

**ESPN, ESPN2, ESPNU & ESPN360.com's
2008-09 NCAA Women's Basketball Schedule**
**Networks Will Offer 148 Games, Including Entire NCAA Championship;
All *Big Monday* Games in HD**

ESPN, ESPN2, ESPNU and ESPN360.com will combine to present **148 games** during the 2008-2009 women's college basketball season, including a rematch of last year's national title game -- Stanford at Tennessee -- on ESPN2 Sunday, Dec. 21 at 7 p.m. ET, and the entire NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Championship. For the 16th consecutive year, the State Farm Tip-Off Classic, the longest-running women's basketball early-season event on the ESPN networks, will begin the season with two games on Sunday, Nov. 16, featuring **Notre Dame vs. LSU** (2:30 p.m.) and **Pittsburgh vs. Texas A&M** (4:30 p.m.) on ESPN2. For the second year in a row, ESPN360.com, ESPN's broadband digital sports television network, will offer every ESPN and ESPN2 regular-season telecast.

ESPNU, the 24-hour college sports network, will televise 47 games, including 31 regular-season contests, 14 conference championship matchups and the NCAA Division II Women's Basketball Championship Semifinals. This year will mark the first year ESPNU will televise games in high definition on ESPNU HD, a high definition service launched August 28. The network will begin its coverage on Wednesday, Nov. 5, with an hour-long season preview special at 6 p.m. Its live game coverage will start on Sunday, Dec. 14, with the Maggie Dixon Classic, a doubleheader event honoring the late Army women's basketball coach. The third annual event will be played at Madison Square Garden and will feature Army vs. Rutgers at noon, followed by Penn State vs. Connecticut at 2 p.m. ESPNU will showcase other top programs throughout the season, such as Tennessee, Georgia, Maryland and Notre Dame.

ESPN2's *Big Monday Presented by Bud Light*, a prime-time game-of-the-week series, will return starting Monday, Jan. 12, with Maryland at Duke. For the first time in the primetime series' history, all eight matchups will be offered in high definition. This season will also feature the return of marquee matchups, which will include inter-conference challenges, rivalry games, *Jimmy V Women's Basketball Classic* (Dec. 8), *Holiday Hoops Presented by Kay Jewelers* (Dec. 17-23), *ESPNU Campus Connection Week* (Jan. 19-25), *February Frenzy* (Feb. 15-16), *Rivalry Week Presented by Cisco* (Feb. 9-16) and *Championship Week Presented by Dick's Sporting Goods* (Mar. 5-15).

Overall, the ESPN networks will showcase 63 regular-season games, 19 conference tournament matchups, the Division II Women's Basketball Semifinals and Championship, and all 63 NCAA Division I Championship contests. Additionally, ESPN will continue to present the exclusive live announcement of the 64-team NCAA Tournament field as part of *Selection Monday*, Mar. 16, at 7 p.m., with ESPNU offering bonus coverage with an additional hour of *NCAA Women's Basketball Selection Special: Extended Coverage* from 8-9 p.m.

2008-09 ESPN, ESPN2 & ESPNU NCAA Women's Basketball Schedule Facts

- Of the 64 NCAA Tournament teams from 2008, 31 will make at least one appearance.
- ESPN, ESPN2 and ESPNU will showcase 13 of last year's Sweet 16 teams.
- All Final Four teams will make appearances: Tennessee (six), Stanford (two), LSU (one) and Connecticut (seven). Other teams making multiple appearances include Rutgers with six, and Duke and Notre Dame with five each.

NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Championship:

All 63 NCAA Tournament Games on ESPN, ESPN2, ESPNU & ESPN360.com

For the seventh consecutive year, the ESPN networks will combine to present all 63 games from the NCAA Women's Basketball Championship. During the first two rounds, ESPN and ESPN2 will present the 48 games within 12 telecast windows in a whip-around format with home market protection. ESPN360.com will offer complete game telecasts of all 63 games, while ESPNU will offer select ESPN and ESPN2 early-round games in their entirety. The final 15 games (regional semifinals on) will have national telecast windows on ESPN or ESPN2. The complete schedule will be announced on a later date.

2008-09 Schedule Highlights: Special Events

- **2008 State Farm Tip-Off Classic on ESPN2 - Sunday, Nov. 16**
The 16th annual State Farm Tip-Off Classic from Baton Rouge, La. will feature Notre Dame against host LSU at 2:30 p.m., followed by Pittsburgh vs. Texas A&M at 4:30 p.m.
- **College Hoops Tip-Off Marathon on ESPN - Tuesday, Nov. 18**
The new *College Hoops Tip-Off Marathon* celebrating the beginning of the season with 23 consecutive hours of live college basketball themed programming, will also include a women's matchup between Iowa at Kansas at 12 p.m. Coverage will be highlighted by eight games on ESPN beginning at midnight with a men's game between Massachusetts at Memphis and will conclude with Kentucky at North Carolina at 9 p.m.
- **Third Annual Maggie Dixon Classic on ESPNU - Sunday, Dec. 14**
Madison Square Garden is the home of the third annual Maggie Dixon Classic. The doubleheader is named in honor of the late women's basketball coach. Event host Army will play Rutgers at noon, followed by Penn State vs. Connecticut at 2 p.m.
- **Jimmy V Women's Basketball Classic on ESPN2 HD - Monday, Dec. 8 at 7 p.m.**
ESPN, in conjunction with The V Foundation for Cancer Research, will stage and televise the seventh annual *Jimmy V Women's Basketball Classic*. This year's event will feature Georgia against host Rutgers in New Brunswick, N.J. The event will take place the night before the *Jimmy V Men's Basketball Classic* from Madison Square Garden. A portion of the proceeds from the event will benefit The V Foundation for Cancer Research.
- **Big Monday Presented by Bud Light on ESPN2 HD - January - February**
Big Monday Presented by Bud Light on ESPN2 will include eight games throughout January and February, featuring the best programs in Division I women's basketball. The prime-time game-of-the-week series will begin on Jan. 12 at 7:30 p.m. with Maryland at Duke. The other seven games include: Connecticut at North Carolina (Jan. 19 at 7 p.m.); Louisville at Connecticut (Jan. 26 at 7:30 p.m.); Tennessee at Oklahoma (Feb 2 at 7:30 p.m.); Duke at North Carolina (Feb. 9 at 7:30 p.m.); Duke at Tennessee (Feb. 16 at 7:30 p.m.); Oklahoma at Texas A&M (Feb. 23 at 7:30 p.m.); and Connecticut at Rutgers (March 2 at 7:30 p.m.).

- February Frenzy – Eight Regionalized WBB Games on ESPN2 – Sunday, Feb. 15**
 Similar to regionalized coverage in the NCAA Tournament, 16 teams will be on display during February Frenzy on Sunday, Feb. 15, as ESPN2 showcases eight games within two telecast windows. For a second year in a row, ESPN will support The V Foundation for the Kay Yow/WBCA Cancer Fund during its annual “February Frenzy” women’s college basketball games. At 1 p.m., ESPN2 will feature Rutgers at Maryland, Marist at Hartford, Illinois at Purdue and Georgia at Vanderbilt. During the 3 p.m. window, Virginia plays Kay Yow’s N.C. State squad, along with Southern Mississippi at Marshall, Texas at Iowa State and Pittsburgh at Connecticut. The games will be regionalized with frequent switches and updates from the other games. In the 16 home markets of the competing teams, ESPN2 will start and remain primarily with the game of local interest. ESPNU will also participate in the “Frenzy” fundraising for the Kay Yow/WBCA Cancer Fund during its telecast of the West Virginia at Marquette women’s college basketball game at 2 p.m. The *Big Monday* telecast on Feb. 16 will also participate.
- Championship Week Presented by Dick’s Sporting Goods on ESPN, ESPN2 & ESPNU - March**
 As part of ESPN, ESPN2, ESPNU and ESPN360.com’s week-long men’s and women’s conference tournament coverage, ESPN, ESPN2, ESPNU and ESPN360.com will present 13 women’s conference championships, including every game from the quarterfinals through the championship for the BIG EAST, plus the SEC and Big Ten Championships. Other women’s championships: Conference USA, Atlantic 10, Patriot League, Summit League, NEC, Horizon League, West Coast Conference, MEAC, SWAC and SIAC.

- 2008-09 WOMEN’S COLLEGE BASKETBALL SCHEDULE FOLLOWS -

ESPN, ESPN2, ESPNU & ESPN360.com
2008-09 Women's Basketball Regular-Season Schedule
 (Subject to change – all games live, unless noted)

Network	Date	Time (ET)	Game
ESPN2/ESPN360.com	Sun., Nov. 16	2:30 p.m.	State Farm Tip-Off Classic: Notre Dame at LSU
ESPN2/ESPN360.com		4:30 p.m.	State Farm Tip-Off Classic: Pittsburgh vs. Texas A&M
ESPN/ESPN360.com	Tue., Nov. 18	12 p.m.	College Hoops Tip-Off: Iowa at Kansas
ESPN/ESPN360.com	Sun., Nov. 30	8:15 p.m.	Oklahoma at Connecticut
ESPN2 HD/ESPN360.com	Mon., Dec. 8	7 p.m.	Jimmy V Women's Basketball Classic: Georgia at Rutgers
ESPNU	Sun., Dec. 14	12 p.m.	Maggie Dixon Classic: Army vs. Rutgers
ESPNU		2 p.m.	Maggie Dixon Classic: Penn State vs. Connecticut
ESPN/ESPN360.com	Tue., Dec. 16	7:30 p.m.	Stanford at Duke
ESPNU	Sun., Dec. 21	2 p.m.	Holiday Hoops: TCU at Texas A&M
ESPN2/ESPN360.com	Sun., Dec. 21	7 p.m.	Holiday Hoops: Stanford at Tennessee
ESPNU	Sun., Dec. 28	2 p.m.	Notre Dame at Charlotte
ESPNU	Fri., Jan. 2	7 p.m.	Georgia at Virginia
ESPNU	Sat., Jan. 3	6 p.m.	Eastern Illinois at Jacksonville State
ESPNU	Sun., Jan. 4	2 p.m.	West Virginia at Pittsburgh
ESPNU	Mon., Jan. 5	7 p.m.	Grambling State at Alabama State
ESPN2/ESPN360.com	Mon., Jan. 5	7:30 p.m.	Texas at Purdue
ESPNU	Fri., Jan. 9	4:30 p.m.	Rider at Siena
ESPN2/ESPN360.com	Sun., Jan. 11	12 p.m.	Xavier at Charlotte
ESPN2/ESPN360.com	Sun., Jan. 11	2 p.m.	Houston at UTEP
ESPNU	Sun., Jan. 11	2 p.m.	Rutgers at Louisville
ESPN2 HD/ESPN360.com	Mon., Jan. 12	7:30 p.m.	Big Monday: Maryland at Duke
ESPNU	Sat., Jan. 17	6 p.m.	Murray State at Tennessee Tech
ESPNU	Sun., Jan. 18	12 p.m.	Marquette at Rutgers
ESPN2/ESPN360.com	Sun., Jan. 18	2 p.m.	UTEP at Tulane
ESPN2/ESPN360.com	Mon., Jan. 19	7 p.m.	ESPNU Campus Connection Week: Connecticut at North Carolina
ESPNU	Fri., Jan. 23	4:30 p.m.	ESPNU Campus Connection Week: Fairfield at Marist
ESPNU	Sat., Jan. 24	12 p.m.	ESPNU Campus Connection Week: Navy at Army
ESPN2/ESPN360.com		5 p.m.	ESPNU Campus Connection Week: Ohio State at Purdue
ESPN2/ESPN360.com		7 p.m.	ESPNU Campus Connection Week: North Carolina at Maryland
ESPNU	Mon. Jan. 26	4:30 p.m.	Prairie View at Arkansas-Pine Bluff
ESPN2 HD/ESPN360.com		7:30 p.m.	Big Monday: Louisville at Connecticut
ESPNU	Thu., Jan. 29	7 p.m.	Mississippi at Tennessee
ESPNU	Sun., Feb. 1	12 p.m.	St. John's at Seton Hall
ESPNU	Mon., Feb. 2	4:30 p.m.	Coppin State at Maryland-Eastern Shore
ESPN2 HD/ESPN360.com		7:30 p.m.	Big Monday: Tennessee at Oklahoma
ESPNU	Fri., Feb. 6	9 p.m.	Wright State at Butler
ESPNU	Sat., Feb. 7	12 p.m.	Mid-American Wildcard Game
ESPNU		2 p.m.	Indiana State at Illinois State
ESPNU		4 p.m.	Lehigh at American
ESPN2/ESPN360.com	Sun. Feb. 8	2 p.m.	Ohio State at Michigan State
ESPNU		2 p.m.	DePaul at Notre Dame
ESPNU		4 p.m.	South Florida at Syracuse

ESPN2 HD/ESPN360.com	Mon., Feb. 9	7:30 p.m.	Big Monday/Rivalry Week: Duke at North Carolina
ESPNU	Fri., Feb. 13	5 p.m.	Rivalry Week: Niagara at Loyola (Md.)
ESPNU	Sat., Feb. 14	3 p.m.	Rivalry Week: Evansville at Drake
ESPN2/ESPN360.com	Sun., Feb. 15	1 p.m.	**February Frenzy: Rutgers at Maryland; Marist at Hartford; Illinois at Purdue; Georgia and Vanderbilt
ESPN2/ESPN360.com		3 p.m.	**February Frenzy: Virginia at N.C. State; Southern Miss. at Marshall; Texas at Iowa State; Pittsburgh at Connecticut
ESPNU		2 p.m.	Rivalry Week: West Virginia at Marquette
ESPNU	Mon. Feb. 16	4:30 p.m.	Rivalry Week: North Carolina A&T at Delaware State
ESPN2 HD/ESPN360.com		7:30 p.m.	Big Monday/February Frenzy: Duke at Tennessee
ESPNU	Thu., Feb. 19	7 p.m.	Maryland at Georgia Tech
ESPNU	Sun., Feb. 22	2 p.m.	Notre Dame at Connecticut
ESPN2/ESPN360.com		4 p.m.	Big Ten Wildcard Game
ESPNU	Mon., Feb. 23	4:30 p.m.	Morgan State at Hampton
ESPN2 HD/ESPN360.com		7:30 p.m.	Big Monday: Oklahoma at Texas A&M
ESPN2/ESPN360.com	Sun., Mar. 1	7 p.m.	Vanderbilt at Tennessee
ESPN2 HD/ESPN360.com	Mon., Mar. 2	7:30 p.m.	Big Monday: Connecticut at Rutgers

***regionalized coverage*

Championship Week Presented by Dick's Sporting Goods

Network	Date	Time	Event
ESPNU	Sun., Mar. 8	12 p.m.	BIG EAST Quarterfinal #1
ESPNU		2 p.m.	BIG EAST Quarterfinal #2
ESPN2/ESPN360.com		3:30 p.m.	Conference USA Championship
ESPN2/ESPN360.com		5:30 p.m.	Big Ten Championship
ESPNU		6 p.m.	BIG EAST Quarterfinal #3
ESPN2/ESPN360.com		7:30 p.m.	SEC Championship
ESPNU		8 p.m.	BIG EAST Quarterfinal #4
ESPN2/ESPN360.com	Mon., Mar. 9	1 p.m.	*SIAC Championship
ESPNU		3 p.m.	West Coast Conference Championship
ESPN2		5 p.m.	Atlantic 10 Championship
ESPNU		6 p.m.	BIG EAST Semifinal #1
ESPNU		8 p.m.	BIG EAST Semifinal #2
ESPNU	Tue., Mar. 10	4 p.m.	Summit Championship
ESPN/ESPN360.com		7 p.m.	BIG EAST Championship
ESPNU	Wed., Mar. 11	6 p.m.	Patriot League Championship
ESPNU	Sat., Mar. 14	5 p.m.	SWAC Championship
ESPNU	Sun., Mar. 15	11 a.m.	*MEAC Championship
ESPNU		1 p.m.	Horizon League Championship
ESPNU		3 p.m.	NEC Championship

* tape delay

NOTE: ESPN, ESPN2 & ESPNU's NCAA Women's Basketball Tournament schedule will be announced on a later date.

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