

# Sports & Entertainment

## TN Titans clash with Bengals for fifth consecutive season from sports page 1

with NFL+, which offers access to local games and all primetime games on phones and tablets. Out of market, fans can watch every Sunday afternoon game with Sunday Ticket. More information on ways to watch NFL games can be found at [nfl.com/ways-to-watch](http://nfl.com/ways-to-watch). The Titans Radio Network and Nashville flagship 104.5 The Zone carry all Titans action across the Mid-South with the "Voice of the Titans" Mike Keith, analyst Dave McGinnis, sideline reporter Ramon Foster, executive producer/gameday host Rhett Bryan and co-host Amie Wells.

### LAST WEEK AGAINST THE JAGUARS

The Titans hosted the division-rival Jacksonville Jaguars last week and lost by a final score of 10-6. After the Titans led 6-0, the Jaguars rallied for 10 points in the fourth quarter, scoring the go-ahead touchdown on a Tank Bigsby run with 6 minutes and 46 seconds remaining. Nick Folk provided all of the Titans' points with field goals of 46 and 39 yards. Quarterback Will Levis completed 19 of 32 passes for 168 yards. Seven of his completions went to Calvin Ridley, who also led the team with 59 receiving yards. On defense, cornerback Chidobe

Awuzie—also a former Bengal—returned to action after nine weeks on injured reserve, and he responded with his first interception of the season. Linebacker Otis Reese IV, who recorded his fourth career start and his first start of 2024, produced his first career interception.

### THE BENGALS

Taylor is in his sixth season as Cincinnati's head coach. In 2023, the Bengals produced their third consecutive winning season with an 9-8 record following back-to-back AFC North titles in 2021 and 2022.

Going into their game at Dallas on Monday night, Dec. 9, Taylor's team led the NFL in passing offense (264.3 yards per game) and was tied for fifth in the NFL in scoring. They averaged 27.9 points per game through 12 contests and scored at least 30 points on six different occasions. Bengals fifth-year quarterback Joe Burrow entered Week 14 leading the NFL in several passing categories, including yards (3,337) and touchdowns (30). His primary target, wide receiver Ja'Marr Chase, boasted an NFL-best 1,142 receiving yards and a career-high-tying 13 touchdown grabs.

*\*Information is prior to the Bengals-Cowboys game on Monday, Dec. 9*

## 70,000 pounds of litter removed during TDOT's 4th Annual No Trash November from sports page 3

November recognizes the following groups for the most pounds collected in four categories: Keep Tennessee Beautiful Affiliate, Adopt-A-Highway Group, Youth Group, and Water Group. The winners include Keep Knoxville Beautiful for collecting 11,865 pounds, Donnie E Horton Post 254 for collecting 2,095 pounds, Conservation Kid in Hamilton County for collecting 315 pounds, and TN Delta Alliance for collecting 6,110 pounds.

New to Nobody Trashes Tennessee and No Trash November is the Trash Masters Rewards program. Participants earn points for various activities like taking a litter quiz, attending cleanup events, and spreading awareness. Points may be redeemed for a variety of rewards, including discounts at local businesses and exclusive Nobody Trashes Tennessee swag. "More than 1,600 people have signed up since we launched the program in October.

It's a fun and engaging way for individuals to contribute to a litter-free Tennessee while being recognized for their commitment to the environment," said McClanahan.

About Nobody Trashes Tennessee

Nobody Trashes Tennessee (NTT) is the State of Tennessee's official litter prevention campaign managed by TDOT. Visit [nobodytrashestennessee.com](http://nobodytrashestennessee.com) to learn more about TDOT's Adopt-A-Highway program and additional ways to get involved in helping to prevent and reduce litter through personal actions, community events, and reporting littering incidents through the Tennessee Litter Hotline (1-877-8LITTER). Be rewarded for taking action to reduce litter through the Trash Masters Rewards program, and join the conversation on Facebook, Instagram, and X.

## NFL announces International Player Pathway Program Class of 2025... from sports page 1



and Club Business at the NFL Peter O'Reilly. "Focusing on our global football development efforts and fostering international talent is crucial to growing our game globally. The IPP program offers life-changing opportunities for international talent, and we look forward to following their progress in the weeks and months ahead."

The International Player Pathway Program Class of 2025 includes:

- Jordan Petaia, Australia
- Laitia Moeidreke, Australia
- Laki Tasi, Australia
- Jeneiro Wakeham, Fiji
- Joachim Trouabal, France
- Maceo Beard, France
- Leander Wiegand, Germany
- Aaron Sexton, Ireland
- Rojé Stona, Jamaica
- Nathaniel Salmon, New Zealand
- Paschal Ekeji Jr Lesotho, Nigeria / South Africa

Dante Barnett, United Kingdom  
Mapalo "Maz" Mwansa, United Kingdom / Zambia  
TJ Maguranyanga, Zimbabwe

A group of specialists, consisting of international kickers and punters, will also join the wider Class of 2025 in the coming weeks.

The IPP program is part of a long-term commitment by the NFL and its 32 clubs to accelerate global football development efforts and establish a pathway for international talent to play the game at the highest level.

Since its inception, 41 international players have signed with NFL teams (allocated, drafted or

signed as a free agent), with 23 IPP athletes currently on NFL rosters. Six of these players — Jordan Mailata (Australia), Jakob Johnson (Germany), Efe Obada (United Kingdom), Sammis Reyes (Chile), Thomas Odukoya (Netherlands) and David Bada (Germany) — have seen active rosters since 2017.

For more information on the International Player Pathway program, visit: [www.nfl.com/international/player-pathway](http://www.nfl.com/international/player-pathway).

To learn more about the IPP and the IPP Class of 2024, watch: The Pathway Series

International Player Definition: A qualifying International Player (IP) is defined as a player whose citizenship and principal place of residence are outside the United States and Canada, and who has a maximum of two years of

United States high school experience. In addition, an IP must: (i) satisfy all NFL player eligibility rules; and (ii) have been eligible for a prior NFL Draft. An IP can also play any position, including kicker or punter.

Relevant IPP Program Rules:

Each of the 32 NFL clubs can fill a 17th roster spot on the practice squad with a qualifying international player. A player may be an International Practice Player for a maximum of three (3) seasons, with a season defined as being on the Practice Squad or Active/Inactive List for at least six games (a bye week counts as a game). After an IP's third season as an International Practice Player, the player remains eligible to be signed to a club's Active/Inactive List or Practice Squad subject to standard roster rules (i.e., Standard, Exception, Veteran player).

## Harlem Globetrotters welcome 76 returning and new rookie class to 2025 training camp in Atlanta... from sports page 1



Harlem Globetrotter player interacts with young fans who want to show off their globe-trotting talent. (Photo/Courtesy: Harlem Globetrotters)

states, over 40 diverse colleges and universities, and will have six women returning. Among the veteran Globetrotters will be the tallest current Globetrotter, Joey 'Hot Rod' De La Rosa (7'1") and the shortest, Jahmani 'Hot Shot' Swanson (4'5"). This year's schedule will take the teams to over 145 countries across six continents, and over 300 cities across the world.

The North American leg of the tour, sponsored by Jersey Mike's Subs, begins Thursday, December 26, 2024 at PPG Paints Arena in Pittsburgh and TD Garden in Boston, with the tour continuing globally throughout 2025. International markets to follow include 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

*The North American leg of the tour, sponsored by Jersey Mike's Subs, begins Thursday, December 26, 2024 at PPG Paints Arena in Pittsburgh and TD Garden in Boston, with the tour continuing globally throughout 2025.*

winter 2025 and running through the remainder of the year. Spalding continues its role as the official global ball partner of the Harlem Globetrotters.

ABOUT THE WORLD-FAMOUS HARLEM GLOBETROTTERS™ / HERSCHEND ENTERTAINMENT STUDIOS The Harlem Globetrotters™ are THE originators of basketball style; captured by their dynamic athleticism, unique skill and historical influence on the modern game of basketball. Since 1926,

the Globetrotters, proud members of the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame, have used their legendary global tour to showcase their iconic brand of basketball to tens of millions in over 124 countries and territories across six continents.

They have expanded the brand by coming back to network television for the first time in 40 years with their Emmy nominated NBC series "Harlem Globetrotters: Play it Forward" which also airs on Telemundo as "Harlem Globetrotters: Ganando Con La Comunidad." Content partners include Hidden Pictures, Atmosphere TV, and Hearts Media Production Group; consumer partnerships include, Sprayground, Undercrown, Macys, Hybrid; and additional partnerships include our official tour partner Jersey Mikes, official ball partner, Spalding, Viral

Nation, Hoopculture, and Citi. Coined by the U.S. State Department in 1951 as Ambassadors of Goodwill, the team leverages their moniker to drive its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) efforts around their strategic pillars of Health & Wellness, Education, and Community Empowerment. These efforts have yielded partnership with the likes of Microsoft, U.S. State Department Sports Diplomacy, The National Archives, 'Great Assist' in partnership with Jersey Mike's Subs, Campus Multimedia Court of Creativity, and Comic Relief Red Nose Day. For more information about the Harlem Globetrotters™ and the Tour, visit the Globetrotters' official website: [www.harlemglobetrotters.com](http://www.harlemglobetrotters.com). The Harlem Globetrotters™ is a subsidiary of Herschend, the largest family-owned themed attractions company.

## Marlon Dechausay, University of Memphis senior athletic director for student-athlete welfare, passes at age 49

MEMPHIS, Tenn., December 5, 2024 - Marlon Dechausay, the senior associate athletic director for student-athlete welfare for Tiger Athletics at the University of Memphis, suffered a heart attack last week while attending the Maui Invitational Basketball Tournament and following further complications passed away late last night surrounded by his family. Marlon was 49 years old.

A Toronto, Ontario, native, Marlon graduated in 2000 from

the University of Louisiana at Lafayette and earned his master's degree from Syracuse University in 2005. As a member of the Rajun' Cajuns track and field team, he earned Sun Belt Conference titles in the 400 meters. He also ran for the Canadian national track and field team from 1992-99 and is Japan's 400-meter record holder for runners under 19.

Marlon was a member of the National Association of Academic

*"I have known Marlon for over 14 years as a friend and what I can tell you about Marlon is that he was a passionate advocate for our student-athletes. He was a beloved member of this organization, and his legacy will live on at the University of Memphis through his impact on our students and community," said Dr. Ed Scott, University of Memphis Athletics Director.*

Advisors for Athletics (N4A) since 2005 and a recipient of the Lan Hewitt Leadership Award, given to outstanding athletic advisors. He joined the Tiger family in 2018 and was instrumental in the creation of Tiger Bites, a nutrition program that includes a fueling station, nutrition education and partnerships with the Dietetics and Human Performance programs on campus.

"I have known Marlon for over 14 years as a friend and what I

can tell you about Marlon is that he was a passionate advocate for our student-athletes. He was a beloved member of this organization, and his legacy will live on at the University of Memphis through his impact on our students and community," said Dr. Ed Scott, University of Memphis Athletics Director.

Marlon leaves behind his wife, Tina and two sons: Marlon Jr. and Braylon, ages 17 and 13. Funeral arrangements are pending

as his family travels back from Hawaii.

At this time the family is requesting privacy and has asked that all inquiries be directed to the University of Memphis athletic department via the [athleticdirector@memphis.edu](mailto:athleticdirector@memphis.edu) email.

As more information becomes available it will be posted on the athletic department website, [go-tigersgo.com](http://go-tigersgo.com).

Watch for The Mid-South Tribune's 30th Annual Black History Month Special Edition in February 2025!