



California Baptist to Host 3-Game Round-Robin MTE

Lancers will be joined by Cal Poly, Portland State, and St. Thomas

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PRINCETON, N.J. – California Baptist will play host to Cal Poly, Portland State, and St. Thomas in a three-game round-robin tournament with all games held at the Dale E. and Sarah Ann Fowler Events Center in Riverside, CA from Nov. 17-19.

The schedule for the event is as follows:

Friday Nov 17:

Game 1- Portland State vs CBU

Game 2- Cal Poly vs St. Thomas

Saturday Nov 18:

Game 1- St. Thomas vs CBU

Game 2- Cal Poly vs Portland State

Sunday Nov 19:

Game 1- Cal Poly vs CBU

Game 2- Portland State vs St. Thomas

[California Baptist](#) finished with a winning record for their fifth consecutive season as a Division I member going 17-16 in 2022-23. The Lancers won their first-ever game over a power-5 opponent in 2022 when they defeated Washington in November. CBU reached the Quarterfinals of the WAC Tournament falling to Sam Houston. Now the winningest coach in program history, Rick Croy will be in his 11th season at the helm of Cal Baptist.

[Portland State](#) returns 10 players from its 2022-23 team as head coach Jace Coburn enters his third season. The Vikings led the Big Sky Conference in steals (7.1) for the eighth season in a row, as well as blocked shots (3.4), turnover margin (+3.9) and turnovers forced (16.0). Portland State beat in state foe Oregon State twice last season and also defeated Cal Baptist during the 2022-23 regular season.

[St. Thomas](#) enters its third year as a Division I program and saw significant improvements in the 2022-23 campaign. Of the 50 men's basketball schools to reclassify into D-I over the last 25 years, St. Thomas had the second-best improvement from year one to year two, going from 10-20 to 19-14. The Tommie's finished tied for fourth in the Summit League and reached the semifinals of the Summit League tournament. It will be Johnny Taur 13th year as the head coach of St. Thomas.

[Cal Poly](#) is set to welcome back eight letter winners from last season, including 6-6 senior guard Kobe Sanders (7.7 PPG, 24 appearances), 7-1 senior center Bryan Penn-Johnson (63.5 FG%, 32 appearances) and 6-7 junior guard Julien Franklin (31 appearances). As of April 27, Cal Poly will also welcome four newcomers to lineup, including 6-4 graduate guard Jarred Hyder (from California). The Mustangs are under the direction of 5th year head coach John Smith.

About the Gazelle Group

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