



COLUMBUS TO HOST 2017 NCAA DIVISION II WOMEN'S BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP AT OHIO DOMINICAN MARCH 21-24

Tickets On-Sale Now for Elite Eight, Final Four and Championship Games

COLUMBUS (January 26, 2017) – Ohio Dominican, in partnership with the Greater Columbus Sports Commission, will host the 2017 NCAA Division II Women's Basketball Championship consisting of national quarterfinal, semifinal and championship games at Ohio Dominican University's Alumni Hall from March 21-24.

The national quarterfinal games will begin at noon, 2:30 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 21. The semifinal contests will be at 6 and 8:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 22 and broadcast on CBS Sports Network. The championship game will be at 7 p.m. on Friday, March 24, and also air on CBS Sports Network.

The NCAA Division II Women's Basketball Championship starts with 64 teams and advances the eight regional champions to Columbus for the Elite 8 and chance to compete for the national title. Tickets are on sale now for all three rounds at <http://ohiodominicantickets.universitytickets.com>.

Columbus was awarded this NCAA championship event for the first time in 2013. It will continue a historic stretch with the NCAA as until 2016, no city had hosted all three divisions (Division I, II and III) of the women's basketball championship consecutively. Capital University hosted the 2016 NCAA Division III Women's Basketball national semifinals at The Capital Center and The Ohio State University will host the 2018 NCAA Women's Final Four at Nationwide Arena in 2018.

"With so many NCAA championships being decided in Columbus over the last several years and into the future, the city continues to serve as a key site for women's basketball," said **Anucha Browne, NCAA vice president for women's basketball championships**. "We look forward to the Elite Eight being played there this year, with the Women's Final Four soon to follow in 2018."

"We are excited to join Ohio Dominican in this celebration of women's basketball," said **Linda Shetina Logan, executive director of the Greater Columbus Sports Commission**. "The Division II Women's Basketball Championship continues three years of NCAA women's postseason basketball in Columbus and we look forward to welcoming the teams in the Elite Eight with great Columbus hospitality."

Ohio Dominican's women's basketball team will vie for a spot in the Elite Eight as the rest of its season unfolds. The Panthers, under the direction of Bishop Watterson graduate **Lynsey Warren**, are currently 13-6 and have won six of their last seven games. Last season, Ohio Dominican finished with a record of 20-9 and was ranked as high as No. 6 in the Midwest Region.

"We are excited to welcome teams from across the nation to Alumni Hall for the Elite Eight," said **Ohio Dominican Athletic Director Jeff Blair**. "Columbus has proven to be a terrific destination for large-scale events such as this. Our entire campus community is energized by hosting these championships, and I'd like to thank them, the Greater Columbus Sports Commission, and the NCAA for making these championships a special event for everyone."

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