

### www.blackinformationhighway.com

## Memphis Grizzlies to host open practice on Sunday, October 6 at FedExForum



Plaza Party Tips-Off at 10 a.m.
and Doors Open at 11 a.m.
First 500 fans in Attendance to
Receive an Autographed Player
Photo –

MEMPHIS, Tenn. – The Memphis Grizzlies will host their annual Open Practice, presented by OrthoSouth, on Sunday, Oct. 6, at noon at FedExForum. A Plaza Party on the Big River Steel Plaza tips-off the fun at 10 a.m., with doors opening to fans at 11 a.m.

The full-team practice will give fans a first look at the 2024-25 squad including Ja Morant, Desmond Bane, Jaren Jackson Jr. and Marcus Smart, plus rookie Zach Edey and more. Led by Head Coach Taylor Jenkins, the event Open Practice is free to the public, and fans are encouraged – but not required – to RSVP for the event by going to Grizzlies.com/open-practice.

will include entertainment from Grizz, the Grizz Girls, the Claw Crew and other live entertainment teams. Fans will be able to watch their favorite Grizzlies players go head-to-head against each other as they compete in various skills challenges.

Open Practice is free to the public, and fans are encouraged - but not required – to RSVP for the event by going to Grizzlies.com/open-practice. Fans who choose to arrive early can celebrate the start of a new season with a Plaza Party on the Big River Steel Plaza that tips off at 10 a.m., featuring a live DJ, inflatables, face painting, balloon artists and more. The first 500 fans in attendance will receive an

Please see sports page 4

# Showboats announce former NFL coach Ken Whisenhunt as the new head coach to usher in new season

## Jim Monos named new general manager

MEMPHIS, Tenn. September 23, 2024 - The United Football League has named Ken Whisenhunt as the new head coach of the Memphis Showboats. The league has also announced Jim Monos as the team's new general manager.

"We're thrilled to add both Ken and Jim to the UFL to lead our Memphis Showboats franchise," UFL President/CEO Russ Brandon said. "Both men bring deep football credentials and pedigree to our league as we continue to build our football ecosystem."

"We are very excited to welcome Ken Whisenhunt and Jim Monos to the UFL family," UFL Executive Vice President for Football Operations Daryl Johnston said. "Jim was part of the New Orleans Saints personnel department when they won Super Bowl XLIV and Ken was the offensive



coordinator with Pittsburgh when they won Super Bowl XL and as head coach was 35 seconds from leading the Arizona Cardinals to a Championship over the Steelers in Super Bowl XLIII. The Showboats have two foundational pieces in place as they prepare for UFL Season 2." Whisenhunt has an extensive coaching background, including two stints as a head coach in the National Football League and a Super Bowl Championship as offensive coordinator with the Pittsburgh Steelers.

"I'm truly excited about this op-

portunity," Whisenhunt said. "I have been watching these leagues over the past few years and I'm amazed at how things have grown and advanced. I'm looking forward to working with these young men. I know how important it is for them to have the opportunity to play professional football and have the possibility of getting to the NFL or back to the NFL.

"I have known and respected Russ Brandon and Daryl Johnston for many years," Whisenhunt added. "So, I'm truly excited about the opportunity to work with them and be a part of the United Football League."

Whisenhunt was the head coach of the Arizona Cardinals for six seasons (2007-2012), winning two NFC West Division Championships (2008, 2009), an NFC

Please see sports page 4

#### 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!



Tangerine Records Celebrates Ray Charles' Impact on

### Statement from the University of Memphis on AAC Status

MEMPHIS, Tenn., September 23, 2024 "The landscape of college athletics has shifted dramatically in the past few years. With that, our focus has remained on ensuring our student-athletes are given the best possible environment to perform their sports and academics at the highest level. After considering other potential options, we have decided our current partnership with the American Athletic Conference is in the best interest of our student-athletes and the future of our University."

### Memphis Hustle finalizes coaching

# NFL Smart Heart Sports Coalition launches AEDs for Youth program

New program with Coro Medical and Avive Solutions will make AEDs more accessible to schools and youth sports organizations nationwide

NEW YORK, NY – September 23, 2024 – The Smart Heart Sports Coalition today announced the launch of the "AEDs for Youth" program, offering automated external defibrillators (AEDs) to schools and youth sports organizations at substantial discounts. In collaboration with leading AED companies Coro Medical and Avive Solutions, the program makes

such as rescue kits, signage, wall cabinets, and device management support, tailored for different settings: 'AED school bundles' for indoor settings, such as classrooms and cafeterias, and 'AED athletic bundles' for outdoor settings, such as outdoor tracks and athletic fields. Coro Medical and Avive also have replacement and trade-in options for schools and youth sports organizations looking to upgrade their current AEDs with new models and add more AEDs to their facilities.

Additionally, as part of the bundles, schools and youth sports orcountry," said Jeff Miller, the NFL Executive Vice President of Communications, Public Affairs, and Policy. "AEDs are indispensable, and this program reduces the cost, ensuring AEDs are accessible where students learn, play, and compete."

"Coro Medical is deeply committed to advancing the mission of the Smart Heart Sports Coalition," said Travis Harris, the Chief Executive Officer of Coro Medical. "It is both an honor and a responsibility to be part of this critical initiative, which is dedicated to protecting young athletes and students nationwide

#### staff and promotes T.C. Swirsky to Head Coach

MEMPHIS, Tenn. – The Memphis Hustle, the NBA G League affiliate of the Memphis Grizzlies, finalized their coaching staff, promoting lead assistant T.C. Swirsky to head coach. Danielle Boiago, Nick Covington, Jack Hostetler and Rob Sanicola will serve as assistant coaches on Swirsky's staff.

Visit MemphisHustle.com for ticket and schedule information.

#### Early Vote from October 16-31.

AEDs more accessible as students, teachers, and athletes begin the new school year.

Studies show that access to an AED within minutes of sudden cardiac arrest (SCA) can triple survival chances. Through this program, FDA-approved AEDs are available at significantly discounted prices, with Avive Solutions offering its AED and Coro Medical providing all other AED brands and models. Both companies are offering AED bundles that include essential accessories ganizations can access discounts on AED and CPR training from third-party expert instructors from the American Heart Association and the American Red Cross. This training is vital for school administrators, teachers, and coaches to effectively respond to cardiac emergencies.

"We're proud to build on the progress of the Smart Heart Sports Coalition and launch this first-ofits-kind program to make AEDs widely available in schools and athletic facilities around the from the life-threatening dangers of Sudden Cardiac Arrest. By providing AEDs to schools and youth sports groups across the country, we are not only delivering life-saving tools but also championing the Smart Heart Sports Coalition's commitment to creating safer environments for students and student athletes of all ages."

"Avive Solutions is excited to partner with the Smart Heart Sports Coalition to bring lifesav-

Please see sports page 4

Country Music by Releasing Remasters to Celebrate His 94th Year of Birth *see sport-Ent. 5* \*\*\* TN Titans Travel to Miami to Take on Dolphins in Monday Night Football *see sports page 4* \*\*\* Veteran Guardian and Black

Veteran Empowerment, Inc. Hold Disability Clinic see sports-Military 2

