

The Mid-South Tribune Sports & Entertainment

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Welcome, Memphis Hound Dogs Arena Football!

Ducks Unlimited, Inc. completes its historic \$4.06 billion campaign

MEMPHIS, Tenn. – May 30, 2026 – Ducks Unlimited, Inc. (DU) announced the historic close of “Conservation For A Continent. Our Wetlands. Our Legacy.”, the most ambitious conservation campaign ever undertaken on behalf of North America’s wetlands and waterfowl.

At DU’s 89th Annual National Convention in Tampa, Florida, officials from DU Inc., DU Canada, DU de Mexico, and Wetlands America Trust (WAT) enthusiastically revealed that the comprehensive campaign generated an unprecedented \$4.06 billion for continental conservation. More than 2 million contributors powered the campaign over its seven-year period.

“This campaign is the culmination of thousands of acts of generosity, passion, and commitment to something larger than ourselves by our volunteers and con-

tributors,” said Mike Bengé, campaign chair. “Every volunteer hour invested, every dollar raised, and every acre conserved is a direct reflection of what our supporters believe: that wetlands are worth fighting for, and that together, we can protect them for generations to come.”

Launched in 2019, “Conservation For A Continent” set an audacious goal of securing \$3 billion in support of DU’s mission, a target that supporters ultimately surpassed. Building on the foundation of 15 million acres conserved in North America at the time of the campaign’s launch, the effort ultimately helped DU surpass 20 million acres of wetlands and associated habitat conserved since 1937, expanding DU’s conservation legacy to an extraordinary scale.

The \$4.06 billion is being in-

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STOP

Ranger Wildlife Removal & Prevention issues Mid-South warning of spike in snake-related home calls

The next 90 to 120 days represent one of the highest-risk periods of the year for snake activity around homes. As summer temperatures intensify, rodents such as mice begin seeking shelter indoors to escape the heat and establish breeding areas inside attics, crawlspaces, garages, and wall cavities. That rodent activity becomes a major attractant for snakes searching for food sources.

May 26, 2026 - MEMPHIS, Tenn. — Ranger Wildlife Removal & Prevention is warning Mid-South homeowners after the company reported a 50% year-to-date increase in snake-related service calls involving snakes entering residential homes and structures across the region.

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breeding areas inside attics, crawlspaces, garages, and wall cavities. That rodent activity becomes a major attractant for snakes searching for food sources.

“We are seeing a dramatic increase in calls involving snakes entering homes, garages, attics, and crawlspaces,” said Dan Morgan, Operations Partner, Ranger Wildlife Removal and Prevention . “Most homeowners don’t realize the snake itself is often

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Memphis Grizzlies will host 2026 NBA Draft Party, presented by Southland Casino Hotel on June 23

MEMPHIS, Tenn., June 1, 2026 – The Memphis Grizzlies are inviting Grizzlies fans to FedExForum on Tuesday, June 23, for the team’s official 2026 NBA Draft Party, presented by Southland Casino Hotel. Doors open at 6 p.m. CT with draft coverage beginning at 7 p.m. on the Grizzlies’ main HD video display. The event is free to the general public and will conclude after the final selection of the first round. Parking is available on a first-come, first-served basis inside the Gossett Motors Garage at FedExForum and fans do not need to RSVP for the event. Concession stands on the Plaza level concourse will be open to purchase for fans.



In addition to draft coverage and live commentary by Grind City Media, Grizzlies Broadcast team members and other special guests, the night will feature multiple performances from Grizzlies Live Entertainment Teams. Fans are encouraged to arrive early and enjoy live DJ’s, inflatables, face painting, photo-booths and more on the FedEx-

Forum concourse. All fans in attendance at the Draft Party will be able to register to receive one free ticket to a 2026-27 preseason home game.

2026 Draft Hats will be in stock at the Grizz Den during the event while fans will also have the opportunity to preorder the Grizzlies draft pick’s new jersey. 2025-26 City Edition inventory and 191 Collabs will be marked down 40 percent off during the event.

All MVP Season Ticket Members will have the opportunity to RSVP for MVP-exclusive floor access with food and drink available. Fans who want to learn

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Wagner College names NBA Hall of Famer Tracy McGrady strategic advisor to men’s basketball team

McGrady, renowned as one of the NBA's greatest players, is not only celebrated for his remarkable basketball career but also for his dedication to making a positive impact off the court.

NBA Legend, Entrepreneur, To Assist Head Coach Dwan McMillan and Staff as A Volunteer In All Aspects of Business and Basketball As His Son Laymen Joins The Seahawks

May 12, 2026 -Staten Island, NY- Wagner College announced that Basketball Hall of Famer and entrepreneur Tracy McGrady has joined the staff of new fulltime men’s head basketball coach Dwan McMillan as Strategic Advisor.

McGrady, per NCAA rules, has waived a salary and will serve in a volunteer capacity as his son Laymen, a 6-4 freshman who spent last season as a redshirt at Oral Roberts University, joins

the Seahawks as a student-athlete.

McGrady will advise the College on the development of sustainable structures related to Name, Image and Likeness investment, while also providing strategic guidance to the men’s basketball program in areas including marketing, player development, and expanding Wagner’s reach beyond its traditional areas of engagement on and off the court.

“The challenges college athletics face today, especially at the mid-major level in a city like New York, can be very difficult, and I am looking forward to helping coach McMillan and his staff in every way possible to raise the profile, the level of talent and the

business opportunities both on and off the court for his young athletes as they grow not just in basketball but as leaders. My hope is to help create an environment where all involved can stay, grow together, and really master their game and life skills over time.” McGrady said. “Stepping into this role is really personal for me since I did not go to college. Being around this community, where gritty coaches like P.J. Carlesimo and Dan Hurley got their start, excites me just as much as basketball. It is a priority for me that goes well beyond wins and losses in the NEC. It is about making sure potential is realized both for the short and the long term for these dedicated athletes

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The Memphis Hound Dogs will kick off first home game at the Memphis Sports & Event Center on Saturday, June 6th .

See full home game schedule on sports-Ent. 6

Meet some of BIHMST Sports Correspondents



William M. Larsha, Jr.



Ashley Braun Gendek

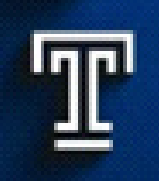
BIHMST Travelers, join correspondents William M. Larsha, Jr. and Ashley Braun Gendek in their sports coverage of The University of Memphis Tigers, Memphis Grizzlies, TN Titans, Southern Heritage Classic, and more!



- Mack Ave. Music Group and Two Lions Records Celebrate Oscar Peterson’s Centennial Vinyl Compilation... *sports-Ent. 6*
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- Federal, State, and Local Agencies Combine Forces for Operation Clean House: Memphis... *see sports-Military 2*
- ***
- Black Promoters Collective (BPC) Makes World Music History *see sports-Ent. 6*
- ***
- Wilson County Promotions & DTC Communications Announce Largest Public Wi-Fi Network at State Fair... *see sports-Ent. 5*
- ***
- Joshua Ray Walker Post-Cancer “Ain’t Dead Yet” *see sports-Ent. 4*



GAME THEMES



SEP. 6

90I GAME

SEP. 16

YOUTH DAY
STUDENT APPRECIATION

OCT. 10

BATTLE FOR THE BONES
BBQ & BLUES

OCT. 18

THE DEANGELO WILLIAMS FOUNDATION
BREAST CANCER AWARENESS
HEALTHCARE APPRECIATON

OCT. 24

HOMECOMING
HERO DAY

NOV. 27

SENIOR DAY