



## **2003 Coaches vs. Cancer Classic features five Top 25 ranked teams**

**Princeton, NJ (November 4, 2003)** - The 2003 Coaches vs. Cancer Classic features five of the Top 25 ranked teams in the country according to the ESPN/USA Today pre-season Top 25 coaches poll released last week.

Gonzaga, Saint Joseph's, Wake Forest, Pittsburgh and Marquette are ranked in the Top 25. No other pre-season Event has more than one ranked team in its field.

The 2003 Coaches vs. Cancer Classic marks the second year in a row that five of the eight teams were nationally ranked before the start of the season. From last year's event, Oklahoma, Texas, Alabama, Georgia and Marquette were ranked in the ESPN/USA Today pre-season Top 25 coaches poll.

Match-ups for the Event are as follows:

Thursday, November 13th- 7:00 PM EST

Memphis vs. Wake Forest

Marquette vs. St. John's

Friday, November 14th- 7:00 PM EST

Pittsburgh vs. Alabama

Gonzaga vs. Saint Joseph's

All four games will be televised nationally on ESPN2.

Last year's Coaches vs. Cancer Classic field included three eventual Final Four teams from the 2003 NCAA Tournament- Marquette, Syracuse, and Texas. In addition to featuring 14 preseason Top 20 teams over the past four years, the event has opened the season with the last two eventual national champions competing at the Garden (Maryland in 2001-2002 and Syracuse in 2002-2003).

The Coaches vs. Cancer ® program, created by the American Cancer Society and the National Association of Basketball Coaches exists to leverage the strength, community leadership and celebrity of our country's basketball coaches to raise awareness and in turn, reduce cancer risk through education programs while raising funds for the American Cancer Society.

Since 1995, Gazelle, producer of the Coaches vs. Cancer Classic, has raised over \$2 million for Coaches vs. Cancer ®. Tickets for the 2003 Coaches vs. Cancer Classic are on sale now through the Madison Square Garden Box Office, by calling TicketMaster at (212) 307-7171 or by logging on to the [Coaches vs. Cancer Classic](#) page of

Ticketmaster.com.

For more information about the Coaches vs. Cancer Classic, please contact Michael Matkowski at (609) 921-1300 or [mmatkowski@gazellegroup.com](mailto:mmatkowski@gazellegroup.com). Members of the media can download a [Credential Application](#) and visit the [Media Page](#) for event history and records, logos, and photos.



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