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The Carolina Times

THE TRUTH UNBRIDLED

VOLUME 97 - NUMBER 39

DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA - SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2018

TELEPHONE (919) 682-2913

PRICE: 50 CENTS

Wisconsin Democrat Says Trump Wants to Create A 'Superior Race'

By Scott Bauer

MADISON, Wis. (AP) - The Democratic candidate for lieutenant governor in Wisconsin suggested in a podcast interview that President Donald Trump's administration wants to create a "superior race."

The Wisconsin Republican Party said the candidate, Mandela Barnes, was comparing Trump to Nazis, an accusation Barnes strongly rejected Sept. 21.

Barnes, running mate to Democratic gubernatorial candidate Tony Evers, made the comment on the Millennial Politics podcast posted online Sept. 20. Barnes, a former state representative who is African-American, has been outspoken against Trump. At a candidate forum last week, Barnes said he wasn't interested in people who voted for Barack Obama and then switched to Trump, if they

still support the president.

On the podcast, interviewer Jordan Valerie quizzed Barnes about the Trump administration's decision not to ask a question on the 2020 Census about a person's sexual orientation, but to inquire about their citizenship status.

"The Trump administration has shown that they have this over-willingness to make people feel less than human," Barnes said.

"This is another way. It speaks to the same way they treat people at the border. It speaks to the whole concept of building a wall. It's like a race to create a superior race in many aspects."

Wisconsin Republican Party spokesman Alec Zimmerman accused Barnes of comparing Trump to Nazis, an allegation Barnes called "grossly absurd and offensive."

"My point was and remains that the policies of the Trump administration have often been actively hostile towards minorities and have moved us backwards on the issues of race relations," Barnes said in a statement Sept. 21. "With the type of divisive policies coming from Washington, states will have to work to ensure we treat everyone with respect and dignity. Our culture of acceptance is what makes Wisconsin special."

But Zimmerman, the Republican Party spokesman, said Barnes was "unhinged" and showing a "disregard for a majority of voters in Wisconsin."

Trump won Wisconsin by less than 23,000 votes in 2016. Democrats have been trying not to alienate independent voters who supported him, but who may now be disgruntled and would consider voting for Democrats this year.

The race for governor between Evers and Gov. Scott Walker is expected to be close, with independent voters most likely the ones who will determine the outcome. A Marquette University Law School poll out this week showed Evers up by 5 points, just beyond the survey's 4.4-point margin of error.

In the podcast interview, after suggesting the Trump administration was in "a race to create a superior race," Barnes said, "It can seem very extreme, but that is the direction we're headed. We have to do everything we that we can to stop it. I think a lot of that starts at the state level. State level resistance is necessary."

Valerie, the interviewer, complimented Barnes for his comment, saying, "I'm really glad to hear you say this is about, essentially about ethnic cleansing. We don't see politicians willing to admit that very often."

Barnes continued, "That's the thing. It doesn't just happen right away, right? These things just aren't so apparent, there's a buildup over time and you get to that place and the next thing you know we become the kind of state that we would be compelled to go to war with."



Former First Lady Michelle Obama is among celebrities calling on of citizens to register and vote. Register to vote and volunteer at www.whenweallvote.org. (Photo: Screen capture/YouTube)

Michelle Obama Co-Chairs 'When We All Vote'

New Ad Campaign Announces 2,000 Events

By Lauren Victoria Burke

When We All Vote, a non-partisan organization inspiring voter turnout in the run up to Election Day in November, is working on a National Week of Action. Former First Lady Michelle Obama is serving as a co-chair.

"When We All Vote, we get new ideas and new energy. We get leaders that share our values" says Mrs. Obama in a new commercial running on prominent digital platforms and on radio across the U.S.

The commercial will air over the 14 days before voter registration deadlines. On September 20, When We All Vote launched a text message campaign allowing people to text WeAllVote to 97779 for voter registration information.

The 2018 cycle has been propelled by two elements: Dislike of President Donald Trump and a record number of women running for office. According to NBC News, there were 53 female Senate candidates, previous record was 40 in 2016, and 476 female House candidates, with the previous record being 298 in 2012. Among the 476 women who ran for a seat in the U.S. House, about 75 percent were Democrats.

Over 52 percent of Democratic House female candidates won their primary races. There percentage was higher than for Democratic men or Republican women. The 2018 election cycle is expected to be a record one for female candidates. Backlash to Trump's presidency is widely seen as one of the main reasons as his disapprovals climb higher.

When We All Vote is planning a Week of Action in which volunteers will host nearly 2000 events across the U.S. The purpose of the events will be to register voters and recruit volunteers. When We All Vote previously announced that Michelle Obama will headline events during a Week of Action in Las Vegas on Sept. 23 and Miami on Sept. 28.

Along with the former First Lady, other Co-Chairs: Janelle Monae, Chris Paul, Tom Hanks and Faith Hill, will lead flagship events along with Loni Love, Keegan-Michael Key and Shonda Rhimes.

When We All Vote arrives as part of several efforts to spike voter turnout in a crucial "off-year" election at a time when voting numbers have increased dramatically when compared to the previous off-year cycle.

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Register Now To Vote In 2018



Arthur Mitchell, Founder of Dance Theatre of Harlem, Grand Marshal 2018 African American Day Parade (Source: YouTube)

Arthur Mitchell: Ballet Legend And Pioneer Dies at 84

By Nsenga Burton Ph.D., NNPA Newswire Contributor @Ntellectual

The world is mourning the loss of legendary choreographer Arthur Mitchell. Mitchell, who danced with the New York City Ballet from 1956-1968 and founded the groundbreaking and world renown Dance Theater of Harlem died Wednesday of heart failure. Jennifer Dunning of The New York Times writes:

"Mr. Mitchell, the first black ballet dancer to achieve international stardom, was one of the most popular dancers with New York City Ballet, where he danced from 1956 to 1968 and displayed a dazzling presence, superlative artistry and powerful sense of self.

That charisma served him well as the director of Dance Theater of Harlem, the nation's first major black classical company, as it navigated its way through severe financial problems in recent decades and complex aesthetic questions about the relationship of black contemporary dancers to an 18th-century European art form."

Social media tributes have been pouring in for the game changer.

Mitchell attended the School of American Ballet in New York City, eventually joining the City Ballet where he would study with world famous dancer George Balanchine. Mitchell performed with acclaimed dancer Diana Adams in what would be a groundbreaking performance of Agon Pas de Deux, breaking racial barriers in ballet. Mitchell performed with City Ballet in "A Midsummer Night's Dream," for which he is greatly remembered. Mitchell also performed in Balanchine's "Requiem Canticles," which was a tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Following his assassination in 1968. It was this critically-acclaimed performance that inspired him to co-found the Dance Theater of Harlem with mentor Karel Shook in 1969, proving to the world that ballet is for everyone.

Mitchell was 84.