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## College Sports

Siena and UAlbany basketball coverage

By Mark Singelais and Tim Wilkin

### Siena basketball will host tournament finals on campus

Posted on March 27, 2014 | By Pete Iorizzo

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Blame it on the lizards.

For the first time in 17 years, Siena will play a non-exhibition men's basketball game on campus, because Times Union Center is hosting a reptile expo on the date for the final game of the College Basketball Insider Tournament.

The Saints are hosting Games 2 and 3 of the best-of-3 series, which begins at 10 Monday night in Fresno, Calif. Game 2 is 7 Wednesday night, and Game 3, if necessary, will be 11:30 a.m. Saturday, April 5.

Both of Siena's home games will be played at Alumni Recreation Center, which will have a capacity of just 3,500.

The Saints haven't played a non-exhibition game at the ARC since Feb. 18, 1997, when they beat Loyola, 75-55.

Times Union Center was unavailable both April 4 and 5, the two potential dates for Game 3.

The arena is being used April 4 for "Life in Color: UNLEASHED," which is described on the Times Union Center website as "the world's largest paint party."

The following day, the arena is booked for the Capital Region Reptile Expo, featuring Jimmy Riffle of the hit Animal Planet show "Gator Boys."

There are no events scheduled at the arena that conflict with Game 2, but Siena officials decided it would be easier to host both games at the same site.

"We're excited to have the CBI Championship decided in front of our fans," Siena director of athletics John D'Argenio said in a news release. "We felt the most efficient and convenient course of action from a ticketing and customer relations stand point was to host both games in the same venue. If the series goes to a third game, we would not be able to play in the Times Union Center, which we knew at the outset of the CBI."

On Thursday, Siena released details on how tickets can be purchased.

For season-ticket holders: Tickets go on sale at 10 a.m. Saturday at the Alumni Recreation Center box office. It will remain open until 6 p.m. Saturday and reopen from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday for season-ticket holders only.

For the general public: Tickets go on sale at 6 Sunday night at SienaSaints.com. They also can be purchased at the ARC box office from 3 to 6 p.m. Monday and Tuesday and from 3 p.m. until tip-off Wednesday.

For students: Tickets go on sale from 4 to 6 p.m. Sunday at the ARC. With the purchase of an \$8 ticket to Game 2, students also will receive a free ticket to Game 3.

Categories: [Bulletin](#), [General](#), [Siena](#), [Siena men](#)

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- yankeesfan53* says:  
[March 27, 2014 at 3:33 pm](#)  
 LOLOLOLOLOLOLOL
- Matt* says:  
[March 27, 2014 at 3:39 pm](#)  
 Is the \$36.00 price for both game 2 and 3, or is it essentially \$72.00 per person and if game 3 does not happen the \$36.00 is then what you get in a refund, credit or donation? Press release is not very specific. At \$36.00 x 3500 people, Siena stands to make a pretty penny off this game (126k per game) minus fees BUT get to keep 100% of revenue from concessions. Between MAAC tourney 1 day ticket, and this CBI tourney, I have spent almost more on the postseason tickets, then I have my entire season ticket package.
- Tim* says:  
[March 27, 2014 at 3:41 pm](#)  
 \$36.00 for one game. They are crazy
- SteelWheels* says:  
[March 27, 2014 at 3:51 pm](#)

Smart move. Gives the students a chance to watch without taking a bus and avoids the embarrassment of playing in an 85 percent empty arena.

3. *npg* says:

[March 27, 2014 at 3:53 pm](#)

So Pete or Mark, Is this \$36 for both games? Also if everything is general admission what do I as a season ticket holder need to do... get there 3 hours ahead of time just to get a decent seat because I'm sure the students will take up the majority of the seats. I called the number and of course noone is there to answer these questions. They say leave a message

3. *BarrySoetorosBrother* says:

[March 27, 2014 at 3:53 pm](#)

Unreal. Just the other day that Dan McCoy was on TV going on and on about bringing the NCAA and MAAC tournaments back to Albany and how this Siena run is pumping money into Albany and now the game is forced to Loudonville.

7. *elmer* says:

[March 27, 2014 at 3:59 pm](#)

I know its all about the money but its too bad that students are obviously taking a back seat to season ticket holders. With the game on campus it would be nice to see them pack 1000+ screaming college kids in there.

3. *Pete lorizzo* says:

[March 27, 2014 at 4:04 pm](#)

To those asking about ticket prices: The costs is \$36 per game for adults. That includes a \$5 concession voucher and parking.

3. *Yo Yo* says:

[March 27, 2014 at 4:14 pm](#)

What a shock. Yet another event that can't sell in smallbany. Devils will be leaving soon...

1. *Fast Fred 101* says:

[March 27, 2014 at 4:28 pm](#)

Anti up, get in line, stop the bitching or stay home!

. *l long time fan* says:

[March 27, 2014 at 4:30 pm](#)

We'll, they have to recover the buy in fee of 150k somehow. 36 a seat is a good start. I don't think there will be a tremendous season ticket holder presence as many won't like the idea of gen admission at 36 a pop. I'm ok with that. This gives students a chance to support the team like the good old A R C days. Besides, the infrastructure can't handle a packed facility on campus if they're mostly drivers coming from off campus. Trust me: it would make the Civil Service parking fiasco at guilderland look like a church parking lot for early mass in comparison.

.. *Bill* says:

[March 27, 2014 at 4:30 pm](#)

How is Siena going to give all their season ticket holders their preferred seats. If the crappy ARC is OK to play Fresno State in why isn't SEFCU good enough for the UA Siena game.

1. *Forks '81* says:

[March 27, 2014 at 5:07 pm](#)

1. Games are being moved to campus because the TUC isn't available for game 3 on Friday.

2. But game 3 is now moved to Saturday on campus.

3. The TUC has nothing scheduled on Saturday.

So why isn't the game played at the TUC on Saturday?

My Siena Logic 101 education tells me something doesn't add up.

That said, the winners here are the students (as it should be), getting on-campus games again.

That's originally how many of us old-time alumni became fans.

Lastly... can the \$5 concession credit be used for beer?

4. *npg* says:

[March 27, 2014 at 5:08 pm](#)

\$36 per game which means has a season ticket holder I'm spending \$72 times 2 because I'm bringing my son who is not under 12 to sit God knows where because there is no reserved seating..Thanks but no thanks....I'll watch in on TV.

1. *Luke* says:

[March 27, 2014 at 5:20 pm](#)

Bill, stop...normally you make some sense.....UA -Siena will never be at SEFCU.....unless it is home and home

Pitt won this toumey a few yrs back by the way....

They will bus people in from Hoffmans Playland or use the train.....

Seats are first come first serve but there are no bad seats at ARC or SEFCU

TUC was not available for game 3 if necessary

Games are on CBS sports network so watch on tv if you don't want to come

Will there be scalpers?

Is there bus to Fresno game Monday?

Best of 3 , great

I would love to see UA and Siena play home and home but only if SEFCU gave one third tix to Siena.....at TUC UA can bring as many as they want as it is.....

Great accomplishment by Siena to get to finals

1. *Pete lorizzo* says:

March 27, 2014 at 5:21 pm

**@Forks '81:** As the story says, Times Union Center is unavailable Saturday, too, because of a reptile expo. (<http://www.timesunioncenter-albany.com/events>)

i. Eric Weidemann says:

March 27, 2014 at 5:32 pm

The ARC? Are you serious? With the crappy crowds Siena is getting they should play the game(s) at Heatly or New Lebanon High School. I heard UA offered the Saints to play in Page Hall. Reptile Expo? What a joke! I hope John D'Argenio is in the show. He's the real SNAKE in the grass!

i. OldDave says:

March 27, 2014 at 6:04 pm

Regarding the \$36 price, if I read it right \$5 concession voucher and free parking. That makes ticket \$26. All I read about at times is moving to the A10. Well if you want to move up welcome to the real world and what it will cost per ticket. Stop whining.

Actually good decision to move it to the ARC. They haven't drawn like they thought they would.

Three games averaging around 3500 save the money for Wednesday night put it to better use. Better for TV to see a full house of screaming Indians. Yes lets go back to the original name.

i. 98.6% Free Throw Shooter says:

March 27, 2014 at 6:24 pm

Home game in the ARC – Saints, may the spirits of Vernon Asquith, Steve McCoy, Mike Catino & Gary Holle guide you to victory.

i. tim says:

March 27, 2014 at 6:34 pm

Two things,

First thing is how come game 3 could not be played on the next night, after all these teams play 3 sometimes 4 games in a row to get to the NCAA big dance so how come if there were a game 3 it could not be played the next night.

and 2nd thing the ticket price includes free parking and 5 buck coupon for conn. but should we be given a choice as some will not use that 5 buck coupon and as far as parking when you go the TU center you can park free on the street so why would Siena have to charge for parking, and

Last thing is I went onto the Fresno State Site and the cost of a ticket if you went to there box office would be 20 bucks for the game. so the higher cost per game here has to be because they are using there own gym.

And does anyone know how many season ticket holder are there, because one would think 3,500 tickets the student body must get say 200 so the number now is 3,200 and does Fresno State get any.

I thinking some season ticket holder might get shut out on seeing the game live. Any one else think that may be the case.

. James says:

March 27, 2014 at 6:56 pm

Having missed only a handful of games at the TU since Siena played the first game there against Pittsburg in the 80's when the kid slipped off the mini-tramp trying to dunk (hitting his head hard on the ground) and we lost on a basket by Morningstar at the buzzer I am not Happy these games are being played at the ARC."So much for the talk of moving up to the next level; A-10". The reasoning for playing at the ARC is because Siena wants both games to be played at the same venue. Well, the TU center is also available on those days. A lot of season ticket holders are older and some cannot walk the distance from the parking lots to the gym. I, for one and my brother's in-law are rabid SIENA FANS who are also season ticket holders who stand on every big shot and good plays. Most of the students who show up for these big games do not even know half the players on Siena. Siena is lucky to have these season ticket holders. I would guess 4,000 or more (More than double who show up for U Albany, which I also like by the way). Just one more mistake by D'Argenio and for what I do not know....

!. barc2 says:

March 27, 2014 at 7:06 pm

everyone is missing the big picture here—fresno has to spend 5 days in albany, ny. who agreed to that, the student athletes?? anybody know the reason Siena was awarded the 2 games?

i. Chris Drescher says:

March 27, 2014 at 7:44 pm

At the ARC yes. Might bring back memories of 1985. Siena Indians hosting Northeastern announced attendance of for the fire marshal's ears 3500. There were at least double that standing in the corners.

i. HoopGuru says:

March 27, 2014 at 7:47 pm

no problem with where they are playing or the price, albeit I do understand folks who are questioning both. The place is a band box, gonna be loud and a HUGE advantage for Siena, no doubt. That being said, I am also wondering why Game 3 (if played) is not held on Thurs or Fri, making Fresno hang around town until Saturday, to me that makes no sense. Could it be that CBS programming is directing this, originally they were set to broadcast Fri anyway, what changed? Pete do you have any insight or answer into this?

i. Luke says:

March 27, 2014 at 7:56 pm

There will be no beer at ARC I guess.....\$5 food credit will get you 2 Snickers Bars.....Forks, you are funny!

Eric W...are you a paid comedian? Are you going to be be at the Reptile Expo when it comes to Phoenix?

Good thing this is last round..next round tix would be \$100..plus \$25 valet parking  
Actually I paid \$86 to see UA play Florida, that included the Pitt Colorado disaster.....

Overall Siena handling this very well.....great exposure for the program.....

Bus leaves f0rFresno 9am Sat but may not make it back for game 2.....to get to Fresno go to Bakersfield and turn right.

i. *Keith* says:

[March 27, 2014 at 8:10 pm](#)

I agree with #17 as the crowds for this joke of a tourney are abysmal. I think I'll wait to go to Philly for the Frozen Four.

. *Pete Iorizzo* says:

[March 27, 2014 at 8:14 pm](#)

@HoopGuru: I believe CBS is unable to do Thursday night.

i. *Harry* says:

[March 27, 2014 at 8:16 pm](#)

This really sucks for the loyal season ticket holders. First stand in line to buy a ticket then another line to get an unreserved, wooden seat at the game. It's a very bad move if loyal fans get mad and cancel their season tickets. My opinion, it's a plan by Siena to discourage regular fans and hope to pack the ARC with students. WHERE WERE THE STUDENTS DURING THE REGULAR SEASON AND DURING THIS TOURNAMENT? ITS THE SMALLEST STUDENT ATTENDANCE I'VE EVER SEEN. Why didn't Siena encourage them to attend the games? They're required to buy tickets in Albany before the game. Duh, how many have transportation?

i. *Harry* says:

[March 27, 2014 at 8:26 pm](#)

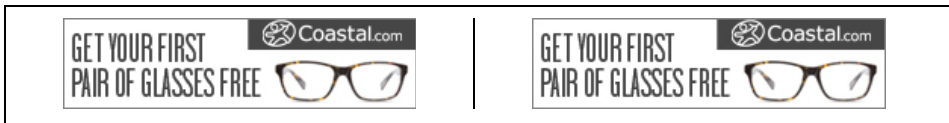
For those commenting on the crowds, 2500 to 4000 isn't bad for games that are scheduled close together. Regular game seating is limited to 7500. 4000 seats = over 50% capacity, not 15%. Many season ticket holders didn't attend so I assume "snowbirds" went on vacation. Those in attendance were "newbies" who got a chance to watch games with good seats.

i. *Evan Hymes' Number One Fan* says:

[March 27, 2014 at 8:42 pm](#)

Some of the greatest memories were at the A RC. Asquith and Daniels; Mullin and Poetsch; Lewis and Lafleur vs Biz and McCoy; biz getting 48 on Senior night. It could be a great atmosphere. But I'm not sure the site and it's challenges logistically are fair to the yellow and green sweater bunch who are the true core supporters. Tough call either way. I'm sure the ability to forego rent to the TU based on attendance expectations may be a factor.

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CapitalRegionHoops: Old Dave, Not a hater. Siena bought its way in to the tournament by offering to host a game at...

Luke: Aside from tourney games Syracuse played 18 at home, 10 on road...../0;..check out the...

Luke: Hey barc2 and others: count how many home games teams in Big Ten and upper conferences play.....that...

SienaMan88: Love the nostalgia of going back to the ARC to play these games. Great memories flooding back with help...

Siena's improvement started with Purdue loss (3)

Mel: Once again, the key will be which team controls the boards. Silas needs to step up, and Oliver needs to drain...

OldDave: of course the answer is yes. just a matter of maturity. I would not use the current 3 game series as the...

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