

# BLACK HISTORY IN ENTERTAINMENT

THE SKOLOFF & WOLFE DIVERSITY CELEBRATION NEWSLETTER



## ON AND OFF THE FIELD

BY CHANTAL KEENE, LISA MIRANDA,  
AND ANDREW RHEIN

Adama Traoré, The Wolves winger and Spain international, has pledged 1% of his salary through Common Goal's anti-racism project ARP. He joins more than 200 professional players and managers from 45 nationalities on the team. Common Goal is the social impact movement in global football (soccer) launched by Juan Mata of Manchester United and Spain. ARP is the action-based anti-racism program under Common Goal aimed at ending racism in football through comprehensive anti-racism training for club owners, presidents, professional and grassroots coaches, players and fans.

ARP originated in North America and due to its success, Traoré aims to help Common Goal grow the project in Europe.

Traoré said, "If I've learned anything in my career so far, it's that leading with action rather than empty words is what counts in making a difference. I've become part of Common Goal in order to tackle racism through the anti-racist project. It's important to me to use my platform to be part of the solution. I know that my 1% alone isn't going to fix the problem, and my voice alone won't solve systemic racism. But, if I can encourage others to join us in this fight, nothing can stand in the way of the impact we can make together. All too often in football the headlines are stolen by racist actions."

## IN THIS ISSUE

Money moves in  
athletics

Historic gold at Winter  
Olympics

Remembering fashion  
legends

ACT: get started with  
initiatives



## GIRLS IN GOLD

Erin Jackson, representing the United States, has made her mark on history by becoming the first Black woman to win a speedskating medal at the Winter Olympics. The 29-year-old was a former inline and roller derby skater who switched to the ice before the 2018 Pyeongchang Olympics. Erin's road to this year's Olympics wasn't a smooth one as she almost did not make the Olympic team. She joins fellow American, Shani Davis, as the only Black athletes to win long-track speedskating medals at the Olympics. Her gold medal is a beautiful victory and reward for her hard work.

## REMEMBERING ICONS

This year, we had to say farewell to some of the most influential and groundbreaking pioneers in fashion and entertainment, such as Virgil Abloh, André Leon Talley and Sidney Poitier.

Virgil Abloh, 41, was a barrier-breaking Black designer and artistic director of Louis Vuitton men's wear since 2018. He was also the founder of his own brand, Off-White. Virgil not only transformed what consumers wanted to wear, but what brands wanted in a designer, re-defining "fashion". To Virgil, clothes were totems of identity that connected art, music, politics and philosophy together, not just garments. He believed deeply in the power of art to inspire future generations.

*"Your crown has been bought and paid for. Put it on your head and wear it."*

MAYA ANGELOU

André Leon Talley, 73, was a fashion journalist, stylist and the first Black man to become creative director and editor-at large at Vogue magazine. Oftentimes, he was the only Black person in the front row at fashion shows. He was the focus of the 2018 biopic *The Gospel According to André*. In that documentary, André said, "you don't get up and say, 'look, I'm Black and I'm proud,' you just do it, and it impacts the culture." André also wrote about other designers of color. André was also known best for donning capes, robes and kaftans which were custom for him by his famous designer friends such as Tom Ford, Karl Lagerfeld and Valentino.

Sidney Poitier, 94, was the first Black person and Bahamian-American actor to win the Academy Award for Best Actor in 1964. Sidney was best known for his history-making roles in, "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner", "In the Heat of the Night" and "Lilies of the Field". Sidney worked his way up a predominantly white industry and refused to take on stereotypical roles for a Black male actor. Through his career and activism, spanning from the early 1950s-1970s, Sidney redefined America and personified the truth about Black America's quest for equality.



# ACTION!

## *ORDER UP*

Goldbelly is celebrating Black History Month by highlighting Black Chefs and Food Makers such as Chef Marcus Samuelsson frequently known from the Food Network and Chef Carla Hall from “The Chew” talk show to name a few.

## *WATCH AND LEARN*

[CLICK HERE](#) to stream 19 of Sidney Poitier’s movies.

[CLICK HERE](#) to order *The Chiffon Trenches: A Memoir* by André Leon Talley.

[CLICK HERE](#) to check out TikTok historian and activist Khalil Greene.

