-Sports-

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Penny Hardaway named to Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame nominees



Penny Hardaway

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. - The Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame announced Friday the addition of Penny Hardaway to its list of nominees for the class of 2024, bringing the list of nominees to 38 in total

Hardaway joins a list of 38 nominees that includes the 2008 U.S. Olympic Men's Basketball Team, Vince Carter, Seimone Augustus, Bill Laimbeer, Rick Barnes, Mike Fratello and Penny Taylor.

Nominees are added to the offi-

Hardaway joins a list of 38 nominees that includes the 2008 U.S. Olympic Men's Basketball Team, Carter, Seimone Augustus Bill Laimbeer, Rick Barnes Mike Fratello and Penny Tay

cial ballot after a nomination form is submitted to the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame president and CEO.

Finalists from the Honor's Committee for the Class of 2024 will be announced on Friday, February 16, in Indianapolis during NBA All-Star Weekend. The entire Class of 2024 will be unveiled during the NCAA Final Four in Phoenix on Saturday, April 6.

Hardaway, nominated for his achievements as a player, averaged 20.0 points, 7.7 rebounds, 5.9 assists, 2.5 steals and 1.3

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Memphis Showboats named one of eight UFL teams for 2024; Action starts March 30

Tickets now on sale; League will be divided into two conferences: USFL and XFL

ARLINGTON, TX – January 1, 2024 – The United Football League, the premier spring football league, announced on January 1 the eight teams, including the Memphis Showboats, competing in its inaugural season kicking off on March 30, 2024. The League will be divided into two conferences: USFL and

For more information, please visit: www.TheUFL.com

USFL CONFERENCE XFL CONFERENCE

- Birmingham Stallions
- Arlington Renegades Houston Roughnecks
- D.C. Defenders
- Memphis Showboats



- San Antonio Brahmas
- **Michigan Panthers**
- St. Louis Battlehawks

Houston was the one overlapping market between the XFL and USFL and it was one of the strongest markets for both leagues. As a result, the USFL's Houston Gamblers have been rebranded as the Houston Rough-

The UFL's 10-game regular season will start on Saturday, March 30, 2024, with a battle of the 2023 champions: Birmingham Stallions (USFL) vs Arlington Renegades (XFL). Players will report to training camp on Saturday, February 24, 2024, in Arlington, Texas.

2023 Season Ticket Members can renew their tickets through their account manager link. New Season Ticket Deposits for the upcoming season are on sale now. Visit www.theufl.com to learn more.

Act now to lock in your spot for the 2024 season - excitement is at an all-time high!

Head Coaches

The UFL's Head Coaches include returning names from both the XFL and USFL. Collectively, they bring decades of coaching and playing experience, a passion for the game and a commitment

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NFL Offers Free Admission to Military on February 7th see sports-Military page 2

"Written in Their Soul: The Stax Songwriters Demos" see in sports-Ent. 5

Gov. Sarah Huckabee Sanders Takes Up Cause for Col. Dillon R. Patterson see in sports-Military 2

Recap: Memphis Defeats Iowa in Liberty Bowl

see sports page 5 CMP's 2024 Junior Rifle

Competition see sports-Military 2

Tomlin Named to AAC Honor Roll... see sports page 4

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

MLK Day is January 15!

Welcome, Travelers!

Remember the Dream! Visit the National Civil Rights Museum in Memphis.

Watch for The Mid-South Tribune's 29th **Annual Black History** Month Edition. Coming in February 2024!

Email your special events, news and photos to MSTnews@prodigy.net

BlackInfoHwy@prodigy. net or MSTentertainment@ prodigy.net

Daryl Johnston to lead football operations and Russ Brandon named president and CEO of newly merged USFL and XFL into United Football League (UFL)

UFL season kicks off on Saturday, March 30, 2024 with the battle of the 2023 champions: Arlington Renegades vs Birmingham Stallions

NEW YORK, NY - December 31, 2023 marked the official announcement regarding the launch of the United Football League (the "UFL"), the premier spring football league that will result from the merger of the XFL and USFL.

set to kick off on Saturday, March 30, 2024. Russ Brandon, former President and CEO of the XFL, will lead the UFL as President and CEO. Daryl Johnston, former USFL President of Football Operations, will lead football operations.

This news was first announced by Dany Garcia and Dwayne Johnson on FOX NFL Sunday, December 31, 2023.

The 2024 season for the UFL is markets and football operations will be announced very shortly.

> **Statements from USFL Partners**

Eric Shanks - Chief Executive Officer and Executive Producer of FOX Sports

"FOX is football, and the success of the USFL has proven that there's a bright future for spring Additional details about team football. The opportunity to bring together our two leagues each with a commitment to advancing broadcast practices, rule innovations and the community – only furthers the potential of the United Football League and solidifies its spot on the sports calendar."

Jimmy Pitaro, Chairman,

"The United Football League – a Please see sports page 4

TN Titans conclude season with Jaguars at Nissan Stadium

Tennessee Titans (5-11) vs. Jacksonville Jaguars (9-7) Sunday, Jan. 7, 2024 • Noon CST • Nissan Stadium • Nashville, Tenn. • TV: CBS

NASHVILLE — The Tennessee Titans (5-11) conclude their 2023 season this week with a home game against the Jacksonville Jaguars (9-7). Kickoff at Nissan Stadium (capacity 69,143) is scheduled for noon CST on Sunday, Jan. 7

The Jaguars will be playing for the AFC South title. They are part of a three-way tie for the division lead along with the Indianapolis Colts and Houston Texans, who are also 9-7. The Texans travel to Indianapolis to face the Colts on Saturday night, and the winner of that game is guaranteed at least a wild card spot—and the division title if paired with a Titans victory over the Jaguars. However, a win by the Jaguars over the Titans would

secure the division crown for the Jaguars based on their head-tohead tiebreaker over the Colts and their division-record tiebreaker over the Texans. Additional scenarios for a wild-card spot exist as well.

The contest will be regionally televised on CBS, including Nashville affiliate WTVF News-Channel 5, as well as on Paramount+ in the Nashville market. The broadcast team includes

Harlan, analyst Trent Green and reporter Melanie Collins.

Fans in Nashville can stream live Titans games on mobile devices with NFL+, which offers access to local games and all primetime games on phones and tablets. Out of market, fans can watch every Sunday afternoon game with Sunday Ticket. More information on ways to watch NFL games can be found here. The Titans Radio Network and Nashville flagship 104.5 The

Zone carry all Titans games across the Mid-South with the "Voice of the Titans" Mike Keith, analyst Dave McGinnis, sideline reporter Ramon Foster and gameday host Rhett Bryan. Streaming is available at the Titans Mobile App for listeners in the Nashville market and available everywhere for desktop users.

SEVERAL TITANS REACH-ING CAREER MILESTONES

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