**Grove Park coffee connoisseurs create ‘Hot Coffee’**

**BRIA SUGGS**
The Atlanta Voice

Katerina Taylor’s father owned a grocery store. As a child, she would run a register in the store while standing on top of a milk crate. She went on to work for banks, the Dekalb Chamber of Commerce, the Workforce Development Agency for the City of Atlanta, and a law firm.

In the midst of a busy career, she followed the same entrepreneurial path as her father, and created her own business. During the pandemic lockdown in 2020, Taylor, along with her friend and current business partner Brad Hill, would discuss their travels.

They soon realized that one thing they had in common, no matter where in the world they were, is that they had to have coffee.

“We started talking about going into the store and being overwhelmed with all the coffee offerings,” Taylor said. “The coffee market is pretty saturated. But most of them you’ll see, it’s like a dessert coffee or there’s all these kinds of fancy names.”

Together, the pair believed they had tasted some of the best coffees in the world. With their combined experience, they decided to simplify the gourmet coffee market and make the best blends possible with the best beans.

In 2020, Taylor and Hill founded Hot Coffee, and began researching where the best coffee beans are grown.

“We found the regions, and we started working with roasters,” Taylor said. “We traveled to different places: we went to Seattle looking for roasters, we went to Mexico.”

The pair took their time developing the brand for Hot Coffee, in order to stay true to their goal of a simple coffee experience. They chose the straightforward name because they both love drinking hot coffee in the morning.

“We wanted to make sure that a simple gourmet cup of coffee didn’t have to feel simple or feel generic; it could still feel very high-end and luxurious,” Taylor said. “But it didn’t have to be so complicated.”

Hot Coffee offers three different blends, all in simple, foil bags. The company sells light, medium and dark roasts via their website. The dark roast is made with beans from Ethiopia, while the light and medium roasts are sourced from South America and Costa Rica.

One thing Taylor wants consumers to understand about coffee is which roasts have a higher caffeine count than others.

“Most people assume that dark coffee has the most caffeine, but it doesn’t,” Taylor said. “Dark coffee has the least amount of caffeine, light roast has the most amount of caffeine.”

Something that sets Hot Coffee apart is the duo’s belief that they are the first coffee retailer to accept cryptocurrency as their preferred method of payment, although they still accept debit and credit cards.

“Cryptocurrency has been around a long time … and the internet, something that sets Hot Coffee apart is the duo’s belief that they are the first coffee retailer to accept cryptocurrency as their preferred method of payment, although they still accept debit and credit cards. “Cryptocurrency has been around a long time … and the internet, something that sets Hot Coffee apart is the duo’s belief that they are the first coffee retailer to accept cryptocurrency as their preferred method of payment, although they still accept debit and credit cards. “Cryptocurrency has been around a long time … and the internet, something that sets Hot Coffee apart is the duo’s belief that they are the first coffee retailer to accept cryptocurrency as their preferred method of payment, although they still accept debit and credit cards.”

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“We were born in Grove Park,” Taylor said. “That area … doesn’t have its own coffee shop. And it doesn’t have a lot of the assets that most communities have to offer their residents … We always say we’re born and brewed in Grove Park. And so we want to make sure that we offer a coffee shop as a place for the community to call their own.”

Before other businesses try to migrate to the area, Taylor wants to establish hers first because she believes she has a better understanding of the neighborhood and its legacy residents. In May, Hot Coffee will begin selling single coffee pods that are compatible with Keurig machines.

“I want Hot Coffee to be ‘Atlanta,’” Taylor said. “When people think of Georgia, they think of Hot Coffee. When they think of flying to Atlanta, they think ‘Oh, we have to go to that coffee shop that we keep hearing about everywhere.’” But I also want to be able to make sure that we continue to ship Hot Coffee all over the world.”

The three Hot Coffee brews- light roast, medium roast and dark roast. (Photo credit: Hot Coffee Co. Archives)
BUSINESS

Atlanta-based music technology company simplifies licensing process

Jared Heinz is the co-founder and CEO of Music Tech Works, a parent company that creates user-friendly technology that can help simplify the idea of music licensing. Along with his co-founder and chief technology officer Bryson Nobles, Heinz created Rightsholder.io in 2019.

The pair met while Heinz was at New York University earning his MBA. At that time, Heinz was managing artists who were looking to get a recording and publishing deal with a songwriter Nobles worked with.

“It was a challenge to get all the paperwork together to kind of go back over the years and find out who owns what,” Heinz said. “[Nobles’] company SongSplits [featured] technology that actually helped with that. So we met at a show, started talking, and I ended up using his app to then pull all that data together that I needed to get the deals done. We kept in touch.”

Over time, Heinz expressed his interest in Nobles’ company and later became involved with SongSplits. From there, the two continued to work together in the music technology industry for the past decade.

Rightsholder.io is the first product of Music Tech Works, and is a copyright research company that creates user-friendly technology that actually helped with that. Rightsholder.io is very research-oriented, with the main goal of making the ownership data easily accessible. One can search songs individually or even in groups.

“I think there’s some excitement around the time savings that people can get from using our product,” Heinz said. “So on a research side, you don’t have to go to four or five different performing rights organizations or other websites to try and piece together the ownership. You just come to our site, find this information and then quickly move forward to your next task.”

The ongoing pandemic has impacted lots of businesses, especially those owned by people of color. Fortunately, COVID-19 didn’t hinder the growth of rightsholder.io. In 2020, Nobles and Heinz were raising capital from investors in Atlanta around the same time that there was an increase in demand on streaming platforms.

In the future, Heinz looks forward to continuing to grow rightsholder.io and creating new applications under Music Tech Works.

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VOICES

Need An Example of Systemic Discrimination in Action? Study the Ketanji Brown Jackson Confirmation

STEVEN N. DURLAUF
UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
DAVID MCMILLON
EMORY UNIVERSITY

Despite the outcome, the Ketanji Brown Jackson confirmation process—which resulted in the first Black woman ever on America’s highest Court—brought troubling clarity to the debate, reignited by the George Floyd murder and subsequent civil unrest, on whether discrimination in America is better understood as a series of isolated, individual acts—or as a feature of US political and economic systems.

The hearings provided powerful insights into how certain dimensions of systemic discrimination function in America. Systemic discrimination occurs when past and/or present injustices aggregate in such a way to cause widespread harm. A key feature is that a discriminatory system is not self-correcting with respect to initial injustices.

One dimension of systemic discrimination involves restricting access to “tipping points” that could reduce inequities over time. Access to service on the Supreme Court, which offers critical representation on vital matters of policy and justice, is such a tipping point. Whether because of discrimination by a handful of Senators or discriminatory attitudes in the public sphere, African Americans have been passed over for appointment to the Court. This has the potential to lead to persistent, systemic harms. Three Supreme Court justices in all of American history—certainly is evidence that Judge Jack- son’s nomination is the exception, not the rule.

A second dimension of systemic discrimination: if a discriminatory act occurs, does the system work to correct it, or does it actually work to enhance the harm? Did, for example, political actors from all sides denounce Tucker Carlson’s demand that Jackson’s LSAT scores be released, a demand one did not hear in the case of Trump’s three white nominees? They did not. The demand for test scores plays into the anti-Black stereotype about intellectual ability. The in- broken the barrier of race as a factor of importance for the nation at a given historical moment. By this standard, Biden’s pledge was to choose, among the exceptional set of qualified lawyers, a woman of color—perhaps to help the nation heal at a painful time in its history.

This is a legitimate concern for a president to consider. It is through the contributions of Black women and Black feminism, for example, that discrimination law has slowly moved away from separate consideration of race and gender discrimination and towards the recognition of intersectional forms of discrimination requiring legal intervention. It’s not a coincidence.

Prior to such contributions, it was commonplace to (for example) disqualify Black women as class representatives in gender discrimination lawsuits; in race discrimination lawsuits; and even in lawsuits on behalf of Black women. Critiqu- ing this aspect of legal practice came from the perspectives and experiences of Black women – with legal scholar Kimberlee Crenshaw as the progenitor. The adoption of these perspectives, which logically will be advanced and protected by the newest Justice, leads to legal frameworks that liberate the most oppressed, moving us all closer to the ideals of equality and justice promised in the Constitution.

If the system were to treat rectifying past discrimination as relevant to current decisions, the unprecedented nomination of Ketanji Brown Jackson would have called forth higher standards of conduct than the usual politicization, obfuscation, and mudslinging that is now commonplace during confirmation hearings. Yet one would be hard-pressed to describe the conduct of Ted Cruz, Tom Cotton, and Josh Hawley as anything other than base.

The wellbeing of millions of people of color depends on Supreme Court decisions. Recent decisions that gutted much of the Voting Rights Act and removed the Court from evaluation of gerrymandering illustrate the extent of the Court’s power to reinforce or reduce systemic harms. When the first African American woman nominated for the Court is subjected to standard levels of politi- cal filth to which many are inured, when violations of norms of decen- cy in the media are viewed with a blind eye, when the animus or demagoguery of a handful of Sena- tors has the potential to control court composition—that is systemic discrimination in action. Ketanji Brown Jackson’s confirmation is not evidence of a lack of systemic discrimination; she was confirmed in spite of it.
**LOCAL**

**100 Black Men of Atlanta hosts candlelight vigil against gun violence**

**BY MARTEL SHARPE**

The 100 Black Men of Atlanta hosted an Anti-Gun Violence Candlelight Vigil on April 20 at the King Center for Nonviolent Social Change to commemorate those who have been affected by gun violence.

The candlelight vigil is part of the organization’s anti-gun violence campaign, whose goal is to create awareness to reduce gun violence. The initiative received a $15,000 grant from Georgia Power to implement a mentoring program for students.

“Gun violence in America is an epidemic that’s been raging now for over 30 years, and it doesn’t just affect the black community,” Keith Millner, the chairman of the organization, explained. “It affects all communities.”

The program features different modules that focus on how to reduce gun violence, create awareness, and offer alternative solutions, such as conflict resolution techniques, that students can use to prevent violence. The program recently launched at B.E.S.T. Academy and Ivy Tech in Atlanta.

**POLITICS**

**Judge finds Donald Trump in contempt in New York legal fight**

**BY LARRY NEUMEISTER**

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — A New York judge found former President Donald Trump in contempt of court and set in motion $10,000 daily fines Monday for failing to adequately respond to a subpoena issued by the state’s attorney general as part of a civil investigation into his business dealings.

Judge Arthur Engoron said a contempt finding was appropriate because Trump and his lawyers hadn’t shown they had conducted a proper search for records sought by the subpoena.

“Mr. Trump, I know you take your business seriously, and I take mine seriously,” Engoron said in a Manhattan courtroom that was packed with reporters, but absent of Trump. “I hereby hold you in civil contempt and fine you $10,000 a day” until the terms of the subpoena are met.

New York Attorney General Letitia James, a Democrat, had asked the court to hold Trump in contempt after he failed to produce any documents to satisfy a March 31 court-imposed deadline to meet the terms of the subpoena.

Trump, a Republican, has been fighting James in court over her investigation, which he has called a politically motivated “witch hunt.” During oral arguments Monday, Trump attorney Alina Habba said that “Donald Trump does not believe he is above the law.”

H habba said in a statement that the ruling will be appealed.

“Today, justice prevailed,” James said in a release after Engoron’s ruling. “For years, Donald Trump has tried to evade the law and stop our lawful investigation into him and his company’s financial dealings.

Today’s ruling makes clear: No one is above the law.”

The contempt finding by the judge came despite a spirited argument by Habba, who insisted repeatedly that she went to great lengths to comply with the subpoena, even traveling to Florida to ask Trump specifically whether he had in his possession any documents that would be responsive to the demand.

The judge, though, criticized the lack of detailed explanation in the Trump team’s formal response to the subpoena, telling Habba: “You can’t just stand here and say I searched this and that.”

And after saying he felt “like there’s an 800-pound gorilla in the room here,” he asked why the response to the subpoena didn’t include an affidavit from Trump.

Habba noted that Trump does not send emails or text messages and has no office computer “at home or anywhere else.” She described the search for documents as “diligent.”

“The contempt motion is inappropriate and misleading,” she said. “He complied. ... There are no more documents left to produce by Mr. Trump.”

She also derided the James investigation as a “political crusade” and “truly a fishing expedition,” saying Trump and his companies had turned over more than 6 million documents and paperwork related to 103 Trump entities for an eight-year period.

“We’ve turned over everything as fast as possible. This is a waste of judicial resources,” Habba added.

She also defended Trump’s character, saying: “My client is an honest person much to the dismay of certain people in this room.”

Trump spokespeople did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Investigators for James have said in court filings that they uncovered evidence that Trump may have misstated the value of assets like golf courses and skyscrapers on his financial statements for more than a decade.

At the hearing, Assistant Attorney General Andrew Amer said the investigation was being hampered “because we don’t have evidence from the person at the top of this organization.”

And he said the failure to turn over documents in response to the subpoena was “effectively Mr. Trump thumbing his nose at this court’s order.”

Still, Assistant Attorney General Kevin Wallace signaled the probe was about to move to a new phase, saying: “We plan to bring enforcement action in the near future.”

A parallel criminal investigation is being conducted by the Manhattan District Attorney, Alvin Bragg, also a Democrat.

Monday’s contempt finding was not the first for someone who has held the nation’s highest office.

While in the White House, then-President Bill Clinton was found in civil contempt of court in April 1999 in connection to his deposition in a sexual harassment lawsuit filed against him in Arkansas by Paula Jones.

Judge Susan Webber Wright held him in contempt for his testimony, where he falsely said he hadn’t had a sexual relationship with former White House intern Monica Lewinsky. That contempt citation came two months after his acquittal in Congress on articles of impeachment over his testimony.

Associated Press writers Jill Colvin in Washington and Deepti Haje in New York contributed to this story.
Covid-19 data reporting is becoming less frequent, making trends harder to track

BY DEIDRE MCPHILLIPS, CNN

(CNN) -- Many states are scaling back on how often they report key Covid-19 statistics, a shift that some experts worry might hinder efforts to mitigate outbreaks and negative effects of the coronavirus.

A year ago, all 50 states were reporting new Covid-19 cases on a daily basis. But that has gradually trailed off. This week, Pennsylvania will be the latest state to switch from daily to weekly updates, leaving just six states that will still be reporting new Covid-19 cases every day of the week.

About half of states now report just once a week, with Florida down to every two weeks.

There have always been fluctuations in daily reporting, making the seven-day average of daily change a smoother way to track trends than single day-to-day change. But scaling back makes the trends even bumpier; it’s harder to isolate whether a week-over-week increase in cases is a true trend or the result of a data dump.

Knowing specifically when cases happened and reporting that data frequently “equipped leaders to act quickly and save lives,” Beth Blauer, executive director of the Centers for Civic Impact at Johns Hopkins University, wrote in a recent blog post.

The university has been tracking Covid-19 data throughout the pandemic, and its work has been utilized by governments at all levels.

“A possible seven-day lag for noticing changes in disease trends when states shift from daily reporting to weekly reporting can be incredibly detrimental during a crisis, limiting the government’s ability to intervene and protect people,” Blauer wrote.

The Pennsylvania health department says its plans to reduce the frequency of Covid-19 data reports come amid a “move into the next phase of the pandemic.”

But some experts don’t think the United States has reached that point.

At a recent conference, US public health experts questioned the use of the word "endemic" to describe what’s next in the course of the Covid-19 pandemic. Endemic means a disease has a constant presence in a population but is not affecting an alarmingly large number of people, according to the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

“I think we’ve done a huge disservice using the word ‘endemic,’ frankly. It’s not well-understood. It’s not precise,” Michael Fraser, executive director of the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials, said during a panel discussion at the 2022 Preparedness Summit in Atlanta, repeating the sentiment that “the only reason people are using the word ‘endemic’ is because it’s got the word ‘end’ in it, and people just want an end to this.”

The rise of the BA.2 subvariant and the general unpredictability of the coronavirus leave the future of the pandemic -- and the resources needed to fight it -- largely unknown.

“Things are not stable right now,” said William Hanage, an epidemiologist and associate professor at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. "Even if I don’t reckon we are going to see (another) large surge, weekly reporting means that if I am wrong, we would learn about it later and so be able to do less about it.”

Federal data reporting is mixed

Semantics aside, many states that have scaled back to weekly reporting cite the CDC as their guide.

In February, the CDC released a sweeping change to the metrics used to drive masking recommendations; once-daily updates driven by case rates and test positivity were replaced by “community level” thresholds that much more prominently assessed health care capacity and were updated weekly.

An overview of the community levels on the CDC’s website says that “with current high levels of vaccination and high levels of population immunity from both vaccination and infections, the risk of medically significant disease, hospitalization, and death from COVID-19 is greatly reduced for most people.”

The broader federal message is more mixed, though.

The White House Covid-19 Team still publishes a “Community Profile Report” with Covid-19 trends and indicators each weekday. It scaled back to twice a week for a short time over the summer but reupped the frequency a few weeks later.

And just this month, the US Department of Health and Human Services extended the public health emergency declaration related to the Covid-19 pandemic for another three months, bringing with it a continued requirement for hospitals to regularly submit data.

Daily data reporting can add strain to a public health system that is already stretched quite thin.

Indeed, Arkansas’ health department has kept daily updates in place, largely because the team has been able to automate “nearly the entire process,” requiring “minimal” effort to maintain it.

Many states that have transitioned to reporting Covid-19 data weekly say the shift aligns with well-established surveillance for other diseases.

And some experts say that weekly reporting allows for more purposeful analysis of the data, with a forward-looking perspective instead of a reactive one.

“Youre threat actually doesn’t change every day,” said Janet Hamilton, executive director of the Council of States and Territorial Epidemiologists.

“As an individual, there is something about daily that is perceived as meaningful, and this is where we’re trying to separate that from what’s meaningful from a true disease transmission impact.”

Hanage agrees that weekly reporting allows for “potentially a better use of resources,” but only when things are stable.

Covid-19 is not understood at the same level as diseases that have been around for decades, making the current situation unique. Even as trends for severe outcomes from Covid-19 drastically improve, they remain much worse than even a bad flu season.

Along with Arkansas, New Jersey is one of the few states still reporting Covid-19 cases daily. The health department there “continuously evaluates” necessary reporting frequency and says new variants -- particularly the BA.2 subvariant -- are incentive enough for it to maintain daily reporting.

At least for now.
CRIME

5 teenagers shot near Atlanta's Centennial Olympic Park, police say

BY MICHELLE WATSON, CNN

(CNN) -- Several teenagers were shot Saturday night near Atlanta's Centennial Olympic Park, police said.

Five people with ages ranging from 15 to 19 were injured but are stable, Atlanta Police Deputy Chief Timothy Peek said during a news conference.

Police were called to an intersection of Centennial Olympic Park Drive in downtown Atlanta in response to a report of someone being shot, Peek said.

When officers arrived around 10 p.m., they found three people with gunshot wounds following "some type of altercation," Peek said.

Later, police determined two more people had taken themselves to a nearby hospital. They are believed to have taken a vehicle at gunpoint from a valet in the area, Peek said.

There are male and female victims, the deputy chief said, but he didn't know the "exact breakdown."

"The actual motive for the shooting has not been established at this particular point in time," Peek added.

Police recovered three weapons and at least one stolen vehicle, Peek said.

Atlanta Police Deputy Chief Timothy Peek briefs reporters on a shooting near Centennial Olympic Park (Photo courtesy of Atlanta Police Department)
Radio’s ‘Youngblood’ returns via the Internet

BY H.L. STEWART

Back in the summer of 2020, when loyal listeners to Atlanta radio's old school musicologist Kenneth "Youngblood" Sharpe learned he was no longer on the air, historian Dr. Herman "Skip" Mason told his loyal legions via his own internet talk show to remain optimistic.

"He's just between radio stations," Mason said. "He's enjoying a break. He'll be back."

He was right.

On September 11, 2022, the popular DJ resumed duties on www.live365.com, from 7 a.m. to noon on Saturday mornings.

"He's an Icon," Mason said. "He's back playing the songs we grew up to, laughing at his stories and dancing to that old school music."

Youngblood is a product of Atlanta's westside community and a graduate of Booker T. Washington High and Morehouse College.

Sharpe started the radio program "Spotlight Gold" in 1984 at Clark Atlanta University's WCLK-FM, replacing a similar show launched in 1979 by now-retired Atlanta announcer Hal "Papa Gold" Lamar. Before WCLK in the mid-1970s, he was an announcer for the late "Godfather of Soul" James Brown's WRED-AM in Augusta, Ga. ("Crazy guy, but I learned a lot," Sharpe remembers of Brown.)

The program became the most popular show on CAU's public radio station. Sharpe first learned his radio skills while a student at Morehouse.

"Whenever the on-the-air fund-raising campaign hit, we had to extend the show at least for another hour so we could accommodate all of the pledge calls," said former WCLK news and public affairs director Stan Washington (now Editor-at-large of The Atlanta Voice). "I remember once we collected over $14,000 in pledges in three hours, with volunteers answering just three phones."

Before long, "Spotlight" found its way to commercial radio via WALR, KISS 104.1 FM. The show was the only public radio show in Atlanta that was trending in the ratings. The brass at Cox Broadcasting's urban station made Sharpe "an offer he couldn't refuse."

Despite attracting great ratings and advertising dollars, Sharpe and KISS parted ways in 2011. The show may have been a hit with listeners, but it was never a favorite of program directors who felt that they could program the show better than he could. The show was never canceled because of lack of ratings but because of differences of programming philosophies with management.

"Every time a new program [directors] would be hired by KISS, they had to put their stamp on the line-up, which included "Spotlight Gold," Washington said. "I just felt the show was in jeopardy each time. The program directors would be much younger and didn't share the same appreciation for the music like the mostly boomer listeners."

It generated public outcries from his followers. The station then brought him back a few months later. The reconciliation lasted nine more years before the two sides divorced for a final time in the fall of 2020, with neither side offering any details. Lips have remained tight between the two factions ever since.

Sharpe, meanwhile, admits privately that he continued to crave a return to radio and the profession, which he has said is, to coin a popular phrase from his previous performances, "in the blood."

He didn't have to wait long. On September 11, 2021, Sharpe took the wraps off his new internet venture.

In an interview with The Atlanta Voice from his office/studio in Decatur, Georgia, the native son said he was nudge to return to the microphone by a fan who also provided some financial backing to get him rebooted.

Sharpe was further encouraged by another Atlanta native, Ricky Steele, who said he was a fan of Sharpe's while residing for several years in Columbus, Georgia, where he became hopelessly infatuated with R&B music.

"He's (Youngblood), not just a DJ," said Steele. "He's a great community servant. I told my wife that if I ever won the lottery, I was going to give Youngblood a million dollars. She told me that wasn't going to happen but if you want to meet him, call the station and invite him to lunch."

Steele headlined the advice of his wife; the end results were a budding friendship, several more lunch dates and eventual visits to the station.

Steele was soon joined by another "friend of Youngblood." James Sturgis. The native of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania moved to Atlanta in the early 1970s. A devotee of R&B and "Philly Soul" (he was a high school classmate of noted songwriter/producer Kenny Gamble), Sturgis soon became fast friends with Sharpe and joined him and Steele in breaking bread.

"We got together every week," Sturgis told The Atlanta Voice. "All three of us just meshed."

Since last September, Sharpe's internet program has generated about 4,000 respondents or "hits" to his website, thanks to media publicity and frequent appearances on Mason's "Vanishing Black Atlanta" internet talk show (www.facebook.com/groups/vanishingblackatlantahistory/), which reportedly enjoys some 58,000 regular followers.

Sharpe says the goal now is to increase the show's own hit count to at least 10,000, which he says will put them in a position of soliciting advertising support from companies like AARP, which targets a 50+ age demographic.

"And I'm not going to rest until we get there," said Sturgis, a feeling echoed by Steele.

"If we can get to 20,000, we're in the game," said Sharpe.

Tune in to Youngblood radio, Saturday mornings from 7 a.m. at www.live365.com/station/Youngblood-radio-a26465.

Coca-Cola is a stable safe haven in a rough market

BY PAUL R. LA MONICA

(CNN) — With lots of worries out there — inflation, Covid, interest rates, Ukraine, stock volatility — consumers are willing to pay a premium when seeking comfort in the form of sweet treats like Coca-Cola. And investors are seeking a safe haven in the company's stock.

Coca-Cola reported first quarter earnings and sales Monday that easily topped forecasts: Sales surged 16% to $10.5 billion, beating Wall Street's expectations of $9.8 billion. Profits of $2.8 billion, or 64 cents a share, rose 24% from a year ago — surpassing consensus estimates of 58 cents a share.

Price hikes were a major driver of the solid numbers. Coca-Cola said its price/mix, a measure of how much it charges customers, was up 7% globally and 11% in North America.

Shares of Coca-Cola rose slightly Monday morning on the strong results, even as the broader market was slumping again following Friday's massive slide. The company also reaffirmed its outlook for the rest of the year — despite inflation worries that have raised the price of aluminum and other commodities Coke uses.

"The overall inflationary environment is going to be here for awhile. For exactly how long, nobody knows," Coke chief financial officer John Murphy said in an interview with CNN Business Monday morning.

Pressure on commodity prices
and wages will continue, Murphy said. But he added the company has the flexibility to raise prices, especially as it introduces more premium products.

Coca-Cola recognizes, though, that some consumers are feeling the pinch from higher prices more than others.

That’s why CEO James Quincey said during a conference call with analysts Monday that the company is experimenting with refillable packaging in Latin America and Africa and returnable glass bottles in parts of the Southwest United States.

Quincey said the goal of these initiatives is to reduce waste and give consumers financial incentives to use reusable bottles.

Murphy added that Coke has to “earn the right” to hike prices by constantly innovating and ensuring sure it’s on top of changing trends.

To that end, Coke has been busy developing quirky new flavors — and eliminating some old favorites such as Tab, which was one of hundreds of brands Coke has shuttered in the past two years — as the company tries to remain relevant with younger consumers.

“When I look back on the past couple of years, one of the biggest outcomes has been that we used that time to clean out the cupboard. Now we are building it back up again,” Murphy said. “It’s important to stay disciplined and keep a close eye on brands that are performing well. We need to keep the portfolio pruned.”

Investors are pleased with the strategy. Coca-Cola stock has now gained 11% so far in 2022 —making it one of the better performers in the Dow, which has fallen 8% this year.

Traders have flocked to stodgy consumer staples companies like Coca-Cola because they offer sales and earnings stability at a time of geopolitical turmoil, worries about the Federal Reserve’s rate hikes and inflation. Coke also pays a steady dividend that yields nearly 3%.

And Berkshire Hathaway, the company led by Warren Buffett — famously a huge fan of the company, as well as Cherry Coke — is Coke’s largest shareholder with a more than 9% stake.

Coke is continuing to do well internationally even as the latest spike in Covid-19 cases is worrying investors. The company’s sales leaped 34% in Latin America and 13% in Europe, the Middle East and Africa.

As part of its global strategy, Coke is continuing to invest heavily in emerging markets, Murphy said.

“We have to stay close to these markets and adapt as necessary,” Murphy said, “Investing through volatile times will allow you to prevail.”
POLITICS

Marjorie Taylor Greene testifies at hearing over whether she should be disqualified from running for reelection

BY MARSHALL COHEN
AND CNN

(CNN) — A potentially precedent-setting disqualification hearing is underway Friday in an Atlanta courtroom, aimed at determining if Republican Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene of Georgia is constitutionally barred from running for reelection because of her role in the January 6 insurrection.

Greene is testifying as a witness during the marathon hearing — making her the first lawmaker to testify under oath about their involvement in the attack on the US Capitol. The congresswoman said that she “had no knowledge of any attempt” to illegally interfere with the counting of electoral votes on January 6.

The challengers are trying to highlight how Greene posted messages and videos on social media, in the run-up to the Capitol Hill insurrection. According to the challengers, these posts helped fuel the January 6 attack, and therefore, she aided the insurrection.

But Greene has pushed back from the witness stand.

Andrew Celli, lawyer for the challengers, asked her, "Did you like a post that said, ‘It's quicker than a bullet to the head’?" CNN review in 2021 of hundreds of posts and comments from Greene’s Facebook page showed she repeatedly indicated support for executing prominent Democratic politicians in 2018 and 2019 before being elected to Congress in 2020. That review included one post from January 2019, in which, Greene liked a comment that said "a bullet to the head would be quicker" to remove Pelosi.

"I have had many people manage my social media account over the years," Greene responded to Celli's question Friday. "I have no idea who liked that."

She said that she never intended to promote any violence and that she didn’t recall any conversations with lawmakers or White House officials about the possibility for the pro-Trump protests to turn violent.

"I only believe in peaceful demonstration," Greene said. "I do not support violence."

Greene also testified that she believes President Joe Biden lost the election to Trump.

"We saw a tremendous amount of voter fraud," Greene said, repeating a debunked claim that she strident rhetoric in the run-up to January 6 that urged people to oppose the peaceful transition of power and to have a "1776 moment."

"This was not the type of insurrection where the leaders were standing in Richmond, Virginia, giving long-winded speeches to justify the name," said Ron Fein, a lawyer for the challengers, form the legal advocacy group Free Speech For People. "Rather the leaders of this insurrection, of whom there were a number, were among us on Facebook, on Twitter, on corners of social media that would make your stomach hurt. The evidence will show that Greene walked in to a rousing applause and cheers from the crowd assembled in the courtroom. A court security official quickly chastised the room and said outbursts would not be tolerated.

The case revolves around a Civil War-era provision of the Fourteenth Amendment, which says any American official who takes an oath to uphold the Constitution is disqualified from holding any future office if they “engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the same, or given aid or comfort to the enemies thereof.” But how this applies to today is a hotly debated legal question.

Lawyers for the challengers argued Greene “helped facilitate violent resistance” against the US government, and said they will use her own words against her, such as her strident rhetoric in the run-up to January 6 that urged people to oppose the peaceful transition of power and to have a “1776 moment.”

"Our democracy is at stake. It must not be. It must be the vote of the people," Celli's question Friday. "I have no idea who liked that."

Several of Greene’s constituents in her northwest Georgia district initiated the challenge last month with backing from a coalition of liberal activists and constitutional scholars. They claim Greene aided the insurrection by promoting voter fraud myths, posting videos before January 6 railing against the peaceful transfer of power, and allegedly coordinating with protest organizers.

"The burden of proof will be on the challengers, to show by a ‘more likely than not’ standard that January 6 was legally an insurrection, and that Greene helped the insurrectionists. State Judge Charles Beaudrot will preside over the administrative hearing and will issue a recommendation to Georgia Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger on whether Greene should be disqualified."

Greene’s lawyer James Bopp Jr., in his opening statements, condemned the proceedings and said that Greene’s constitutional rights were being violated. He also said Greene would be significantly harmed if she is disqualified before the May primary, only to win an appeal later on, after the election was held.

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The outcome of this case will reverberate beyond Georgia, because similar challenges are pending against other Republican officials and could be lodged against former President Donald Trump if he runs again in 2024.

The firebrand GOP lawmaker is in the courtroom with one of her close congressional allies, Republican Rep. Matt Gaetz of Florida, who is sitting with her legal team.

Greene can appeal Raffensperger’s decision in state courts. She has vehemently denied any wrongdoing regarding the insurrection at the US Capitol, maintains that she “never encouraged political violence” and says she wasn’t involved in planning any protests. Her lawyer told CNN that he thinks Friday’s hearing is a “show trial” and that the entire procedure is an egregious violation of her rights.

It’s notable that the disqualification hearing is even happening. Greene filed a federal lawsuit to shut down the state process — which is how GOP Rep. Madison Cawthorn fended off a similar candidacy challenge in North Carolina. But in a blistering 75-page ruling on Monday, a federal judge rejected many of Greene’s legal arguments and allowed the state case to move forward.

The anti-Greene challenge is backed by Free Speech for People, a legal advocacy group, and Our Revolution, the left-wing group founded by Sen. Bernie Sanders. Greene, who has become infamous for peddling far-right conspiracies, has found support from some conservative legal experts and from Trump himself, who released a lie-filled statement praising her on Thursday.
Apple will now sell you parts to fix your own iPhone

BY CNN BUSINESS

(CNN) — Apple has officially opened its self service repair store, which provides manuals and parts for users seeking do-it-yourself fixes for their iPhones.

The online shop offers more than 200 individual parts and tools, such as iPhone screws, cameras, batteries, displays, SIM card trays and more, allowing customers and third-party fixit companies access to genuine Apple components for the first time. Previously, Apple users had to rely on the company’s in-house repair service or authorized repair outposts to fix devices.

The components for sale are specific to iPhone 12, iPhone 13 and iPhone SE (3rd generation) smartphones. For now, the store is only available for customers in the United States but the company said it will expand to additional countries later this year. It also has plans to add manuals, parts, and tools to perform repairs on some Mac computers, by the end of the year.

The launch of the store on Wednesday comes after advocates for the “right to repair” movement long pressured lawmakers and tech companies to give consumers the option to fix gadgets themselves. In July, President Joe Biden passed an executive order directing the Federal Trade Commission to issue rules requiring companies to allow DIY repairs. The FTC then unanimously voted to ramp up law enforcement against repair restrictions.

FTC Chair Lina Khan said in a statement at the time that the restrictions “can significantly raise costs for consumers, stifle innovation, close off business opportunity for independent repair shops, create unnecessary electronic waste, delay timely repairs, and undermine resiliency.”

FTC then unanimously voted to ramp up law enforcement against repair restrictions.

BY MICHAEL WARREN, PAUL LEBLANC

CNN

(CNN) -- Georgia Gov. Brian Kemp and former Sen. David Perdue clashed over the results of the 2020 election during the state's GOP governor's debate Sunday night, blaming each other for Democratic gains in the last election cycle.

It marked the first primary debate between Perdue, whose most prominent supporter is former President Donald Trump, and Kemp, who the former President says betrayed him for refusing to help him overturn his defeat in 2020 and whom he has set out to dethrone.

While there is no evidence of widespread voter fraud in any state during the 2020 election, Perdue returned to the subject -- a central theme of his campaign -- several times throughout the hourlong debate and argued that Kemp did not do enough to challenge the state’s election results.

Perdue was defeated by Democrat Jon Ossoff in Georgia's Senate election, and Democrat Rev. Raphael Warnock won the special election for the state's other Senate seat, giving Democrats a majority in the chamber. Their wins in the January 2021 runoffs, paired with President Joe Biden's victory over Trump in the Peach State, made Georgia central to Republican efforts to challenge the election.

Trump has endorsed and vigorously supported Perdue in an attempt to get back at Kemp for refusing to help him overturn his defeat in 2020. Kemp said in response to Perdue's line of attack Sunday that he had no authority to challenge the election results, and he took repeated shots at Perdue's loss to Ossoff. "I was secretary of state for eight years, and I don't need to be lectured by someone who lost his last election," he said.

The Georgia governor also defended himself as best positioned to defeat Democrat Stacey Abrams in November, promising to make sure she is "never your governor and your next president."

"There's only person who's beaten Stacey Abrams, and that's me," Kemp said, referring to his first campaign for governor in 2018 when he narrowly defeated Abrams. But Perdue remained focused on relitigating Kemp's handling of the 2020 election.

"The only reason I'm not in the United States Senate is because you caved in and gave the elections to Stacey and to the liberal Democrats in 2020," he said.

Perdue accused Kemp of passing the blame onto others and said that made him a "weak" leader. Kemp immediately returned the attack.

"Weak leaders blame everybody else for their own losses instead of blaming themselves," he said.

Speaking to CNN following the debate, Perdue said he exposed a "weak governor." Kemp, meanwhile, declined to answer CNN's questions as he left the debate site at WSB-TV's studio in midtown Atlanta.
State Farm Arena becomes world’s first entertainment venue to earn TRUE Certification for zero waste

BY STAFF REPORT

Mondays morning, Green Business Certification Inc. (GBCI), the world’s leading sustainability and health certification and credentialing body, announced that State Farm Arena, home of the NBA’s Atlanta Hawks, and an award-winning sports and live entertainment venue, earned TRUE (Total Resource Use and Efficiency) Platinum certification. With this achievement, State Farm Arena is now the only and world’s first sports and live entertainment venue in the world to receive TRUE certification. When beginning this journey in 2019, State Farm Arena diverted only an average of 10 percent of total waste. Since May 2021, the venue has consistently diverted a minimum of 90 percent of fan-generated waste from landfills.

According to the GBCI, buildings can earn four levels of TRUE certification: Certified (31-37 points), Silver (38-45 points), Gold (46-63 points) and Platinum (64-81 points). State Farm Arena received the Platinum designation, the highest of four classifications of green buildings. In achieving TRUE Platinum, the venue earned near the maximum number of points from a variety of categories including: redesign, reduce, reuse, compost (re-earth), recycle, zero waste reporting, diversion (min. 90%), zero waste purchasing, leadership, training, zero waste analysis, upstream management, hazardous waste prevention, closed loop system and innovation.

“We are honored to receive TRUE Platinum certification from GBCI as we continue to set the standard as a global leader in the sports and entertainment industry,” said Brett Stefansson, Hawks’ EVP and General Manager of State Farm Arena.

A few of the highlights that led to State Farm Arena’s TRUE Platinum certification was diverting a minimum of 90% of all waste from landfills and incineration during the 2021-22 NBA Season. Lastly, the Hawks and venue worked closely with one of their proud sustainability partners, Novelis, the world leader in aluminum rolling and recycling, who provided guidance and operational knowledge to organize, sort and recycle aluminum and other materials.

“By pursuing zero waste, State Farm Arena and the Atlanta Hawks recognize the positive impacts of reducing the amount of waste that goes to landfills helping us build a sustainable future,” said Peter Templeton, President and CEO of U.S. Green Building Council and GBCI. “Waste impacts all facets of business and changing the way that we use resources will deliver public health benefits, reduce our environmental impact and advance a greener economy. Sports leagues and teams reach large audiences and have the power to expose everyday audiences to sustainability strategies like zero waste.”

Throughout this milestone accomplishment, the Hawks and State Farm Arena were assisted by local vendors such as CompostNow, who provides commercial composting solutions, and Novelis’ Glass Recycling, which provides glass recycling services. Venue partners such as Levy Restaurants, the official venue’s food and beverage partner, helped in the supply chain process, and Pritchard Sports & Entertainment, the venue’s official housekeeping partner, also assisted operationally with the collection and sorting of all materials. Other businesses who were integral in the effort include Habitat for Humanity Restore, Salvation Army, WestRock, Waste Management, SA Recycling, Lighting Resources LLC and Rubicon Global.

“Accomplishing this was only possible with an entire team effort,” said Geoffrey Stiles, Hawks’ Senior Vice President of Facilities and Events for State Farm Arena. “When we began our zero waste journey, we knew that the vision would take buy-in from everybody – our fans, partners and staff – night after night and event after event to make this happen. We are incredibly grateful to share this monumental achievement with them.”

Local organizations such as the Center for Hard to Recycle Materials (CHARM) aided in creating various recycling solutions for State Farm Arena. In addition, the venue activated dozens of volunteers throughout the season, such as teachers from Atlanta Public Schools, employees from State Farm and students from University of Georgia’s Department of Sustainability, who joined at various events as zero waste volunteers. In their roles, they aided guests at the venue in the process of properly sorting materials to reduce contamination.

“As a community asset, we know how important it is for us to practice what we preach when it comes to being a good corporate citizen,” said Sofi Armenakian, Director of Sustainability and Operations for the Hawks and State Farm Arena. “While this is a great accomplishment, we believe this is just the beginning of a forever journey. We know fans, artists and staff want to come to a venue that’s making a difference in the world and practicing sustainability at a high level.”

The Hawks and State Farm Arena continue to lead the way in sustainable practices for sports and live event venues. In Feb. 2022, State Farm Arena teamed up with Billie Eilish and Live Nation to produce the first zero-waste sold-out event on Billie Eilish’s “Happier Than Ever, The World Tour”. In Jan. 2022, State Farm Arena announced that it diverted more than one million pounds of waste from landfills. In Nov. 2021, Novels became the official aluminum recycling and proud sustainability partner on State Farm Arena. In June 2021, Green Business Certification Inc. (GBCI), the world’s leading sustainability and health certification and credentialing body, announced that Game 4 of the Atlanta Hawks’ first-round playoff series last May against the New York Knicks earned TRUE Silver certification, marking the first time a sporting event has received the designation. The game was sold out with 16,458 fans in attendance. In June 2019, the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) announced State Farm Arena, received the LEED Gold certification. At the time, then-USGBC and GBCI President and CEO Mahesh Ramanujam presented Hawks and State Farm Arena CEO Steve Koonin with the designation plaque during the Greenbuild Atlanta Cultivation event at the venue.
ON-THE-GO!

Arts & Entertainment Calendar

(Events may change without notice. Promoters are requiring health checks in order to attend. Check with the venue or Ticketmaster or Live Nation for updates. Health Check requires proof of vaccination or recent COVID test. See the full schedule at The Atlanta Voice. com)

PERFORMANCES

Jack White - April 26-28, 7 p.m. Tabernacle, Atlanta.

Universal Circus - now until May 22. Old grey lot, Georgia State Tabernacle, Atlanta. (Events may change without notice.


Itzak Perlman with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra - May 20, 7 p.m. Atlanta Symphony Hall, Atlanta.

Will Downing (Wade Ford Concert Series) - May 21, 7:30 p.m. 2002 Lakewood Way, Atlanta.

Lalah Hathaway - May 28, 7 p.m. Mable House Amphitheater, 5239 Floyd Rd., Mableton. 770-819-7765.

Kid Rock/Grand Funk Railroad - June 15, 7 p.m. Lakewood Amphitheater, Atlanta.

NOTHING BUT SOUL TOUR

- July 1, 7 p.m. Mable House Amphitheater, 5239 Floyd Rd., Mableton. 770-819-7765.

- July 2, 7 p.m. Mable House Amphitheater, 5239 Floyd Rd., Mableton. 770-819-7765.

- July 7, 7:30 p.m. State Farm Arena, 1 State Farm Drive, Atlanta. Statefarmarena.com. Ticketmaster.com.

Boney James - July 2, 7 p.m. Mable House Amphitheater, 5239 Floyd Rd., Mableton. 770-819-7765.

Brian McKnight - July 9, 7 p.m. Mable House Amphitheater, 5239 Floyd Rd., Mableton. 770-819-7765.

Avant - July 16, 7 p.m. Mable House Amphitheater, 5239 Floyd Rd., Mableton. 770-819-7765.

Jeffery Osborne - July 30, 7 p.m. Mable House Amphitheater, 5239 Floyd Rd., Mableton. 770-819-7765.

See the FULL SCHEDULE at https://theatlantavoice.com

www.theatlantavoice.com

THE ATLANTA VOICE

April 29 - May 5, 2022

13
Trust, a blessing to have a curse to lose

S

ometimes words alone cannot convey meaning and feelings the way we’d like them to. Trust for example. I know I’ve talked about this before so please humor me.

The reference point for my meaning today is “Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all things acknowledge Him and He will make your paths straight.” (Proverbs 3:5-6)

Trust is such a complex thing. Have you ever been betrayed by someone in whom you had total trust? Have you been able to totally trust another person since?

See how easy misplaced trust puts you in a terribly vulnerable place. It’s uncomfortable. It’s abnormal. It ain’t fun. Yet, in this passage we are instructed to put our trust in the Lord. The question is can you do it?

Are you able to put trust in your heart after you experience devastating betrayal? And we’ve all been betrayed in one way or another; either by having our beliefs proven false or maybe your heart has been broken.

Everyone knows someone who has been crippled by a lover or spouse gone crazy, or watched someone stumble up on the truth about a situation that everybody but them knew the real deal. In the real world that kind of stuff hurts.

In a real sense, once destroyed, trust don’t come round here anymore. But now, wait a minute. Go out and trust in the Lord implicitly. You get my meaning? Extreme caution usually follows crippling betrayal.

New relationships are founded largely on mistrust and ‘prove it to me;’ not, blind faith and unconditional trust. Life teaches us that only a fool would allow themselves to be misused again. Therein lies my question about trust and what it means to you. Can you deal with this concept everyday?

How much of a struggle are you having trying to trust people who have taught you not to give them the time of day?

Do you treat all people this way or just the one(s) who betrayed you? Can you forgive? Can you ever forget? Do you really want to?

And what does all of this have to do with God? How are you treating Him in the trust area? “Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful.” (1 Corinthians 4:2)

Now exactly, who’s proving what to whom? Are you requiring God to prove something to you before you trust Him? Are you demanding from God those same things you demand from someone, anyone before you would even consider giving him or her your love?

You see it is so easy to succumb to a lifestyle which requires proof before love is given. It’s so easy to demand the impossible from people who are incapable of giving it to you.

But how can you base your relationships with God on worldly principles grounded in betrayal and disappointment? Are you requiring God to prove His love to you before you give yours to Him?

The key to this trust thing lies deep within each and every one of us. We first have to confront those demons which have plagued us for years. And yes, that means all the pain that goes with them.

Then and only then can we begin to even accept the concept of trust and loyalty, total and without equivocation. Because then trust means knowing.

Trust means truth. Trust means no matter what, I know that regardless of conditions and circumstances, I am God’s child, made in His image and the recipient of His love.

May God bless and keep you always.

BY JAMES A. WASHINGTON
The Atlanta Voice

Robert Smith

Black Men and Depression

BY AKILAH WISE

Depression among Black men is an oft-unspoken pain that deeply affects the health and quality of life of Black people. In fact, the most current review of evidence on Black men and depression suggests a prevalence of five percent to 10 percent. This figure may be much larger, as depression is commonly underdiagnosed. Even more, the failure to address the roots of Black male depression is undermining our communities and keeping us blind to the deep harm of historical and structural racism.

Depressive moods and major depressive disorders are defined as the presence of a low mood, sadness, and reluctance to engage in activities for long periods of time. These symptoms often build upon one another, which makes life even more difficult. The physical and mental problems from depression can seep into all areas of life, including home, work, friends, family, and community.

The sociological risk factors for depression are well-known—income, poverty, employment, child-

hood trauma—but for Black men and women, these factors are rooted in the greater lived experience of being Black in the United States. “A lot of our [Black people’s] depression comes from our situation as a people,” says Eric Bridges, Ph.D., professor of psychology at Clayton State University, who studies depression among Black men.

Black people living in the United States are subject to greater levels of factors that drive depression, such as poverty and violence. According to 2014 U.S. Census Bureau data, the poverty rate for Black men ages 18 to 64 years old was 21 percent. Furthermore, Black youth are exposed to poverty and violence that sow the seeds for anxiety, depression, and post-traumatic stress disorder in later life.

According to the United States Census Bureau American Community Survey, 38 percent of Black children in the U.S. live in poverty, compared to 22 percent of all U.S. children. While U.S. children are exposed to high levels of violence, the rates of victimization and exposure to violence for Black children are exceedingly high. Black children are twice as likely to be sexually abused as white children.

In addition to trauma, Black men deal with a constellation of racism-related stresses, like discrimination, stereotypes, mass incarceration, and police brutality. These stressors degrade their emotional and mental well-being to various degrees. When paired with social norms and ideals about masculinity that require men to remain “strong,” dealing with this harsh reality raises the risk of depression.

Symptoms of depression that are commonly found in men include sleeping too much or too little, loss of focus, anger, substance abuse, sexual dysfunction, physical pain and suicidal thoughts.

These symptoms can be damaging to families and communities. The inability to process anger can lead to family dysfunction and contribute to intimate partner violence. Calling out these behaviors as symptoms of depression can be complicated, due to the power or privilege straight cisgender men hold over women, who are likely to be impacted by such behaviors. Such symptoms, like anger and substance abuse, are normalized behaviors for men. Naming these violent behaviors because of mental health concerns does not absolve men who engage in these behaviors of their responsibility or individual culpability, but provides a macro-level contextual picture of the various ways mental health issues can manifest.

Many Black men may hold on to masculine ideals to fight against emotional distress. For example, many Black men believe that gaining financial success, a masculine ideal, will relieve them of oppression. But that isn’t the case. Structural racism in the form of residential segregation, labor market discrimination, a lifetime of negative stereotyping and oversimplified portrayal of Black men’s economic opportunities.

In this country, Black people have been stripped of their humanity, including the right to express the full range of human emotions. Historically, the enslaved were violently deterred from expressing emotional distress or mental illness. We must recognize that the dominant ideals of manhood that tell Black men not to be vulnerable are rooted in white patriarchal and oppression. Swallowing the pain of being dehumanized contributes to depression.

This post was originally published on St. Louis American.

Akilah Wise is a public health researcher and journalist who covers public health, medicine, and inequity. She was a research fellow at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

HEALTH

Black Men and Depression

BY AKILAH WISE

Depression among Black men is an oft-unspoken pain that deeply affects the health and quality of life of Black people. In fact, the most current review of evidence on Black men and depression suggests a prevalence of five percent to 10 percent. This figure may be much larger, as depression is commonly underdiagnosed. Even more, the failure to address the roots of Black male depression is undermining our communities and keeping us blind to the deep harm of historical and structural racism.

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hood trauma—but for Black men and women, these factors are root-
2022 Jaguar F-Type R

FRANK S. WASHINGTON

DETROIT – The F-Type is powered by a 5.0 liter supercharged V8 that makes 575 horsepower and 516 pound-feet of torque. It was mated to an eight-speed automatic transmission with paddle shifters.

The slightest depression of the gas pedal and the F-Type was like driving a bullet.

Starting with the 2016 model year, the Jaguar F-TYPE will come with the best warranty and longest scheduled maintenance package of any luxury sports car in the market.

Jaguar has made all sorts of incremental changes to the F-Type to keep it out in front of its competition.

• Jaguar ramps up F-TYPE value advantage by increasing standard equipment and features by $3,550 for F-TYPE to $11,850 for F-TYPE R models
• Starting with the 2016 Model Year, the Jaguar F-TYPE will come with the best warranty and longest scheduled maintenance package

The lineup will offer added technology such as All-Wheel Drive, more model choices including a manual transmission, enhanced standard equipment and the best warranty and longest complimentary scheduled maintenance package of any luxury sports car in the market with five-years or 60,000 mile coverage.

The F-Type was like driving a bullet.
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