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*The African American Voice - "Setting the Record Straight"*

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The Greensboro Times

**Lisa Johnson-Tonkins Appointed as Superior Court Judge in Guilford County by Governor Stein**



Governor Josh Stein has appointed Lisa Johnson-Tonkins to the Superior Court in Judicial District 24A, (April 16th) filling the vacancy created by the retirement of Judge Lora Cubbage.

Johnson-Tonkins previously served as the elected clerk of Superior Court in Guilford County.

According to the North Carolina Office of the Governor release, her appointment was announced yesterday and follows more than a decade

page 3, Lisa Johnson Tonkins >

## Greensboro Town Hall Meeting Highlights 40 Day Target Boycott Over DEI Roll Backs

by Joyce Orlando, USA Network/  
The Greensboro Times/edit



(L\_R) Rev. Gregory Drumwright and Attorney Ben Crump



Town Hall Panelists(L-R) Rev. Gregory Drumwright, NC Sen.Natalie Murddock, Attorney Ben Crump, Commentator Bakari Sellers, NCA&T Professor Leah Harper and Rev. Verenander Hughes, Pastor Genesis Baptist Church

On April 17, local leaders and citizens, led by Rev. Gregory Drumwright, held a Town Hall meeting and other activities marking the the 40th day of the 40 day boycott against Target for the company's roll back of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) programs. In Greensboro and nation-

ally thousands of people signed up to boycott Target last month after the retail giant decided to roll back on its DEI initiatives. And it seems to have worked.

The boycott against Target came in March after Black faith leaders called their congregations to do a "Target Fast" for

40 days for Lent, in hopes the company would reverse course on gutting their diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives.

And the fast wasn't the only call to boycott the company.

In February, a national Target boycott in honor of Black History Month was led by Minnesota Target Boycott, page 4

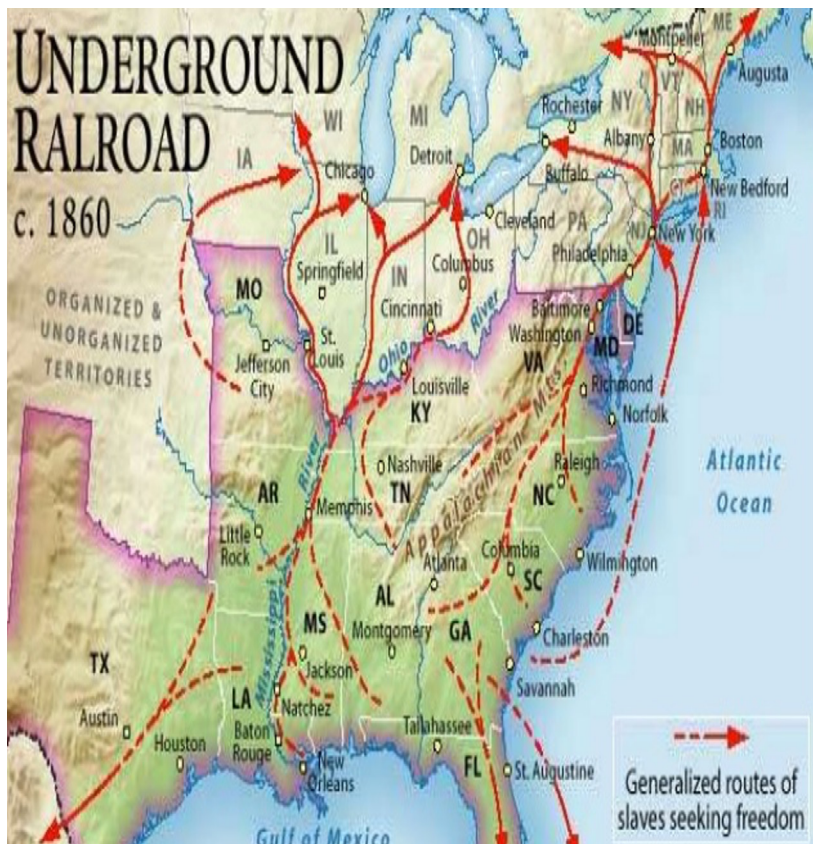
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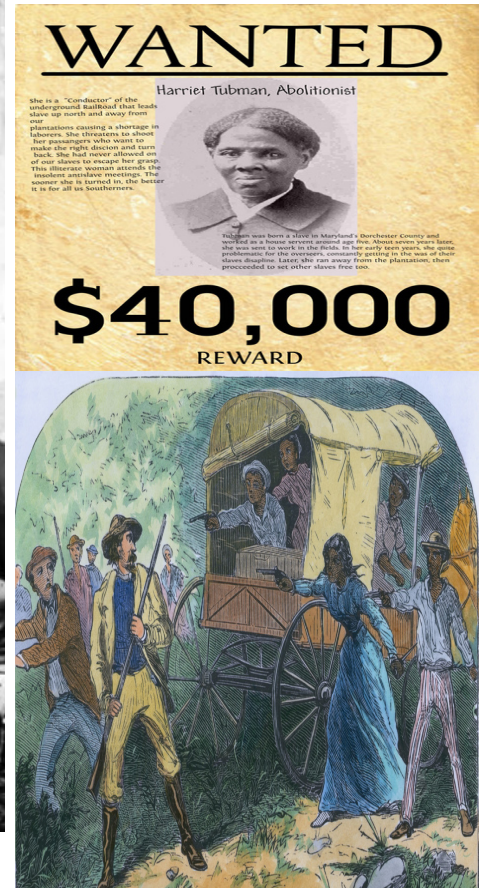
NEWS  
NOTES

## The History They Fear Is the Truth We Carry

by Ben Jealous, The African American Voice



Harriet Tubman



The last living link of my family's story of origin in antebellum Southern Virginia died at age 105 a few years ago.

My grandmother, Mamie Todd, was born in 1916. Her grandparents were born into slavery. She fought Jim Crow. She stood up for Black teachers and students in a segregated school system in which she taught in her early career. She supported my mom when, at 12, she signed on as a named plaintiff in one of the feeder cases to *Brown v. Board of Education*. And she stood by my mom every step of the way when three years after that, my mom helped desegregate her high school.

That's the kind of strength I come from. That's the kind of history it seems the Trump administration now wants to erase.

The Washington Post and other outlets are reporting that the Trump administration's scorched-earth campaign to purge diversity, equity and inclusion from every corner of our federal government has now spread into the heart of the National Park Service (NPS). Web pages about slavery and the Underground Railroad have been edited to downplay the brutal reality of bondage and the contributions of Black leaders. The photo of Harriet Tubman that for years greeted visitors to an NPS page about the Underground Railroad has been deleted. A web page about the Niagara Movement — a precursor to the NAACP founded in 1905 by W.E.B. Du Bois — was rewritten. A statement about the group's "renewed sense of resolve in the struggle for freedom and equality" was shortened simply to a "renewed sense of resolve."

Heroic Americans gave their lives fighting for freedom and equality. Now, the Trump administration is trying to edit those very words out of the official American story.

Some say these changes are minor. I say they are surgical. They are subtle, yes — but profoundly damaging. As one historian put it, these edits suggest that racism no longer needs to be confronted in America. And that's the point.

This is not about saving space on a government website. It is about shrinking the story of who we are as a people.

Some Park Service employees who edited the websites say they made the changes out of fear. Others were simply guessing what the administration wanted. When workers are deleting key figures and events in Black history without being told, just to stay safe in their jobs, we are in dangerous territory.

We've seen this before. Last month, we learned that Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth's DEI purge at the Pentagon included deleting photos and posts about the Tuskegee Airmen. That hit home. Two of my grandfather's first cousins were Tuskegee Airmen. Those men risked everything for a country that treated them as second-class citizens — and now this administration is reluctant to give them even a photo and a caption.

They even removed a web page about Jackie Robinson's military service. They later said it was a "mistake." But when you see how wide this purge has spread, it starts to look less like a mistake and more like a mission.

A recent executive order from

President Trump set its sights on the Smithsonian. He is targeting the very museums created to tell the full story of our country. What does this mean for the very existence of the National Museum of African American History and Culture? Or the National Museum of the American Indian?

What happens to truth when it is inconvenient to power?

We cannot rely on oral tradition alone. Our history deserves permanence. It deserves pages and plaques and national monuments and memorials. It deserves official recognition, not redaction.

I think of my family's own story — the parts that were buried for generations. I'm descended from the main Black leader of the Readjusters, a multiracial political movement that briefly, but very successfully, governed post-Reconstruction Virginia. They were left out of the history books for more than a century. Not because they were not important, but because they were. History is power. That's why they are going after it.

The Trump administration's attacks are not about race-blind policy. They are about race-based erasure. They support monuments to those who fought to preserve slavery while censoring stories of resistance. That's not color-blindness. That's complicity.

It should not have to keep being said over and over again, but we will not let them diminish our communities' contributions or deny our place in the American story. We are still here. And like the men and women of the Niagara Movement, we renew our sense of resolve. Our resolve is real. And it is rising.



# Democrats Hakeem Jeffries and Cory Booker Lead Daylong Capitol Sit-In at U.S. Capitol

Stacy M. Brown

Published: 28 April 2025



House Democratic Leader Hakeem Jeffries and Senator Cory Booker concluded a 12-hour sit-in Sunday evening on the steps of the U.S. Capitol, rallying Americans to oppose deep cuts to Medicaid, Social Security, and vital safety net programs proposed by President Donald Trump and Republican leaders. The demonstration began at sunrise, with Jeffries and Booker livestreaming a conversation across TikTok, Instagram, Facebook, X, and YouTube, urging Americans to speak out against what they called a “cruel” and “reckless” budget. Over the course of the day, they were joined by faith leaders, activists, union leaders, experts, and lawmakers, many of whom warned about the real-world impact of the proposed cuts. “Budgets are more than just numbers in a spreadsheet—they are moral documents,” Booker said. “They reveal what we value, who we protect, and what we stand for. Republicans in Congress are proposing cuts that will take food from children, healthcare from the sick, and dignity from those already struggling. It’s wrong. To stop it, we all must say so—clearly, courageously, and together.”

Jeffries warned that the pro-

posed cuts would devastate seniors, families, and vulnerable communities. “Republicans are crashing the economy in real-time,” he said. “Now, they want to jam a reckless budget down the throats of the American people that will end Medicaid as we know it, destroy Social Security, and rip food from the mouths of children, seniors, and veterans. As Democrats, we’re going to continue to stand on the side of the American people and we will not rest until we bury this reckless Republican budget in the ground.” The sit-in was timed with Congress returning from a two-week recess, as Republican leaders push forward a budget containing more than \$1.5 trillion in spending cuts, paired with tax cuts and funding for border priorities. House Speaker Mike Johnson has assured centrist Republicans that Medicaid and Social Security would be preserved, but Democrats maintain that the scale of cuts required would inevitably gut these programs.

Throughout the day, figures such as American Federation of Teachers President Randi Weingarten, civil rights attorney Maya Wiley, Rev. William Barber II, and others joined the sit-in. Senators

Chris Coons, Raphael Warnock, Angela Alsobrooks, Lisa Blunt Rochester, and Representatives Emanuel Cleaver, Sarah McBride, Mark Takano, Tom Suozzi, Sydney Kamlager-Dove, Steven Horsford, Suhas Subramanyam, Emily Randall, Sarah Elfreth, and Delegate Stacey Plaskett also participated. Wiley shared personal stories of Americans who would suffer under the proposed cuts. “The cuts, when we’re talking about cuts, people bleed and we should put names behind them,” Wiley said. “You know, Sarah in South Dakota had a son who had seizures one to five times a day and had to quit her job to try to save her son. It is Medicaid that helps pay for her health care to do that. Or Jasmine in Alabama, in Tuscaloosa, with two kids, who was taking care of other people’s children when she fell and became disabled, and it’s Medicaid that was taking care of her.” Booker said Democrats must move beyond “business as usual” and find new ways to confront injustice. “We can’t keep doing things like business as usual,” he said. “Speaking out and speaking up is how we will convince four Republicans in the House and Senate to do the right thing and vote no.”

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## < Lisa Johnson Tonkins from page 1 >

of service in the Guilford County court system.

She brings with her experience in court administration and legal procedures.



Johnson-Tonkins earned her undergraduate degree from North Carolina A&T and a law degree from North Carolina Central University

School of Law.

Her education and professional background have prepared her for the responsibilities of the Superior Court.

Governor Stein stated in the same release, "Lisa has served Guilford County faithfully for over a decade. Her judgement and experience are invaluable, and I look forward to her service on the bench." Johnson-Tonkins will now begin her duties as a Superior Court judge, continuing her service in the state's judicial system.

Greensboro's Simkins PAC supported Tonkins appointment and sent a letter to Governor Stein recommending her appointment to the position. Attorney Steve Bowden, Chairman of the PAC, sent a letter to the Governor stating in part, "Please be advised that the George C. Simkins Memorial Political Action Committee with great enthusiasm endorses the candidacy of Lisa Johnson Tonkins for a gubernatorial appointment to the Superior Court for the 24A Judicial District." Bowden touted

her experience, excellent performance as Guilford County's Clerk of Court and community support in multiple elections for Clerk of Court.



**Attorney Steve Bowden, Chairman  
Simkins Memorial PAC**

"Ms. Johnson has served the community in the private practice of law as well as working as District Attorney. This background provided experience in criminal and civil practice, therefore she would have a broader experience of these areas necessary to be a competent Superior Court Judge"

## < - Target Boycott from page 1 >

activists. And a Latino Freeze movement urges Latinos to stop spending money at Target and other major retailers that cut initiatives. Both are still ongoing boycotts, pushing people to change where they spend their money.

While the company hasn't reversed course on the DEI initiatives it cut, the fast seems to have worked in stemming the company's foot traffic, according to reports from CNN.

Leaders of the boycotts believe that they are having the effect they want, pointing to dipping stock prices and data showing a decline of online and in-person activity at Target and other targeted companies. But other data shows a different story.

Before the Target boycott started, the company was starting to see a slump in stock prices. On Jan. 31, shares closed at \$137.91. By April 16, it plunged to \$90.46, down 34.4%.

According to reports from USA TODAY, Placer.ai, a firm that uses location analytics to estimate in-person store traffic, saw large decreases in foot traffic at Target, Walmart, Best Buy and Starbucks during the boycott phases. But spending data analysis site Cardlytics saw "no major shifts that suggest widespread pullback or sustained impact from boycotts."

Target had the biggest hit to its in-person traffic, down as much as 8.10% one week in February, according to reports from Placer.ai.

When did the Target boycott start?

Georgia Pastor Dr. Jamal-Harrison Bryant of New Birth Missionary Baptist Church in Stonecrest, Georgia, called on Black faith leaders to implore their congregations to go on a "Target Fast".

Bryant called Target's change in DEI initiatives a "slap in the face," in an interview with USA TODAY.

"Black people, on average, spend \$12 million a day at Target," Bryant said. "The fact of the matter is that Target made a pledge to our community after the killing of George Floyd of \$2 billion into Black business and when the administration changed, they disavowed as if it never happened. The pledge was never made under DEI or affirmative action. It was out of decency and to humanity. To walk away from it is insult to injury."

The fast started on Ash Wednesday which was on March 5, and called for people to not buy anything from Target through Lent for 40 days, ending April 17.

Bryant called for 100,000 people to take on the fast, 110,000 answered. It has also been shared on social media platforms encouraging others to stand with the group.

When did Target stop its DEI programs?

Target was one of multiple companies that rolled back on its DEI initiatives in January. The Minneapolis-based company was met with harsh criticism in the move from some who noted the company's reputation for inclusiveness helped it

attract a younger, more diverse consumer base.

Are other retailers being boycotted for rolling back DEI initiatives?

Since the economic blackout on Feb. 28, social media has been filled with messages to boycott other companies.

The People's Union USA, an organization started by John Swartz, who organized the one-day blackout, has sent the message out to expand its boycott efforts. Boycotts so far include:

Amazon from March 7-14

Nestle from March 21-28

Walmart from April 7-14

A second, broader economic blackout on April 18

(Ongoing) General Mills boycott that started April 21 and ends April 28

For Schwarz, the boycotts have been working. His data? The support he and The People's Union are receiving via social media and reports from shoppers who have been participating.

"I still believe economic resistance – us withholding our money – targeting specific corporations, is our greatest weapon. And now with things that are going on financially and economically, families should be partaking in economic resistance just to save a little money for themselves right now for what's coming," Schwarz told USA TODAY.



## Publisher's View



**Tiffany Hamilton**  
Guest Columnist

### The Great White Heist: Trump's Plan To Bankrupt America On Purpose



This isn't reform. It's a calculated demolition job. Trump and Musk are creting a system where public service is punished and political loyalty is rewarded. There's a heist happening in Washington, D.C., and we're all witnesses. The instability coming from the White House is nothing but a strategic takedown of the American economy by Donald Trump, Elon Musk, and their billionaire cronies, designed to bankrupt those who oppose them and enrich Trump's inner circle. This isn't political theory — it's economic warfare.

Trump's recent tariff stunt is just the latest move in a broader scheme. On April 2, he dropped a 104% tariff on Chinese goods and had the audacity to label it "Liberation Day." But Wall Street wasn't celebrating — investors lost billions. And yet, hours after his Truth Social post urging Americans to "BUY!!!" stocks, he hit pause on the tariffs, and the market rebounded by nearly 3,000 points. Convenient for anyone who heard the dog whistle and made a killing. That's not leadership; it's stock manipulation in real time.

Democrats are now calling for investigations into whether Trump, his family, or his allies traded on insider information. Meanwhile, the White House continues to play dumb and ignorant of the law, dismissing it as a coincidence. But let's be real; if this were any other administration, someone would've already been fired — if not indicted.

And behind it all? The Heritage Foundation's Project 2025, a 900-page manifesto designed to dismantle the federal government and rewire it for authoritarian control.

Trump claims he doesn't know anything about it, despite the fact that his own vice president has connections to it as well.

Now enter Elon Musk, who's been tapped to run the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) — because apparently this dystopian horror show needed a Silicon Valley supervillain — and is seemingly executing Project 2025's blueprint at lightning speed: firing over 280,000 federal workers, gutting agencies like the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB), and hollowing out Medicare, Social Security, and Medicaid.

The impact is devastating. These cuts don't just touch Washington; they hurt real people across the country. Nearly 80% of federal employees live outside D.C., and their work supports essential services we all depend on. The Education Department's already cut nearly half its workforce. Health and Human Services is slashing 20,000 jobs. Even the IRS is chopping 75% of its civil rights team.

But it's not just Washington. According to a survey from the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB), small business optimism receded in March to 97.4, below the 51-year average of 98 and well below the reading of 101.3 that analysts had anticipated. Meanwhile, the net percentage of business owners expecting improved conditions dropped by 16 points from February to a net negative 21%. This marks the third straight monthly decline and the steepest monthly drop since December 2020. Penn Wharton Budget Model (PWDM) projects

Trump's latest tariffs would reduce GDP by about 8% and wages by 7%. A middle-income household faces a \$58,000 lifetime loss.

Musk's DOGE has also taken direct aim at agencies they label "too woke" — eliminating DEI offices, freezing hiring, and fast-tracking the "Schedule F" process in the authoritarian handbook, which lets them fire career professionals and replace them with political loyalists. It's not about efficiency, it's about control.

This isn't reform. It's a calculated demolition job. Trump and Musk are creating a system where public service is punished and political loyalty is rewarded. And they're doing it in broad daylight, backed by the very same billionaires who benefit from economic chaos.

They've turned democracy into a stock ticker where every post, every policy reversal, and every agency gutted is a chance for someone in the know to get richer while working families fall further behind. While we're distracted by the chaos, like the inappropriate posts on the official White House Instagram account mocking immigrants, Project 2025 is marching forward, unchecked.

This is more than political theater, it's a hostile takeover, and to fight back, we need to call it what it is and demand our representatives stop it.

Because if we don't, it won't just be the economy that collapses. It'll be the entire foundation of our democracy and our world as we know it.



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GRAPHIC DESIGN  
BY  
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# The Shout-Out Line

(336) 660-8166

Good morning, oh how some people in leadership can twist and turn upside down reality and the truth is amazing to me. I was reading yesterday, the PTI Airport people who are in charge were all excited about the fact that PTI Airport was named in Newsweek publication as one of the top ten small airports in the country. The key word is small. This does not have to be. 40 years ago, PTI was the envy of North Carolina. It was a booming active airport, was a major airport hub where you could get a direct flight out of Greensboro to practically any city in the country. But now, forty years later, traveling from PTI is a headache. Yeah, PTI has easy parking and quick lines because very few locals in the Triad use PTI Airport for air travel. Leaving out of PTI usually means that you have no direct flights to any city throughout the country and probably one or more stop overs at other airports before reaching your final destination. It's tiresome and irritating. That's why most Triad travelers drive to Charlotte or Durham for a direct flight to their city of destination. Instead of the present PTI leadership celebrating and patting each other on the back, they should have a vision and craft a strategy to re establish PTI as a major airport hub in North Carolina and the east coast. Maintaining the status quo is not accepted.

## Shout-Out

Hello, want to send a shout out to all those whiners and complainers out there. Have no time for defeated people in my life right now. We are all going to have problems. You have to identify the problem, find the solution and execute the change. If your first response is to whine and moan, you haven't learned anything from life.

## Shout-Out

Hey, to all of you who voted for Trump out there. You're getting what you voted for -- A serial liar, accused scammer, and con-artist who was found guilty of fraud. What a choice you made. The man has filed numerous bankruptcies over the years, and he, supposedly, is a competent businessman. Here is the catch, you haven't seen nothing yet. Remember his promise of a good economy if elected. Turned out to be another lie and con job. He inherited from Biden a good and improving economy, and he has managed to erode it within three months of his time in office. Oh, but you haven't seen nothing yet. Just wait for the tariffs to kick in around mid-June, then you're gonna have empty shelves in grocery stores and higher prices. Reminder-- this is not Covid-virus. This is Trump and his hand picked cabinet incompetent cult followers. You talk about DEI. Trump's DEI hiring standards requirements are Dumb Empowered Ignorance and of course, White Skin Privilege.

## Shout-Out

Hello, I've been married for three years and my wife and I have had our ups and downs. but things have been improving, and we are happy with each other. I called to encourage newly married couples who love each other, but may be having some minor problems, to try to work it out. A perfect relationship is when two imperfect people refuse to give up on each other.

## Shout-Out

Hello, people please don't assume people end up homeless...because they wake up one morning and decide that's their goal...their intention...We all may be only a couple of lost paychecks away from financial disaster.... Have some compassion and understanding for all walks of human life.... It could just as easily be you sleeping on the streets... and honestly, with all of these proposed Trump Tariffs, it's more likely now than not, that for any one of us, homelessness may be a real life possibility....

## Shout-Out

What- up G- Times, Does anyone know which page of the Bible explains how to turn water into wine? Just asking for a friend, you know.

## Shout-Out

Hey, you know, hospitals are full of people having the best day of their life, the worst day of their life, the first day of their life, or the last day of their life.



# Jalen Hurts marries longtime girlfriend Bryonna ‘Bry’ Burrows

After seven years together, Jalen Hurts marries longtime girlfriend Bryonna “Bry” Burrows.

Kay Wicker  
Apr 22, 2025



Congratulations are in store for Jalen Hurts; he’s now a married man!

While keeping the wedding details under wraps, the 26-year-old, Super Bowl-winning star quarterback of the Philadelphia Eagles revealed he and his fiancée Bryonna “Bry” Burrows tied the knot sometime in the spring in Men’s Health magazine’s May/June cover story.

“You can call her my wife,” he told the publication in reference to Burrows.

According to Men’s Health, the NFL player arrived for the interview with a crumpled pink Post-It note in his pocket with a special message from his wife that read: “You are exactly where you are supposed to be. I love you. Follow God! I follow you.”

Hurts and Burrows, who announced their engagement in an Essence feature in September 2024 with a set of exclusive engagement

photos on the beach, have been together for seven years.

The couple first went public in January 2023 when Burrows joined the professional quarterback on the field to celebrate his team’s NFC Championship win against the San Francisco 49ers. Memorably, she joined him again on the field after his team won the 2025 Super Bowl, and made headlines for sharing a victory kiss.

Hurts told Essence that the pair had been dating on and off since they met at the University of Alabama. While in college, the football player led the Crimson Tide to national and conference championships, and Burrows was a member of the school’s MBA Case Team. She helped the Crimson Tide win the 2019 SEC Championship, and has called the win “one of my most memorable moments of grad school,” People magazine reported.

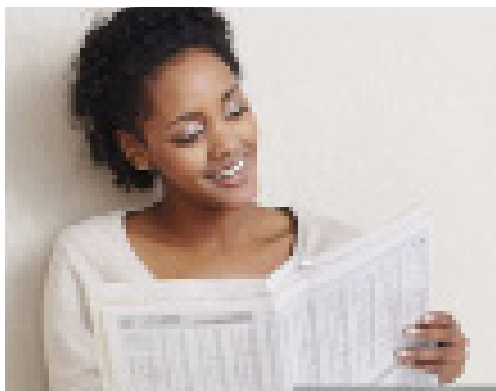
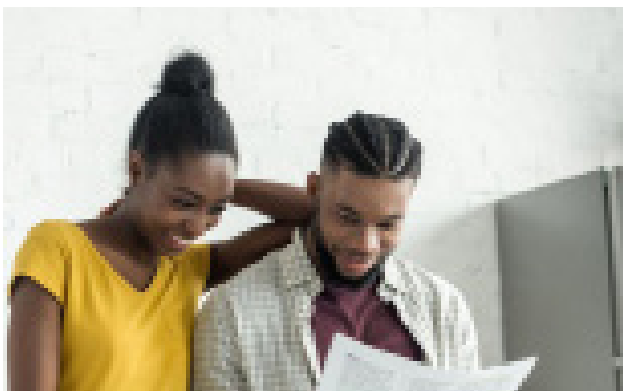
The college sweethearts were

also members of the Greek system: Burrows is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority, while Hurts is a member of Omega Psi Phi fraternity.

Burrows graduated with her bachelor’s degree in 2017 before earning an MBA at Alabama’s Manderson School of Business. Meanwhile, Hurts left the school in early 2019 to play his senior season at the University of Oklahoma. According to her now-deleted LinkedIn, Burrows most recently worked in the tech industry as an artificial intelligence partner for IBM.

While speaking to Essence in April 2023, Hurts said that although he was “not married or anything like that,” he considered himself “spoken for.”

He added, “I knew a long time ago, I mean, to this point in my life, that’s an irreplaceable feeling. I think that’s what allowed us to get to where we are now.”



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# Shedeur Sanders, Proud Black Men, White Fragility, And The NFL Draft

On NFL Draft weekend, we witnessed the league trying to break the pride and the spirit of a young Black man who just wants to play football. by Stephen A. Crockeet, Jr.



Before we get started, I want to make one thing clear: This isn't about football.

If it were, I wouldn't be writing this piece because former Colorado quarterback Shedeur Sanders would've been drafted in the first round.

And that isn't even debatable.

But this isn't about football. Because if it were, Sanders, 23, would've been recognized as not only one of the best quarterbacks in college football this year, but as one of the best to ever do it in the history of the game.

"He is just the second QB in history with 14,000-plus yards while completing 70-plus percent of his passes. Of QBs with 13,000-plus passing yards, he is 1 of 8 in history to have 100 more touchdowns than interceptions in his career. Sanders finished with a 156.01 career quarterback rating in college," Yahoo Sports reports.

He's also thrown a touchdown pass in 49 straight games, and that's the longest streak in NCAA history.

So this isn't about football. It's about the pinpricks of microaggressive racism that eventually cause a bleed out. This is about former Minnesota police officer Derek Chauvin's knee on top of George Floyd's neck. This is about Making America Great Again and Black Lives Matter. This is about Tupac and that one time he told those white folks that his music wasn't about violence against the police, but rather, police brutality and self-defense.

Because this is about vision and how some can see it so clearly, and

others remain blind. This is about NFL owners, anonymous critics, and NFL talking heads all colluding to destroy a flamboyant, successful, young Black man's career before it even began.

So this is a story about buck breaking, NFL-style, and how racism taints everything depending on which side of the lens you're looking through. Because when done correctly, there is a beauty in subtle racism. Blatant racism is overt, like a hammer to the head. Subtle racism is like poison that seeps into your bloodstream and shuts down your breathing. Both get the job done, but only one can be easily proven in court.

Subtle racism is almost charming in the way it develops over time. It's the dance we do with the white sales associate that casually lingers behind you when you shop, or the tango between the Black driver and the white police officer over a minor traffic stop.

And because America has a history of hating self-sufficient, self-assured, young Black men, Shedeur Sanders, who until three weeks ago was a lock to go in the first round, sat and waited for days until he was finally drafted in the fifth round by the Cleveland Browns.

The 144th pick.

In no world are there 143 players better than Shedeur Sanders.

And now everyone has an excuse. He's a fifth-round pick, and historically, fifth-round picks don't get many chances to succeed. Hell, the team that drafted him didn't even seem happy that they got a possible first-round pick in the fifth.

The biggest problem with Sanders' unsubstantiated drop in the draft isn't just that he dropped out of the guaranteed money spots, he's essentially coming in as a prospect who has to battle just to stay in the league. He's a fifth-round pick, which means he cost the team very little, and they don't have him figured into their game plan.

The fifth round is where you take projects and nothing about Sanders' play on the field and his behavior off it that said he wasn't ready to play.

And for those people who talk about Sanders' character, please point me to all of the bad behavior that the NFL just couldn't stomach. As far as I've seen, the only thing that Sanders has been guilty of is his "perfect timing" celebration in which he holds up his watch arm and waves his wrist from side to side.

Sanders says he's been doing the celebration since high school, but it garnered national attention during a game against Nebraska. According to reports, a Nebraska player was warming up at midfield literally standing on the Colorado logo. Sanders took this as a diss and confronted the player. A melee ensued and was quickly broken up, but before Sanders left, he flexed one of his custom watches, either an Audemars Piguet Royal Oak 15500 or Richard Mille, toward his opponent. It was a braggadocious moment and one that has become the hallmark of his hate.

Because this was never about football.

This is about 1985, Deion Sanders, his soft jheri curl, bright gold



40th day of 40 Day Target Boycott, Greensboro 40 Day Boycott organizers held a Town Hall Meeting at the Marriott downtown Greensboro, and after the meeting marched from the Marriott to the International Civil Rights Center and Museum for a press Conference. Deena Hayes, Co-Chair of the Museum and one of the community organizers welcomed the marchers to the museum. A rally was held at New Zion Baptist Church that evening and featured presenter and speaker, Rev Jamal Bryant, National organizer of the 40 day Target boycott and Pastor of New Birth Missionary Baptist Church, Atlanta, Georgia.

Thursday April 17, 2025





Request for Proposals  
Procurement Second Tier Support  
20252002

Sealed proposals will be received by the Housing Authority of the City of High Point (HPHA) at 500 E. Russell Ave., High Point, NC for Procurement Second Tier Support until 10:00 a.m. local time, May 15, 2025. Any proposal received later than the specified time, whether delivered in person or mailed, will be disqualified. Faxed, Emailed, or any other unsealed submissions are not acceptable.

The contractor will provide services and assistance to the HPHA in the oversight of all purchases and contracts related to HPHA projects. The contractor will also help the HPHA in the planning, organizing, and coordination of all contracts and procurement functions and activities to fulfill the requirements of HPHA. Additionally, the contractor will be available to assist the HPHA as needed, given sufficient notice to schedule any such occurrence.

All interested companies may obtain RFP documents through an email to [procurement@hpha.net](mailto:procurement@hpha.net) or HPHA’s website at [www.hpha.net](http://www.hpha.net). All questions must be sent to HPHA by 5:00 p.m. on April 28, 2025. An addendum will be issued by 5:00 p.m. on April 29, 2025. It is important that the offeror’s proposal be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly marked in the lower left-hand corner with the following information: “20252002 Request for Proposal, 10:00 a.m. May 15, 2025, SEALED PROPOSAL for Procurement Second Tier Support.” Please send four (4) copies of your proposal.

All bids/proposals must contain the following completed forms:

- 1. Responder’s Statement (Attachment A)
- 2. Profile of Firm (Attachment B)
- 3. Cost Proposal (Attachment C)
- 4. Other requested information on the Proposal Evaluation Criteria form (Attachment D)
- 5. Financial Statement or Audit
- 6. Section 3 and MWBE Certifications
- 7. Executive Order # 11246 Compliance Report
- 8. References/Experience
- 9. Non-collusive Affidavit
- 10. Estimated Project Work Force – Prime /Subcontractor
- 11. Certifications and Representations of Offerors Non-Construction Contract (form HUD-5369-C)
- 12. E-Verify Affidavit
- 13. Personnel Certification

It is very important that each company sends to HPHA all the required paperwork.

Contract for work under this RFP will obligate the contractor to not discriminate in employment practices. HPHA encourages minority owned, women owned and Section 3 businesses to participate. The HPHA reserves the right to reject all bids/proposals and to waive minor informalities in the bidding/RFP process.

Direct all sealed proposals and inquiries to:

Susan Stimpson, Procurement Officer  
Housing Authority of the City of High Point  
500 E. Russell Ave.  
High Point, NC 27260  
[procurement@hpha.net](mailto:procurement@hpha.net)

Transportation Open House

Join the Greensboro Metropolitan Planning Organization to help shape the future of the transportation.

**You are invited to share your thoughts on two plans:**

**Safety Action Plan and Long-Range Transportation Plan**

**May 13, 2025**

**Barber Park Event Center, 1502 Barber Park Drive**

**4 – 7 pm.**

The interactive open house will provide an opportunity for input on key transportation initiatives aimed to move our MPO area safely and efficiently.

*The MPO provides transportation planning services for the City of Greensboro and the towns of Oak Ridge, Sedalia, Summerfield, Pleasant Garden, and Stokesdale, and most of unincorporated Guilford County.*

For more information, or to submit comments visit [www.guampg.org](http://www.guampg.org). Anyone in need of auxiliary aids or interpretive services to review the materials may call **336-373-4184**.

GREENSBORO  
URBAN AREA  
MPO

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION



Got Keys?

Need financial assistance to buy your first home? The City of Greensboro has a program for that. It's called Housing Connect GSO.

The program is open to low- and moderate-income households with new offerings called "Public Service Heroes" and "#100Homes."

Check it out at [www.greensboro-nc.gov/Homebuyers](http://www.greensboro-nc.gov/Homebuyers) and make your dream of homeownership a reality.



GREENSBORO  
Housing & Neighborhood  
Development

Housing Connect GSO





The Greensboro Business League (GBL) held its African American Economic Summit, The State Of Black Business, at the International Civil Rights Center & Museum on April 10, 2025. The event featured Keynote Speaker Dr. Dedrick Asante-Muhammad, President and CEO, Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies. The morning session panelists were Regional McCaskill, Executive Director at Maximum Enterprises, Inc. Ursula Dudley-Oglesby, President, Dudley Beauty Corp. LLC and Valerie Dorsett, Attorney and Global Property Owner. The moderator was Leoneda Inge, WUNC NPR, Co-Host Due South. The afternoon panelists were, Nasibu Sareva, Chief Executive Officer, The African Development Center and Kevin Price, President and CEO of National Institute Minority Economic Development. The moderator was Anita Brown-Graham, ncImpact Initiative Director. GBL Board Members Hurley Derickson and Selman Pinnix presented four Awards. Deena Hayes Greene (Kim Hayes Accepted the Award), Equitable In Economic Development Award, Sharon Long Stokes, Outstanding Professionalism and Leadership Award, Geoff Foster, Excellence in Black Business Performance Award, and Odyssees Ur, Chavis, Lifetime Achievement in General Contracting Award. Call to Action, Earl Jones, Co-Founder GBL and closing remarks, Gerry McCants, Co-Founder, GBL. There were 313 people in attendance.





# Bidding Opportunities with the City of Greensboro

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The City of Greensboro is committed to growing a competitive business environment and offering easy access to bidding opportunities.

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Questions? Call the City at 336-373-CITY (2489).

- Forecasted City Projects
- Procurement Service Contracts
- Code Compliance Contracts
- Construction Contracts
- Field Operations Contracts
- Housing & Neighborhood Development Requests for Proposals
- Parks & Recreation Bidding Opportunities
- Transportation Requests for Proposals
- Water Resources Contracts



## <Shedeur Sanders from page 8 >

chains, and unapologetic Blackness.

See, Deion Sanders came to us the way that professional wrestlers usually do, in garish soundbites and overly done up, almost costume-like, attire. From the time he hit the grass at Florida State, he'd already won over half the country with his flashy dress, often wearing jackets wide open and no shirt underneath, black sunglasses, gold chains, and a tightly cropped curl.

But damn could he play. He was a lockdown corner who also returned punts and he was electric. He was so damn good at football that he would often make opponents sulk on the sidelines because they just couldn't lose him. And he had the audacity to play both football and baseball in college and professionally. On one Saturday in May of 1987, he played in two college baseball games and ran a relay race for the college track and field team.

Deion Sanders starred in two sports at the same damn time.

It is from this lineage that a male child was born — several of them, in fact.

So one of the best NFL players in the history of the game, a man so feared that he could single-handedly shut down half of the field, has a son who plays quarterback. And he's Black. Ferociously Black. Fearlessly Black. Prayed up and Black. There is no "Blind Side" here, unless you

refuse to see it.



Because this isn't about football. Or interviews. Or ability.

This is about America's deep-seated hatred for a kid who has always known his worth and has no issue saying you can't afford me. This is about America's incessant need to control Black bodies. This is about seeing a young Black man so blessed that he's not afraid to stand in the fire. This is about America's bat, which has always been used to knock confident Black men down a peg.

To humble them. Because America has always hated authoritative Black men; they

love to see them fall.

Take the polarizing prank that Sanders was subjected to during this entire ordeal.

Sanders got a special phone for draft night, and the only people who had the phone number were NFL owners and supporting staff. On draft night, Sanders patiently waited for his name to be called, and we all watched with dread as his name and reputation dropped. On Day 2, Sanders fielded a call that he believed was from New Orleans Saints general manager Mickey Loomis.

The caller told Sanders: "We're going to take you with our next pick, man, but you're going to have to wait a little bit longer, man. Sorry about that."

Sanders was not drafted by the Saints, and it was later revealed that the prank caller was 21-year-old Jax Ulbrich, son of Atlanta Falcons defensive coordinator Jeff Ulbrich.

"I'm so sorry I took away from your moment, it was selfish and childish," Jax Ulbrich said in his Instagram post. "I could never imagine getting ready to celebrate one of the greatest moments of your life and I made a terrible mistake and messed with that moment. Thank you for accepting my call earlier today, I hope you can find it in your heart to forgive me."

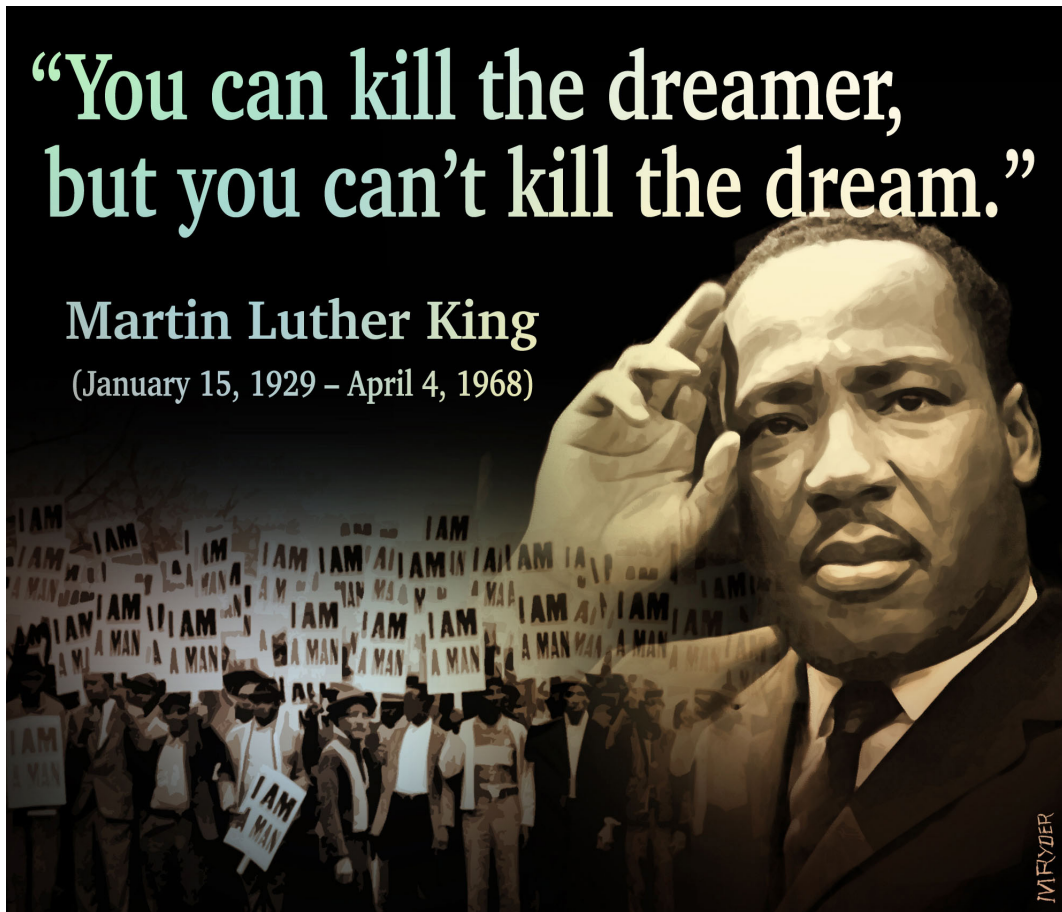
And therein lies the cruel du-



## Legal Beat

# Trump Moves to Expose MLK Files — Critics Warn of Smear Campaign

BLACKPRESSUSA NEWSWIRE — Scholars warn that without context, such revelations could be easily misinterpreted or manipulated.

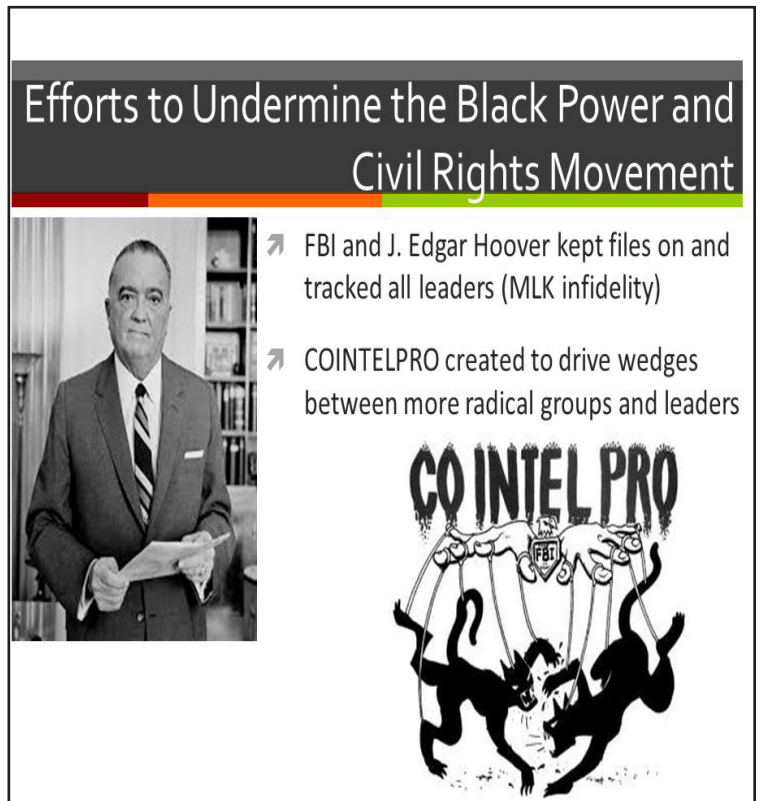


On January 23, three days into his second term, President Donald Trump signed Executive Order 14176, called the Declassification of Records Concerning the Assassinations of President John F. Kennedy, Senator Robert F. Kennedy, and the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Since then, only the records of November 22, 1963, the assassination of John F. Kennedy has been made public. There had been year-long debates about whether the records should be released. The Kennedy records were deemed underwhelming by many who examined them, some of whom were joined to a six decades-long conspiracy theory that Lee Harvey Oswald was not the lone murderer of President Kennedy. But the long-classified documents on Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., may spark a different set of issues. The civil rights icon's personal life is likely to be reviewed when the documents are released. The files, compiled between the late 1950s and Dr. King's assassination in 1968, are believed to include extensive surveillance records, wiretaps, and psychological profiles created during the height of

the FBI and CIA's covert monitoring of domestic activists as part of their COINTELPRO domestic surveillance program. Even though the January 2025 executive order in part reads that "the federal government has not released to the public all of its records related to those events. Their families and the American people deserve transparency and truth," some believe that all the release of documents will do damage to the public reputation of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Even though Trump announced that transparency was the reason for the executive order, the King Family assured on January 24, the day after the executive order was signed, that the real goal was character assassination.

"The assassination of our father is a deeply personal family loss that we have endured over the last 56 years. We hope to be provided the opportunity to review the files as a family prior to its public release," the family said in an Instagram post on Jan. 24, the day after Trump's order. They know the right wing wants to smear Dr. King, and one way to do it is by putting these smears in

public under the guise of transparency. If there are assassination records, release those. But smears are not assassination records," a message on Instagram read. Reports suggest the file may include allegations of infidelity, associations with individuals once suspected of Communist ties, and efforts by intelligence agencies to destabilize King's influence through covert means. Scholars warn that without context, such revelations could be easily misinterpreted or manipulated. Virgie Hoban, a historian at Georgetown University, explained in 2021 that, "the intelligence community of the 1960s was deeply invested in discrediting King. These files may say more about Hoover's FBI than about King himself." Teressa Raiford, a civil rights activist, has pointed out that the FBI, "understood that the civil rights movement was winning people's hearts and minds through the circulation of photographs and videos of nonviolent, peaceful protests," and that the reason that King's image is so vital to the overall movement means that safeguarding it is vital.



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MEDIA CENTER ROOF REPLACEMENT FOR PAGE HIGH SCHOOL #6753  
GREENSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA

Sealed proposals will be received by the Guilford County School System until 2:00 P.M. local time on Wednesday, May 21, 2025, in Conference Room 100 located at 501 W. Washington Street, Greensboro, North Carolina 27401, and immediately thereafter publicly opened and read aloud, to furnish all materials and labor for the Media Center roof replacement at Page High School, Greensboro, NC. Upon arrival, please check-in at the front information desk for room location, and sign-in. Please allow sufficient time for this, as late bids will not be accepted.

A pre-bid conference will be held at the site at 10:00 AM local time on Thursday May 8, 2025. Attendance at this conference is recommended for potential bidders to examine the existing conditions and to discuss particular details of the project. Bidders must be properly licensed for the work in accordance with Section 87 of the North Carolina General Statutes. Attendees shall meet at the commons area inside the front doors for Page High School, 201 Alma Pinnix Drive, Greensboro, NC 27405. Attendance at this conference is highly recommended for potential bidders to examine the existing conditions and to discuss particular details of the project. Bidders must be properly licensed for the work in accordance with Section 87 of the North Carolina General Statutes.

Plans, specifications, and contract documents will be available free of charge for inspection in electronic format beginning on May 1, 2025 through the website of Rick Nuhn, PE Consultants [www.nuhnbec.com](http://www.nuhnbec.com). The plan room tab is on the right side of the home page. No login is required.

A brief description of work in the project follows:

- Roof Size is approximately 17,000 sq ft.
- Tear-off existing roofing membrane and insulation down to the original metal or concrete deck.
- Insulation system shall be a minimum of 2 layers of polyisocyanurate foam boards with ½” gypsum overlayment board. Tapered insulation will be required for “sloe-to-drain”.
- All insulation to be adhered with spray-on urethane foam. Provide tapered insulation on roof areas as shown on roof plans.
- The replacement membrane assembly consists of the application of two-ply modified bitumen membrane fully adhered to the insulation assembly. Scope of Work includes installation of new perimeter wood nailers and edge metal.
- Work includes all sheet metal fabrications shown on the contract documents and as specified.
- Drainage for the roof will be new drains at all locations shown on roof plans. Removal of drains at existing roof drains will be required.
- Roofing system installation shall require on-going inspections by the Membrane Manufacturer during the installation process and will be eligible to receive a 20-year NDL material and labor warranty, full-system including the insulation and membrane.
- Masonry Repair to brick pilasters in the courtyard is included in the scope of work.
- For bidding purposes, job start is estimated to be June 11, 2025.
- Completion date is 120 calendar days after receiving a notice to proceed from the Owner.

The resulting contract will be to furnish all labor, supervision, materials and equipment necessary to perform the work as shown on the plans and described in the project specifications.

A 5% bid security as well as a 100% Performance and Labor and Material Payment Bonds are required for this project. No bid may be withdrawn after the scheduled closing time for the receipt of bids for a period of 60 days. Bidders must be properly licensed for the work in accordance with Section 87 of the North Carolina General Statutes. General Contractors must have a general license classification for at least UNLIMITED BUILDING or S (ROOFING) in accordance with the Rules & Regulations of the North Carolina Licensing Board for General Contractors.

Minority businesses are encouraged to submit bids for this project. The appropriate forms from the section entitled “Participation by Women and Minority Owned Businesses” must be submitted with each bid to show good faith efforts to obtain Minority and Women Owned Business Enterprise participation.

E-Verify Requirements: This project requires the awarded vendor to comply with the requirements of EVerify. (U.S. law requiring companies to employ only individuals who may legally work in the United States

– either U.S. citizens, or foreign citizens who have the necessary authorization.)

The Guilford County Board of Education awards public contracts without regard to race, religion, color, creed, national origin, sex, age or handicapped condition as defined by North Carolina General Statutes, Section 168A-3.

The Board reserves the right to reject any or all bids presented and to waive any informalities and irregularities.

Guilford County Schools  
Velicia Moore  
Guilford County Schools

Sandeur Sanders - from page 12

ality of America. The adultification of young Black boys and the infantilization of young white men.



Here we have two young men. One is rich, Black, and from football royalty, punished for being “overly confident.” The other is rich and white and actually did something offensive, but he will be treated as a kid who “made a mistake.”

And it’s impossible to explain because it’s tied into the reason that cops saw 12-year-old Tamir Rice as an adult and his toy gun as a weapon. Because America breeds this blindness that doesn’t allow for those indoctrinated in it to see that Shedeur Sanders’ drop in the

draft has nothing to do with football, and if you believe that it does, then you probably believe that Derek Chaunvin was merely trying to hold George Floyd down until police help arrived, or that Black Lives Matter is a hate group.

Shedeur Sanders is a loved, supported, Bible-based, confident, young Black man who has never been in trouble with the law and can throw a football some 50 yards on a rope. How could football GMs not love that?

I mean, this is about football, isn’t it?

# The Gist

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# The Aggies do it again: NC A&T cheer team wins for a second time at Nationals

WFMY - 4-18-25



GREENSBORO, N.C. — Talk about a legacy in the making! North Carolina A&T State University's cheerleading squad just crushed it again at the 2025 NCA & NDA College National Championship in Daytona Beach, Florida.

With a flawless performance (we're talking zero deductions!) and a final score of 95.0093, the Aggies claimed first place in the Intermediate Small Coed Division I for the second year. Yep, that's back-to-back wins. And they're making serious history while they're at it.

Last year, A&T became the first HBCU team ever to win this title — and the first HBCU from North Carolina to win any NCA national championship. This year, they were the only HBCU team to win a division title at what's considered the Super Bowl of college cheer and dance.

So, what's the secret to staying on top?

"Getting to the top is one thing, but staying at the top is a whole new process," said head coach Daniel Kearns-Pickett. "We understood that if we were the best in 2024, then we had to push to ensure we stay the best in 2025."

Squad member Christion Drew said the routine, just 2 minutes and 15 seconds long, represents months of hard work from the whole team.

"All I could expect from Day 2 was perfection," he said. "It was all worth it."

And for Drew, this win was extra special — he got to share the moment with his younger sister and teammate, Aliyah.

"She has become my 'why' for this sport... I wouldn't have wanted to do this journey with anyone else."



The team came into 2025 fired up with something to prove. Last year, in their first-ever NCA appearance, they nearly snagged gold,

finishing second by less than a point out of 21 teams. This year, it was all about their "Road 2 Redemption" and their program motto: "Better Than Yesterday."

"This year's team was different; we were hungry, determined, and confident," said squad member Jaimee Standfield. "It wasn't just about chasing another win, it was about proving to ourselves and everyone else that we deserved to be there."

And that's exactly what they did.

Standfield called the experience surreal, going from underdogs to top-tier champions in just two seasons.

"We truly came from the bottom and worked our way up," she said. "This victory was earned, and it's something we'll carry with pride forever."

Coach Kearns-Pickett, a former national competitor himself, sees this win as much more than a trophy.

"This was for all of those who look like us and have been told they can't compete or succeed at certain levels," he said. "I will never forget this moment, these athletes, or the legacy we are leaving."

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