

Sports & Entertainment

“Who’s Bad” brings The Ultimate Michael Jackson Experience to Gold Strike Feb. 5

Internationally acclaimed production brings the music, moves and magic of the King of Pop to Tunica

TUNICA, Miss. (Sept. 23, 2026) — Get ready to moonwalk the night away. “Who’s Bad: The Ultimate Michael Jackson Experience” is bringing an electrifying

Middle East and the United States. For longtime MJ fans and a new generation discovering his music, the show offers a chance to experience the excitement of his music where it belongs — live on stage.

Tickets start at just \$19.50 and go on sale Sept. 25. Tickets may be purchased by calling 888-747-

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celebration of the King of Pop to Gold Strike Theatre on Friday, Feb. 5, 2027, at 8 p.m.

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Featuring world-class singers, dancers and musicians, the production combines powerful live vocals, a full band, iconic choreography and the unforgettable songs that made Jackson one of the most celebrated entertainers of all time.

From “Billie Jean” and “Beat It” to “Smooth Criminal” and “Thriller,” fans can expect a hit-packed journey through Jackson’s extraordinary career, performed with the precision, passion and showmanship that have become hallmarks of a “Who’s Bad” concert.

Founded in 2004, “Who’s Bad” has performed more than 2,500 shows in over 20 countries, taking the stage everywhere from London’s O2 Arena to sold-out theaters throughout Asia, the

7711 or visiting <https://www.goldstrike.com>.

About Gold Strike Casino Resort

Gold Strike Casino Resort is located on the Mississippi River, approximately 30 minutes from downtown Memphis. With more than 1,100 luxury guest rooms, a theater, high-limit gaming, award-winning dining and a sportsbook, it is the Mid-South’s source of energy and excitement. To learn more, visit [goldstrike.com](https://www.goldstrike.com).

About Cherokee Nation Entertainment

Cherokee Nation Entertainment is the gaming and hospitality company of the Cherokee Nation. With three decades of expertise in providing exceptional gaming experiences, the company owns and operates Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Tulsa and nine Cherokee Casinos in Oklahoma, including a racino, three resort hotels, three golf courses and other retail operations. CNE operates Gold Strike Casino Resort in Tunica, Mississippi, one of the most recognizable gaming destinations in the region. For more information, visit [hardrock-casino.com](https://www.hardrock-casino.com), [cherokee-casino.com](https://www.cherokee-casino.com) and [goldstrike.com](https://www.goldstrike.com).

Memphis Grizzlies sign center Carson Cooper to a two-way contract deal

– Memphis Waives Lawson Lovering –

MEMPHIS, Tenn. – The Memphis Grizzlies today announced the team signed center Carson Cooper to a two-way contract. Per team policy, terms of the deal were not disclosed. In a related move, the team waived center Lawson Lovering.

Cooper (6-11, 245) started all 35 appearances as a senior at Michigan State last season and averaged 11.1 points on 58.4% shooting to go with 6.1 rebounds, 1.5 assists and 1.0 blocks in 26.7 minutes to help guide the Spartans to the NCAA Sweet 16. Unselected in the 2026 NBA Draft, the 22-year-old Jackson, Mich.,

native competed in 137 games (43 starts) and averaged 5.4 points and 4.5 rebounds in 17.2 minutes over his four-year collegiate career at Michigan State.

Lovering (7-1, 235) appeared in 30 NBA G League games (26 starts) with the Memphis Hustle last season and averaged 7.7 points, 7.0 rebounds, 1.3 assists and 1.3 blocks in 26.8 minutes. He also played two games (one start) with the Grizzlies and recorded 7.0 points, 7.5 rebounds, 1.5 assists and 1.5 steals in 24.5 minutes. Unselected in the 2025 NBA Draft, the 23-year-old played two seasons at Utah to finish his collegiate career following two years at Colorado

Memphis Grizzlies announce promotional schedule; Themes include HBCU wrestling and Grizzlies Xtreme Sports Night & more

– Grizzlies Go Big for Biggest Matchups with Big Memphis Nights and Sunday Family Fundays –

– Theme Nights Include HBCU, Wrestling and Grizzlies Xtreme Sports Night –

– 191 Collabs Returns for Fifth Season –

MEMPHIS, Tenn., September 24, 2026 – The Memphis Grizzlies today announced their promotional schedule for the 2026-27 regular season, featuring **Big Memphis Nights, Sunday Family Fundays**, all-new ticket promotions, collectibles, keepsakes and theme nights.

The Grizzlies are celebrating the biggest games, days and opponents with Big Memphis Nights every Friday and Saturday throughout the season, plus four more can’t-miss dates: Wednesday, Oct. 21; Tuesday, Dec. 29; Monday, Jan. 18; and Wednesday, Feb. 3. Each Big Memphis Night is packed with the biggest in-game performances, entertainment, pyrotechnics, giveaways, promotions and more. Additionally, each Friday night home game will feature \$1 Grizz Glizzy’s for fans available for purchase at select concession stands at FedExForum. Fans can purchase tickets for Big Memphis Nights at [grizzlies.com/Big-Memphis](https://www.grizzlies.com/Big-Memphis).

Fan-favorite 191 Collabs, presented by Pinnacle Financial



Partners, returns for its fifth season featuring both new and returning designers, and will be highlighted on select Big Memphis Nights. The 191 Collabs schedule includes:

- Good Hippy on Friday, Nov. 6 vs. Oklahoma City Thunder**
- Fresh Out The Box on Friday, Dec. 18 vs. Houston Rockets**
- Slowdown Dry Goods on Saturday, Jan. 16 vs. Cleveland Cavaliers**
- M-Town Merch on Saturday, Feb. 6 vs. Portland Trail Blazers**
- Carmeon Hamilton on Saturday, March 6 vs. New Orleans Pelicans**
- Memphis Record Pressing on Saturday, March 20 vs. Oklahoma City Thunder**

The party continues each Sunday with Sunday Family Fundays, with the first 3,000 kids 12 and under in attendance receiving a themed, collectible basketball. The Sunday Family Fundays schedule includes games on Nov. 29, Dec. 20, and Jan. 10. The Grizzlies are offering an exciting ticket offer for Sunday Family Fundays, starting as low as \$35

The Memphis Hustle acquire returning player rights to Kira Lewis Jr., Jordan Bowden, and Mouhamadou Gueye in big five-team trade

– Hustle Trade Returning Player Rights to Orlando Robinson to Bulls –

MEMPHIS, Tenn. – The Memphis Hustle announced the team acquired the returning player rights to guard Kira Lewis Jr., wing Jordan Bowden and forward Mouhamadou Gueye in a five-team trade involving the College Park Skyhawks, Greensboro Swarm, Windy City Bulls and Wisconsin Herd. As part of the deal, the Hustle traded the returning player rights to center Orlando Robinson to the Bulls.

Lewis Jr. (6-1, 170) has appeared in 90 games (53 starts)



across four seasons with the Herd, Capital City Go-Go, Raptors 905 and Birmingham Squadron and has averaged 12.9 points, 3.2 rebounds, 3.4 assists and 1.2 steals in 27.7 minutes. The 25-year-old has appeared as a reserve in 131 games across four NBA seasons with the Utah Jazz,

Toronto Raptors and New Orleans Pelicans and has averaged 5.2 points, 1.3 rebounds and 1.8 assists in 13.3 minutes after being selected 13th overall in the 2020 NBA Draft by the Pelicans.

Bowden (6-5, 193) has appeared in 164 games (93 starts) across five seasons with the College Park Skyhawks, Maine Celtics and Long Island Nets and has averaged 13.3 points, 3.8 rebounds and 1.9 assists in 29.3 minutes. The 29-year-old appeared in all 50 games (34 starts) during the 2024-25 season with the Skyhawks and averaged 13.8

points, 4.1 rebounds, 2.1 assists and 1.0 steals in 31.1 minutes.

Gueye (6-9, 210) has appeared in 149 games (89 starts) across four seasons with the Bulls, Capital City Go-Go, Raptors 905 and Texas Legends and has averaged 12.4 points, 6.7 rebounds, 1.6 assists and 1.7 blocks in 26.6 minutes.

Robinson (6-10, 235) has appeared in 51 games (50 starts) across four seasons with the Hustle, Osceola Magic, Stockton Kings and Sioux Falls Skyforce and has averaged 21.7 points, 10.7 rebounds, 2.6 assists and 1.7 blocks in 31.6 minutes.

Keanan Bader named American Conf. weekly Honorable Mention

IRVING, Texas, September 28, 2026 – University of Memphis men’s soccer midfielder Keanan Bader picked up his first weekly honor of the season, being named an American Conference weekly honorable mention, the conference announced Monday afternoon.

Bader, a senior transfer from South Carolina, scored his first goal of the season on a 45th-minute penalty against FIU on Friday.

It was the first penalty conversion by the Tigers this season, and the first penalty attempt and



Keanan Bader

goal in Bader’s collegiate career.

In his first season at Memphis, Bader has started in seven of eight games played and is currently sixth in minutes played with 519.

HOW TO FOLLOW THE TIGERS

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

Email sports and entertainment news to MSTsports@prodigy.net

