

-Sports-

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Memphis Tigers open season with blowout over North Alabama



By William M. Larsha, Jr., Senior Correspondent The Mid-South Tribune and the Black Information Highway

MEMPHIS- The University of Memphis began the 2024 football season on August 31, 2024 at Simmons Bank Liberty Stadium in Memphis. The Tigers beat FCS member North Alabama 40-0. It was the beginning of what many think could be a historic season for the Tigers.

Memphis simply out matched the smaller North Alabama team. They came into the game as heavy favorites and did not disappoint. The Tigers scored a

touchdown in the first quarter on a 4-yard run from Mario Anderson. The Tigers put the game away in the 2nd quarter. They scored 3 touchdowns and a field goal to make the score 31-0 at halftime. The team took their foot off the gas in the 2nd half. They scored one touchdown and a field goal to conclude the game.

The Tigers were led by senior quarterback Seth Henigan. He was 22-30 for 308 yards and 2 touchdowns. Mario Anderson led the team in rushing with 10 carries for 46 yards and 2 touchdowns. Roc Taylor led in receiving with 5 catches for 87 yards.

Many expect the Tigers to be one of the top groups of 5 teams at the year's end. This year's playoff format allows the highest ranked group of 5 teams a spot in the College Football Playoff. That will give them a shot at the National Championship. If the Tigers continue to win and claim the AAC championship, they will certainly be in the conversation.

The Tigers take the home field next Saturday against Troy.

Former NFL players who played before 12 are not linked to worse health



Douglas Terry, PhD

NASHVILLE, TENN. A recent study looking at more than 4,000 former professional football players showed no connection between starting the sport before age 12 and higher rates of depression, anxiety, dementia or memory problems later in life, researchers at Vanderbilt University Medical Center and Harvard University found.

The Football Players Health Study at Harvard University collected data from 4,189 former NFL athletes who spanned the ages of 24-89. While former professional players who started playing before age 12 had more

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cumulative football exposure (as in, total duration of their football career and more signs/symptoms of sports-related concussions during their career), there was no evidence that the group who started playing organized football younger had more cognitive, mood, sleep, cardiovascular or other health issues later in life, the researchers wrote.

These results, published in

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The NFL expands loans from minority banks to \$100 mil for economic opportunity

League Reinforces its Commitment to Drive Economic Opportunity in Underserved Communities



NEW YORK – August 29, 2024 –The NFL is expanding its commitment to support diverse enterprises across the country to help drive economic opportunity in underserved communities.

Last year, the league secured \$78 million in funding from 16 Minority Depository Institutions (MDIs), Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs), and minority- and women-focused lenders. Today, the league has doubled down on its commitment by securing an additional \$21 million in loans

from 10 additional banking partners, totaling \$99 million in funding from 26 institutions in the last two years.

“The NFL is committed to closing the economic opportunity gap by providing underrepresented community banks broader visibility and opportunities typically only available to larger financial institutions,” said Christine Dorrler, chief financial officer of the NFL. “We see this initiative as an investment in our fans and communities across underrepresented

regions of the country. Because of this initiative, organizations and individuals who may not have access to capital will have an opportunity to finance their dreams and ambitions.”

In partnership with Bank of America, the NFL identified financial institutions dedicated to providing essential investments to a diverse range of individuals, businesses, and communities to help drive economic progress and opportunity.

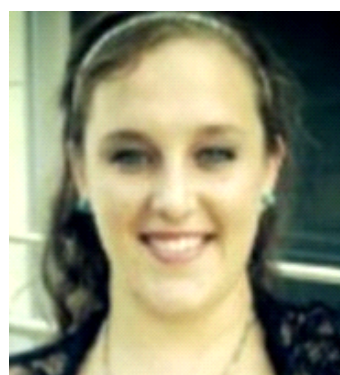
“The ‘Impact Banking’ Movement is growing thanks to partners like the NFL that are banking with their values,” said Ashley Bell, co-founder of National Black Bank Foundation.

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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, Memphis Showboats, UFL, NFL, Soccer and more on The Mid-South Tribune and the Black Information Highway at blackinformationhighway.com

Welcome, Travelers!

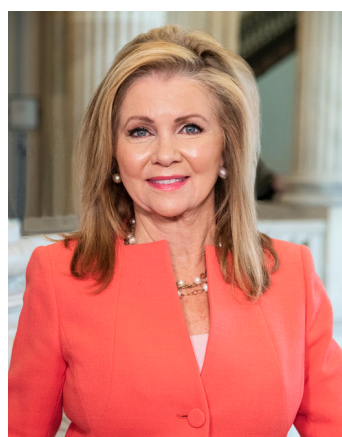
See Southern Heritage Classic Events for September 11-14... see sports page 3

Sen. Blackburn accuses NBA of ‘profit over principle’ in letter to Silver on NBA African business

NASHVILLE, Tenn. August 27, 2024 – U.S. Senators Marsha Blackburn (R-Tenn.) and Jeff Merkley (D-Oreg.) sent a letter to National Basketball Association (NBA) Commissioner Adam Silver calling out the NBA’s deepening engagement with Rwandan President Paul Kagame who has a demonstrated record of human rights abuses. The letter also expresses concern about the league’s engagement with Chinese Communist Party officials.

As of 2021, NBA’s Business in Africa Was Valued at Nearly \$1 Billion

“We write to express deep concern about the National Basketball Association (NBA)’s deepening relationship with Rwanda, led by President Paul Kagame. It seems that the NBA—which has long positioned itself as a beacon of social justice—is choosing to continue developing relationships with



Sen. Marsha Blackburn

dictators and despots, all in the name of putting profit over principle. Reporting indicates that the League’s relationship with President Kagame began in 2018, as you ‘shot free throws’ with the President in Kigali. The NBA then gave President Kagame the advice and support he needed to build a massive new \$104 million arena to establish the Basketball Africa League (BAL), expanding the NBA’s presence on the continent. Indeed, the NBA’s business in Africa was

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valued at almost \$1 billion as of 2021.”

Rwandan President’s Government Has Long History of Brutality and Abuse

“The NBA has hosted President Kagame in Toronto, Los Angeles, Charlotte, Oakland, and at various other NBA sponsored events across North America, treating him like a friend and

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STOP

- Free Prostate Screenings by PCEC in Memphis *see sports page 4* ***
- UofM Opens Crime Information Center *see sports-Military 2* ***
- Calling for Nominations for Teachers Extra Yard Contest; Winner Can Receive \$4,000 *see details on sports page 3* ***
- NFL and YouTube Partner to Bring Fans “Creator of the Week” Programs *see sports-Ent. 5* ***
- Memphis Hustle Announces Tip-Off Tournament *see sports-Ent. 5* ***
- NFL Announces HealthTech Challenge 1 Awardees *see sports page 4*

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10.26 HOMECOMING	11.8 MILITARY APPRECIATION	11.16 SENIOR DAY	