

The Mid-South Tribune Sports & Entertainment

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Memphis Hustle open player tryouts set for Saturday, September 19

– Tryouts Take Place from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the Memphis Sports & Events Center –

MEMPHIS, Tenn. – The Memphis Hustle, the NBA G League affiliate of the Memphis Grizzlies, will hold its eighth annual open player tryouts for the upcoming 2026-27 season on Saturday, Sept. 19, from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the Memphis Sports & Events Center (995 Early Maxwell Blvd.) Doors will open to participants at 9 a.m. This event is closed to the public, but media members are invited to attend and should RSVP to babraham@grizzlies.com by 2 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 17.

Players who participate in the open tryouts will be observed and evaluated by members of the Memphis Hustle and Memphis Grizzlies Basketball Operations staff. All applicants must be eligible to play in the NBA G League per the qualifications listed online and complete the required paperwork. Detailed information about the tryouts,

registration forms and payment options and instructions can be found at memphishustle.com/tryouts.

For advance registrations completed prior to the registration deadline, the fee is \$200. The fee increases to \$250 for walk-up registrations. Pre-registration will close at 5 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 17. Pre-registration will be capped at 80 participants, so those who plan to pre-register are encouraged to do so as soon as possible. Those wishing to do walk-up registration must pay with a credit or debit card. Family members and guests are not allowed at the tryout – only participants themselves. In addition, all participants will receive a free T-shirt with registration. All registrations are non-refundable.

For more information on the Memphis Hustle, visit memphishustle.com, follow the team on Twitter/X and Instagram (@MemphisHustle) or like Memphis Hustle on Facebook.

Amanda Hardt named to Preseason American All-Conference Team

Hardt is the first Tiger to earn preseason all-conference honors since libero Bailey Houlihan in 2023, and the program's first outside hitter selected since Hannah Flowers in 2019.

IRVING, Texas, August 19, 2026– Memphis senior outside hitter Amanda Hardt was named to the 2026 American Conference Preseason All-Conference team, the league announced Wednesday. Hardt is the first Tiger to earn preseason all-conference honors since libero Bailey Houlihan in 2023, and the program's first outside hitter selected since Hannah Flowers in 2019. The Glendale, Arizona, native enters her second season at Memphis after a standout 2025 campaign that was cut short due to injury. Despite being limited to 10 matches, Hardt led the Tigers in both kills per set (4.86) and points per set (5.42), recording

double-digit kills in nine of those contests. Hardt made program history on Sept. 11 when she posted a season-high 31 kills against Chattanooga, becoming the first Tiger since 2002 to record 30 or more kills in a single match. She also set a career high with six service aces against USC Upstate on Aug. 29. Her dominant start earned her two American Offensive Player of the Week honors (Sept. 1 and Sept. 16). Memphis was picked to finish 10th in the American preseason coaches' poll with 45 points, placing ahead of Temple (36 points), Tulane (26 points) and UAB (23 points). Rice was

Please see sports page 4

PRESENTED BY



MEMPHIS

JAZZ

©

2026

FESTIVAL

2026

SAVE THE DATE.SAVE THE DATE.

OCTOBER 9TH-11TH

SAVE THE DATE.SAVE THE DATE.

OCTOBER 9TH

OCTOBER 10TH

OCTOBER 10TH

OCTOBER 11TH

DOWNTOWN JAZZ EXPERIENCES

MEMPHIS JAZZ WORKSHOP

FREE MEMPHIS JAZZ FESTIVAL ON MAIN STREET MALL

SUNSET JAZZ AT COURT SQUARE

IT'S IN OUR RHYTHMIC DNA

Downtown Memphis Commission inaugurates the Memphis Jazz Festival free to public, Oct. 9-11

Festival incorporates the famous 'Memphis Sound'
Visit website Memphis Jazz Festival

MEMPHIS, TN - The Downtown Memphis Commission announced the inaugural Memphis Jazz Festival, taking place October 9-11, 2026, in Downtown Memphis. The three-day festival will be free and open to the public, bringing together local talent, national artists, and music lovers for a celebration of jazz in the heart of our city. “Memphis is known around the world for its music. While blues, soul, rock ‘n’ roll, and gospel are deeply woven into our identity, jazz is also an important part of the Memphis music story. The Memphis Jazz Festival will celebrate that legacy while creating a new platform for the musicians and creatives shaping its future.” the festival and establish a vision for its future.

The festival planning committee includes:

- Milton Howery, Chief Marketing Officer, Downtown Memphis Commission
- Deborah Swiney, Sunset Jazz
- Stephen Lee and Michael Scott, Memphis Jazz Workshop
- DeMarcus Suggs, City of

“Memphis is known around the world for its music. While blues, soul, rock ‘n’ roll, and gospel are deeply woven into our identity, jazz is also an important part of the Memphis music story. The Memphis Jazz Festival will celebrate that legacy while creating a new platform for the musicians and creatives shaping its future.”

Memphis

- McKenzie Webster, Founder, The Web MGMT
- Alicia Dixon and Marquis White, Dixon-White Restaurant Group, LLC

Together, the group is working to build more than a three-day music festival. The vision is to create a signature Downtown Memphis experience that supports local musicians, attracts national artists, celebrates Memphis’ musical heritage, and brings people together through music.

Over time, the goal is to grow the Memphis Jazz Festival into a nationally recognized event that creates new tourism demand for Downtown Memphis—giving visitors another reason to travel to our city while generating increased foot traffic and economic activity for Downtown restaurants, hotels, businesses, and at-

Please see sports-Ent. 5

Meet some of BIHMST Sports Correspondents

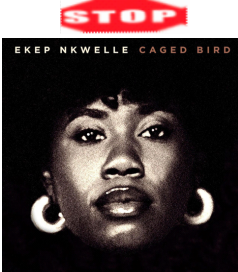


William M. Larsha, Jr.



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!



Ekep Nkwelle Releases “Caged Bird” via Mack Ave. Records... see sports-Ent. 5

Grizzlies Announce Mini-Plans on Sale... see sports page 4

Tracy Bonham Celebrates 30th Anniversary... see sports-Ent. 6

Jamerson Partners with NFL see sports page 4

Paramount Skydance Corp. Extends Expiration Offers... see sports-Ent. 6

Bailey Tippen Stars in Netflix’s “Beauty in Black”... see sports-Ent. 6

Broska vs. Meta... see sports-Military 2

SAF Hosts Alternative Mass Media Conf... see sports 3



UP NEXT

SATURDAY, SEPT. 5

6:00 PM CT

SIMMONS BANK LIBERTY STADIUM

901 GAME

MEMPHIS FOOTBALL