

## Sports &amp; Entertainment

## AAC reveals conference pairings for the 2024-25 men's basketball season

MEMPHIS, Tenn. – The American Athletic Conference announced its home and away designations for the 2024-25 men's basketball season Thursday, giving Memphis its matchups for each of the opposing AAC programs.

The American will have 13 teams competing in men's basketball with the departure of SMU to the ACC earlier this month.

The Tigers will play 18 league games this season, including six home-and-home series with UAB, Florida Atlantic, South Florida, Temple, Wichita State and Rice.

Memphis will host North Texas, East Carolina and Tulsa for one game each inside FedEx Forum, and travel to Charlotte, Tulane and UTSA for a single showdown in 2024-25. Dates and times for each game will be announced at a later date.

The first play date for league action is Tuesday, December 31, 2024 and the final day of conference play will be Sunday, March 9, 2025.

The 2025 American Men's Basketball Championship will be held at Dickies Arena in Fort Worth, Texas, March 12-16.

The Tigers are gearing up for an exciting season that will see nearly a full-roster turnover for head coach Penny Hardaway in his seventh season at the helm. Senior forward Nicholas Jourdain and senior guard Noah Stansbury are currently the only returning players from last season's squad that finished 22-10 overall and ranked as high as No.

10 in the Associated Press poll in January.

Season tickets for the 2024-25 Memphis men's basketball season are on sale now and can be purchased at GoTigersGo.com.

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

## 2024-25 AAC Home Opponents

**South Florida**  
**Florida Atlantic**  
**UAB**  
**Wichita State**  
**North Texas**  
**Tulsa**  
**East Carolina**  
**Rice**  
**Temple**

## 2024-25 AAC Away Opponents

**Charlotte**  
**Tulane**  
**UTSA**  
**Florida Atlantic**  
**Temple**  
**Rice**  
**South Florida**  
**UAB**  
**Wichita State**

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

## Tigers earn a seventh consecutive AVCA Team Academic Award

MEMPHIS, Tenn. July 18, 2024 – The University of Memphis volleyball team earned its seventh straight and 21st overall American Volleyball Coaches Association Team Academic Award sponsored by INTENT while being named to the Honor Roll. With their 3.60 GPA for the 2023-24 academic year, the Tigers ranked in the top 20% of all Division I volleyball programs.

"I am very proud of our players academic accomplishments this past year. Receiving the ACVA Team Academic Award for the 7th consecutive season and every year I have been at the University of Memphis is an incredible accomplishment as well as the deserved recognition for our student-athletes, CAAS support staff and coaches time and effort off the court," head coach Sean Burdette said. "Kimi Videto puts an incredible plan in place for our players to succeed in the class-

room every single semester and without her daily guidance, oversight, and mentorship of our athletes & academic program this award isn't possible.

Since Burdette took over the helm of the Tigers in 2018, Memphis has earned the Team Academic Award every season and has been named to the honor roll four times.

The award, initiated in the 1992-93 academic year, honors volleyball teams that maintain a year-long grade-point average of 3.3 or better on a 4.0 scale or a 4.1 on a 5.0 scale. The Tigers maintain their seven-year streak while notching the program's 21st overall award.

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

## Best 10 days at Wilson County Fair... from sports-Ent. page 5

than 150 livestock shows, 15 stages of entertainment, over 150 activities and events, over 60 midway rides, more than 100 concessions and over 100 vendors and commercial booths.

Nightly events include different motorsports and livestock events, live music, Historic Fiddlers Grove demonstrators, agriculture education, Pick Tennessee Experience, Travel Tennessee, Best of Tennessee competitions, Eudora Farms Petting Zoo, hypnotist, K9's in Flight and so much more!

Whether you're a seasoned competitor or a first-time participant, there's a place for you to shine and showcase your talents. Many new competitions open to Tennessee and Wilson County residents are planned including a Back Seat Driver Competition, Blacksmith Competition, Festival

of Breads, Home Brewing Competition, Nursery & Tennessee Landscaping Competition, Tennessee Christmas Tree & Wreath Competition and more. Watch the website for online entry registration.

Every day is filled with something different and exciting! There's so much to see and do you can't see it all in one visit! You are invited to join us at the Grand Opening of the 2024 Fair, August 15 at 6pm in front of the Made in Tennessee Building followed by the Fair's Opening Parade at 7pm. For the latest updates, check the website at [wilsoncountytntstatefair.com](http://wilsoncountytntstatefair.com) and follow our social media accounts on Instagram (@wilsoncountytntstatefair) and Facebook (Wilson County Fair – TN State Fair). We'll see YOU at the Fair!

## Xander Schauffele remains No. 2 in the FedExCup standings; FedEx St. Jude Championship, set for August 14-18 ... from sports page 1

championship, moved from No. 76 to No. 52, and No. 47 to No. 26, respectively. Rose is looking to make the Playoffs for the 15th year and Horschel is looking to make his 11th Playoffs appearance.

Dunlap's victory at the Barracuda Championship marks his second PGA TOUR title, making the Alabama native the first player in history to win on TOUR as an amateur (2024 The American Express) and as a professional in the same season. The 20-year-old moved from No. 93 to No. 63 in the FedExCup standings, putting him on track to qualify for his first Playoffs appearance in Memphis.

With just three weeks until the start of the Playoffs in Memphis, only the 70 best players will make their way to the postseason at the FedEx St. Jude Championship. Among those looking to improve their position include 2023 FedEx St. Jude Championship winner Lucas Glover (No. 72), Keith Mitchell (No. 76), Harry Hall (No. 82) and Rickie Fowler (No. 100).

## Showboats acquire rights to 10 players thru 2024 from sports page 1

AAC honors, rushing for 1,152 yards and 14 TDs for the Tigers

- Three-time all-conference honorable mention selection (I Sun Belt, 2 C-USA) for Old Dominion, where he played before transferring to Memphis
- Played in 33 games with 42 starts for ODU, rushing for 2,144 yards and 14 TDs on 398 attempts
- Currently under contract to the NFL's Denver Broncos

**Evan Anderson** - DT - Florida Atlantic / Rd. 3

- Third-Team All-AAC selection for Florida Atlantic as a junior in 2023, tallying 57 total tackles, 5.5 tackles for-loss and 3.5 sacks
- Saw action in 48 games with 39 starts for the Owls in four seasons, racking up 145 total tackles, 20 TFLs and 7 sacks
- Currently under contract to the NFL's San Francisco 49ers

**Jalen Coker** - WR - Holy Cross / Rd. 4

- All-time program record-holder for touchdown receptions (31) and receiving yards (2,715) at Holy Cross
- Also holds Holy Cross single-season record for touchdown catches with 15 in 2023
- First Team FCS All-America selection in 2023; Two-time First

The FedExCup Playoffs and Eligibility Points List featuring the top 70 players is available here.

As the first event of the FedExCup Playoffs, the FedEx St. Jude Championship marks the start of the PGA TOUR's most thrilling three weeks in golf where every shot counts. Don't miss out on the action! For more information about the FedEx St. Jude Championship, please visit [FedExChampionship.com](http://FedExChampionship.com).

Fans are also encouraged to follow the FedEx St. Jude Championship on Facebook, X (formerly Twitter) 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 our fans, partners and communities worldwide.

The PGA TOUR, headquartered in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, co-sanctions tournaments on the PGA TOUR, PGA TOUR Champions, Korn Ferry Tour, PGA TOUR Americas and administers PGA TOUR Q-School presented by Korn Ferry and PGA TOUR University. TOUR members rep-

resent the world's best players, hailing from 28 countries and territories. Showcasing the biggest moments in the sport with history and legacy on the line, the PGA TOUR has long-term domestic distribution partnerships for broadcast coverage on CBS, NBC and Golf Channel and video streaming service on ESPN+. Internationally, PGA TOUR coverage is available across 200+ countries and territories in 28 languages via 44 broadcast and digital partners. Virtually all tournaments are organized as non-profit organizations to maximize charitable giving, and to date, tournaments across all Tours have generated more than \$3.93 billion.

Fans can follow the PGA TOUR on the new PGA TOUR app and PGATOUR.COM, and on social media channels, including Facebook, Instagram (in Spanish, Korean and Japanese), LinkedIn, TikTok, X (in English, Spanish and Japanese), WhatsApp (in English and Spanish), WeChat, Weibo, Toutiao and Douyin.



Team All-Patriot League selection (2022, 2023), while earning Second Team All-Patriot League honors in 2021

- Currently under contract to Carolina Panthers of the NFL

**Eric Watts** - DE - Connecticut / Rd. 5

- Saw action in 47 games in four seasons for Connecticut, racking up 152 total tackles, 23 tackles for-loss and 9.5 sacks
- Participated in the 2024 NFL Combine and the Reese's Senior Bowl
- Currently under contract to the NFL's New York Jets

**Andrew Raym** - C - Oklahoma / Rd. 6

- Second Team All-Big 12 selection in 2023 and 2021
- Started 29 of his 43 career games, all at center
- Currently under contract to the NFL's Carolina Panthers

**Yvandy Rigby** - LB - Temple / Rd. 7

- Earned a single-digit jersey number, a Temple tradition given to those who lead by example on and off the field
- Saw action in 35 games for the Owls, with 207 total tackles, 11.5 tackles for-loss, 4 sacks and 6 pass breakups
- Tallied a career-high 82 tackles in 2022
- Currently under contract to the Baltimore Ravens of the NFL

**Ja'Quan Sheppard** - CB - Maryland / Rd. 8

- Honorable Mention All-Big Ten selection in 2023 after starting all 13 games for Maryland, where he led the team and tied for No. 4 in Big Ten with 8 pass breakups
- Tallied 31 total tackles for the Terrapins last season, with 3 TFLs and 1 sack
- Prior to Maryland, he played in 37 games at Cincinnati, where he was a First Team All-AAC selection in 2022 after recording 10 pass breakups and 50 total tackles
- Currently under contract to the NFL's Las Vegas Raiders

**McCallan Castles** - TE - Tennessee / Rd. 9

- Saw action in all 13 games for Tennessee in 2023 with 22 receptions for 283 yards and t TDs
- Earned All-Big Sky honors (2021 Spring Season-First Team,

2021 Fall Season/2022-Second Team) at UC Davis, where he played before transferring to Tennessee

- Caught 69 passes for 905 yards and 9 touchdowns at UC Davis in 28 games
- Currently under contract to the NFL's Philadelphia Eagles

**Mason Tipton** - WR - Yale / Rd. 10

- Unanimous All-Ivy League selection in 2023 after leading the league with 10 TD receptions and finishing the season with 52 receptions for 786 yards
- Also earned Honorable Mention All-Ivy (2022) and Second Team All-Ivy (2023) honors
- Finished his career No. 3 in school history with 19 TD receptions, No. 5 in career receptions (132) and No. 6 in career receiving yards (2,067)
- Currently under contract to the New Orleans Saints of the NFL

The United Football League (UFL) is 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.

## UFL announces Memphis Showboats cornerback Nehemiah Shelton signs with NFL's New York Jets

ARLINGTON, TEXAS (July 23, 2024) – The UFL has announced that Memphis Showboats cornerback Nehemiah Shelton has signed a contract with the New York Jets of the National Football League.

In 7 games this season, Shelton had 10 tackles (5 solo) for the

Showboats. He also broke up three passes with a forced fumble and recovery.

A two-time All-Mountain West Honorable Mention at San Jose State, Shelton was a member of the New York Jets practice squad after playing for Memphis in 2023.

The Memphis Showboats will retain Shelton's rights should he return to the UFL.

About the United Football League

The United Football League (UFL) is the premier spring football platform, formed by the merger of the XFL and USFL in

## Five Tigers named USTFCCCA All-Academic Athletes

NEW ORLEANS July 18, 2024 – All-Academic Athletes for the 2024 NCAA Division I track & field seasons were announced by the U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association (USTFCCCA) as five Memphis student-athletes (three women, two men) were honored.

Julia Konigshofer (Health Studies), Poorna Raorane (International Business) and Arina Razina (Public Relations)

represented the Memphis women while Iason Machairas (Business Administration) and Sascha Salesius Schmidt (Health Science) were the Memphis men honored.

In order to be considered for All-Academic honors, the student-athlete must carry a cumulative grade-point average of 3.25 on a 4.0 scale, including the most recent grading period, and must have completed at least two

semesters or three quarters at the nominating institution.

In addition, the student-athlete must have finished the indoor season ranked top-96 in the NCAA in an individual event, or in the top-48 of a relay event. For the outdoor season, they must have participated in any round of the NCAA Division I Outdoor Track & Field Championships.

A complete list of student-ath-

letes honored is available at

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

Email sports news to [MSTsports@prodigy.net](mailto:MSTsports@prodigy.net)