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2K Sports Classic Bracket Finalized **ESPN networks to televise eight Classic games**

Princeton, N.J. - The schedule and national television coverage for **2011 2K Sports Classic** have been finalized.

St. John's, Arizona, Texas A&M, and Mississippi State will serve as the four Regional Round hosts of the 17th annual 2K Sports Classic with the event opening the college basketball season on Nov. 7. Each will play on campus before advancing to the Championship Rounds, Nov. 17-18, at New York's Madison Square Garden.

Joining St. John's, Arizona, Texas A&M, and Mississippi State in the 2011 2K Sports Classic are Akron, Duquesne, Eastern Kentucky, Lehigh, Liberty, UDC, Valparaiso, William & Mary, Hiram, and Indiana-Kokomo. Liberty and Valparaiso will serve as Subregional Round hosts for games played Nov. 18-20.

ESPN networks will televise eight games of the 2K Sports Classic, including all four games of the Championship Rounds. The semifinal doubleheader on Nov. 17 featuring Texas A&M-Mississippi State and St. John's-Arizona will be shown on ESPN2 beginning at 7:00pm (ET). The next night, the consolation and championship games will also air on ESPN2 beginning at 4:30pm (ET).

In addition to the Championship Round games, ESPNU will air four Regional Round games. On Nov. 7, William & Mary at St. John's will air at 7:00pm (ET), followed at 9:00pm (ET) by Valparaiso at Arizona. On Nov. 9, the Akron at Mississippi State game will tip-off at 7:00pm (ET) with Duquesne at Arizona following at 9:00pm (ET).

[CLICK HERE](#) for the complete tournament bracket.

---- CHAMPIONSHIP ROUNDS ----

Semifinal Doubleheader	Championship Doubleheader
<i>Madison Square Garden - New York, N.Y.</i>	<i>Madison Square Garden - New York, N.Y.</i>
Thursday, November 17 - 7:00 PM ET	Friday, November 18 - 4:30 PM ET
Texas A&M vs. Mississippi State (ESPN2)	Consolation Game (ESPN2)
St. John's vs. Arizona (ESPN2)	Championship Game (ESPN2)

---- REGIONAL ROUNDS ----

Queens Regional Rounds*Carnesecca Arena - Queens,
N.Y.***Monday, November 7 - 7:00
PM ET**William & Mary at St. John's
(ESPNU)**Wednesday, November 9 -
7:00 PM ET**Lehigh at St. John's
(ESPN3.com)**Tucson Regional Rounds***McKale Center - Tucson, Ariz.***Monday, November 7 - 9:00
PM ET**

Valparaiso at Arizona (ESPNU)

**Wednesday, November 9 -
9:00 PM ET**

Duquesne at Arizona (ESPNU)

**College Station Regional
Round***Reed Arena - College Station,
Texas***Wednesday, November 9 -
8:00 PM ET**

Liberty at Texas A&M

Starkville Regional Rounds*Humphrey Coliseum - Starkville,
Miss.***Monday, November 7 - 8:00
PM ET**Eastern Kentucky at Mississippi
State**Wednesday, November 9 -
7:00 PM ET**Akron at Mississippi State
(ESPNU)**---- SUBREGIONAL ROUNDS ----****Lynchburg Subregional
Rounds***Vines Center - Lynchburg, Va.***Friday, November 18 - 5:00
PM ET**William & Mary vs. Lehigh
Eastern Kentucky vs. Liberty**Saturday, November 19 -
5:00 PM ET**Eastern Kentucky vs. William &
Mary

Lehigh vs. Liberty

**Sunday, November 20 - 3:00
PM ET**Lehigh vs. Eastern Kentucky
William & Mary vs. Liberty**Valparaiso Subregional
Rounds***Athletics-Recreation Center -
Valparaiso, Ind.***Friday, November 18 - 5:00
PM ET**Duquesne vs. UDC
Akron vs. Valparaiso**Saturday, November 19 -
5:00 PM ET**

Akron vs. Duquesne

Indiana-Kokomo vs. Valparaiso

**Sunday, November 20 - 3:30
PM ET**Duquesne vs. Valparaiso
UDC vs. Indiana-Kokomo**Akron Subregional Round***James A. Rhodes Arena - Akron,
Ohio***Saturday, November 12 -
TBA**

Hiram at Akron

Tickets for Championship Round games at Madison Square
Garden are on sale and may be purchased by calling **866-448-
7849** or on-line at Ticketmaster.com.

THE FIELD

St. John's Red Storm- Have been to the NCAA Tournament 27 times, including this past season when the Red Storm posted a 21-12 record and tied for third in the Big East Conference...that record was augmented by a 7-1 record at Madison Square Garden, six wins against Top 25 teams, and four wins against Top 10 teams...the Red Storm also experienced a 38.1 percent increase in home attendance in 2010-11 - the fourth-highest increase in the nation...under the direction of second-year head coach Steve Lavin, St. John's welcomes a recruiting class that ranks among the top three nationally...making its fourth 2K Sports Classic appearance.

Arizona Wildcats - Have been to the NCAA Tournament 26 of the last 27 years...the Wildcats have recorded 24 20-win seasons since 1984 and have won 678 games in that span...in just his second season, head coach Sean Miller, the 2010-11 Pac-10 Coach of the Year, guided Arizona to a 30-8 record and the Elite Eight of the NCAA Tournament...the Wildcats return 10 players and three starters from last year's squad, including senior guard Kyle Fogg (8.1 ppg, 99 assists) and junior forward Solomon Hill (8.0 ppg)...Miller and his staff also bring in a Top 10 recruiting class in 2011-12...played in the 2001 Classic.

Texas A&M Aggies - New head coach Billy Kennedy inherits a team that went 24-9 en route to their sixth straight NCAA Tournament this past season...Texas A&M is one of only 12 programs in the nation to participate in each of the last six NCAA Tournaments...three starters and six of the top eight scorers from last season return...headlining the returning stars are second-team all-Big 12 selection Khris Middleton, a junior forward who led the Aggies in scoring (14.4 ppg) a year ago...also back is senior forward David Loubeau (11.8 ppg), who earned third-team all-conference honors.

Mississippi State Bulldogs - Have gone to nine postseason tournaments and have eight 20-win seasons over the last 11 years...return 12 players, including two of the top three scorers, from a team that posted a 17-14 record last season...senior guard Dee Bost averaged 15.3 ppg and handed out a team-best 106 assists last season...junior forward Renardo Sidney netted 14.2 ppg and had a team-high 7.6 rpg average...head coach Rick Stansbury, MSU's all-time winningest coach, is in his 14th season at the helm of the Bulldogs' program...last played in the event in 2004.

Akron Zips - Akron's road to the NCAA Tournament last year was marked by an incredible run in the Mid-American Tournament, culminating with a victory over top-seeded Kent State in the final to secure the league's automatic bid, Akron's second NCAA berth in three seasons...head coach Keith Dambrot, who has led the Zips to six-straight 20-win seasons, welcomes the return of 11 players from a 23-win team, led by the Zips' leading scorer and rebounder and second team All-MAC selection Nikola Cvetinovic (11.7 ppg, 6.9 rpg)...senior guard Brett McClanahan returns after netting 10.0 ppg a year ago.

Duquesne Dukes - Head coach Ron Everhart saw the Dukes earn a berth in their third consecutive postseason last year as Duquesne advanced to the quarterfinals of the CBI in going 19-13...the Dukes are also coming off a season in which they led the

nation in assists (17.8 apg), steals (9.9 spg) and turnover margin (+6.7) while averaging 77.9 ppg (16th nationally)... sophomore guard T.J. McConnell (10.8 ppg, 140 assists), the reigning A-10 Rookie of the Year, and senior swingman B.J. Monteiro (11.4 ppg) head a cast of nine returning players who accounted for 63 percent of the team's scoring last year.

Eastern Kentucky Colonels - In his seventh year, head coach Jeff Neubauer has led Eastern Kentucky to an average of 17 wins per season, five 10-win Ohio Valley Conference seasons, and two postseason bids...the Colonels return nine letterwinners from last season, led by leading returning scorer, senior guard Joshua Jones (10.7 ppg).

Hiram Terriers - Sophomore guard Aaron Stefanov (9.2 ppg) is the leading returning scorer on a Terriers squad that posted a 14-12 record last season...head coach Steve Fleming is in his sixth year at the helm of his alma mater.

Indiana-Kokomo Cougars - Head coach Jace Thompson takes over the Cougars program...IUK will rely on 5-11 junior guard Anthony Graves, a transfer from Lake Michigan J.C., as well as Jared Lawrence, a 6-4 freshman guard who many ranked among the top 50 high school seniors in the state of Indiana last season.

Lehigh Mountain Hawks - The 2011-12 season will be Brett Reed's fifth at the helm of the Mountain Hawks...Lehigh is led by junior C.J. McCollum, a first-team all-PL pick whose 21.8 points per game ranked ninth nationally and first in the league...his scoring average places him as the nation's top returning scorer...sophomore guard Mackey McKnight (7.6 ppg) was named to the PL all-rookie team...four of Lehigh's top five scorers return from last year, along with 91 percent of its points and 89 percent of its rebounds from the 2010-11 season.

Liberty Flames - Last year, in his second season with the Flames, head coach Dale Layer, the 2010-11 Big South Coach of the Year, led Liberty to a 19-13 record...this year the Flames return 10 players, including two of their leading scorers - seniors Jesse Sanders (11.3 ppg) and John Brown (11.3 ppg, 10.8 rpg)...Sanders, who led the Big South in assists (5.7 apg), was the first player in Flames history to be named AP honorable mention All-American...he also garnered Big South Player of the Year laurels.

UDC Firebirds - Jeff Ruland is in his third season as head coach of the Firebirds...the former two-time NBA all-star guided UDC to a 10-win improvement from his first to second year at the helm...the Firebirds welcome back their top two leading scorers from a year ago...senior guard Brandon Herbert poured in 19.9 points per game while also leading the team with 35 steals...alongside Herbert in the back court is senior Nigel Munson, who averaged 18.4 points and contributed 6.7 assists per game.

Valparaiso Crusaders - For the first time since 2003, legendary coach Homer Drew will not be on the sidelines for the Crusaders...however, there will still be a Drew leading the team as his son Bryce, the most decorated player in Valparaiso history, takes over for his father...Drew inherits a team that won 23 games and finished fourth in the Horizon League...Valpo returns

eight players, including junior guards Ryan Broekhoff (10.3 ppg), and Matt Kenney (77 assists).

William & Mary Tribe - Head coach Tony Shaver returns 12 players in 2011-12, led by senior guard Quinn McDowell (15.5 ppg, 5.4 rpg) and sophomore Brandon Britt (10.8 ppg)...McDowell is a two-time all-CAA selection and the league's leading returning scorer...in his eighth year leading the Tribe, Shaver has been named the CAA Coach of the Year twice, most recently in 2010, when the Tribe earned its second-ever NIT bid.

In the 2010 2K Sports Classic, Pittsburgh's Ashton Gibbs scored 24 points to lead the then No. 4 Panthers to a thrilling 68-66 win over then No. 22 Texas. Both teams used their 2K Sports Classic success to jump start tremendous seasons as both teams reached a high of No. 2 in the national polls.

2K Sports, known for delivering the most innovative and realistic sports simulation experience available, is the title sponsor of the event for the seventh consecutive year. 2K Sports develops and publishes the popular and highly acclaimed NBA 2K series - the top selling and highest rated next-generation basketball video game on the market.

The 2K Sports Classic is produced by the Gazelle Group of 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 Progressive CBE Classic, TicketCity Legends Classic, the CBI presented by Zebra Pen, and the All-American Championship. The Gazelle Group is a member of USA Basketball. For more information on the Gazelle Group, please visit www.gazellegroup.com.

The Coaches vs. Cancer program, a nationwide collaboration between the American Cancer Society and National Association of Basketball Coaches (NABC), exists to leverage the strength and community leadership of the nation's basketball coaches to raise awareness and reduce the risk of cancer while raising funds for the American Cancer Society's fight to save lives from cancer.

Beginning in 2012, Wounded Warrior Project will become the beneficiary of the event. The mission of Wounded Warrior Project (WWP) is to honor and empower wounded warriors. WWP's purpose is to raise awareness and to enlist the public's aid for the needs of injured service members, to help injured servicemen and women aid and assist each other, and to provide unique, direct programs and services to meet their needs. WWP is a national nonpartisan organization headquartered in Jacksonville, Fla.