

# -Sports-

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## Grizzlies to retire Marc Gasol's No. 33 in April 6 in game at FedExForum



Marc Gasol in "33"

MEMPHIS, TN— The Memphis Grizzlies announced the organization will retire Marc Gasol's No. 33 on Saturday, April 6, at FedExForum following the game against the Philadelphia 76ers. Gasol will become the second player in franchise history to have his jersey number retired, joining Zach Randolph, whose No. 50 was retired on December

11, 2021.

Tickets for the game are available for purchase by calling (901) 888-HOOP or by going online to grizzlies.com/tickets. The first 5,000 fans in attendance will receive a Commemorative Vinyl Record honoring Gasol, showcasing memorable calls, moments and interviews over his career. Gasol's jersey retirement ceremony will begin and air live on Bally Sports Southeast and Bally Sports+, postgame April 6, hosted by Pete Pranic, Brevin Knight and Rob Fischer. Full details regarding celebration details for the jersey retirement ceremony, including musical artists, entertainment, former Grizzlies, NBA players, and coaches, and other special guests and festivities, will be announced at a later date.

Gasol played 11 seasons (2008-19) with the Grizzlies and helped guide the franchise to seven consecutive NBA Finals appearances. Please see sports page 5

## Nike partners with Memphis Athletics to launch the Penny Hardaway iconic '1 Cent'



Penny Hardaway

MEMPHIS, TN. – For the first time, Memphis fans can rep the Tigers and Penny Hardaway's iconic "1 Cent" brand all together on an exclusive line of apparel created by Nike and launched on February 20 to select retailers.

The apparel line, featuring the Memphis Athletics "Leaping Tiger" logo and the 1 Cent mark as part of various designs, includes t-shirts, long sleeved t-shirts, hoodie tees, hoodies, quarter-zip tops and more.

*Hardaway's rise to global icon status was honed in Memphis. Through his prep basketball career and time at then-Memphis State University, on to NBA super-stardom and the Olympics, the iconic "1 Cent" brand is rooted in the "901."*

Fans can purchase the line at retailers currently including Tiger Bookstore, Dick's Sporting Goods and Fanatics Lids College. Tiger Bookstore will also be selling the line at FedExForum during Memphis' remaining home games this season.

Hardaway's rise to global icon status was honed in Memphis. Through his prep basketball career and time at then-Memphis State University, on to NBA super-stardom and the Olympics, the iconic "1 Cent" brand is rooted in the "901." Now serving as Memphis head men's basketball coach, 1 Cent has come full circle back to his hometown to help influence the next generation.

## Madrid to host NFL first-ever regular season game in Spain set for 2025 in iconic stadium

LAS VEGAS — Feb. 9, 2024 — The National Football League will play a regular season game in Madrid, Spain in 2025, as the NFL prioritizes global growth and expands the International Games to new cities and markets around the world.

The first-ever regular season game in Spain will be played at the iconic Santiago Bernabéu Stadium, home to Real Madrid C.F.

"Playing a game in Madrid in 2025 highlights the continued expansion of the league's global footprint and the accelerated ambitions to take our game to more fans around the world," said NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell. "We are proud to partner with Real Madrid C.F., a global brand, together with the City of Madrid and Comunidad de Madrid, to bring a spectacular regular season game to Spain at the world-class Santiago Bernabéu Stadium."

"The National Football League's arrival at the Santiago Bernabéu is a major event in sport history," said Real Madrid C.F. President Florentino Pérez. "This strategic alliance between Real Madrid and an organization of the NFL's prestige will boost our brands globally. It will be enthusiastically welcomed by millions of

*"The union between Madrid and the National Football League is full of passion and excellence. We thank the NFL for having the trust in Madrid to host an unprecedented celebration in a legendary and renovated Santiago Bernabéu stadium, that will no doubt vibrate with every play of this historic event," said Mayor of Madrid Jose Luis Martinez-Almeida.*

people on all continents, and it is an honor to embark on this journey together."

"The union between Madrid and the National Football League is full of passion and excellence. We thank the NFL for having the trust in Madrid to host an unprecedented celebration in a legendary and renovated Santiago Bernabéu stadium, that will no doubt vibrate with every play of this historic event," said Mayor of Madrid Jose Luis Martinez-Almeida. "The arrival of the NFL in Madrid will make us hosts of the most important league in the world, and the city will welcome our partners with open arms in 2025 and be ready to make history together."

Alongside Real Madrid C.F., the

City of Madrid and the Comunidad de Madrid, the game will be delivered with the support of the Spanish Government and High Council of Sports.

Fifty regular season NFL games have been played internationally through the league's history, with

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NFL Announces Finalists for Sixth Annual Big Data Powered by AWS

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Charles W. Herbster and Lee Greenwood Receive Defense of Freedom Award from Combat Wounded Heroes

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Gov. Bill Lee Presents 20 TN Homeland Security Special Agents with Badges

see sports-Military 2

UofM's Christina McKnight Featured on Amazon Video Series "The College Tour"

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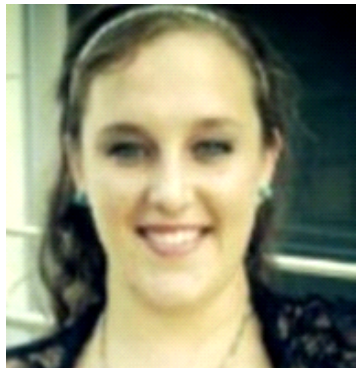
Alex Simmons Gets 100th Career Win

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## 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 Welcome, Travelers!

## UFL debuts official league game ball; Newly-designed ball available to fans

ARLINGTON, TX – February 15, 2024 – The United Football League ("UFL") debuted its official league ball, which is now available for sale on the newly designed TheUFL.com and Shop.theufl.com

Every official UFL game ball is handcrafted and made to perform at the highest level. The official football showcases a metallic, hot-stamped silver UFL logo complemented by Conference marks in bold black [on the other side]. The ball's timeless design – featuring premium Horween Red 864 top-grain leather and suede ProTack+ lace – reflects the contemporary look of the UFL brand yet remains authentic

to the game of football.

Each football is built by Big Game Football Factory in Dallas, Texas from start to finish with all domestically sourced raw materials and matches the same specifications as the current footballs used by professional players. Big Game is the largest American-owned football factory in the world and is celebrating its 30th year as the leader in custom-made footballs.

The official league game ball is available for purchase on the newly launched Shop.theufl.com and through TheUFL.com.

Shop.theufl.com is the official online store of the UFL, featuring merchandise from Under Armour, MSX, and more, with a large selection of officially licensed gear for men, women, and children.

The UFL also unveiled a newly designed TheUFL.com, the

League's official website, which will be adding new content and functionality throughout the season. It will serve as the home for updated statistical information, long-form football commentary, and exciting video content.

The UFL season kicks off on Saturday, March 30, 2024. Season tickets are now available and single-game tickets will be available for presale starting February 20 and to the public on February 22. Visit theufl.com for the 2024 schedule and broadcast details.

Digital assets for the new ball can be found by visiting theufl.com.



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