

# Sports & Entertainment

## Randy Travis' 'More than Life Tour' begins with guest vocalist James Dupre



NASHVILLE, Tenn., September 17, 2024 - Country Music Hall of Famer Randy Travis has announced that the More Life Tour will hit the road again in 2025! Following a successful 2024 run, Randy, his original touring band, and special guest vocalist James Dupre are ready to bring this extraordinary musical experience to fans across the country. The tour promises an unforgettable journey through Travis' chart-topping hits, enhanced by video highlights from his celebrated career in music, film and television. Pre-sale begins September 18 at 10 A.M., with public tickets available on Friday, September 20 at 10 A.M. Fans can find ticket information at RandyTravis.com.

Although Travis won't perform vocally due to the stroke he suffered in 2013, he will appear on stage with his wife, Mary, engaging with fans, interacting with the band, and celebrating the music. Dupre and the band will perform all of his iconic No. 1 hits, including "On the Other Hand," "Forever and Ever, Amen," and "Three Wooden Crosses."

"The More Life Tour celebrates something so much more than a musical moment in time—it's a gift to me to spend time with my fans, and my band, as James Dupre perfectly presents the songs that best define my career. We look forward to seeing you all somewhere along the way," said Randy Travis.

"I'm thrilled and honored to hit the road again with my hero and friend, Randy Travis. I'm looking forward to meeting and singing along with all the Randy Travis fans in 2025," said James Dupre.

The 2024 More Life Tour kicked off at the iconic Ryman Auditorium in June, following the May release of Travis' latest single, "Where That Came From." The single debuted at No. 45 on Billboard's Country Airplay chart. With the assistance of AI, this marked Travis' first recording in over a decade, reuniting with longtime producer Kyle Lehning and a team of talented musicians. The release was met with excitement from fans and received an enthusiastic reception from country radio. Additionally, the Traveses recently testified before Congress in Washington, D.C., in support of the American Music Fairness Act.

- More Life Tour 2025 Dates:**
- Jan. 10, 2025 - Tulsa, Okla. - Osage Casino
  - Jan. 11, 2025 - Little Rock, Ark. - Robinson Center
  - Jan. 23, 2025 - Charlotte, N.C. - Oven Auditorium
  - Jan. 24, 2025 - Augusta, Ga. - Miller Theatre
  - Jan. 25, 2025 - Orange Park, Fla. - Thrasher-Horne Center for the Arts
  - Jan. 28, 2025 - The Villages, Fla. - Sharon Morse PAC
  - Feb. 1, 2025 - Arcadia, Fla. - Turner Center
  - Feb. 8, 2025 - Scottsdale, Ariz. - Virginia Piper Theatre
  - Feb. 10, 2025 - San Luis Obispo, Calif. - CAL Poly State PAC

- Feb. 11, 2025 - Bakersfield, Calif. - Fox Theatre
- Feb. 12, 2025 - Santa Barbara, Calif. - Lobero Theatre
- Feb. 14, 2025 - Monterey, Calif. - Golden State Theatre
- Feb. 15, 2025 - Visalia, Calif. - Visalia Fox Theatre
- Feb. 23, 2025 - Mason City, Iowa - North Iowa Community College
- March 20, 2025 - Cedartown, Ga. - Cedartown PAC
- March 21, 2025 - Princeton, W.Va. - Chuck Mathena Center
- March 22, 2025 - Ashland, Ky. - Paramount Theatre
- April 10, 2025 - Joliet, Ill. - Ri-alto Square
- April 11, 2025 - Effingham, Ill. - Effingham Performance Center
- April 25, 2025 - New Philadelphia, Ohio - Kent State PAC
- April 26, 2025 - Clarksburg, W.Va. - Robinson Grand PAC
- May 11, 2025 - Arlington, Texas - Arlington Music Hall
- May 12, 2025 - Branson, Mo. - Clay Cooper Theater

**About Randy Travis**

With lifetime sales exceeding 25 million, Randy Travis is one of the most successful multi-genre artists of all time and a 2016 inductee into the Country Music Hall of Fame. He has been a member of the Grand Ole Opry since 1986. His accolades include seven Grammy Awards, 11 Academy of Country Music Awards, 10 American Music Awards, two People's Choice Awards, seven Music City News Awards, eight Dove Awards from the Gospel Music Association and five Country Music Association Awards. Three of his performances earned CMA Song of the Year honors: "On the Other Hand" (1986), "Forever and Ever, Amen" (1987), and "Three Wooden Crosses" (2002). To date, he has 23 No. 1 singles, 31 Top 10 hits, and more than 40 appearances in feature films and television shows. His discography includes four Gold albums, four Platinum albums, one Double Platinum album, one Triple Platinum album, and one Quintuple Platinum album. In 1992, Travis was recognized by the USO for his support and dedication to US Troops, including five USO tours, and was named the recipient of the Bob Hope Entertainment Award.

For more information, visit RandyTravis.com.

## 'The UFL has demonstrated to be a proven effective product,' says NFL Executive VP Troy Vincent... from sports page 1

"The UFL has been an excellent tool for us as we build the roster," said Dallas Cowboys Vice President of Player Personnel, Will McClay. "In the age of salary cap, player acquisition has become a year-round job. The UFL gives us an opportunity to evaluate players in a professional setting at crucial times when teams need to fill roster holes that may not have been addressed in the draft and free agency. The access that the UFL gives us to the players and process makes it a league that we will continue to scout and look for players to add to our roster. The bottom line is that football is a "rep" game and we feel like the more quality reps a player can get, the more they can improve their skill set and Football intel-

ligence enough to compete for an NFL roster spot."

"Growth opportunities afforded players by the UFL can absolutely lead to better competition on NFL rosters," stated Minnesota Vikings General Manager, Kwesi Adofo-Mensah. "If players in the UFL ascend through the opportunity with professional organizations and access to continued coaching and structure, that provides us with valuable information to evaluate. Those ascending players fit the characteristics we target to bring potential added value and competition to our roster."

On top of the 2024 campaign, the legacy USFL and XFL classes have also created a strong representation in the NFL with a total of 41 players being called to

action for the 2024-25 season. Legacy players like kicker Brandon Aubrey and wide receiver Kevontae Turpin are two of the 11 total currently sitting on 53-man rosters, while 27 others are on practice squads and three on injured reserve.

"The NFL scouts agree that the UFL is a great proving ground for players to get more film and playing time to improve their game," said San Antonio Brahmas General Manager, Marc Lillibridge. "When they're not playing, it's hard to see their development. When they're in the UFL, they can see them developing under high level coaching and the results and growth in games."

With the 41 legacy players, a total of 137 individual players

that came from spring football have been on NFL rosters.

The UFL will continue to hold its hub in Arlington, TX as they prepare for season two in 2025.

About The United Football League

The United Football League (UFL) is the premier spring football platform, formed by the merging of the XFL and USFL in 2024 under the combined ownership of RedBird Capital Partners, FOX, Dany Garcia and Dwayne Johnson. 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.

## Titans take on Green Bay Packers at Nissan Stadium in Music City ... from sports page 1

Quarterback Will Levis, in his 11th career start, completed 19 of 28 passes for 192 yards, including a 40-yard touchdown strike to wide receiver Calvin Ridley. Levis added a career-high 38 rushing yards.

Ridley, who signed in Tennessee during the offseason as an unrestricted free agent, totaled a team-high 77 receiving yards on four catches. He also opened the scoring with a 10-yard run for his first career rushing touchdown. On defense, the Titans were led by outside linebacker Harold Landry III, who was credited

with two sacks and two passes

defended. He became the first Titans player to reach each of those numbers in a game since defensive end Carlos Hall did so against Philadelphia on Sept. 8, 2002. Landry is also the first Titans player since Derrick Morgan in 2015 to accumulate three or more sacks through the first two games of a season.

The Packers hosted the Indianapolis Colts last week and won 16-10 after totaling 261 rushing yards on 53 carries. Running back Josh Jacobs led the way with 151 yards on 32 rushing at-

tempts.

Former Titans quarterback Malik Willis, who was traded to Green Bay on Aug. 27, started for the Packers against the Colts in place of Jordan Love. Love, a first-round pick in 2019, is in his second season as the club's full-time starter. He exited the season opener against Philadelphia with a knee injury.

Packers head coach Matt LaFleur was hired to his current post in 2019 after spending the 2018 season with the Titans as the club's offensive coordinator. In his first five seasons at his cur-

rent post, LaFleur guided Green Bay to four playoff appearances and three NFC North titles. Green Bay's 56 regular-season wins tied LaFleur for the second most in NFL history by a coach in his first five seasons.

Titans president of football operations Chad Brinker spent 13 years with the Packers before joining the Titans in 2023. His time in Green Bay included a variety of roles as a talent evaluator and strategic counselor to Packers leadership.

## Showboats announce reseating renewal plans for 2025 season from sports page 3

- Exclusive season ticket member gift
  - Mystery box Showboats gift
  - Access to exclusive season ticket member parking (Gold Lot 2)
- Traditional benefits include priority access to renew their same seats for 2026, a 25 percent discount on merchandise at UFLshop.com, priority access to

additional seats at season-ticket member prices, priority access to seats for the Conference Championship and 2025 UFL Championship Game and priority access for all season ticket member events.

Only season ticket members are eligible for these benefits.

For more information, visit TheUFL.com

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## Sen. Blackburn recognizes 'American Girls in Sports Day' and the importance of IX from sports page 2

logical male during the NCAA Women's Swimming & Diving Championships.

Now more than ever, Congress should stand with the female athletes fighting for fairplay and celebrate the incredible contributions women have made to the world of sports. That's why, in the U.S. Senate, I introduced a resolution to establish October 10 as "American Girls in Sports Day." Of course, we picked that date for a special reason: As the 10th day of the 10th month, October 10 is represented by the roman numerals XX—the same numerals of the female sex chromosome.

In addition to establishing

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"American Girls in Sports Day," this resolution would call on sports-governing bodies in the United States and abroad to protect biological women and girls in sports. Just last month, I led 22 of my Republican colleagues in demanding that the NCAA prohibit biological males from participating in women's sports to restore fair competition.

In the last 50 years, female athletes have gone from the sidelines to the center stage of competition. As we continue to fight for women's participation in sports, we must keep in mind what is at stake—and the "American Girls in Sports Day" resolution will help ensure that happens.

## Toelke named to AA Conf. Honorable Mention



Tabytha Toelke

MEMPHIS, Tenn. - University of Memphis volleyball senior Tabytha Toelke has been named to the American Athletic Conference's Honorable Mention list, it was announced Monday. Toelke, an outside hitter from Davis, Ill., played in nine sets for the Tigers this past weekend and racked up a team-best 27 kills with a .324 hitting percentage. She also added in four assists, one service ace and 26 digs - which got her past the 1,000-career dig milestone.

This is the first AAC Weekly Honor for Toelke this season.

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