

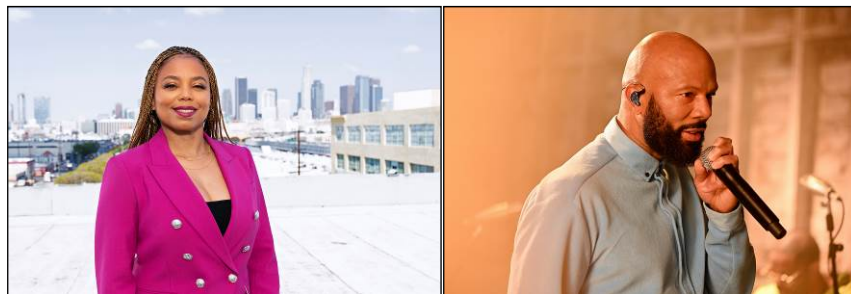
March 26, 2021

ALL-NEW 'SOUL OF A NATION' EXAMINES THE HISTORIC ROLE SPORTS HAVE PLAYED IN AMERICA'S RACIAL RECKONING AND THE SEISMIC SHIFT BLACK ATHLETES ARE PROVOKING TODAY

Journalist Jemele Hill Guest Hosts and Emmy®, GRAMMY® and Oscar® Award-Winning Rapper/Actor Common Debuts First Look From His Upcoming New Album With a Special Performance of 'Get It Right'

ABC News' T.J. Holmes, Sunny Hostin, Kenneth Moton and ESPN's Michael Wilbon Lead the Hour Featuring Interviews With Chris Paul, Carmelo Anthony, Renee Montgomery, UCLA Gymnasts Nia Dennis and Margzetta Frazier and Olympian Dominique Dawes

New Episode of 'Soul of a Nation' Airs Tuesday, March 30 (10:00-11:00 p.m. EDT) on ABC



*Left: Journalist Jemele Hill (ABC/Troy Harvey)**

*Right: Emmy, GRAMMY and Oscar award-winning rapper/actor Common (ABC/Nick Agro)**

Journalist **Jemele Hill** will guest host the all-new episode of "Soul of a Nation" that explores activism in sports. The hour examines the historic role sports have played in America's racial reckoning, and the seismic shift Black athletes are provoking in this current moment. Hill, ABC News' **T.J. Holmes**, **Sunny Hostin**, **Kenneth Moton** and ESPN's **Michael Wilbon** lead the hour, which features interviews with WNBA player **Renee Montgomery**, UCLA gymnasts **Nia Dennis** and **Margzetta Frazier**, decorated Olympian **Dominique Dawes** and NBA players **Chris Paul** and **Carmelo Anthony**. Plus, Emmy, GRAMMY and Oscar award-winning rapper/actor **Common** gives a special first look from his upcoming new album that will be released this spring, "A Beautiful Revolution Pt. 2," with a debut performance of "Get It Right." The new episode of "Soul of a Nation" airs **Tuesday, March 30** (10:00-11:00 p.m. EDT) on **ABC**. Episodes can also be viewed the next day on demand and on [Hulu](https://www.hulu.com).

This episode of "Soul of a Nation" includes the following stories and conversations:

- Wilbon talks to athletes across different sports for a candid discussion about the role and the risk pro athletes have taken to fight for racial justice. He sits down with National Basketball Players Association President **Chris Paul** and **Carmelo Anthony**, both future NBA Hall-of-Famers, and **John Carlos**, whose protest at the 1968 Olympics cost him his Olympic career.

The NFL's **Michael Thomas** also opens up about kneeling in solidarity with Colin Kaepernick during the 2016 season.

- When Black Lives Matter protests came to Atlanta, WNBA champion and former Atlanta Dream player-turned-owner **Renee Montgomery** turned her energy to empowering her community, stepping away from what would have been her 12th season in the league. In a tell-all conversation with Hill, Montgomery talks about the power of protest, the role of Black women in the struggle for racial equality, the WNBA's uniquely unwavering support of its athletes and players across the league supporting Reverend Raphael Warnock in the special Georgia Senate election to replace part-Dream owner and now former Republican Senator Kelly Loeffler who criticized the league for its support of BLM.
- UCLA gymnasts **Nia Dennis** and **Margzetta Frazier** tumbled into viral sensations with their floor routines that celebrated Black excellence. They talk with Moton about how they unapologetically challenged traditional gymnastic norms, navigating their newfound fame, growing up in a white-dominated sport and how they hope to inspire a new group of young athletes. Plus, decorated Olympian **Dominique Dawes**, who paved the way for many Black gymnasts, also weighs in on how Dennis and Frazier are changing the sport.
- Hostin moderates this week's revealing "In the Kitchen" conversation with "Monday Night Football" and NBA reporter and E:60 host **Lisa Salters**, senior NBA writer for The Undeclared **Marc Spears** and ESPN host and college analyst/reporter **Maria Taylor**.
- ESPN's The Undeclared examines the crossover between sports and film and how movies have been used as a tool to make cultural and social statements about Black athletes and the Black community. Through the lens of iconic films such as "He Got Game" and "Remember the Titans," **Deon Cole**, **Mo'ne Davis**, **Wood Harris**, **Janaya Future Khan**, **Soraya McDonald**, **Sylvia Obell**, **Saweetie**, **Tyrod Taylor** and **Justin Tinsley** comment on what these films have taught about race, culture and being a Black athlete in America.
- To close out the show, **Common** performs "Get It Right" publicly for the first time from his upcoming new album, "A Beautiful Revolution Pt. 2," coming this spring.

"Soul of a Nation," the first broadcast network newsmagazine that aims to put Black life in America front and center, will present viewers with a unique window into authentic realities of Black life and dive deeper into this critical moment of racial awakening. It will travel across the country, unpacking issues critical to Black Americans through intimate storytelling, and bridge the past, present and future through a variety of voices and experiences from athletes, entertainers, performers and screenwriters. Each episode will explore a specific theme, including spirituality, Black joy, activism in sports and the racial reckoning that erupted after George Floyd's death, and familiar faces—performers, activists, scholars and clergy—will gather for an entertaining and provocative conversation "in the kitchen" about current events. A special performance featuring some of the nation's greatest musicians or spoken word artists will close out each show.

"Soul of a Nation" is executive produced by Eric Johnson and Robe Imbriano, Chantre Camack serves as executive editorial producer, James Adolphus is series director and Marie Nelson is the series creator and senior vice president of Integrated Content Strategy at ABC News.

"Soul of a Nation" is the latest original programming from ABC News which has a renewed focus on telling diverse stories across the news division. Previous programming includes the No. 1-rated "Juneteenth: A Celebration of Overcoming," three-day division-wide series "Pandemic – A Nation Divided" on the disparity in race and class amid the pandemic, "America in Pain: What Comes Next?"

on the protests and outrage across the country in response to the killing of George Floyd and police brutality and systemic racism against Black Americans, the month-long reporting series “Turning Point” and pre-election special “America’s Future: The Power of the Latino Vote.”

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