



Thursday, March 7, 2002

NCAA Selection Sunday event planned

The Oakland University community is invited to join the **women's basketball team** for "Selection Sunday" as they find out who and where they will play in the first round of the NCAA Tournament.

Tournament seedings and match-ups will be announced live on ESPN on Sunday, March 10, at 5 p.m. during the NCAA Selection Show.

OU students, alumni, faculty, staff and friends are invited to show their support for the team and watch along with them as the seedings are announced. The Selection Sunday celebration begins at 4 p.m. in the OU Athletics Center "O'Rena" and will include refreshments, entertainment and comments from Head Coach Beckie Francis.

This will be Oakland's first-ever appearance in the NCAA Basketball Tournament, which consists of 64 of the best Division I teams in the country that compete for the national championship in the single-elimination format. The first-round games take place March 15 or 16 on the home courts of the 16 lowest seeded teams. Second-round games will be played at those sites on March 17 or 18. OU's overall record going into the tournament is 17-13.

The **Golden Grizzlies** earned a trip to the national tournament by defeating Valparaiso 52-40 in the **Mid-Continent Conference Tournament final** March 5 at the War Memorial Coliseum in Fort Wayne, Ind., giving the team its first-ever Mid-Con Tournament championship title. Check out the **photos** from the Mid-Con Tournament championship game.

The women's basketball team is only the second team in the university's history since moving to Division I athletics to qualify for an NCAA post-season tournament. The women's soccer team this past November was the first OU team to achieve this goal. This is OU's third year in the Mid-Con and third year at the NCAA Division I level.

For information on travel to the women's NCAA Basketball Tournament, contact Jamie Ruark in Alumni Relations at ruark@oakland.edu or (877) 445-ALUM. For ticket information, contact Simon Dover in the Athletics Department at dover@oakland.edu or (248) 370-4000.

For play-by-play webcasts of OU's women's basketball games — both live and archived — visit the **OU Athletics** Web site. The site also includes a team roster, statistics and profiles of the players and coaches.

You also can follow the Golden Grizzlies on their "**Road to the NCAA Tournament**" by visiting the Web page on The News @ OU that is dedicated to offering up-to-date stories and photos as well as related links concerning the team's historical first trip to the national tournament.

SUMMARY

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