

## **ESPN's 30th Season of Men's College Basketball: Approximately 1,100 Games Across Multiple Platforms**

**New College Hoops Tip-Off Marathon Nov. 18; More than 860 Games on ESPN360.com Including Simulcast of All ESPN, ESPN2, ESPN Classic and ABC Games; New Big 12 Agreement Begins; Most Games Ever on ESPNU; College GameDay and Saturday Primetime Return; Special Events, Franchise Programming and More**

The 2008-09 ESPN on ABC, ESPN, ESPN2, ESPNU, ESPN360.com, ESPN Classic, ESPN Regional Television and ESPN FULL COURT men's college basketball schedule will feature approximately 1,100 telecasts - the most ever on the ESPN networks and the most extensive coverage by any media – beginning November 10. Highlights of ESPN's 30th season of coverage include:

- The new *College Hoops Tip-Off Marathon* celebrating the beginning of the season with 23 consecutive hours of live college basketball themed programming. Coverage will be highlighted by eight games on ESPN including at midnight ET, 2 a.m. and 4 a.m. and conclude with Kentucky at North Carolina at 9 p.m.
- More than 860 games on ESPN360.com -- the broadband sports television network from ESPN -- including 14 original productions and simulcasts of every ESPN, ESPN2, ESPN Classic and ABC split national telecast as well as every ESPN FULL COURT pay-per-view game.
- A record number of games on ESPNU, the 24-hour college sports network, with approximately 235. This year will also mark the first year ESPNU will televise games in high definition on ESPNU HD, a high definition service launched August 28. ESPN HD, ESPN2 HD and ABC HD will continue to offer an extensive schedule of high definition games.
- The first year of a new eight-year agreement with the Big 12 conference featuring approximately 95 game telecasts per season, highlighted by a new Wednesday night series on ESPN2 and the return of games on *Big Monday* during conference play and games across ABC, ESPN, ESPN2, ESPNU, ESPN360.com, ESPN Regional Television (branded Big 12 Network) and ESPN FULL COURT.
- An expanded *Thursday Night Showcase Presented by T. Rowe Price* schedule during conference play – generally featuring five games across ESPN and ESPN2 -- with the addition of an 11 p.m. West Coast Conference or Western Athletic Conference game. ESPNU will generally televise two to three games every Thursday.
- A new Saturday night time slot for the Big 12 Conference Championship (March 14 at 6 p.m. on ESPN) and the addition of SEC semifinal games (outside of SEC territory) and three WAC contests to the extensive *Championship Week Presented by Dick's Sporting Goods* lineup.

For the fourth straight season, ESPNU will offer the first nationally televised games beginning Monday, Nov. 10 at 7 p.m. ET with Presbyterian vs. Duke in the 2K Sports Classic Benefiting Coaches vs. Cancer (from Durham, N.C.). ESPNU will televise 14 of the first 16 games, including coverage of the 2K Sports Classic Benefiting Coaches vs. Cancer, O'Reilly Auto Parts CBE Classic and Dick's Sporting Goods NIT Season Tip-Off events involving Kansas, Duke, UCLA, Florida, Arizona, Syracuse, Michigan, Boston College, Oklahoma and more.

Returning franchise programming will include *ESPNU Campus Connection Week*, formerly known as *Student Spirit Week*; *Feast Week Presented by Lowe's*; *Holiday Hoops Presented by Kay Jewelers*; *Rivalry Week Presented by Cisco*; *ESPNU BracketBusters*; *Judgment Week* and *Championship Week Presented by Dick's Sporting Goods*. Special tournaments and events will include the SEC/BIG EAST Invitational, O'Reilly Auto Parts Puerto Rico Tip-Off and 76 Classic, Old Spice Classic, 2K Sports Classic Benefiting Coaches vs. Cancer, EA Sports Maui Invitational, ACC/Big Ten Challenge, Jimmy V Classic, Big 12/Pac-10 Hardwood Series, Dick's Sporting Goods NIT Season Tip-Off, O'Reilly Auto Parts CBE Classic, NIT and Las Vegas Invitational.

### **ESPN and ESPN2 Day-by-Day Lineup**

ESPN and ESPN2 will combine to offer top games throughout the season, including in regular weekday time slots and every Saturday beginning January 12, highlighted by (conference assignments can vary):

- **Big Monday Presented by Bud Light:** A weekly ESPN doubleheader featuring the BIG EAST and Big 12 at 7 p.m. and 9 p.m., respectively.
- **Super Tuesday Presented by KFC:** An ESPN Big Ten, SEC doubleheader as well as a weekly ESPN2 primetime matchup featuring various conferences.

- **Wednesday Night Hoops Presented by Disney Parks:** A weekly Big 12 game on ESPN2 as well as weekly conference games featuring additional conferences such as the ACC and BIG EAST.
- **Thursday Night Showcase Presented by T. Rowe Price:** An expanded Thursday night schedule with an additional 11 p.m. ESPN2 window featuring a WCC or WAC game in addition to a BIG EAST and Big Ten matchup every week on ESPN or ESPN2 as well as action from the ACC, Atlantic 10, Pac-10 and SEC.
- **Saturdays:** Afternoon and evening games across ABC, ESPN, ESPN2 and ESPNU from top conferences including ACC, BIG EAST, Big Ten, Big 12, SEC and Conference USA. *Saturday Primetime*, a 9 p.m. game-of-the-week on ESPN, will begin January 17 with Miami at North Carolina.

### **College GameDay**

The fifth consecutive season of ESPN's *College GameDay Driven by State Farm*, ESPN's weekly college basketball road show, will originate from the site of the *Saturday Primetime* telecasts beginning January 17. *College GameDay* will feature two one-hour shows each Saturday: 11 a.m. and 8 p.m. The schedule (all *Saturday Primetime* telecasts at 9 p.m. except for January 24 which will begin at 7 p.m.):

|             |   |
|-------------|---|
| January 17  | Miami at North Carolina   |
| January 24  | Connecticut at Notre Dame<br>( <i>GameDay</i> begins at 6 p.m.; game at 7 p.m.) |
| January 31  | Florida at Tennessee  |
| February 7  | Memphis at Gonzaga  |
| February 14 | Ohio State at Wisconsin   |
| February 21 | Oklahoma at Texas   |
| February 28 | UCLA at California  |
| March 7     | Louisville at West Virginia   |

### **ABC, ESPN, ESPN2, ESPNU, ESPN360.com and ESPN Classic Game Highlights for 2008-09**

#### **A Sampling of 30 Top Non-Conference Showdowns for ESPN's 30th Season of Coverage**

| <b>Matchup</b>   | <b>Network, Date and Time (ET)</b>          |
|--|---|
| Massachusetts at Memphis ( <i>College Hoops Tip-Off Marathon</i> )   | ESPN and ESPN360.com, Nov. 18 at midnight   |
| Kentucky at North Carolina ( <i>College Hoops Tip-Off Marathon</i> ) | ESPN and ESPN360.com, Nov. 18 at 9 p.m.     |
| Indiana vs. Notre Dame (Maui)  | ESPN2 and ESPN360.com, Nov. 24 at 5 p.m.    |
| Syracuse vs. Florida (CBE Classic)                                   | ESPN2 and ESPN360.com, Nov. 24 at 7:30 p.m. |
| Maryland vs. Michigan State (Old Spice)                              | ESPN2 and ESPN360.com, Nov. 27 at 7 p.m.    |
| Ohio State at Miami (ACC/Big Ten Challenge)                          | ESPN and ESPN360.com, Dec. 2 at 7 p.m.      |
| Duke at Purdue (ACC/Big Ten Challenge)                               | ESPN and ESPN360.com, Dec. 2 at 9 p.m.      |
| North Carolina vs. Michigan State (Detroit – ACC/Big Ten Challenge)  | ESPN and ESPN360.com, Dec. 3 at 9:15 p.m.   |
| USC at Oklahoma (Big 12/Pac-10 Hardwood Series)                      | ESPN2 and ESPN360.com, Dec. 4 at 7 p.m.     |
| UCLA at Texas (Big 12/Pac-10 Hardwood Series)                        | ESPN2 and ESPN360.com, Dec. 4 at 9 p.m.     |
| Ohio State vs. Notre Dame (Indianapolis)                             | ESPNU, Dec. 6 at 4 p.m.                     |
| Miami at Kentucky  | ESPN and ESPN360.com, Dec. 6 at 5:30 p.m.   |
| Wisconsin at Marquette   | ESPNU, Dec. 6 at 9:30 p.m.                  |
| Davidson vs. West Virginia (New York City – Jimmy V Classic)         | ESPN and ESPN360.com, Dec. 9 at 7 p.m.      |
| Texas vs. Villanova (New York City – Jimmy V Classic)                | ESPN and ESPN360.com, Dec. 9 at 9 p.m.      |
| Tennessee at Temple  | ESPN and ESPN360.com, Dec. 13 at noon       |
| Utah at Oklahoma   | ESPN2 and ESPN360.com, Dec. 13 at 4 p.m.    |
| Marquette vs. Tennessee (Nashville – SEC/BIG EAST Invitational)      | ESPN and ESPN360.com, Dec. 16 at 9:30 p.m.  |

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| Temple at Kansas         | ESPN2 and ESPN360.com, Dec. 20 at 2:30 p.m. |
| Syracuse at Memphis      | ESPN and ESPN360.com, Dec. 20 at 6 p.m.     |
| Butler at Xavier         | ESPNU, Dec. 23 at 7 p.m.                    |
| Texas at Wisconsin       | ESPN2 and ESPN360.com, Dec. 23 at 9:30 p.m. |
| Cincinnati at Memphis    | ESPN2 and ESPN360.com, Dec. 29 at 9 p.m.    |
| UNLV at Louisville       | ESPN2 and ESPN360.com, Dec. 31 at 6 p.m.    |
| North Carolina at Nevada | ESPN2 and ESPN360.com, Dec. 31 at 10 p.m.   |
| Tennessee at Kansas      | ESPN and ESPN360.com, Jan. 3 at 2 p.m.      |
| Davidson at Duke         | ESPN and ESPN360.com, Jan. 7 at 7 p.m.      |
| Gonzaga at Tennessee     | ESPN2 and ESPN360.com, Jan. 7 at 9 p.m.     |
| Xavier at LSU            | ESPN2 and ESPN360.com, Jan. 24 at 8 p.m.    |
| Memphis at Gonzaga       | ESPN and ESPN360.com, Feb. 7 at 9 p.m.      |

### **A Sampling of 30 Top Conference Showdowns for ESPN's 30th Season of Coverage**

| <b>Matchup</b>                    | <b>Network, Date and Time (ET)</b>               | <b>Conference</b> |
|-----------------------------------|--|-------------------|
| Butler at Cleveland State         | ESPNU, Dec. 4 at 8 p.m.                          | Horizon           |
| Drake at Southern Illinois        | ESPNU, Jan. 4 at 7 p.m.                          | Missouri Valley   |
| Ohio State at Michigan State      | ESPN2 and ESPN360.com, Jan. 6 at 7 p.m.          | Big Ten           |
| Notre Dame at Louisville          | ESPN and ESPN360.com, Jan. 12 at 7 p.m.          | BIG EAST          |
| Memphis at Tulsa                  | ESPN2 and ESPN360.com, Jan. 13 at 7:30 p.m.      | C-USA             |
| Kentucky at Tennessee             | ESPN and ESPN360.com, Jan. 13 at 9 p.m.          | SEC               |
| Pittsburgh at Louisville          | ESPN and ESPN360.com, Jan. 17 at 6 p.m.          | BIG EAST          |
| Miami at North Carolina           | ESPN and ESPN360.com, Jan. 17 at 9 p.m.          | ACC               |
| Tennessee at Vanderbilt           | ESPN and ESPN360.com, Jan. 20 at 9 p.m.          | SEC               |
| St. Mary's (Calif.) at San Diego  | ESPN or ESPN2 and ESPN360.com, Jan. 22 at 9 p.m. | WCC               |
| Baylor at Oklahoma                | ESPNU, Jan 24 at 4 p.m.                          | Big 12            |
| Marquette at Notre Dame           | ESPN and ESPN360.com, Jan. 26 at 7 p.m.          | BIG EAST          |
| St. Mary's (Calif.) at Gonzaga    | ESPN2 and ESPN360.com, Jan. 29 at 11 p.m.        | WCC               |
| Florida at Tennessee              | ESPN and ESPN360.com, Jan. 31 at 9 p.m.          | SEC               |
| Kansas at Baylor                  | ESPN and ESPN360.com, Feb. 2 at 9 p.m.           | Big 12            |
| Purdue at Ohio State              | ESPN and ESPN360.com, Feb. 3 at 7 p.m.           | Big Ten           |
| Temple at Xavier                  | ESPN or ESPN2 and ESPN360.com, Feb. 5 at 7 p.m.  | Atlantic 10       |
| College of Charleston at Davidson | ESPN2 and ESPN360.com, Feb. 7 at 6 p.m.          | Southern          |
| Syracuse at Connecticut           | ESPN and ESPN360.com, Feb. 11 at 7 p.m.          | BIG EAST          |
| North Carolina at Duke            | ESPN and ESPN360.com, Feb. 11 at 9 p.m.          | ACC               |
| UCLA at Arizona State             | ESPN or ESPN2 and ESPN360.com, Feb. 12 at 9 p.m. | Pac-10            |
| Kansas at Kansas State            | ABC and ESPN360.com, Feb. 14 at 3:30 p.m.        | Big 12            |
| Creighton at Southern Illinois    | ESPN2 and ESPN360.com, Feb. 14 at 5 p.m.         | Missouri Valley   |
| Michigan State at Purdue          | ESPN and ESPN360.com, Feb. 17 at 7 p.m.          | Big Ten           |
| Oklahoma at Texas                 | ESPN and ESPN360.com, Feb. 21 at 9 p.m.          | Big 12            |
| Memphis at UAB                    | ESPN or ESPN2 and ESPN360.com, Feb. 26 at 9 p.m. | C-USA             |
| Duke at Virginia Tech             | ABC and ESPN360.com, Feb. 28 at 3:30 p.m.        | ACC               |
| Gonzaga at San Diego              | ESPN2 and ESPN360.com, Feb. 28 at 7:30 p.m.      | WCC               |
| Baylor at Texas                   | ESPN and ESPN360.com, March 2 at 9 p.m.          | Big 12            |
| North Carolina at Virginia Tech   | ESPN and ESPN360.com, March 4 at 7 p.m.          | ACC               |

### **Tournaments/Special Events**

#### **•2K Sports Classic Benefiting Coaches vs. Cancer – ESPN2, ESPNU and ESPN360.com, Nov. 10-21**

ESPN2 and ESPNU will combine to televise 10 games of the annual event featuring 16 teams, each from a different conference, competing at four regional sites with each site winner advancing to play for the championship at Madison Square Garden in New York (ESPN360.com will simulcast ESPN2's coverage). Participating teams include Duke, UCLA and Michigan.

•**O'Reilly Auto Parts CBE Classic** – ESPN, ESPN2, ESPNU and ESPN360.com, Nov. 14-25

ESPN, ESPN2 and ESPNU will combine to televise 10 games of the event featuring a new format of 12 teams competing at four regional sites (ESPN360.com will simulcast ESPN and ESPN2's coverage) with the regional hosts (Kansas, Florida, Syracuse and Washington) automatically advancing to the Championship Rounds in Kansas City. The remaining teams will advance to play a round-robin series at one of two other sites.

•**Dick's Sporting Goods NIT Season Tip-Off** – ESPN2, ESPNU and ESPN360.com, Nov. 17-28

The networks will combine to present 12 telecasts of the early-season tournament, including the semifinals and championship from Madison Square Garden in New York City (ESPN360.com will simulcast ESPN2's coverage). Participating teams include Purdue, Arizona, Boston College, Davidson and Oklahoma.

•**O'Reilly Auto Parts Puerto Rico Tip-Off** – ESPN2, ESPNU and ESPN360.com, Nov. 20-23

ESPN2, ESPNU and ESPN360.com will televise all 12 games of the second annual event from San Juan, Puerto Rico (ESPN360.com will simulcast ESPN2's coverage). Participating teams include Memphis, Xavier, USC, Virginia Tech, Seton Hall, Missouri, Fairfield and Chattanooga.

•**EA SPORTS Maui Invitational** – ESPN, ESPN2, ESPNU and ESPN360.com, Nov. 24-26

ESPN, ESPN2 and ESPNU will televise all 12 games, marking the fourth straight year every game of the event will be televised (ESPN360.com will simulcast ESPN and ESPN2's coverage). Host Chaminade will be joined by North Carolina, Texas, Notre Dame, Indiana, Oregon, Alabama and St. Joseph's.

•**76 Classic**– ESPN2, ESPNU and ESPN360.com, Nov. 27-30

ESPN2 and ESPNU will televise all 12 games of the second annual event from Anaheim, Calif. (ESPN360.com will simulcast ESPN2's coverage). Participating teams include Wake Forest, Baylor, Providence, Arizona State and St. Mary's (Calif.), Cal State-Fullerton, UTEP and Charlotte.

•**Old Spice Classic** – ESPN, ESPN2, ESPNU and ESPN360.com, Nov. 27-30

ESPN, ESPN2 and ESPNU will televise all 12 games of the third annual event from Orlando, Fla. (ESPN360.com will simulcast ESPN and ESPN2's coverage). Participating teams include Gonzaga, Tennessee, Georgetown, Michigan State, Maryland, Oklahoma State, Siena and Wichita State.

•**ACC/Big Ten Challenge**– ESPN, ESPN2, ESPNU and ESPN360.com, Dec. 1-3

ESPN, ESPN2 and ESPNU will combine to televise all 11 games of the 10th annual ACC/Big Ten Challenge (ESPN360.com will simulcast ESPN and ESPN2's coverage). It will mark the seventh consecutive year every game of the event between the two conferences playing for the Commissioner's Cup will be televised.

•**Big 12/Pac-10 Hardwood Series** – ESPN2, ESPNU and ESPN360.com, Dec. 4-7

ESPN2 and ESPNU (with simulcasts of ESPN2 games on ESPN360.com) will televise five matchups of the annual event between two of the top conferences.

•**Jimmy V Men's Basketball Classic** – ESPN and ESPN360.com, Dec. 9

The 14th annual Jimmy V Men's Basketball Classic will showcase four elite programs in an ESPN doubleheader December 9 (simulcast on ESPN360.com). For the fifth consecutive year, New York City's famed Madison Square Garden will host the two-game, college basketball showcase: Davidson vs. West Virginia at 7 p.m. followed by Texas vs. Villanova at 9 p.m. A portion of the proceeds from the event will benefit The V Foundation for Cancer Research.

•**SEC/BIG EAST Invitational** – ESPN, ESPN2 and ESPN360.com, Dec. 16-18

ESPN and ESPN2 (with simulcasts on ESPN360.com) will televise all four matchups of the second annual event between the two premier conferences from two neutral sites (Nashville and Cincinnati).

•**NCAA Tournament Opening Round Game** – ESPN, March 17

For the eighth straight year, ESPN (simulcast on ESPN360.com) will feature the matchup of seeds #65 and #64 from Dayton (March 17, 7:30 p.m.).

• **NIT – ESPN, ESPN2, ESPNU and ESPN360.com, March 17-April 2**

For the second consecutive year, ESPN, ESPN2, ESPNU and ESPN360.com will combine to feature extensive coverage of the NIT, culminating with coverage of the semifinals (March 31 at 7 and 9 p.m. on ESPN2) and championship (April 2 at 7 p.m. on ESPN) from New York (ESPN360.com will simulcast every ESPN and ESPN2 game).

**Franchise Programming (ESPN360.com will simulcast every ESPN, ESPN2, ESPN Classic and ABC Split National telecast)**

• **College Hoops Tip-Off Marathon – Nov. 18**

Creative new way to mark the opening of the season with 23 consecutive hours of college basketball focused coverage on ESPN November 18 beginning at midnight with a tripleheader: Massachusetts at Memphis at midnight followed by Fresno State at St. Mary's at 2 a.m. and Idaho State at Hawaii at 4 a.m.

Thirteen game telecasts across ESPN, ESPN2 and ESPNU with ESPN360.com simulcasting every ESPN and ESPN2 telecast.

• **Feast Week Presented by Lowe's - Nov. 24-30**

Encompasses matchups surrounding Thanksgiving, including the NIT Season Tip-Off, Maui Invitational, Old Spice Classic, CBE Classic, 76 Classic and more.

• **Holiday Hoops Presented by Kay Jewelers - Dec. 17-23**

Fifth annual week highlighted by non-conference matchups: Siena at Pittsburgh (Dec. 17, ESPN2), Mississippi vs. Louisville (Dec. 17, ESPN), Temple at Kansas (Dec. 20, ESPN2), Syracuse at Memphis (Dec. 20, ESPN), Missouri vs. Illinois (Dec. 23, ESPN2) and Texas at Wisconsin (Dec. 23, ESPN2).

• **ESPNU Campus Connection Week – Jan. 19-25**

Newly renamed week featuring student involvement in content around games across the ESPN networks previously known as *Student Spirit Week* for its first two years.

Features 39 games, including: Syracuse at Pittsburgh (Jan. 19, ESPN), Ohio State at Illinois (Jan. 20, ESPN), Tennessee at Vanderbilt (Jan. 20, ESPN), Villanova at Connecticut (Jan. 21, ESPN), Clemson at North Carolina (Jan. 21, ESPN), St. Mary's (Calif.) at San Diego (Jan. 22, ESPN or ESPN2), Maryland at Duke (Jan. 24, ESPN) and Texas A&M at Texas (Jan. 24, ESPNU).

• **Rivalry Week Presented by Cisco – Feb. 9-16**

Thirteenth year includes 46 games, highlighted by conference games: Kansas at Missouri (Feb. 9, ESPN), Florida at Kentucky (Feb. 10, ESPN), Syracuse at Connecticut (Feb. 11, ESPN), North Carolina at Duke (Feb. 11, ESPN), Temple at St. Joseph's (Feb. 12, ESPN or ESPN2), Kansas at Kansas State (Feb. 14, ABC), Creighton at Southern Illinois (Feb. 14, ESPN2), Pittsburgh at Connecticut (Feb. 16, ESPN) and Texas at Texas A&M (Feb. 16, ESPN).

• **ESPNU BracketBusters - Feb. 20-21**

Seventh annual two-day extravaganza pitting NCAA tournament hopefuls against each other features 13 games selected from a pool of 102 teams.

• **Judgment Week – Feb. 23-March 1**

Pivotal week in the stretch run for conference supremacy features 34 games, including Louisville at Georgetown (Feb. 25, ESPN), Kansas at Oklahoma (Feb. 23, ESPN), Florida at LSU (Feb. 24, ESPN), Duke at Maryland (Feb. 25, ESPN), Xavier at St. Joseph's (Feb. 26, ESPN or ESPN2), Memphis at UAB (Feb. 26, ESPN or ESPN2) and Gonzaga at San Diego (Feb. 28, ESPN2).

• **Championship Week Presented by Dick's Sporting Goods – March 5-15**

Twenty-fourth season of wall-to-wall conference tournament action featuring 62 Division I men's games – four more than last year -- from 26 conferences - including 24 championship games.

Coverage includes SEC for the first time, a new day and time for the Big 12 Championship (Saturday at 6 p.m.) and three additional games from the WAC.

**Other Game Coverage - ESPN, Inc.**

**ESPN Regional Television**

ESPN Regional Television, the nation's largest producer and distributor of collegiate sports programming, will present regional coverage of more than 160 men's basketball games from top conferences, including the BIG EAST, Big 12, WAC, Colonial, America East and Metro Atlantic (MAAC).

In addition, ESPN Regional Television operates the 76 Classic, Old Spice Classic, O'Reilly Auto Parts Puerto Rico Tip-Off and SEC/BIG EAST Invitational as well as the newly created Charleston Classic and the Diamond Head Classic (coming in December 2009). For more information, visit <http://espnplus.com>.

**ESPN FULL COURT**

The 2008-09 ESPN FULL COURT college basketball pay-per-view package will include more than 485 out-of-market games (up to 30 games per week) from top conferences such as the ACC, BIG EAST, SEC, Big 12, WAC and more.

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Click here for the 2008-09 schedule:

[http://www.espnmediazone.com/program\\_info/2008MensCollegeBasketballSchedule.htm](http://www.espnmediazone.com/program_info/2008MensCollegeBasketballSchedule.htm)

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