

Alasia Smith named to AAC Weekly Honor Roll



Alasia Smith

MEMPHIS, Tenn. January 29, 2024– The University of Memphis women’s basketball team put one of its own on the American Athletic Conference’s Weekly Awards list as Alasia Smith was named to the Honor Roll.

NFL legend Tim Brown and wife host golf invitational to fight child exploitation

LAS VEGAS, Jan. 25, 2024 /PRNewswire/ -- In one of the state's most highly-anticipated events, and just days before Super Bowl LVIII up the inaugural Tim & Sherice Brown Celebrity Golf Invitational swings into action. The event takes place on Thursday, February 8, from 10 AM to 1 PM at the world-renowned Topgolf Vegas at MGM Grand. Hosted by National Football League (NFL) hall-of-famer Tim Brown and wife, philanthropist Sherice Brown, are gearing up to host an unforgettable event that brings together sports legends, community luminaries, and philanthropic powerhouses for a dynamic cause.

In a groundbreaking move, the Malouf Foundation, and the Elizabeth Smart Foundation, two pillars of child protection, have merged their strengths and visions. Together, the organizations will move the needle forward in their pursuit in unifying the front against child sexual exploitation, creating ripples of change that will touch the lives of countless children.

The event sponsored by **Las Vegas Raiders, Dr. Sid O'Bryant, Gateway Financial, Parrish Charitable Founda-**

City, Tenn., led the squad in their 73-66 win over Rice on Saturday after scoring a team-best 15 points on 6-13 shooting. She also grabbed 13 rebounds in route to her seventh double-double of the season. Smith added in four steals and two blocks in the victory.

A staple in the AAC rankings, Smith is currently ranked in the top-five in offensive rebounds per game (1st), rebounds and steals per game (2nd), defensive rebounds per game (4th) and blocked shots per game (5th).

This is the first AAC Weekly Award nod for Smith.

For complete information on Memphis Tigers Basketball, visit www.GoTigersGo.com and follow the team's social media channels on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook.

tion, Infinite Health Services, and Victoria Elliott-GEICO. is not merely a day of sport; it is a clarion call to action, a resounding pledge to make the world safer for children.

Tim Brown, NFL Hall of Famer, and event host, shared his perspective on the event, saying, "This golf invitational isn't just about hitting the greens. It's a swing for the fences in our commitment to protect children from harm. Together with the unified Malouf Foundation and Elizabeth Smart Foundation, we aim to create lasting change, making this world safer for our children." Distinguished scientist and luminary in Alzheimer's research, Dr. Sid O'Bryant, will serve as the keynote speaker. In a historic achievement, O'Bryant has received more than \$150 million in research funding after publishing 250 research papers and is a global thought leader in health disparities in brain aging and Alzheimer's disease. O'Bryant's groundbreaking work, revealing a link between traumatic experiences and heightened Alzheimer's risk in women, underscores the event's commitment to safeguarding children's mental well-being.

Memphian Candace Holyfield-Parker hosts celebrity gifting suite on Super Bowl weekend from sports-Ent. 5

tendees of the gifting suite to expect nothing short of style and flare. Invited guests will engage in a gifting suite experience like no other, where the combination of Candace's lively spirit and the sophisticated brands will undoubtedly create a glamorous affair turned trending topic.

With the love of giving back, Candace has chosen to allocate proceeds from the celebrity gifting suite to DTHI as a testament to her genuine commitment to making a positive impact and enhancing the lives of those in need. Candace's unwavering dedication extends beyond financial contributions; she travels to Africa to sow seeds of love and positive change. For over two years, Candace has been a fervent supporter of DTHI (Dr. Tina's Humanitarian Initiative), a Non-Profit Company dedicated to empowering children at the Bonwire Primary School in Ghana, West Africa.

With a heart full of compassion and a vision for making a difference, Candace's dual roles as an entrepreneur and humanitarian converge, creating a remarkable legacy of humility, charisma, and genuine philanthropy. Attendees

can anticipate not only a glamorous and unforgettable event but also the opportunity to be part of a cause that transcends borders and touches lives.

About Candace Holyfield-Parker

Candace Holyfield-Parker, widely recognized as the Six Figure Spa Chick, stands as a formidable business figure hailing from Memphis, TN. Her inspiring journey is marked by unwavering determination and an unquenchable passion for marketing. Serving as the CEO of Spa Boss Tribe, Candace has personally guided and shaped the careers of thousands of spa professionals, equipping them with the essential tools and knowledge needed to flourish in their businesses. Under her visionary leadership, an astounding 23spa professionals have achieved their first million dollars, a testament to her unparalleled knowledge of business and mentorship. Candace's pioneering spirit is evident through her groundbreaking work, including the authorship of 'Six Figure Secrets' and the creation of the dynamic duo of events, Black Spa Expo and Black Spa Awards.

TN Titans welcome new head coach Brian Callahan to Music City to make new notes from sports page 1



team, and we’re going to get there. I can’t wait for you to get to know Brian and his family.” Callahan arrives in Tennessee with 18 years of coaching experience and 14 years of NFL coaching experience, including the past five seasons as the offensive coordinator for the Cincinnati Bengals.

During his time in Cincinnati, Callahan served under head

“If you look at his history, Brian has been a part of a Super Bowl winning team (Denver, 2015) and another team that advanced to the Super Bowl (Cincinnati, 2021). He’s worked in a variety of dynamic offenses with top-flight quarterbacks. At each step of his career, he’s shown the flexibility and intelligence to make an impact.”

coach Zac Taylor and was part of two AFC North titles, two AFC Championship appearances and a Super Bowl berth. He also helped guide quarterback Joe Burrow from the No. 1 overall draft pick in 2020 to multiple single-season franchise records by his second year and Pro Bowl honors within three years.

Over the past three seasons (2021-23), the Bengals offense ranked in the NFL's top 10 in several categories: sixth in scoring (24.9), seventh in passing (250.8 yards per game), seventh in red-zone efficiency (61.5 percent), 10th in third-down percentage (41.0) and sixth in time of possession (31:00).

From the time Burrow entered the NFL in 2020 through the 2023 campaign, he recorded the league's seventh-best passer rating (98.6) and tied for the third-best completion percentage (68.0). His 270.8 passing yards per game in that period ranked fifth.

Additionally, Cincinnati's offense under Callahan featured a trio of 1,000-yard wide receivers in Ja'Marr Chase (2021-23), Tee Higgins (2021-22) and Tyler Boyd (2019). Chase quickly emerged as one of the NFL's top wide receivers after being drafted in the first round in 2021. He earned three consecutive Pro Bowl nods and became the eighth player in NFL history to reach 1,000 receiving yards in each of his first three career seasons, including 1,216 yards on a career-high 100 receptions in 2023. Boyd's statistical highlights included 1,046 receiving yards in 2019, while Higgins contributed 1,091 yards in 2021 and 1,029 yards in 2022.

Bengals running back Joe Mixon exceeded 1,000 scrimmage yards four times in five seasons with Callahan as his offensive coordi-

nator. From 2019 through 2023, he joined Christian McCaffrey and Aaron Jones as the NFL's only players with at least 4,500 rushing yards (4,618) and 1,500 receiving yards (1,556). Mixon was named to the Pro Bowl in 2021.

In 2023, Burrow was limited to 10 total games due to multiple injuries. Backup Jake Browning stepped into the lineup, and in the first action of his career, he registered a season passer rating of 98.4—qualifying as the seventh-best number in the NFL.

In 2022, the Bengals ranked seventh in the NFL in points per game (26.1), eighth in total offense (360.5 yards per game) and fifth in passing offense (265.0). Burrow earned his first career Pro Bowl selection while setting single-season franchise records for completions (414) and touchdown passes (35). The third-year signal caller also placed fifth in the NFL with 4,475 passing yards. The team's new-look offensive line came together during the season and did not allow more than two sacks in any of the final eight games of the regular season.

En route to an appearance in Super Bowl LVI, the 2021 Bengals ranked seventh in passing offense (259.0 yards per game) and tied for seventh in points per game (27.1). Burrow, after returning from a knee injury suffered in 2020, led the NFL in completion percentage (70.4) and established single-season Bengals records for passing yards (4,611) and passer rating (108.3). Chase was named the AP Offensive Rookie of the Year after posting a team-record 1,455 receiving yards, while Mixon placed third in the NFL in rushing yards (1,205).

In 2020, Callahan helped develop Burrow as a rookie despite facing the challenges associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, including the cancellation of all in-person NFL offseason programs. Before a knee injury ended his rookie campaign in Week 11, Burrow's 264 completions were the most ever by an NFL quarterback through his first 10 career games, while his 2,688 passing yards were fifth.

Callahan joined the Bengals after spending 2018 as the quarterbacks coach for the Oakland Raiders. Under his tutelage, Raiders quarterback Derek Carr passed for a then-career-high 4,049 yards and led the AFC with a 68.9 completion percentage.

From 2016 to 2017, Callahan

was the quarterbacks coach for the Detroit Lions. Working with Matthew Stafford, he helped the veteran finish third in passing yards (4,446) and fourth in passing touchdowns (29) in 2017, while posting a then-career-best 99.3 passer rating. In 2016, Stafford's eight game-winning drives were the most by a quarterback in a season since the 1970 AFL-NFL merger.

Callahan broke into the NFL with the Denver Broncos in 2010 and served in multiple roles for the franchise through 2015. He began as a coaching assistant (2010) before transitioning to offensive quality control coach (2011-12), offensive assistant coach (2013-14) and finally offensive assistant/quarterbacks coach (2015). In 2013, Broncos quarterback Peyton Manning won the Associated Press NFL MVP award after completing a league-record 55 touchdown passes. Callahan's tenure in Denver was capped by the team's victory in Super Bowl 50 following the 2015 campaign.

Before reaching the NFL, Callahan spent time at his alma mater, UCLA, as a graduate assistant in 2006 and 2007. He then spent two years (2008-09) as the offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach for Junipero High School in San Mateo, Calif.

As a former walk-on quarterback at UCLA, he appeared in 13 games as a holder on PATs. He earned a bachelor's degree in sociology in 2006 and added a master's in education in 2008.

Born in Champaign, Ill., Callahan attended De La Salle High School in Concord, Calif., where he was a part of the school's national-record 151-game winning streak and a No. 1 national ranking.

He and his wife, Allyson, have a son, Ronan, and a daughter, Norah. He is the son of longtime NFL coach Bill Callahan, the current offensive line coach with the Cleveland Browns.

Brian Callahan's Background

- 2024:** Head Coach - Tennessee Titans
- 2019-23:** Offensive Coordinator - Cincinnati Bengals
- 2018:** Quarterbacks Coach - Oakland Raiders
- 2016-17:** Quarterbacks Coach - Detroit Lions
- 2015:** Offensive Assistant/Quarterbacks Coach - Denver Broncos
- 2013-14:** Offensive Assistant - Denver Broncos
- 2011-12:** Offensive Quality Control - Denver Broncos
- 2010:** Coaching Assistant - Denver Broncos
- 2008-09:** Offensive Coordinator/Quarterbacks Coach - Junipero Serra High School
- 2006-07:** Graduate Assistant - UCLA

2002-05: Quarterback – UCLA

Titans Finalize Football Structure

In addition to naming Callahan as head coach, the Titans have also finalized the team's football structure. Ran Carthon has been promoted to Executive Vice President/General Manager, and Chad Brinker has been promoted to President of Football Operations.

As Executive Vice President/General Manager, Carthon's duties will expand to include all areas that impact the football team: roster control, team activities and personnel decisions including draft and free agency acquisitions, oversight of Callahan and his coaching staff, scouting, sports medicine, and player engagement.

“Over the past year, Ran has impressed me and our staff with his innovative approach to roster building,” said Adams Strunk. “Ran’s exceptional reputation around the league as a talent evaluator and culture builder was a clear competitive advantage during last year’s free agency and draft process, as well as our recent search for a head coach. Simply put, Ran Carthon makes the Tennessee Titans a destination for the league’s top talent. By expanding his role to include full roster control and oversight of the coaching staff, our organization will now benefit more completely from Ran’s unique ability to build and lead a championship-caliber football team.”

As President of Football Operations, a new role for the organization, Brinker will provide executive leadership and support for the entire football side of the organization. His day-to-day responsibilities will include direct oversight of the football departments that address salary cap management; analytics and strategy; communications and information systems; and team operations including security, video, equipment, and grounds. Brinker will also continue to provide scouting evaluations of top talent in both college and the NFL.

“This is not my father’s NFL,” said Adams Strunk. “As our league continues to evolve in areas like analytics, sports science, and technology, football organizations have become more complex and multifaceted. I want our football operation to be at the forefront of the NFL as teams continue to find new competitive advantages. In this new role, Chad will blend his executive experience with his strengths in football and scouting to ensure our football operation continues to innovate and grow as new opportunities emerge. Chad’s oversight of these areas will allow Ran to focus his full attention and energy on building and leading a championship football team.”

Watch for The Mid-South Tribune’s 29th Black History Month Edition in February 2024!

David Jones named to Wooden Award Late Season Top 20; Endorsed by LA Athletic Club



David Jones

LOS ANGELES, January 30, 2024– David Jones has continued to establish himself as one of the best players in college basketball, which was endorsed Tuesday by the Los Angeles Athletic Club, as the senior forward was named to the John R. Wooden Award Late Season Top 20 Watch List.

The list, comprised of 20 student-athletes who are front-runners for the sport's most prestigious honor, was determined by a poll of national col-

lege basketball experts based on the performances during the 2023-24 season thus far. Jones is looking to become the first Tiger to ever win the Wooden Award.

The Wooden Award All American Team™ will be announced the week of the "Elite Eight" round of the NCAA Tournament. The winner of the 2024 John R. Wooden Award will be presented by Principal following the NCAA Tournament in April.

Jones leads the Tigers (15-5) in scoring at 21.8 points per game, which is tops in the American Athletic Conference and fourth nationally.

He leads the AAC with 12 games of 20-plus points and is a three-time weekly honor roll selection and one time player of the week.

The players on the list are considered strong candidates for the 2024 John R. Wooden Award Men's Player of the Year presented by Principal. Players not chosen to the late season list are still eligible for the Wooden Award™ National Ballot.

Watch for The Mid-South Tribune’s 29th Annual Black History Month Special Edition in Feb. 2024. “Education, Economics, and Entrepreneurship”

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10:00a-12:00noon

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