

The Mid-South Tribune Sports & Entertainment

Black Information Highway.com

Memphis Tigers cruise to 45-21 win over UT Martin



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And the
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Highway

MEMPHIS- In a game most expected them to win big, the Memphis Tigers did just that last Saturday, September 19, 2026 over outmatched UT Martin 45-21 at Simmons Bank Liberty Stadium. It took the Tigers to 3-1 on the season. It was also their last non-conference game. Quarterback Marcus Stokes put

on a dominant performance, throwing four touchdowns to guide the high-powered Tigers offense to their third consecutive game surpassing 500 total yards.

Memphis jumped out to a commanding 17-0 lead in the first half following Marcus Stokes' touchdown passes to Tychaun Chapman and Jaylin Carter. Halftime Control: After UT Martin briefly answered with an 8-yard touchdown pass from freshman quarterback Tate Surber to Makhia Sherrard, Stokes responded with a 9-yard throw to Jonathan Harding, giving Memphis a 24-7 advantage at the half. Running back Jordan Thompson spearheaded a massive ground game for the Tigers, racking up 110 rushing yards, including a spectacular 72-yard breakaway run. Thompson capped off the evening's scoring with a 1-yard touchdown run in the final minute. The Tigers will have a bye next week.

QB Marcus Stokes' four big touchdowns earn him an American Conference honor



Marcus Stokes

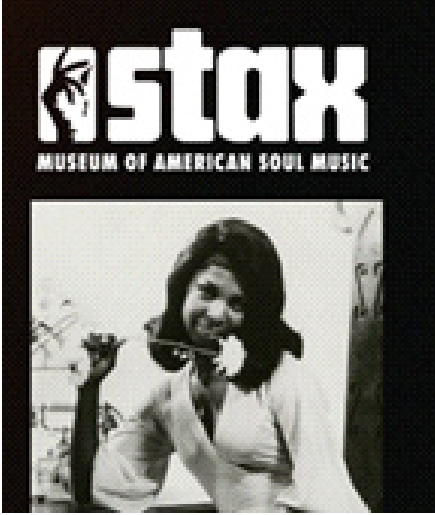
IRVING, Texas – University of Memphis quarterback Marcus Stokes collected his first conference honor of the season, being named a weekly honorable mention by the American, the conference announced Monday morning. Stokes, a West Florida transfer, led the Memphis offense to its third straight 500-yard performance in a 25-21 win over UT Martin. In the victory, Stokes tied his career high in completions with 26, finishing the game with

258 passing yards and four touchdowns. His 81 percent completion percentage was the highest by a Tiger since Brady White reached the same mark against Southern in 2019, completing nine more passes than White did. He is also the first Tiger since Seth Henigan in 2024 against UAB to throw for four touchdowns in a game. Through week three of college football, Stokes has led one of the top offenses in the country, ranking 15th in team passing efficiency (183.05), third in first down offense (89) and 16th in total offense (508.0). The redshirt junior ranks third in passing yards (1,053), tied for sixth in passing touchdowns (9), 13th in passing efficiency (185.9) and 24th in completion percentage (71.4). Memphis (3-1) is currently in an open week ahead of its American Conference opener on the road at Charlotte (0-3) on Oct. 3. The game's start time and network are still to be determined.

Nicki Bluhm pays tribute to late Stax Records songwriter Bettye Crutcher's “How Strong Is A Woman” hit tune



Nicki Bluhm pays homage to Bettye Crutcher
(Photo Credit: Alysse Gafkjen)



Bettye Crutcher

Listen now to “How Strong Is A Woman” via YouTube
<https://youtu.be/C39GZliLyPE?si=a7hMJLMkP-RN3NqR>

September 16, 2026 – Nashville-based singer-songwriter Nicki Bluhm pays tribute to the late prolific Stax Records songwriter Bettye Crutcher by sharing her empowering rendition of “How Strong Is A Woman,” released on what would’ve been her 87th birthday. Originally written by Crutcher and cut by Ann Peebles in 1972, the song was updated by Bluhm and Grammy-winning producer Matt Ross-Spang, who worked closely with Crutcher

shortly before her passing to revise its lyrics, which now emphasize how the true strength of a woman is rooted in self-love. The new rendition was recently featured at Relix, who shared more insight into the pioneering songwriter. “Reexploring this song was both an honor and an undertaking,” says Bluhm, who cut this new version at the iconic Sam Phillips Recording Services in Memphis. “A lot has changed in those 50+

years, and as we've evolved, the meaning in this title has too. I think Bettye understood that better than anyone, which is why she was open to modernizing the lyrics with Matt Ross-Spang and me. Matt is a very dear friend, exceptional producer and deep appreciator of musical history. We have made a lot of music together, and this collaboration between him, Bettye and myself

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Award-winning NFL Race to End Zone Powered by Verizon on NFL YouTube

Gaming Series to Feature an All-New Lineup of NFL Players and Gaming Creators



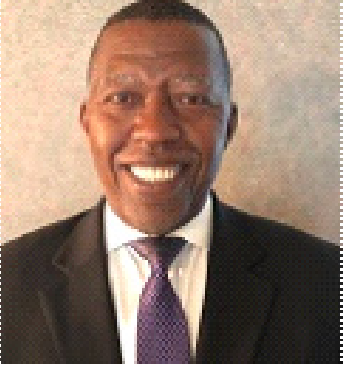
NEW YORK — Sept. 22, 2026 — The National Football League and Livewire, the global game-tech media company, announced the return of NFL Race to the End Zone Powered by Verizon, the award-winning, gaming-inspired competition series that pairs NFL players with gaming creators in weekly challenges celebrating NFL fandom and gaming culture. The second season premiered on Sept. 22 on NFL YouTube (@NFL) and culminates during Super Bowl LXI week in Los Angeles. Episode One of the 21-episode series features Las Vegas Raiders running

back Ashton Jeanty and content creator Kani Rose. Season One established NFL R2EZ as a breakout franchise. The series generated 178 million total views on NFL YouTube and an average of 8.4 million views per episode across 368 pieces of content. The debut season earned two Telly Awards, Gold for Series-Sports and Silver for Campaign-Sports, along with the

Digiday Content Marketing Award for Best Use of Native Advertising/Sponsored Content. Season Two features NFL players Daniel Jones (Indianapolis Colts quarterback), Jahmyr Gibbs (Detroit Lions running back), and Drake London (Atlanta Falcons wide receiver) and gaming creators CashNasty,

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Meet some of BIHMST Sports Correspondents

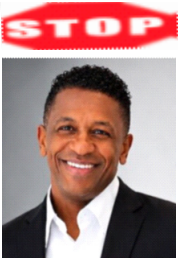


William M. Larsha, Jr.



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!



John Askew Launches Prime Time Productions... see sports-Ent. 5

“Memphis Safe Task Force Delivers,” by U.S. Sen. Marsha Blackburn... see sports-Military 2
Memphis Safe Task Force Report... see sports-Military 2

Hattiloo Theatre to Host International Black Theatre Festival see sports-Ent. 4

Mississippi Governor's Awards see sports-Ent. 6

Downtown Commission Announces Jazz Festival Lineup...see sports-Ent. 5

Melody Place's Digital Team see sports-Ent. 4



UP NEXT

SATURDAY, OCT. 10

TIME TBA

SIMMONS BANK LIBERTY STADIUM
BATTLE FOR THE BONES

MEMPHIS FOOTBALL

