

Memphis Spirit Squads earn multiple championships at the UCA and UDA College Nationals at ESPN Sports Complex in Orlando

MEMPHIS, Tenn., January 16, 2024 – The University of Memphis cheerleading and dance teams captured national championships at the UCA & UDA College Nationals this weekend at the ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex in Orlando, Fla.

The Memphis cheerleaders won the national championship in Division IA Small Coed, and the dance team won the national championship for Division IA Game Day (Dance). They also earned numerous Top-8 finishes including third in Dance Hip Hop, fifth in Game Day (Cheer) and seventh in Division 1 Pom.

“Making the decision to add the Ambush Crew to our program brought us to a new level in the college dance team world,” Memphis Head of Spirit and Dance **Carol Lloyd Cross** said. “I am very proud of how we represented the University of Memphis and the 901!”

“The heart and determination from this team is remarkable,” Memphis Head Cheer Coach **Tony Crump** said. “They put in the work, they did not quit and they refused to give up. They buckled down and achieved their goal to hit as a family! As a coach, that is all I can ask for. I am extremely proud of these athletes and our program.”

For more information and full results and to view performances from the College Nationals, visit tv.varsity.com.

For complete information on Memphis Tigers Athletics, visit www.GoTigersGo.com and follow the department’s social media channels on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook.



University of Memphis cheerleading and dance teams captured national championships when they went to the ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex in Orlando, Florida where they returned home with trophies and smiles. “They put in the work, and they did not quit and they refused to give up...” said Memphis Head Cheer Coach Tony Crump. (Photo credit: Memphis Athletics)

2023 Year in Review: Association of Collegiate Anglers reports a record-breaking season; Bass Pro Shops Big Bass Bash lauded

By The Fishing Wire

SAN ANTONIO, TX – The 2023-24 season of the Bass Pro Shops Collegiate Bass Fishing Series started this fall, as the Association of Collegiate Anglers contested two major no-entry-fee, nationally televised, double points events. Those two events were the Bass Pro Shops Big Bass Bash presented by Berkley on Kentucky Lake, and the AFTCO Collegiate Bass Open at Lake Dardanelle. Across those two events combined the ACA set new participation records for its organization, as over 1,000 anglers competed on the major college trail.

“The new season has gotten off to a great start this year,” said Wade Middleton, ACA Director and President of CarecoTV. “It is exciting to see the growth and excitement around college fishing. From angler participation being at a record high to hundreds of schools competing for the Bass Pro Shops School of the Year presented by Abu Garcia, as well as more and more anglers submitting discount requests for various series partners’ programs...we are looking forward to carrying this momentum over to the new year and second half of our season.”

The 2023-24 season for the ACA



College students showed off their skills as anglers which resulted in an array of awards and a rewarding season. (Photo: Bass Pro Shops)

began with the Bass Pro Shops Big Bass Bash presented by Berkley at Kentucky Lake in Henry County and Paris, TN. This year’s edition of the angler-favorite event boasted a record setting field. A total of close to 600 anglers participated in this two-day big bass format event that paid out over \$30,000 in

prizes and contingencies, along with double points to count towards the Bass Pro Shops School of the Year presented by Abu Garcia. The previous attendance total for this specific event was close to 550 anglers.

Record-breaking attendance continued for the ACA at the

AFTCO Collegiate Bass Open on Lake Dardanelle in Russellville, AR. Nearly 500 anglers showed up to compete at the second ACA no-entry-fee, nationally televised event of the fall. This tournament featured a payout of over \$20,000 in prizes and contingencies, as well as double points for the Bass Pro

Shops School of the Year presented by Abu Garcia.

“This fall has been a great first half to the 2023-24 season for the ACA,” said Kyle Curry, ACA Managing Director. “We greatly appreciate the support from our series partners, host sites, anglers, coaches, and schools that help to make this all possible.”

Along with the valuable prizes and points up for grabs at both events, the Top 10 finishing anglers/teams at each tournament earned an automatic qualification into the 2024 Collegiate Bass Fishing Championship presented by Bass Pro Shops. Two Top 10 ranked teams lead the pack with the most automatic qualifications earned. 2nd ranked Carson-Newman University has six automatic qualifications via Top 10 finishes. 6th ranked Murray State University has secured five automatic qualifications to compete in college fishing’s longest-running National Championship event at Pickwick Lake in May of 2024.

Each of the no-entry-fee events boasted robust payouts and significant points awarded to the Bass Pro Shops School of the Year presented by Abu Garcia. This fall, all total, the ACA awarded well over \$50,000 in prizes and contingencies, as well as more than 300,000 School of the Year points.

The spring season for the ACA will begin in April at Lake Hartwell with the Hartwell Slam. To view the 2024 schedule, and learn more about the Bass Pro Shops School of the Year presented by Abu Garcia, visit www.collegiatebasschampionship.com

Grizzlies sign Scotty Pippen Jr.

MEMPHIS, TN., January 16, 2024 – The Memphis Grizzlies to announced the team signed guard Scotty Pippen Jr. to a two-way contract. Per team policy, terms of the deal were not disclosed.

Pippen Jr. (6-1, 170) has appeared in 17 games (15 starts) for the South Bay Lakers during the 2023-24 NBA G League Showcase and regular season and has averaged 20.2 points, 5.2 rebounds, 5.9 assists and 2.2 steals in 30.3 minutes. The 23-year-old was selected to participate in the 2023 Jordan Rising Stars Game

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as part of NBA All-Star Weekend while with South Bay last season.

Unselected in the 2022 NBA Draft, the Portland, Oregon native made six appearances for the Los Angeles Lakers last season and averaged 2.3 points in 5.3 minutes. He played three seasons collegiately at Vanderbilt (2019-22), where he was named All-SEC First Team following his sophomore and junior years.

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