



Georgia State to Host 3-Game Round-Robin MTE

Panthers will be joined by Eastern Kentucky, UNC Asheville, and Texas A&M-Commerce

PRINCETON, N.J. – Georgia State will play host to Eastern Kentucky, UNC Asheville, and Texas A&M-Commerce in a three-game round-robin tournament at the GSU Convocation Center from Nov. 18-20.

In 2022-23, Georgia State will be under the direction of first-year head coach Jonas Hayes, who comes to Atlanta after serving as interim head coach at Xavier and leading the Musketeers to the NIT championship. He inherits a team that captured the 2022 Sun Belt Conference title and earned a bid to the NCAA Tournament, the third NCAA Tournament trip in the last five years and the fifth in the last eight years for the Panthers. Since the 2013-14 season, Georgia State has won more games (187) than any other Division I basketball program in the state of Georgia.

In four seasons under A.W. Hamilton, Eastern Kentucky has set 27 program records. This past season, EKU broke records for 3-pointers made in a game (25), 3-pointers attempted in a game (51), and 3-pointers made (363) and attempted (1,029) in a season. In doing so, the Colonels led their conference in scoring for the second straight season, netting 79 ppg (16th nationally). They also ranked second in the country in turnover margin (+5.84), third in 3-pointers (11.71), fourth in steals (10.19), and seventh in turnovers forced (17.42). Hamilton welcomes a recruiting class ranked as high as 65th by 247Sports.

Head coach Mike Morrell, who will enter his fifth season with Asheville, led the Bulldogs to their first postseason win since 2011 when they downed Stephen F. Austin, 80-68, in the CBI, which was their first postseason appearance in four seasons. The Bulldogs won eight non-conference games in 2021-22 for the second time in 14 seasons en route to tying the 2016-17 squad with best non-conference winning percentage (.615) since 2007-08. Tennessee transfer Drew Pember blocked 93 shots last season, tying for the second-most in a season at Asheville. In one season, he already ranks 10th all-time at the school.

The 2022-23 season will mark the first Division I season for A&M-Commerce. The Lions have a history of success, having made NCAA Division II tournament appearances in four of the last six seasons and upsetting UTSA in an exhibition game last year. A&M-Commerce ranked second nationally with 149 blocks (5.7 bpg) and is coached by Jaret von Rosenberg, who owns an 88-46 record in five seasons.

Below is the schedule for the event:

Friday, Nov. 18:

Game 1- Eastern Kentucky vs. Georgia State

Game 2- Asheville vs. A&M-Commerce

Saturday, Nov. 19:

Game 1- A&M-Commerce vs Georgia State

Game 2- Asheville vs Eastern Kentucky

Sunday, Nov. 20:

Game 1- A&M-Commerce vs Eastern Kentucky

Game 2- Asheville vs Georgia State

About the Gazelle Group

The Gazelle Group is a sports marketing firm located in Princeton, N.J., specializing in event production and management, client representation, and sponsorship consulting. Gazelle produces numerous nationally-recognized college basketball events, such as the Empire Classic benefiting Wounded Warrior Project presented by Continental Tire, the Legends Classic presented by Old Trapper, the Gotham Classic, the Sunshine Slam, and the College Basketball Invitational, as well as the Kwik Trip Holiday Face-Off hockey tournament. For more information on the Gazelle Group, please visit www.gazellegroup.com.