

-Sports-

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Making History...

Memphis stages largest comeback in Head Coach Penny Hardaway era in 106-87 victory over UAB

MEMPHIS, Tenn. – The University of Memphis men's basketball team staged the largest comeback in six seasons under head coach Penny Hardaway, coming back from a 22-point deficit to defeat UAB, 106-87, at FedExForum on Sunday afternoon.

The Tigers (22-8, 11-6 AAC) became just the second NCAA Division I team since 2010-11 to win a game by 15 or more points after trailing by 20 or more points. After trailing UAB (18-11, 10-6 AAC), 61-39, with 1:25 minutes left in the first half, Memphis reeled off a 20-0 run to get back into the game and went on to out-score the Blazers, 60-26, in the second half.

David Jones scored a game-high 32 points and grabbed nine rebounds, while Nae'Qwan Tomlin added 28 points and seven boards. Jahvon Quinerly totaled 25 points, four assists and three rebounds in the win.

Midway through the first half with the game knotted at 20-20, UAB went on a hot streak, connecting on 18-of-20 field goal attempts, while the Tigers missed 10-consecutive shots. Memphis managed to cut its 22-point defi-

cit down to 15 at the break when Quinerly reeled off a personal 7-0 run that featured a logo three-pointer to send the Tigers into the locker room, trailing 61-46.

UAB shot 67.6 percent (23-34) in the opening 20 minutes and connected on eight triples, while Memphis shot 38.2 percent (13-34) with just four long balls.

The second 20 minutes were a different story. By the first media timeout of the half, the Tigers had already wiped out the entire deficit and taken a three-point lead. That stretch featured 20-straight points by Memphis en route to a 46-9 run over 12-plus minutes that saw the Tigers take an 85-70 advantage with 8:30 to play. Memphis never let UAB get any closer than 13 points and even extended its lead to 21 in the final minute before the horn blew on the 106-87 victory.

The Tigers finished the night shooting 47.9-percent overall (35-73) with eight three-pointers and 28 free throws.

UAB had five players in double figures, led by Alejandro Vasquez's 18 points. The Blazers

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UFL and Under Armour expand partnership with National Coalition of the Minority Football Coaches

Showboats partner with Whitehaven Head Coach Rodney Saulsberry Sr.



ARLINGTON, Texas – March 5, 2024 – The United Football League (“UFL”) and Under Armour announced an expanded partnership with the National Coalition of Minority Football Coaches (NCMFC), an organization dedicated to preparing, promoting, and producing minority coaches at all levels of football.

After a successful pilot program with the XFL's D.C. and San Antonio markets in 2023, the UFL and Under Armour will bring the program to all eight markets for the 2024 season. The program will include eight current high school coaches who have at least three years of experience. Additional factors in the selection process included the applicant's proximity to UFL markets.

Whitehaven High School Head Coach Rodney Saulsberry Sr. was selected to work with the Memphis Showboats. Saulsberry has won several state championships as a head coach at his alma

mater. Under his leadership, he has led his team to a 185-53 record in 19 seasons, reestablishing the program as a playoff fixture. He has been named AFCA High School Coach of the Year and Influential Coach of the Year.

“We are proud to work with Under Armour and the NCMFC to expand our partnership for the 2024 season,” said Russ Brandon, president and CEO of the UFL. “The program is a tremendous growth opportunity for these coaches, and we are deeply committed to creating opportunities and providing unparalleled access to professional coaching at the highest level.”

Beginning Thursday, each coach will report to the UFL's training camp hub in Arlington, Texas, allowing them to meet their respective teams and staff in person. At training camp, these coaches will take part in meetings and practices, assisting with their team's needs.

“We're thrilled to partner with the UFL and NCMFC in our commitment to access and opportunity within sports. Under Armour is passionate about creating opportunities for minority football coaches of all levels to increase minority hires year over year, and increase engagement

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THE JOURNEY HOME PROJECT
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The Journey Home Project Kicks Off 10th Anniversary with Special Flag Presentation
see sports-Military 2 ***

Gov. Bill Lee Visits TN National Guards Ahead of Deployment to U.S. Southern Border
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Wreaths Across America Radio Expands Radio Programming
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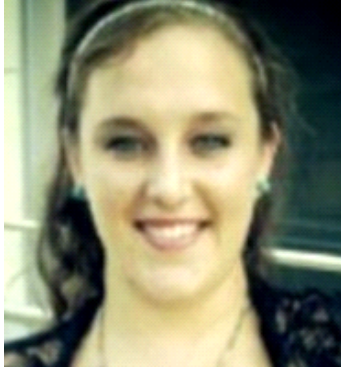
Silverfield Adds Lee Marks to Coaching Staff
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NFL Announces Transition Players... *see sports-Ent. 5*

Meet some of BIHMST sports correspondents



William M. Larsha, Jr.



Ashley Braun Gendek

BIH MST 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, Soccer and more on The Mid-South Tribune and the Black Information Highway at blackinformationhighway.com

Welcome, Travelers!

Grizzlies tip off hoops for St. Jude campaign; Zach Randolph and Tony Allen to coach celeb halftime game

MEMPHIS, TENN – The Memphis Grizzlies announced their Hoops for St. Jude campaign, constructed to raise funds and awareness toward the lifesaving work done by St. Jude Children's Research Hospital throughout the month of March. The campaign features a Grizzlies online silent auction, a Celebrity Halftime Game, Mystery Grab Bags, a chance to win a 2024 Kia Sorento, courtesy of Gossett Motor Cars, and more.

The Grizzlies and St. Jude Children's Research Hospital® will team up for Hoops for St. Jude Day, which is now two full days of hoops, heart and heroism. Throughout Tuesday, March 12, and Wednesday, March 13, fans

can expect to see the lifesaving work of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital® celebrated during Grind City Media's slate of shows, as well as on the Grizzlies radio affiliate, 92.9 ESPN. Special guests will include fan-favorite Grizzlies personalities encouraging fans to donate to St. Jude in exchange for unique hourly incentives.

To have a chance to win one of the exclusive prizes below, fans will need to visit grizzlies.com/StJude and donate for their name to be entered into a drawing. Fans can purchase tickets for the games on Tuesday, March 12, against the Washington Wizards and Wednesday, March 13, against the Charlotte

Hornets by going online to grizzlies.com/tickets or through the Official Grizzlies Mobile App.

New to Hoops for St. Jude Day this season is the Halftime Airplane Toss, presented by Gossett Motor Cars, on Tuesday, March 12. The first 10,000 fans to arrive at the game will receive a paper airplane template. Fans will fold their paper airplane, and when prompted, toss them toward center court during halftime for a chance to win a 2024 Kia Sorento, courtesy of Gossett Motor Cars.

Returning for a second season is the Hoops for St. Jude Celeb

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Gulf Coast Athletic Conference (GCAC) officially changes name to HBCU Athletic Conference

The announcement of a new brand and deepened partnership with Hope Credit Union underscores a commitment to increasing economic opportunity among HBCUs and their stakeholders.

TUSCALOOSA, AL — On February 29, the Gulf Coast Athletic Conference (GCAC) announced that it will officially become the “HBCU Athletic Conference,” honoring the unique legacy and importance of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). Beginning July 1, 2024, the conference will also add HBCUs Stillman College, Voorhees University, and Wilberforce Universities to its roster of schools.

“Today, the nation watches as we give our HBCU students the opportunity to take up space,” said Dr. Kiki Baker Barnes, Commissioner of the HBCU Athletic Conference. “Whether it's on the field, in classrooms, or at their local bank, we want to ensure that HBCU students feel seen and represented. We couldn't think of a better partner for this mission than Hope Credit Union. HOPE has continued to help push the boundaries of our

shared vision to close the racial wealth gap, starting with some of our most important institutions – our campuses.”

United Negro College Fund (UNCF) research illustrates the outsized impact of HBCUs on the advancement of Black economic mobility: Though HBCUs represent fewer than three percent of American colleges and

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