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March Madness in Dayton Through 2013

09.21.2009 | Athletics The National Collegiate Athletic Association has announced the Opening Round game of the NCAA Men's Division I Basketball Championships will remain at University of Dayton Arena through the 2013 tournament and the first- and second-rounds of the tournament will return in 2013.

"The University of Dayton is extremely excited that the NCAA tournament will continue to return to Dayton," University of Dayton Vice President and Director of Athletics Tim Wabler said. "When the NCAA basketball committee and championship staff are determining future tournament hosts, they look for the best possible experience for the teams and the student-athletes who are in the tournament. The difference maker in the site selection process is our fans. They create the electric atmosphere in the arena, and they also make the teams feel welcome when they are around town. It's important to our fans, just as it is important to us, when the NCAA tournament comes to Dayton."

Recognizing that 2013 is the 75th anniversary of the men's basketball championship, the site selection committee chose venues and cities that have served as the backdrop to great tournament moments.

"It's no accident that cities which have been part of the rich history of this championship were selected to return in 2013," said Dan Guerrero, director of athletics at UCLA and current men's basketball committee chair.

The University of Dayton Arena has hosted NCAA tournament events in 23 of its 40 years since opening its doors for the 1969-70 season. The NCAA games awarded through 2013 will make the University of Dayton Arena the most-used tournament venue in the history of the NCAA Men's Division I Basketball Championships. To date, UD Arena has hosted 82 NCAA men's tournament games, one behind Kansas City's Municipal Auditorium and one ahead of the Huntsman Center in Salt Lake City. At the conclusion of the 2013 tournament, University of Dayton Arena will have hosted 92 NCAA men's tournament games.

Notre Dame's Austin Carr set an NCAA men's basketball tournament single-game scoring record with 61 points versus Ohio on March 7, 1970, in University of Dayton Arena.

"This is great for Dayton," Wabler said. "The economic impact for the region when we host first- and second-round games has been estimated at \$5 million. The media exposure for both the University of Dayton and the Dayton community is fantastic. The opportunity to be a part of the NCAA tournament, one of the greatest sporting events in the country, is an added benefit for our season ticketholders."

Besides the 2010 men's Opening Round game, the arena will host a regional round of the NCAA Women's Division I Basketball Championships Sunday, March 28, and Tuesday, March 30. For more information on either of these events, please contact the Arena Ticket Office at 937-229-4433.

Athletics Communications at 937-229-4390.