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Sports & Entertainment

Black Information Highway.com

Tigers crowned AAC champions for the regular season after take down of UTSA

- The No. 16. Memphis men's basketball team captured its first American Athletic Conference Regular Season Championship after taking down UTSA, 75-70, Tuesday night in San Antonio.

The Tigers earned its first conference crown since 2012-13 after beating every team in The American. They also secured the No. 1 seed in next week's conference tournament in Fort Worth, Texas. A win Friday in the season finale will give them the regular season title outright.

Memphis improved to 25-5 overall and 15-2 in league play, while picking up its 11th true road win of the season. That's the 2nd-highest total in program his-

SAN ANTONIO, March 4, 2025 tory and the most since winning 14 in 1951-52.

> The Tigers were led by senior forward Dain Dainja, with 19 points and eight rebounds. Sophomore guard PJ Haggerty recorded 18 points, six rebounds, and three assists.

> Senior forward Nicholas Jourdain followed with 13 points, going 2-for-2 behind the arc while also adding eight rebounds. Senior guard Colby Rogers was also in double figures with 10 points.

> The Tigers started the game trailing but sparked a 13-1 run to take the lead. Memphis stayed in control for the rest of the half, only letting UTSA within four

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Showboats march into March with 'March to Kickoff' underway on **March 30 opener against Panthers**

Patrick's Day Parade

March 18 - Virtual UFL Rules

Presentation with UFL VP of

March 20 - March Madness

March 21 - March Madness

March 22 - Junior Achieve-

March 26 - Germantown

Chamber of Commerce Busi-

March 29 - Showboats Fan

Fest/Kickoff Celebration at

March 30 - Showboats Home

Opener vs. Michigan Panthers

at Simmons Bank Liberty Sta-

For more info on the Showboats

March to Kickoff Events, follow

the team's official social media

accounts: X - @usflshowboats;

Instagram - @uflshowboats;

YouTube- Memphis Showboats;

Facebook - UFLShowboats; and

Tickets for any of the Show-

TikTok - @UFLShowboats.

Watch Party (location TBA)

Watch Party (location TBA)

ment Spring Bowl-A-Thon

ness After Hours

dium

Ghost River Brewing

Officiating Dean Blandino

MEMPHIS, Tenn. - March 4, 2025 – The Memphis Showboats "March to Kickoff" is under way. While the Showboats' coaches and players have begun training camp, the team's front office will be engaging with the community at over a dozen community appearances in March. Those appearances will be highlighted by participation in celebrations and events throughout Memphis and the Mid South including the annual Germantown Half Marathon on Saturday, March 8, the 52nd annual Silky Sullivan St. Patrick's Day Parade on Saturday, March 15; and a special Season Ticket Member Exclusive Season Kickoff Celebration on Saturday, March 29 at Ghost River Brewing.

Here's the full list of where the Showboats will be this month: The month began on March 1 with the Alpha Omega Veterans Masquerade Ball

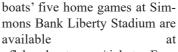
March 7 - Germantown **Chamber of Commerce First** Friday's

March 7 - University of Memphis Men's Basketball vs. USF March 8 - Germantown Half Marathon March 15 - Silky O'Sullivan's

St. Patrick's Day Parade March 17 - Cooper Young St.

Armando Bacot named NBA G League Player of Week for first time

MEMPHIS, Tenn. March 4, point, 20-rebound game in fran-2025 – The NBA G League an- chise history. The 24-year-old nounced that Memphis Hustle forward/center Armando Bacot was named the NBA G League Player of the Week for games played Monday, February 24, through Sunday, March 2.



uflshowboats.com/tickets. Fans can also reach a ticket specialist by calling 901-341-7008 or sending an email to tickets@uflshowboats.com. Single-game and season tickets are available through the above contacts.

Memphis kicks off its 2025 campaign at home, hosting the Michigan Panthers at 11 a.m. CT on Sunday, March 30. The Showboats will be back at Simmons Bank Liberty Stadium for a matchup with the Houston Roughnecks on Saturday, April 12 at 1:30 p.m. CT. The St. Louis Battlehawks invade Memphis on Sunday, May 11 at 2 p.m. The penultimate home game of the season comes on Saturday, May 24, when the Arlington Renegades visit for an 11 a.m. kickoff. The Showboats' home finale will be at 2 p.m. Sunday, June 1 against the defending UFL Champion Birmingham Stallions.

To find out more about the 2025 Memphis Showboats, see the full schedule and purchase tickets, fans can also click on UFLShowboats.com.



come Montgomery Gentry,

Meet some of **BIHMST Sports** Correspondents



William M. Larsha, Jr.



Ashley Braun Gendek

BIHMST Travelers, join correspondents William M. Larsha, Jr. and Ashley Braun Gendek in their sports coverage of University of Memphis Tigers, Memphis Grizzlies, TN Titans, Southern Heritage Classic, FedEx St. Jude Championship, Memphis Showboats, UFL, NFL, Soccer and more on The Mid-South Tribune and the Black Information Highway at blackinformationhighway. com Welcome, Travelers!

PJ Haggerty named one of five finalists for Jerry West Shooting Guard of the Year



Haggerty also leads the conference with 20 games of 20-plus points and is coming off 25 points, four assists and two rebounds in Sunday's 88-81 road win at league preseason favorite UAB.

Caleb Love (Arizona), VJ Edgecombe (Baylor), Chaz Lanier (Tennessee) and Tre Johnson (Texas). On nearly every midseason na-



SPRINGFIELD, Mass., March 4, 2025 – Memphis guard PJ Haggerty has been named one of five finalists for the Jerry West Shooting Guard of the Year Award, the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame announced Tuesday.

The annual Jerry West Award, named after the Class of 1980 Hall of Famer and 1959 NCAA Final Four Most Valuable Player, celebrates its 11th year by highlighting the top shooting guards in Division I men's college basketball.

Joining Haggerty as finalists are

tional player of the year watch lists, Haggerty is averaging 21.4 points, 5.4 rebounds, 3.8 assists and 1.9 steals per game for No. 16 Memphis (24-5, 14-2 American). He's a four-time AAC Player of the Week this season and is the No. 6 scorer in the nation entering Tuesday.

The Crosby, Texas native leads the AAC in minutes per game (36.4), and ranks fifth nationally in made free throws (170), ninth in free throws attempted (215) and 23rd in made field goals (207).

Haggerty also leads the confer-

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This marks the first career Player of the Week award for Bacot, who guided the Hustle to a 2-1 record and averaged 25.7 points, 17.0 rebounds and 1.3 steals in 32.3 minutes while shooting 55.6 percent from the field and 41.2 percent from beyond the arc.

Bacot registered 34 points and a single-game franchise-record 25 rebounds on February 28 against the Santa Cruz Warriors. The performance marked the first 30-

scored at least 20 points and 10 rebounds in all three games, recording three consecutive double-doubles.

Bacot, who earlier this year won the NBA G League Up Next Game as part of Team Braxton, is averaging 17.4 points and 10.0 rebounds in 22 regular season games in his rookie season for the Hustle, the NBA G League's highest scoring offense (120.6) in the regular season. Memphis, currently fifth in the Western Conference, ranks second in assists per game, fifth in steals per game and eighth in rebounds per game in the regular season.

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Featuring Eddie Montgomery see sports-Ent. 4 ***

NFL Players Engagement Announces 2025 Offseason Programs ... see sports-Ent. 4 ***

BASS Pro Shops and Cabela's Stores Gear Up for Spring Bargains and Family Fun

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Bassmaster Classic Outdoors Expo Presented by GSM Returns

see sports page 3 Schmidt Takes Gold in AAC

Indoor ... see sports page 3

Emily Ann Roberts Performs in Blake Shelton Tour and releases new single.

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