

Sports & Entertainment

Women’s head coach Haden announces completion of staff from sports page 1

Ribault High School in Jacksonville, Florida, which won the 2017 FHSAA 6A state title. While there, Sanders helped coach McDonald’s All-American Rennia Davis who went on to get drafted ninth overall in the 2021 WNBA draft by the Minnesota Lynx. A successful guard in her own right, Sanders began her collegiate playing career with two seasons at Cincinnati, highlighted by Big East All-Freshman honors. After transferring to Stetson, she earned all-conference honors as a senior while leading the Hatters to the 2013 Atlantic Sun title and a berth in the NCAA Tournament. She played three seasons professionally in Montenegro, the Czech Republic, Spain and Dubai from 2013-16. A two-time graduate of Stetson, the Jacksonville native earned a bachelor’s degree in sport management and business in 2013 and received her master’s of business administration in 2021.

Cope joins the program as the director of basketball operations after two seasons in that position at Georgia Southern under Haden. I couldn’t be more excited that Madison is joining us in Memphis,” said Haden. “Her commitment and work ethic are unmatched, and she will make an immediate, positive impact on our entire program.” A native of Gastonia, North Carolina, Cope got her start at Western Carolina as a student manager for the women’s basketball team from 2021-23. After graduating with a bachelor’s degree in computer information systems, she was promoted to director of basketball operations. She served in the position until July 2024 when she made the move to Statesboro. The staff additions join the assistant coaching trio of Dee Anderson, Tiffany Conner and Dexter Jenkins, who joined Memphis in early April.

Tangerine Records releases Jimmy Scott’s 1963 ‘Falling in Love is Wonderful ...from sports-Ent. 6

threats of lawsuits (and worse), Scott retreated from the spotlight for nearly 30 years, working as a hospital orderly and shipping clerk. He was rediscovered in the early 1990s at the funeral of his friend Doc Pomus, leading to a late-career renaissance that finally saw him recognized as a global jazz icon before his passing in 2014. About Tangerine Records: Founded by Ray Charles in the early 1960s as he established his

full creative and financial freedom within the music business, Tangerine Records is home to the recordings that transformed him from artist to icon. Under the care of the Ray Charles Foundation, Tangerine continues to restore, reissue, and reinvigorate legendary works from its archives to preserve and expand the legacy of Ray Charles across generations.

“I’d Really Love to See You Tonight” 50th Anniversary from sports-Ent. 6

June 23 - Nashville, Tenn. - Ascend Federal Credit Union Amphitheater
July 18 - Detroit, Mich. - Roostertail

About John Ford Coley
John Ford Coley is an American singer, guitarist, classically trained pianist, actor, and author. He is best known as half of the GRAMMY-nominated duo England Dan & John Ford Coley. John has created many memorable hits such as: “Love Is The Answer,” “Gone Too Far,” “I’d Really Love To See You Tonight,” “We’ll Never Have To Say Goodbye Again,” “Nights Are Forever Without You,” and “Sad To Belong.” Born in Dallas, Texas, John grew up listening to the Grand Ole Opry and early rock and roll music. He also grew up singing church hymns and learning to play classical piano. When he was just 16 years old, he and schoolmate Dan Seals joined the group Theze Few. Later, the band became Southwest F.O.B. and toured the Texas music scene. They had one hit in 1969, “The Smell of Incense,” which hit No. 43 on the charts – and soon the band got to play onstage with Led Zeppelin and other acts. Later, becoming England Dan & John Ford Coley, the duo was signed by A&M Records, and their first break came in 1972 with the song “Simone.” After 3 albums, they were released from their contract with A&M, only to sign another record deal with Atlantic Records’ subsidiary, Big Tree Records, two years later. They released the song “I’d Really Love to See You Tonight” with four Top Ten hits and two Top Twenty hits. Nominated for a GRAMMY Award, they received triple platinum and gold records and released eight albums before disbanding in 1980.

For more information, visit johnfordcoley.com.

About Dan Seals
Dan Seals was never one to follow convention. Born and raised in Texas, he played a right-handed, 12-string guitar with his left hand and eight strings— “upside down and backwards,” as he liked to say. This unconventional approach carried over throughout his career, as he seamlessly transitioned from pop stardom to country success. Seals first gained fame as “England Dan” in the pop-rock duo, England Dan & John Ford Coley. The pair’s 1976 hit "I'd Really Love to See You Tonight" cemented their place in pop history. This paved the way for an astonishing run of eleven No. 1 Billboard country hits.

His work earned him 2 CMA awards, multiple GRAMMY nominations, and a loyal fan-base. Seals was known for his artistic integrity, only recording songs that stirred him emotionally. His producer, Kyle Lehning, recalled how he pursued excellence with "light-hearted seriousness" in the studio. When the radio hits slowed, Seals remained a beloved touring act, later performing with his brother Jim (from Seals & Crofts) as Seals & Seals, bringing their respective catalogs to audiences worldwide. Diagnosed with mantle cell lymphoma in 2007, Seals faced his final days with the same grace he brought to his music. He passed away on March 25, 2009, at 8:30 p.m.—"Showtime," as his manager put it. Seals was posthumously inducted into the Texas Heritage Songwriters Hall of Fame in 2025. His legacy remains one of versatility, authenticity, and an enduring impact on both pop and country music. A duets album, Dan Seals & Friends: The Last Duet, featuring Seals’ vocals with a cavalcade of respected musicians, will release Summer 2026.

Shoe Palace and Harlem Globetrotters launch new Centennial Collection in over 200 Palace Stores nationwide

ATLANTA and NEW YORK, – April 15, 2026 – The world-famous, Harlem Globetrotters™ and footwear retailer, Shoe Palace announced today an exclusive collaboration tied to the Harlem Globetrotters 100th anniversary celebration. The Shoe Palace x Harlem Globetrotters collection will be available in over 200 retail locations across the country as well as online, and will include T-shirts, hoodies, jackets, shorts, and pants for consumers of every age. Product line to be available in Over 200 Shoe Palace Stores Nationwide and at ShoePalace.com “The Harlem Globetrotters’ brand sits at the intersection of sports, entertainment, and cultural impact. Our partnership with Shoe Palace is part of a larger strategy to expand our relevancy with new, and existing, audiences,” said Keith Dawkins, President, Harlem Globetrotters & Herschend Entertainment Studios. “Our strategic partnerships in the licensing and consumer products lane strengthens our ecosystem and increases touchpoints with consumers.”

“The Shoe Palace x Harlem Globetrotters collection celebrates the fun and pioneering spirit of one of the most enduring teams,” said Ralph Mersho, CEO, Shoe Palace. “It connects well to bring their story to fashion, and lifestyle in a really unique way.” Shoe Palace pulled from 100 years of Harlem Globetrotters style, art and iconography to craft the unique collection. Some of the standout pieces include a fully embellished fleece set, a satin tricot button up, and a fully embellished varsity jacket. Harlem Globetrotters mesh shorts and vintage graphic tees will also be available. The Harlem Globetrotters Centennial season launched in January and is continuing throughout the world, visiting over 200 domestic markets and another 125+ internationally. Fans can expect all-new surprises like the Golden Basketball by Spalding®, epic pre-game Magic Pass experi-



ences, 100 Year limited edition merchandise and many other new innovations for the “Ambassadors of Basketball.” International markets such as France, United Kingdom, Italy, Germany, Spain, Switzerland, Belgium, Netherlands, Mexico, and across Asia are just a few of the many locations the Harlem Globetrotters will be touring in winter of 2026

and running through the remainder of the year. Tickets for “100 Year Tour” can be purchased

ABOUT THE WORLD-FAMOUS HARLEM GLOBETROTTERS™ / HERSCHEID ENTERTAINMENT STUDIOS
Now in their Centennial season, The Harlem Globetrotters™ are

THE originators of applying sport to deliver goodwill, excitement, showmanship, and athleticism to a global audience every year. Since 1926, with a legacy of elite talent that has included many of the greatest stars of men’s and women’s basketball from HBCU’s to Division I, II, III, NAIA, The NBA, and the WNBA, the Globetrotters are the first team ever inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame. They have utilized their talents to showcase their iconic brand of basketball to tens of millions in over 124 countries and territories across six continents. For more information about the Harlem Globetrotters™ and the Tour, visit their official website: www.harlemglobetrotters.com.

Freshman pitcher Avery Stutts becomes the first Tiger since 2018 to be named American Conference Pitcher of Week

IRVING, Texas – Freshman pitcher Avery Stutts becomes the first Tiger since 2018 to be named American Conference Pitcher of the Week, per a league release Monday afternoon. Stutts, a Laurinburg, North Carolina native, carried a 1.56 ERA with a 1-0 record and one save during the week. Her save came in Memphis’ series-clinching win over North Texas, marking the first series Memphis has taken this season. She ends a drought of seven years without a Memphis player earning a weekly honor (Pitcher or Player) in the American, along with a drought of eight years without a Pitcher of the Week honoree. Baylee Smith was the most recent honoree, earning Player of the Week in February 2019, with Molly Smith being



the most recent Pitcher of the Week honoree in April of 2018. In her freshman campaign, Stutts sits as Memphis’ leader in wins (6), saves (2), appearances (31), starts (12), innings pitched (94.2) and strikeouts (45). SINGLE GAME TICKETS ON SALE NOW
Single-game tickets are on sale for the 2026 season. Ticket

prices will vary based on seat location (standing room only or reserved bleachers), denoted by a color-coded wristband.

Tickets will be free for all current University of Memphis students. Up to two fans ages 17 and under will be allowed free admission per paid adult that enters with them. Please note that tickets for children ages 17 and under will be for the standing room only section. Reserved seating tickets must be purchased if adults would like them to have a seat in the bleachers.

As a reminder, fans are not permitted to bring umbrellas into the venue and Tigers Softball Complex has a clear bag policy.

