

## NEWS/EDITORIAL

*TSU Students Return to Campus, cont'd.*

Boudal is a junior international business major on the volleyball team, while Moinet, also a junior majoring in exercise science and kinesiology, plays tennis for the Tigers. The students say although they miss their families and friends back home, their experiences at TSU make them anxious to come back.

"I am excited to come back because I get to keep all of my classes, finish my major, and get to prepare for our next season," says Boudal, who is from Cannes. "It's been a

tough time ...missing family and friends, but coming back gives me more time to work out and practice with my teammates."

Adds Moinet, "I am very glad to come back. It might sound kind of childish, but I met some friends here that I have missed, and I get to see them again. It is a whole new experience living in the United State and coming to TSU. I just enjoy everything about it." Moinet is from Guadeloupe, France.

Frank Stevenson, associate vice president for student affairs

and dean of students, says students are going the extra mile to adhere to the university's safety measures.

"We feel good about how we will manage this spring semester, especially as it related to our COVID protocols," says Stevenson. "Our students have done a great job of following rules and regulations from fall 2021 and I am hopeful it will continue."

Excitement about campus living is expected to continue next fall when TSU opens its new 700-bed ultra-modern residence hall on

the main campus. The building, estimated at \$75.3 million and the first new residence hall on the campus in nearly 25 years, will house lower and upperclassmen. It is described as a mixed community living facility that will offer multiple upscale living, dining, recreational and leisure concepts.

*Senator Lindsey Graham's Praise of Judge Childs, cont'd.*

Childs is among the contenders under consideration to fill the vacancy that will be left on the Supreme Court by Breyer, who announced last week that he will retire from the high court at the end of its term this summer if a successor has been confirmed by the Senate.

Childs, 55, was set to appear before the Senate Judiciary Committee this week for a hearing on her nomination to the federal appeals court in Washington. But the confirmation hearing was postponed due to Mr. Biden's consideration of her for the Supreme Court.

Childs has served on the federal bench since 2010 and was a state trial court judge on the South Carolina Circuit Court. She also worked as a commissioner of the state's Workers Compensation Commission.

In addition to lauding Childs' judicial experience, Graham said she would bring educational diversity to the nation's highest court as a graduate of the University of South Carolina School of Law. Eight of the nine current Supreme Court members graduated from either Harvard or Yale law schools,

and Justice Amy Coney Barrett graduated from Notre Dame Law School.

"I'd like to see the court have a little more balance, some common sense on it, Graham said. "Everybody doesn't have to be from Harvard or Yale. It's OK to go to a public university and get your law degree."

Childs has in her corner a powerful supporter in Democratic Congressman Jim Clyburn of South Carolina, whose endorsement of Mr. Biden in 2020 was crucial to him winning the state's Democratic presidential primary. Clyburn also was key in securing the promise from the president during the campaign to nominate the first Black woman to the Supreme Court should a vacancy arise. Mr. Biden has said he will follow through on that pledge now that Breyer's retirement opens a seat.

Clyburn told "Face the Nation" that he spoke with Mr. Biden about Childs several months ago, but has not done so recently. The nomination of a Black woman to the nation's highest court, he said, would demonstrate that Ameri-

ca's greatness is "accessible and affordable for all."

"It says to every little child up there growing up under moderate circumstances, needing the entire community to help raise it, getting scholarships to go up to school because she couldn't afford to go otherwise, going to public schools because you didn't get an offer from one of the big private schools — it says to them, you've got just as much of a chance to benefit from the greatness of this country as everybody else," he said.

Transcript: Congressman Jim Clyburn on "Face the Nation"

Some Republicans, though, have criticized Mr. Biden for committing to selecting a Black woman for the Supreme Court before he was elected. GOP Senator Roger Wicker of Mississippi said the nominee would be a "beneficiary" of affirmative action, while former South Carolina Governor

Nikki Haley claimed the president was imposing a "race/gender litmus test."

Graham, though, rebuffed his fellow Republicans and said he supports "making sure the court and other institutions look like America."

"Let's make the court more like America, but qualifications have to be the biggest consideration, and as to Michelle Childs, I think she's qualified by every measure," he said.

In addition to Childs, Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, and California Supreme Court Justice Leandra Kruger have been among the names floated for the Supreme Court.

Mr. Biden said last week he would announce his pick before the end of February, just ahead of his March 1 State of the Union address.

*Commentary:  
No Matter the Vote,  
We Can't Wait*

By Dr. John E. Warren,  
Publisher,  
The San Diego  
Voice &  
Viewpoint

By the time most of us read this, the U n i t e d

States Senate would have taken a vote on the Voting Rights Legislation that has been delayed for so long. While passage of the Voting Rights Act and the John Lewis Act would go a long way in nullifying the many Voter Suppression laws enacted during the past year in more than 28 states, we must all realize that this battle for the right to vote now rests with each and every-

one of us.

We must now understand that the issue is not one of whether we will have a democracy. The real issue is will we become a nation of racists fighting to kill the continuation of a representative government that some of us think of as a democracy, or will we allow our future to rest with two individual members of the Senate? Will we allow citizenship suppression to become the symbol of democracy for those who truly believe that only a select few are to be counted in the limited and non-inclusive government that tramples on the rights of people of color and marginalized citizens.

Because the attack on voting rights is so aggressive and uniform, those of us in favor and support of voting rights legislation must act now and take this cause

*O'Ree, cont'd.*

relentless bigotry, racism, discrimination and even violence from fans and players, both on and off the ice," said Rep. Ayanna Pressley (D-Mass.), one of the main sponsors of the House version of the bill and whose district includes Boston. And despite it all, Willie embodied resilience, grace, dignity, and never gave up on the determination to live out his dream," Pressley said.

Of course the Black hockey tradition is often either ignored or unknown. But the Coloured Hockey League in Canada was founded in Nova Scotia in 1895 by a group of Black intellectuals and religious leaders. It operated until 1930, with teams in seven communities in Nova Scotia and one other in Prince Edward Island. The National Hockey League didn't begin until 1917.

But until O'Ree entered the league, it was all-white. After his departure the NHL didn't have another Black player until Mike Marson was drafted by the Washington Capitals in 1974. Art Dorington signed a contract with the New York Rangers in 1950, but never got the chance to play in the NHL.

Today there are 20 Black Canadians in the league, and six African-Americans. Though the NHL is 97 percent white, it continues diversity efforts in many of its cities. They can thank Willie O'Ree for his role in initially making an impact on the ice, and continuing today to create an environment where other Blacks will embrace the sport, enjoy it as fans and have a chance to excel as players.

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DeVan Curry is the founder and current director of ANCUR, Inc. He graduated from the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga earning dual Bachelor of Science degrees in both Biology and Psychology. DeVan then advanced to Georgia State University earning his M.S. in Urban Policy Studies - Policy Analysis and Evaluation from the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies in Atlanta, GA. Some of his accomplishments include:

- Developing Disaster Preparedness training, policy, and exercises for U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
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