

Sports & Entertainment

A letter to Tiger Fans on the Leaving of Coach Silverfield

Tiger Family,

As many of you have seen, Coach Silverfield has accepted the head coaching position at the University of Arkansas. Reggie Howard will serve as interim head coach.

We are grateful for the impact Coach Silverfield has had on Memphis Football during his six years as head coach and ten years on staff. Coach Silverfield finished with a record of 50–25, including five consecutive bowl game victories. We wish Ryan, Katie, and their girls all the best as they transition to Fayetteville.

Memphis Football remains on strong footing, and our student-athletes, program infrastructure, and program momentum position us well during this transition. Our top priority is ensuring stability and support for our student-athletes throughout this process. President Bill Hardgrave, Dr. Ed Scott, and our Board of Trustees have already begun the search process, which is being conducted with urgency, alignment, and a clear vision for the future of Memphis Football.

Thank you for your continued belief in Memphis Football and for supporting the success of our student-athletes. We will share more details as soon as they become available and look forward to introducing you to our next head coach in the coming weeks.

GTG,
Memphis Athletics

Memphis Tigers lose the final regular season to Navy and also the Coach

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Speaking of Coach Silverfield, it was announced on Sunday that he would be leaving to take the Arkansas job. Many were surprised by this turn of events. Silverfield spent 10 years with the program. He was named Head Coach ahead of the 2020 season. He leaves with a record of 50-24. He led the program to back-to-back 10-win seasons for the 1st time in school history. However, he never won a conference championship and never reached the championship game.

field said, “Defensively, we couldn’t get off the field. They ran the ball down our throats in the second half. So, the opportunities were limited for the offense, and we didn’t capitalize on

those opportunities. Speaking of Coach Silverfield, it was announced on Sunday that he would be leaving to take the Arkansas job. Many were surprised by this turn of events. Silverfield spent 10 years with the program. He was named Head Coach ahead of the 2020 season. He leaves with a record of 50-24. He led the program to back-to-back 10-win seasons for the 1st time in school history. However, he never won a conference championship and never reached the championship game.

Athletic director Ed Scott said, "We are excited about the future of Memphis Football and the momentum of our program. A national search for our next head coach is underway, and we are committed to finding a leader who reflects our values, prioritizes student-athlete development, and shares our vision for elevating the program nationally."

Julius Thedford named to the American Conference Men’s Basketball Weekly Honor Roll



Julius Thedford

MEMPHIS, Tenn., December 1, 2025 – Memphis guard Julius Thedford has been named to the American Conference Men’s Basketball Weekly Honor Roll following his big performance in the Tigers’ win over Southern Illinois last Wednesday. Thedford provided a major spark off the bench, turning in one of his most complete outings of the season. The Memphis native posted 15 points, six rebounds and a career-high three steals in 24 minutes, helping lift the Tigers to a 74-58 victory over the Salukis. He shot an efficient 5-of-8 from the field, including 2-

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of-4 from beyond the arc, and paced Memphis with four offensive rebounds.

Through the opening stretch of the season, Thedford has established himself as one of the Tigers’ most reliable rebounders, collecting at least five boards in five of Memphis’ first six games. Memphis returns to the hardwood for two games this week. After hosting New Orleans at 7 p.m. Wednesday on ESPN+, the Tigers will then welcome Baylor to town at 3:30 p.m. Saturday on CBS. For complete information on Memphis Tiger Men's Basketball, visit www.GoTigersGo.com and follow the team's social media channels on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook.

Harlem Globetrotters and EQL Games partner in lottery to celebrate team’s Centennial ... from sports page 1

sons people play the lottery,” said Brad Cummings, CEO of EQL Games. “We are honored to kick off this partnership with the Maryland Lottery, and we are looking forward to expanding it to other lotteries in the coming months. Players will have the best of both worlds – a chance to win money and the opportunity to see the Globetrotters.” Released on the eve of the team’s 100th year celebration in 2026, the new \$2 Maryland tickets feature vintage Harlem Globetrotters designs, including the iconic basketball spinning on a finger, and the chance to win prizes, both instantly and through a second-chance promotion. Similar programs are in discussion with other states and will be announced in the coming months.

The full 100th Anniversary Tour will continue onwards with Boston and Pittsburgh on Friday, December 26th and continue the roll out across 200+ domestic markets and over 125+ markets internationally. Fans can also expect all-new surprises like the Golden Basketball by Spalding®, epic pre-game Magic Pass experiences, 100 Year limited edition merchandise and many other new innovations for the “Ambassadors of Basketball.” International markets such as France, United Kingdom, Italy, Germany, Spain, Switzerland, Belgium, Netherlands, Mexico, and across Asia are just a few of the many locations the Harlem Globetrotters will be touring in winter of 2026 and running through the remainder of the year.

ABOUT EQL GAMES
Leading the evolution of the lottery industry by delivering disruptive, first-to-market products as an original game studio, third-party content aggregator and



boutique licensor. Committed to pushing the boundaries of traditional lottery models, EQL is creating next-level solutions that engage, excite, and inspire lotteries and players in the U.S. and abroad. By integrating advanced technology and dynamic content, we’re shaping the future of the lottery, offering unparalleled entertainment while supporting the growth of our Lottery partners and enhancing player experiences worldwide. **ABOUT THE WORLD-FA- MOUS HARLEM GLOBE- TROTTERS™ / HERSCHEND**

ENTERTAINMENT STUDIOS Now entering their Centennial season, The Harlem Globetrotters™ are THE originators of applying sport to deliver goodwill, excitement, showmanship, and athleticism to a global audience every year. Since 1926, with a legacy of elite talent that has included many of the greatest stars of men’s and women’s basketball from HBCU’s to Division I, II, III, NAIA, The NBA, and the WNBA, the Globetrotters are the first team ever inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame. They have uti-

lized their talents to showcase their iconic brand of basketball to tens of millions in over 124 countries and territories across six continents. Never ones to stop innovating, the award-winning organization, which currently holds an unprecedented 80+ Guinness World Records, the most of any professional sports team, has expanded its media footprint to make their content available to fans new and old on whatever platform they choose, from EMMY nominated broadcast shows, specials, and feature films, to their own FAST channel, as well as reimagining the memorabilia and collectible space through a new partnership with clcIt, with uniforms and other special apparel created by legendary designer, Jeff Hamilton. Content partners include; Hidden Pictures, Vantage Pictures, Aspire TV, and Hearst Media Production Group; commercial partnerships and consumer products include Zara, EQL, IMG, Jerry Leigh, OVO, Shoe Palace, Philcos, and Excel Sports as well as the official ball partner, Spalding and Exxact Sports. Coined by the U.S. State Department in 1951 as Ambassadors of Goodwill, and now serving The Official Ambassadors of Goodwill for the United Nations as well, the team leverages their moniker to drive its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) efforts globally around their strategic pillars of Health & Wellness, Education, and Community Empowerment. These efforts have yielded partnerships with the likes of the NBA Retired Players Association, Microsoft, U.S. State Department Sports Diplomacy, United Agricultural Organization, and Operation Homefront. For more information about the Harlem Globetrotters™ and the Tour, visit their official website: www.harlemglobetrotters.com.



CHICAGO, Nov. 24, 2025 /PRNewswire/ -- For many of the 1 in 8 Americans who have worked under the Golden Arches, wearing a McDonald's uniform is the first step toward turning ambition into achievement. Professional BMX athlete, philanthropist and creative director Nigel Sylvester knows this ride well – because he's lived this journey firsthand. Before becoming a global cultural icon, Nigel was mastering customer service at the front counter and teamwork in the kitchen, learning lifelong skills that became his "secret sauce" for success. On Dec. 5, Nigel is bringing those lessons full circle with the launch of Employee of the Month, a limited-edition merch collaboration inspired by his journey from a McDonald's Crew member to world-class athlete and creative powerhouse. "Employee of the Month" often means clocking in, checking boxes, and doing what is expected. Nigel Sylvester is reimagining the term – turning it into a symbol for the dreamers, creatives, and hustlers who defy the odds and carve their own lanes to success. His upcoming

"Before I was a professional BMX athlete, I was one of the 1 in 8 Americans who worked at a McDonald's restaurant – something I'm proud of to this day. That experience taught me responsibility, attention to detail, and the power of community – lessons I carried straight into my BMX career," said Nigel Sylvester.

collaboration with McDonald's delivers pieces that fuse classic streetwear style with the brand's iconic heritage for fans who turn the everyday grind into greatness. "Before I was a professional BMX athlete, I was one of the 1 in 8 Americans who worked at a McDonald's restaurant – something I'm proud of to this day. That experience taught me responsibility, attention to detail, and the power of community – lessons I carried straight into my BMX career," said Nigel Sylvester. "This collection is my tribute to those early days, the grind, dedication, and audacity it takes to will your dreams to reality." Fans can ride along this holiday

season by: •Getting a first look at the Employee of the Month collection on everythingongo.com •Shopping the drop starting Dec. 5 at everythingongo.com •Learning more about 1 in 8 at mcdonalds1in8.com

About McDonald's McDonald's USA, LLC, serves a variety of menu options made with quality ingredients to millions of customers every day. Ninety-five percent of McDonald's approximately 13,500 U.S. restaurants are owned and operated by independent business owners. For more information, visit www.mcdonalds.com, and follow us on social: X, Instagram, TikTok and Facebook. About Nigel Sylvester Nigel Sylvester is an American professional BMX athlete, creative director, entrepreneur, and philanthropist from Queens, New York. Nigel's career has extended beyond traditional BMX biking through his progressive riding style, innovative content creation, and one-of-a-kind creative expression and style. These distinctive characteristics have catapulted Sylvester to the forefront of the sports world.

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