

FedEx St. Jude tickets on sale for August 14-18 event at TPC Southwind from sports page 1

As is tradition at the FedEx St. Jude Championship, two (2) youth ages 15 and under receive complimentary admission per ticketed adult.

dynamically priced, so fans are encouraged to purchase early to secure the lowest available price.

This ticket provides fans access to several open-to-the-public venues, the opportunity to taste local food from notable Memphis favorites and stand alongside the rope line to watch the best players from the PGA TOUR season in action.

All Mastercard cardholders can use their Mastercard to receive preferred pricing for the FedEx St. Jude Championship while supplies last. Cardholders may purchase up to six (6) Daily Grounds tickets per day, per ac-

Military members and veterans will have the chance to reserve two (2) complimentary grounds tickets per day courtesy of Big River Steel. More information on how to redeem military tickets will be announced at a later date.

count when accessing via the link at fedexstjude.spinzo.com/mc.

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Michelob ULTRA Athletic Club

For an upgraded experience, the Michelob ULTRA Athletic Club is an exclusive, open-air hospitality experience with covered stadium seating on a first-come, first-serve basis overlooking the

iconic 11th hole at TPC Southwind. Beer and non-alcoholic beverages are included in the ticket price while wine, spirits and premium food are available for purchase within the Michelob ULTRA Athletic Club. Tickets to this upgraded hospitality experience start at \$250 plus tax and fees.

For more information about the FedEx St. Jude Championship, please visit FedExChampionship.com. Fans are also encouraged to follow the FedEx St. Jude Championship on Facebook, X and Instagram for tournament updates.

About the FedEx St. Jude Championship

The FedEx St. Jude Championship is the first of three events in the FedExCup Playoffs, the culmination of the season-long competition that is the centerpiece of the PGA TOUR Season. Played August 14-18 at TPC Southwind, the FedEx St. Jude Championship features the top 70 players in the FedExCup Playoffs and Eligibility Points List at the conclusion of the regular season. The City of Memphis has held a PGA TOUR event every year since 1958, and 2024 will mark Memphis' third year hosting a Playoffs event. Since 1970, Memphis' PGA TOUR stop has raised more than \$72 million for the tournament's primary charitable beneficiary, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, helping to ensure patients' families never receive a bill and can focus solely on helping their child.

About PGA TOUR

By showcasing golf's greatest players, the PGA TOUR engages, inspires and positively impacts fans, partners and communities worldwide.

Grizzlies sign Simpson and White to 10-day contracts

MEMPHIS, Tenn. – The Memphis Grizzlies announced on April 9 the team signed guard Xavier Simpson to a second 10-day contract and wing Jack White to a 10-day contract. Per team policy, terms of the deals were not disclosed.

Simpson (6-0, 190) has appeared in three games as a reserve for the Grizzlies and has averaged 5.3 points, 2.3 rebounds, 3.7 assists and 1.7 steals in 24.0 minutes after signing his first 10-day contract on March 30 as a Call-Up from the NBA G League's Motor City Cruise. The 27-year-old started all 48 of his showcase and regular season appearances for the Cruise and averaged 19.5 points, 4.8 rebounds, 8.3 assists and 1.3 steals in 36.6 minutes.

Unselected in the 2020 NBA Draft out of Michigan, the Ohio native has competed in 160 NBA G League showcase and regular season games over four seasons

with the Oklahoma City Blue, South Bay Lakers and Motor City Cruise. He also played four games with the Oklahoma City Thunder during the 2021-22 season.

White (6-7, 225) appeared in 29 games (23 starts) for the South Bay Lakers during the showcase and regular season and averaged 9.6 points, 6.3 rebounds, 1.7 assists in 26.2 minutes. Unselected in the 2020 NBA Draft out of Duke, the 26-year-old signed a two-way contract with the Denver Nuggets before the 2022-23 season and appeared in 17 NBA games for the Nuggets and 14 games with the NBA G League's Grand Rapids Gold. The Victoria, Australia, native played three seasons professionally in the Australian NBL and averaged 9.3 points and 7.1 rebounds in 23.4 minutes for Melbourne United during the 2021-22 season.

Head Coach Silverfield adds Spence Nowinsky to Memphis football staff

MEMPHIS, Tenn. April 9, 2024 – University of Memphis head football coach Ryan Silverfield announced the hiring of Spence Nowinsky on Tuesday as the team's assistant defensive coordinator and defensive line coach.

Nowinsky comes to the Tigers with nearly 30 years of coaching experience, including the last two seasons as the defensive coordinator and defensive ends coach at Ohio University. For his efforts in 2023, Nowinsky was a Broyles Award nominee, and named the Defensive Coordinator of the Year for the Group of Five.

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"This is a big time hire for our program," Silverfield said. "Spence navigated one of the very best defenses in all of college football and he brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to our defensive line. We are very excited to add Coach Nowinsky to our staff."

Nowinsky to our staff." The 2023 season was one for the record books for the Ohio Bobcats' defense and Nowinsky. During his second year at the helm, Nowinsky's defense finished No. 4 in the nation, and were the No. 1 Group of Five Defense, as well as the No. 1 defense in the Mid-American Conference.

Additionally, the Bobcats finished the regular season in the top-10 for every defensive category during the 2023 season. Notably, the defense forced five turnovers during Ohio's 41-21 victory over Georgia Southern in the 2023 Myrtle Beach Bowl, setting a program record for turnovers forced in a bowl game.

Four defensive Bobcats were named to the All-MAC team, with Bryce Houston and Keye Thompson receiving first team accolades, while Vonnie Watkins and Rayyan Buell were honored with third team distinctions.

"My family and I are extremely excited to be a part of the Memphis Tiger football program," Nowinsky remarked. "I am very thankful that Coach Silverfield has given me this opportunity. I look forward to working with Coach Hankins, Coach Clark, Coach Howard, the entire foot-



ball staff and an incredible group of student-athletes at the University of Memphis."

In 2022, Nowinsky's defense was instrumental in the Bobcats' MAC East title, appearance in the MAC Championship game and their overtime victory over Wyoming in the 2022 Barstool Sports Arizona Bowl. Over the course of his first year, Nowinsky's defense led the league in fourth-down percentage, and was No. 2 in turnovers forced in the MAC.

The Bobcats' defense improved from eight takeaways to 20 takeaways overall. In addition, the defense increased to 30 overall sacks, up from 17 the previous year. The Bobcat defense also increased their tackles for loss from 56 to 74 during the 2022 season. Nowinsky coached Jack McCrory, an All-MAC Third Team defensive end.

Prior to coaching for the Bobcats in 2022, Nowinsky was the defensive coordinator and linebackers coach at Miami University, in Oxford, Ohio. In 2021, Nowinsky coached Ivan Pace, who was named First-Team All-MAC, Co-MAC Defensive Player of the Year and Second Team All-American Action Network. Nowinsky also coached Matt Salopek, who earned All-MAC Second Team accolades. In total, Nowinsky had seven All-MAC Defense student-athletes during the 2021 season.

During the 2021 campaign, the Miami defensive unit was No. 1 in the MAC in scoring defense,

rushing defense and sacks. The RedHawks earned their first bowl victory in over a decade, using a dominant defensive performance to defeat North Texas in the inaugural Frisco Football Classic Bowl. The RedHawks' defense limited the Mean Green to 317 yards of total offense in the game, 89 yards rushing, 2.8 yards per carry, and 14 points on top of two forced first-half turnovers that helped Miami establish momentum in their 27-14 victory.

Under Nowinsky, the RedHawks' defense finished in the top half of almost every statistical category in 2018. Miami finished fourth in scoring defense (25.5), third in rush defense (159.7) and fifth in total defense (368.2) and sacks (29). A year later, in 2019, the defense got even better, finishing second in scoring (22.5), third in total defense (352.9) and first in pass defense (175.9). Nowinsky's linebackers have produced since day one. In 2018, Brad Koenig earned First-Team All-MAC. A year later, Myles Reid recorded Third-Team All-MAC honors.

Before arriving at Miami, Nowinsky spent nine seasons at Illinois State, including four as the Redbird's defensive coordinator. He was also the team's assistant head coach and mentored the defensive line. After taking the helm of the ISU defense, the Redbirds' defense improved statistically every year. In 2014, the defense allowed an average of 345.5 yards per game. During the 2015 season the Redbirds defense ranked 16th nationally, allowing 306.7 yards per game. In 2017, ISU ranked 13th in sacks (33), 14th in rushing allowed (108.4) and 23rd in points (19.4).

In four years, ISU's defense racked up 131 sacks, which helped the Redbird force 70 turnovers in that span. Illinois State

was also strong on third downs, allowing a conversion rate of just 34-percent over seasons. Under Nowinsky, six players earned first-team all-conference honors and another was a two-time First-Team All-American (2012-13).

Nowinsky came to Illinois State following two years as the associate head coach and defensive line coach at NCAA Division II member Emporia State. He had prior experience coaching at the NCAA Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS) level, including assistant coaching positions at Western Athletic Conference (WAC) member Idaho (2003) and Wisconsin (1999-2002).

Prior to coaching at Emporia State, Nowinsky spent three seasons at his alma mater, Minnesota State, where he coached the defensive line during the 2004 and 2006 seasons. In 2005, Nowinsky coached the Mavericks' offensive line coach. Nowinsky spent the 2003 season as a defensive line coach for Idaho.

He began his collegiate coaching career as a defensive graduate assistant at Wisconsin from 1999-2002. The Badgers won the 2000 Rose Bowl with a 17-9 victory over Stanford. Nowinsky was an assistant coach at Wittenberg-Birnbaumwood (Wis.) High School from 1997-99 and began his coaching career in 1995-97 as an assistant at Lake Crystal-Welcome Memorial (Minn.) High School.

Nowinsky played football at Minnesota State from 1991-94 as a defensive lineman. He and his wife, Jen, have two sons, Tommy and Jack.

For complete information on Memphis Tigers Football, visit www.GoTigersGo.com and follow the team's social media channels on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook.

An Editorial Note from The Mid-South Tribune: We support real women in women's sports!

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