

**In the news**

**Bengals player Adam "Pacman" Jones case still on hold:** Bengals player Adam "Pacman" Jones is getting more time to work on personal issues before anything happens with the latest criminal case against him.

Hamilton County, Ohio, court records show the date for possible grand jury action has been delayed from Friday until March 23. Jones has been getting treatment for alcohol and anger issues. His attorney has said he is getting professional help in the Cincinnati area.

"He is being treated like anyone else," said Prosecutor Joe Deters, whose delay in proceeding in the case has drawn some local criticism. "He is in treatment and the Hamilton County Prosecutor's office is awaiting those reports before deciding how this case will be resolved."

Deters said in a statement that he expects the reports to be ready for review next month.

The 33-year-old cornerback was arrested Jan. 3 on charges of assault, disorderly conduct and obstructing official business after an altercation with a hotel security employee.

He subsequently was charged with spitting on a jail nurse.

An attorney for the nurse told The Cincinnati Enquirer she is "very upset" about the way the case is being handled.

A Cincinnati police video released last month showed Jones in the back of a police vehicle repeatedly using profanity toward the officers and telling one: "I hope you die tomorrow." He apologized through his attorneys and the Bengals also apologized for his behavior.

**NFL more forceful on Texas 'bathroom bill' after Super Bowl:** The NFL is expressing sharper warnings about a Texas "bathroom bill" targeting transgender persons than statements prior to the Super Bowl in Houston.

NFL spokesman Brian McCarthy on Friday raised the prospect of Texas losing out on future Super Bowls if there were laws "discriminatory or inconsistent with our values." He said such measures "would certainly be a factor" taken into consideration.

That's more forceful than an NFL statement earlier this month that more generally endorsed inclusiveness.

The Texas proposal would require people to use bathrooms that correspond to the sex on their birth certificate. It's similar to a North Carolina law that led the NCAA to pull championship events from that state.

No Super Bowl sites awarded through 2021 are in Texas. Dallas hosted the game in 2011.

**Tigers, Red Wings owner Ilitch dies at age 87:** Detroit Red Wings and Detroit Tigers owner Mike Ilitch, who founded the Little Caesars Pizza empire, has died. He was 87.

Family spokesman Doug Kuiper said Ilitch died Friday at a hospital in Detroit.

Ilitch and his wife opened their first Little Caesars restaurant in suburban Detroit in 1959, and the business eventually grew into the world's largest carry-out pizza chain.

Ilitch paid a reported \$8 million for the Detroit Red Wings in 1982, and the team won at least four championships under his ownership.

A decade later, Ilitch paid \$85 million for the Detroit Tigers and began pumping money into player salaries.

The Tigers advanced to the World Series in 2006 but lost to the St. Louis Cardinals.

**Pirates acquire infielder Gosselin from Diamondbacks:** The Pittsburgh Pirates bolstered their infield depth on Friday, acquiring Phil Gosselin from the Arizona Diamondbacks in exchange for minor league pitcher Frank Duncan.

The 28-year-old Gosselin hit .277 with 12 doubles, two home runs and 13 RBI in 122 games for Arizona in 2016. He led the majors in both pinch hit appearances (83) and pinch hits (20) last season. Both numbers set new club records.

Gosselin can move around defensively, an asset the Pirates need after versatile Sean Rodriguez left for Atlanta in free agency. Gosselin made 35 appearances at second base, 10 at third base, six at first and three more in the outfield.

Gosselin is a career .283 hitter across four seasons with Atlanta and Arizona.

The 25-year-old Duncan, a right-handed starter, went 9-6 with a 2.33 ERA for Triple-A Indianapolis last season.

**On the air**

**Television**

**Basketball:** Marquette at Georgetown, WHBQ Channel 13, 11 a.m.

**Basketball:** Kansas State at West Virginia, ESPN, 11 a.m.

**Basketball:** Texas A&M at Florida, ESPN2, 11 a.m.

**Basketball:** Minnesota at Rutgers, ESPNU, 11 a.m.

**Basketball:** Kentucky at Alabama, WREG Channel 3, noon

**Basketball:** Kent State at Toledo, CBS Sports, 1 p.m.

**Basketball:** Kansas at Texas Tech, ESPN, 1 p.m.

**Basketball:** Miami at Louisville, ESPN2, 1 p.m.

**Basketball:** TCU at Baylor, ESPNU, 1 p.m.

**Basketball:** Villanova at Xavier, WHBQ Channel 13, 1:30 p.m.

**Basketball:** UMass at St. Joseph's, NBC Sports, 1:30 p.m.

**Basketball:** Vanderbilt at Missouri, SEC Network, 2:30 p.m.

**Basketball:** Butler at Providence, CBS Sports, 3 p.m.

**Basketball:** Ohio State at Maryland, ESPN, 3 p.m.

**Basketball:** Texas at Oklahoma State, ESPN2, 3 p.m.

**Basketball:** Georgia at Tennessee, ESPNU, 3 p.m.

**Basketball:** Washington at Utah, FS1, 3:30 p.m.

**Basketball:** Boston College at Georgia Tech, FSTN, 4:30 p.m.

**Basketball:** UConn at UCF, CBS Sports, 5 p.m.

**Basketball:** Florida State at Notre Dame, ESPN, 5 p.m.

**Basketball:** Oklahoma at Iowa State, ESPN2, 5 p.m.

**Basketball:** Houston at Tulsa, ESPNU, 5 p.m.

**Basketball:** Auburn at Ole Miss, SEC Network, 5 p.m.

**Basketball:** Davidson at VCU, CBS Sports, 7 p.m.

**Basketball:** South Carolina at Mississippi State, ESPN2, 7 p.m.

**Basketball:** East Carolina at South Florida, ESPNU, 7 p.m.

**Basketball:** Gonzaga at St. Mary's, ESPN, 7:15 p.m.

**Basketball:** NBA, Golden State at Oklahoma City, WATN Channel 24, 7:30 p.m.

**Basketball:** Arkansas at LSU, SEC Network, 7:30 p.m.

**Basketball:** California at Arizona, ESPN2, 9 p.m.

**Basketball:** Bradley at Illinois State, ESPNU, 9 p.m.

**Golf:** PGA, AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am, Golf, noon; WREG Channel 3, 2 p.m.

**Hockey:** NHL, Florida at Nashville, FSTN, 1 p.m.

**Track & Field:** Millrose Games, WMC Channel 5, 3 p.m.

**Radio**

**Basketball:** Miami at Louisville, WMFS 680 AM/92.9 FM, 12:45 p.m.

**Basketball:** Vanderbilt at Missouri, WMPS 1210 AM/103.1 FM, 2 p.m.

**Basketball:** Georgia at Tennessee, WMC-AM 790, 2:30 p.m.

**Basketball:** Auburn at Ole Miss, WHBQ-AM 560, 4:30 p.m.

**Basketball:** NBA, Golden State at Oklahoma City, WMFS 680 AM/92.9 FM, 6:30 p.m.

*This listing is compiled using information supplied by stations and networks, and is subject to late changes without notice.*

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**HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL**

# Ten local finalists up for TSSAA awards

## Lomax, Hayden appear on track to repeat as Mr. Basketball winners

**JOHN VARLAS**  
USA TODAY NETWORK - TENNESSEE

Alex Lomax and Chase Hayden are on track for repeat Mr. Basketball awards.

The two were among 10 local finalists announced Friday.

Lomax, who won in AAA last year, is a finalist alongside Cordova's Tyler Harris and Tajon Jones of Oak Ridge. Hayden, the St. George's standout, will compete against Rossville's Malik Riddle and Chase Ridenhour of Knoxville Webb in D2-A.

Other boys semifinalists are Josh Conrad of W.E.B. DuBois in Class A and Parrish Hewitt of Douglass in AA. Ashtyn Baker of state-champion Northpoint is a repeat finalist in D2-A girls along with Harding's Antoinette Lewis and Anna Jones of USJ.

Houston's Jayla Hemingway is a AAA finalist while Myah LeFlore of St. Benedict is a D2-AA finalist.

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East High School's Alex Lomax, left, won the Class AAA Mr. Basketball award last season.

NIKKI BOERTMAN / THE COMMERCIAL APPEAL

**HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL**

# GRAD Academy's fledgling program faces first big test

## Griffons take on Mitchell for county championship

**JOHN VARLAS**  
USA TODAY NETWORK - TENNESSEE

Marcus Williams listened. And now his GRAD Academy boys basketball team is about to play the most important game in its brief history.

The Griffons will face Mitchell on Saturday at White Station with the SCIAA Class A division county championship on the line. The game will tip off at approximately 2:05 p.m. after the conclusion of Mitchell and Booker T. Washington in the Class A girls game.

And while Mitchell and BTW are old hands at playing for county titles — and city titles before that — it will be a big day for GRAD, which is in the event for the first time since beginning varsity play four years ago.

"I think there are some mixed emotions," said Williams, who has guided the Griffons to a 16-2 record so far.

"We're excited because it's one of our goals completed. But we know we're playing against the 3-time state champions. Two years ago when these seniors were sophomores, we played them in the district tournament and they whipped

us pretty good, 25 or 30 points ... but it's an honor to be here and play."

GRAD secured its spot opposite the Tigers with an impressive 92-86 victory over state-ranked W.E.B. DuBois on Feb. 3. The Lions won the first meeting between the two on Jan. 17, a game in which Josh Conrad torched the Griffons for 48 points.

Williams said his players suggested some "tweaks" heading into the rematch, and they obviously worked; Conrad had just eight points in the second meeting, well below his average of 20.7.

"I tell them, 'You're the ones that are out there,'" he said. "If you see something that we need to adjust, let me know. We changed some things up and had a pretty good game plan."

Although their postseason pedigree doesn't compare well, GRAD will pose some definite problems for the Tigers. Five Griffons average in double figures, led by senior guard Jordan Fairman at 17.3. Right behind are 6-5 junior Maurice Dickson (13.7) and guards Nelson Jones (13.5), Edward Malone (13.3) and Kentavious Harwell (11.2).

The main event on Saturday will be the AAA boys contest between East and Cordova in a rematch of last year's state championship game won by the Mustangs (64-60). That one will be preceded by White Station and Ridgeway in AAA girls.

The AA boys match-up has the po-

**SCIAA County Championship Schedule**

at White Station

**12:30 p.m.:** Class A girls, Mitchell (22-3) vs. Booker T. Washington (18-6)

**2:05 p.m.:** Class A boys, Mitchell (18-7) vs. GRAD Academy (16-2)

**3:40 p.m.:** AA girls, Sheffield (18-5) vs. Raleigh-Egypt (14-7)

**5:15 p.m.:** AA boys, Douglass (21-4) vs. Craigmont (15-8)

**6:40 p.m.:** AAA girls, White Station (22-3) vs. Ridgeway (15-8)

**8:25 p.m.:** AAA boys, East (23-3) vs. Cordova (19-5)

Tickets are \$10

tential to be very interesting. Parrish Hewitt — the city's leading scorer at 25.9 ppg — leads an impressive Douglass team against Craigmont. Hewitt has been getting terrific support of late from guard Nathan Payne while the Chiefs will counter with an explosive scorer of their own in senior Neil Blanchard (21.2).

Sheffield and Raleigh-Egypt will meet in the girls AA game. The teams met on Wednesday with the Lady Pharaohs rolling 67-33 behind 21 from Tasia Bland.

Tickets are \$10 and are good for all six games.

# Open

Continued from Page 1C

For the rising young Americans Taylor Fritz, Frances Tiafoe, Reilly Opelka and Jared Donaldson, the path to making a deep run in the annual ATP World Tour tournament will require some extra work.

Tournament officials conducted the draw Friday night at The Racquet Club and top seed Ivo Karlovic of Croatia, No. 2 Isner, No. 3 Querrey and No. 4 Johnson earned byes, but the foursome discovered who may impede their paths to next Sunday's championship match. If Karlovic and Isner — former Open finalists and two of Tour's tallest players — are to capture their first Memphis title, the hard-serving duo will have to battle through some potential roadblocks.

The 6-10 Karlovic, who blasted a record 75 aces in a five-set Australian Open match last month, could encounter Fritz, the runner-up to Kei Nishikori in last year's championship match, in the quarterfinals. Fritz, 19, had his breakthrough tournament in Memphis, reaching the finals as a wild card and gaining momentum with an early round upset of No. 2 seed Johnson.

Karlovic, a finalist in 2014, would likely meet Johnson in the semifinals. Johnson, ranked 31st in the world, is coming off a year in which he captured his first Tour title.

As for the 6-11 Isner, runner-up to Querrey in the 2010 final, he could meet Querrey next week in the semifinals. Querrey, however, will present a challenge. Playing in 11th



BRAD VEST / THE COMMERCIAL APPEAL / FILE  
Steve Johnson, the No. 4 seed in the Memphis Open this year, returns the ball against Taylor Fritz during the 2016 Memphis Open at the Racquet Club.

straight Memphis Open, Querrey has reached the quarterfinals, or better, in five of his last seven appearances, including back-to-back semifinals (losing to eventual champion Nishikori).

Before a possible meeting with Querrey, Isner could have to dispatch one of the rising Americans, either 6-11 Reilly Opelka or Jared Donaldson, both of whom received wild cards. Opelka, 19, is ranked a career-high 182 and had his breakthrough tournament last summer in Atlanta, where he reached the semifinals by winning his first three Tour-level matches. Donaldson, 20, qualified for the U.S. Open and reached the third round last summer. He is ranked a career-best No. 95.

Tournament director Erin Mazurek, joking about the field including

three of the tallest on Tour, said "we almost have an NBA roster."

Mazurek said while her tournament is showcasing the young Americans, she was disappointed that Donaldson and Opelka drew one another in an opening-round match.

"One of them is going home and that breaks my heart," she said.

Donaldson said he is growing accustomed to meeting another young American in an early round Memphis Open match. He drew Stefan Kozlov two years ago.

"I guess it's a Memphis thing," Donaldson said. "It's also a great opportunity for me to go out there and play one of the better young players. Most likely, I'm going to be facing these guys a lot in the years to come. It's going to be a tough match. Reilly is playing well."

NOTES: Isner's opening match in the tournament will be played during Wednesday's evening session, according to tournament officials. Isner, the 6-10 ex-University of Georgia star, has finished as No. 1 American on tour the past five years. ... The two-day qualifying event, which will send four players into the main draw, starts Saturday and will include Germany's Benjamin Becker and wild card entrant Brian Baker of Nashville. Baker, 31, reached No. 52 in the world in 2012. ... Joe Salisbury and David O'Hare, the former University of Memphis No. 1 doubles team, have been awarded a main draw wild card into the tournament. They won the doubles title at last week's ATP Challenger event in Dallas.

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