

## NEWS / SPORTS

**David Jean-Baptiste Hits Buzzer Beater to Lift Men's Basketball to 2022 Southern Conference Title**

ASHEVILLE, N.C. — A shot that will live forever. Graduate guard David Jean-Baptiste buried a highly-contested 30-foot jump shot to lift the Chattanooga Mocs men's basketball team to the 2022 Southern Conference title and a spot in the NCAA Tournament, downing No. 2 Furman 64-63 in overtime on Monday evening inside Harrah's Cherokee Center.

Chattanooga improves to 27-7 overall this season and earns a spot in the NCAA Tournament for the first time since 2016. The Mocs have won their 12th SoCon Tournament title in school history. Furman fell to 22-12 and will await a spot in postseason play.

A game that started slow, finished in a fashion that will be remembered forever in school history. After Furman grabbed a 68-66 lead with just 4.0 seconds left in overtime, Jean-Baptiste took the inbound, dribbled left, and fired a contested three from the sponsor logo.

That shot found nothing but the bottom of the net and sent the Harrah's Cherokee Center, the Scenic City and college basketball watchers across the country into a frenzy. The highlight and moment peaked as the No. 1 trending topic on social media waves in the United States.

"Just unbelievable. I always talk about this book that I'm going to write when this is all said and done, and the



David Jean-Baptiste fist bumps a fan as the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga mens' basketball team is welcomed back to campus.

longest chapter will be titled, 'DJ III,'" said head coach Lamont Paris.

"It's surreal what has transpired, the good, the bad, the ugly, we've been all over the place as a team, and for it to come down to that, I literally am now committed to writing that book and telling that story."



Mocs team members are shown at McKenzie Arena after their triumph over Furman University in Asheville, North Carolina on Monday night.

Malachi Smith was named the Most Outstanding Player for the tournament while Jean-Baptiste (All-Tournament), Silvio De Sousa (All-Tournament) and Grant Ledford (Pinnacle – Academic) all cleaned up postseason tournament awards.

Jean-Baptiste, when asked to chime

in on the life-changing moment, "It was surreal. I knew I had four seconds left, tried to put myself in the best position possible just to get the shot up, and it felt like it took forever for the ball to reach the basket, but once I saw it hit the net, I couldn't feel no more after that. It was unbelievable."

**Woman Becomes Most Decorated Black Athlete in Winter Olympics History**

NATIONWIDE — After winning her 5th medal, Elena Meyers Taylor has officially become the most decorated Black athlete in the nearly 100-year history of the Winter Olympics. Even more impressive is that she managed to achieve the feat after recovering from a bout with COVID-19.

During the 2022 Winter Olympics, Taylor won a bronze medal with Sylvia Hoffman in the two-woman bobsled competition with a total time of 4:05:48.

Taylor's recent win adds to the Olympic medals she has previously taken home in 2010, 2014, 2018, and at the inaugural 2022 monobob event. Aside from making Black history with her accomplishments, she has also made women's history as the most decorated female bobsledder ever and also the most decorated U.S. bobsledder of any gender in history.

Moreover, the 5-time Olympian was supposed to be the Opening Ceremony flag bearer for Team USA but was unable to attend after testing positive for COVID-19. She quickly recovered, competed, and won two medals in the 2022 Winter Olympics.



USA's flag bearer in the Closing Ceremony as she was elected by her fellow athletes.

Taylor said she "was so honored to be named the Opening Ceremony flag



the flag, it's even more humbling to lead the United States at the Closing Ceremony," according to People.

"Congratulations to my fellow Team USA athletes on all their success

carrying the flag with my teammates by my side and closing out these Games."

Taylor, who is 37-years old, is also reportedly the oldest American woman to win a Winter Olympics medal.

**Blackburn Protecting Nashville Music**

Tennessee Senator Marsha Blackburn

WASHINGTON, D.C. — U.S. Senator Marsha Blackburn (R-Tenn.) continues her long record of fighting for the music industry in her crackdown on China's intellectual property theft.

Blackburn backs Nashville's music industry in fight against China IP theft

Conservative Tennessee Sen. Marsha Blackburn is backing Nashville's

largely left-leaning music scene in advocating for tougher action on trademark protections for music in the Chinese market.

The big picture: Economic abuses arising in the Chinese market affect Americans of all backgrounds and are emerging as one of the few areas of bipartisan cooperation.

American songwriters are "indebted" to Blackburn for her advocacy, says Bart Herbison, executive director of the Nashville Songwriters Association International.

"She's been on the forefront of every copyright and intellectual piracy issue for 30 years," Herbison tells Axios. "And she continues to talk about the looming giant China and how we have to both monitor their violations of copyright law and start a dialogue to move forward and get them in the mainstream of copyright compensation."

Driving the news: China was re-

peatedly singled out in the annual Notorious Markets for Counterfeiting and Piracy report released last month by the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative.

Online music and movie piracy was rampant in China for decades, though Chinese government regulators have cracked down in recent years, as government regulators demanded service providers take down pirated music and intellectual property laws were strengthened.

Blackburn was very early to the issue of intellectual property theft in China.

In 2003, when she was a House representative, Blackburn created the Congressional Songwriters Caucus, which included a focus on how China's intellectual property theft was affecting the creative community.

In 2005, Blackburn introduced a resolution in the House calling on the Chinese government to strengthen en-

forcement against copyright violators in China.

In 2020, phase one of the U.S. and China trade agreement included provisions on copyright protection. The Recording Industry Association of America lauded those protections, which included combatting online infringement as well as counterfeiting and piracy on e-commerce platforms.

What she's saying: "From Music Row to Beale Street, our artist community is what helps make Tennessee such an exceptionally creative state. Music is a universal language that can bring Americans together from all different backgrounds," Blackburn told Axios in a statement.

"In Congress, I've led the bipartisan fight to protect our singer-songwriters and ensure they are properly compensated for their hard work and talent. Fighting for our creative community will help ensure the hits keep on coming." (Source: Nate Rau and Bethany Allen-Ebrahimian/Axios)

**UTC Music Presents: "A Speck of Light"**

"A Speck of Light" is a unique concert blending music, poetry, and spoken-word performance. Sponsored by CHI Memorial and UTC, the primary focus of this event is using the Arts to bring positive attention to behavioral health/mental health, and to a variety of services available locally for mental health. At the heart of the concert is a poetry cycle by American poet Jane Kenyon, titled "Having It Out with Melancholy." Dr. Jonathan McNair (Ruth S. Holmberg Professor of American Music) composed a new musical work in response to these poems, reflecting through sound-imagery many feelings and thoughts from the poetry. The poems will be read aloud before and in-between the five sections of the music.

Erika Roberts will perform a new Spoken-Word piece she created for this event, and the UTC Women's Chorale

will also perform. Chyela Rowe, Director of Arts Therapies and Well-being at CHI Memorial, will give a brief address on creativity and mental health.

Performers: The Unheard-of/Ensemble, based in New York, including Clarinet, Violin, Cello, and Piano. They are "a group that has been doing more than their part to inject vitality into the new music scene for the last few years" (Jeremy Shatan, "An Earful.")

~Erika Roberts, a poet and Spoken-Word artist, will perform a new poem she has created for this event. Erika is also a collaborative artist, and in 2020 served as a creative strategist with the City of Chattanooga, helping to shape an artistic vision and creative process of the city's projects and systems.

~The UTC Women's Chorale, directed by Dr. Allison Allerton, will perform "Never One Thing" by May

Erlewine, with percussion and piano accompaniment. Dr. Allerton is in demand as a choral clinician and presenter.

This event will be held Monday, March 21, 2022 at 7:30 p.m. at First-Centenary United Methodist Church (418 Oak St., 37403) in the sanctuary. Admission is free and open to the public. This facility is handicap accessible. For more information, call (423) 425-4679.

**In addition to the generous sponsorship from CHI Memorial, funding is provided by:**

- the Ruth S. Holmberg Professorship in American Music
- the UTC Honors College
- the UTC Chancellor's Office.

**Community partners in this event include:**

- CHI Memorial Arts Therapies and Well-being Center

- Tennessee Suicide Prevention Network
- NAMI of Chattanooga (National Alliance on Mental Illness).
- Volunteer Behavioral Health

**Campus partners include:**

- UTC Counseling Center
- UTC Center for Wellbeing
- UTC chapter of Psi Chi (student honor society in Psychology)
- the MSW Program at UTC
- UTC Music Therapy programs.

Representatives of each of these agencies and groups will be present at the concert and offer information to interested persons in the lobby of the venue after the concert.

Graphic design by Sadie Montague, UTC Art Student.