

Sports & Entertainment

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Memphis Safe Task Force members serve as captains for the 67th Liberty Bowl

WASHINGTON – Members of the U.S. Marshals Service Memphis Safe Task Force served as honorary co-captains for the 67th Liberty Bowl on January 2, 2026, in Memphis, Tennessee. Gadyaces S. Serralta, Director of the U.S. Marshals Service and Chairman of the Memphis Safe Task Force, Tyreece Miller, U.S. Marshal for the Western District of Tennessee, and Chief Inspectors Chad Hunt and David Smith were selected to participate in the honorary pre-game activities. The honorary co-captains went on the field and were recognized during the pre-game ceremonies. “We are proud of the work that

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the Task Force has done in Memphis and are honored to participate in this event,” said Serralta. “The men and women of the U.S. Marshals Service, along with our federal, state, and local partners, continue to enforce the law in Memphis, protect families, and make our communities safer.”

Since the launch of the Memphis Safe Task Force initiative, officers have made 4640 arrests and seized 733 illegal firearms, as well as substantial quantities of narcotics, and related contraband. These enforcement actions reflect a sustained commitment to reducing violent crime and removing dangerous weapons from Memphis neighborhoods. The Memphis Safe Task Force is a multi-agency initiative

“We are proud of the work that the Task Force has done in Memphis and are honored to participate in this event,” said Serralta. “The men and women of the U.S. Marshals Service, along with our federal, state, and local partners, continue to enforce the law in Memphis, protect families, and make our communities safer.”

launched in September 2025 to combat violent crime in Memphis. The task force is composed of federal, state, and local law enforcement, as well as the Tennessee National Guard. The task force is focused on arresting violent criminals, clearing warrants, seizing firearms, and locating missing children.

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For additional information about the U.S. Marshals Service, visit www.usmarshals.gov.

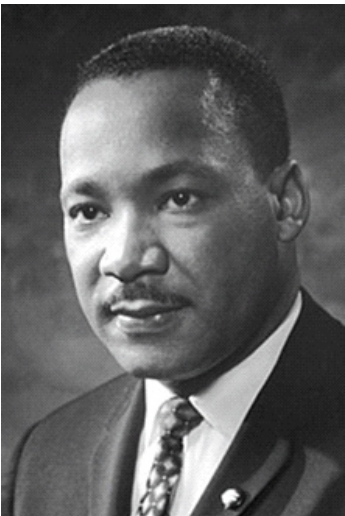
Memphis Grizzlies celebrate legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. with events across the Mid-South area

Grizzlies’ 24th Annual MLK events will be presented by the National Civil Rights Museum, the City of Memphis, and Shelby County.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., January 5, 2026 – The Memphis Grizzlies announced events across the Mid-South for the 24th Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration, presented by the National Civil Rights Museum, City of Memphis and Shelby County.

The Grizzlies hosted their annual 2026 MLK Day of Service, presented by FedEx, on Thursday, Dec. 4. Grizzlies players and coaches, alongside Grizzlies and FedEx volunteers, hosted a mobile food pantry to provide food packages to over 1,500 underserved members of the Memphis community. Volunteers assisted with vehicle check-in, traffic, flow and packaging and distributing meal kits to families.

The Grizzlies hosted Visualizing the Dream 2026, presented by Ford and your Mid-South Ford Dealers, on Thursday, Jan. 8. Members of MENTOR Memphis Grizzlies, Contemporary Arts Memphis and the National Civil Rights Museum hosted a panel discussion that will showcase how Dr. King’s legacy has positively impacted their access to various opportunities for success. Following the panel discussion, 25 local middle school artists will paint sneakers and reflect on living in Dr. King’s legacy. The painted sneakers will be displayed at FedExForum Jan. 21



Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. (1929-1968)

through February. In partnership with the National Civil Rights Museum, the Grizzlies will host over 100 kids from the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Memphis for a Grizzlies Global Game Watch Party on Sunday, Jan. 18, as the Grizzlies battle the Orlando Magic in London, England. During halftime, the Grizzlies will host a panel discussion with National Civil Rights Museum Keeper of the Dream Award Winners to discuss the impact of Dr. King.

The Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration Mentoring Recruitment Fair will be held on Wednesday, Jan. 21, as the Grizzlies host the Atlanta

Hawks throughout the concourse at FedExForum. Community partners will be set up throughout the FedExForum concourse to answer questions and discuss volunteer opportunities starting at 5:30 p.m. and ending at the conclusion of halftime. FedExForum will present a special exhibition by the National Civil Rights Museum, presented by the Hyde Family Foundation, staged outside sections 102-104 on the Plaza Level of FedExForum. The display will feature artifacts, photos and in-

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A Star is Delivered the Day after Christmas to Mr. & Mrs. Jeremy Westby
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Memphis Safe Task Force Rings in New Year
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Pres. Trump Captures Maduro
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Steve Forti Discusses Patient Demand vs Provider Supply
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Radians Donates Half Mil
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Sara Evans and Late Dan Seals Release “Nights Are Forever”
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TN Titans Sign 11 Players
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NRA vs. NRA Foundation
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Meet some of BIHMST Sports Correspondents



William M. Larsha, Jr.



Ashley Braun Gendek

BIHMST Travelers, join correspondents William M. Larsha, Jr. and Ashley Braun Gendek in their sports coverage of The University of Memphis Tigers, Memphis Grizzlies, TN Titans, Southern Heritage Classic, and more!

STOP

Dug McDaniel recognized by League Office after 2-0 Week for Tigers



Dug McDaniel

IRVING, Texas, January 5, 2026 – Memphis senior point guard Dug McDaniel was named an American Conference Honorable Mention by the league office on Monday after guiding Memphis to a 2-0 week with victories over North Texas and Rice. McDaniel delivered steady production across the board, averaging 13.5 points, 5.0 rebounds, 5.0 assists and 3.0 steals per game while logging 34.9 minutes per contest. He shot 45.0 percent from the field for the week and was a perfect 7-for-7 from the free-throw line. The Washington, D.C. native opened the week on New Year’s Eve against North Texas, totaling nine points while leading the Tigers with six assists to go along with four rebounds and two steals in the conference opener. He followed that performance with one of his best outings of the season Saturday at Rice. On the road, McDaniel led Memphis in every major category, posting 18 points, six rebounds, six assists and four steals, while shooting 50 percent from the floor and again going 7-for-7 at the stripe to help the Tigers complete the perfect week. The honor marks the fourth weekly recognition for Memphis this season and the second consecutive accolade for McDaniel, who also earned league honors on Dec. 29. Memphis will have the week off before resuming action Saturday at Florida Atlantic. The Tigers travel to Boca Raton for a Jan. 11 contest scheduled for noon CT.

Watch for The Mid-South Tribune’s 31st Annual Black History Month Edition, Celebrating America’s 250th Birthday, Celebrating the Culture of Freedom! Coming in February!

ALUMNI DAY



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