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NEW Weekly

DRAFT

2024

DETROIT

April 26 - May 2, 2024

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May 2 - 5 | McKinney, TX



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2024-2025 ACC WOMEN'S BASKETBALL OPPONENTS

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2024 SCHEDULE

MARCH/APRIL

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				28 CHC	29	30 CHC
31 CHC	1 TB	2 TB	3 TB	4	5 HOU	6 HOU
7 HOU	8 HOU	9 OAK	10 OAK	11 OAK	12 HOU	13 HOU
14 HOU	15 DET	16 DET	17 DET	18 DET	19 ATL	20 ATL
21 ATL	22	23 SEA	24 SEA	25 SEA	26 CIN	27 CIN
28 CIN	29	30 WSH				

JULY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2 SD	3 SD	4 SD	5 TB	6 TB
7 TB	8 LAA	9 LAA	10 LAA	11	12 HOU	13 HOU
14 HOU	15	16 2024 ALL-STAR WEEK 7-11 PM	17	18	19 BAL	20 BAL
21 BAL	22 CWS	23 CWS	24 CWS	25 CWS	26 TOR	27 TOR
28 TOR	29 STL	30 STL	31 STL			

MAY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 WSH	2 WSH	3 KC	4 KC
5 KC	6 OAK	7 OAK	8 OAK	9	10 COL	11 COL
12 COL	13 CLE	14 CLE	15 CLE	16	17 LAA	18 LAA
19 LAA	20	21 PHI	22 PHI	23 PHI	24 MIN	25 MIN
26 MIN	27	28 AZ	29 AZ	30	31 MIA	

AUGUST

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2 BOS	3 BOS
4 BOS	5 HOU	6 HOU	7 HOU	8	9 NYY	10 NYY
11 NYY	12 BOS	13 BOS	14 BOS	15 MIN	16 MIN	17 MIN
18 MIN	19 PIT	20 PIT	21 PIT	22	23 CLE	24 CLE
25 CLE	26	27 CWS	28 CWS	29 CWS	30 OAK	31 OAK

JUNE

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 MIA
2 MIA	3 DET	4 DET	5 DET	6	7 SF	8 SF
9 SF	10	11 LAD	12 LAD	13 LAD	14 SEA	15 SEA
16 SEA	17 NYM	18 NYM	19 NYM	20	21 KC	22 KC
23 KC	24 MIL	25 MIL	26 MIL	27 BAL	28 BAL	29 BAL
30 BAL						

SEPTEMBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 OAK	2 NYY	3 NYY	4 NYY	5 LAA	6 LAA	7 LAA
8 LAA	9	10 AZ	11 AZ	12 SEA	13 SEA	14 SEA
15 SEA	16	17 TOR	18 TOR	19 TOR	20 SEA	21 SEA
22 SEA	23	24 OAK	25 OAK	26 OAK	27 LAA	28 LAA
29 LAA	30					

Schedule subject to change.
Times to be announced at a later date.

Home Games

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AROUND THE AREA

LOCAL NEWS OF INTEREST

Renovations proposed for Stadium



The Major League Baseball All-Star Game is coming to the Rangers' Globe Life Field in Arlington this summer. And that's just the beginning of big events and openings in the sprawling Arlington Entertainment District, which will also play host to nine World Cup games in 2026 and the NCAA men's basketball Final Four in 2030.

With all that in mind, the Arlington city council on Tuesday night will discuss and consider more renovations to Choctaw Stadium, the Rangers' former stadium that still sits across the street from Globe Life Field.

Choctaw is home to high school and United Football League (previously the XFL) games, as well as retail and office space. Now, the Rangers and Arlington city officials want to renovate more space at the stadium "to more fully activate its street frontage," and also increase the city's public safety presence in the area.

The proposed renovations also call for more parking in the area, particularly for the planned opening of the National Medal of Honor Museum next year.

The renovations would happen through an agreement between the Rangers and the

city, with the city providing funding around \$4.2 million and the Rangers covering the rest. The full cost of the project has not been disclosed, though the city documents say the Rangers have already spent around \$7.8 million on retail development at Choctaw Stadium, including the buildout of a Starbucks coffee shop.

The additional renovations and upgrades would include:

- 1,500 square feet inside Choctaw Stadium that faces Randol Mill Road and will serve as a storefront presence for the Arlington Police Department
- 1,500 square feet inside Choctaw Stadium that will serve as temporary housing for Arlington Fire Station 8, which is under renovation
- A valet parking lane along Nolan Ryan Expressway next to Choctaw Stadium
- 6,000 square feet of renovations within Choctaw Stadium for "new leasable, commercial space," according to the council documents
- Parking rights for the Medal of Honor Museum for up to 200 spaces, as-needed, in Parking Lots F, G, M, and/or N for 10 years

The city documents did not give a timetable on when the renovations would begin, presumably be within the next year. The MLB All-Star Game is slated for July 16, the One Rangers Way apartments across from Choctaw will open late this year, and the National Medal of Honor Museum will open in March 2025. All three, as well as the upcoming World Cup, were mentioned as reasons for the investment in renovations and parking.



Dallas City Council approves agreement for Dallas Wings to play downtown

The City of Dallas approved an agreement that will likely make Downtown Dallas the new home of the Dallas Wings. Dallas City Council approved a 15-year, \$19 million agreement to move the WNBA franchise's games from Arlington to Dallas Memorial Auditorium at the Kay Bailey Hutchison Convention Center.

The Dallas Wings have played their games at College Park Center at The University of Texas at Arlington since they moved to North Texas from Tulsa in 2016. College Park Center holds 6,251 fans.

Dallas Memorial Auditorium holds close to 10,000 seats. It is expected to be renovated as part of a much larger facelift to the convention center, which was passed by voters in 2022.

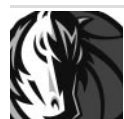
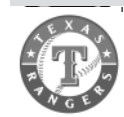



Overall, the Wings have seen ticket sales revenue increase 220-percent, including over a 1,200-percent increase in individual ticket sales revenue, according to the team. Under the terms of the agreement, the team would agree to obtain occupancy after the 2025 season, pending approval by the WNBA.

The Wings will continue to play games in Arlington in 2024 and 2025.

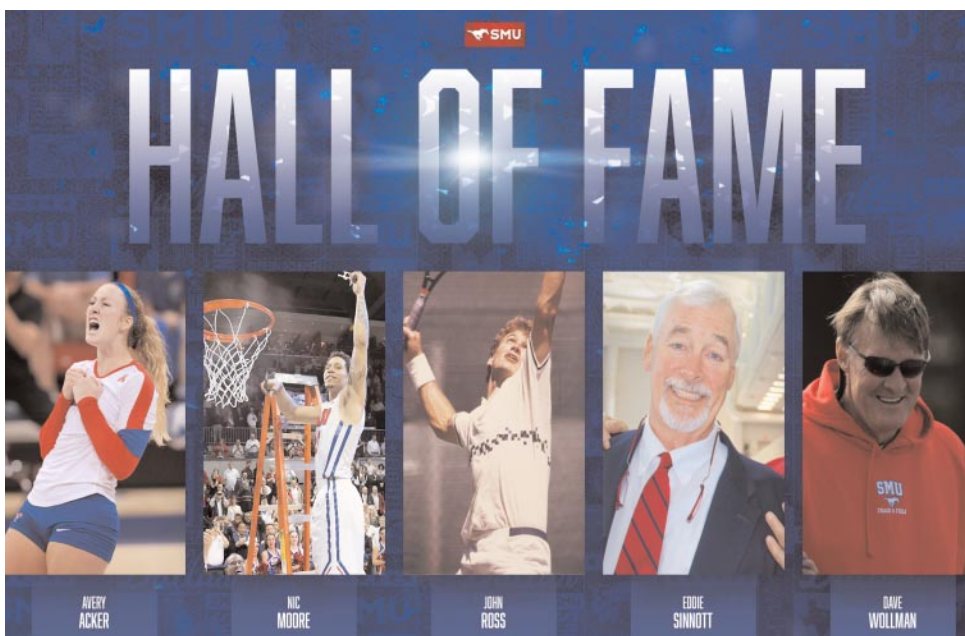
NCAA Basketball Poll

Coaches Poll	FINAL	AP Poll
1. Houston	1. Houston	1. Houston
2. UConn	2. UConn	2. UConn
3. Purdue	3. Purdue	3. Purdue
4. Iowa State	4. Iowa State	4. Iowa State
5. North Carolina	5. North Carolina	5. North Carolina
6. Tennessee	6. Tennessee	6. Tennessee
7. Auburn	7. Auburn	7. Auburn
8. Marquette	8. Marquette	8. Marquette
9. Arizona	9. Arizona	9. Arizona
10. Illinois	10. Illinois	10. Illinois
11. Creighton	11. Creighton	11. Creighton
12. Kentucky	12. Kentucky	12. Kentucky
13. Duke	13. Illinois	13. Illinois
14. Baylor	14. Baylor	14. Baylor
15. Saint Mary's	15. South Carolina	15. South Carolina
16. South Carolina	16. Kansas	16. Kansas
17. Kansas	17. Gonzaga	17. Gonzaga
18. Gonzaga	18. Utah State	18. Utah State
19. Alabama	19. Alabama	19. Alabama
20. Utah State	20. BYU	20. BYU
21. BYU	21. Saint Mary's	21. Saint Mary's
22. Texas Tech	22. Washington State	22. Washington State
23. Wisconsin	23. Nevada	23. Nevada
24. San Diego State	24. Dayton	24. Dayton
25. Washington State	25. Texas Tech	25. Texas Tech

WEEKLY CALENDAR

	APRIL 26 FRIDAY	APRIL 27 SATURDAY	APRIL 28 SUNDAY	APRIL 29 MONDAY	APRIL 30 TUESDAY	MAY 1 WEDNESDAY	MAY 2 THURSDAY
	Mavs vs LA Clippers 7:00 / ESPN		Mavs vs LA Clippers 2:30 / ABC			Mavs at LA Clippers 9:00 / TNT	
	Rangers vs Cincinnati 7:05 / Bally's	Rangers vs Cincinnati 3:05 / FOX	Rangers vs Cincinnati 1:35 / Bally's		Rangers vs Washington 7:05 / Bally's	Rangers vs Washington 7:05 / Bally's	Rangers vs Washington 1:35 / Bally's
		FC Dallas vs Houston 7:30					
		Stars at Golden Knights 9:30 / TBS		Stars at Golden Knights 9:30 / TBS		Stars vs Golden Knights 8:30 / ESPN	
	Roughriders vs Amarillo 7:05	Roughriders vs Amarillo 7:05	Roughriders vs Amarillo 4:05		Roughriders at Corpus Christi 6:35	Roughriders at Corpus Christi 6:35	Roughriders at Corpus Christi 6:35

SMU announces Hall Of Fame Class



Avery Acker, Nic Moore, John Ross, Eddie Sinnott and Dave Wollman will be inducted Sept. 20

By Staff

SMU and SMU Athletics, in conjunction with the SMU Lettermen's Association, have announced the newest class of the SMU Athletics Hall of Fame. The inductees are Avery Acker, Nic Moore, John Ross, Dave Wollman and the late Eddie Sinnott. The inductees will be recognized at the annual Hall of Fame Banquet and Induction Ceremony presented by Westdale Asset Management on Friday, Sept. 20 in Armstrong Fieldhouse.

Avery Acker – Volleyball 2012-2015

Avery Acker was a three-time All-American setter for SMU from 2012-15. She was the AAC Player of the Year in 2015, AAC Setter of the Year in 2013 and 2015, and was selected First-Team All-AAC each of her last three seasons on the Hilltop. As a senior, she led the Mustangs to the program's first conference title and first NCAA Tournament appearance. She was also the 2015 AAC Female Scholar Athlete of the Year and named the 2015 CoSIDA Academic All-American of the Year. During her SMU career, Acker climbed to second in assists with 4,321. She guided SMU to a 75-21 record over her last three seasons, including a 46-12 record in league matches. As a senior, she led the NCAA with 12.45 assists per set and finished sixth in the nation with an SMU and AAC single-season record 1,482 assists. Dr. Acker is a physician in Houston. She received her medical degree from the McGovern Medical School at UT Health after a residency at UT Southwestern Medical Center.

Nic Moore – Men's Basketball 2013-2016

Nic Moore was a two-time AAC Player of the Year, two-time honorable mention

All-American and three-time All-AAC First-Team selection while playing for the Mustangs from 2013-16. He led the Mustangs to the 2015 AAC regular season and tournament titles. SMU was ranked in the Top 25 all three seasons, reaching as high as No. 8. He was a candidate for the Wooden Award, Naismith Trophy, Bob Cousy Point Guard of the Year, Oscar Robertson Trophy, Lute Olson Award and Senior CLASS Award. The Mustangs went 79-22 in his three seasons, including a 50-4 home record. In 2014, the Mustangs reached the NIT title game. In 2015, he was a starter for the Gold-Medal winning Team USA at the 2015 World University Games. He finished his SMU career No. 2 in assists (508), No. 3 in threes made (225), No. 4 in assists per game (5.1), No. 4 on free-throw percentage (83.8), No. 6 in 3-point percentage (42.1), tied at No. 9 in steals (136), tied No. 10 in steals per game (1.4) and No. 11 in points (1,462). He went on to play professionally in Italy and Spain from 2016-23.

John Ross – Men's Tennis 1983-1986

John Ross was a three-time All-American from 1983-86. He helped the Mustangs to three Southwest Conference titles (1983, 1985, 1986). SMU finished in the top six nationally each season, including an NCAA runner-up finish in 1983. He advanced to the quarterfinals of the 1985 NCAA singles championship, finishing the season ranked No. 4 nationally in singles and No. 9 in doubles (with Monte Oppenheim). The 1986 SMU Senior Male Athlete of the Year partnered with Richey Reneberg (SMU HOF 2012) to win that season's SWC No. 2 doubles championship. He finished his career on the

Hilltop in the top 10 for singles victories (79) and doubles triumphs (62). In 1982, he reached the Wimbledon boys' singles quarterfinal and was runner-up in doubles. He made the second round of the U.S. Open and Wimbledon in singles in 1988 and made the second round in doubles at the U.S. Open (1981, 1987) and Australian Open (1988).

Eddie Sinnott – Men's Swimming Head Coach 1989-2019

Eddie Sinnott was a 16-time conference Coach of the Year and led the Mustangs to 16 league crowns as head coach at his alma mater from 1989-2019. Under Sinnott, SMU recorded 11 NCAA top-15 finishes, 80 individual All-America honors and 59 relay honors and 288 conference championships. Sinnott coached 11 student-athletes who competed in seven different Olympic Games, including gold medalists Ryan Berube (SMU HOF 2015) and Lars Frolander (SMU HOF 2013). Under Sinnott, both Berube and Frolander were named NCAA Swimmer of the Year. Sinnott served on the Olympic International Organizing Committee from 1984-92, and served United States Swimming at international events in 1987, 1993 and 2008. He was also the head coach for Haiti at the 1996 Olympic Games. Beyond the college teams, Sinnott helped teach in the SMU swim lesson program for most of his 40 years on the Hilltop, and was a leader in the Dallas swimming community. In 2019, he was selected by his peers for the National Collegiate Scholastic Trophy, which is presented to the coach who has made the greatest contribution to swimming as a competitive sport, and as a healthful, recreational activity in the province of under-

graduate and scholastic education. Sinnott was also instrumental in fundraising for the Robson & Lindley Aquatics Center and Barr-McMillion Natatorium. A four-year letterwinner at SMU from 1973-76, Sinnott was an All-American in 1973 and 1974 and the SWC champion in the 400 IM in 1973.

Dave Wollman – Track & Field Head Coach 1988-2015

Dave Wollman built and sustained one of the top collegiate track & field programs in the country from 1988-2015. The Mustangs recorded a combined 69 NCAA Championship appearances, including 16 NCAA Top-10 finishes, among these teams were eight teams who made the podium and earned top-four NCAA Championship trophies. His Mustang athletes earned hundreds of All-American awards, won 34 NCAA Individual titles and broke seven Collegiate records. He coached 20 Olympians that represented 12 different countries. Several of these athletes went on to win Olympic, World Championship and World Cup medals. In his final two seasons at SMU, the Mustangs won an AAC Indoor title and both AAC Outdoor championships. For his career accomplishments, Wollman received the title of "Master Coach," the highest level a coach can earn from both the U.S. Track & Field Coaches Association - and the European Coaches association, was only the third U.S. Coach to receive both honors. Wollman came to SMU after previous stints at Stanford University and Purdue University and he has also been enshrined into the University of Indianapolis Hall of Fame, Indiana Track and Field Hall of Fame and the prestigious Mt. SAC Relays Hall of Fame.

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Tom's Tip: Use the pool as a golfing tool



TOM WARD
TOMPWARD@SBCGLOBAL.NET

The brutal heat wave we've been suffering through makes it hard on the golfers that want to get out and play. Either tee off early, or deal with stifling weather that can wear you out and pose a serious health hazard. One way to keep working on your game involves taking a plunge in the pool. Now, I know golfers have a real aversion when they hear the word water but here is an option you might like. Using the pool

not only helps you cool off during the summer stretch, it can also be a useful tool in improving your golf game. Next time, as you head to your favorite watering hole (pool I mean, not the other type) try out this aquatic golfing game plan.

In the water, you can build real strength in the legs by just walking back and forth, or running, in the shallow end as the water offers great resistance. Walking laps works too. The legs are important in building a strong base for the golf swing.

Another thing is using the noodle. Strap it under your arms then twist the trunk of your body back and forth for a few minutes. This will help firm up your core stomach area.

In the photographs, it appears as if I hit my ball in the water and decided to go after it. I'm in the pool with a golf club and the water is slightly above waist high. I would use an old golf club to do this exer-

cise.

In the top left photo, I've taken my stance and brought the club out of the water and made a quarter backswing. The top right photo is my downswing. I've drawn some lines to illustrate how I have maintained a great angle of attack back into the water.

The bottom left photo is a prime example of how your arms should work in the swing. By staying down through the impact area my shoulders have squared up like they were on the initial setup. With my head down and shoulders square I'm able to let the arms swing through the water at full force with minimal resistance. My legs have remained very flexed creating a tremendous pulling action. The sensation is like a knife cutting through a stick of butter because the water is not resisting me.

Now, if I turned my left shoulder (for right-handed players) first on the downswing, I would be coming back into the water at a steeper angle. This is the classic over the top move. By trying to muscle the

shot, the force of the water would be greater because of the poor angle of attack. The water would slow the club down and I would lose a lot of power and accuracy in the process.

The bottom right photo is the follow-through. My right shoulder has worked down and under as opposed to up and across. My left shoulder has automatically gone up (instead of around) like a teeter-totter and my swing center (spine) has remained stable. This motion allows my arms to be fully extended at waist level high projecting towards the target. There is no wasted energy here.

I would recommend you do a number of swings with the club in the pool and you'll quickly see and feel exactly what I'm talking about.

So, if your swing has gotten your golf game underwater and it needs to be resuscitated, perhaps it's time to try my tip and take a dip.

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This week on TOUR: Zurich Classic



Davis Riley and Nick Hardy will defend their 2023 title

Brandon Wu and James Nicholas are the other sponsor invites.

HIGHEST-RANKED PLAYERS IN THE FIELD

World Ranking	FedExCup
2. Rory McIlroy	3. X.Schauffele
3. Xander Schauffele	4. S. Theegala
8. Patrick Cantlay	10. P. Cantlay
12. Matt Fitzpatrick	11. C.Morikawa
13. Collin Morikawa	14. W. Zalatoris
17. Sahith Theegala	17. Tom Hoge
27. Nick Taylor	21. Nick Taylor
28. Sepp Straka	28. A.Eckroat
29. Will Zalatoris	29. P. Malnati
34. Nicolai Højgaard	30. Sepp Straka

SIGNATURE EVENT STORYLINES:

The next Signature Event is the Wells Fargo Championship...With his win at the Corales Puntacana Championship, Horschel tops the Aon Swing 5, which continues this week in New Orleans... Wesley Bryan, Tway, Charley Hoffman and Justin Lower make up the rest of the Aon Swing 5... The final event of the Aon Swing 5 prior to Quail Hollow is THE CJ CUP Byron Nelson... Justin Thomas' T5 was his first top-10 finish on TOUR since February and in the process he moved from No. 14 to No. 6 in the Aon Next 10... Jake Knapp (No. 7) and Christiaan Bezuidenhout (No. 8) got bumped a spot. Austin Eckroat remained at No. 9 while Peter Malnati moved to No. 10. He leads No. 11 – Thomas Detry – by just 73 points...Ludvig Åberg remains on top of the Aon Next 10 followed by Matthieu Pavon. Zalatoris, Stephan Jaeger and Akshay Bhatia round out the rest of the Aon Next 10.

(continued on page 8)

Zurich Classic of New Orleans

April 25 - April 28, 2024

TPC Louisiana

Avondale, Louisiana

Purse - \$8,900,000

Winners share - \$1,286,000 (each)

Defending Champs - Nick Harvey and Davis Riley

By Adam Stanley

It's time to team up.

The Zurich Classic of New Orleans is the lone two-man team event on the PGA TOUR schedule and boasts plenty of the game's best, with five of the top 15 players in the Official World Golf Ranking heading to TPC Louisiana.

This is the seventh year the tournament has been played as a team event, with each duo playing Four-ball (also known as best ball) in the first and third rounds, and Foursomes (alternate shot) for the second and fourth rounds.

With Presidents Cup pairs, Ryder Cup heroes, twins, fan favorites, college teammates, and more joining forces in NOLA it should be a special week.

This week marks the second of three events to earn points towards the Aon Swing 5 and Aon Next 10 as we inch closer to the next Signature Event on the PGA TOUR schedule – the Wells Fargo Championship in two weeks.

Here's everything you need to know as the TOUR returns to New Orleans.

FIELD NOTES: Rory McIlroy will make his tournament debut alongside good pal, Ryder Cup teammate, and Irishman Shane

Lowry – a duo that was firmed up during a celebratory lunch after the Ryder Cup last fall... Patrick Cantlay and Xander Schauffele will try to reprise their 2022 win here. Cantlay and Schauffele have both the Foursomes and Four-ball scoring records at this event... Davis Riley and Nick Hardy will defend their 2023 title. No team has gone back-to-back... Three sets of brothers (and two sets of twins!) will play together with twins Rasmus and Nicolai Højgaard and Parker and Pierceson Coody in the field along with Alex and Matt Fitzpatrick. Alex Fitzpatrick and Rasmus Højgaard are sponsor invites... Billy Horschel, who won last week at the Corales Puntacana Championship, will be without his previous partner Sam Burns, as Burns and his wife are expecting their first child any day. Horschel will instead be paired with fellow University of Florida alum Tyson Alexander. Horschel has won the Zurich Classic when it was both an individual and team event... Other notable pairings include Collin Morikawa and Kurt Kitayama, Sahith Theegala and Will Zalatoris, and Nick Taylor and Adam Hadwin. The Canadian duo finished runner-up a year ago and would like nothing more than to show Presidents Cup International Team captain Mike Weir how well they play together... Steve Stricker will play his second TOUR event this season (after earning his way into THE PLAYERS Championship), teaming up with Matt Kuchar. Stricker has four top-10s in five events on PGA TOUR Champions this season... Other sponsor exemptions

include the South African pairing of Aldrich Potgieter and Thriston Lawrence. Potgieter, the winner of The Amateur Championship last year (the second youngest winner in the tournament's history) won The Bahamas Great Abaco Classic on the Korn Ferry Tour earlier this season – the youngest winner in Korn Ferry Tour history. Lawrence, who has two runner-up finishes on the DP World Tour this season, made his 2024 TOUR debut last week at Corales (MC)... Jason Dufner and Kevin Chappell, Kevin Tway and Kelly Kraft, and

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McKinney, TX

THE CJ CUP
Byron Nelson

COMCAST BUSINESS TOUR TOP 10

UPDATES: With his fourth win in his last five TOUR starts, a three-shot triumph at the RBC Heritage, Scottie Scheffler remained atop the standings. Scheffler was the first player ranked No. 1 in the Comcast Business TOUR TOP 10 to win the RBC Heritage and now leads by 2,023 points – the largest lead with 15 weeks left in the Regular season (since 2009)... Thanks to his solo second at the RBC Heritage, Theegala moved up to No. 4 in the Comcast Business TOUR TOP 10. Cantlay finished T3 at Harbour Town and rose 13 spots from No. 23 to No. 10 in the standings. Cantlay was the only new entrant into the TOUR TOP 10 after last week... Chris Kirk and Byeong Hun An are the only two to remain in the TOUR TOP 10 every week so far this season.

FEDEXCUP: Winner receives 400 FedExCup points.

COURSE: TPC Louisiana, par 72, 7,425 yards. Located just 15 minutes from downtown New Orleans, the course features plenty of water even as the Pete Dye design (Steve Elkington/Kelly Gibson as consultants) is one of the TOUR's most scoreable layouts. It stretches over 250 acres of wetlands and features 100 bunkers.

72-HOLE RECORD: 258, Hardy/Riley (2023)

FOURSOMES (ALTERNATE SHOT) RECORD: 63, Hadwin/Taylor (4th round, 2023), Cantlay/Schauffele (Round 2, 2023)

FOUR-BALL (BEST BALL)

RECORD: 59, Cantlay/Schauffele (1st round, 2022).

LAST TIME: Riley and Hardy each won for the first time on the PGA TOUR. They birdied four of their final six holes – highlighted by Riley's 30-foot birdie bomb on 17 – to win by two over Hadwin and Taylor. Riley and Hardy started the final round three shots back but fired a 7-under 65 in Foursomes to end the week with a new tournament scoring record of 30-under 258. Taylor and Hadwin, who grew up playing the same course near Vancouver, tied the Foursomes record of 9-under 63 (set earlier in the week by Cantlay and Schauffele) to zip into second alone. Wyndham Clark and Beau Hossler, the 54-hole leaders, finished third, while Schauffele and Cantlay tied for fourth with Matthew NeSmith and Taylor Moore.

HOW TO WATCH

(all times ET)

Television:

- Thursday-Friday: 2-6 p.m. (Golf Channel)
- Saturday-Sunday: 1-3 p.m. (Golf Channel), 3-6 p.m. (CBS)

Radio:

- Thursday-Sunday: 2 p.m. until play is complete (Masters Radio; SiriusXM 92) Stream via Masters.co

Scottie Scheffler by the numbers



Scottie Scheffler continues historic run to win 10th title at RBC Heritage

By the numbers: Statistics confirm Scottie Scheffler's historical dominance

By Staff

Is impending fatherhood the only thing stopping Scottie Scheffler? Quite possibly.

His historic run continued Monday when he completed his victory at the RBC Heritage. It was his fourth win in his past five starts, a run that also included victories at the Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by Mastercard, THE PLAYERS Championship and the Masters. The only exception was a runner-up finish at the Texas Children's Houston Open, where he missed a 6-footer to join Stephan Jaeger in a playoff.

Scheffler has seemed invincible lately, and the statistics confirm that. Here's a closer look at some of the key stats that put Scheffler's historic play into perspective:

- By winning at Harbour Town Golf Links, Scheffler became the first player since Bernhard Langer in 1985 to win the RBC Heritage one week after winning the Masters.
- Scheffler is the first player since Tiger Woods in 2006 to win the week after winning a major.
- With four wins and a runner-up in his past five starts, Scheffler is the first player since Woods in 2007-08 to have five con-

secutive top-two finishes. Vijay Singh is the only other player to have such a run in the past 30 years (2004).

- This was Scheffler's 10th PGA TOUR victory, coming in just his 51st start since he earned his first win at the 2022 WM Phoenix Open. Only David Duval has needed fewer starts after his first win to reach victory No. 10. Duval did it in 33 starts. Tiger Woods is third on the list with 59 starts.
- In his 51 starts since the 2022 WM Phoenix Open, Scheffler also has 23 top-three finishes (45%) and 35 top-10s (68.6%).
- All 10 of Scheffler's wins have come since the start of the 2021-22 season. He is the first player to win 10 (or more) times on the PGA TOUR in the span of three seasons since Dustin Johnson won 10 titles between 2015-16 and 2017-18.
- This is Scheffler's fourth win of the season, matching his career-high from 2022. He is the fourth player with multiple four-win seasons since the start of 2000, joining Woods (10), Singh, (3) and Phil Mickelson (2).
- Scheffler has now recorded 40 consecutive TOUR rounds at par or better, a streak that began in the final round of the 2023 TOUR Championship. He's 12 back of Woods' all-time TOUR mark of 52 straight

rounds at par or better (set across 2000-01).

- In each of Scheffler's last seven victories, eight or more of the top 10 players in the Official World Golf Ranking have been in the field. His most recent run of four wins in five starts has included two Signature Events (Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by Mastercard, RBC Heritage), THE PLAYERS and the Masters.
- Scheffler is averaging 5.38 birdies per round this season, on pace to set the all-time TOUR record for single-season birdie average (since the statistic was first tracked in 1980). Woods set the current record (4.92) in 2020.
- In his 39 rounds this season, he has outperformed the field average 35 times. He's been at least a shot better than the field 30 times, at least two shots better 26 times and at least three shots better 19 times.
- Scheffler leads the TOUR in Strokes Gained: Tee-to-Green by nearly a shot per round this season, after finishing atop the category by more than two-thirds of a stroke per round last season. No player had previously led the category by more than four-tenths of a stroke per round since Woods in 2009.

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Five stories behind top new teams



Xander Schauffele and Patrick Cantlay won here in 2022

By Paul Hodowanic

Team golf returns to the PGA TOUR spotlight with the Zurich Classic of New Orleans, where the intrigue starts with how and why the teams were formed. Some seem obvious, others not so much.

Xander Schauffele and Patrick Cantlay – Presidents Cup/Ryder Cup mainstays who won here in 2022 – are running it back, as are defending champions Nick Hardy and Davis Riley. Luke Donald and Edoardo Molinari, captain and vice-captain, respectively, for Europe's Ryder Cup triumph in Rome, also return.

That said, it's the duos who will be making their Zurich Classic debuts that could define this tournament. The Five this week explores those new teams, but before we start, here's a quick reminder of the format:

Each two-man team will play Four-ball (best ball) on Thursday and Foursomes (alternate shot) on Friday. After the cut – 33 teams and ties – they will play Four-ball on Saturday and Foursomes on Sunday. Now, let's talk teams.

1. Rory McIlroy and Shane Lowry

The Irish are headed to New Orleans on something of a whim. As the story goes, McIlroy asked Lowry to play the event during a drunken lunch after the Ryder Cup. "I said after, 'You wanna play the Zurich together?'" McIlroy told GOLF.com. "And we were like, 'Yeah, let's do it.'"

Several players seemed to hit a wall in the final round of the RBC Heritage, post-Masters fatigue finally catching up to them, and McIlroy (74, T33) and Lowry (75, T64) were among those who seemed to run out of gas. But if the teams at the Zurich Classic are only as strong as they are close,

watch out for these two.

McIlroy, 34, and Lowry, 36, go back a long way. They represented Ireland at the 2007 European Amateur Team Championships. McIlroy turned pro later that year, with Lowry two years behind him, and they've remained close since – they were teammates again at the 2023 Ryder Cup in Rome.

"We're probably closer than we've ever been now," Lowry told "Off The Ball" podcast. "We spend a lot of time together, play a lot of golf together, practice together. Our wives are very close. Our kids are similar ages. Play dates and stuff like that is weekly. He's a great person to have around me as well."

"To see what he does with his time and his game and how he improves day to day... I'm very fortunate to have, in my eyes, one of the greatest players to play the game so close."

McIlroy echoed a similar sentiment in an interview last fall.

"I feel over the last couple of years that Shane's been one of my biggest advocates," he said. "He's a great person to be around, and a really good influence on me. There's parts of (Lowry) that I really love; I see how he lives his life; I see how he is with his girls, and the relationships he has with the people from home that are still close to him. He enjoys his life and everything he's worked for, and I think spending time with him makes me a better version of myself."

Maybe that will add up to a victory in NOLA.

2. Sahith Theegala and Will Zalatoris

It's a tandem that makes all the sense in the world, statistically. Zalatoris is one of

the best tee-to-green players on the PGA TOUR, while Theegala holds that distinction for his short game. They're hot, too – Theegala just finished second at the RBC Heritage. (Zalatoris struggled in the final round to finish T44.)

They've known each other since their junior golf days back in California. Theegala grew up in Chino Hills, Zalatoris in the Bay Area. Although Zalatoris would move to Dallas, Texas, for his high school years, they continued to run into each other in amateur golf circles.

"I've known (Theegala) since I was 12 years old, gone up the ranks together," Zalatoris said. "Just such a good dude. If anything, I was just hoping he already didn't have a better offer."

The pairing made sense in other ways, too, as Theegala's caddie, Carl Smith, and Zalatoris' caddie, Joel Stock, stay together on the road. Theegala and Zalatoris, who play practice rounds together and are represented by the same management group, talked about it casually at first, and Zalatoris wasn't sure he could fit it into his schedule with the Dallas-hosted CJ CUP Byron Nelson the following week. Playing this week in New Orleans would mean six straight weeks of golf through the PGA Championship.

"Then finally I realized, we would have a really good chance of winning," Zalatoris said. "It's such a fun week and it was just A plus B equals C. Looking forward to it."

3. Nicolai and Rasmus Højgaard

This one doesn't need much explanation, right? It would be weird if this weren't a pairing.

It will be a special week for the Højgaard

twins, only one of whom (Nicolai) earned his PGA TOUR status last year. Rasmus finished just outside the top 10 of the DP World Tour Eligibility Ranking.

The two will be reunited for the week in New Orleans, which could be a precursor for what's to come. Rasmus is playing well again on the DP World Tour and is projected to finish inside the top 10 to earn PGA TOUR status for 2025. Nicolai contended at the Masters Tournament (T16).

They won't be the only tandem with family ties, nor the only twins (Parker and Pierceson Coody).

4. Joel Dahmen and Keith Mitchell

Early clubhouse leader for best vibes of the week, Joel Dahmen and Keith Mitchell's pairing seemed so obvious and shocking that it had never happened before.

Better late than never. "Cashmere Keith" and "Bucket Hat Joel" are taking on New Orleans. Their friendship dates back to their time on the Korn Ferry Tour, where they overlapped in 2016 and 2017, and they've remained close on the PGA TOUR, where each has won once.

A solid week would be welcome for both players, as each is comfortably inside the FedExCup top 125, but neither has cracked the pivotal top 50.

5. Eric Cole and Russ Cochran

It's a curveball here at the end, but one that is well worth it.

Russ Cochran, 65, has been stuck on 599 career PGA TOUR starts for more than a decade. His last PGA TOUR event was the 2013 Sony Open in Hawaii (T41). It looked like that landmark 600th start would never come. Cochran accepted that, but then Cole came calling.

Here's the backstory: Cole's caddie is Reed Cochran, Russ's son, and Cole plays with both father and son back in Tequesta, Florida, a suburb of Jupiter. Cole floated the idea to Russ, who was apprehensive at first. Eventually, Cole wore him down.

"I thought it would be pretty cool to get him his 600th," said Cole, who finished T33 at the RBC Heritage. "Russ was kinda shaky about it, and then I stayed on him pretty hard and he eventually he came around. He's been getting ready for it."

Reed will stay on Cole's bag, while Russ's other son, Ryan, will caddie for his dad. Russ played last week's PGA TOUR Champions event, shooting 73-77 to finish T75 but at least knock some of the rust off at the Invited Celebrity Classic.

Cochran's first PGA TOUR start came 43 years ago, and the 1991 Centel Western is his lone PGA TOUR win. He has five PGA TOUR Champions victories.

"It's a cool family week, and in New Orleans it will be a cool celebration of Russ," Cole said.

PGA Professionals to play in Frisco



Defending Champion Braden Shattuck is set to make his second appearance in the PGA Professional Championship

PGA Professional Championship makes first appearance at Fields Ranch at PGA Frisco

For the first time, the PGA Professional Championship will be contested at the new home of the PGA of America, Fields Ranch at PGA Frisco.

The 2024 PGA Professional Championship presented by Club Car, Corebridge Financial and Rolex, will be played Sunday, April 28 to Wednesday, May 1, on the Fields Ranch East and West courses.

The PGA Professional Championship, the national championship for PGA of America Golf Professionals from across the country, features a 312-player field representing all 41 PGA of America Sections.

The top 20 finishers will earn a spot on the Corebridge Financial Team to compete two weeks later in the 2024 PGA Championship at Valhalla Golf Club in Louisville, Kentucky, from May 13-19.

Defending Champion Braden Shattuck is set to make his second appearance in the PGA Professional Championship after becoming the 11th individual in the Championship's history to win in his first appearance.

The PGA Director of Instruction at Rolling Green Golf Club in Springfield, Pennsylvania, shot 9-under-par 279 to win by one shot last May at Twin Warriors and Santa Ana Golf Clubs in Santa Ana Pueblo, New Mexico.

As he prepares to defend his title in Frisco, Shattuck remains proud of his ability to block out the noise during his memorable 2023 performance.

"I was able to stay surprisingly calm on the course," said Shattuck. "Off the course might have been a different story, but on the course I was abnormally calm. It's something I've been working on for a long time so it was really cool to see how the mindset shift affected me under the gun."

Shattuck, who plans to play several nine hole practice rounds to familiarize himself with Fields Ranch East and West Thursday through Saturday, is aware of the heightened expectations that come with being the defending champion.

"People place expectations on you once you win it," said Shattuck. "I just try to have the same expectations, same approach and see what happens."

Shattuck is one of 15 past PGA Professional Champions in this year's field. He will be joined by Alex Beach (2019), Rich Berberian Jr. (2016), Michael Block (2014), Matt Dobyns (2012, 2015), Scott Hebert (2008), David Hutsell (2011), Darrell Kestner (1996), Jesse Mueller (2022), Rod Perry (2013), Ron Philo Jr. (2006), Jeff Roth (1993), Steve Schneider (1995), Bob Sowards (2004) and Ryan Vermeer (2018).

The Northern Texas PGA Section will be well represented with 10 Members competing. Brandon Bingaman (Gleneagles Country Club, Plano), Spencer Dillard (Preston Trail Golf Club, Dallas), Robby Bruns (Trinity Forest Golf Club, Dallas), Robert Shields (The Winsford Group, Tyler), Brian Norman (Lakewood Country Club, Dallas), Nic Ishee (Preston Trail Golf Club, Dallas), Kent Graham (Gleneagles Country Club, Plano) and Matt Ryba

(Preston Trail Golf Club, Dallas) qualified through the Section's PGA Professional Championship at Fields Ranch East at PGA Frisco in August 2023.

J.J. Killeen (Red Feather Golf & Social Club, Lubbock) and Gabe Reynolds (Topgolf Dallas, Dallas) were previously exempt following their PGA Professional Championship finishes in 2023.

Bingaman captured the Northern Texas PGA Professional Championship in a one hole playoff after shooting even par 69-75.

"I felt like I played really well," said Bingaman. "I would chalk it up to a ball striker's golf course. I won shooting even par and that tells you it's a golf course that can jump up and bite you at any time. I just want to go in and compete. That's my main focus right now."

Additional notables in the field include Michael Block, the PGA Head Golf Professional at Arroyo Trabuco Golf Club in Mission Viejo, California. He finished T-2 in the 2023 PGA Professional Championship en route to an appearance in the 2023 PGA Championship, where he memorably took low club professional honors finishing T-15.

Stephanie Connelly-Eiswerth, the 2023 Women's PGA Professional Player of the Year representing the North Florida PGA Section, is making her third consecutive appearance. Bob Sowards, the 2023 Senior PGA Professional Player of the Year, is also in the field and returns to PGA Frisco following a T-70 finish in the 2023 KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship, contested at Fields Ranch East.

The PGA Professional Championship

has served as a showcase event for PGA of America Golf Professionals since 1968. The field consists of past Champions, the top 20 players and ties from the previous year's Championship as well as players qualifying through Section Championships.

The Championship, which offers a \$715,000 purse, will have a 36-hole cut Monday to the low 90 scorers and ties, and a 54-hole cut Tuesday to the low 70 scorers and ties.

The second, third and final rounds will be broadcast live on Golf Channel, including 4-7 pm (CT) on Monday, April 29, and Tuesday, April 30, followed by 3-6 pm on Wednesday, May 1.

New & Used Clubs from the Top Brands in Golf

2nd Swing

Ranking the top 50 draft prospects



The 2024 NFL Draft will take place in Detroit this year

By Stacy Urban

Quarterbacks could be drafted 1-23-4 for the first time in history.

But the 2024 NFL draft is rich at multiple positions with depth for days at wide receiver and offensive tackle.

Teams that covet a lockdown cornerback or stud safety might be out of luck, and the popular discussion around value at the interior offensive line and running back spots will play out in a big way starting in the second round.

If it's Michigan men you want, this is your year. Starting with quarterback J.J. McCarthy, 10 former Wolverines graded out as top-125 prospects.

We've assembled a final Big Board, ranking the top 50 prospects regardless of position and without consideration to their potential draft-day destination or any specific system operated by their future employers.

1. QB Caleb Williams Southern California

Talent is enough to roll the dice that Williams consistently delivers the goods in the NFL if a franchise leaves space for him to be an individual without dropping traditional expectations for a QB1 and No. 1 pick.

2. QB Jayden Daniels LSU

Daniels played like a much different man last season, entering the year with a

fourth-round grade and ending it with a Heisman Trophy and squarely in the conversation for the No. 1 overall pick. He has elite speed, an elusive running style and exhibited incredible growth as a passer. No QB in the class performed better against pressure looks and blitzes. He has high-end accuracy and decision-making to overcome growing pains if he lands with a team with modest talent.

3. QB Drake Maye North Carolina

Maye checks all necessary boxes to be a long-term starter. He has impressive touch and control as a passer regardless of the situation and enough quickness and presence to handle pressure and create throwing lanes under duress. His ceiling isn't as high as some of the other quarterbacks on this list but has better mobility than expected and enough arm talent.

4. WR Marvin Harrison Jr. Ohio State

Granted he was all but guaranteed attention based on his Hall of Fame dad, but Harrison himself is on the path to being GOATed and building his own legacy. He has looked like a future star since he stepped on the field at Ohio State and stood above the last three first-round receivers to come out of Columbus thanks to his route-running prowess, body control and ability to win at every level of the field. It'd be a surprise if he isn't a decade-

long starter.

5. WR Malik Nabers LSU

Such a smooth athlete he will be knocked for looking like he's rolling on cruise control, the truth is Nabers is a graceful open-field mover with instant change-of-direction agility and the build-up speed to pull away from defenders. He may need time to adjust to the physicality of NFL press coverage, but his traits suggest he gets there.

6. WR Rome Odunze Washington

Odunze slots closely to Nabers and Harrison depending on what you're looking for at the position. He's incredibly strong playing through contact along his routes, tracks the ball naturally and doesn't lose when fighting for the ball in a crowd. He's not the craftsman or overall athlete Nabers and Harrison are at this stage, but some evaluators wrote the same knocks on Larry Fitzgerald's Pitt scouting report.

7. OT Joe Alt Notre Dame

Big, long and steady in pass protection, Alt is an adequate athlete but his game really shines when shutting down power rushers or using his length to seal off pressure off the corner. He's not a nasty blocker who will push people around and elite athletes will test his game, but he has the skill set to lock up almost anyone in the

league.

8. TE Brock Bowers Georgia

A unique height-weight-speed matchup who has the ball skills and speed to threaten any linebacker or safety, Bowers is more of a supersized receiver than a tight end. He won't be a factor in the run game early in his career, but his ability to make plays after the catch and create separation against man coverage imply he can be a Pro Bowl impact player very soon.

9. EDGE Dallas Turner Alabama

Teammate Will Anderson Jr. (No. 3 pick in 2023 to the Houston Texans) was more refined, but Turner was just as productive in his final year with the Crimson Tide, relying on his ability to consistently attack the corner and get around it. He'll be a work in progress for his first season and perhaps more, but there's an All-Pro ceiling to unveil should he maximize his full potential.

10. OT Olumuyiwa Fashanu Penn State

Fashanu presents an overall body of work that separates him from a pack of offensive tackles in the first round. He's not an elite athlete. But he plays with discipline and accurate hands, refined footwork and his well-rounded style of play blocks all paths to success for defensive linemen.

11. CB Quinyon Mitchell Toledo

As one scout put it, no player in this class has a bigger appetite to be great. The self-titled "best player to come out of the MAC," we need to see a bit more before taking his measurements against Randy Moss and Ben Roethlisberger. But Mitchell is the best Group of 5 player in this class by a considerable margin. He aced every pre-draft test to back up insane production on the ball and proved elite speed at the scouting combine. He's a long, fluid corner with great speed and gets an A+ for competitive endurance.

12. OT Taliese Fuaga Oregon State

A two-year starter at right tackle, Fuaga is a near carbon copy of Bears 2023 first-round pick Darnell Wright. He has adequate length and a steady approach to his pass sets that will allow him to stay outside as a pro. What teams covet in his game: beastly power in the run game and a reputation as a nomercy finisher.

13. EDGE Jared Verse Florida State

Verse looked spindly in 2022 while playing at 248 pounds, then added good weight in 2023 while maintaining his

patented first step and subtle speed to power transition. His ability to set up blockers with his quickness and hand usage is hard to handle even for the most technical and athletic tackles. The extra year of development has paid off and should allow him to start as a rookie.

14. CB Terrion Arnold
Alabama

An easy moving corner with the size, speed and agility to match up against receivers with varied traits, Arnold deals with some lapses in judgment when playing the ball in the air or working from zone. His tools are there, and it might not be long before he is one of the best corners in the league by ironing out those flaws. He's the top athlete — and one of the youngest — at the position in 2024, which will boost his final draft grade for most teams.

15. OT Troy Fautanu
Washington

Superb athlete with defensive line and offensive line chops, he could play any position on the line and moves like a tight end.

16. OT J.C. Latham
Alabama

Latham went from 325 pounds to 360 for his final season. The results were mixed on the field and he checked in at 343 at his March Pro Day. He is extraordinarily athletic for a man of his size. He wasn't quite as fluid or nimble in pass protection or space in 2023, so he may need to drop weight as a pro to get back to looking like a future high-end starter.

17. DT Byron Murphy II
Texas

Overshadowed when the 2023 season began by high-profile teammates Alfred Collins and T'Vondre Sweat, Murphy's incredible first step and lightning fast hands turn him into the best pro of the group. The boxy-framed defender lacks the length desired for the position but has great feel for attacking and creating ways to get off blocks.

18. WR Brian Thomas Jr.
LSU

A height-weight-speed prospect whose emergence coincides with the rise of Heisman-winning quarterback Jayden Daniels. Not as developed as the receivers higher on this list, Thomas has immense potential while his game evolves. He has solid ball skills, can win reliably down the field when targeted against man coverage and could be in the unguardable category with route refinement.

19. EDGE Laiatu Latu
UCLA

Latu is a crisp athlete with the hands to always have the answers to the blocking test. He can rush the passer just easily standing up or with his hand down, and his feel for finding angles and capitalizing on the mistakes of blockers. His medical will be a major question mark for teams, but a clean bill of health should land him in the top 20.

20. QB J.J. McCarthy
Michigan

All-in character helped lift McCarthy into the early first-round conversation but he's a clear No. 4 on the QB board as the least rehearsed in terms of direct NFL skillsets. But the tools clearly are all here, including the arm talent not flexed as frequently in Michigan's pro-style, power-based, run-first offense.

21. OL Graham Barton
Duke

Draft him and plug him in at any of the three interior OL spots or trial Barton at left tackle in a quick-set passing attack and he's ready to anchor the line for a decade.

22. CB Nate Wiggins
Clemson

Size (6-foot-2), speed (4.28 40 time) and traits for days. Wiggins would be one of the first players picked in a best athlete-available draft. NFL teams aren't all convinced he'll bite if he can get the job done by showing his teeth, especially supporting against the run.

23. CB Cooper DeJean
Iowa

There are more sudden cover cornerbacks in the class but playmaking is DeJean's game, and his straight-line speed should equate to top-level range if he's moved to safety.

24. OT Amarius Mims
Georgia

Sample size is the only time "tiny" could be applied to the 6-8, 345-pound Mims. Raw with only eight career starts, Mims is a mountainous right tackle with the upside to make it at left tackle. But he'll require patience and technique work to cover still-developing football instincts to maximize his natural ability and reach his significant ceiling.

25. EDGE Chop Robinson
Penn State

Much like recent late first-round pick Nolan Smith (Eagles), Robinson's size isn't ideal for setting the edge or holding up in the run game. There's no dismissing his burst and bend to threaten almost any offensive tackle around the corner. He's unseasoned but the bet from NFL teams will be he can be a 10-sack contributor during his first contract.

26. DT Jer'Zhan Newton
Illinois

A maxed-out frame and limited length worries some teams with Newton when it comes to defending the run. On the flip side, he's a pro-ready pass rusher with great agility, hand speed and a knack for creating with counter moves.

27. DT/DE Darius Robinson
Missouri

Experience and winning tape across the defensive line, Robinson sheds blockers without a fight. Because of his measurables and raw tools, teams are enticed by his ceiling and versatility to fit virtually any defense.

28. CB Kool-Aid McKinstry
Alabama

The preliminary favorite to be the top cornerback in this class, McKinstry was overshadowed at times by teammate Terrion Arnold this year but still figures to be a longtime starter with return game skills to boot. While he is better in man than zone, he has ball skills and athleticism that transfer easily to the NFL.

29. C Jackson Powers-Johnson
Oregon

Brick wall of a center at 328 pounds, Powers-Johnson could find his way to guard and wins on brute strength to hold off even the biggest nose tackles in the NFL.

30. OT Tyler Guyton
Oklahoma

Tools galore, Guyton needs polish but brings ideal size, length and quickness to be a franchise left tackle. His hand usage and footwork are essential pieces to develop, making him a longterm project. With the right coaching, he could end up being one of the best linemen in the class.

31. WR Adonai Mitchell
Texas

Buzz continues to grow around Mitchell on a boost from his elite athleticism and testing at 6-2, 205. He ran a 4.34 40-yard dash and showed off his 39.5-inch vertical in Indianapolis, sending teams back to study his 18 touchdowns in three seasons split between Georgia (2021, 2022) and Texas.

32. WR Ladd McConkey
Georgia

Speaking of scorers, McConkey had 19 career touchdowns with the Bulldogs and his skill set and body type bear some resemblance to Cooper Kupp, the kind of relative comparisons pushing his draft stock into the first round since an injury-plagued junior season ended.

Best of the rest:

33. WR Xavier Worthy
Texas

34. OG Jordan Morgan
Arizona

35. QB Bo Nix
Oregon

36. OT Kingsley Suamataia
BYU

37. LB Edgerrin Cooper
Texas A& M

38. WR Troy Franklin
Oregon

39. DT Kris Jenkins
Michigan

40. WR Roman Wilson
Michigan

41. C Zach Frazier
West Virginia

42. LB Junior Colson
Michigan

43. CB Mike Sainristil
Michigan

44. EDGE Marshawn Kneeland
Western Michigan

45. WR Ricky Pearsall
Florida

46. WR Malachi Corley
Western Kentucky

47. CB Max Melton
Rutgers

48. DT Maason Smith
LSU

49. S Tyler Nubin
Minnesota

50. EDGE Chris Braswell
Alabama

Here is the first round draft order and a few details about this year's event:

When is the 2024 NFL Draft?

- Round 1: Thursday, April 25, beginning at 8 p.m. ET.
- Rounds 2 and 3: Friday, April 26, beginning at 7 p.m. ET.
- Rounds 4 through 7: Saturday, April 27, beginning at noon ET.

Where will this year's draft be held?

The 2024 NFL Draft will take place in Detroit, in the downtown area at Martius Park and Hart Plaza.

NOTES:

1. The San Francisco 49ers will forfeit their 2025 fifth-round pick and have their original 2024 fourth-round pick moved four spots lower (from No. 131 to No. 135) due to an administrative payroll accounting error.
2. The NFL announced in August 2022 that the Miami Dolphins will forfeit their 2024 third-round pick following an investigation into whether the team violated league policies pertaining to the integrity of the game.
3. * denotes picks involved in trades that are not yet official.
4. ** denotes picks involved in trades that are conditional.

Round 1

- 1) Chicago Bears (from Carolina)
- 2) Washington Commanders
- 3) New England Patriots
- 4) Arizona Cardinals
- 5) Los Angeles Chargers
- 6) New York Giants
- 7) Tennessee Titans
- 8) Atlanta Falcons
- 9) Chicago Bears
- 10) New York Jets
- 11) Minnesota Vikings
- 12) Denver Broncos
- 13) Las Vegas Raiders
- 14) New Orleans Saints
- 15) Indianapolis Colts
- 16) Seattle Seahawks
- 17) Jacksonville Jaguars
- 18) Cincinnati Bengals
- 19) Los Angeles Rams
- 20) Pittsburgh Steelers
- 21) Miami Dolphins
- 22) Philadelphia Eagles
- 23) Minnesota Vikings (from Cleveland through Houston)
- 24) Dallas Cowboys
- 25) Green Bay Packers
- 26) Tampa Bay Buccaneers
- 27) Arizona Cardinals (from Houston)
- 28) Buffalo Bills
- 29) Detroit Lions
- 30) Baltimore Ravens
- 31) San Francisco 49ers
- 32) Kansas City Chiefs

Big 12 Baseball Power Rankings



Oklahoma goes into the last week of April with a three-game lead

By Stacy Urban

Big 12, do we finally have separation at the top? If so, how long can it last?

Each of the previous three weekends ended with three baseball teams bunched within one game at the top. Now after last weekend, Oklahoma goes into the last week of April with a three-game lead.

The Sooners swept their conference series last weekend at Brigham Young, then kept hitting refresh and seeing Oklahoma State and West Virginia lose ground in the standings. West Virginia got swept for only the second time in 24 Big 12 series, scoring seven runs in three losses at Texas Tech. Oklahoma State salvaged its Sunday game to dodge a sweep at Kansas State.

There's no time for the Sooners to enjoy it, though. The conference's most high-stakes series this coming weekend is Oklahoma hosting Texas, which has won five of six Big 12 series.

And if the Sooners slip? Oklahoma State, West Virginia and Texas are tied for second, waiting to pounce.

Here are this week's Big 12 baseball power rankings. Records and rankings in the USA TODAY Sports Top 25 coaches poll are as of Monday.

1. Oklahoma (24-14, 14-4)

Last week: 3

What to know: The 18th-ranked Sooners are a little streaky for our liking. For the second time this season, they've swept two conference series in a row, but they laid a 5-8 stretch in between.

2. Oklahoma State (26-14, 11-7)

Last week: 1

What to know: Kansas State ended Oklahoma State's run of four Big 12 series victories in a row. Somehow, the 22nd-ranked Cowboys lost on back-to-back days with Sam Garcia and Brian Holiday on the mound for the third time this season, same as in the Sam Houston State and Central

Florida series.

3. Texas (24-17, 11-7)

Last week: 4

What to know: Max Grubbs, Ace Whitehead and Lebaron Johnson Jr. all delivered quality starts in a series victory against TCU. Freshman Casey Borba went 4 for 7 with two doubles and five RBI in 7-0 and 2-1 triumphs.

4. West Virginia (23-16, 11-7)

Last week: 2

What to know: The Mountaineers stranded nine runners in scoring position in a 6-4 loss Sunday at Texas Tech and left five in scoring position in a 3-1 loss in the double-header nightcap.

5. Texas Tech (29-13, 12-9)

Last week: 6

What to know: It's not just sweeping a hot West Virginia team that has Texas Tech spirits perking up. The Red Raiders led No. 2 Arkansas on the road in two games last week before losing 5-4 and 9-8.

6. Central Florida (24-13, 8-10)

Last week: 5

What to know: UCF leads the Big 12 in team ERA (4.24) and fewest hits, walks and runs allowed.

7. Kansas State (24-15, 9-9)

Last week: 7

What to know: The Wildcats had lost three conference series in a row. It was good to snap that skid against Oklahoma State, last week's No. 1 in these rankings.

8. Cincinnati (23-18, 9-9)

Last week: 8

What to know: Only once have the Bearcats lost three games in a row, thanks to their strong hitting. Only once have they won four in a row, thanks to their spotty pitching.

9. Kansas (21-15, 9-9)

Last week: 9

What to know: Senior catcher Jake English is having a career year with 12 homers, 41 RBIs and a Big 12-best 1.214

OPS. He helped the Jayhawks bounce back from a rare rocky start by Big 12 wins leader Reese Dutton (7-2, 3.05) to win the series at Baylor.

10. TCU (23-15, 8-13)

Last week: 10

What to know: TCU would miss the 10-team Big 12 tournament if it started today. That's a long fall from a College World Series last season and a 13-0 start and top-five national ranking this season.

11. Baylor (18-20, 9-9)

Last week: 11

What to know: Left fielder Wesley Jordan has a 29-game on-base streak and a team-high seven home runs.

12. Brigham Young (15-21, 6-15)

Last week: 12

What to know: The Cougars were plenty competitive early in conference play. Now they've been swept by Kansas, Baylor and Oklahoma in their past four Big 12 series.

13. Houston (20-20, 6-15)

Last week: 13

What to know: Cougars have lost 15 of their past 17 conference games. They stopped the bleeding with a victory Sunday at Cincinnati.

Big 12 Baseball Standings

(as of April 25)

Team	Conf.	Overall
Oklahoma	14-4	25-14
Oklahoma St	11-7	27-14
West Virginia	11-7	23-16
Texas	11-7	25-17
Texas Tech	12-9	29-14
Kansas State	9-9	25-15
Kansas	9-9	22-15
Cincinnati	9-9	23-18
Baylor	9-9	19-20
UCF	8-10	25-13
TCU	8-13	24-15
BYU	6-15	16-21
Houston	6-15	20-21



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College Football News and Notes



BO CARTER

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Last Monday, April 15, was the annual MLB and UCLA celebration of NFF College Hall of Fame and National Baseball Hall of Fame member Jackie Robinson of UCLA. All players in the major leagues wore No. 42 in his memory, and the 101-year-old widow of Jackie – Rachel Robinson – was feted with roses and a standing ovation at the New York Mets Citi Field. Jackie Robinson, who starred in football, baseball, basketball, and track with the Bruins, was the modern integrator of MLB on April 15, 1947 – 77 years ago last week. Before Martin Luther King, Jr. emerged as a leading voice in the civil rights movement and before the Supreme Court's Brown decision to desegregate public schools in 1954 and before the 1964 Civil Rights Act, there was true American hero Jackie Robinson. Robinson's barrier-breaking move to the National League Brooklyn Dodgers also coincided with the founding in 1947 of the National Football Foundation and College Hall of Fame. The native of Cairo, Ga., and spending his youth in Pasadena, Calif., teamed with fellow NFF College Hall of Fame member Kenny Washington (1939-40) to give the UCLA one of the most explosive backfields in college football history. Both Robinson and Washington were

All-America football players. Robinson carried the ball 183 times for 1,148 yards for seven-plus yards per carry. He completed 44 of 98 passes in his career as a half-back and he also returned punts and became of the first Black student-athletes to play against TCU (or any school from the Southwest Conference) in 1939 in a 6-2 defensive struggle vs. the Horned Frogs at Rose Bowl Stadium.

College Football Hall of Fame quarterback Roman Gabriel of NC State and NFL stardom passed away April 20 in Little River, S.C. He was 83, a two-time football All-America, Atlantic Coast Conference Player of the Year twice, College Sports Information Directors of America Academic All-America, and captain of the Wolfpack. Gabriel set 22 school and nine conference football records. He also played baseball and was voted the best amateur athlete in the Carolinas. In a three-year college career he passed for 20 touchdowns and ran for 15. Against Maryland in 1959 he completed 23 passes. After college he played 16 years as a pro in Los Angeles and Philadelphia. Football was his springboard to other pursuits. He went into TV and was in a movie, "The Undeclared," with John Wayne. He also founded Roman Gabriel Sports Connections with a home office in Pineville, N.C., and branches in Arizona and California. The company offered training seminars, with Gabriel as motivational speaker. Roman also served as president of minor league baseball teams in Charlotte and Gastonia, N.C. He promoted celebrity golf tournaments for various charities - multiple sclerosis, muscular dystrophy, leukemia, the blind, Special Olympics and the Salvation Army.

Updated NFF Chapter scholar-athlete recognition banquets are: Wednesday, April 24 - Passaic County (N.J.); April 28 - Wisconsin; DeSantis-

McDougall/Fairfield County Chapter (Conn.); April 29 - Corrigan/Faircloth Chapter (N.C.)

The NFF Gridiron Club of Dallas is partnering with the Dallas-Fort Worth chapter of the NFL Alumni Association for the club's second annual charity golf tournament on Monday, May 6. The tournament will focus on raising funds for college scholarships to benefit high school scholar-athletes recognized at its annual awards banquet each spring. "We are excited to partner with the DFW NFL Alumni Association for our tournament this year," said NFF Dallas vice president and tournament director Gary Peek. The tourney is set for the King's Course at award-winning Gleneagles Country Club in Plano, Texas, and will be emceed by award-winning sportscaster Scott Murray. For additional information, please access: www.nffdallas.golf.

Event homepage of '2024 NFF Gridiron Club of Dallas Charity Golf Tournament' Join us at 2024 NFF Gridiron Club of Dallas Charity Golf Tournament www.nffdallas.golf

Featured speaker at the post-tourney banquet is NFF College Hall of Fame, NFL standout and award-winning broadcaster Gary Reasons of Northwestern State and the NFL. Golf professional Mitch Dobbyn of Fort Worth will offer entertainment as one of the world's longest drivers (record competitive drive of 442 yards) as the 10-time qualifier for the World Championship Long Drive contest continues to participate in 300-plus charity golf events with \$1 million-plus generated for charities and scholarships.

The 66th NFF Awards Dinner is set for Tuesday, Dec. 10, in Las Vegas, Nev. For NFF membership, ticket information and additional data, please access Footballfoundation.org.

The NIL INFLCR Summit is scheduled for June 22-24 at the NFF Chick-Fil-A College Hall of Fame in Atlanta. There will be an anticipated 500-plus student-athletes and nationally known speakers will help share ideas and conduct seminars. Some of the top speakers already secured for the 440-capacity conference are Sam Acho, 2010 William V. Campbell Trophy® recipient, former Texas and NFL defensive end, ESPN Analyst; Tom Bratton, Medallion Partners CEO, business consultant; Greg Johnson, McAfee President and CEO, former Intuit executive VP, and former Air Force halfback; and Joe Moglia, former TD Ameritrade Chairman and CEO, former Coastal Carolina head football coach. Nominees for the 2024 NIL Awards powered by Influencer at the NIL Summit include such categories as Female Athlete

of the Year, Male Athlete of the Year, Innovator of the Year, the Hustle Award, Scholar Athlete of the Year, Athlete Advocate of the Year, Breakthrough Athlete of the Year, Athlete Creator of the Year, Best Institutional Program, and Brand of the Year. Some of the top institutional program nominees include Cincinnati, Florida, Grand Canyon, Ole Miss, Nebraska, Ohio State, Saint Joseph's (Pa.), and UCLA. Student-athlete and coach/administrator registration also remains open for the NIL Summit in upcoming weeks.

NFF College Hall of Fame Facts:

Some notable birthdates in NFF College Hall of Fame annals in the April 22-28 time period are April 22 (1902) Eddie Cameron, Manor, Pa.; (1907) Barton "Botchy" Koch, Temple, Texas; April 23 (1916) Bud Wilkinson, Minneapolis, Minn.; April 24 (1915) Ed Franco, Jersey City, N.J.; (1921) Weldon Humble, Nixon, Texas; (1938) Carroll Dale, Wise, Va.; April 25 (1953) Rod Shoate, Spiro, Okla.; (1954) Randy Cross, Brooklyn, N.Y.; (1983) DeAngelo Williams, Wynne, Ark.; April 26 (1927) John Ralston, Oakland, Calif.; April 27 (1887) Bishop Frank Juhan, Macon, Ga.; (1941) Lee Roy Jordan, Excel, Ala.; (1952) Gary Pinkel, Akron, Ohio; April 28 (1876) Frank Cavanaugh, Worcester, Mass.; (1947) Bill Enyart, Pawhuska, Okla.; (1955) Wilson Whitley, Brenham, Texas.

Notable Anniversaries of Passings if NFF College Hall of Fame members are April 23 (1950) Bill Alexander, Atlanta, Ga.; April 24 (1978) Hunk Anderson, West Palm Beach, Fla.; April 25 (1973) Bud Sprague, New York City; (2020) Marino Casem, Baton Rouge, La.; April 26 (1974) Eddie Anderson, Clearwater, Fla.; April 28 (1962) Arnett "Ace" Mumford, Baton Rouge, La.; (1981) Cliff Battles, Clearwater, Fla.; (1993) Ben Schwartzwalder, St. Petersburg, Fla.

Happy Birthdays to NFF Hall of Fame members born April 25 Randy Cross, DeAngelo Williams, April 27 Lee Roy Jordan (a spry 83), Gary Pinkel...

Schedules:

The NCAA FCS Championship will move to primetime on Monday, Jan. 6, 2025, with an ESPN national telecast from Toyota Stadium in Frisco, Texas. The 2026 contest is expected to be at a corresponding date with airtimes and kickoffs for both games to be determined... Louisiana and New Mexico State will tangle in 2030... The Arkansas-Arkansas-Pine Bluff season opener in Little Rock has been moved to Thursday, Aug. 29 – two days before the previous slate... Marshall will travel to Wisconsin in 2028... The

(continued on page 16)

Presbyterian at Mercer '24 opener now is set for Aug. 29...Ball State will travel to Auburn in '25...Oregon and Utah State have a 2027-29 series slated...SMU and Vanderbilt will face off in 2028 and '29 after cancelling their 2024 season bout.

Good Works:

Boise State has assisted disabled six-year-old Weston Derrick with housing and medical needs over the last several weeks. Derrick ran for a standing-ovation TD in last week's BSU spring football game... UCF football wore helmet decals designed by pediatric patients during the team's April 12 Gold-Black spring contest to honor the youngsters at Orlando Health Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children after Knights previously visited the famed children's health center...Tennessee State has added Duané Abercrombie as the first Black men's hockey head coach at a HBCU university...Abilene Christian football has been lauded for several spring community service projects.

Football Coaches:

Miami (Ohio) head coach Chuck Martin received a five-year personal pact extension through 2029...Nebraska head coach Matt Rhule emphasized the importance of home visits in recruiting incoming and community college transfers...Michigan assistant director of football player Denard Robinson is seeking reinstatement as UM athletics monitors the happenings... Colorado coaches have mentioned ideals about personal contact with recruits but have utilized other means to assist in the process...Former Alabama national championship LB Trent Richardson is taking over as head coach at Birmingham (Ala.) Ramsey HS.

Hometowns of more 2024 college head coaches – Alabama A&M: Connell Maynor, Fayetteville, N.C.; Alabama State: Eddie Robinson Jr., New Orleans, La.; UAB: Trent Dilfer, Santa Clara, Calif.; Appalachian State: Shawn Clark, Charleston, W.Va.; Arizona: Brent Brennan, Redwood City, California..

Directors of Athletics:

James Madison named Matt Roan director of athletics...New Stetson director of athletics Ricky Ray had his introductory news conference and talked about being the right fit for the Hatters and how to work closely with the SU president's office and Board of Trustees...Retiring Ohio State AD and 2007 NFF John V. Toner Award honoree Gene Smith remembered how he delved into the philosophy of Peter Drucker's management techniques for many key decision with the Buckeyes... Tulsa AD Rick Dickson is retiring after 32 years as an AD at Tulane and with the Golden Hurricane...Eastern Illinois AD Tom Michael has an updated contract through Aug. 10, 2028...Toledo AD Bryan Blair congratulated Vu One as the first athletics department nationally to open a virtual production studio for the Rockets... American U. had its opening news conference for AD JM Caparro who will be

emphasizing academics, competitive athletics in the Patriot League and family values with a strong sense of integrity on and off the field...New James Madison AD Matt Roan attended the JMU Board of Visitors' meeting last week and brought the theme "don't mess this up" as the board voted to name East Campus Drive in Harrisonburg Jeff Bourne Way in honor of the former JMU director of athletics...Duke AD Nina King and North Carolina AD Bubba Cunningham were featured on the Beyond the Curve national podcast with former U.S. Sen. Richard Burr (Rep-N.C.) to relate ideas about the NIL, possible reforms and proposed payments for collegiate student-athletes...Louisiana Tech AD Ryan Ivey signed his initial four-year contract through March 2028...Angie Torain, director of athletics and recreation at U. of Chicago, spoke of developing leaders in the department, fundraising, expanding facilities, and enlarging the UC staff in an interview last week...FCGU AD Colin Hargis had his contract affirmed with a three-year agenda through January 2027... Iowa AD Beth Goetz outlined possible duties for the available UI deputy AD opening with obvious responsibilities for day-to-day operations along with overseeing finances, revenue generation and marketings...Texas AD Chris Del Conte is working to make a pledge of \$10 million to the UT School of Social Work to help battle homelessness in the Austin area through area corporate and individual contributions to the effort...Arkansas AD Hunter Yurachek detailed the interview process and hiring of veteran head coach and recent Kentucky mentor John Calipari... Wisconsin-Green Bay AD Josh Moon has a contract extension through December 2029...The UNI search for an AD to replace interim AD Bob Bowlsby is moving into high gear but received a non-connection replay with Milwaukee AD Amanda Braun...Oklahoma State wrestling head coach and U.S. Olympic gold medalist John Smith is retiring after 33 seasons at the helm, five NCAA team titles and 333 NCAA individual wrestling crowns... Virginia selected Jason Baum as deputy AD for legal and regulatory affairs...Cal State Northridge named Sonia Hahn deputy AD...Pepperdine named Katie Faulkner women's basketball head coach... Washington State gave women's basketball head coach Kamie Ethridge a new extension through the 2029-30 outing... Marty Levinson is the new men's basketball head coach at Nebraska-Kearney... Longtime (17 seasons) Stanford associate head coach Kate Paye is replacing retiring Naismith Hall of Fame head coach Tara VanDerveer as women's basketball head coach with the Cardinal...Indiana State named Matthew Graves men's basketball head coach...Kevin Young has taken over as men's basketball head coach at BYU... Miami (Fla.) women's basketball head coach Tricia Cullop gave a special handwritten note of congratulations to Ginny

Boguess who succeeded her as head coach at Toledo...UC Santa Barbara chose Mason Mills as deputy AD for business operations...TCU added Nick Parsons as associate AD for loyalty giving with the Frog Club...Kent State women's basketball head coach Todd Starkey had his contract upgraded through the 2029-30 campaign... Evansville swimming and diving head coach Stuart Wilson has completed his tenure at UE...Virginia deputy AD Steve Pritzker has ended his Uva career after 11 years...Georgia women's gymnastics head coach Courtney Kupets Carter is closing her tenure with the Bulldogs...Presbyterian named Tiffany Sardin women's basketball head coach...UC Santa Barbara tabbed Renee Jimenez women's basketball head coach...The Air Force Academy Athletic Corporation's CEO Dr. Nancy Hixon spoke with national media about the unique situation for the Falcons in college athletics, fundraising for service academies, crossover competition for multiple athletics teams at the academies, and making sure to follow NCAA guidelines within strict AFA academic and honor codes...Oklahoma State softball head coach Kenny Gajewski is trying to decide on budgeting \$20 million for a new softball stadium or utilizing the funding for key NIL appropriations...UMass Lowell has a 17-person search committee in its quest for an AD with provost Joe Hartman and vice chancellor Bec Rollins serving as co-chairs... Washington State president Dr. Kirk Schulz will retire in June 2025...Former Kansas and Illinois State AD Sheahon Zenger is the new president of Illinois Wesleyan...UMass Boston professor Dr. Allison Smith reported about the scientifically measured increased popularity of women's college basketball through the findings of the Sport Innovation Lab...Akron senior associate AD for facilities and operations Paul Hammond is headed for retirement...The latest position openings in athletics on DITicker.com are at Bowling Green, Cal State Northridge, Charlotte, College of Charleston, Georgia, Liberty, Louisiana Tech, Maryland, NC State, New Hampshire, Ohio State, Rice, Texas A&M, VCU, Virginia, Washington, Loyola Marymount, NC State, Oregon, Utah State, Valparaiso, Arizona State, Cleveland State, Colorado State, Illinois State, Indiana State, St. Bonaventure, Gardner-Webb, Iowa, James Madison, Missouri, Northern Iowa, Stephen F. Austin, UMass Lowell, and VMI.

The Conferences:

The American Athletic Conference formally introduced new commissioner Tim Perneti with his promises to build a solid foundation for all sports, take some big swings in athletics governance, glance into the world of private equity financing, and add creative corporate sponsorships...Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference commissioner Sonja Stills has visited the a National Labor Relations Board judge about how ruling that college student-athletes are uni-

versity employees could cause major financial challenges to HBCU schools....

...Southeastern Conference commissioner Greg Sankey had his compensation package revealed for the 2023 fiscal year along with associate commissioner William King, deputy commissioner Charles Hussey, executive associate commissioner Mark Womack, coordinator of football officials John McDaid, and associate commissioner Tiffany Daniels...Conference USA Baseball Players of the Week presented by Blenders Eyeware were New Mexico State outfielder Keith Jones II and Sam Houston pitcher Michael Watson...Big 12 Conference individual baseball awards last week were Baylor's Enzo Apodaca (player), Oklahoma State's Robert Cranz (pitcher) and Kansas' John Nett (newcomer)... Mountain West Conference Baseball Players of the Week were Air Force's Jay Thomason (player), Nevada's Jason Doktorczyk (pitcher) and San Diego State's Jacob McCombs (freshman)...Missouri Valley Conference diamond honors went to Kendal Ewell of UIC (player) and Brennyng Cutts of Indiana State (pitcher).

The Bowls:

Bowlseason.com presented its annual post-2023 awards in the following categories last week: Best in Events – Union Home Mortgage Gasparilla Bowl; Best in Student-Athlete Experience – Vrbo Fiesta Bowl; Best in Community Engagement – TaxSlayer Gator Bowl; Best in Marketing – Duke's Mayo Bowl; Best in Game Presentation – Pop-Tarts Bowl; and Wright Waters Legacy Award – retiring College Football Playoff executive director Bill Hancock...The College Football Playoff administration is working with ESPN on production and camera coverage for the Round of 12 through the CFP championship contest...Bowlseason.com held its annual meeting last week in El Paso, Texas, with discussions about the expanded College Football Playoff field and its effect on existing bowls...Iowa State will be seeking its 10th bowl bid since 2009 and 18th overall in post-2024 after meeting Memphis in the 2023 AutoZone Liberty Bowl.

The Players:

Iowa women's basketball Wooden Player of the Year awardee Caitlin Clark will make a rookie salary of \$75,600 in the WNBA but already has secured \$3 million in endorsements. NBC's Saturday Night Live also featured Clark in an April 13 comedy segment...UCF defensive tackle Lee Hunter was highlighted in a recent regional feature report...Ohio State RB Dallan Hayden has entered the transfer portal, which runs April 15-30 during the current NCAA calendar, along with the likes of Houston WR Samuel Brown, UTSA OL Kamron Scott, Mississippi State WR Justin Robinson, Penn State WR Malick Meiga, TCU defensive tackle defensive tackle Damonic Williams, and Memphis OT Chris Morris...Colorado CB Cormani McClain also has joined the

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portal contingent as well as Texas A&M LB Alex Howard, safety Jacoby Mathews and CB Sam McCall...Drake standout Kevin Overton is moving to Texas Tech via the portal...Lineman Walter Goggins is transferring from Mercer to North Alabama...Colorado DB Shilo Sanders (son of CU head coach and NFF College Hall of Fame member Deion Sanders) explained how visiting with potential recruits has changed since earlier days when he was being recruited...Blake Shapen (from Baylor) had his first action at Mississippi State in the Bulldogs annual Maroon-White spring contest last weekend during Super Bulldog Weekend...Longwood's Johnathan Massie is transferring to North Texas.....

....Washington's Tybo Rogers has been reinstated for the '24 season...Villanova's Lucy Olsen and Kentucky's Maddie Scherr have been making visits to basketball super powers after entering the NCAA transfer portal...Darrione Rogers of Mississippi State is a newcomer to the transfer portal...Hofstra transfer Darlinstone Dubar is expected to star at Tennessee in the coming season...Tony Perkins of Iowa is a newcomer to the '24 NCAA portal...Rollie Worster of Utah and Gavin Griffiths of Rutgers are taking their talents to Nebraska...Kentucky 2023-24 Men's Basketball Freshman of the Year Reed Shepperd is declaring for the 2024 NBA Draft.

Around the Gridiron and Campus:

Nebraska athletics has submitted a proposal for the NU Board of Regents' meeting Friday to name its new multipurpose football facility the Dr. Tom Osborne Legacy Complex in honor of the NFF College Hall of Fame coach...The Missouri Board of Curators okayed \$250 million for renovation of Memorial Stadium/Faurot Field's north concourse with design by the DLR Group...Charlotte athletics has been given permission by the North Carolina Board of Governors to begin a two-phase expansion for \$60 million to bring capacity at Jerry Richardson Stadium to 21,000...East Carolina was deeded a \$1 million donation from alumni Paul (a Pirates former student-athlete) and Sybil Moody Trevisan to for the Dick and Sarah Bennett Baseball Building project...Notre Dame's football player development director's post has been endowed by alumni Ryan and Katharine Kavanaugh...USF has updated architectural drawings for its \$340 million on-campus football stadium with groundbreaking ceremonies set for Homecoming Week Oct. 14-19 in Tampa, Fla....North Florida athletics established a fundraising record on UNF Giving Day for the fifth consecutive year while raising \$595,143.08 from 1,844 donors...West Virginia football will offer the Family Fun Zone and Green Zone for extended family experiences during the '24 football outing...Temple is updating new FieldTurf at both the Edberg Olson Football Complex and the Temple Sports Complex...Auburn athletics is completing

its lengthy apparel and marketing contract with Under Armour and moving over to Nike...Ohio State already has surpassed the 56,000 plateau for season tickets and has a poll of 78,000 available for an expected sellout for the '24 grid campaign...Army West Point and Navy attracted a 10,400 attendance in men's lacrosse for the largest turnout of the 2024 season...FedEx has promised \$5 million annually from 2024-29 for Memphis' football, men's and women's basketball, and multiple women's sports' NIL funding...Kansas athletics has a new operational facilitator in the Oak View Group, which will run daily operations at the KU Gateway District and David Booth Kansas Memorial Stadium and will provide food and beverages services at all KU venues for athletics...The Heitner Legal Group advised colleges paying NIL compensation directly to student-athletes may risk both Internal Revenue service or NCAA scrutiny...Furman athletics has begun construction of its \$40 million Timmons Arena updating project and will use North Greenville U. facilities during the renovation...The Penn State Happy Valley United NIL collective has started the \$500,000 Retain the Roar alliance with the State Media content producing network...UAB athletics and Learfield have a new, 10-year marketing, broadcasting and ticketing agreement with CLC serving as the Blazers official licensing agency....SMU football season tickets already have doubled in number from the final 2023 total and are expected to take another leap through the SMU Game Changer Program...D1 relocation has added North Florida as a collegiate partner...Stephen F. Austin students rejected a \$10 fee increase per credit hour to support athletics...Some winter sports' old-timers are advocating a possible return to men's ice hockey at Wyoming, which sponsored the sport from 1948-51...Washington athletics has some innovative ideas about refinancing the current debt service on the Husky Stadium renovations. One option could represent a total savings of \$19 million for the project...Iowa athletics held a panel seminar about considering student-athletes as university employees...West Virginia downed Pittsburgh 6-3 last week before a record Kendrick Family Stadium turnout of 4,614 in Morgantown...Tennessee established a Lindsey Nelson Stadium record with 6,115 attending the Volunteers April 14 victory over LSU...South Carolina is seeking to the obtain the 2024 Final Four center court circle and other areas from the surface in Cleveland, Ohio - site of the Gamecocks NCAA Women's Basketball title...Eastern Illinois athletics has a new, five-year apparel and marketing agreement with Nike and BSN Sports starting July 1...The Louisville athletics 502 Circle NIL Collective hit its \$750,000 goal to match contributions from Glow Brands for the group...Miami (Fla.) athletics and Altius are have added a marketing and operations' partnership...Long Beach State will host

the first-ever Battle At The Beach men's basketball invitational in November 2025...The Coastal Carolina Coastal Sports NIL collective is working with Basepath for all NIL contracts...Boise State athletics will ally with Collegiate Sports Connect for talent networking, identification, recruitment, and acquisition...Stanford's Cardinapalooza activities last Saturday included the SU spring football clash, the Cardinal Fan Zone, beach volleyball vs. California and UC Davis, Cardinal baseball facing nationally-ranked Oregon, and SU softball tangling with rival UCLA...Several parents of USC football student-athletes are concerned about promises made for NIL compensation and possible lessening of earlier-agreed payments...DePaul athletics is making some changes to its \$60 million basketball practice facility to assist the Lincoln Park area community in preserving historic buildings in the area...Desser Sports' Ed Desser and Kosner Media's John Kosner again stated their views about the media and competitive advantages of combining the sites of the NCAA Men's and Women's Division I Basketball Championships...North Dakota State athletics inaugurated the Graduating Champions program for distribution of the NCAA Alston Case settlement...UTSA athletics has added two ESPN+ broadcast control rooms for the Roadrunner Athletics Center of Excellence with a \$5 million budget...Duquesne athletics has reached a bundling arrangement with D1.ticker and D1.jobs for unlimited postings for administrative and coaching positions...Wake Forest athletics is providing an annual seat rights' option for men's basketball season ticket holders starting in 2024-25 season...**NFF College Hall of Fame, Other Notables:**

NFF College Hall of Fame retired coach Fisher DeBerry of Air Force is assisting other head coaches in a joint charity project for multiple community service organizations in the Denver area...The Samford Center for Sports Analytics in the Brock School of Business hosted the inaugural Sullivan to Beasley five kilometer Fun Walk to provide funding for CTE (Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy) research on the Samford's campus in Homewood, Ala., last Saturday. The QB Pat Sullivan (later head coach at Samford) to WR Terry Beasley combination at Auburn was one of the famed all-time connections in college football history and earned both late superstars places in the NFF College Hall of Fame...NFF College Hall of Fame member Roger Staubach continues to be involved in multiple charities in both his hometown Dallas area as week as national causes such as Children's Cancer Fund of the NFF Gridiron Club of Dallas Chapter since its inception in 2009...Former Texas Longhorns standout and two-time Masters' champion Scottie Scheffler is adding \$7 per personal Instagram post since capturing the '24 Masters...Former Cincinnati standout and Super Bowl-winning NFL tight

end Travis Kelce will host a new online game show - So You Think You Are Smarter Than a Celebrity...NFL Kansas City Chiefs WR Rashee Rice of SMU reiterated that he is taking allegations seriously about his involvement in a six-car collision in Sallas March 30...

Media Musings:

FOX Sports' carriage of the Ohio State Scarlet-Black spring football offered additional access to coaches and student-athletes and other special amenities for the telecast...CBS Sports columnist Dennis Dodd foresees the eventual super football conference of Power Five schools possibly by the 2031 season after discussions with the informational College Sports Tomorrow Group at several national college athletics events...Texas A&M's TexAgs Group and Texas FilmWorks have produced the documentary "Breaking Tradition: The Hugh McElroy Story" and its screening tour. The film features the 1968-70 football career of McElroy with the Aggies and his legacy following graduation in 1971Sellout Crowd.com columnist Berry Tramel recalled the days when Oklahoma had a special Varsity-Alumni spring football contest from 1949-82 to cap spring workouts. Several NFL standouts played in the contest and regretted it the next morning with various aches and pains...The Athletic's Antonio Morales explored many issues with transfer portal quarterbacks such as new playbooks, academic challenges, competing against returning players for starting jobs, and less chances of talent development, especially for multi-transfer signal callers...Iowa director of social media and digital strategy Brandee Britt requested additional credentials to highlight Caitlin Clark's draft call Monday for the WNBA draft but was told Iowa athletics as limited to one media credential...On3.com's Eric Prisbell explained how college NIL wealth acquisition may be causing problems with student-athletes getting insured in case of injury during their careers, bowls or all-star encounters...House of Strauss' Ethan Strauss saluted Iowa All-America guard Caitlin Clar as the prime reason for women's basketball's immense rise in popularity and fast-moving Nielsen Ratings for telecasts in 2023-24...Extra Points publisher Matt Brown looked at how payment units for the NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Championships could be used in generating profits for teams and conferences in much higher numbers than previous seasons... Attorneys for ESPN, FOX and Warner Bros. Discovery have asked a federal district court to dismiss Fubo's jurisprudence against the projected Spulu streaming service...Crakes Media's Patrick Crakes explored possible Amazon Prime Video streaming for NBA and college athletics events...JohnCanzano.com believes a good place to conduct the 2024 Pac-12 Conference media day might be in Portland, Ore., where the then-Pacific Coast Conference was founded in 1915. Canzano also is trying to ascertain how

Mountain West Conference opponents will figure into Pac-12 success as Oregon State and Washington State have slates filled heavily with '24 MWC foes...Athletes.org founder Jim Cavale continues to preach on the values of private equity groups expanding more and more into college athletics and causing a shrinkage in staffs as financial responsibilities are ferreted to some of the private equity managers...Sports Business Journal's Mollie Cahillane glanced at several aspects of ESPN's and ABC's Women's Basketball Final Four® studio shows, Holly Rowe interviews and the ins and outs of the overall broadcasts...The Winston and Strawn Group has identified massive surging compensation for head coaches creating some of the challenges in and around the current NIL and NCAA transfer portal regulations in a win-at-all-costs' environment...Playfly Sports Properties president Christy Hedgpath addressed the group's valuation for media rights' agreements and additional revenue generation possibilities for college athletics...Viewership for the NCAA Men's Division I Hockey Championship exceeded on average 77,000-plus viewers over the last six contests...D1Ticker.com and the Coaches.wire website continue to provide up-to-date information on personnel changes and opportunities in college athletics...Puck's John Ourand discussed the NCAA's multimedia right' agreement with ESPN, how it assists women's and all college Olympic sports and how it will offer new streaming benefits as well as studio coverage and student-athlete features...ExtraPoints.com purveyed hos more and more colleges are establishing in-house national media organizations...The Athletic's Richard Deitsch wonders how women's college and WNBA basketball will move forward after essentially four years of the Caitlin Clark Effect nationally...The HCU Group and Spry have been collaborating for improvements on NCAA compliance and communications software...The San Jose (Calif.) Mercury News' Jon Wilner studied the Arizona athletics' and general university budget challenges and possible solutions or cutbacks...Nike is in the midst of Phase Two layoffs at its Beaverton, Ore., headquarters with a completion date of June 28...The Athletic's Scott Dochterman noted that 58 underclassmen declared for the 2024 NFL Draft for the fewest in 10-plus years...CBS Sports Matt Norlander related how the NCAA transfer portal, mixed with lack of NIL oversight in recruiting, possible tampering and financial incentives have cause men's basketball recruiting to sink to new depths in compliance. He also discerned that the COVID-19 additional seasons have added to scholarship mayhem at some colleges...The Athletic's Chris Vannini commented on how the new NCAA helmet communications' options will affect the '24 football season.

FWAA, CSC, NCAA, Etc.:

Stanford leads Learfield NACDA

Directors' Cup winter all-sports standings with 802.75 points ahead of Texas (746.5), North Carolina (733.5), Notre Dame (698), Tennessee (652.5), Wisconsin (637.5), and NC State (606). Cardinal athletics has captured the Cup 26 of the last 27 times it has been presented with Texas interrupting the trend in 2022-23...The USVWA is naming the Women's College Basketball Coach of the Year recognition the Geno Auriemma Award in honor of the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame mentor from Connecticut. Auriemma also told reports at the event how women's college basketball student-athletes staying in their college programs for four years have helped enhance and grow interest in the sport...College Sports Communicators members featured in the news and on social media posts in recent days are Justin Wilson of UCF, Steve Rourke of UCLA, John Lewandowski of ULN, Mark Wellington of UNLV, and Katie Ryan of USC...CSC also tabbed NCAA senior vice president of communications Bob Williams as the 2024 Keith Jackson Eternal Flame Award winner for a commitment to excellence and support for the CSC mission...Arizona State, Arkansas State, Kentucky, Illinois, Kentucky, LSU, Michigan, Michigan State, Stanford, Tennessee, UCLA, and USC are convening with NCAA enforcement and compliance officials concerning possible issues and probes at their respective schools...The NCAA Division I Council okayed immediate eligibility for transfers who are academically eligible, in good standing with their previous institution and meet progress-toward-degree requirements at new school for the 2024-25 academic year. Final approval must be made by the NCAA Board of Directors Monday...The NCAA Men's Hockey Frozen Four Championships in Minneapolis were all-session sellouts as Denver took the trophy...++Oklahoma captured its third NCAA Women's Gymnastics' team title in succession and seventh all-time last Saturday in Fort Worth, Texas...Jacksonville State's historic NCAA Women's Bowling national championship title over Arkansas State with a sterling team score of 250 is believed to be the first time a first-year NCAA Division I program has won a NCAA team crown under No. 1-ranked U.S. women's bowl and head coach Shannon O'Keefe who was brought down south after winning NCAA trophies as head coach at McKendree (Ill.)...NBA commissioner Adam Silver thinks a possible WNBA and NBA joint multimedia rights' arrangements might benefit both leagues from financial and bargaining standpoints...Sports legal experts at the American Bar Association's spring antitrust meeting last week indicated several more jurisprudence cases upcoming national for the NCAA...Orrick, Herrington and Sutcliffe Law partner Behnam Dayanim emphasized the need for sports wagering agreements nationally and state-by-state to be brought up to legal standards...USA Basketball has signed with Kendall-

Jackson and La Crema as the official wine partners of the worldwide publication...The Kennyhertz Perry legal team's Mit Winter believes that several NCAA Division I schools have made contingency plans for the legal interpretation of student-athletes as university employees...The College Basketball Players Association and National Labor Relations Board have jurisprudence activity dealing with labor practice at Notre Dame...The State of Nebraska will open its first wagering center with sports book included with the Harrah's Casino in Columbus, Neb...Virginia Gov. Glenn Youngkin has inked a new NIL bill that allows colleges to pay student-athletes directly for their NIL agreements...Former U.S. Department of Homeland security policy advisor Matthew Wein favors a new sports wagering integrity commission for all levels of athletics...The NCAA has asked for a dismissal of jurisprudence in the negated transfer of RaeQuan Battle from Montana State to West Virginia prior to the 2023-24 season...Stanford men's gymnastics (five consecutive NCAA titles), LSU women's gymnastics (NCAA) and SMU (back-to-back National Collegiate Equestrian Association team championships) captured historic national team crowns last weekend...The NCAA Playing Rules Oversight Panel formally approved optional technology rules in football starting in 2024 FBS contests

with optional coach-to-player communications through the helmet for one student-athlete on the field...The current U.S. presidential administration upgraded Title IX regulations to prevent colleges and coaches from suspending student-athletes involved in alleged sexual misconduct cases while school officials investigate ongoing complaints against them.

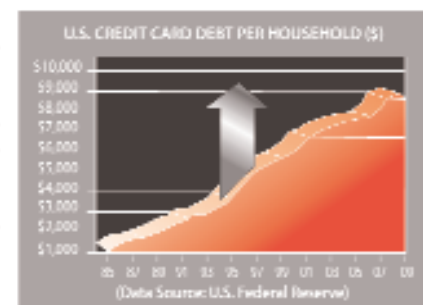
2024-25 College Football Playoff Bowl Schedule

(All Games ESPN, Eastern Standard)
 Friday-Saturday, Dec. 20-21 – First Round (9-12 Seeds in CFP)
 Dec. 20 – One game teams, time and site
 Dec. 21 – Three games with teams, times and sites TBD
 Tuesday-Wednesda, Dec. 31-Jan. 1, 2025
 Dec. 31 – Vrbo Fiesta Bowl, Glendale, Ariz., teams and time TBD
 Jan. 1 – Chick Fil-A Peach, Atlanta, Ga.; Rose Bowl presented by Prudential, Pasadena, Calif.; Allstate Sugar, New Orleans, Dec. 20-21 winners vs. Top Four
 Thursday-Friday, Jan. 9-10, 2024
 Jan. 9 – Capital One Orange Bowl, Miami Lakes, Fla., winners of quarterfins
 Jan. 10 – Goodyear Cotton Bowl, Arlington, Texas, winners of quarterfinals
 Monday, Jan. 20 – College Football Playoff National Championship Game, Mercedes-Benz Stadium, Atlanta, Ga., semifinal winners.

Credit Card Debt?
 Solutions that can help you get out of debt.

Tom Hill
 CGA STAFF WRITER

Every three minutes another person falls behind on credit card debt. It's no wonder, since every major credit card company has nearly doubled the minimum monthly payment on consumers' bills. Federal Regulators forced the change because of their concern about the growing mountain of consumer debt, which stands at \$2.17 trillion. Many consumers can only pay the minimum payment, which can take up to 30 years to pay off. Now, relief is in sight for millions of Americans.



CreditGUARD of America, a non-profit licensed debt management service provider, is making a new program available to lower debt payments and become free of all credit card debt in only three to five years. Consumers need only \$2,000 or more in total credit card debt and at least 30 days behind on any account, to cut their payment by 35% to 50%, and reduce or eliminate interest charges altogether.

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One such case is Sandra L. who proclaimed "CreditGUARD cut my monthly payment by \$666 and saved me over \$29,206.53 in interest. They saved my way of life and gave me back my peace of mind! Now I can see myself on my way to becoming debt free." or Jeffrey C. who said "CreditGUARD of America helped me consolidate 3 of my credit cards into one affordable payment. They are now saving me nearly \$200 a month. Now I will be debt free in 2 years or less"

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