an Executive Chef, spending time in Atlanta and fighting a valiant fight against cancer. As we all know, life can throw challenges at us and knock us off of our true path; but, Chief got an extra boost of inspiration to Mask again. It was his fellow young Chiefs that grew up like him, in this culture since childhood; Big Chiefs such as Big Chiefs Bo Dollis Jr., Big Chief Demond Melancon, Derrick Hillard, Romeo Burgees and Otto (Chief Fiyo). From their words of encouragement, to the high level of artistry they displayed in their suits, Chief said "they're bringing fire, I've got to get back in this." As a Big Chief he has gone through some changes, so has the Black Eagle Tribe.

As we have been on this journey of the active 42 Tribes Big Chief of the Week, we have touched upon, as well as many chiefs have spoken on, Caucasians Masking in the Black Masking Culture. Well this is the tribe that presently has a Cau-



Big Chief Kendell "Suge" Trepagnier Black Eagle Tribe

casian Queen coming from their deceased second Chief Flynn (Jewish Caucasian masked from mid-70's – 90's). He masked through the tenure of well-respected father and son Big Chiefs Percy and Gerard Lewis. As Big Chief Suge is now Chief of the Black Eagle Tribe he has different feelings about Whites Masking in the Black Masking Culture.

As Mardi Gras became more commercialized after the Civil Rights Movement and integration of all Mardi Gras Krewes, the new civil right laws that applied to governmentally registered organizations (all Mardi Gras Krewes and social aid and pleasure clubs) opened their enrollment to all ethnicities. Although Black Masking Culture is not a registered governmental entity and only received the title "Mardi Gras Indian" during the 80's for tourism purposes, there are some that want this culture to assimilate to the government restriction to control the economics of the culture. Due to that title or misnomer, many insist, push, economically persuade and orchestrate either the infiltration or ethnic replacement of this culture to secure the monetary revenue of tourism and festivals.

In respects to second Chief

Flynn, Chief Suge says "he paid his dues" through being assaulted physically by other Indians; to reports of even being hospitalized as a result. And to Flynn's queen, he extends that respect. As he says the gang has gone through many transitions and she has kept the Black Eagles Tribe's name on the streets.

Q) What is a Big Chief to you?

A) He is the person you can go to. Its advice its encouragement, my Flag boy tomorrow is a having a baby, it's a family thing. I don't call it a gang we are a tribe. We are not an organized crime group, we are a tribe, we are a family. I never liked that term, gang. I don't have a gang, I have a tribe.

Q) Are you familiar with the process of buying suits from Indians with drug problems and putting Caucasians in them and bringing tourists and having second-lines and White Indians with Blacks playing tambourine behind them?

A) Let me be honest, I have a huge problem with that...You have a lot of people that poke fun at this culture. Those being Anglo-Saxons. I would never join

the Zulu Club because I don't think it's funny. I just don't think it's funny. I'm not putting on black face. If I was to put a black face on, I'm not going to allow somebody of a different origin to put it on next to me. So, when I see these Caucasians doing the things that we do; the second-line, putting on Indian costumes. It bothers me but I'm like yeah you know they done sold out. That's the end result of it. You got to be careful who you let in your camp. Now somethings that happened before in our tribe, I have no control over it. But as my Chief (deceased Chief Gerard Lewis) has made it clear, I'm an Indian. I'm going to carry out my Chief orders. But that's not my Queen. To set the record straight. My wife is my Queen.

Q) What are your thoughts on the term Mardi Gras Indian or Black Masking Indians?

A) Well let's be clear brother, I'm not a Mardi Gras Indian, and I'm not Masking. I'm an Indian. I'm not a Mardi Gras Indian, that's a term that I would say not even Second-Liners, but some of the patrons that don't even know too much about this culture gave us those labels. We have a tendency to run with certain with labels that people give us. Terms and handles, that's the society we live in.

Q) Three-hundred years from now, what do you hope your legacy has created?

A) I want my legacy not only to be my suits, my personality, my love and whatever gifts I can bring to the culture. I hope it will be imitated like my dad. Like Tootie, Rudy, Keitho, Rardi, Lil Walter. I hope that my contribution will be as big as some of theirs.

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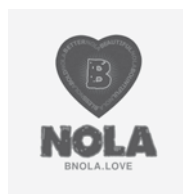
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New Orleans Elections Makes History

Re-Shaping of the Future of New Orleans

By Edwin Buggage
Data News Weekly
Contributor

Historic Night in New Orleans

New Orleans voters went to the polls and history was made as the City elected its first woman Mayor, LaToya Cantrell and the first Asian-American elected to the City Council Cyndi Nguyen, in District E.

Mayor-Elect LaToya Cantrell

During her campaign party held at the New Orleans Jazz Mart in Central City, the mayor-elect was surrounded by her family and supporters stating this is not just a win for herself and her family, but for the City of New Orleans as cheers filled the room. This sentiment is based on the grassroots approach she took while campaigning going into communities and meeting citizens to understand their needs and concerns. This bottom-up approach is one of the factors that led to her victory on Election Night.

Sheppard, Banks and Nguyen Victorious in Races for Judge and City Council

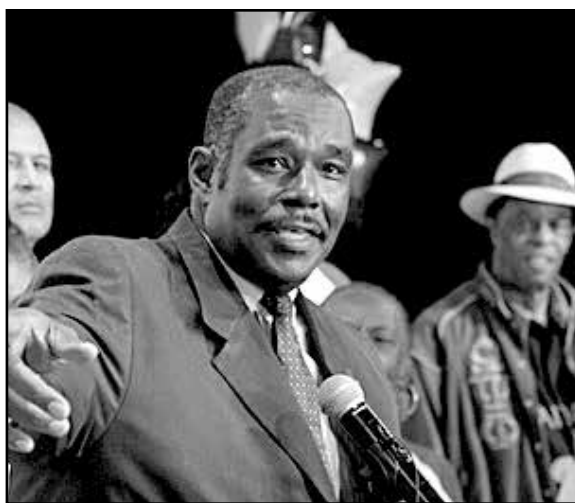
In two other races that were on the ballot, Attorney D. Nicole Sheppard won the contest for Civil District Court Division J over Attorney Omar Mason. In one of the closer races this evening in a nail biter decided by 131 votes Jay Banks, Director of Dryades YMCA defeated former School Board Member Seth Bloom in the City Council Race for District B. And in a surprising upset Cyndi Nguyen won a seat in District E, an area that includes New Orleans East and the Lower 9th Ward against incumbent James Gray to become the first Vietnamese-American to serve on the New Orleans City Council.

New Orleans: A City and its Future

These are historic times for our City as we are on the eve of our 300th Anniversary. And as we look at our electing LaToya Cantrell as our first woman mayor, what is also of note is the composition of our new City Council. One that will be more diverse and younger than any time in our recent history; it is in these times that hopefully the



Mayor-Elect, LaToya Cantrell holds up her hand in victory, as she became the first woman to be elected as Mayor of the City of New Orleans in its almost three hundred year history.



Jay Banks, Director of Dryades YMCA was the winner in the run-off election for City Council Race for District B.



Cyndi Nguyen upset Incumbent Councilmember James Gray for District E, to become the first Vietnamese-American to serve on the New Orleans City Council.



Attorney D. Nicole Sheppard was elected Judge, Civil District Court Division J over Attorney Omar Mason.



Mayor's Office and the City Council can work together to create public policies that are progressive and empower more of the citizens of New Orleans. It is important that their visions and actions lead to solutions to the many problems that plague our City.

Community Chain of Accountability

But without us engaging help to guide this process this desirable state will not happen. Again, we experienced low voter turnout. But for our City to turn around we must become more involved with not just voting in higher numbers, but in civic engagement more generally.

It is in this that first, individuals must become more accountable for their actions. Secondly, families must invest more time raising their children planting the seeds for greatness in young people. Our community leaders whether they come from the church or grassroots must take up the task of bringing issues that affect our communities to elected officials who in turn create public policy that works for more people of our City. It is in this model that we all become stakeholders in our future. And in the words, that sum this spirit up best came from Desiree Charbonnet who in her concession speech said in a gracious gesture if LaToya Cantrell does well as Mayor we all do well. But adding to that sentiment I say if 'we' all do well our City is better for all of 'us' and 'we' all must do our part.

For more photos from election night see page 8.

Performance Art Takes Audience Through Mourning, Grieving in Loss

By Naomi Hill
Data News Weekly
Contributor

Kaneza Schaal, a New York City-based Artist, is forever channeling her creative energy into performance art; a live modernistic approach to visual art. On Nov. 3rd she ventured to Xavier University to share that energy with students and local peers in a public discussion. Xavier's Performance Studies Laboratory hosted Schaal on campus to explore the thinking process that contributed to her latest project, known as "Go Forth."

Schaal was born in California and later moved to the Big Apple where she began her career working with theater companies such as The Wooster Group and Elevator Repair Service, which both greatly contributed to Schaal's involvement in the experimental theater com-



Schaal's troupe rehearses the performance "Go Forth," inspired from the "Egyptian Book of the Dead "

munity.

"I was drawn to their work for its innovation in terms of how different media can get integrated on stage," Schaal said.

During the artist talk, Schaal shared the meaning of the art performance "Go Forth," inspired from the "Egyptian Book of the Dead." The performance utilizes

analog projection, sound, and dance to bring to life the process of ancient burial traditions. "I think of the project as a translation of the text [Egyptian Book of the Dead]. It's this ancient funeral text that is a blueprint to the afterlife," Schaal said. "So, I think of the work we're doing as bringing this ancient performance to life."

The project intends for the audience themselves to dissect the subject of death including the mourning and grieving process. "One of the most beautiful things Schaal had was basically plywood, pieced together on the wall with some sort of metallic or reflective coating," said Lisa Flanagan, a Communications Studies Professor at Xavier.

"Schaal spoke about the importance of that shine, and how if you were in the belly of a tomb these reflective surfaces would cause you to think about the reflective process we go through when we grieve or think about dying or death. It all kind of came together, it was so simple."

Piece by piece, the performance caused the audience to draw their own moral conclusions about death and its tribulations without the performers having to explain anything. Nevertheless, Schaal also includes aspects of hope within the performance to signal the chance of after-life for all people.

The young artist is extremely resourceful when it comes to her work. She takes to her advantage all human experiences in order to create performances that really leave an impression on her audience.

Performance Art,
Continued on page 10.

Artist Creates Tiny House, Helps Public See What's Essential in Life

By Naomi Hill
Data News Weekly
Contributor

A house on wheels that travels across the country, while reinventing the idea of a home, stops to pay a visit in New Orleans. Assemblage Artist, Dominique Moody, created the miniature house on wheels made up of salvaged materials, and known as the "NOMAD." On Nov. 15th, Xavier University's Art Department hosted Moody to present an "Artist Talk" as well as to give a public tour of the Tiny House Exhibition located in Xavier's Art Village Gallery. The event also featured Xavier's digital photography students' work on "New Orleans: Architecture, Spaces, & Places," an art exhibition coordinated by Instructor Edna Lanieri, that complimented Moody's exhibit with photos of New Orleans' nature, landscapes, and local street scene.

Moody explained to her curious audience what exactly began her nomadic journey, after giving up her studio. "At that point 80-percent

of my income was to support the studio," said Moody, who is based in Los Angeles but whose life's journey spans the globe. "And if that much is going in to just the housing of it, it meant that it blocked me from doing some of the other moving forward that I needed to do, creatively."

The ability to let go of what's holding you back became Moody's new life motto. From the act of leaving behind her beloved studio she emerged on her nomadic journey, a path of creative exploration and freedom.

"The idea of the house itself is really cool," said Bria Black, a sophomore at Xavier "You wouldn't think that it's possible to have a full restroom, somewhere to cook and sleep... all in a 146-square-foot house, it's impressive and extremely humbling."

The NOMAD is constructed with items an average human consumer uses on a day-to-day basis that most people consider trash after its done its store-bought purpose. However, Moody reincarnates the materials/



Assemblage Artist, Dominique Moody, created the miniature house on wheels made up of salvaged materials, and known as the "NOMAD." Photo by Naomi Hill.

objects for a different intention. "There's one thing about having the object and finding the object, but finding the story behind the object is even more important,"

Moody said. "So, using these salvaged materials allows me to tap into a story and unearth that story and that makes your work much sweeter." While building the NOMAD the artist assembled industrial items such as washing machine doors for windows and old crates for organizing her belongings, while still creating an aesthetically pleasing home that radiates her sense of style.

Moody currently refers to the tiny house as "NOMAD46" because New Orleans marks the tiny house's 46th destination. During the artist talk Moody stressed the freedom she gained as she began traveling with only the tiny house, and specifically how excessive personal belongings can become a burden or mental weight holding you back from possibilities.

"I could definitely do a tiny house. What I like about it is you only have what you need," said Joan Ulmer, with Xavier's Art Department. "The bigger the house the more we store and keep. So, if you have a small space you're not going to keep stuff

that you don't really need."

Upon entering the tiny house, local visitors shared with each other about letting go of materialistic items that tend to validate self-worth or status. Moody suggested that by living a more simplistic life people perhaps could help free themselves mentally from the popular consumer-based mindset. "I think unfortunately we get very encumbered by our things," Moody said. "And then we are exhausted by them because they demand so much of our time."

Moody will continue to travel in her tiny house and share her free-form way of thinking. The nomadic way of life embraces mobility and allows the artist to diversify where she creates and with what she chooses to create with. "Open up the space of what you can do if you're not just trying to pay for rent and if you're not always seeking the new thing," Moody said. "What it usually leaves, is this space where you can dwell deep into what your happiness is, what your work is, what drives you and then how to assist others."

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Historical Election Evening



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Effram Hill

Data News Weekly Contributor

Friends and supporters gathered on Saturday, November 18, 2017 to celebrate the election of New Orleans' First Woman Mayor, LaToya Cantrell. It was a great night to be a New Orleanian, and of course, whenever there is history being made, Data will be there. Congratulations Madam Mayor-Elect.



Edwin Buggage, Mayor Elect LaToya Cantrell, Terry Jones



Jay Banks and LaToya Cantrell



Danielle Garrett and LaToya Cantrell



Terry Jones, Erika McConduit, Marc Morial



LaToya Cantrell, LaTonya Norton and Norton's daughters



Sen. Karen Carter Peterson and Terry Jones



Terry Jones and Jay Banks

Visit www.ladatanews.com for more photos from these events.

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Marc H. Morial

Celebrating 25 Years of Public Service

Short film, A Legacy of Change, Profiles His Story

Data News Staff Edited Report

Friends, colleagues, protégés and mentors of Marc H. Morial gathered in his hometown Thurs-

ed to the Louisiana State Senate. He was elected Mayor of New Orleans in 1994, and served two successful terms, leaving office with a 70 percent approval rating. He was appointed President

Reflecting how Morial personally inspired their own careers were Tulane University Vice-President Tania Tetlow; Urban League of Louisiana President and CEO Erika McConduit; Don Cravins, Jr.,

former Louisiana State Senator and Executive Director, National Urban League Washington Bureau; Jones Walker LLP partner Richard F. Cortizas; CEO & President of Foundation for Louisiana

Flozell Daniels, Jr., and Kevin Hooks, President and CEO of the Las Vegas Urban League.

Musical tributes were presented by violinist Trenton Thomas and the St. Peter Claver Church Choir.



Marc H. Morial

day night to celebrate his 25 years of public service with a tribute and examination of the impact of his work on the city of New Orleans, the state of Louisiana and the nation.

In honor of the milestone, Morial announced the establishment "Urban League 25" an annual recognition of 25 young leaders in business, public service, the arts and civic life. The first honorees will be announced next year.

Thursday's event included the national premiere of a short film, *A Legacy of Change*, on the life and legacy of Marc Morial.

This month marks 25 years since Marc H. Morial was elect-

and CEO of the National Urban League in 2003, ushering in an era of digital revolution, fundraising expansion and a deepening mission.

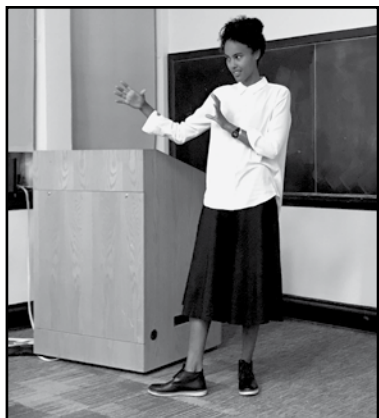
Guests at the event spoke on each phase of his career, including Louisiana Supreme Court Chief Justice Bernette J. Johnson; Diana Bajoie, former President Pro Tempore of the Louisiana Senate; former New Orleans City Councilman Oliver Thomas; Esther Bush President and CEO of the Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh; and Winston Burns, the CEO of Newburns Management Group.

A panel discussion followed the screening of *A Legacy of Change*.

Performance Art, Continued from page 6.

"The constant symbolism of the stage, the music, body movements, and the dance, all together, is like a mystery," said Indigo Gill, a Senior at Xavier. "Because you know in some way it all comes together to weave a story," Gill said.

In 2016, Schaal was granted the Creative Capital Award to aid in developing her next project "Jack and Jill," a Multimedia Comedy that examines social codes in terms of humans undergoing prison re-entry to experiencing debutante balls. Schaal is continuously working, whether it is advocating for the arts in education or complying with her team of artists, on performances. "The challenge is to keep making



Performance artist and creator Kansza Schaal

the work something that is valuable for all the artists involved," Schaal said. "I make sure that when people invest in this work I am also investing in their work, so there's a real exchange there."

THE 44TH ANNUAL BAYOU CLASSIC



2017 BAYOU CLASSIC EVENTS

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2017

Bayou Classic Press Conference
10:00 AM • Mercedes-Benz Superdome • Gate A

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2017

Bayou Classic BizTech Challenge
12:00 Noon • Hyatt Regency New Orleans

Greek Show Presented by McDonald's
Battle of the Bands Presented by the U.S. Marine Corps
6:00 PM • Mercedes-Benz Superdome

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2017

Doc Griggs 2X Around the Dome
8:00 AM • Mercedes-Benz Superdome

Bayou Classic Parade
Presented by Cricket Wireless
9:30 AM • French Market to Mercedes-Benz Superdome

Fan Festival
Presented by Cox
11:30 AM - 3:30 PM • Champions Square

The 44th Annual Bayou Classic
Kick-Off: 4:00 PM • Mercedes-Benz Superdome

The Official Bayou Classic After Party
Doors: 11:00 PM • Metropolitan Night Club • 610 Andrew Higgins

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2017

Bayou Classic Gospel Brunch
10:00 AM • House of Blues

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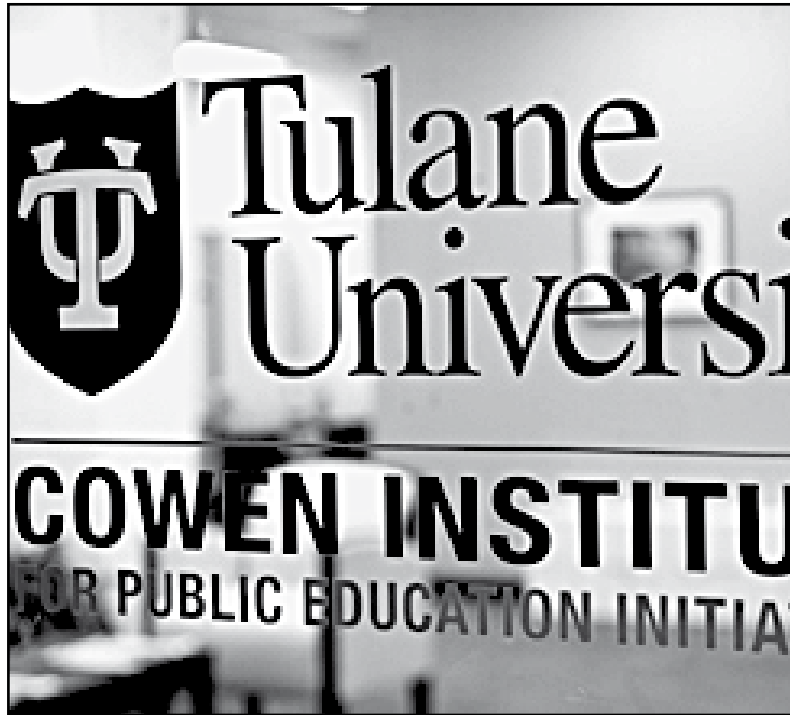
Carnegie Grant Fuels Tulane Efforts to Send More NOLA Public School Grads to College

Keith Brannon
kbrannon@tulane.edu

The Cowen Institute will use a \$500,000 grant from philanthropic foundation Carnegie Corporation of New York to launch a new research initiative aimed at helping more New Orleans public school graduates — especially socioeconomically disadvantaged youth— enter and complete college.

During the next 15 months, the Cowen Institute will conduct research, draft policy recommendations and engage national experts in creating a unified plan of action for post-secondary success in New Orleans.

“We are so grateful for Carnegie Corporation of New York’s support,” said Amanda Kruger Hill, Cowen Institute executive director. “With this funding, the Cowen Institute will research and implement solutions to this complex challenge



During the next 15 months, the Cowen Institute will conduct research, draft policy recommendations and engage national experts in creating a unified plan of action for post-secondary success in New Orleans.

facing young people in New Orleans and across the country. Our goal is to create a vision for high-quality pathways to post-secondary opportunities that not only works for youth in New Orleans but that could also be a model for communities nationwide.”

Only 9 percent of youth in New Orleans’ bottom income quartile earn a bachelor’s degree within six years of high school graduation compared to 80 percent of their peers in the top quartile. Previous Cowen Institute research found that more than 14 percent of 16- to 24-year-olds in New Orleans are disconnected from both employment and education.

The Cowen Institute will create a detailed report on the current state of youth in New Orleans and how disadvantaged youth fare in the city after high school. The report will include baseline data for specific age groups to determine who

is employed, who is enrolled in degree programs and who is neither in school nor employed.

“The research will provide a clear picture of where young people are and what specific obstacles they face, as well as assess the best ways to ensure students enroll and graduate from post-secondary institutions,” Hill said.

“We are pleased to support this work by the Cowen Institute, which will greatly expand our understanding of how New Orleans and other communities can support all young people in achieving their goals for the future,” said Vartan Gregorian, president of Carnegie Corporation of New York.

The Institute will release the baseline report next year at an event that will bring together local and national experts who will focus on ways to increase college and career readiness and persistence for New Orleans youth.

All Louisiana Medicare Beneficiaries Urged to Update Their Plans Before December 7, 2017

Volunteers In The Field Now Across Louisiana To Make Sure Medicare Beneficiaries Are Getting The Right Coverage

Data News Staff Edited Report

The Louisiana Senior Rx/Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRC), a free counseling service offered in coordination with the Governor’s Office of Elderly Affairs, is encouraging all Medicare beneficiaries to update their Medicare prescription drug coverage plans before December 7, 2017.

“Your needs change as you age. Why shouldn’t your Medicare coverage change? Let us make sure you are enrolled in the right program that meets your care and prescription needs, and that you are getting all the benefits for which you are eligible,” said GOEA Pro-

gram Manager Michelle Guillory.

Medicare enrollees should contact the Aging and Disability Resource Center in their area to get free money-saving advice and review the three best coverage plans for their needs. To make that possible, coordinators will need your Medicare card, proof of income, list of prescriptions with dosages, and a statement of what you spent on drugs during the last year, according to GOEA.

The Aging and Disability Resource Center will review your deductibles, premiums, coverage and extra help that may be available and recommend to each beneficiary the top three options for their health

needs, and choose the best plan.

“Louisiana Aging and Disability Resource Centers and their partners are in the field now,” said Ms. Guillory. “To get the extra help, let us help you apply.”

Participating ADRCs can be found at www.louisianaanswers.com or by calling these areas:

Caddo (800) 256-3003
Cajun (800) 738-2256
Calcasieu (800) 223-5872
Capital (800) 280-0908
CENLA (800) 454-9573
Jefferson (800) 635-1437
Orleans (888) 922-8522
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You Better Watch Your Mouth

Dental Care in the Black Community



Julianne Malveaux
NNPA Columnist

From the time I was a little girl, to just a day or so ago, someone has always told me to watch my mouth. Why? My mouth runs and sometimes it runs unplugged. I've been known to flim flam folks with flattery or eviscerate them with evil, sometimes moving from one to the other with just a shrug of my shoulders. But my "mouth-watching" is not the kind of mouth-watching I'm writing about in this column. I'm writing about the healthy mouth-watching that is critical to our health.

Nearly a hundred folks gathered

at the National Council of Negro Women (NCNW) headquarters at 633 Pennsylvania Avenue NW Washington, D.C., to hear two dynamic women talk about dental health. Dr. Diane Earle, the managing dental director at Kool Smiles, in Lancaster, Texas, talked about dental health and its importance. Your mouth, she said, is the gateway to your body, so it is important for you to take care of it by getting regular checkups, taking care of your mouth and, especially, ensuring that children have early dental care as soon as they have even a single tooth. She was joined by healthy living expert Debra Peek Haynes, who is passionate about the way we eat and how what we eat can transform our lives.

These two women held an audience for an hour, focusing on the many ways we can improve our lives so that we can better resist these oppressive political times. There was talk of the ways we can eat better, exercise better, and live

better, with both Dr. Earle and Mrs. Haynes presenting as great examples of healthy living. Dr. Earle, for example, said she had never had a cavity in her life. Deb Haynes (whose husband, the Rev. Frederick Douglass Haynes, III, has expertly pastored Friendship West Baptist Church in Dallas, Texas) shared the ways she used healthy eating to turn her health around after a diagnosis of infertility. I was thrilled to bring the women together and to moderate a discussion that had significant meaning for our community.

NCNW, under the transformative leadership of Attorney Janice Mathis (who led Rainbow PUSH's Atlanta office until she came to Washington), is the only space owned by Black people on Pennsylvania Avenue. It is close enough to the "People's House" at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue that one might walk there, which perhaps means that it is close to the devil. That proximity offers an opportunity for

resistance, and while much of our resistance must be political, some of it hinges on our personal commitment to a physical excellence that prepares us to have resilience for the struggle.

Even as we met, the devil was busy. The House of Representatives passed the new "tax overhaul" package that they say will create jobs, but we know will create wealth for billionaires; to benefit the top one percent, the bottom 80 percent will be hit hard, but Congress doesn't seem to care. The Senate has a version of the legislation, and the two houses will have to come up with compromise legislation, but both the House and the Senate agree that corporations should pay less tax.

At NCNW, we talked about Congresswoman Robin Kelly (D-Ill.) and her Action for Dental Health Act (HR 2422). The bipartisan legislation, co-sponsored with Republican Indiana dentist and Congressman Mike Simpson, would

make dental care more accessible, but with issues like these having low priority in this ideologically divided Congress, it is not likely to even make it to the floor for a vote. Instead, the new tax law would weaken, not strengthen, healthcare access.

Dental care and nutrition issues don't get as much visibility as Russia, or sexual harassment, or jiving Jeff Sessions. But they are also important issues. So when we "watch our mouth" by watching what we eat and how we manage our dental care, we are strengthening ourselves for the inevitable struggle against the inequality that is part of the status quo.

Julianne Malveaux is an economist, author, and Founder of Economic Education. Her latest book "Are We Better Off: Race, Obama and Public Policy" is available via amazon.com. For booking, wholesale inquiries, or for more info, visit www.juliannemalveaux.com. Follow Dr. Malveaux on Twitter @drjlastword.

Ask Alma

I Hooked My Friend Up with a Job and They Complained About It on Facebook



Alma Gill
NNPA Newswire Columnist

Dear Alma:

I have a friend that shares everything in their life on Facebook. This friend's car has broken down on several occasions, with the latest repair costing \$2,700; this friend also seems to have many issues with landlords and significant others. Despite my friend's personal trials, they have risen to become an expert in their field.

Recently, I had the chance to recommend this friend for a freelance

assignment, that perfectly fit their expertise. The friend did not thank me directly, but I saw a Facebook post about the job, so I assumed the friend was happy to get it. A week or so later, I saw two more posts about the job; one post said that the job was "difficult," and another that described the job as "boring."

I was a little offended. I wouldn't have cared if this "friend" complained privately about the assignment; journalists complain all the time about a range of things and for different reasons. But putting it out on Facebook seemed a little ungrateful. What should I say to them?

Signed,
Just Trying to Help

Dear Trying to Help,

What should you say to your friend? Nothing, nada, zilch. Don't be offended. Honey chil', you can

lead a horse to water, but it ain't your place to tell it how to drink. I know. You had good intentions and you also hold this friend in high regard, but, be that as it may, your friend still lacks basic courtesy and common correctness. You should have received at the very least a "thank you" text. I'm not surprised, though; God doesn't give us everything. I have found that many people, who swim in a well of book knowledge, lack the fundamental nitty-gritties of niceties. Some people feel the need to share everything on social media. What is that about? I think that people who feel compelled to share every "mood cough" and "mind hiccup" on Facebook, are surely exhibiting some sign of mental deficiency. The "cuckoo for cocoa puffs" constant displays of desperation can be mindboggling.

If you don't mind me saying, I think you're a bit disappointed. This friend, as you say "repeatedly runs into personal difficulties." Um, back in the day, we'd call someone like that a leech. Today, you get to view their shenanigans online, up close and personal. You've placed this person higher on your "ladder of success" than they should have been. Don't fret. It happens.

I say, scratch 'em off your Christmas list and keep it moving. You did a nice thing and Ms. Karma will make sure you're blessed for it. Continue to follow your friend on Facebook, but keep your comments

and suggestions to a minimum. Here's the bottom line: that nickel had poor home training, which, unfortunately, lasts much longer than any lessons learned in a classroom. Like my mama used to say, "if good manners and common sense were free, some folks still couldn't afford to buy them." LOL.

Alma Gill's newsroom experience spans more than 25 years, including various roles at USA Today, Newsday and The Washington Post. Email questions to: alwaysaskalma@gmail.com. Follow her on Facebook at "Ask Alma" and Twitter @almaaskalma.

@DataNewsWeek

Rev. Jesse Jackson Announces Parkinson's Diagnosis

Friends, Medical Community Weigh-In on Rev. Jesse Jackson's Parkinson's Diagnosis

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Contributor

Reverend Jesse Jackson's Parkinson's disease diagnosis caught many by surprise, but those who know him said they're confident that he'll overcome the life-threatening challenge before him.

"He's in the rumble of his life, but he's rumbled some big foes before," said Vincent Hughes, a Democratic state senator from Pennsylvania who campaigned for Jackson in 1984 and again in 1988. Hughes said that Jackson's campaigns were birthed in the Black empowerment movement that followed the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s. "I'm one of those African Americans, who took office and was a part of that issue of 'protest to power' and Rev. Jackson was, in many respects, our leader and he still is."

More than anyone else, Jackson opened the door for the election of Barack Obama, the first African American President of the United States, said Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis Jr., the president and CEO of the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA). Chavis was one of Jackson's contemporaries during the Civil Rights Movement. "Rev. Jesse L. Jackson Sr., is a living, global civil rights icon. As a colleague in the Civil Rights Movement dating back to the 1960s and under the leadership of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., I have personally witnessed the selfless sacrifice and dedication of Rev. Jackson."

Chavis continued: "For all who have cried out for freedom justice and equality, the news of his Parkinson's disease should only serve to re-dedicate a movement now for healthcare equality for all, not only as a civil right, but as a human right."

On Friday, November 17, Jackson, 76, issued a statement informing the world of his illness.

In the statement, Jackson recalled his foray into activism, being arrested on July 17, 1960 with seven other college students who advocated for the right to use a public library in his hometown of Greenville, S.C.

He said that he remembers the arrest as if it happened yesterday and it was a day that forever changed his life.

"From that experience, I lost my fear of being jailed for a righteous cause. I went on to meet Dr. King



Rev. Jesse Jackson

and dedicate my heart and soul to the fight for justice, equality, and equal access," said Jackson, whose multiracial National Rainbow Coalition grew out of his work in the 1984 presidential campaign.

He said he resisted interrupting his work to visit a doctor, but his daily physical struggles intensified and he could no longer ignore his symptoms.

"After a battery of tests, my physicians identified the issue as Parkinson's disease, a disease that bested my father," Jackson said.

Rev. Al Sharpton issued a statement saying that he spent time with Jackson and his family in New York, as Jackson made the announcement of his illness.

"As I watched him, I was reminded of the greatness of this man," Sharpton said. "Reverend Jackson has changed the nation and served in ways in which he never got credit."

Maynard Eaton, a journalist and national director of communications for the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, called Jackson a legendary and fearless civil rights champion.

He said the disease may slow Jackson, but won't stop him.

"Activism and civil rights are in his blood. As a journalist, Jesse Jackson has been a treat and joy to cover and write about," said Eaton.

"He has been a civil rights darling and media maverick...Jesse Jackson is a quintessential and preeminent civil rights activist of our time."

Even though Parkinson's disease is a chronic neurological condition, it is very treatable, said Dr. Nabila Dahodwala, an associate professor of neurology at the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania.

"A diagnosis of Parkinson's disease does not necessarily mean that you must make drastic changes, but every individual is different in how they are affected, how they respond to treatment and how they choose to spend their time," Dahodwala said.

Ihtsham ul Haq, an expert in neurology at the Wake Forest School of Medicine, said he believes Jackson will do well.

"Though each patient's journey with Parkinson's disease is a little bit different, thankfully for many the symptoms are often well-managed with medication," said Haq.

"The hallmark of the disease is the slow loss of dopamine in the brain, which unlocks our movement."

Haq continued: "As patients begin to produce less of it they show the slowness, stiffness, and tremor that typify the disease. Replacing dopamine usually substantially alleviates these problems."

Leslie A. Chambers, the president and CEO of the American Parkinson Disease Association, said making appropriate lifestyle changes and focusing on physical therapy will go a very long way to helping Jackson live the best life possible, in spite of the disease.

"Since its a lifelong chronic illness, the American Parkinson Disease Association encourages people with Parkinson's to seek out a top notch medical and healthcare team, which includes a movement disorders specialist physician and allied healthcare providers and protect and defend their overall

National News,
Continued on page 14.



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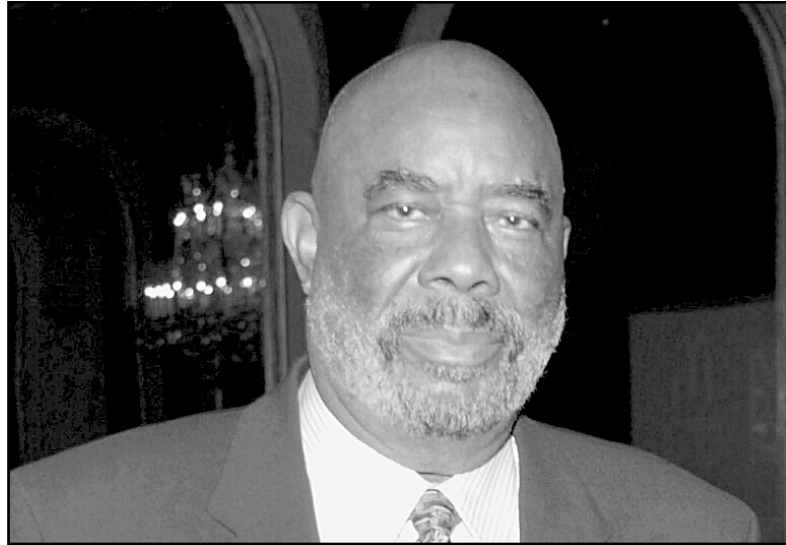
The Black Press Says Its Farewell to a New York Beacon

NNPA Newswire

The Black Press lost one of its most devoted freedom warriors, last week. Walter "Ball" Smith, Publisher of the New York Beacon and the Philadelphia Observer die on Friday, November 10th. He was 83 years old.

"The Black Press has lost a true giant in Black America," said Dorothy R. Leavell, Chairman of the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA). "Walter Smith made a difference in so many lives of Black readers and Black publishers in the Northeast and America in general."

As CEO of the Smith Haj Group,



Walter "Ball" Smith, Publisher of the New York Beacon and the Philadelphia Observer

Smith published Newark's Beacon and the Philadelphia Observer. Like Black newspapers across the country, both publications catered to a loyal Black readership that made Smith a prominent figure in the Black community. For 26 years, he led the Beacon. "The NNPA mourns profoundly the passing of beloved publisher Walter Smith," said Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr., the President and CEO of the NNPA. "At a time that we are celebrating the 190th year of the Black Press, we pause to salute the outstanding contributions of Walter Smith to the Black Press." Smith is survived by his wife, Miatta, their children and grandchildren.

National News, Continued from page 13.

health status with a nutritious diet, physical therapy and safe, effective daily exercise programs, as well as emotional and social support from family, and professional care partners-givers," Chambers said, adding that the association extends heartfelt wishes to Jackson.

Dorothy Leavell, the chairman

of the NNPA and the publisher of the Crusader Newspaper Group said that even though Jackson is in for the fight of his life, she warned that Parkinson's disease had met its match.

"This is a major blow, but it's not the death knell," said Leavell. "We will keep working and encourage Jesse with all he's done for us and continues to do."



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Delaney's Armoire's Top XULA Homecoming Looks 2017



Delaney George
Columnist

This year's Homecoming at HBCU Xavier University was one to remember. Students brought their A-Game on the courts and in fashion. Throughout the many events of homecoming week, students made sure they stepped out in their best gear and here are some of my favorites:

Every Color of the Rainbow: For last week's XU homecoming many students anticipated the concert, which H.E.R. was the headliner. Students came in a large range of styles like club wear, chill and even dressy. But one student stood out amongst the others for me. The young lady dressed in a multi-colored V-neck jumper. The jumper was tight fitting, sexy, and demanding attention with its loud colors and vibrancy. This outfit was sure to catch the eye of anyway who saw it.

Darkness meets Light: The XU boat ride was flooded with

hundreds of fashionista students ready to party on the water, but one couple caught my eye with their silver and black contrast. The beautiful young lady wore an all-black dress and heels paired with a fabulous black fur coat. The gentlemen wore all-black pants and a stunning silver button down shirt that shined like the stars. These two were surely my favorite couple of the night, complementing each other's styles so well.

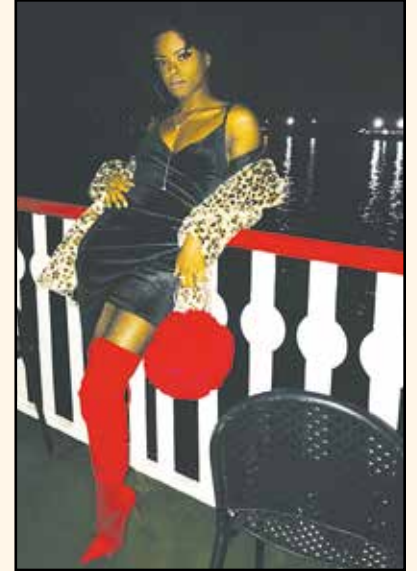
Jungle Fever: Nothing is better than red, and cheetah and one XU boat ride attendee hit the combo right on the nose. The attendee wore an all-black velvet dress, diamond tight, knee-high red boots and a red bag to match. To complete her look, she topped it off with a classic cheetah fur coat. The contrast between velvet dresses, fur bags, fur coats, and diamonds made for a show stopping ensemble.



Xavier Student sports a multi-colored V-neck jumper to Xavier's H.E.R. Concert.



XU boat ride attendees sport a fur jacket and solid black dress (left) and a silver button up shirt with black pants (right).



XU boat ride attendee pairs a fur red bag with sparkling tights, a black dress and red knee high boots. The attendee also keeps warm with a cheetah fur coat.

Photos by Delaney George for LanesLense

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Jaguars and Tigers celebrate tradition.

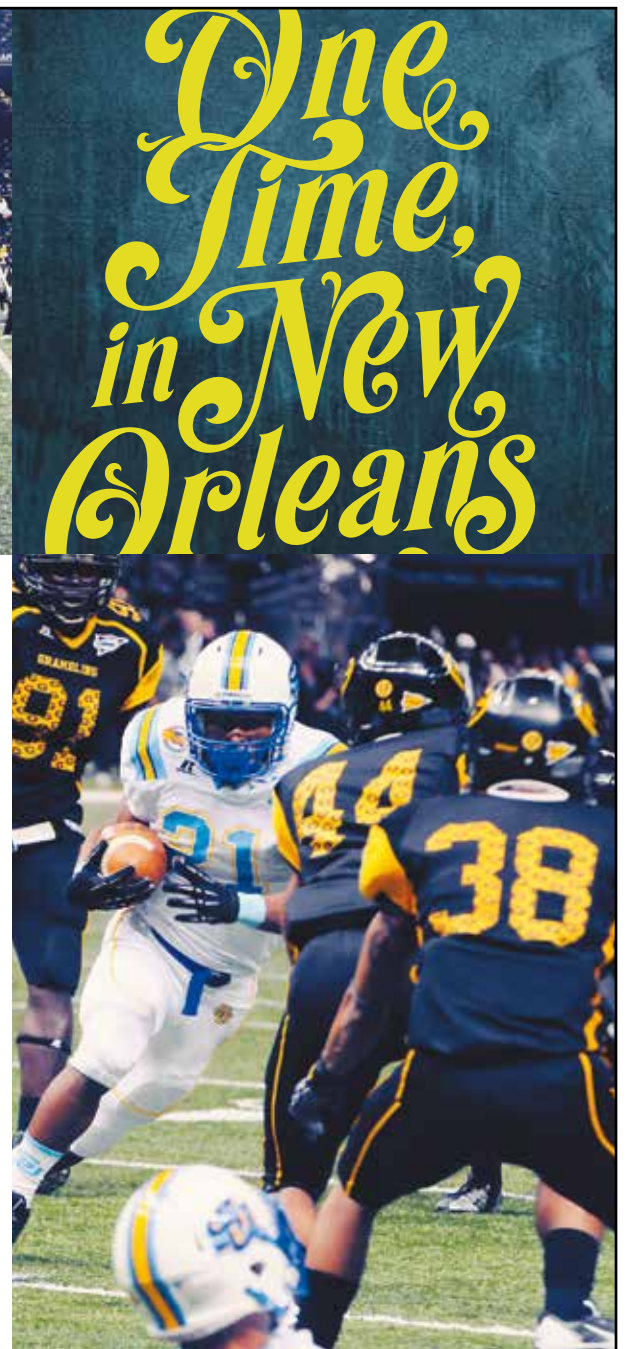
Every Saturday after Thanksgiving, the Southern University Jaguars and Grambling State University Tigers prepare for the epic showdown of the year. While most of America is still carving up turkey, more than 200,000 alumni, fans, and spectators descend upon the Crescent City for a three-day weekend filled with unmatched entertainment, iconic marching bands, and football. The battle has been neck and neck over the past decade but, for some, the score is beside the point. The Bayou Classic is about more than the victory. It's about celebrating the rich history of two historically black colleges.

Attend the 2017 Bayou Classic on Saturday, November 25th and share your story with #OneTimeInNOLA.



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