



### ***Ax 'Em Classic Schedule Announced.***

*Stephen F. Austin will face Monmouth, Presbyterian, and Youngstown State.*

#### **For Immediate Release**

September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024

#### **Princeton, N.J. –**

The Gazelle Group is pleased to announce that Stephen F. Austin will play host to Monmouth, Presbyterian, and Youngstown State in the Axe 'Em Classic, a three game round-robin tournament.

Each game will take place at William R. Johnson Coliseum between November 21<sup>st</sup> and November 23<sup>rd</sup>.

#### **Stephen F Austin: Head Coach: Kyle Keller (Southland Conference)**

Kyle Keller begins his 9<sup>th</sup> season as the Head Coach of the Lumberjacks after an 18-15 record in 2023-24. Keller has posted impressive accolades during his time with Stephen F. Austin including becoming the fastest coach in school history to 100 wins and a victory over top-ranked Duke in 2019. After spending their last three seasons in the WAC, the Lumberjacks return to the Southland Conference in 2024-25.

#### **Monmouth: Head Coach: King Rice (Coastal Athletic Association)**

King Rice enters his 14<sup>th</sup> season in charge of the Hawks. Rice has posted a 207-208 (.499) record in his 13 years as head coach and won 3 regular season conference championships. The Hawks hope to build off a winning season in 2023-24 and emerge to the top of the CAA.

[Presbyterian](#): *Head Coach: Quinton Ferrell (Big South Conference)*

Quinton Ferrell enters his 6<sup>th</sup> season as head coach, and 11<sup>th</sup> season at Presbyterian. Ferrell posted a career high in wins during 2023-24 and hopes to build off of last season's momentum. Kobe Stewart and Jamahri Harvey highlight the returners for the Blue Hose in 2024-25

[Youngstown State](#): *Head Coach: Ethan Faulkner (Horizon League)*

Ethan Faulkner enters his first season as the head coach of Youngstown State. Faulkner became a member of the Penguins' staff in 2019 and was promoted to associate head coach in 2022. Youngstown State's 98 wins since 2019, when Faulkner joined the Penguins' staff, are the most in any 5-year stretch in school history.

Below is the schedule for the event:

Thursday, November 21<sup>st</sup>:

Monmouth vs. Youngstown State	4:00 PM CST
Presbyterian vs. Stephen F. Austin	6:30 PM CST

Friday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>:

Presbyterian vs. Youngstown State	2:30 PM CST
Monmouth vs. Stephen F. Austin	5:00 PM CST

Saturday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>:

Presbyterian vs. Monmouth	11:00 AM CST
Youngstown State vs. Stephen F. Austin	6:00 PM CST

**About the Gazelle Group**

The Gazelle Group is a sports marketing firm, specializing in event production and management, client representation, and sponsorship consulting. Gazelle produces numerous nationally recognized college sports events, such as the Empire Classic, Legends Classic, Gotham Classic, Sunshine Slam, College Basketball Invitational, Kwik Trip Holiday Face-Off, Deacon-Wolverine Challenge, Boardwalk Battle, Jersey Jam, and Holiday Hoopfest as well as on-campus events at Duke, Kentucky, Ohio State, Marquette and other institutions across the country. For more information on the Gazelle Group, please visit <https://www.gazellegroup.com/main/>.

**About the Northeast Conference**

The Northeast Conference (NEC) is the sponsoring conference of the Axe 'Em Classic. Now in its 44<sup>th</sup> season, the NEC is an NCAA Division I collegiate athletic association consisting of 9 institutions of higher learning located throughout six states. For more information on the NEC, visit the official website at [www.northeastconference.org](http://www.northeastconference.org) or follow on Twitter [@NECsports](https://twitter.com/NECsports).