

# NFL Pro Bowl Games presented by Verizon from sports page 1

is a long-standing partner of the NFL and creates life-changing wishes for children with critical illnesses. Luca is a 13-year-old from Illinois with a nervous system disorder. He is an avid football fan. His favorite player is Justin Fields of the Chicago Bears who he looks up to for his willingness to talk about his nervous system disorder. Hudson is an 11-year-old from Indiana with a respiratory condition. He has several favorite players scattered throughout the league, and the Pro Bowl presents an opportunity to see many of them take the field at the same time. As part of their experience, Luca, Hudson and their families will attend the Pro Bowl Skills Show on Thursday, Feb. 1, interact with Pro Bowl players at both the NFC and AFC practices and attend the 2024 Pro Bowl Game.

The NFL is also working with community groups across Orlando to invite them to the 2024 Pro Bowl Game. Invited groups include members of the LGBTQ community, veterans and their families, youth groups, groups that serve domestic violence and sexual assault survivors, and more.

In addition to the community activities and engagement at the Pro Bowl Games events, flag football will be taking center stage throughout the week. 252 teams comprising over 3,600 players will take part in the largest flag football tournament at the NFL FLAG Championships at Pro Bowl Games. Tournament games will start Friday, Feb. 2, culminating in the championship game occurring during the pregame of the AFC versus NFC flag football Pro Bowl game on Sunday, Feb. 4.

A list of Pro Bowl Games Week community and flag football events is below.

### Salute to Service Screening of 100 Yards of Hope

On Tuesday, Jan. 30, from 6 to 9 p.m. ET, the NFL will host a special screening of 100 Yards of Hope at the Orlando Museum of Art. 100 Yards of Hope is the story of a partnership between the NFL, FORCE BLUE special ops military veterans, marine scientists, environmental agencies and Super Bowl Host Committees to restore a coral reef, and in the process, restore a sense of purpose and mission for highly skilled military veterans. This documentary has been shown to military audiences across the country and has inspired service members to repurpose their skills outside of the military, continue to make a difference in the world and serve their country in new ways. The screening will be followed by an interactive panel discussion between the NFL, FORCE Blue and one of the marine experts who helped implement this unique project.

### Truist Youth Financial Literacy and NFL PLAY 60 Event

On Thursday, Feb. 1, Truist and the NFL will visit a local youth

organization to bring financial literacy education and NFL PLAY 60 activities to the community. Youth participating will have the opportunity to attend the Pro Bowl Skills Showdown later that evening.

### NFL FLAG Championships at Pro Bowl Games Tournament

The NFL will host the largest flag football tournament to date through the NFL FLAG Championships at Pro Bowl Games. The tournament will feature 252 teams comprised of more than 3,600 players. Fourteen different countries will be represented, including Australia, Bahamas, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, Ghana, Japan, Kenya, Mexico, New Zealand, Nigeria, and the United Kingdom. There will be an adult and youth competition, with participants in the latter featuring boys and girls aged 8-17. The four-day event will consist of pool play and a single elimination tournament. The games will start on Friday, Feb. 2 at the University of Central Florida (UCF) Rec Fields and will conclude with championship games played on Sunday, Feb. 4 at Camping World Stadium.

### AYF Middle School All-Star Game

On Saturday, Feb. 3, American Youth Football's (AYFs) top middle school football players will compete in an All-Star game to celebrate their immense contribution to their teams. About 100 players will participate in the game played at The Master's Academy in Orlando.

### NFL FLAG Championships at Pro Bowl Games – Championship Games

NFL FLAG Championships will be held at the Pro Bowl Games for the fourth consecutive year as part of the week-long celebration of football across all levels. 14U Boys & 17U Girls Championship games of the tournament will compete during the pre-game of the 2023 Pro Bowl Game on Sunday, Feb. 4 at Camping World Stadium. The 17U Girls Championship game will be televised on ESPN beginning at 10:00 a.m. local time.

### Don Shula High School Coach of the Year Award

The Don Shula NFL High School Coach of the Year award honors an exemplary football coach at the high school level who displays the integrity, achievement, and leadership demonstrated by Coach Shula. Coaches are nominated for the national award by all 32 NFL teams, and the winner is selected by a panel of judges including Tony Dungy, Peyton Manning, Scott Pioli, and more. The two winners will be invited to the Pro Bowl Games with on-field access on Sunday, Feb. 4, and will be recognized throughout the week.

# Lacy J. Dalton releases 'Summerland'

## from sports-Ent. 5

of only 4 times in 25 years the award was given out) for her independent CD 'Last Wild Place Anthology.' Most recently she received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Josie Awards – the largest independent music awards show in the country.

For more information, visit lacyjaldalton.org and follow Lacy on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

### Lacy J. Dalton's Upcoming Tour Dates:

- JAN 28 – Moe's Alley / Santa Cruz, CA
- FEB 08 - Sun City Lincoln Hills / Lincoln, Calif.
- FEB 10 - El Campanil Theater /

Antioch, Calif.

FEB 11 - Private Show / Walnut Creek, Calif

FEB 16 - Piper's Opera House / Virginia City, Nev.

APR 06 – Salinas Rodeo / Salinas, Calif.

JUL 05 - Mammoth Lakes, Calif.

SEP 21 - Starbright Theater / Las Vegas, Nev.

SEP 23 - CPAC Community Performance & Art Center / Green Valley, Ariz.

SEP 24 - Elgin Community Club / Elgin, Ariz.

# M Club welcomes Hall of Fame Class on February 10 from sports page 1



and 1983-84. In 1984, Burroughs earned First-Team All-South Independent honors, as well as the John Bramlett Defensive Player of the Year award. Burroughs finished his Tiger career with 66 total tackles. In 1985, Burroughs was drafted by the Buffalo Bills with the 14th overall pick in the first round of the NFL Draft, which made him the fifth Tiger in school history to be drafted in the first round. He played five years in the NFL, appearing in 58 games, making 41 starts. He finished his NFL career with 123 tackles and six interceptions for his career. He was the head football coach at Lane College for two stints in 2010-13 and 2015-19 and now serves as the Athletic Director for the Dragons.

### Elise Kuhar-Pitters Davis Women's Soccer | 2008-11

Kuhar-Pitters Davis was a four-year letterwinner for the women's soccer program. Since 2003, she ranks fifth all-time in saves with 228, second all-time in goalkeeper goals against average with 0.77 and career wins, third all-time in goalkeeper minutes played and second all-time in shutouts with 38. In 2011, Kuhar-Pitters Davis was recognized as a United Soccer Coaches/NSCAA All-America Second Team selection, was named to the NSCAA All-Central First Team, and to Conference USA First Team. In 2009, she was named NSCAA All-Central Third Team and Conference USA Second Team. She was the C-USA Tournament Defensive MVP during the 2009 and 2010 seasons and named to the CUSA All-Tournament team in 2009. During her career, the Memphis Tigers won four consecutive Conference USA Tournament titles (2008-2011) and were regular season champions in 2008 and 2011.

### Glenn Rogers Jr. Football | 1988-90

Rogers Jr. was a three-year letterwinner for the Memphis Tigers. He is tied for fifth in school history with 12 interceptions and third in career interception return yardage with 229 return yards. In 1990, he was named First-Team All-South Independent and received the John Bramlett Defensive Player of the Year award. Rogers Jr. finished his Tiger career with 146 tackles and 12 interceptions and went on to play one season in the NFL and seven in the Canadian Football League. He was a three-time CFL All-Star, a four-time ALL-CFL player (1993, 1995, 1996, and 1997) and won the Grey Cup for the Eskimos. He finished his CFL career with 303 tackles, 7 sacks, and 31 interceptions.

### Annie Hamilton Sherrod Volleyball | 1998-2001

Hamilton Sherrod was a four-year letterwinner for the Tigers from 1998-2001, earning 1998 Conference USA Defensive Player of the Year honors as a freshman. During her senior season, Hamilton led the NCAA in service aces per game with 0.84, totaling 97 for the year. She also broke the Conference USA record in career service aces with 234, which ranks third in school history. Hamilton Sherrod also set the Memphis school record for career digs with 1,491, which is currently tied for third in school history. Following her senior campaign, Hamilton became the second player in program history to make an All-Conference USA team, earning second-team accolades.

### Marissa Steen Women's Golf | 2008-12

Steen lettered for the Memphis Tigers from 2008-12. She holds the single season scoring record of 73.97 strokes/round, which was set in 2010-11 season, to go along with six career individual tournament victories during her time as a Tiger. In 2010, she was an All-Conference USA Second Team selection. In 2011, she was the Conference USA Championship Runner-up and selected to the Conference USA All-Tourna-

ment Team. She was a five-time CUSA Golfer of the Week, a three-time C-USA All-Academic Team selection (2010, 2011, and 2012), a four-time NGCA All-American Scholar (2009, 2010, 2011, and 2012), the 2012 Conference USA Women's Golf Scholar Athlete of the Year, CUSA Academic Medalist, and CUSA Commissioner's Academic Honor Roll. As a professional, she has three career wins and was the 2014 Symetra Tour Player of the Year. In 2014, she became the ninth player in Symetra Tour history to win three times in a single season, qualified for the 2014 US Women's Open, and became the first University of Memphis graduate to play on the LPGA Tour.

### Vera Webb Women's Basketball | 1983-86

Webb, a native Memphian, lettered for four seasons as a guard and forward for the Memphis Tigers. She scored a season-high 21 points against Illinois as a true freshman and finished her rookie campaign with 236 points and 89 rebounds in route to a Women's National Invitational Tournament bid. Webb moved to forward for her sophomore season where she averaged 12.5 points per game while making starts in 25 of 26 games. Webb scored 384 points and tallied 177 rebounds in 1985 and finished the season as the second leading scorer. She was a critical part in helping the team to a Metro Conference Championship and an NCAA Tournament bid; Webb finished her collegiate career as the team's leading scorer while recording a career high 39 points against McNeese State. Webb was named as an All-Metro Conference First Team selection in 1985. She currently ranks 14th in all-time scoring with 1,473 points.

### Kelly Wise Men's Basketball | 1998-2002

Wise was a four-year letterwinner for the Memphis Tigers. After being named Third Team All-Conference USA in 2000, Wise earned back-to-back First Team All-Conference honors as a junior and senior. He was selected to the C-USA All-Tournament team in 2001 and was named NABC All-District in 2002. Wise finished his career as the all-time leading rebounder in C-USA history with 1,075 boards. That total was later broken by former Tiger Joey Dorsey in 2008 and currently stands as the second-most in conference history. He also ranks second all-time in the C-USA record book with 42 career double-doubles. He currently stands 12th on Memphis' all-time scoring list with 1,487 points and is top-10 in five other categories: total rebounds (1,075 – 4th), double-doubles (42 – 4th), blocked shots (226 – 6th), free throw attempts (561 – 7th) and field goals made (591 – 10th).

### Martha & Benjamin C. Bryant Jr.

Dr. Cecil C. Humphreys Golden Tiger Award Presented to individuals for their financial support of Memphis Athletics. Ben C. Bryant graduated from then Memphis State University in 1968 with a BBA in Accounting and in 1995 with a MS degree in Management Information Systems. In 1968, Ben married Martha and they moved to St. Louis, Mo., where Ben began his career in the information technology industry at McDonnell Douglas Corporation. In 1974, the Bryant's returned to Memphis, where Ben worked as a management consultant at the CPA firm of Touche Ross (currently Deloitte). In 1976, Ben founded Seltmann, Cobb & Bryant, Management Consultants. He served as the Chairman and CEO of SCB Computer Technology, Inc. until his retire-

ment. He was inducted into the Society of Entrepreneurs in 1999.

Memphis Athletics has long been a primary interest of theirs, as they are charter members of Memphis Athletics' Ambassador program and Tiger Leadership Circle. Ben is a former Executive-in-Residence at the Crews Center for Entrepreneurship at the University of Memphis, assisting with advice, direction and mentoring initiatives for the center.

Ben and Martha have two children, Martha Lynne Bryant of Little Rock, Ark. and Phil C. Bryant, PHD of Columbus, Ga. and five grandchildren.

### Bubba Luckett Billy J. Murphy Award

Presented to a former student-athlete who excelled in his/her profession since leaving the University of Memphis. Coach Luckett's passion for basketball began when he was an 8th grader at White Station Middle. He played for Christian Brothers High School (1975-79), where he was named All-District (1977-78, 1978-79), All-Region (1977-78), All-City (1978-79), All-County (1977-78, 1978-79), All-State (1978-79), and Honorable Mention All-American (1978-79). He still holds school records for points and most field goals in a single game. His No. 43 is retired by CBHS and he ranks second all-time in career points scored with 1,677.

Luckett lettered for the Memphis men's basketball program from 1979-83. Luckett played with the likes of Keith Lee, Hank McDowell, Andre Turner, and Doom Haynes. The Memphis State Tigers were ranked No. 1 in the country his senior season. One of his most memorable moments was hitting the buzzer-beater to beat Saint Louis and advance in the Metro Conference Tournament. He graduated with a bachelor's in business administration in 1983.

As a head coach, Luckett's teams have won 20 game or more in 22 seasons, had three undefeated seasons (2015, 2021, and 2022), been a nationally ranked program (No. 16 in 2021 and No. 15 in 2022), won the region 10 times, 14 appearances in the state tournament, appeared in the state championship game five times, and won the state title in 2022. In 2022, Luckett's team became the third team in school history to go undefeated with a 28-0 record and the third team from Memphis to go undefeated and win a state title.

### Jim Paulsen

Ralph Hatley Silver M Award Presented to a dedicated supporter who has given multiple years of exceptional service to Memphis Athletics. Jim Paulsen is a Memphian through and through. Paulsen graduated from then Memphis

State University in 1968 with a Bachelor of Science degree in physical science. As a student, he was president of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity. He served the United States Military from 1966-72 in the Army Reserve.

Prior to founding Paulsen Printing, he served as the District Sales Manager for American Express Company. In 1978, Paulsen and his wife, Judy, founded Paulsen Printing Company, a full-service printing company in Memphis, Tenn. Today, they have 37 employees. During the past 45 years and with the help of their employees, Paulsen Printing has become one of the largest printing companies in the Mid-South, focusing on customer service and quality printing. Clients include businesses, schools, churches and many non-profit organizations.

In the 1980's, Memphis Athletics and the University of Memphis became one of Paulsen Printing's biggest clients. They have printed media guides, game programs, schedules cards, posters, and many other items. In the past ten years, they began helping the Memphis Athletics Fund (formerly the Tiger Scholarship Fund) with renewal letters, brochures, invoices and many other items. Recently, they helped the Memphis Athletics Development team with a rebrand to the Memphis Athletics Fund by printing the first all-inclusive giving guide.

### Susan Blackwell Murray Armstrong Award

Presented to a Tiger coach, administrator or employee for distinguished service to Memphis Athletics.

Susan Blackwell is from Mobile, Ala. and graduated from John Shaw High School in 1971. She attended South Alabama for one year and later worked there for seven years in the university bookstore. In 1984, Blackwell moved to Memphis and began her career at the University of Memphis in the transcript office. Later that year, she moved over to athletics and has been a mainstay since.

In the past 39 years, she has served in various roles in the Memphis Athletics Business Office. Most recently, she was the Financial Services Associate with a focus on the annual NCAA report, annual financial report to the Financial Planning Office on campus, acting liaison with the Busar's Office, and assisted in budget planning for all departments and sports. Blackwell was married to her late husband, Paul Blackwell Sr, for 48 years. They have one son, Paul Blackwell Jr, and one grandchild, Haven Paris.

For complete information on Memphis Tigers Athletics, visit [www.GoTigersGo.com](http://www.GoTigersGo.com) and follow the team's social media channels on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook.

Watch for The Mid-South Tribune's 29th Black History Month Edition in February 2024!

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