

BLUE RIBBON CHALLENGE

MEDIA CONTACT: EVAN OLESH / 609.921.1300 / EOLES@GAZELLEGROUP.COM

TOURNAMENT SCHED-

NOV. 09

Tennessee Tech at Rutgers
North Dakota State at Florida

NOV. 11

North Dakota State at Rutgers
Tennessee Tech at Florida

NOV. 12

N.C. Central at Rutgers

NOV. 14

N.C. Central at Florida

NOV. 17

Rutgers at Florida
N.C. Central at North Dakota State

NOV. 19

North Dakota State at Tennessee Tech

NOV. 21

Tennessee Tech at N.C. Central

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Welcome to the inaugural Blue Ribbon Challenge, produced by The Gazelle Group. The Blue Ribbon Challenge boasts a unique tournament format featuring five teams from five different conferences playing a total of 10 games – all at the participating schools' campus sites. Back-to-back national champion Florida and Rutgers will headline the season-opening event, while North Carolina Central, North Dakota State and Tennessee Tech will round out the competition.

Southeastern Conference (SEC) member Florida will host four games during the Blue Ribbon Challenge, welcoming the four other teams to the Stephen C. O'Connell Center. BIG EAST member Rutgers will also host North Dakota State, North Carolina Central and Tennessee Tech in Piscataway, N.J., before making the trip south to Gainesville, Fla. North Carolina Central, North Dakota State and Tennessee Tech will then play a round robin format to close out the event (see the tournament schedule).

OFFICIAL TOURNAMENT WEBSITE

To obtain all the latest news and information regarding the Blue Ribbon Challenge, log on to the official tournament website at blueribbonchallenge.com.

CREDENTIAL REQUESTS

All credential requests for the Blue Ribbon Challenge must be made through the host schools' Sports Information Departments. To request working media passes for North Carolina Central, North Dakota State and Tennessee Tech, please fill out the attached form (back page) and fax it back to appropriate sports information contact. For Rutgers please use their online credentialing system listed below. Contact Florida SID Fred Demarest for online credential information.

FLORIDA: Fred Demarest O: 352.375.4683

NORTH CAROLINA CENTRAL: Kyle Serba O: 919.530.7054 / F: 919.530.5426

NORTH DAKOTA STATE: Ryan Perreault O: 701.231.8331 / F: 701.231.8022

RUTGERS: Kevin Lorincz O: 732.445.4200 / www.sportssystem.com/rutgers

TENNESSEE TECH: Rob Schabert O: 931.372.3088 / F: 931.372.6139

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets may be purchased through each school's respective ticket offices. The "on-sale" dates will be determined individually by each institution.

FLORIDA: 352.375.4683 or visit gatorzone.com

NORTH CAROLINA CENTRAL: 919.530.5170 or visit ncu.edu/athletics

NORTH DAKOTA STATE: 888.231.6378 or visit gobison.com

RUTGERS: 866.445.4678 or visit scarletknights.com

TENNESSEE TECH: 931.372.3940 or visit ttusports.com



BLUE RIBBON CHALLENGE

TOURNAMENT NEWS/NOTES

CHANGE IS GOOD

Both North Dakota State and North Carolina Central have recently made the jump to the NCAA Division I level. North Dakota State is entering its final year of the five-year reclassification period and has accepted an invitation to compete in the newly renamed Summit League – formerly the Mid-Continent Conference. NDSU became an official member of the conference on July 1, 2007 and will be eligible for NCAA Championship competition in 2008-09. North Carolina Central is just beginning its own five-year stretch, however, it will officially count in the all-important RPI ratings this season. The Eagles will be eligible for NCAA Championship competition during the 2011-12 academic year. NCCU is a former member of the Division II Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA) – the same league that produced NBA All-Star Ben Wallace (Virginia Union). NCCU also produced Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Famer and legendary Boston Celtic Sam Jones. He played with the Eagles from 1951-54/1956-57, scoring 1,745 points under head coach John B. McLendon, also a member of the Basketball Hall of Fame.

NON-CONFERENCE COMPETITION

All five teams competing in the Blue Ribbon Challenge posted a .500 record or better against non-conference foes last season. Florida topped the group with an impressive 22-2 mark, while North Dakota State was close behind with a 20-8 record (Division I Independent). Rutgers was 7-6, North Carolina Central was 5-3 and Tennessee Tech was an even 6-6 in non-league action.

HIGHS AND LOWS

Tennessee Tech was the top offensive team in the Ohio Valley Conference last year, racking up 75.1 points per game. However, the Golden Eagles also ranked 10th in the league in scoring defense, allowing their opponents to register 71.1 points each time out. TTU finished the regular season ranked second in the OVC and bowed out of the conference tournament in the semifinals after being eliminated by eventual champion Eastern Kentucky.

THE REPLACEMENTS

Florida will be forced to replace six of their top players from last year, including Joakim Noah, Al Horford, Corey Brewer, Chris Richard and Taurean Green, who were all picked up in the 2007 NBA Draft. (Lee Humphrey is out of eligibility) Coach Donovan will look to fill the gaps with one of the top freshman point guards in the nation Jai Lucas, along with Adam Allen, Nick Calathes, Chandler Parsons and Alex Tyus.

ALL-MET RECOGNITION

Rutgers rising junior JR Inman was selected to the 2006-07 All-Met Division I, third team. Inman led the Scarlet Knights in both scoring and rebounding last season with 12.0 points and 7.3 boards per game. The 6-9, 220-pound Inman concluded the season ranked 10th in the BIG EAST in overall rebounding and eighth in defensive

rebounding (5.04 rpg).

NEW AT THE HELM

North Dakota State is entering its first year in the Saul Phillips era. Phillips served as an assistant with the Bison for three seasons under Tim Miles, who departed in March for Colorado State.

NUCLEUS REMAINS INTACT

North Dakota State will welcome back four of its five starters from a team that went 20-8 last season, including a trio of double-digit scorers – guard Ben Woodside (16.4 ppg), forward Brett Winkelman (16.1 ppg) and guard Mike Nelson (15.7 ppg). Woodside, Winkelman, and Nelson accounted for more than half (63.1%) of the Bison offense last season, scoring a combined 1,350 of the squad's 2,141 points.

GATOR BAIT

Florida will be facing three of the four other teams in the Blue Ribbon Challenge for the first time in school history. The Gators have gone head-to-head with only Rutgers on three previous occasions and lead the series 2-1. The remainder of the field will be meeting for the first time.

12.26.72	Rutgers 81, Florida 79 OT	Neutral
12.22.99	Florida 85, Rutgers 65	Neutral
12.09.00	Florida 79, Rutgers 65	Gainesville, Fla.

REBUILDING

Despite losing seven seniors from the 2006-07 squad, Rutgers will still prove to be a tough competitor this season, as Fred Hill returns for his second season at the helm and five underclassman have a solid year of play under their belts. Hill, who is known as one of the best recruiters in college basketball, is bringing in a talent-rich class that will add the depth that the Scarlet Knights are looking for.

WINNING STREAKS

The Gators have won 19-straight contests at the O'Dome – including a perfect 18-game stretch last season. Additionally, Florida is riding a 10-game overall win streak heading into the 2007-08 season.

ROOKIE GOLDEN EAGLES

Tennessee Tech sixth-year head coach Mike Sutton inked five new Golden Eagles for the 2007-08 season, including three high school seniors and one from the junior college ranks. Forward Jayvonte Hughes (St. Louis, Mo.), Guard Leo Liriano (Oldsmar, Fla.), Guard/Forward David Minaya (Oldsmar, Fla.), Forward Bassey Inameti, (Sewanee, Ga.) and guard Jeremy Jackson (Tampa, Fla.) will all join the program this fall.

CONSISTENCY

North Carolina Central left its Division II counterparts in the CIAA with one win streak intact – it was the only men's team to win at least one game in each of their last nine CIAA Tournament appearances.

BLUE RIBBON CHALLENGE

TOURNAMENT NEWS/NOTES

NEW NAME, SAME CONFERENCE

North Dakota State has recently joined The Summit League – formerly the Mid-Continent Conference, which made the name change this past summer. The Bison will join Centenary, IPFW, IUPUI, UMKC, Oakland, Oral Roberts, South Dakota State, Southern Utah and Western Illinois in the 10-team conference.

LEADER OF THE PACK

Florida finished the 2006-07 season ranked among the top-15 nationally in five statistical categories, including scoring margin (1), field goal percentage (1), win-loss percentage (3), rebound margin (4) and scoring offense (11).

FIVE DEGREES OF SEPARATION

Newly hired Florida assistant coach Rob Lanier heads to Gainesville after spending two years at Virginia and helping the Cavaliers to an NCAA Tournament berth in 2007. However, before Lanier's stint in Charlottesville he was a head coach at Sienna and an assistant at Texas, and fellow Blue Ribbon Challenge competitor Rutgers (1997-99). Lanier was an assistant under Kevin Bannon and helped guide the Scarlet Knights to a pair of NIT berths.

DOUBLE-DIGIT MARGIN

North Dakota State outscored its opponents last season by an average of 12.4 points a game, while shooting 50 percent from the floor – nearly 10 percent better than its competitors. The Bison also out-rebounded their opponents, posting a 7.1 rebound per game advantage.

STOMPING GROUNDS

After winning their first national title in 2006, Florida made a significant purchase and added a piece of nostalgia to the O'Connell Center. The University Athletic Association, Inc. bought the floor from the Final Four in Indianapolis, where the Gators defeated UCLA for

the championship crown. It is now the two-time national champions home hardwood.

RELENTLESSNESS

Tennessee Tech coach Mike Sutton was recently presented with the Kaia Jergenson Courage Award by the Nashville Sports Council. The Kaia Jergenson Courage Award is presented to a Middle Tennessee individual who has shown audacity and courage which exceed all sports. Sutton was diagnosed with the Guillain-Barre' Syndrome – disorder in which the body's immune system attacks part of the peripheral nervous system – in April of 2005, months after capturing the Ohio Valley Conference championship. Sutton spent much of that summer paralyzed and clinging to life. He fought through the first harrowing months, and eventually found his way back to heading up the Golden Eagle basketball program.

AWARD WORTHY

The Florida men's basketball program was nominated for two ESPY Awards this summer, including Best Team and Best Coach/Manager.

SCARLET KNIGHTS RETURN TOP SCORER

Rutgers' JR Inman is the squad's top returning player for 2007-08. The New York native paced the Scarlet Knights in scoring 13 times last season and led his team in rebounds in as many outings. Inman notched double-digits in scoring in 21 of the team's 29 contests, while registering three double-doubles.

SEASON ENDING INJURY

NDSU forward Tom Lunde will not continue his playing career with the Bison in the 2007-08 season. Lunde, a 21-year-old from Ulen, Minn., suffered three concussions during his two seasons and missed 33 of 56 possible regular-season games due to injury. He averaged 7.0 minutes per game in 15 appearances off the bench.

STATISTICAL COMPARISON (based on 2006-07 final stats)

	UF	NDSU	NCCU	RU	TTU
POINTS PER GAME	79.8	76.5	66.4	59.2	75.1
FIELD GOAL PERCENTAGE	.526	.503	.431	.389	.454
3-POINT FIELD GOAL PERCENTAGE	.409	.386	.322	.300	.339
FREE THROW PERCENTAGE	.690	.701	.660	.675	.668
REBOUNDS PER GAME	37.6	37.0	35.0	33.6	38.3
REBOUND MARGIN	+8.5	+7.1	+0.0	-0.7	+3.3
ASSISTS PER GAME	15.4	15.1	13.3	9.0	13.5
TURNOVERS PER GAME	14.1	14.4	18.5	12.9	15.5
STEALS PER GAME	6.7	7.6	8.5	4.6	6.8
BLOCKS PER GAME	4.9	4.9	3.6	4.2	3.4

GATORS

UNIVERSITY INFORMATION

SCHOOL University of Florida
 LOCATION Gainesville, Fla.
 ENROLLMENT 51,520
 NICKNAME Gators
 COLORS..... Orange & Blue
 CONFERENCE..... Southeastern (SEC)
 FACILITY Stephen C. O'Connell Center (12,000)
 PRESIDENT..... Dr. Bernie Machen
 DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS Jeremy Foley
 ATHLETICS PHONE..... 352.375.4683
 TICKET OFFICE 352.375.4683 x6800
 PRESS ROW 352.371.0281

MEDIA RELATIONS

MEN'S BASKETBALL CONTACT..... Fred Demarest
 EMAIL..... fredd@gators.uua.ufl.edu
 PHONE/FAX..... 352.375.4683 x6119/352.375.4809
 ON THE WEB..... gatorzone.com

COACHING STAFF

HEAD COACH..... Billy Donovan
 CAREER RECORD 296-123/13 (.706)
 RECORD AT UF..... 261-103/11 (.717)
 ASSISTANT COACHES Larry Shyatt, Lewis Preston, Rob Lanier
 DIRECTOR OF BASKETBALL OPERATIONS..... Matt McCall
 BASKETBALL OFFICE..... 352.375.4683 x4200

TEAM INFORMATION

2006-07 OVERALL/SEC..... 35-5/13-3
 HOME 18-0
 AWAY 5-4
 NEUTRAL..... 12-1
 STARTERS RETURNING*/LOST 0/5
 LETTERWINNERS RETURNING/LOST..... 4/10
 NEWCOMERS..... 7
 Adam Allen (Milton, Fla.), Nick Calathes (Casselberry, Fla.), Jai Lucas (Bellaire, Texas), Chandler Parsons (Casselberry, Fla.) and Alex Tyus (St. Louis, Mo.)

PROGRAM HISTORY

SEC TOURNAMENT TITLES 3 (05, 06, 07)
 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS..... 2 (06, 07)
 NCAA TOURNAMENT APPEARANCES..... 14
 MOST RECENT NCAA TOURNAMENT APPEARANCE..... 2007
 National Championship vs. Ohio State • W, 84-75

TOP RETURNING PLAYERS	POS	YR	06-07 AVGS
Walter Hodge	G	JR	5.7 ppg/1.2 rpg
Marreese Speights	C	SO	4.1 ppg/2.6 rpg
Dan Werner	F	SO	1.8 ppg/1.3 rpg

EAGLES

UNIVERSITY INFORMATION

SCHOOL North Carolina Central University
 LOCATION Durham, N.C.
 ENROLLMENT 8,675
 NICKNAME Eagles
 COLORS..... Maroon & Gray
 CONFERENCE..... Independent (previously CIAA)
 FACILITY..... McLendon-McDougald Gymnasium (3,056)
 CHANCELLOR..... Charlie Nelms
 DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS William Hayes
 ATHLETICS PHONE..... 919.530.7057
 TICKET OFFICE 919.530.5170
 PRESS ROW 919.796.1696

MEDIA RELATIONS

MEN'S BASKETBALL CONTACT..... Kyle Serba
 EMAIL..... kserba@nccu.edu
 PHONE/FAX..... 919.530.7054/919.530.5426
 ON THE WEB..... nccu.edu/athletics

COACHING STAFF

HEAD COACH..... Henry Dickerson
 CAREER RECORD 111-118/8 (.485)
 RECORD AT NCCU..... 39-45/3 (.464)
 ASSISTANT COACHES Levelle Moton, Ray Martin
 BASKETBALL OFFICE..... 919.530.7058

TEAM INFORMATION

2006-07 OVERALL/CIAA..... 13-15/8-12
 HOME 9-4
 AWAY 2-10
 NEUTRAL..... 2-1
 STARTERS RETURNING*/LOST 1/4
 LETTERWINNERS RETURNING/LOST..... 4/11
 NEWCOMERS..... 5
 Marius Vaskys (Lithuania), Michael Glasker (Newport News, Va.), John-Calvin Harris (Charlotte, N.C.), Vincent Davis (Motlow St C.C.) and Ashton Sauls (Des Moines (Iowa) Area C.C.), Calvin Wright (Hampton, VA.), Philip Branch (Ft. Worth, Texas)

PROGRAM HISTORY

CIAA TOURNAMENT TITLES 2 (1946, 1950)
 NCAA (DII) TOURNAMENT APPEARANCES 7
 NCAA (DII) REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS 2 (1989, 1993)
 NCAA (DII) NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS..... 1 (1989)

TOP RETURNING PLAYERS	POS	YR	06-07 AVGS
Bryan Ayala	G	JR	9.9 ppg/4.0 rpg
Joshua Worthy	F	SO	2.1 ppg/1.6 rpg
J'Mell Walters	G	JR	8.5 ppg/6.5 rpg
Tremain Holloway	F	SO	1.7 ppg/1.0 rpg

BISON

UNIVERSITY INFORMATION

SCHOOL North Dakota State University
 LOCATION Fargo, N.D.
 ENROLLMENT 12,258
 NICKNAME Bison
 COLORS..... Yellow & Green
 CONFERENCE..... The Summit League (formerly Mid-Continent)
 FACILITY..... Bison Sports Arena (6,000)
 PRESIDENT..... Joseph A. Chapman
 DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS Gene Taylor
 ATHLETICS PHONE..... 701.231.8981
 TICKET OFFICE 888.231.6378
 PRESS ROW 701.231.8611

MEDIA RELATIONS

MEN'S BASKETBALL CONTACT..... Ryan Perreault
 EMAIL..... ryan.perreault@ndsu.edu
 PHONE/FAX..... 701.231.8331/701.231.8022
 ON THE WEB..... gobison.com

COACHING STAFF

HEAD COACH..... Saul Phillips
 CAREER RECORD..... First Year
 RECORD AT NDSU..... First Year
 ASSOCIATE HEAD COACH David Richman
 ASSISTANT COACHES Will Ryan, Jason Kemp
 BASKETBALL OFFICE..... 701.231.7197

TEAM INFORMATION

2006-07 OVERALL 20-8
 HOME 13-1
 AWAY 6-7
 NEUTRAL..... 1-0
 STARTERS RETURNING/LOST..... 4/1
 LETTERWINNERS RETURNING/LOST..... 8/1
 NEWCOMERS..... 4
 Eric Carlson (Shakopee, Minn.), Freddy Coleman (Redshirt Freshman), Michael Tveidt (Redshirt Freshman), Matt Geiselhart (Wahpeton, N.D.)

PROGRAM HISTORY

SUMMIT LEAGUE TOURNAMENT TITLES First Season
 NCAA (DII) TOURNAMENT APPEARANCES 8

TOP RETURNING PLAYERS POS YR 06-07 AVGS

Ben Woodside	G	JR	16.4 ppg/5.1 apg
Brett Winkelman	F	JR	16.1 ppg/6.8 rpg
Mike Nelson	G	JR	15.7 ppg/2.9 apg

SCARLET KNIGHTS

UNIVERSITY INFORMATION

SCHOOL Rutgers University
 LOCATION Piscataway, N.J.
 ENROLLMENT 33,500
 NICKNAME Scarlet Knights
 COLORS..... Scarlet & Black
 CONFERENCE..... BIG EAST
 FACILITY..... Louis Brown Athletic Center (8,000)
 PRESIDENT..... Richard L. McCormick
 DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS Robert E. Mulcahy III
 ATHLETICS PHONE..... 732.445.4200
 TICKET OFFICE 866.445.5678
 PRESS ROW 732.445.4200

MEDIA RELATIONS

MEN'S BASKETBALL CONTACT..... Kevin Lorincz
 EMAIL..... klorincz@scarletknights.com
 PHONE/FAX..... 732.445.4200/732.445.3036
 ON THE WEB..... scarletknight.com

COACHING STAFF

HEAD COACH..... Fred Hill
 CAREER RECORD..... 10-19/1 (.345)
 RECORD AT RU 10-19/1 (.345)
 ASSISTANT COACHES Jim Carr, Darren Savino, Craig Carter
 DIRECTOR OF BASKETBALL OPERATIONS..... Dennis Gregory
 BASKETBALL OFFICE..... 732.445.7857

TEAM INFORMATION

2006-07 OVERALL/BIG EAST 10-19/3-13
 HOME 8-8
 AWAY 2-9
 NEUTRAL..... 0-2
 STARTERS RETURNING/LOST..... 3/2
 LETTERWINNERS RETURNING/LOST..... 6/7
 NEWCOMERS..... 4
 Corey Chandler, Mike Coburn, Earl Pettis, Justin Sofman

PROGRAM HISTORY

BIG EAST TOURNAMENT TITLES..... 0
 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS..... 0
 NCAA TOURNAMENT APPEARANCES..... 7
 MOST RECENT NCAA TOURNAMENT APPEARANCE..... 1991
 First Round vs. Arizona State • L 79-76

TOP RETURNING PLAYERS POS YR 06-07 AVGS

JR Inman	F	JR	12.0 ppg/7.3 rpg
Jaron Griffin	G/F	JR	8.0 ppg/3/5 rpg
Anthony Farmer	G	JR	7.8 ppg/2.4 rpg

GOLDEN EAGLES

BY THE #'S

UNIVERSITY INFORMATION

SCHOOL Tennessee Tech University
 LOCATION Cookeville, Tenn.
 ENROLLMENT 9,733
 NICKNAME Golden Eagles
 COLORS Purple & Gold
 CONFERENCE Ohio Valley Conference (OVC)
 FACILITY Hooper Eblen Arena (10.152)
 PRESIDENT Robert Bell
 DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS Mark Wilson
 ATHLETICS PHONE 931.372.6306
 TICKET OFFICE 931.372.3440
 PRESS ROW 931.372.6078

MEDIA RELATIONS

MEN'S BASKETBALL CONTACT Rob Schabert
 EMAIL rschabert@tntech.edu
 PHONE/FAX 931.372.3088/931.372.6139
 ON THE WEB ttusports.com

COACHING STAFF

HEAD COACH Mike Sutton
 OVERALL RECORD 89-63 (.586)/5
 RECORD AT TTU 89-63 (.586)/5
 ASSISTANT COACHES Steve Payne, Tommy Deffebaugh
 Russ Willemssen
 DIRECTOR OF BASKETBALL OPERATIONS Zach Carpenter
 BASKETBALL OFFICE 931.372.3956

TEAM INFORMATION

2006-07 OVERALL/OVC 19-13/13-7
 HOME 13-1
 AWAY 5-9
 NEUTRAL 1-3
 STARTERS RETURNING*/LOST 2/3
 LETTERWINNERS RETURNING/LOST 10/6
 NEWCOMERS 5
 Leo Liriano (Oldsmar, Fla.), David Minaya (Oldsmar, Fla.), Bassey Inameti, (Sewanee, Ga.), Jeremy Jackson (Tampa, Fla.), Charles Moore (St. Louis, Mo.)

PROGRAM HISTORY

OVC TOURNAMENT TITLES 1 ('67)
 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS 0
 NCAA TOURNAMENT APPEARANCES 2
 MOST RECENT NCAA TOURNAMENT APPEARANCE 1963
 vs. Loyola-Chicago • L 111-42

TOP RETURNING PLAYERS	POS	YR	06-07 AVGS
Anthony Fischer	G	SR	17.2 ppg/4.3 apg
Amadi McKenzie	F	SR	13.9 ppg/7.8 rpg

2,987 ...the number of miles North Dakota State will travel during the tournament – the most of any team competing in the Blue Ribbon Challenge ... The distance is equivalent to 162,781 basketball courts.

10 ... the number of combined years that four of the five head coaches have been at their respective schools – compared to the 11 that Billy Donovan has been at the helm of Florida

4 ... the number of North Dakota State players that averaged double-digits last season – newly hired head coach Saul Phillips will be charged with replacing only one ... Andre Smith netted a team-high 17.0 points each time out

60.8 ... the percentage of shots Tennessee Tech forward Amadi McKenzie drained from the field – ranking him 17th nationally among Division I leaders

21 ... the number of national championships the University of Florida has accumulated in its school history, including 12 team titles since 1993 ... Florida's captured its most recent title in April, as the Gators defeated Ohio State in men's hoops.

2 ... the number of consecutive years Tennessee Tech point guard Anthony Fisher was named the team's most valuable player ... Fisher, who led the Golden Eagles in assists (4.3 apg), was second in scoring (17.2 ppg), and was third in rebounds (3.8 rpg) and steals (1.0 spg), will return for his senior season in 2007-08.

2 ... the number of consecutive trips Florida has made to the White House

57 ... the number of steals North Carolina Central guard Bryan Ayala registered last season ... The Norfolk, Va. native ranked 36th nationally among Division II leaders with his 4.5 picks per game ... Ayala was also listed 64th nationally with his 2.2 distributions per contest

HE SAID IT ...

"We're excited about this tournament. It will be a real challenge to play at places like Rutgers, Florida and North Carolina Central. Those programs are historically tough, which makes it even more challenging. The people at the Gazelle Group are first class, and it's exciting for us to be a part of the Blue Ribbon Challenge. Hopefully adding these difficult games to our schedule will help to prepare us for the [Ohio Valley] Conference. It's a chance to play some tough games early and get our new players acclimated to our system."

-TENNESSEE TECH HEAD COACH MIKE SUTTON

THE GAZELLE GROUP

WHO WE ARE

The Gazelle Group is a sports marketing firm located in Princeton, N.J., specializing in event production/management, client representation, and sponsorship consulting. Gazelle has the expertise and is committed to developing prioritized business plans that achieve its clients' marketing and financial goals. Since its formation in 1994, The Gazelle Group has established itself as a leader in the sports marketing industry.

WHAT WE DO

Companies, organizations and individuals achieve maximum results with the integration of services and resources offered by Gazelle:

- professional athlete and coach representation
- corporate endorsements
- advertising, promotions and publicity
- conceptualization and development of individual events and series
- project and event implementation
- hospitality implementation and sales
- TV rights, packaging, representation and sales
- budgeting
- sponsorship representation and sales
- personal appearances and motivational speaking
- program production and advertising sales
- merchandising and licensing
- rights acquisition
- creation of Internet presence
- signage and electronic imaging

Gazelle's operating philosophy is based upon the belief that, in the rapidly changing sports marketplace, corporations and sports organizations require a customized approach and strategy to develop and implement effective programs. This market-oriented approach enables a client to reach its business objectives through a cost-efficient program designed specifically for that client. The client's individual needs are always the priority at Gazelle.



2K SPORTS COLLEGE HOOPS CLASSIC
benefitting
COACHES VS. CANCER
REGIONAL ROUNDS:
Nov. 5-9, 2007
Connecticut, Kentucky,
Missouri, Oklahoma
CHAMPIONSHIP ROUNDS:
Nov. 15-16, 2007
Madison Square Garden
New York, N.Y.
TEAMS PARTICIPATING:
Alabama A&M, Buffalo,
Central Arkansas, Connecticut,
Denver, East Central Oklahoma,
Gardner-Webb, Kentucky,
Maine, Memphis, Morgan
State, Ohio Valley, Oklahoma,
Richmond, San-Francisco, Tennessee-Martin
WEBSITE: cvcclassic.com

BLUERIBBONCHALLENGE
Nov. 9-23, 2007
VARIOUS CAMPUS SITES
(each school will host at least one home game)
TEAMS PARTICIPATING:
Florida, North Carolina Central,
North Dakota State, Tennessee
Tech, Rutgers
WEBSITE:
blueribbonchallenge.com

LEGENDS CLASSIC
REGIONAL ROUNDS:
Nov. 14-18, 2007
New Mexico State, Tennessee,
Texas, West Virginia
CHAMPIONSHIP ROUNDS:
Nov. 19-20, 2007
Prudential Center
Newark, N.J.
TEAMS PARTICIPATING:
Tennessee, Texas, West Virginia,
New Mexico State
WEBSITE: legendsclassic.com

O'REILLY AUTO PARTS CBE CLASSIC
REGIONAL ROUNDS:
Nov. 11-14, 2007
Maryland, Michigan State,
Missouri, UCLA
CHAMPIONSHIP ROUNDS: Nov. 19-20, 2007
Sprint Center
Kansas City, Mo.
TEAMS PARTICIPATING:
Cal-State San Bernardino, Central Michigan, Central Missouri, Chicago State, Fordham, Hampton, ULM, Maryland, Michigan State, Missouri, Northern Michigan, North Florida, Tulsa, UCLA, Weber State, Youngstown State
WEBSITE: cbeclassic.com

BLUE RIBBON CHALLENGE

CREDENTIAL REQUEST

MEDIA AGENCY _____

TELEPHONE _____ FAX # _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

MEDIA

Name/Title _____

Name/Title _____

Name/Title _____

TEAM RADIO ONLY (LIVE BROADCAST)

Name/Title _____

Name/Title _____

Name/Title _____

PHOTOGRAPHER

Name/Title _____

Name/Title _____

GAMES COVERING

DEADLINE: This form should be completed and faxed back to the respective school's Sports Information Office. For Rutgers please use their online credneitaling system at www.sportssystem.com/rutgers. Contact Florida SID Fred Demarest for online credential information.

FLORIDA: Fred Demarest O: 352.375.4683

NORTH CAROLINA CENTRAL: Kyle Serba O: 919.530.7054 / F: 919.530.5426

NORTH DAKOTA STATE: Ryan Perreault O: 701.231.8331 / F: 701.231.8022

RUTGERS: Kevin Lorincz O: 732.445.4200 / www.sportssystem.com/rutgers

TENNESSEE TECH: Rob Schabert O: 931.372.3088 / F: 931.372.6139

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DATE RECEIVED _____ STATUS _____ CONFIRMED BY/DATE _____

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