

November 7, 2012

Contact: Ray Cella (rcella@gazellegroup.com), 609-921-1300

2K Sports Classic Tips-Off Friday **Villanova, Purdue, Alabama, and Oregon State headline the field**

PRINCETON, N.J. - The 18th annual 2K Sports Classic benefiting Wounded Warrior Project tips off Friday with four games being played across the country:

- * At 7:00pm (ET), Villanova hosts UDC
- * At 7:00pm (ET) on BTN.com, Bucknell is at Purdue
- * At 9:00pm (ET) on ESPNU, Alabama entertains South Dakota State
- * At 9:00pm (ET) on the Pac-12 Network, Niagara is at Oregon State

Four more Regional Round games will be played on Sunday, Nov. 11:

- * At 1:00pm (ET) on ESPN3, Marshall is at Villanova
- * At 2:00pm (ET) on BTN.com, Purdue hosts Hofstra
- * At 5:00pm (ET), Alabama is home to West Alabama
- * At 9:30pm (ET) on ESPNU, Oregon State welcomes New Mexico State to Corvallis

After the Regional Round, Villanova, Purdue, Alabama, and Oregon State will travel to New York City and square off in the Championship Rounds of the 2K Sports Classic benefiting Wounded Warrior Project. Semifinal games take place on Thursday Nov. 15 at Madison Square Garden with Alabama meeting Oregon State at 7:00pm and Villanova taking on Purdue at 9:00pm. On Nov. 16, the consolation game will commence at 5:00pm with the title match at 7:30pm. All four games of the Championship Rounds will be televised on ESPN Networks.

The remaining teams of the 2K Sports Classic benefiting Wounded Warrior Project field will participate in Subregional action. Hofstra will host Marshall, South Dakota State, and UDC with each team playing three games at the Mack Sports Complex from Nov. 16-18. Bucknell, New Mexico State, and West Alabama will travel to Niagara where the Purple Eagles will serve as host for three days at the Gallagher Center from Nov. 16-18. New Mexico State will host Northern New Mexico on Nov. 21 in the other Subregional match-up.

Tickets for Championship Round games at Madison Square Garden are on sale and may be purchased by calling **800-745-3000** or **ON-LINE**. Tickets for Regional and Subregional Round games may be purchased at the host institution's ticket office.

In the 2011 2K Sports Classic, Mississippi State's Arnett Moultrie garnered MVP honors after posting 19 points and 10 rebounds in leading the Bulldogs to a 67-57 upset of then-No. 16 Arizona. Mississippi State used its 2K Sports Classic success to jump start a run of 12 consecutive weeks in the Top 25 polls.

Over the last nine years, 34 teams that participated in the 2K Sports Classic have gone on to compete in the NCAA Tournament that season.

Beginning with this year's event, [Wounded Warrior Project](#) is the beneficiary of the tournament. 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.

2K Sports, known for delivering the most innovative and realistic sports simulation experience available, is the title sponsor of the event for the eighth 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 Northeast Conference (NEC) is the sponsoring conference of the 2K Sports Classic benefiting Wounded Warrior Project. Entering its 32nd season, the NEC is a NCAA Division I collegiate athletic association consisting of 12 institutions of higher learning located throughout six states. For more information on the NEC, visit the official website at www.northeastconference.org or follow on Twitter @NECsports.

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 Legends Classic, the Gotham Classic, the College Basketball Invitational, and the All-American Championship. For more information on the Gazelle Group, please visit gazellegroup.com.