

The AC  
**Phoenix**  
*More Than a Newspaper. A Community Institution.*

**An Associate Consultant's  
 Newspaper  
 Established in 1983**

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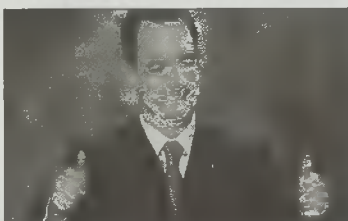
**On HBCUs, Republican  
 Party Can't Serve Two  
 Masters**



J. L. Carter Sr.

Republican National Committee Chairman Reince Priebus toured Central State University last week, supporting the launch of a Young Republicans chapter on the historically Black campus in the critical swing state of Ohio. His appearance led a second-straight week of conservative-planted headlines involving HBCUs, with last week's story highlighting remarks made by a Morehouse College Republican, as delivered by alumnus former presidential candidate Herman Cain.

It is an ideal time for Republicans to get the word out on their party on HBCU campuses nationwide. Students should be looking for political alternatives to the



Reince Priebus

Democratic administration that decimated HBCUs and derailed thousands of dreams with covert changes to the Pell grant and PLUS loan college financing programs, and forced the state of Maryland into a federal court defeat over irreparable harm to public HBCUs through program duplication - the first blue state so defeated in a long history of litigation against separate-but-equal system of public higher education.

RNC leadership, HBCU students and political observers know what time it is for the Grand Ole Party; for its survival, the party has to get younger, browner, and less incendiary on matters of race and class. But the RNC faces a unique challenge in the coming months of road trips and rap sessions with young Black voters.

How does the RNC expect to turn its victims into its advocates?

It is beyond disingenuous for Priebus, Cain or others to court HBCU students for a party with member who systemically attack HBCUs through cutting state appropriations and dismantling HBCU appeal and effectiveness. For every Young Republican Chapter the RNC can activate, there are thousands of HBCU students and alumni who cringe at the mention of party sentinels Robert Jindal, Robert Bentley, Rick Scott, Rick Perry and Pat McCrory.

These names aren't the welcoming committee for the Republican party; they are the faces of denied opportunity, covert racist agendas, and the rich, white male privilege that created HBCUs and forced their evolution into schools designed to chip away at such privilege.

For students dialed in on the socio-political HBCU landscape, the dissonance of supporting a party which has marginalized public HBCUs to the brink of extinction

has to be a difficult proposition. On the one hand, it is respectable for students to admire a party that values faith, fiscal conservatism and limits on the government's role in citizens' rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

On the other, there must be a sickening feeling to know that education, the core of these inalienable rights, has to be obtained through assimilation into predominantly white institutions, and limited to the best and the brightest Black students and few others.

If Republicans want to make significant inroads with historically Black colleges and their students, their first order of business should be to reel in their governors and state legislators on their criminal neglect of HBCUs. Any real conversation must begin with ways to reverse underfunding, outdated facilities and dwindling financial aid to HBCU students.

And then, conversation has to become action. Fast. The RNC can't afford to hold dear to the ideals of racial animosity and accompanying isolation of resources held by many of its members, if it hopes to recruit new members of different hue and ethnic loyalty.

HBCUs and Black America at large could benefit from increasing number of Black folks in the conservative ranks. If a generation of activists can emerge from HBCUs and into the Republican party with the values of protecting and advancing Black communities and institutions, then we all should be open to the possibilities. But the party as currently constructed hasn't earned the privilege of our students' attention or consideration.

And until the RNC and its governors and state legislators prove a new philosophy and respect for Black colleges and Black people, they should continue to be at the periphery of our interest and our vote.

**Yo!, No Low  
 Riders, Allowed!**

**FACTS:**  
 Young men were molested by older and stronger inmates.

They became suicidal because of what happened to them.

Prison officials took away their belts to prevent them from hanging.

That ended up being a symbol that the young man was actually someone's **GIRLFRIEND!**

This style began in PRISON!

**SAGGERS**



This is not cool! It's a disgrace!  
 Sagging is "Not Cool!"  
 It is unacceptable  
 to girls,  
 women and ladies!

**NC Senate Removes  
 Elizabeth City State  
 Closure From Budget  
 Proposal**

By Staff Reports

One day after drawing national attention for a budget proposal calling for the closure of historically Black Elizabeth City State University, legislators in the North Carolina Senate have removed the provision from their version of the proposal.

Outcry from students, executives, Black legislators and HBCU alumni in North Carolina and beyond flooded social media and regional news outlets last night, following the release of details of the Senate's proposed budget structure. The proposal, a \$21 billion package that included raises for teachers, sought to dissolve institutions which has enrollment decreases of more than 20 percent in the last three academic years; a clause specifically targeting Elizabeth City State. From WITN:

Senator Bill Cook, whose district covers Elizabeth City, said late Friday that he has filed an amendment to do away with the study.

"ECSU has had its fair share of problems in the past few years, but I do not think this study is the best way to begin addressing them," Cook said. "I have prepared an amendment and after my discussion with Senate leadership they have agreed to support the elimination of the provision completely from the budget."

"We are grateful that the proposed budget provision has been removed from the Senate budget bill. We are grateful to Senators Cook, Berger, Davis and Apodaca for their efforts. ECSU is grateful for the broad-based support received for Representative Steinberg, Mayor Peel and other Elizabeth City area community leaders, our constituents and all who showed their support. ECSU will continue on its plan to right-size and increase enrollment," said Chancellor Charles Becton.

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