

August 5, 2010

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

2K Sports Classic

benefiting Coaches vs. Cancer

Bracket Completed

ESPN Family of Networks to Televisе Eight Tournament Games

PRINCETON, N.J. – The schedule and national television coverage for the 16th annual **2K Sports Classic benefiting Coaches vs. Cancer** men's college basketball tournament have been completed.

Pittsburgh, Texas, Maryland, and Illinois will serve as the four Regional Round hosts for the event, matchups for which were previously announced. The tournament will begin with Regional Round action, November 8-10, with the four host schools advancing to the Championship Rounds at New York's Madison Square Garden on November 18-19.

In the Championship Rounds' first semifinal game on Thursday, November 18, Pittsburgh will face Maryland at 7:00 PM EST, followed by the Illinois-Texas game. The winners will meet in the championship game on Friday, November 19, which will be preceded by the consolation game at 5:00 PM EST.

The Irvine and Toledo subregional rounds will be held from November 19-21. UC Irvine will host Louisiana Tech, Navy, and Seattle, while Toledo will entertain Charleston, Illinois-Chicago, and Rhode Island. Each team will play three games in the subregional rounds.

A total of eight games will be televised on the ESPN family of networks. ESPNU will televise both games of the Austin Regional Rounds when Texas hosts Navy (Nov. 8) and Louisiana Tech (Nov. 10). ESPNU will also air the first Pittsburgh Regional Round game featuring Pitt and Rhode Island on November 8, as well as the second College Park Regional Round game on November 10 between Maryland and Charleston. ESPN2 will televise all four games of the Championship Rounds in New York, November 18-19. Additional television coverage will be announced at a later date.

Outlined below are the dates, times, locations, match-ups, and current television coverage for the tournament.

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

---- CHAMPIONSHIP ROUNDS ----

Semifinal Doubleheader

Madison Square Garden - New York, N.Y.

Thursday, November 18 - 7:00 PM EST

Pittsburgh vs. Maryland (ESPN2)

Illinois vs. Texas (ESPN2)

Championship Doubleheader

Madison Square Garden - New York, N.Y.

Friday, November 19 - 5:00 PM EST

Consolation Game (ESPN2)

Championship Game (ESPN2)

---- REGIONAL ROUNDS ----

Pittsburgh Regional Rounds

Petersen Events Center - Pittsburgh, Pa.

Monday, November 8 - 7:00 PM EST

Rhode Island vs. Pittsburgh (ESPNU)

Wednesday, November 10 - TBA

Illinois-Chicago vs. Pittsburgh

Austin Regional Rounds

Frank Erwin Center - Austin, Texas

Monday, November 8 - 9:00 PM EST

Navy vs. Texas (ESPNU)

Wednesday, November 10 - 9:00 PM EST

Louisiana Tech vs. Texas (ESPNU)

College Park Regional Rounds

Comcast Center - College Park, Md.

Monday, November 8 - TBA

Seattle vs. Maryland

Champaign Regional Rounds

Assembly Hall - Champaign, Ill.

Monday, November 8 - TBA

UC Irvine vs. Illinois

Wednesday, November 10 - 7:00 PM EST
Charleston vs. Maryland (ESPNU)

Wednesday, November 10 - TBA
Toledo vs. Illinois

---- SUBREGIONAL ROUNDS ----

Toledo Subregional Rounds

John F. Savage Arena - Toledo, Ohio

Friday, November 19 - 4:30 PM EST

Rhode Island vs. Charleston

Illinois-Chicago vs. Toledo

Saturday, November 20 - 4:30 PM EST

Charleston vs. Illinois-Chicago

Rhode Island vs. Toledo

Sunday, November 21 - 2:30 PM EST

Illinois-Chicago vs. Rhode Island

Charleston vs. Toledo

Irvine Subregional Rounds

Bren Events Center - Irvine, Calif.

Friday, November 19 - 8:00 PM EST

Seattle vs. Louisiana Tech

Navy vs. UC Irvine

Saturday, November 20 - 8:00 PM EST

Louisiana Tech vs. Navy

Seattle vs. UC Irvine

Sunday, November 21 - 6:00 PM EST

Navy vs. Seattle

Louisiana Tech vs. UC Irvine

TICKET INFORMATION: Championship Round tickets are now **ON SALE** and can be purchased by visiting Ticketmaster.com or calling Ticketmaster at **866-448-7849**.

THE FIELD

Pittsburgh - Pitt ended the season ranked 18th (AP) and 20th (ESPN/USA Today) with a 25-9 record...Pitt earned its ninth-straight NCAA Tournament bid - the longest streak among Big East schools - and advanced to the second round...the Panthers return junior guard Ashton Gibbs (15.7 ppg), a Scotch Plains, N.J., (Seton Hall Prep) native and second-team All-Big East honoree, and sophomore guard Travon Woodall (5.0 ppg, 108 assists) of Brooklyn, N.Y. (St. Anthony's (N.J.))...New York area recruits include Top 100 prospects J.J. Moore (Brentwood, N.Y./South Kent School (Conn.) and Isiah Epps (Plainfield, N.J./Hargrave Military Academy (Va.))...the Panthers are ranked 7th in Andy Katz's (ESPN) preseason Top 25 and 12th in Dick Vitale's (ESPN) preseason Top 40.

Texas - The Longhorns went 24-10, spending two weeks atop both polls in mid-January...Texas advanced to its 12th-straight NCAA Tournament in 2010 and has been to five Sweet 16s over the last nine years...sophomore guard J'Covan Brown (9.6 ppg, 80 assists) and sophomore swingman Jordan Hamilton (10.0 ppg) highlight a young and talented Longhorn squad...Texas' incoming class has been rated as high as eighth in the nation...ranked 17th in Dick Vitale's (ESPN) preseason Top 40.

Maryland - The Terps were 24-9 this past season and co-champions of the Atlantic Coast Conference...ended the season ranked 18th (ESPN/USA Today) and 20th (AP) and earned a berth in the NCAA Tournament...the Terps return 10 players, including junior guard Sean Mosley (10.1 ppg and 5.1 rpg) and sophomore forwards Jordan Williams (9.6 ppg and a team-best 8.6 rpg), who was named to the ACC All-Rookie team, and Brooklyn's James Padgett (Lincoln H.S.), who is expected to have a larger role in Maryland's rotation...the Terps' Top 20 recruiting class includes Ashton Pankey of the Bronx (St. Anthony's (N.J.))...ranked 38th in Dick Vitale's (ESPN) preseason Top 40.

Illinois - The Illini went 21-15 in advancing to the quarterfinals of the NIT...has finished among the Big Ten's top five in six of head coach Bruce Weber's seven seasons...first-team All-Big Ten pick Demetri McCamey returns for his senior year after leading the Illini in scoring (15.1 ppg) and placing second in the nation in assists (7.1 apg)...Big Ten Rookie of the Year guard D.J. Richardson netted 10.5 ppg as a freshman last year...the Illini, who welcome a Top 10 recruiting class, are ranked 15th in Andy Katz's (ESPN) preseason Top 25 and 18th in Dick Vitale's (ESPN) preseason Top 40.

Charleston - The Cougars went 22-12 and reached the second round of the College Basketball Invitational, marking the third time in four years under head coach Bobby Cremins that they achieved a 20-win season.

Illinois-Chicago - The Flames, who return 12 players from last year's team, will be under the direction of a

new head coach as Jimmy Collins, the winningest coach in school history, will leave at the end of August.

Louisiana Tech - Louisiana Tech posted a 24-11 record, its most wins since the 1984-85 season...the Bulldogs recorded 13 non-conference wins, also the most since 1984-85.

Navy - The Midshipmen, who were 13-17 this past season, are one of only two programs in the Patriot League to finish in the top half of the standings each of the last three seasons.

Rhode Island - Rhody compiled a 26-10 record in advancing to the semifinals of the 2010 NIT...the Rams have won 52 non-conference games over the last three seasons.

Seattle - The Redhawks, who are currently in the process of reclassifying from Division II to Division I, posted a 17-14 record last season while playing a Division I schedule.

Toledo - The Rockets will be led by first-year head coach Tod Kowalczyk, who comes to Toledo after eight successful seasons at Green Bay.

UC Irvine - Russell Turner will make his collegiate head coaching debut in the 2K Sports Classic benefiting Coaches vs. Cancer...Turner was hired after spending six years with the Golden State Warriors.

Last year's 2K Sports Classic benefiting Coaches vs. Cancer drew in excess of 141,000 fans across the seven hosting venues with Syracuse defeating defending national champion North Carolina to claim the title. This year marks the 13th consecutive season that the Classic has been played at Madison Square Garden.

The Coaches vs. Cancer program, a collaboration between the [American Cancer Society](#) and [National Association of Basketball Coaches](#) (NABC), exists to leverage the strength, community leadership, and celebrity status of the nation's basketball coaches in an effort to raise awareness and reduce cancer risk through education programs while raising funds for the American Cancer Society's vision of a world with less cancer and more birthdays. **Since 1995, the event has raised more than \$4.5 million for the benefit of Coaches vs. Cancer.**

The 2K Sports Classic benefiting Coaches vs. Cancer 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 O'Reilly Auto Parts CBE Classic, the Legends Classic, and the College Basketball Invitational (CBI). For more information on The Gazelle Group, please visit gazellegroup.com.