

August 18, 2009

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Legends Classic Semifinal Match-ups Announced

Rutgers vs. UMass and Michigan State vs. Florida

Princeton, N.J. – The semifinal match-ups are set for the **2009 Legends Classic** men's college basketball tournament.

Michigan State, Rutgers, Florida and **UMass** will serve as the four Regional Round hosts for the event. The tournament will begin with Regional Round action, November 18-22, with the four host schools automatically advancing to the Championship Rounds at Boardwalk Hall in Atlantic City on November 27-28.

The full bracket, including subregionals and television schedule, will be announced in the near future.

Outlined below are the dates, times, locations and match-ups for the Championship Rounds

----- CHAMPIONSHIP ROUNDS -----

Semifinal Doubleheader

Boardwalk Hall - Atlantic City, N.J.

November 27th - 5:30 PM EST

Rutgers vs. UMass

Michigan State vs. Florida

Championship Doubleheader

Boardwalk Hall - Atlantic City, N.J.

November 28th - 5:30 PM EST

Consolation Game

Championship Game

TICKET INFORMATION: Championship Round tickets are currently **ON SALE** and can be purchased at the Boardwalk Hall box office, all Ticketmaster locations, online at Ticketmaster.com or by calling Ticketmaster at **800-736-1420**.

Michigan State: Tom Izzo returns Kalin Lucas, Raymar Morgan and Delvon Roe to a team that won the Big Ten regular season, reached the National Championship game and is expected to be ranked at or near the top of every preseason poll.

Rutgers: Fourth-year head coach Fred Hill will look to sophomores Mike Rosario and Gregory Echenique, as well as senior shot blocker Hamady Ndiaye, to lead the Scarlet Knights back to prominence. Rutgers will utilize the experience of competing against one of the nation's most difficult schedules in 2008-09 to make its move in the ultra competitive Big East Conference.

Florida: Billy Donovan is three years removed from back-to-back National Championships and has taken his team to the postseason in each of the last twelve seasons. The Gators return three starters, including the leading rebounder and second leading scorer, Alex Tyus.

UMass: In his second year at the helm, Derek Kellogg will look to his talented backcourt of Ricky Harris and Anthony Gurley to lead the Minutemen back to the postseason.

In the 2008 Championship Game, Pittsburgh defeated Washington State, 57-43.

The Northeast Conference (NEC) is the sponsoring conference of the Legends Classic. Now entering its 29th season, the NEC is an NCAA Division I collegiate athletic association consisting of 12 institutions of higher learning located throughout six states. For more information on the NEC, visit northeastconference.org.

The Legends Classic is produced by The Gazelle Group in Princeton, N.J. The Gazelle Group is a sports marketing firm specializing in event production and management, client representation, and sponsorship consulting. Gazelle produces numerous nationally-recognized events, such as the 2K Sports Classic benefiting Coaches vs. Cancer, the O'Reilly Auto Parts CBE Classic and the College Basketball Invitational (CBI). For more information on The Gazelle Group, please visit gazellegroup.com.

Visit LegendsClassic.com for more information on the 2009 Legends Classic.

