

# Memphis Showboats roster takes shape after first round of player dispersal process ... from sports page 1

Included among those who were added from other USFL teams were quarterback Case Cookus, who was No. 2 in the USFL in passing yards and passing touchdowns last season for the Philadelphia Stars; defensive back D.J. Daniel, who earned All-USFL honors with the New Jersey Generals in 2023; Vinny Papale, an All-USFL selection on special teams for Memphis in 2023 (had signed with New Orleans following the 2023 season); tight end Sage Surratt, who was No. 3 in the USFL in receiving yards in 2023 for the Breakers; and running back Darius Victor, who was No. 3 in the USFL in rushing yards last season for the Generals.

Players not protected or selected in this initial process will be placed in a pool of players who will be available for all UFL teams to choose from, regardless of previous league, in another round of player dispersal on January 15.

The following is a look at the results of the initial player dispersal process for the Memphis Showboats:

## MEMPHIS SHOWBOATS ROSTER by Name, Position, College, and Previous Team

**Delrick Abrams Jr. CB**  
Colorado, Memphis

**Jonathan Adams WR**  
Arkansas State, New Orleans  
**John Atkins Sr. NT**  
Georgia, Memphis

**Dee Anderson WR**  
Alabama A&M, New Orleans

**Clayton Bradley OT**  
UNLV, Memphis

**Jordan Brailford OLB**  
Oklahoma State, New Orleans

**Kennedy Brooks RB**  
Oklahoma, Philadelphia

**Josiah Bronson DE**  
Washington, Memphis

**Anthony Butler ILB**  
Liberty, Memphis

**Connor Christian DT**  
Jacksonville State, New Orleans

**Case Cookus QB**  
Northern Arizona, Philadelphia

**D.J. Daniel DB**  
Georgia, New Jersey

**Rashard Davis WR**  
James Madison, Memphis

**Daewood Davis WR**  
Western Kentucky, Memphis

**Vontae Diggs OLB**  
Connecticut, New Orleans

**Derrick Dillon WR**  
LSU, Memphis

**Jarey Elder S**  
West Chester (Pa.), New Orleans

**Micahel Ezeike TE**  
UCLA, Memphis

**Dillon Faamatau DT**  
Oklahoma, Memphis

**Jordan Ferguson DE**  
Middle Tennessee State, Memphis

**T.J. Green S**  
Clemson, Memphis

**P.J. Hall DE**  
Sam Houston State, Memphis

**Kolin Hill OLB**  
Texas Tech, New Jersey

**Tyran Hunt OG**  
Old Dominion, Memphis

**Jarron Jones OL**  
Notre Dame, Memphis

**Cole Kelley QB**  
Southeastern Louisiana, Memphis

**Kirk Kelley OG**  
Troy, New Orleans

**Alex Kessman K**  
Pittsburgh, Memphis

**Malik Lawal OLB**  
Tulane, Memphis

**Chance Lytle OG**  
Duke, Memphis

**Daylon Mack NT**  
Texas A&M, Memphis

**Jordan McCray OC**  
UCF, Memphis

**Jeff McCulloch Edge**  
Texas, Memphis

**Ryan McDaniel WR**  
North Carolina Central, Memphis

**Lukayus McNeil OT**  
Louisville, Memphis

**Lamont McPhatter II FS**  
California (Pa.), Memphis

**Quenton Meeks CB**  
Stanford, Memphis

**John Mitchell TE**  
Florida Atlantic, Memphis

**Dylan Moses ILB**  
Alabama, Memphis

**Guy Myers QB**  
Charleston (W. Va.), Memphis

**T.J. Neal OLB**  
Auburn, Memphis

**Diondre Overton WR**  
Clemson, Pittsburgh

**Vinny Papale WR**  
Delaware, New Orleans

**Darrin Paulo OT**  
Utah, Memphis

**Terry Poole OT**  
San Diego State, Pittsburgh

**Terrone Prescod OT**  
North Carolina State, Memphis

**Greg Reaves OLB**  
South Florida, Memphis

**Tyshun Render Edge**  
Middle Tennessee State, New Jersey

**Shaheed Salmon LB**  
Samford, New Orleans

**Wes Saxton Jr. TE**  
South Alabama, New Jersey

**Nehemiah Shelton CB**  
San Jose State, Memphis

**Sage Surratt TE**  
Wake Forest, New Orleans

**Jeremiah Valoaga DE**  
UNLV, Memphis

**Darius Victor RB**  
Towson, New Jersey

**Troy Warner S,**

BYU, Memphis

**Sidney Wells OT**  
UAB, New Orleans

**Kerrith Whyte RB**  
Florida, Atlantic Memphis

**Jordan Williams DE**  
Virginia Tech, Memphis

**Ryan Willis QB**  
Virginia Tech, Memphis

**Jay Jay Wilson TE**  
Arizona State, Memphis

**Kyree Woods S**  
San Diego State, Memphis

**Brandon Wright P**  
Georgia State, Memphis

About the United Football League

The United Football League (UFL) is set to launch as the premier spring football platform, formed by the merging of the XFL and USFL in 2024. The UFL has eight teams in Arlington (TX), Birmingham (AL), Detroit (MI), Houston (TX), San Antonio (TX), Memphis (TN), St. Louis (MO), and Washington D.C.

*MLK Day is Jan. 15th!*

# Dylan and Carter Nutt of University of North Alabama win MLF Abu Garcia College Fishing Tournament on Harris Chain of Lakes

By The Fishing Wire

LEESBURG, FL, January 8, 2024 – The University of North Alabama duo of Dylan Nutt and Carter Nutt, both sophomores from Nashville, Tennessee, won the MLF Abu Garcia College Fishing Presented by YETI event on the Harris Chain of Lakes with a five-bass limit weighing 21 pounds, 12 ounces. The victory earned the Lions' bass club \$2,000 and a qualification into the 2025 MLF College Fishing National Championship.

"Right off the bat, we hit a wave, and I lost my hat," Dylan said. "It was a pretty negative way to start the day. We got into the lock to go into Lake Griffin and one of my buddies gave me a nice University of Tennessee visor to wear.

"I think that was the thing that made the difference," Dylan added with a laugh. "I had the Clifford Pirch look."

With headwear properly settled, the Nutt team started catching bass in Lake Griffin – the first was a 5-pounder. Dylan said the team relied heavily on a Scottsboro Tackle Company ½-ounce top-hook swimbait that Dylan said was "amazing" for fishing



Dylan Nutt and Carter Nutt, both sophomores from Nashville, Tennessee, proudly display their trophies from the MLF Abu Garcia College Fishing Presented by YETI event. (Photo/Courtesy: MLF)

grass. They added a few additional bass on a Z-Man Evergreen Chatterbait Jack Hammer and a Carolina rig.

The team rotated through a couple of fishing areas and culled up to an estimated 19 pounds before

locking back down to Big Lake Harris to finish the last two hours of competition.

"In the last 10 minutes before we were about to check in, Carter caught a 4½-pounder," Dylan said. "At that point, we thought

that we had secured a top-10 finish. We had no idea we had the tournament won at the time – it's the Harris Chain, and it takes big weights to win here. There very easily could have been a 30-pound bag caught."

"This is just an indescribable feeling," Carter added. "For us to win our first major college tournament – it's pretty special. The Harris Chain is one of the hardest lakes to win a tournament on."

The top 10 teams finished:  
1st: University of North Alabama – Dylan Nutt and Carter Nutt, Nashville, Tenn., five bass, 21-

12, \$2,000

2nd: Lander University – Anderson Jones and Hampton Shull, both of Greenville, S.C., five bass, 20-13, \$1,000

3rd: Bethel University – Colten Drawdy, Plant City, Fla., and Hunter Shelton, Cadiz, Ky., five bass, 17-14, \$700

4th: Carson-Newman University – Nicholas Dellaporta, Pequanock, N.J., and Drew Pitts, Lutz, Fla., five bass, 17-0, \$600

5th: University of Louisiana-Monroe – Kade Hillestad, Grayson, La., and John Kyle Pearce, Frierson, La., five bass, 16-15, \$500

6th: LSU-Shreveport – Ian Carter, Bastrop, La., and Levi Thibodaux, Thibodaux, La., five bass, 16-12

7th: University of South Carolina-Union – Jacob Butts, Starr, S.C., and Mark Kershaw, Fort Mill, S.C., five bass, 15-15

8th: University of Tennessee – Joseph Bissing, Libertyville, Ill., and Jackson Paden, Knoxville, Tenn., five bass, 15-11

9th: Murray State University – Jonah Potts, Albion, Ill., five bass, 15-8

10th: Campbellsville University – Evan Fields, Shelbyville, Ky., and Karsten Raney, London, Ky., five bass, 15-6

A total of 225 teams participated in the event, meaning 27 teams now advance to the College Fishing National Championship. The full list of National Championship Qualifiers and complete results for the entire field can be found at MajorLeagueFishing.com.

The Abu Garcia College Fishing

Presented by YETI event on Harris Chain of Lakes was hosted by Discover Lake County Florida. The next tournament for MLF College Fishing anglers will be the Abu Garcia College Fishing Presented by YETI event on Clear Lake, March 8, in Lakeport, California.

The 2024 MLF Abu Garcia College Fishing Presented by YETI season features college teams from across the country competing in nine regular-season tournaments. The top 12 percent of teams from each regular-season tournament advance to the 2025 Abu Garcia College Fishing Presented by YETI National Championship.

Proud sponsors of the 2024 MLF Abu Garcia College Fishing Presented by YETI include: 7Brew, Abu Garcia, B&W Trailer Hitches, Berkley, BUBBA, E3, Epic Baits, General Tire, GSM Outdoors, Lew's, Mercury, Mossy Oak, Onyx, Phoenix, Polaris, Power-Pole, Strike King, Suzuki, Tackle Warehouse, T-H Marine, Toyota and YETI.

For complete details and updated tournament information, visit MajorLeagueFishing.com. For regular College Fishing updates, photos, tournament news and more, follow MLF5's social media outlets at Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube.

About Major League Fishing Major League Fishing (MLF) is the world's largest tournament-fishing organization, producing more than 250 events annually at some of the most prestigious fisheries in the world.

# Chicago Bears hold first pick in 2024 NFL Draft scheduled for April 25-27

NEW YORK — Jan. 8, 2024 — The Chicago Bears hold the No. 1 pick in the 2024 National Football League Draft, which is scheduled for April 25-27 in Detroit, Michigan.

The tentative order of the first round was announced on January 8 by the NFL, subject to the results of the playoffs.

The draft order is determined by the following procedures:

(A) The winner of the Super Bowl game selects last and the loser selects next-to-last in all rounds, regardless of the record of the clubs in the regular season.

(B) The losers of the Conference Championship games select 29th and 30th in all rounds, according to the reverse order of their standing.

(C) The losers of the Divisional

Playoffs select 25th through 28th in all rounds, according to the reverse order of their standing.

(D) The losers of the Wild Card games select 19th through 24th in all rounds, according to the reverse order of their standing.

(E) Clubs not participating in the playoffs select in the first through 18th positions in all rounds, according to the reverse order of their standing.

If, after all the foregoing procedures have been applied, ties still exist in any grouping except (A) above, such ties shall be broken by figuring the aggregate won-lost-tied percentage of each involved club's regular season opponents and awarding preferential selection order to the club which faced the schedule of teams with the lowest aggregate

won-lost-tied percentage.

If ties still exist between teams in the same division or the same conference, the divisional or conference tie-breaking method is used, whichever is applicable.

If ties still exist, the procedures for breaking ties for teams of different conferences shall be applied.

Clubs involved in two-club ties will alternate positions from round-to-round. In ties that involve three or more clubs, the club at the top of a tied segment in a given round will move to the bottom of the segment for the next round, while all other clubs in the segment move up one position. This rotation continues throughout the Draft.

For more information, visit nfl.com.

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