



# the SPORTS page

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## Weekly

## 2022 Texas Rangers Hall of Fame Inductees

August 12 - August 18, 2022

Vol. 20, Issue 49

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# ★★ CONCERTS ★★

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### 2022 CHEVROLET MAIN STAGE



**TRACE ADKINS**  
FRI 9.30 | 8:30 PM



**SABRINA CARPENTER**  
SAT 10.1 | 4:00 PM



**PRESERVATION HALL JAZZ BAND**  
SAT 10.1 | 8:30 PM



**LOS TIGRES DEL NORTE**  
SUN 10.2 | 8:30 PM



**CHRIS PÉREZ BAND**  
TUE 10.4 | 8:30 PM



**CRAIG PARKER**  
WED 10.5 | 5:30 & 8:30 PM



**NEWGROUNDS**  
THU 10.7 | 5:30 & 8:30 PM



**JAMESTOWN REVIVAL**  
SAT 10.8 | 8:30 PM



**LUCINDA WILLIAMS**  
SUN 10.9 | 8:30 PM



**DE PINA**  
MON 10.10 | 10:00 & 12:00 PM



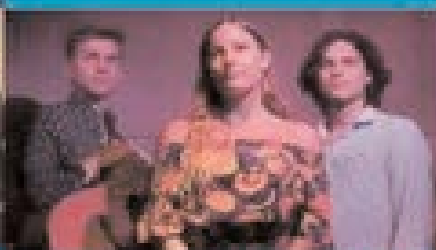
**JASON DOLAN AND THE STRAGGLERS**  
FRI 10.14 | 8:30 PM



**JITZ AND THE BASTARDS**  
SAT 10.15 | 8:30 PM



**NIGHT RANGER**  
SUN 10.16 | 8:30 PM



**GIRL NAMED TOM**  
FRI 10.21 | 8:30 PM



**DISORIENTATION**  
SAT 10.22 | 5:30 & 8:30 PM



**LA MAFIA**  
SUN 10.23 | 3:00 PM



# 2022 TEXAS RANGERS SCHEDULE

## APRIL

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
					TOR 6:07	TOR 2:07
3 TOR 12:37	4 COL 3:35	5 COL 7:35	6	7 LAA 7:35	8 LAA 7:35	9 LAA 6:05
10 LAA 1:35	11	12 SEA 8:40	13 SEA 8:40	14 SEA 8:40	15 OAK 8:40	16 OAK 9:07
17 OAK 8:07	18 HOU 7:35	19 HOU 7:35	20 HOU 7:35	21 HOU 1:35	22 ATL 7:35	23 ATL 6:05

## JULY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 NYM 6:10	2 NYM 2:10
3 NYM 12:40	4 BAL 12:05	5 BAL 8:05	6 BAL 8:05	7	8 MIN 7:05	9 MIN 3:05
10 MIN 1:05	11 OAK 7:05	12 OAK 7:05	13 OAK 7:05	14 SEA 7:05	15 SEA 7:05	16 SEA 8:05
17 SEA 1:05	18	19 ALL-STAR GAME	20	21 MIA 12:10	22 OAK 8:40	23 OAK 8:07
24 OAK 8:07	25 SEA 9:10	26 SEA 9:10	27 SEA 2:40	28 LAA 8:38	29 LAA 8:38	30 LAA 8:07
31 LAA 8:07						

## MAY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 ATL 1:35	2	3 PHI 5:45	4 PHI 5:45	5	6 NYY 8:05	7 NYY 12:05
8 NYY 12:35	9	10 KC 7:35	11 KC 7:35	12 KC 7:35	13 BOS 7:35	14 BOS 6:05
15 BOS 1:35	16 LAA 7:05	17 LAA 7:05	18 LAA 7:05	19 HOU 7:35	20 HOU 7:35	21 HOU 8:05
22 HOU 1:35	23	24 LAA 8:38	25 LAA 8:38	26 OAK 8:40	27 OAK 8:40	28 OAK 2:07
29 OAK 8:07	30 TB 7:05	31 TB 7:05				

## AUGUST

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 BAL 7:05	2 BAL 7:05	3 BAL 1:05	4 CWS 7:05	5 CWS 7:05	6 CWS 8:05
7 CWS 1:05	8	9 HOU 7:35	10 HOU 7:35	11 HOU 1:35	12 SEA 7:35	13 SEA 2:35
14 SEA 1:35	15 OAK 7:35	16 OAK 7:35	17 OAK 7:35	18 OAK 1:05	19 MIN 7:10	20 MIN 6:10
21 MIN 8:10	22 MIN 8:10	23 COL 7:40	24 COL 2:10	25	26 DET 7:05	27 DET 8:05
28 DET 1:05	29	30 HOU 7:05	31 HOU 1:05			

## JUNE

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 TB 7:35	2 TB 1:35	3 SEA 7:35	4 SEA 8:35
5 SEA 1:35	6 CLE 8:10	7 CLE 8:10	8 CLE 8:10	9	10 CWS 7:10	11 CWS 6:10
12 CWS 1:10	13 HOU 7:35	14 HOU 7:35	15 HOU 3:35	16 DET 6:10	17 DET 6:10	18 DET 2:10
19 DET 12:40	20	21 PHI 7:05	22 PHI 3:05	23	24 WSH 7:05	25 WSH 3:05
26 WSH 2:35	27 KC 7:10	28 KC 7:10	29 KC 1:10	30		

## SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 BOS 8:10	2 BOS 8:10	3 BOS 2:10
4 BOS 12:35	5 HOU 6:10	6 HOU 7:10	7 HOU 7:10	8	9 TOR 7:35	10 TOR 6:05
11 TOR 6:35	12 MIA 12:10 & 12:10	13 OAK 7:05	14 OAK 7:05	15	16 TB 8:10	17 TB 5:10
18 TB 12:10	19	20 LAA 7:05	21 LAA 7:05	22 LAA 1:10	23 CLE 7:35	24 CLE 6:05
25 CLE 1:05	26	27 SEA 8:40	28 SEA 8:40	29 SEA 8:40	30 LAA 8:38	1 LAA 8:07
2 LAA 3:07	3 NYY 5:05	4 NYY 1:05 & 7:05	5 NYY 7:05			

HOME GAMES | SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE



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## AROUND THE AREA

## LOCAL NEWS OF INTEREST

# SMU Men's Golf schedule announced



DALLAS (SMU) – The SMU men's golf team unveiled its 2022-23 schedule this week highlighted by its hosting of the sixth-annual Trinity Forest Invitational, set to begin on Oct. 2 in Dallas.

Fall competition for the Mustangs begins with a pair of first-time appearances - at the Jim Rivers Intercollegiate, hosted by La Tech at Squire Creek (Sept. 11-13) in Choudrant, La and the Inverness Intercollegiate in Toledo (Sept. 26-27).

SMU hosts the Trinity Forest Invitational at Trinity Forest Golf Club beginning on Oct. 2, seeking a third-consecutive tournament victory at its home event. In the Mustangs' fall 2021 showing at Trinity Forest, they tied the fourth lowest 54-hole tournament score at the event (826, 2019), giving SMU three of the top five team totals in tournament history.

The Mustangs close the fall stretch at Cal Poly's Preserve Invitational in Carmel, California Oct. 31-Nov. 1.

SMU picks up its season in the new calendar year at the Arizona Intercollegiate on Monday, Jan. 30, at the Tucson Country Club. The Mustangs' first appearance at the event comes on just the second year the tournament is hosted at its current venue, as the Arizona men's golf program completes its transition to the Tucson Country Club as its newest permanent site.

On Feb. 26, Mustang golf makes its

return to the Southern Highlands Golf Club in Las Vegas for their sixth appearance in eight years at the Southern Highlands Collegiate, hosted by UNLV.

SMU makes yet another first-time appearance on March 6 in the Wake Forest Invitational at Pinehurst No. 2 – the host venue of the 2024 U.S. Open. The par 70, 7,125-yard course has served as the site of more single golf championships than any course in the country and hosted back-to-back U.S. Open and U.S. Women's Open Championships for the first time in 2014.

SMU returns to Louisiana on March 13 for its first showing at the Louisiana Classics since 2012, at the Oakbourne Country Club in Lafayette. The Mustangs claimed victory in four consecutive showings from 2002-05, and finished second in their most recent appearance off top-20 performances from golf alums Sam Fidone and Max Buckley (2011-12).

The Mustangs close their spring slate with a pair of return visits to The Goodwin, hosted by Stanford at the Stanford Golf Course in Palo Alto March 30-Apr. 1, and the Thunderbird Collegiate at Papago in Phoenix, hosted by national runner-up Arizona State Apr. 14-15. SMU closed The Goodwin the previous spring with a fourth-place finish behind a ten-under, fourth-place individual performance by senior Noah Goodwin, and a three-under showing by sophomore Nathan Petronzio.

The American Athletic Conference Tournament will be held at the Pelican Golf Course in Belleair, Florida Apr. 21-23. The 2021-22 Mustangs closed the previous season by claiming their second AAC title and 10th conference championship in program history, setting a 54-

hole tournament scoring record of 835 (282-277-276, -29) at the Southern Hills Golf Club in Brookessville. Petronzio claimed the individual title – the first of his collegiate career – behind a 13-under, 203 performance which tied the fifth-lowest 54-hole tournament score in program history.

The 2023 NCAA regional sites are listed here, with dates to be determined, and the 2023 NCAA Men's Golf Championship will again be held at the Grayhawk Golf Club in Scottsdale, Ariz., May 27-June 1.

#### 2022-23 SMU Men's Golf Schedule

Sept. 11-13 Jim Rivers Intercollegiate (La. Tech) - Squire Creek GC - Choudrant, La.  
Sept. 26-27 Inverness Intercollegiate (Toledo) - Inverness GC - Toledo, Ohio  
Oct. 2-4 Trinity Forest Invitational - Dallas  
Oct. 31-Nov. 1 The Preserve Invitational (Cal Poly) Preserve Golf Club -Carmel,CA  
Jan. 30-31 Arizona Intercollegiate (Arizona) - Tucson CC - Tucson, Ariz.  
Feb. 26-28 Southern Highlands Collegiate (UNLV) - Southern Highlands GC - Las Vegas, Nevada.  
March 6-7 Wake Forest Invitational at Pinehurst No. 2 (Wake Forest) – Pinehurst No. 2 - Pinehurst, N.C.  
March 13-14 Louisiana Classics (Louisiana-Lafayette) - Oakbourne CC - Lafayette, La.  
March 30-Apr. 1 The Goodwin (Stanford) - Stanford GC - Palo Alto, Calif.  
Apr. 14-15 Thunderbird Collegiate Invitational (Arizona St.) – Papago GC – Phoenix, Ariz.  
Apr. 21-23 American Athletic Conference Tournament – Pelican Golf Club, Belleair, Fla.  
May 27-June 1 NCAA Tournament – Grayhawk Golf Club – Scottsdale, Ariz.

## WEEKLY CALENDAR

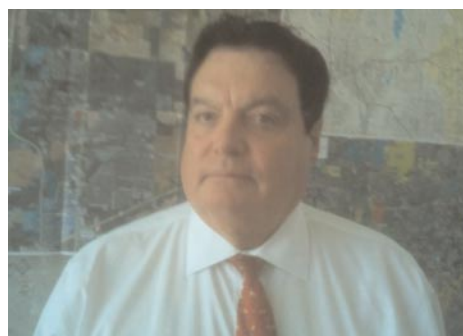
	AUGUST 12 FRIDAY	AUGUST 13 SATURDAY	AUGUST 14 SUNDAY	AUGUST 15 MONDAY	AUGUST 16 TUESDAY	AUGUST 17 WEDNESDAY	AUGUST 18 THURSDAY
	Rangers vs Mariners 7:05 / BSSW	Rangers vs Mariners 6:15 / BSSW	Rangers vs Mariners 1:35 / BSSW	Rangers vs Athletics 7:05 / BSSW	Rangers vs Athletics 7:05 / BSSW	Rangers vs Athletics 7:05 / BSSW	Rangers vs Athletics 1:05 / BSSW
	Roughriders vs San Antonio 7:05	Roughriders vs San Antonio 7:05	Roughriders vs San Antonio 6:05		Roughriders at Corpus Christi 6:35	Roughriders at Corpus Christi 6:35	Roughriders at Corpus Christi 6:35
		Portland at San Jose 7:00 / TXA21					
		Dallas at Denver 8:00					



# Rangers to induct two more in HoF



Ian Kinsler played eight seasons for the Rangers



BY DIC HUMPHREY  
DHUMPHREY24@GMAIL.COM  
MEMBER: USBWA

ARLINGTON, Texas - The Texas Rangers open a seven game home stand against divisional opponents Seattle and Oakland this Friday night. They return to Globe Life Field after a three game road trip to Houston in which they lost two of three games to finish Week 19 with a 2-4 record, their third straight losing week since the All Star break. They are now a season high 13 games under .500 and sit in third place in the American League West with a 49-62 record that places them 22 games behind the first place Astros.

The highlight of the homestand is Saturday night's pre-game ceremony to induct two new members into the Texas Rangers' baseball Hall of Fame. The Texas Rangers are set to welcome Ian Kinsler, the second baseman on the 2010 and 2011 teams that went to the World Series and publicist John Blake. They will become the

25th and 26th members.

## IAN KINSLER:

Kinsler played eight seasons for the Rangers racking up a .273 batting average and an .808 OPS in 1,066 games. He also played in seven post-season series, a total of 34 games with a .309 batting average. He made the American League All-Star team three times as a Ranger and once more with Detroit. He also won the Jim Sundberg Community Achievement Award in 2008. In short, his combination of speed and power makes him the best lead-off hitter in Ranger history.

He was not a highly regarded prospect coming out of college. He was drafted coming out of high school, but chose Arizona State. A year later, he transferred to Missouri when another player (Dustin Pedroia) won the Arizona State starting second base job. The Rangers selected him in the 17th round of the 2002 draft, and he made his Major League debut in 2006. Injuries forced him to retire in 2019. He played his final Major League game on August 12.

Kinsler took the mound in a blowout game against the Tampa Bay Rays, pitching a scoreless inning. It was the first time in his Major League career to pitch, and he followed by hitting a home run in the bottom half of the inning.

Kinsler is currently an adviser for Major League operations in the San Diego Padres front office. He has also been

selected to manage Team Israel for the 2023 World Baseball Classic.



## JOHN BLAKE:

About two hours or so before every Ranger game, the Twitter World lights up with information on the team, information such as roster moves and injuries. Fans that watch on Bally Sports Southwest or listen on the Rangers' radio network have announcers filling fans in on player data, trends, etc. The source for almost all this information is John Blake and his staff. Blake joined the Rangers in 1985, and he has been involved running the sports information department in all but three years since. His current title is Executive Vice President, Public Affairs, but no matter what that title infers, he is actively involved in the sports information area.

Blake graduated from the Georgetown University in 1977 with full intentions of a career in foreign service. Along the way in

college, he began working in the sports information area with legendary basketball coach John Thompson. That soon morphed into working with the Baltimore Orioles. When the Texas job became available in 1985, he joined the Rangers, taking over from Bert Hawkins, a former Washington, DC reporter that joined the Senators and moved with the team to Texas in 1972.

Ken Sins, an AP reporter that covered the Rangers from the 1970's until he retired a few years ago commented about Blake, "I'm stumped to come up with a more loyal employee and supporter than John."

Sins noted that one of Blake's first task was to embellish the press notes, which soon became known in the business as some of the best press notes package in baseball. Soon, other teams followed suit, and certainly today, the Rangers' press notes package is the best in the business. Sins also noted that Blake was always helpful in dealing with writers especially in the area of setting up interviews.

Blake appeared on the Norm and D Invasion on 98.7 FM, the Ticket this week and spoke about turning points in Ranger history. One was the addition of Nolan Ryan in the late 1980's. The Rangers had garnered little national attention prior Ryan's arrival, and the regional sports networks televising games was in its infancy. Ryan's starts drew significantly larger crowds than usual home games, and events such as his 5,000th strikeout attracted a national television audience.

The next event that really turned the corner for the franchise was the opening of the Ballpark in Arlington in 1994. In one fell swoop, the team went from playing home games in one, if not the worst stadium in baseball to one of the best stadiums in Major League history. The Rangers had never made the playoffs before the new ballpark was completed, nor had it hosted an All-Star game. The All-Star game happened in 1995 and the team won the West Division in 1996, 1998 and 1999.

That paved the way for the 2010 and 2011 teams to not only win playoff series, but to reach the World Series. The team has now replaced the Ballpark in Arlington with Globe Life Field, an absolute state of the art stadium that is perhaps the best stadium in baseball history.

Blake has stepped back this year to a lesser role (theoretically!). His long time right-hand man Rich Rice now leads the group. However, Blake's foot prints are all over the Communications department. Blake and his wife live in Grapevine and have two children. He has become one of the most respected men in baseball com

(continued on page 6)





Rangers went 1 of 2 against the White Sox this week

munications in his 35 years with the Rangers. He richly deserves the honor of being inducted into the Texas Rangers' Hall of Fame.

#### THE GAMES:

Week 19 began with three games against the White Sox to complete a four game series. On Friday night, Chicago's Dylan Cease showed why he is the best pitcher no one has heard of. He gave up a hit and a run in the first inning, but shut the Rangers out on one hit over his final six innings on the mound. He has now gone 14 straight games allowing no more than one earned run. He has been the American League Pitcher of the Month twice this season and is clearly the leading candidate to win the Cy Young Award. Somehow, he did not make the All-Star team.

Glenn Otto took the loss but pitched well giving up just two runs on four hits. Both bullpens were perfect such that 2-1 was the final score, the Rangers' 24th one run loss. On Saturday, Dane Dunning pitched the best game of his career. He shutout the Sox, the team that drafted him and brought him to the Major leagues, over seven innings, and Taylor Hearn completed the shutout over the final two innings, striking out four of the six batters he retired. Adolis Garcia drove in five runs in an 8-0 rout.

On Sunday, it was Spencer Howard struggling as usual. He faced 20 batters retiring 10, allowing six to score and leaving four on base. Chicago won 8-2. The Rangers then went to Houston where Martin Perez had his streak of 19 consecutive starts without being charged with a loss snapped. He pitched brilliantly for three innings as his teammates provided a 4-0 lead. Marcus Semien and Corey Seager each homered to bring home three of those runs.

In the fourth and fifth though, the Astros got to Perez big time. Aledmys Diaz hit a grand slam home run in the fourth inning to tie the game, and the Astros pushed across three more in the fifth inning to take the lead for Good. Adolis Garcia homered in the fifth inning for the only run the Rangers scored after falling behind.

The final score was 7-5, and Perez is 9-3 with the loss.

After Tuesday's win, the Astros were just one win away from clinching the Silver Boot Trophy, and with Justin Verlander on the mound to start Wednesday night, they looked good to clinch. Verlander was good, but not untouchable as he gave up three runs on five hits over six innings.

Glenn Otto started for Texas and was very good also. He gave up two runs on four hits but needed 87 pitches to get through five innings. Both bullpens pitched well taking a 3-3 tie into the tenth inning.

The Rangers exploded for five runs in the top of the tenth inning, all scored off Houston reliever Phil Maton. The Astros scored their ghost runner in their half of the tenth inning to make the final score Texas 8 - Houston 4. Taylor Hearn (5-6) was the winning pitcher.

The Astros won the series and clinched the Lone Star Series with a 7-3 win on Thursday. It is the sixth straight year the Astros have won the Silver Boot Trophy. Cole Ragans made his second Major League start and was not as good as his first. He was knocked out in the fifth inning and tagged with his first big league loss. Ragans was charged with five earned runs, and Garrett Richards allowed the other two.

#### NOTABLE:

\* Adolis Garcia is hitting .312 in 21 games against the Houston Astros in his career. He has hit nine home runs and driven in 25. Both figures are his career best against a team

\* Attendance last Saturday was 38,275, the second highest attendance figure in Globe Life Field history topped only by the 38,316 crowd on May 1 against the Atlanta Braves.

\* Nathaniel Lowe's 11 game hitting streak ended last Friday night against the White Sox. He hit .405 during the streak, the longest of his career and tied with Adolis Garcia for the longest hitting streak by a Ranger this season. Lowe did walk to keep his on base streak alive and has now extended it to 17 games.

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# Actress recalls a cinderella story



TOM WARD

TOMPWARD@SBCGLOBAL.NET

The location was Rolling Hills Country Club in Davie, Florida in the late summer and early fall of 1979. A film was being shot there with, a golf theme, called *Caddyshack*. The movie turned out to be a modest success when it came out in 1980.

Over the decades the film continued gathering a wider audience and created a cult-like status. Now, it's considered a comedy classic and one of the funniest movies ever made.

There are so many memorable moments throughout the film, but for this story I'm going to focus on one particular scene that was only 1 minute and 18 seconds long. It featured Bill Murray who played green-keeper Carl Spackler and his 'Cinderella Story'. Actress Cindy Morgan who portrayed Lacey Underalls had the opportunity to act alongside some great comedians of the day like Chevy Chase, Rodney Dangerfield and Ted Knight, but she had no scenes with Bill Murray. However, Cindy had the good fortune to be on hand to watch Bill Murray (as Carl Spackler) create comedy gold. I spoke with Cindy a few weeks ago to get her take on that special moment and her recollections of Bill Murray.

**TW:** Tell me about the famous Cinderella scene in which Bill Murray's character starts whacking mums?

**CM:** First, there was very little structure to our filming experience. I would get into hair and makeup and walk out and see if I had to do anything. One day I was walking past the clubhouse and our director Harold Ramis was there. By the way, Harold was a real doll who was friendly, sharing and a lovely man. He waved me over and told me I want you to see what we are going to do. I was standing next to the camera and I'm looking at Bill Murray who originally had no lines in the script as Carl Spackler. He's got a golf club in his hand and he's whacking the flowers. I'm thinking what is going on? I was thinking how are they going to reset the scene? How are they going to fix this because they will have to dig everything up and put it back in. He went through it one time and just did it.

**TW:** When did you meet Bill Murray for the first time?

**CM:** I was introduced to Bill at dinner the night after my first scene, the high dive at

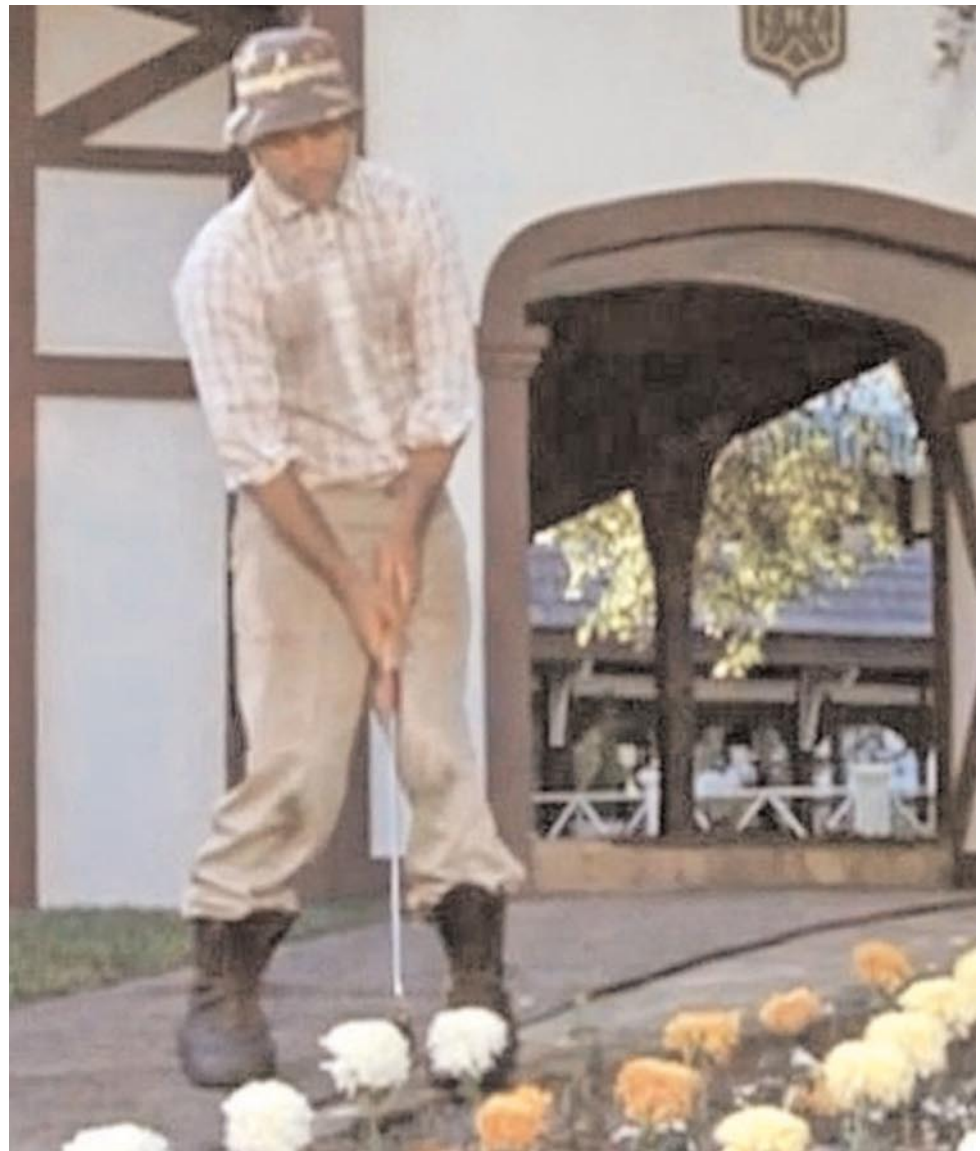
the pool. I was sitting next to our producer Doug Kenney who was loudly expressing his feelings about me not being able to do the actual high dive myself. They had shot me doing the initial spring off the high board. Then a professional diver was brought in to do the swan dive seen in the film. I felt like I let Doug down so I went back to my hotel room and laid down to try to get some sleep. About 15 minutes later, there was a knock on my door. It was Bill Murray. We hadn't spoken two words to each other up until this point. He asked me if I wanted to get out of here. I said sure. I woke up the next morning on a nude beach in Jupiter, Florida.

The following excerpt are the exact words that Bill Murray spoke during that iconic Cinderella story scene as Carl Spackler while whacking away with a golf club at mums.

"What an incredible Cinderella story. This unknown comes outta nowhere to lead the pack at Augusta. He's at the final hole. He's about 455 yards away, he's gonna hit about a two iron, I think ... Boy, he got all of that. The crowd is standing on its feet here at Augusta. The normally reserved Augusta crowd is going wild for this young Cinderella who's come out of nowhere. He's got about 350 yards left. He's going to hit about a five iron, it looks like, don't you think? He's got a beautiful backswing ... That's ..Oh! He got all of that one! He's gotta be pleased with that. The crowd is just on its feet here. He's a Cinderella boy, tears in his eyes, I guess, as he lines up this last shot. And he's got about 195 yards left, and he's got a, it looks like he's got about an eight iron. This crowd has gone deadly silent. Cinderella story, out of nowhere, former greens keeper, now about to become the Masters champion. It looks like a miracle ... It's in the hole! IT'S IN THE HOLE!!!"

I think the reason that scene still resonates with golfers today after 42 years is because Bill Murray captured the pure essence of the game. Murray is still to this day an avid golfer who has a real passion for the sport. Whether its golf, football, baseball or any other sport every player has acted out a scenario in their mind when no one is around where they hit the winning shot or they are the one making the winning putt to hoist the trophy and win the championship. They have created their own inner dialogue and commentary to go along setting up the climactic moment. Murray forever endeared himself to golfers everywhere because he tapped into mindset of players of all ages that it's okay to dream big and have fun in the process. So to quote Murray as Carl Spackler, "I've got that going for me, which is nice."

Tom can be contacted at [teetimetwithtom.com](mailto:teetimetwithtom.com)





# This week: FedEx St. Jude Championship



Tony Finau will be the defending champion after his win last year in the first FedExCup Playoff event. (Tracy Wilcox/PGA TOUR)

## FedEx St. Jude CHAMPIONSHIP

**FedEx St. Jude Championship**  
**August 11 - August 14, 2022**  
**TPC Southwind**  
**Memphis, Tennessee**  
**Purse - \$9,500,000**  
**Winners share: \$1,710,000**  
**Defending Champ - Tony Finau**

By Adam Stanley

The FedExCup Playoffs begin this week with the FedEx St. Jude Championship outside Memphis, a city that's held a PGA TOUR event every year since 1958.

Tony Finau looks to defend his title from last season's FedExCup opener after recently winning back-to-back titles on TOUR.

**FIELD NOTES:** The top 125 in the FedExCup standings are set to tee it up at TPC Southwind and return to action on TOUR... Count Cameron Smith as one of those who plays for the first time since winning The Open at St. Andrews. The Claret Jug winner lost in a playoff to Finau a year ago at the event played at Liberty

National Golf Club, and also was T5 last year in the World Golf Championship at TPC Southwind... Scottie Scheffler, thanks to his four victories earlier in the year, heads into the FedExCup Playoffs first in the FedExCup Points List and as the winner of the Comcast Business TOUR TOP 10... Last season's FedExCup Champion Patrick Cantlay travels to Memphis ranked fifth in the standings thanks to a TOUR-high 10 top-10s and a win with Xander Schauffele in the Zurich Classic of New Orleans. Cantlay is seeking to become the first back-to-back FedExCup champ... TOUR rookie Cameron Young sits ninth in the FedExCup standings after an incredibly impressive maiden TOUR campaign that features seven top-3 finishes, including a runner-up at The Open and T3 at the PGA Championship... Hideki Matsuyama and Sam Burns, who lost in a playoff at last year's WGC-FedEx St. Jude Invitational played at TPC Southwind, are back looking for some more magic in Memphis. Burns and Matsuyama are Nos. 3 and 10, respectively, on the FedExCup standings. Burns has three wins this season while Matsuyama has two... Keep an eye on Daniel Berger this week. Berger, who is projected 79th in the FedExCup standings, loves TPC Southwind. He won there in both 2016 and 2017 and finished T2 in 2019 and T5 last season, when the event was elevated to a World Golf Championship... Justin Thomas, who is eighth in the FedExCup standings after

winning his second PGA Championship, is another recent TPC Southwind winner (2020) who is set make his return to action... The 125 golfers who are eligible for the FedExCup Playoffs' first event will be determined after the final round of the Wyndham Championship on Sunday... Rory McIlroy, who's seeking to become the first three-time FedExCup champ, is playing for the first time since a heart-breaking final round at The Open. He ranks sixth in the FedExCup.

**FEDEXCUP:** Winner receives 2,000 FedExCup points.

**COURSE:** TPC Southwind, par 70, 7,243 yards. The Ron Prichard design was established in 1988, with Hubert Green and Fuzzy Zoeller as player consultants. This is the first time TPC Southwind has hosted a FedExCup Playoffs event. The course boasts Bermuda greens, plenty of streams, ponds, and lakes, plus undulating zoysia fairways. During last season's WGC-FedEx St. Jude Invitational, the course played to an average score of nearly 1-under, at 69.05.

**STORYLINES:** The FedEx St. Jude Championship is the first of three FedExCup Playoff events... Only the top 70 in the FedExCup standings after the FedEx St. Jude Championship will be continue to the BMW Championship... No golfer has ever won the FedExCup in back-to-back years. Last season's winner, Patrick Cantlay, is in a solid position heading into Memphis at No. 5. Rory McIlroy and Tiger

Woods are the only two-time FedExCup winners... The winner of the FedExCup will earn \$18 million... How about Tony Finau's summertime sizzle? Finau, who is looking to become the first person to successfully defend his title at the FedExCup Playoffs opener, comes into the FedExCup playoffs having won the 3M Open and the Rocket Mortgage Classic in back-to-back weeks. He was the first golfer on TOUR to win two weeks in a row since Brendon Todd in 2019.

**72-HOLE RECORD:** 254, Dustin Johnson (2020 – TPC Boston)

**TPC SOUTHWIND RECORD:** 264, Brooks Koepka (2019), Abraham Ancer (2021), Hideki Matsuyama (2021), Sam Burns (2021).

**18-HOLE RECORD:** 60, Dustin Johnson (Second round, 2020 – TPC Boston)

**TPC SOUTHWIND RECORD:** 61, Tom Lewis (Third round, 2020), Bob Estes (First round, 2001), Jay Delsing (Fourth round, 1993).

**LAST TIME:** Tony Finau busted out of a five-year winless drought to capture last season's FedExCup Playoffs opener in extra holes over Cameron Smith. Finau went on a 5-under run through Nos. 12-16 on the back nine Sunday to climb the leaderboard. He nailed a testy 6-footer for par on the 72nd hole to get it to 20-under for the week. Smith made back-to-back birdies on 12 and 13 and again on 16 and 17 but couldn't convert a 20-footer for birdie on the par-4 18th. Smith and Finau played just one extra hole, as Smith's drive was so wild it went over the retaining wall that separates Liberty National from the Hudson River. Finau made an easy-does-it par, and the trophy was his. Jon Rahm, the 54-hole leader, finished third at 18 under. He was firmly in the mix late on Sunday but bogeyed Nos. 15 and 18 to fall out of contention. Alex Noren, Tom Hoge, and Justin Thomas rounded out the top five.

Keith Mitchell had a clutch finish as he looked to earn his way into the second playoff event. At No. 101 in the FedExCup standings, he birdied his final three holes in the final round to get into a tie for eighth and moved into 63rd position.

### HOW TO FOLLOW

**Television:** Thursday-Friday, 3 p.m.-7 p.m. ET (Golf Channel). Saturday, 1 p.m.-3 p.m. (Golf Channel), 3 p.m.-6 p.m. (NBC). Sunday, 12 p.m.-2 p.m. (Golf Channel), 2 p.m.-6 p.m. (NBC)

**Radio:** Thursday-Friday, 1 p.m.-7 p.m. ET. Saturday-Sunday, 1 p.m.-6 p.m. (PGA



# Top performers to tee it up this weekend



Scottie Scheffler leads the FedExCup standings heading into the Playoffs

## Five things to know before FedEx St. Jude Championship

By Cameron Morfit  
PGATOUR.COM

GERMANTOWN, Tenn. – The top performers on the PGA TOUR this season will tee it up in the FedEx St. Jude Championship at TPC Southwind beginning Thursday, the start of a three-week stretch that will determine the FedExCup champion.

Scottie Scheffler, the favorite to win it all, has been the man out front almost all year, building a large lead with his four wins, including the Masters. He could become the FedExCup champ just two years after he was the PGA TOUR's Rookie of the Year.

Joohyung (Tom) Kim and Max McGreevy played their way in just last week, finishing first and T5, respectively, at the Wyndham Championship.

From the bubble boys to the Presidents Cup permutations, here's Five Things to Know before the FedExCup Playoffs get underway.

### 1. SCHEFFLER IN THE DRIVER'S SEAT

Scheffler moved to No. 1 in the FedExCup with his victory at the Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by Mastercard in early March, has stayed there ever since, and is coming off a three-week break after The Open Championship.

With four victories among his nine top-10 finishes, including his Masters win, he has racked up 3,556 FedExCup points and is 1,221 ahead of Cameron Smith, whose own impressive season features wins at the Sentry Tournament of Champions (where he shot the lowest score in relation to par in TOUR history), THE PLAYERS and The Open at St. Andrews. Scheffler's best bud on TOUR, Sam Burns, is 1,281 points back after his own three-win campaign. Xander Schauffele also has three wins but is still 1,403 points behind Scheffler.

As impressive as his season has been, Scheffler's FedExCup lead isn't safe. With points being quadrupled in the Playoffs, victories in each of the next two weeks are worth 2,000 points. The FedExCup leader

at the TOUR Championship will start with a two-stroke lead under the unique Starting Strokes format.

"Honestly, you probably want to be Scottie Scheffler right now," said Tony Finau, who is coming off back-to-back wins at the 3M Open and Rocket Mortgage Classic, moving him up to FedExCup No. 7. "You are controlling the whole FedExCup."

Still, players like Finau have a chance, even if he is 1,644 points behind the leader.

"I think now a win for some of those guys would help them pass me if I didn't play so good this week," said Scheffler, who was 14th in his last start at TPC Southwind, the World Golf Championships-FedEx St. Jude Invitational last summer. "But I still have a pretty strong lead even with the points being magnified now in the Playoffs, so if I continue to play good golf, I should have a lead going into East Lake, which is definitely a good position to be in."

It's already been a fruitful year for Scheffler, who has earned more than \$13 million to break Jordan Spieth's record for single-season earnings (not including FedExCup bonus money). Another \$18 million would come Scheffler's way if he's still atop the FedExCup standings at season's end.

### 2. ON THE LINE

Rory McIlroy is sixth in the FedExCup and coming off a break following his third-place finish in The Open. Most players would be thrilled to have played so well in the majors. In addition to contending at St. Andrews, where he held the 54-hole lead but couldn't buy a putt in the final round and was passed by Smith, McIlroy was second at the Masters, eighth at the PGA Championship and T5 at the U.S. Open. McIlroy has high standards, however, and the fact is he ran his majorless streak to 31. Now, though, his opportunity to make history could serve as some consolation; no player, not even Tiger Woods, has won the FedExCup three times.

Patrick Cantlay goes into the Playoffs at FedExCup No. 5. No player has ever successfully defended his FedExCup title, but with a TOUR-leading 10 top-10 finishes this season, including a victory with partner Xander Schauffele at the Zurich Classic of New Orleans, Cantlay is in the mix to do just that. If he gets hot like he did last summer, watch out. He'll also be looking for first individual victory of the season.

Tony Finau, who won the 3M Open and Rocket Mortgage Classic, will look to make it three wins in three starts this week. That would make him the hottest player since Scheffler won four times in six starts in the spring. Also, Finau has unfinished business at TPC Southwind, where he admittedly hasn't played well – his best is

a T27 in 2019.

Then there's Collin Morikawa, who's looking to win in the Playoffs to avoid the first winless season of his career. Former Wake Forest teammates Cameron Young and Will Zalatoris also will be looking to nab a win before season's end. Each is seeking his maiden victory after knocking on the door multiple times this season, including close calls at the majors. Scheffler (Masters), Smith (The Open), Justin Thomas (PGA Championship) and Matt Fitzpatrick (U.S. Open) would love to cap their major-winning campaigns with the FedExCup.

### 3. AWARDS SEASON

In case you were wondering, yes, Joohyung "Tom" Kim, who opened with a quadruple bogey and closed with a 9-under 61 to win the Wyndham Championship – by a gaudy five shots, no less – is eligible for the 2022 Arnold Palmer Award as PGA TOUR Rookie of the Year.

That makes five rookies in the top 40 of the FedExCup standings -- Cameron Young (No. 9), Davis Riley (No. 23), Tom Kim (No. 34), Mito Pereira (No. 38) and Sahith Theegala (No. 39) – and a tight race for top rookie honors.

"Yeah, I still can't really wrap my head around of just what happened," Kim said Tuesday in Memphis. "It's been – it's been a crazy month. Start of July I was planning on trying to get my card through Korn Ferry (Tour) Finals and now one month later I'm a PGA TOUR winner."

With seven top-3s, including a runner-up to Cameron Smith at The Open and a T3 at the PGA Championship, Young is believed to be the frontrunner. That would be fitting: Will Zalatoris, who was one year ahead of Young at Wake Forest, won the honor last season. While nabbing the award out of Young's hands would be a tough task, the strong fields of the FedExCup Playoffs make it possible, as a win or even high finishes in all three would surely make a statement to a player's peers, who are the voters for the award.

The Playoffs also will bring clarity to the Player of the Year race. Scheffler is the favorite, of course, but Smith could surpass him with a strong sprint to the finish. Same for Thomas and Fitzpatrick, who'd have a strong case if they had both a major and the FedExCup on their CV.

### 4. CUP CALL

Players have this week and next to automatically make the U.S. Presidents Cup Team that will take on the International Team at Charlotte's Quail Hollow Club on Sept. 22-25.

It's no easy task; only six players will make it on points after next week's BMW Championship, the second event of the FedExCup Playoffs. After that, U.S.

Captain Davis Love III will make his six picks the day after the TOUR Championship, Aug. 29.

Scottie Scheffler, Patrick Cantlay, Sam Burns, Xander Schauffele and Justin Thomas occupy the top five spots in the standings and would seem to be a lock. Tony Finau won the 3M Open and Rocket Mortgage Classic to move into the sixth position and has said he wants to make the team on points, not as a captain's pick. The next six after that: Jordan Spieth, Collin Morikawa, Max Homa, Will Zalatoris, Billy Horschel, and Cameron Young. Who will get the call?

Homa won the Wells Fargo Championship at Quail Hollow and is having a nice year. Young, while playing with Love at the recent Rocket Mortgage Classic, tied the course record with a 63. Love has spoken admiringly of the sound the ball makes coming off Zalatoris' clubs.

Meanwhile, Kevin Kisner (15th), Keegan Bradley (18th), and Maverick McNealy (19th) are among those outside the top 12 who have great match-play pedigree and could make a late run.

The International Team's eight automatic qualifiers also will be determined after the BMW, with four Captain's Picks coming Aug. 29. The top eight in the current standings, which are based on the Official World Golf Ranking, are Cameron Smith, Hideki Matsuyama, Sungjae Im, Joaquin Niemann, Joohyung Kim, Corey Connors, Mito Pereira and Adam Scott.

That leaves players like two-time AT&T Byron Nelson champ K.H. Lee; former Presidents Cup participants Adam Hadwin, Marc Leishman, Anirban Lahiri and Si Woo Kim; and former TOUR winners Sebastian Munoz, Mackenzie Hughes and Lucas Herbert jockeying for the four picks.

### 5. BUBBLE BOYS

In addition to the fight for the FedEx St. Jude Championship trophy we'll see a battle to get into (or remain) in the top 70 of the FedExCup standings to qualify for next week's BMW Championship. Those on the bubble include ...

No. 67 John Huh, the onetime PGA TOUR Rookie of the Year who finished T2 at the Wyndham Championship last week, his best finish in a decade.

No. 70 Trey Mullinax, who captured his first TOUR title at the Barbasol Championship earlier this summer and was striping it in a practice round with Rickie Fowler and Justin Thomas, his former Alabama teammate, on Tuesday.

No. 71 Brandon Wu, a rookie who finished T8 at the Wyndham Championship in addition to two top-3 finishes this season. No. 75 Chad Ramey, who captured his first TOUR title this season at the Corales Puntacana Championship.



# Five things about TPC Southwind



TPC Southwind will host a FedExCup Playoff event for the first time with the FedEx St. Jude Championship. (Ben Jared/PGA TOUR)

By Jeff Eisenband  
PGATOUR.COM

With apologies to the 1991 Marc Cohn hit single, there will be limited “Walking in Memphis” this week.

Grinding, hustling and fighting to win and/or advance will be more like it as TPC Southwind hosts a Playoffs event, the FedEx St. Jude Championship, for the first time. Although the course has never kicked off the three-week FedExCup Playoffs, which will continue with the top-70 BMW Championship and finally the top-30 TOUR Championship, its bona fides as a PGA TOUR stop are well established. Here are Five Things to Know about TPC Southwind.

## 1. RICH HISTORY

This week, TPC Southwind accomplishes a rare feat: Host of three PGA TOUR events.

The course was designed with tournament golf in mind. With architect Ron Prichard at the wheel and Hubert Green and Fuzzy Zoeller acting as consultants, the course opened in 1988. In 1989, it began hosting the Federal Express St. Jude Classic, and it would continue to do so through 2018. (The tournament’s history in

Memphis goes all the way back to 1958.) For the past three years, the course hosted the World Golf Championships-FedEx St. Jude Invitational.

This year, TPC Southwind makes its FedEx Cup Playoffs debut as the FedEx St. Jude Championship, formerly the spot occupied by THE NORTHERN TRUST, won by Tony Finau last year.

The low score at par-70 TPC Southwind is 61, shot by three different players in three decades. Jay Delsing set the pace in 1993, Bob Estes tied it en route to victory in 2001 – he also made a hole-in-one at TPC Southwind in 2002 – and Tom Lewis also signed for a 61 in 2020.

John Mahaffey was the first player on the PGA TOUR to win at TPC Southwind in 1989, edging a group of four players, including Green. World Golf Hall of Fame members Tom Kite, Fred Couples and Nick Price (twice) are also among those to have won at the storied Memphis course. A statue of World Golf Hall of Famer and 1961 St. Jude Classic winner Cary Middlecoff, who was a dentist before winning 39 times on the PGA TOUR, including two U.S. Opens and the 1955 Masters. He is tied with Tom Watson for 10th on the PGA

TOUR’s all-time wins list.

Middlecoff was born in Tennessee and won the Tennessee State Amateur four consecutive times.

## 2. NEW CHALLENGES

TPC Southwind’s first big renovation came in 2004 as a means of modernizing and strengthening the course. David Toms had won at 20-under 264 in 2003, after which the course got 11 new tees, 15 new bunkers and three new bridges, while three ponds were enlarged, four creeks stabilized and over 125 trees planted. The fifth hole was adjusted from a par 5 to a par 4 and the par-3 eighth hole was completely altered.

The course also went from bentgrass to Champion Bermudagrass on the greens, and when Toms came back in 2004, he shot four strokes higher (16-under 268) but this time won by six strokes. The changes had had their desired effect, and no one has since reached 20 under.

The course got another renovation in 2020, when some bunkers were eliminated, some were added, some were enlarged, and some were reduced in size. But above all, every bunker was re-edged and packed with fresh new sand and all-new drainage.

Meanwhile, two front-nine holes were lengthened. The par-5 third, which had played at 554 yards, mostly straight, had 25 yards tacked onto it with a new tee box. The first half of the fairway, already near the water, was shifted 15 yards to the right. With water in play on the second shot, this further complicates the decision of whether to go over the lake in two or lay up to the left.

The par-4 17th hole was lengthened to a peak of roughly 505 yards. What’s more, players now must recalibrate their distances with a creek splitting the fairway on the downhill hole.

The par-4 15th hole got 100 yards of new stone, placed along the creek that runs to the left of the tee shot, but to the right of the green. While aesthetically pleasing and matching other holes on the course, the artistic addition also provides less bail out for shots rolling or flying fast toward the water.

“The course has been on kind of a yearly project, reinforcing a lot of the creeks and ponds,” TPC Southwind superintendent Nick Bisanz said in 2020. “Adding retention walls to help shore things up. But there are also three or four projects each





A view of the 15th green at TPC Southwind. (Ben Jared/PGA TOUR)

year as part of kind of a beautification process, to enhance the look of the course.”

What has remained constant are the two grain silos and windmill on the course that serve as reminders of the property’s former identity as a dairy farm.

### 3. SPLISH SPLASH

Memphis may not be known for its beaches, but TPC Southwind is known for its water.

Since 2003, TPC Southwind’s 5,989 balls in the water are the most at any PGA TOUR course during that stretch. TPC Sawgrass (4,809), Muirfield Village (4,753) and PGA National (4,730) are the next three.

Of the many water holes at TPC Southwind, one that stands out is No. 11, which is similar to Pete Dye’s island 17th at TPC Sawgrass. Like the famed hole at THE PLAYERS Championship, No. 11 in Memphis requires a short iron into an island green with one bunker protecting the front runoff. But while TPC Sawgrass’ 17th hole plays just 137 yards, TPC Southwind’s 11th is listed at 157 yards but can tip at 165.

Si Woo Kim recorded a 13 on TPC Southwind’s island hole last year, the highest recorded score on a par-3 in a non-major since the TOUR started keeping such statistics in 1983. The highest score at TPC Sawgrass’ 17th is a 12 by Bob Tway in 2005.

The 457-yard ninth is a hard dogleg to the right that requires a precise, long tee shot before an approach shot over water. Players out of position off the tee will likely need to hit a conservative second shot up the right side. The 18th hole has water running along its entire left side, but unlike No. 9, this 453-yard par-4 is a dogleg to

the left.

The 239-yard, par-3 14th hole can also sneak up on players with water down the right side. Any pin positions on the right side of the green will require players to make a full carry over the water.

### 4. ZOYSIA AND BERMUDAGRASS

TPC Southwind is one of the TOUR stops with zoysia fairways and tee boxes.

The grass, hardier than other strains, is beneficial in the Memphis climate that can see cold bursts in the winter and significant heat in the summer. The bermudagrass rough has been known to contaminate the fairways, with the TPC Southwind staff constantly working to preserve the pureness of the zoysia.

Recent PGA TOUR zoysia stops include Bellerive Country Club for the 2018 PGA Championship and Trinity Forest Golf Club and TPC Craig Ranch for the AT&T Byron Nelson have shown the potential for low scores. However, at TPC Southwind, especially going back to the 2004 renovation, other elements have given the course some defense. Since 2004, only one winning score – Justin Leonard’s 4 under in 2008 – has been outside the 9-under to 19-under range.

TPC Southwind’s pure bermudagrass greens give some respite to the players who avoid the sand and water, however. TPC Southwind had the TOUR’s lowest three-putt percentage (1.44%) and highest percentage of made putts from 5-10 feet (60.5%) and from 15-25 feet (18.8%) last season.

### 5. 18TH HOLE OF BLUES

TPC Southwind saves its most dramatic hole for last. The 18th hole, a 453-yard par 4, is fierce, fair and demands champions attack one final challenge in Grind City.

To call it a dogleg left would be an understatement; the hole makes almost a full 90-degree turn around a gaping water

hazard. A short tee shot brings bunkers into play on the right, with limited rough and water awaiting left misses off the tee. A longer tee shot can take out the bunkers on the right but requires more carry over the left water if players want to take the chance.

Hit it too short off the tee and you face a long-iron approach mostly over water. A longer tee shot brings water into play on the left, while a deep bunker hides behind the green.

A year ago, Cameron Smith came to No. 18 tied for the lead at 16 under, but after pumping his tee shot long and right through the fairway, he went for too much and hit his second shot off a tree and into a neighboring backyard. He ultimately made a double-bogey 6 to finish T5.

In 2021, No. 18 played as the course’s second-toughest hole with an average score of 4.14. Only No. 5, a 485-yard par 4, played harder at 4.22. However, while players made six double-bogeys or worse at No. 5, they racked up nine such scores at TPC Southwind’s challenging finishing hole.

For the leaders of this tournament – and for those trying to make it to the next leg of the FedExCup Playoffs at the BMW Championship – the 18th hole will provide a stern test.

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# Big Ten football predictions 2022



Returning Ohio State Quarterback CJ Stroud finished fourth in the Heisman voting last season

Conference standings, impact transfers, best games

By Bill Bender

Michigan shook up the Big Ten in 2021. The Wolverines finally broke through under coach Jim Harbaugh for the program's first Big Ten championship since 2004, and that snapped Ohio State's run of four straight conference titles.

The Buckeyes, however, are the prohibitive favorite to strike back in 2022. Fourth-year coach Ryan Day brings back a loaded offense that features Heisman Trophy finalist C.J. Stroud, and Ohio State has a favorable schedule with most of the tough games at home. Michigan State and Penn State will stay in the mix in the Big Ten East, but it still comes down to the Buckeyes and Wolverines.

What about the Big Ten West? Iowa won the division in 2021 before being dumped 42-3 by the Wolverines at Lucas Oil Stadium. Wisconsin is expected to bounce back, but the pressure is on veteran quarterback Graham Mertz to make that happen. Iowa, Wisconsin and Northwestern are 0-8 in the Big Ten championship game since the conference switched to the East and West division setup.

All 14 coaches returned to the Big Ten, but Nebraska's Scott Frost is on the hottest of hot seats. The Huskers revamped the coaching staff this offseason, and the conference season kicks off Aug. 27 when

Nebraska and Northwestern meet in Dublin, Ireland.

2022 predicted order of finish

Big Ten East

- |   |                |
|---|----------------|
| 1 | Ohio State     |
| 2 | Michigan       |
| 3 | Michigan State |
| 4 | Penn State     |
| 5 | Maryland       |
| 6 | Rutgers        |
| 7 | Indiana        |

Ohio State plays most of its tough Big Ten games in the comforts of home this season with Wisconsin, Iowa and Michigan all coming to Ohio Stadium (not to mention the non-con blockbuster with Notre Dame). The Buckeyes have won 25 straight conference games at home by an average of 30.9 points per game. Michigan will have a tough test there in the finale. The Wolverines do get Michigan State and Penn State at home, but Harbaugh is 3-4 against those schools at the Big House. That's the game that turns the Spartans' season one way or the other. Penn State is 4-5 in Big Ten play each of the last two seasons. Maryland is coming off a bowl win in 2021, but the Terps are 4-21 against the Big Four in the division since joining the Big Ten in 2014. That's the next step.

Big Ten West

- |   |           |
|---|-----------|
| 1 | Wisconsin |
| 2 | Iowa      |
| 3 | Purdue    |
| 4 | Minnesota |

- |   |              |
|---|--------------|
| 5 | Nebraska     |
| 6 | Illinois     |
| 7 | Northwestern |

Wisconsin is the pick to win the division, but the Badgers are going to earn it. Wisconsin opens Big Ten play at Ohio State on Sept. 24, and it has road games at Michigan State and Iowa. The Hawkeyes play cross-over games against Ohio State and Michigan. Will that allow a school such as Purdue or Minnesota to sneak up the standings this year? The Boilermakers are an interesting sleeper, but they have the Badgers and Gophers on the road this season. They lost to both teams at home in 2021. Nebraska lost nine games by nine points or less last season, and Northwestern is trying to bounce back after its own nine-loss season. The Wildcats did win the Big Ten West in 2018 and 2020. Is there more even-year magic in store? The opener in Dublin is a huge tone-setter for both teams.

The Big Ten added USC and UCLA from the Pac-12 starting in the 2024; a blockbuster realignment move that could lead to further expansion for the soon-to-be 16-team conference. Ohio State athletic director Gene Smith said those schools can help "carry some weight" for the Big Ten.

Was that an indirect shot at the rest of the competition? Ohio State is 93-11 in the College Football Playoff era, an .894 winning percentage. The Buckeyes won the conference's only titles in the CFP era (2014) and BCS era (2002). Ohio State is

7-3 in New Year's Day Six bowls, too. Five other schools in the conference have a winning percentage better than 60% in the CFP era. That's Wisconsin (.745), Iowa (.693), Michigan (.680), Penn State (.643) and Michigan State (.643). They are 6-7 in New Year's Day Six Bowls, and the Spartans and Wolverines were routed in their lone CFP appearances. That weight is on the big stage, and Ohio State is all-but penciled in to get back to the CFP in 2022. Can any of those other schools disrupt that?

**Impact freshmen**  
**Nick Singleton, RB, Penn State**  
Singleton, a five-star running back from Governor Mifflin High School (Reading, Pa.), gives the Nittany Lions an exciting backup option for junior Keyvone Lee. Singleton has good size at 6-0, 210 pounds, and the high-school highlight reel is predictably amazing. Four-star running back Kaytron Allen (IMG Academy) also will be in the mix for carries.

**C.J. Hicks, LB, Ohio State**  
New defensive coordinator Jim Knowles will bring a more aggressive scheme to Ohio State, and Hicks (Archbishop Alter, Dayton, Ohio) is a five-star linebacker that could work into the middle two-linebacker rotation with Steele Chambers and Tommy Eichenberg. Four-star safety Kye Stokes (Armwood, Seffner, Fla.) also impressive in the spring game.

**Will Johnson, CB, Michigan**  
Wolverines' fans always get excited about five-star cornerbacks, and Johnson (Grosse Pointe South, Mich.) is the next in line. The 6-foot-3, 190-pound cornerback has the versatility to play either in the slot or safety – think Dax Hill – and that could lead to early playing time for new defensive coordinator Jesse Minter.

**Impact transfers**  
**Casey Thompson, QB, Nebraska**  
Thompson replaces four-year starter Adrian Martinez, who transferred to K-State. Thompson played in 15 games at Texas, where he had 30 TDs and nine interceptions. The Huskers also have a new offensive coordinator in Mark Whipple, who worked with Heisman Trophy finalist Kenny Pickett at Pitt last season. It's a new QB for Frost, and it might work this time.

**Trey Palmer, WR, Nebraska**  
Nebraska also brought in a new passing game coordinator in Mickey Joseph from LSU. Palmer, who had 41 catches for 458 yards and three TDs with the Tigers the last three seasons, followed Joseph. Palmer should thrive in a more pronounced role and will emerge as a breakout player for the Huskers.





Braelon Allen rushed for 1,268 yards as a freshman for Wisconsin

#### Jarek Broussard and Jalen Berger, RBs, Michigan State

Broussard (Colorado) and Berger (Wisconsin) are tasked with replacing the production from Kenneth Walker III, who rushed for 1,636 yards and 18 TDs last season. This might be more of a tandem effort, but you know Mel Tucker is going to rely on that strong running game around quarterback Peyton Thorne.

#### Victor Oluwatimi, C, Michigan

Michigan had a dominant offensive line last season, and Oluwatimi should help that trend continue. He started 35 games for Virginia the last three seasons and was a semifinalist for the Rimington Trophy. The Wolverines rushed for a league-best 214.4 yards per game last season.

Heisman hopefuls

#### C.J. Stroud, QB, Ohio State

Stroud finished fourth in the Heisman voting last season after putting up 4,435 passing yards and 44 TDs as a first-year starter. The Buckeyes led the FBS in points and total yards, and Stroud is at the controls of what should be an elite offense again in 2022. He also gets book-end big stage games at The Shoe against Notre Dame and Michigan. The Buckeyes haven't had a Heisman Trophy winner since Troy Smith in 2006. Stroud could change that. Jaxon Smith-Njigba, WR, Ohio State Smith-Njigba's last impression was a 15-catch, 347-yard, three-TD effort in the Rose Bowl against Utah. It was part of a ridiculous season where Smith-Njigba had 95 catches for 1,606 yards and nine TDs. He's a matchup nightmare for opposing defenses, and that with a 85% catch percentage. That connection with Stroud will

continue, and Alabama's DeVonta Smith opened the door for more receivers to win the Heisman two years ago.

#### TreVeyon Henderson, RB, Ohio State

Henderson grabbed national attention as a freshman with a 277-yard outburst against Tulsa last season, and he's yet another home-run hitter in Ohio State's loaded offense. How can the sophomore improve his chances? Be more involved in the big games. Henderson averaged 87.6 yards with five rushing TDs in six games against ranked opponents last season. Outbursts in those games keeps the national attention.

#### Braelon Allen, RB, Wisconsin

Allen is the top returning Big Ten rusher with numbers that are on par with Henderson. Allen rushed for 1,268 yards, averaged 6.8 yards per carry and finished with 12 TDs as a freshman for the Badgers, and that was with a limited role in the first month of the season. He's the next elite back off the Wisconsin assembly line. Montee Ball (2012), Melvin Gordon (2014) and Jonathan Taylor (2018-19) all have won the Doak Walker Award since 2012. Will Allen break through for the Heisman like Ron Dayne did in 1999?

#### Big Ten's biggest games of 2022

##### 1. Michigan at Ohio State (Nov. 26)

It almost always comes down to The Game, and the Wolverines revived the rivalry with a 42-27 victory last season. The Buckeyes haven't lost to Michigan at Ohio Stadium since 2000, however. There is a good chance this is the next top-10 – perhaps top-five – showdown in the series. Can Harbaugh erase the heartaches of 2016 and 2018 in The Shoe?

Michigan restores rivalry with Ohio State with dominant win

##### 2. Wisconsin at Iowa (Nov. 12)

These Big Ten West rivals have traded three-score wins in each other's houses the last three years, and the series moves back to Kinnick Stadium in 2022. Given the brutal cross-over schedule both teams have, this is a gotta-have-it-game if you want to make it to Indianapolis. Mertz and Spencer Petras will be on the spot at quarterback.

##### 3. Ohio State at Penn State (Oct. 29)

This will not be a "White Out" game for some reason; perhaps because Ohio State has won the last five meetings since the 2016 loss at Happy Valley. It's still the toughest road test on the Buckeyes' schedule and part of a thrilling day in the Big Ten East.

##### 4. Michigan State at Michigan (Oct. 29)

This is the other half of what should be a thrilling October day. The Spartans have won the last two in the Paul Bunyan Trophy series, and Tucker hasn't backed down from the Wolverines at all. Michigan State rallied from a 16-point third-quarter deficit in 2021, and Harbaugh – who is 3-4 against the Spartans – can't lose another one at the Big House.

##### 5. Wisconsin at Ohio State (Sept. 24)

This will no doubt be a Big Noon Kickoff Game and it could be a conference championship preview. The Buckeyes have

won eight straight in the series, and the Badgers haven't won in Columbus since a 24-13 shocker in 2004.

#### Big Ten stat that matters

Ohio State has averaged at least 40 points and 500 yards in each of the last five seasons since Day arrived in Columbus as an assistant coach under Urban Meyer. Last season, Michigan was the only other Big Ten team to average more than 35 points per game at 37.7. Penn State is the only other school to have a 40-point offense in the last five years with 41.1 ppg. in 2017. No other Big Ten team has averaged 500 yards per game. To beat the Buckeyes, you have to keep up as best you can. It's not going to be easy in 2022.

#### Big Ten champion: Ohio State

Day repeatedly used the word "edgy" at Big Ten Media Days to describe the team's mindset in the offseason. Ohio State isn't used to finishing second in the Big Ten East, let alone losing to rival Michigan. Knowles will bring a more aggressive defense, and sophomores Jack Sawyer and J.T. Tuimoloau will revive the pass rush that was missing last season. The offense will reset the Big Ten record book in several areas. The Buckeyes have a tough opener against Notre Dame, but that's only going to help down the line in the College Football Playoff.

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Tom Iill  
CGA STAFF WRITER

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# SMU Mustangs News and Notes



SMU opens the season September 3 at North Texas

By Dic Humphrey  
MEMBER: USBWA

UNIVERSITY PARK, Texas – The start of SMU’s football season is just two weekends away. The Mustangs will face the University of North Texas on September 3 in Denton with a kickoff scheduled for 6:30 PM. This game will begin the Rhett Lashlee regime as SMU’s Head Football Coach, and is likely one of the most important seasons in SMU history. With the landscape of college football changing from Name, Image and Likeness as well as the conference alignments, SMU needs a good season to define where they stack up in the new football world that is coming soon.

The Mustangs have a solid corps of returning players, have added some top talent from both the transfer portal and the high school ranks. Sonny Dykes has led the Mustangs into the Top 25 rankings in each of the last three seasons. Dykes is gone, but expectations have not changed. It is time for SMU to take a step forward. Shane Buechele was the quarterback that led the Mustangs into the top 25 in 2019. It should not be forgotten that the offensive coordinator of that team was Lashlee. That team was explosive offensively, and this year’s team should be even more so. 24/7 Sports announced their prediction for the

Top 10 offenses in the nation, and SMU was on the list.

Lashlee has put together a coaching staff that is a mix of younger coaches like he is and older veterans. This should be a good staff, a great offense, and hopefully an even better defense.

The schedule is a good one. It opens with four non-conference games, two at home and two on the road. Two games should be easily winnable, the opener against North Texas and the home opener against Lamar. The other two are from Power Five conferences – Maryland from the Big 10 on the road and TCU from the Big XII at home.

On the field, the key position battle is quarterback. Tanner Mordecai is the returning incumbent. He put up gaudy touchdown pass numbers last season, so is named in numerous watch lists for prestigious post-season awards.

On the other hand, Preston Stone, who red-shirted last season, is a top talent, most likely the most talented player SMU has recruited since the 1980’s. Lashlee was instrumental in recruiting Stone. He has a big job keeping these two players satisfied with their playing time.

At the American Athletic Conference Media Day, SMU was predicted to finish fourth as voted by the coaches. The three teams in front of them were Houston first,

Cincinnati second and Central Florida third. The Mustangs draw two of these in the conference schedule at home – Houston and Cincinnati. It gives the Mustangs a little edge for winning the conference championship.

The recent move by UCLA and Southern Cal to the Big 10 has shaken college football. There will undoubtedly be more moves as teams jockey for position. SMU has a lot to offer. The location in the central part of the country makes SMU more accessible than most schools from a travel standpoint. The school has financial backing for a \$100 million renovation of Ford Stadium and has put together a \$36.5 million fund to pay football and men’s basketball players \$36,000 per year. The success of the team getting ranked at some point over the past three seasons helps, but the team needs to take a step forward to be in the Top 25 at season’s end and perhaps even win a conference championship.

## WATCH LISTS – POST-SEASON AWARDS:

The Earl Campbell Tyler Rose Award watch list includes two Mustangs – Tanner Mordecai and Rashee Rice. It is given to a top player in Division I football to a player with Texas ties – graduating from a Texas high school, to playing at a Texas based University. Mordecai was a semi-finalist for the award last year.

Mordecai is also on the Davey O’Brien Award watch list. Mordecai is one of 12 returning semi-finalists for the award last year, and one of 35 on the list for the nation’s outstanding quarterback. SMU has had a quarterback on the watch list each year since 2019 starting with Shane Buechele.

Mordecai has also been named to the Walter Camp Award watch list. He is one of 52 players on the list for one of college football’s most prestigious awards. Dave Campbell’s Texas Football Magazine named three Mustangs to the All-Texas team. DeVere Levelston was on the first team, while Mordecai and Rice were on the second team.

Brian Massey, the special teams outstanding return specialist was named to the Pro Football Network’s All-American team. Last season Massey returned 20 kicks for 686 yards and two touchdowns. Massey has also been named to the Paul Hornung Award watch list. The Hornung Award is awarded to the most versatile player in major college football.

Elijah Chatman was named to the Rotary Lombardi Award watch list. The award in conjunction with the Rotary Club of Houston is given to the outstanding offensive or defensive lineman in the coun-

try. Chatman, a defensive lineman, is the first Mustang to be recognized on the Lombardi Award watch list.

Chatman is on the watch lists for the Bronco Nagurski and Outland Trophy. The Nagurski trophy honors the most outstanding defensive player in the country. The Outland Trophy honors the top interior defensive lineman in college football. Chatman is on the Phil Steele preseason All-AAC team

Terrance Newman was named to the Wuerful Trophy watch list. This award is given for community service.

Brendan Hall was named to the Ray Guy Award watch list. Hall punted 36 times last season for 1,502 yards. His longest punt of the year was for 67 yards, and he placed nine punts inside the opponent’s twenty yard line.

Linebacker Isaac Slade-Matautia is on the Butkus Award watch list. The Butkus Award honors the nation’s best collegiate linebacker.

SMU defensive coordinator, Scott Symons was recognized by Dave Campbell’s Texas Football “40 under 40” list that recognizes the best young football coaches in Texas.

## MEN’S BASKETBALL:

The Men’s basketball 2022-23 schedule was announced this week. For the first time in four years, SMU will play cross town rival TCU. The game will be played at the Dickies Arena in Ft. Worth on December 10. The Mustangs open the season on November 7 at home in Moody Coliseum against Texas A&M-Commerce. Games of note include Dayton on November 11 in Dayton. It will be the third straight year Dayton and SMU have met. The Mustangs play former Southwest Conference foe Texas A&M for the first time in nine years on November 30 in College Station. SMU faces off against Arizona State on December 7 at Moody Coliseum. The end of non-conference play comes at the Hawaiian Airlines Diamondhead Classic in Honolulu December 22-25.

As for the conference schedule, SMU will play single games against Temple at home and Central Florida on the road. They will play two games against the other eight conference opponents.

## NOTABLE:

\* The SMU Women’s Soccer Team opens the season ranked 23rd in the United Soccer Coaches preseason poll.

\* Madison van Meel, a member of the SMU rowing program was named to the 2022 NCAA Woman of the Year Award watch list.



# College Football News and Notes



Vin Scully passed away Aug. 2 in Los Angeles at age 94



**BO CARTER**

[bcarter@footballfoundation.com](mailto:bcarter@footballfoundation.com)

Little known story about the famed Vin Scully, who was broadcaster for the Brooklyn and Los Angeles Dodgers in MLB for 67 seasons from 1950-2016 and worked thousands of college football, basketball and MLB contests during his network broadcast career and passed away Aug. 2 in Los Angeles at age 94: in 1949 National Baseball Hall of Fame broadcaster Red Barber asked Scully to take one of Barber's college football radio assignments at Fenway Park in Boston when Boston U. hosted Maryland and NFF College Hall of Fame coach Jim Tatum of the Terrapins on Nov. 12, 1949. Scully's radio vantage point for CBS National Radio at the game was on the roof of the stadium's pressbox with temperatures starting in the 40s and falling until a light snow fell late in the game. Scully never complained about the rugged weather conditions on air during his first nationwide broadcast, and Barber and CBS officials admired his professionalism so much that the New York native was assigned as Barber's broadcast partner with the Brooklyn Dodgers in April 1950. Scully also practiced his wares originally as a baseball student-athlete at Fordham

from 1946-49. Teams in the opposing dugouts heard him delivering play-by-play accounts of those games while he was playing in the outfield. The Hall of Fame broadcaster and person also auctioned off several personal artifacts to raise \$2 million for the UCLA Hospital ALS Research Division. The Los Angeles Times also displayed a special section chronicling Scully's life last Sunday, Aug. 7.

College athletics publicists now can nominate candidates for the 2022 William V. Campbell Trophy® and the NFF National Scholar-Athlete Awards presented by Fidelity Investments through Aug. 26. Please email nominees to Hillary Jeffries ([hjeffries@footballfoundation.com](mailto:hjeffries@footballfoundation.com)), and criteria include combined academic success, football performance and exemplary leadership. Eligible candidates must be a senior or graduate student in their final year of eligibility; have a cumulative undergraduate 3.2 grade point average (4.0 Scale), be a starter or significant contributor and have outstanding leadership and citizenship. Official transcripts as well as a headshot and action photo of the nominee are required. Each finalist for the Campbell Trophy® will receive an \$18,000 postgraduate scholarship as a member of the 2022 NFF National Scholar-Athlete Class presented by Fidelity Investments. The NFF will announce the semifinalists for the 2022 Campbell Trophy® on Sept. 28 and the finalists on Oct. 26.

The NFF also has compiled the latest list of four-year college football teams from all NCAA and NAIA divisions for 2022, and it is a record 774 football-playing schools. Hilbert College (Hamburg, N.Y.) NCAA Division III, Independent is the 774th gridiron member and will open its season Sept. 10 vs. Denison (Ohio).

Since 1978 when the NCAA changed its method for tracking attendance figures, the number of schools playing NCAA football (FBS, FCS, DII and DIII) increased by 181 schools from 484 in 1978 to 665 in 2021. Adding NAIA and independent schools in grid activity, and the total number equals 774.

There are also 125 junior college football programs, 15 collegiate sprint football teams and 16 NAIA women's flag football programs this season. During the 2016-21 era, 30 football programs have been added by NCAA, NAIA or independent institutions. All 774 schools that offer football are represented on the three-story helmet wall at the Chick-fil-A College Football Hall of Fame in Atlanta.

According to a 2015 study of five small universities published in College Planning and Management by Virginia Wesleyan University President Dr. Scott Miller and former Carlow University (Pa.) President Dr. Marylouise Fennell, adding sports teams and facilities, especially football and marching bands - can fuel an enrollment boost. The study found that each of the five institutions experienced a six-year increase of 26 percent or more, with one school doubling its enrollment during that period.

The fourth NFF Campbell Trophy® Summit Aug. 4-6 at Stanford Palo Alto, Calif., had 200-plus invitees among the William V. Campbell Trophy® nominees on hand and featured speakers former U.S. Secretary of State and College Football Playoff selection committee member Dr. Condoleezza Rice and former Utah and NFL quarterback Alex Smith for the event, which was sponsored by Intuit, the global technology platform that makes TurboTax, QuickBooks, Mint, Credit Karma, and Mailchimp.

Some of the summit's other highlights were MWF Advisors CEO Mark Flynn, a former linebacker at Saint John's (Minn.) and former youth league coach with Campbell, addressing the group on corporate leadership, a workshop with Liz Wiseman, the author of The New York Times bestseller "Multipliers: How the Best Leaders Make Everyone Smarter," and sessions with Arizona State University Public Enterprise executive vice president and chief operating officer Dr. Chris Howard and AWM Capital Director and ESPN analyst Sam Acho - both recipients for the Campbell Trophy®.

Organized as a tribute to the late Bill Campbell, the award's namesake and the former CEO and Chairman of Intuit as well as head football coach at Columbia, the event has assisted young football-oriented leaders about success, leadership and personal growth.

Numerous NFF College Hall of Fame members are among the finalists for the 2023 Pro Football Hall of Fame. Maxie Baughan, Randy Gradishar, Chuck Howley, Cecil Isbell, Joe Klecko, Eddie Meador, Bob Kuechenberg, Tommy Nobis, Ken Riley, Sterling Sharpe, and Everson Walls are among the senior category nominees. Boone Arledge, Don Coryell, Mike Holmgren, Frank "Bucko" Kilroy, Robert Kraft, Art Modell, Buddy Parker, Dan Reeves, Art Rooney Jr., Mike Shanahan, Clark Shaughnessy, and John Wooten are finalists in the 2023 Hall of Fame coaching/contributor category.

Allstate and the American Football Coaches Association denoted the 114 nominees for the 31st annual 2022 Allstate AFCA Good Works Team®. Nominations are based on individual exemplary community service, academic dedication and impact on and off the field. A 22-member team and honorary coach are the selection committee, and some familiar faces among the '22 nominees are DeWayne Carter, Duke; Tariq Speights, Eastern Michigan; Dillan Gibbons, Florida State; Jalen Cropper, Fresno State; Myles Sims, Georgia Tech; Jack Tuttle, Indiana; Anthony Johnson Jr., Iowa State; Will Howard, Kansas State; Isaac Vance, Kent State; Mike Jones Jr., LSU; Owen Porter, Marshall; Jordan Ferguson, Middle Tennessee; Austin Williams, Mississippi State; Christopher Toudle, NC State; and Nick Rattin, Northern Illinois.

The National Football Foundation & College Hall of Fame also will be returning to Las Vegas for the 64th Awards Dinner presented by Las Vegas in Dec. 6 at the Bellagio Resort and Casino. The Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority, the marketing arm for the Las Vegas destination, will again serve as the presenting sponsor of the event. Ticketing and additional information can be found on the event's website link at <https://footballfoundation.org/feature/NFF2022>. The NFF also has launched a dedicated website powered by SIDEARM for the NFF Awards Dinner Presented by Las Vegas. The site includes a link to buy tickets online, and it will be updated throughout the year with more information, including sponsorship opportunities and special travel rates from Delta Air Lines and Bellagio. New NFF events specialist Courtney Morrison-Archer also is working with awards dinner coordinator Will Rudd on the festivities.

Enjoy 2022 upcoming football activities all season by becoming an NFF national member. This is a powerful way for football enthusiasts to give back to the game while also getting some great branded NFF

*(continued on page 16)*

items, including T-shirts, travel mugs, and the weekly NFF newsletter. All NFF members also get a ballot to vote in College Football Hall of Fame elections. Click here to check out the NFF membership levels, including a junior level for the game's newest supporters.

#### NFF College Hall of Fame Facts

Some notable birthdates in NFF College Hall of Fame annals in the Aug. 8-14 time period are Aug 8 (1970) Trev Alberts, Cedar Falls, Iowa; Aug. 9 (1899) Ed McGinley, Chester, Pa.; (1941) Dick Sheridan, Augusta, Ga.; (1955) Doug Williams, Zachary, La.; (1967) Deion Sanders, Ft. Myers, Fla.; Aug. 10 (1961) Billy Ray Smith, Fayetteville, Ark.; (1968) Moe Gardner, Indianapolis, Ind.; (1970) Gino Torretta, Pinole, Calif.; Aug. 12 (1915) Alex Wojciechowicz, South River, N.J.; (1930) Jack Scarbath, Baltimore, Md.; Aug. 14 (1935) John Brodie, Menlo Park, Calif.; (1980) Roy Williams, Redwood City, California.

**Notable anniversary death dates** for Hall of Famers are Aug. 8 (1987) Myles Lane, New York City; (1988) Alan Ameche, Houston, Texas; (2021) Bobby Bowden Tallahassee, Fla.; Aug. 9 (1999) Riley Smith, Mobile, Ala.; (2015) Frank Gifford, Riverside, Conn.; Aug. 12 (2020) Bill Yeoman, Houston, Texas; Aug. 14 (1958) Henry "Red" Sanders, Los Angeles, Calif.; (2002) Kyle Rote, Baltimore, Md.; (2017) Frank Broyles, Fayetteville, Ark. Happy birthdays to Hall of Famers on Aug. 8 Trev Alberts, Aug. 9 Dick Sheridan (a spry 81), Doug Williams, Deion Sanders, Aug. 10 Billy Ray Smith, Moe Gardner, Gino Torretta, Aug. 12 (1930) Jack Scarbath, Baltimore, Md.; Aug. 14 (1935) John Brodie, Menlo Park, Calif.; (1980) Roy Williams, Redwood City, California. **Note:** No NFF Hall of Famers were born or passed away on the dates of August 11 or August 13.

UCF will tangle with Villanova in 2023...NC State will face Richmond in 2026 and North Carolina A&T in '27... Morehead State will travel to Mercer in 2023 and Austin Peay in '25...Duke and Liberty have cancelled their three-game series from 2025-27...Boise State and USF are set for a 2025 and '27 series ...Maryland and Virginia have certified a four-game set from 2026-29...Florida and Florida State are contracted to play in consecutive seasons through 2027...Miami (Ohio) and WKU will play two contests in 2027 and '28.

Rice will be holding a First Black Student-Athletes Celebration on campus in Houston Sept. 16-17 to honor Rodrigo Barnes Class of 1973 (football), Denise Bostick '80 (volleyball), Leila Freeman '79 (track and field), Leroy Marion '72 (basketball), Mike Tyler '72 (football), and Stahle' Vincent '72 (football)...More Than 450 Toyota North America dealerships, many in college football meccas, are participating in the Back to School with Kids In Need Foundation to assist with school

supplies and other amenities...Actress and former Oklahoma and UCLA women's basketball student-athlete Nicole Kornet had her first speaking part in her third career movie appearance "Hustle"...Vanderbilt has raised its annual student on-campus parking permits' rate to \$125 annually...Rice University has set a goal of becoming carbon neutral in energy usage by 2030.

Penn State head coach James Franklin complimented Nittany Lions AD Dr. Pat Kraft for opening dialogue on several topics and placing emphasis on winning priorities in all PSU sporting events...Michigan head coach Jim Harbaugh is a proponent of football student-athletes having a share in revenues, especially within a program with all the financial resources at a traditional power such as Michigan...North Texas head coach Seth Littrell asked questions about major adjustments in roster and grants-in-aid management if the NCAA Council's proposal for immediate eligibility for multiple transfers is approved by the NCAA Board...Missouri head coach Eli Drinkwitz commented on compliance matters in the Southeastern Conference and how the circuit is making sure to stay abreast of any developing episodes...SMU's first-year strength and conditioning coach Shawn Griswold reports that the Mustangs passed summer conditioning drills with flying colors and better endurance ...Rutgers head coach Greg Schiano stressed a sense of urgency in obtaining improved NIL agreements to avoid transfers by the Scarlet Knights top football student-athletes in coming months ...Oregon head coach Dan Lanning put special emphasis on conditioning in last weekend's first two workouts...Texas head coach Steve Sarkisian still is looking at repetitions from three QB candidates as the Longhorns move into Week 2 or practice...Longhorns defensive coordinator Pete Kwiatkowski commended the advice and work ethic of famed TCU head coach and current UT defensive analyst Gary Patterson ...Southern California has added former Nebraska standout and Big 12 Conference associate commissioner Ed Stewart as director of football operations...Mississippi State defensive coordinator Zach Arnett told media he likes what he sees in a more aggressive approach to MSU stop unit in early drills.

**Hometowns** of more 2022 college head coaches – Iowa State: Matt Campbell, Massillon, Ohio; Jackson State: NFF College Hall of Fame member Deion Sanders, Ft. Myers, Fla.; Jacksonville State: Rich Rodriguez, Grant Town, W.Va.; Kansas: Lance Leipold, Johnson Creek, Wis.; Kansas State: Chris Klieman, Waterloo, Iowa.

Louisiana director of athletics Dr. Bryan Maggard received a one-year contract extension through 2027...Colorado State AD Joe Parker has signed a five-year contract extension through 2027...Georgia AD Josh Brooks has been granted an annu-

al compensation increase with additional retention bonus clauses...Temple AD Arthur Johnson spoke about building new facilities from first art concepts onward, the challenge of keeping these facilities within their construction budgets and ticketing and premier seats' adjustments that must be addressed during the complete process...Utah AD Mark Harlan explained that Pac-12 Conference ADs had been meeting via conferencing media 2-3 times weekly since the denotation of UCLA and USC moving to the Big Ten Conference. He also noted that measures were being taken in all areas to reduce deficits in athletics due to the COVID-19 pandemic...Elon SD Dave Blank spoke with AthleticDirectorU.com about leadership qualities and decisions being made after full discussions with senior staff members...East Tennessee State women's basketball head coach Simon Carter has completed his assignment with the Buccaneers ...Morgan State AD Dana Freeman-Patton reflected on her first week at MSU and on the relevance of her appointment as the first women AD for the Bears...Appalachian State AD Doug Gillin complimented his staff, fan support and sound advance planning for his department's sellout of 2022 football season tickets...Navy AD Chet Gladchuk has revised his idea about developing a new golf course on Greenbury Point across from the campus in Annapolis, Md., due to ecological and community concerns...Washington State AD Pat Chun discussed the tone of conversations during Pac-12 Conference meetings, trying to close the revenue gap between the Pac-12 and other Group of Five conferences, the support WSU athletics has received from Wazzu president Dr. Kirk Schulz, and student-athletes' well-being in today's NCAA climate...

San José State AD Jeff Konya took a glance at his first year in the post and spoke about the improved situation from past years when he took the job, \$100 million in facility updates (particularly the new Spartan Athletic Complex), baseball and soccer facility improvements, and possible innovations for men's and women's basketball locales...Austin Peay AD Gerald Harrison approves the basic theory of the NIL but has spoken of the challenges it presents for NCAA FCS members – especially in private giving for scholarship funding or simply for NIL endorsements...Penn State AD Dr. Pat Kraft explained the procedure he has taken in awarding long-term contracts to head coaches...Stephen F. Austin AD Ryan Ivey outlined an exemplary academic year in 2021-22 for the Lumberjacks and wondered in 2022-23 could be more eventful. Chief goals on the docket have been SFA's approach to NIL engagement, post-COVID-19 financial strategies, allocation of resources for new social media management, and broadening the national scope for Jacks athletics...Toledo AD Bryan Blair was featured in a recent

AthleticDirectorU.com extensive posting...Utah AD Mark Harland expressed his thoughts about responses from student-athletes about recent changes in the Pac-12 Conference, the future of College Football Playoffs and NCAA postseason activity, the NIL, challenges to current ADs about the reorganization of the NCAA and related developments, and the future of the Utah-BYU rivalry in football and all other sports...Memphis AD Laird Veatch related that the department will be able to re-staff some of the position affected by COVID-19 financial conditions...Nebraska men's and women's track coach Gary Pepin is retiring after 42 years with the Huskers...Temple has appointed Derek Horne as executive senior associate AD for strategic initiatives and sports, Ed Stoner as executive senior associate AD for external operations, Tia Withers as coordinator of leadership operations, and Kristy Bannon as executive senior associate AD for compliance and student affairs...Tennessee has appointed Brady Hart as executive associate AD for development, Alicia Longworth as executive associate AD for external operations, Jason McVeigh as senior associate AD for sports medicine and performance, Marcus Hilliard as senior associate AD and chief of staff, and Amy Sterk as associate AD for executive operations...Rice tabbed Ryan Hall as associate AD of development...Northern Illinois athletics chose psychologist Dr. Shyann Beach as director of athletics counseling...West Virginia senior associate and senior woman administrator Natasha Oakes had her two-year contract and compensation approved by the WVU Board of Trust...UC San Diego added Caitlin Luquet as associate AD for sport administration...Toledo selected Al Tomlinson as deputy AD for external relations...Belmont athletics chose Renee Schultz as senior associate AD for student-athlete success and senior woman administrator along with responsibilities for heading women's basketball, women's volleyball, women's soccer, and women's golf, Josh Ward as senior associate AD for external engagement with sports oversight for men's soccer and cheerleading and James Woody as senior associate AD for administration...Clemson appointed Brad Brown as chief operating officer of the IPTAY Club...East Tennessee State AD Scott Carter resigned last week effective immediately...VCU added Bradley LeCroy as head baseball coach...Saint Peter's baseball head coach Lou Proietti will leave his post for another position within the department...Longwood tabbed Miranda Rigg as field hockey head coach...Former VMI baseball head coach Jonathan Hadra is a new assistant coach at Old Dominion...ODU also appointed Brian Conley as women's rowing head coach...Brandon Naurato is now interim head coach for Michigan men's ice hockey...Boise State added contract terms for men's basketball head coach Leon Rice through 2027...USC president Dr. Carol Folt previously served



on a Pac-12 Conference committee studying possible circuit expansion in 2021.... Recent position postings in athletics on D1.Jobs.com have been at the Big East Conference, Cincinnati, Iowa State, Utah, Brown, Cal State Bakersfield, Gardner-Webb, Missouri, Texas, Massachusetts, UNC Wilmington, USA Triathlon, WNIT, Chicago State, and Florida A&M.

The Big 12 Conference, NFL Dallas Cowboys and City of Arlington (Texas) extended their Dr Pepper Big 12 Football Championships contract at AT&T Stadium through the 2025 season... Campbell will join the Colonial Athletic Association in July 2023. The Camels have been a member of the Big South Conference since 1983... American Athletic Conference commissioner Mike Aresco noted that amateur models for college athletics have disappeared in light of NIL legislation and that a departure from the NCAA by NCAA FBS schools for football only may not be in the cards. He also related about how possible damage has been done to university and conference reputations and programs by Group of Five and Power Five conferences' designations... Big Ten Conference commissioner Kevin Warren recalled how he had to overcome tremendous negative feedback for having to postpone the start of the conference's 2020 football season due to COVID-19 restrictions... Pac-12 Conference commissioner George Kliavkoff mentioned that he believes that UCLA and USC made decisions to join the Big Ten for short-term financial impact without taking into consideration travel and additional stress on student-athletes with faraway competitive destinations and new time constraints... The Pac-12 also chose Qusahan Lockett as chief people and inclusion officer... Conference USA commissioner Judy MacLeod relayed her thoughts about a current C-USA membership committee that remains active and constantly evaluating possibilities... Multiple industry and media sources have noted an interest in San Diego State as a possible new member of the Pac-12 Conference... Missouri Valley Football Conference commissioner Patty Viverito mentioned to a media outlet that she thinks NCAA FBS and NCAA FCS will continue to exist as is for at least a few more years and that moves such as James Madison, Sam Houston and Jacksonville State from FCS to FBS will not have a major effect on FCS as a whole... The Big East-Big 12 Conferences' Men's Basketball Battle has been extended through the 2024-25 campaign... The Southland Conference linked with UIC as an affiliate member in men's tennis... New estimates show that the Big Ten Conference could accrue upwards of \$1.25 billion annually in its new multimedia rights' contracts.

The Goodyear Cotton Bowl selected Christa Melia of New Mexico as media operations specialist and former Midwestern State football student-athlete and honor student Deneldric Hudgens as CBAA Fred McClure Intern... Some bowls

celebrating milestones during the NCAA FBS 2022 postseason are NCAA-record 108th Rose Bowl presented by Capital One in Pasadena, Calif., 55th Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl in Atlanta, Ga., 45th SDCCU Holiday Bowl in San Diego, Calif., 30th Valero Alamo Bowl in San Antonio, Texas, and the 25th annual American Mortgage Music City Bowl... The Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl has had 22 sellouts in its last 25 seasons and has an all-time payout to 108 participating teams of \$221.1 million.

NFF College Hall of Fame coach Mack Brown told a national columnist that he had no desire to become a "czar" for a group of top FBS conferences. "I'm a coach," said the Florida State/Vanderbilt alumnus and running back as an undergrad at both schools with a grin... Historic Vanderbilt football kicker and VU-North Texas standout soccer goalkeeper Sarah Fuller will pass up her final season at UNT this year to complete her MBA studies... Longtime college and Texas Motor Speedway publicist Brian Briscoe celebrated the five-year anniversary of the founding of Briscoe Communications last week... Famed Nebraska student-athlete in football and baseball and namesake for NU's former baseball diamond Buck Beltzer Park – the late Buck Beltzer – has been memorialized with a large place at his alma mater Arapahoe (Neb.) High School.

DB Malik Feaster has transferred from Jacksonville State to Florida State... The Augusta (Ga.) Sports Council has denoted the preseason watch list for the 2022 NCAA FCS Punter of the Year Award with some of the leading candidates coming from Aaron Trusler, Richmond; Aubrey Grace, Alabama State; Austin Dunlap, Southeastern Louisiana; Brady Buell, Houston Baptist; Bryce Leighton, Montana State; Chris Faddoul, Florida A&M; Davey Schaum-Bartocci, Rhode Island; and Grant Burkett, Missouri State, among others... SMU DL Elijah Chatman was lauded for his offseason weight room work and eagerness to don the pads for workouts... Texas A&M WR Ainas Smith has been reinstated for 2022 workouts... North Texas returning QB Austin Aune was listed as No. 1 on the Mean Green's depth chart for opening week... SMU transfers LB Shanon Reid of Illinois State, safety Chris Adimora of Texas, WR Teddy Knox of Mississippi State, WR Jake Bailey of Rice, and OL Joe Bissinger of Virginia have logged quite a few repetitions in pre-2022 workouts... Mississippi State has added VCU transfers Connor Hujsak and Tyler Davis and a 2023 verbal pledge from WR Justin Brown... Penn State QB Sean Clifford discussed his interest in the College Football Players Association... LSU running back Tre Bradford is seeking a transfer to a new school... 2023 recruit BJ Davis-Ray is transferring from Dallas (Texas) Lake Highlands HS to Link (Mo.) Academy... Victoria Flores offered a verbal commitment to TCU for 2023... Arkansas men's basketball signee Nick Smith of Little

Rock, Arkansas has been named 2021-22 USA Today High School Player of the Week... Louisiana's top wide receiver prospect for 2023 – Shelton Sampson – has given an oral commitment to LSU for 2023... Auburn QB T.J. Finley is seeking reinstatement to workouts after a brief suspension last week.

Boise State will construct an Athletics Master Village for \$300 million-plus and will have \$129.4 million in updates for Albertsons Stadium... Florida athletics will have the dedication of the \$85 million Heavener Football Training Center Sunday... Rice is joining with Collegiate Sports Connect to locate the best available talent for openings in Owls athletics... East Carolina athletics had a record year for the Pirate Club with \$7 million raised for its annual fund – \$1.4 million higher than the goal... The Miami (Fla.) Hurricane Club raised \$19.4 million in new commitments during fiscal year 2022, and the department has set a goal of \$30 million for fiscal year 2023... Memphis athletics had a record year in fundraising with just under 4,000 donors contributing \$24.3 for fiscal year 2022... Massachusetts athletics garnered \$7.7 million in fiscal year 2022 donations and topped its goal of \$6 million... Houston gained a \$1 million donation from UH Board of Regents vice chair Jack Moore and his family for the new Football Operations Center... UH athletics also received a \$2 million grant for the Guy V. Lewis Memorial Development Facility from an anonymous donor... Kansas athletics' NIL arrangements will get a boost from a new nonprofit organization named Reaching Champions Joining Hearts collective... Auburn enthusiasts initiated the On To Victory collective with 90 percent of its NIL funds going back to Tigers student-athletes... LSU athletics has moved officially into a NIL facilitating arrangement with the Altius Group... In Purdue athletics' first year of NIL, 18 percent of Boilermakers student-athletes in 15 sports pocketed just under \$180,000... Arizona athletics inaugurated the 5980 Fund to gain monies for the Alston Case awards of \$5,980 for eligible student-athletes... Wisconsin athletics has allocated \$3.8 million for Alston Case rewards to all student-athletes whether they are on scholarship or walkons... Towson athletics is adding NIL directories for men's and women's basketball this month and will add all sports later this year... Collegiate Licensing Co. finished 22 contract extensions with major colleges and universities this summer for durations of 10 years... Fanatics will have a larger presence and more merchandise options for Alabama athletics this fall at Bryant-Denny Stadium... Penn State athletics' Lasch Building is about to have construction finished in the next few weeks... UTSA has started work on the Park West Fieldhouse, the future home of women's soccer, cross country and track... Some other schools approaching highs for football season ticket sales in '22 are Cincinnati and UCF with 20,000-plus

in sales, San Diego State with a record 12,500-plus, and Liberty with a school-high 6,700-plus ducats... Adidas will not renew its uniform and apparel contract with the NHL after the current pact closes in 2023-24... Louisville athletics and the university are utilizing the expertise of Hogan Lovells Attorneys at Law during its current NCAA compliance investigations... JetBlue has acquired Spirit Airlines for \$3.8 million. Both airlines have provided charter services for college and professional football squads in recent years... INFLCR is consolidating some of its NIL projects with the new MarketPryce, NOCAP, Embassy, and MOGL programs to allow access to dozens of NIL providers... NIL Education and Information Center co-founder/former and West Virginia QB standout Oliver Luck mentioned how NIL agreements must be more transparent... Iowa State has started an ISU Athletics Kennel Club for dog lovers and canines' updates in the area... Renaissance Search and Consulting added Adam Gordon as vice president of athletics... South Dakota and South Dakota State athletics have finished planning for malt beverage sales at all athletics' events on both campus sites for 2022-23... Vanderbilt athletics has online signups for the popular Mr. C's Kids Club via the official Vandy website... UCLA athletics outlined the reasons for settling with Under Armour on a previous apparel and marketing contract and how its new agreement for both entities with Nike will be a profit center... Auburn's men's basketball is on an international exhibition basketball swing through Israel.

Local Emmy Award-winning sports producer Jose Gant was honored for working his 34th NFL Dallas Cowboys preseason camp as he moves into his 42nd season of college football production for WFAA-TV in Dallas, Texas... The Athletic related that the NCAA's proposed unlimited student-athlete transfer legislation still is under review by the NCAA Division I Board of Directors and has not been ratified... Opendorse has inaugurated an online service to specify NIL agreements and contributions for specific student-athletes... The Endeavor Group is purchasing wagering group OpenBet from Light & Wonder Inc for \$800 million... Sports Illustrated's Ross Dellenger interviewed Stanford AD Bernard Muir about extensive national media attention the Pac-12 Conference has received during expansion, realignment and speculation since July... The Athletic speculated that the Sun Belt might be on the verge of becoming a Group of Five conference attendee with recent acquisitions of Marshall, Old Dominion and Southern Miss... Crakes Media complimented the foresight of the Atlantic Coast Conference for its 2022-36 multimedia rights' agreements with various networks and long-term stability... An ESPN survey of 200-plus football head coaches, student-athletes and administrators

(continued on page 18)



that almost 80 percent believes that colleges will pay student-athletes directly in this decade and another 75 percent perceives that college sports will follow professional models with pay for student-athletes and a semi-minor league or farm system arrangement for pro sports in the next 8-10 years...The San Jose (Calif.) Mercury News' sports scribe Jon Wilner is of the opinion from sources that the Pac-12 Conference will take a few more months before finalizing its new multimedia rights' agreements...The Big Ten Network will televise a record 55 women's volleyball matches from August-December ...Over- time now has 65 million followers on social media and averages two billion web views monthly...The Washington Post newspaper wrote an opinion piece about the overturning of the U.S. Supreme Court's Roe v. Wade could impact college recruiting and demography of student-athletes' selections by states where laws have been altered...South Carolina and the USC Gamecocks Club along with the Sport and Story will start the Gamecocks+ subscription streaming service later this month... Former FOX Sports President Bob Thompson believes that ESPN has submitted a preliminary multimedia rights' proposal to the Pac-12 Conference...Frontiers in Neurology Journal conducted a study about student-athletes competing in contact sports, including soccer, lacrosse, field hockey, and similar events along with football...CollegeAD.com revealed that the Sun Belt Conference's new multimedia pact with ESPN will be worth \$2 million per school annually with an additional 6,000-plus events carried on ESPN+...The Athletic researched that 80 percent-plus of scholarship football student-athletes who entered the transfer portal actually entered new schools. The research also indicated that 2,069 college gridiron purveyors entered the portal from July 2021-July 2022...The Action Network has ascertained that the Big Ten Conference still may seek memberships' additions from Notre Dame, Oregon, Washington, Stanford, California, Miami (Fla.), and Florida State. The network also said informed source reports have found that an odd number of teams could cause some scheduling difficulties that need to be resolved before the Big Ten could expand further...

Todd Berry, former college head coach and longtime administrator, is retiring as executive director of the American Football Coaches Association in January 2024...The 72nd annual FWAA membership directory is scheduled to be mailed with membership cards around Aug. 20, and new memberships and renewals are available at the FWAA.com website and membership link...Nominations also continue to be accepted for the 11th annual 2022 Armed Forces Merit Award present-

ed by the Football Writers Association of America and The Lockheed Martin Armed Forces Bowl. Nominations may be submitted online through the URL <https://www.armedforcesbowl.com/meritaward>...Arizona State, Kansas, Louisville, LSU, Memphis, Miami (Fla.), Michigan State, Penn State, Rutgers, Tennessee, and UCLA have been conferring with NCAA enforcement and compliance officials concerning possible issues and probes at their respective schools...Joe Browning of UNCW, retired Drake publicist Mike Mahon, CoSIDA Hall of Fame member Jack Neumann of Calgary (Canada), Jessica Poole of Chicago State, and Todd Anderson of UNCP were featured in CoSIDA online discussions and related social media...

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#### 2022-23 College Football Playoff Bowl Schedule with six games on New Year's Day

##### Saturday, Dec. 31, 2022 (CFP Semifinals)

Chick-Fil-A Peach Bowl, No. 1 vs. No. 4 or No. 2 vs. No. 3 see, Mercedes-Benz Stadium, Atlanta, Ga., 3:30 or 7:30 p.m.  
Playstation Fiesta Bowl, No. 1 vs. No. 4 or No. 2 vs. No. 3 seed, State Farm Stadium, Glendale, Ariz., 3:30 or 7:30 p

**Monday, Jan. 9, 2023 - CFP**  
Championship, Semifinal winners  
SoFi Stadium, Los Angeles, California  
8 p.m.  
Friday, Dec. 20, 2022-Jan. 2, 2023  
(Other New Year's Six Bowls)

**Friday, Dec. 30**  
**Capital One Orange Bowl**  
Hard Rock Stadium, Miami Lakes,  
Florida, 8 p.m.

**Jan. 2**  
Goodyear Cotton Bowl  
AT&T Stadium, Arlington, Texas  
early game TBD

**Jan. 2**  
Rose Bowl presented by Capital One  
Rose Bowl Stadium, Pasadena,  
California mid-afternoon

**Jan. 2**  
Allstate Sugar Bowl  
Caesars Superdome, New Orleans, 8 p.m



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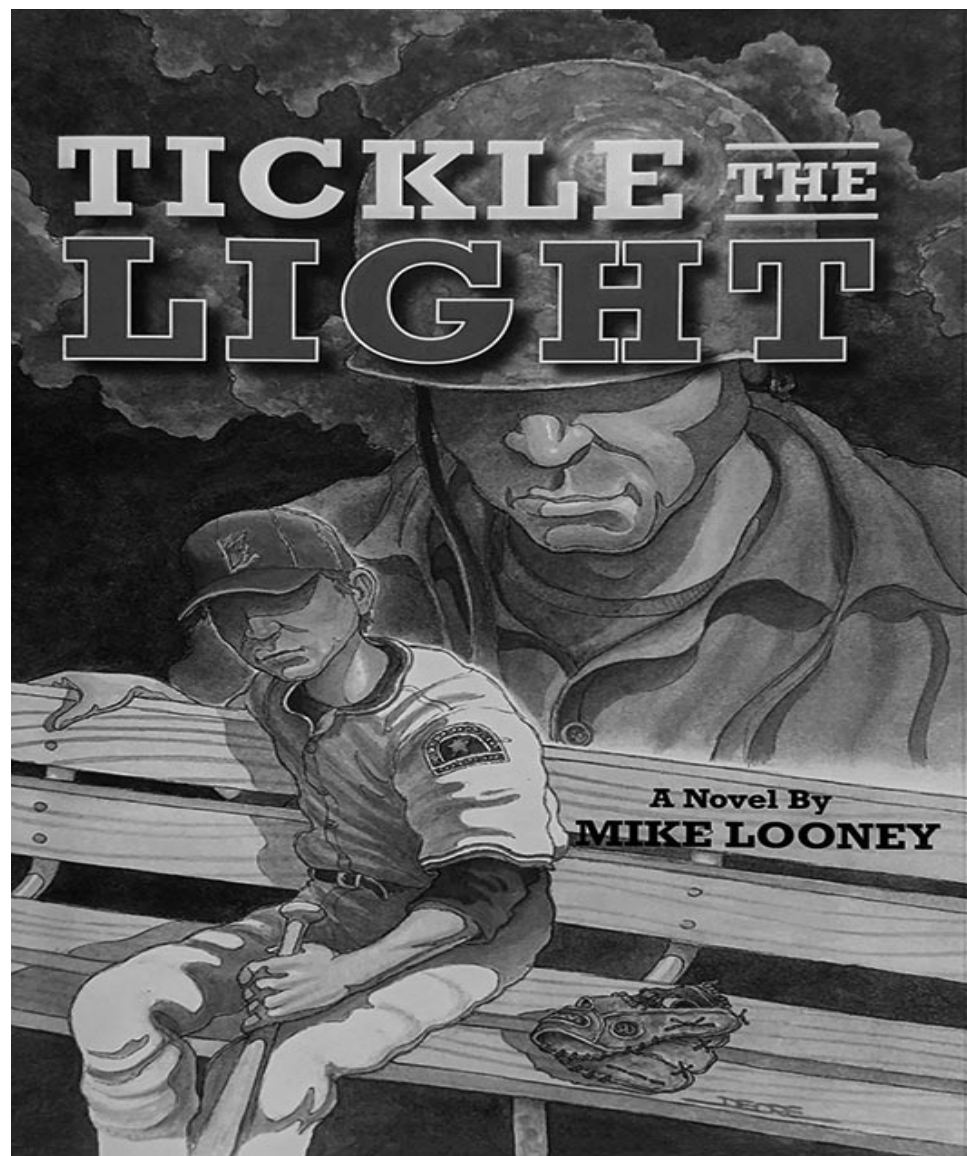
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