Raymond's highly scientific predictions for the 2007 NCAA men's basketball tournament

devblogs.microsoft.com/oldnewthing/20070312-01

March 12, 2007



Every year, when it comes time to fill out my NCAA bracket, I choose an arbitrary criterion. You'd think this would take less work, but it actually takes more. My original plan was to rank teams based on how much they pay their head coaches, but it turns out that the salaries (and bonuses and perks) of the head coaches of school basketball programs is hard to find! Instead, I went with something much easier to find but which is still somewhat indicative (in an indirect sense) of the strength of the program: The seating capacity of the home arena.

Update:

- Correct predictions are in green.
- Incorrect predictions are in red.
- (!) marks upsets correctly predicted.
- (*) marks upsets predicted but did not take place.
- (x) marks actual upsets not predicted.

Opening Round Game

Florida A&M (3,365)	Florida A&M
Niagara (2,400)	(3,305)

Midwest bracket

1	Florida	(12,000)	Florida	Arizona	Maryland	UNLV (18 500)
16	Jackson St.	(8,000)	(12,000)	(14,343)	(17,950)	(10,500)
8	Arizona	(14,545)	Arizona (x)			
9	Purdue	(14,123)	(14,040)			

12 Old Dominion (8,600) (17,950) (17,950) 4 Maryland (17,950) Maryland (17,950) 13 Davidson (5,700) Maryland (17,950) 6 Notre Dame (11,418) Notre Dame UNLV 11 Winthrop (6,100) (11,418) Notre Dame UNLV 3 Oregon (9,087) Miami (Ohio) (11,418) (18,500) 14 Miami (Ohio) (9,200) (9,200) UNLV UNLV 7 UNLV (18,500) UNLV (18,500) 40 Occessis Task (0,404) UNLV (18,500)
4 Maryland (17,950) Maryland 13 Davidson (5,700) (17,950) 13 Davidson (5,700) (17,950) 6 Notre Dame (11,418) Notre Dame Notre Dame UNLV 11 Winthrop (6,100) (11,418) Notre Dame UNLV (18,500) 3 Oregon (9,087) Miami (Ohio) (x) (9,200) (9,200) 14 Miami (Ohio) (9,200) (9,200) UNLV UNLV (18,500) 7 UNLV (18,500) UNLV UNLV (18,500) 40 Operation Teach (0,404) UNLV UNLV UNLV
4 Maryland (17,950) Maryland 13 Davidson (5,700) Notre Dame Notre Dame 6 Notre Dame (11,418) Notre Dame Notre Dame UNLV 11 Winthrop (6,100) (11,418) Notre Dame (11,418) (11,418) 3 Oregon (9,087) Miami (Ohio) (11,418) (18,500) 14 Miami (Ohio) (9,200) (9,200) UNLV UNLV 7 UNLV (18,500) UNLV (18,500) (18,500)
13 Davidson (5,700) (11,000) 6 Notre Dame (11,418) Notre Dame Notre Dame UNLV 11 Winthrop (6,100) (11,418) Notre Dame (11,418) (11,418) 3 Oregon (9,087) Miami (Ohio) (x) (11,418) (18,500) 14 Miami (Ohio) (9,200) (9,200) UNLV UNLV (18,500) 7 UNLV (18,500) UNLV UNLV (18,500)
6 Notre Dame (11,418) Notre Dame Notre Dame UNLV 11 Winthrop (6,100) (11,418) Notre Dame (11,418) 3 Oregon (9,087) Miami (Ohio) (x) (11,418) 14 Miami (Ohio) (9,200) (9,200) UNLV UNLV 7 UNLV (18,500) UNLV UNLV (18,500)
6 Notre Dame (11,418) Notre Dame Notre Dame UNLV 11 Winthrop (6,100) (11,418) Notre Dame (11,418) 3 Oregon (9,087) Miami (Ohio) (11,418) 14 Miami (Ohio) (9,200) (9,200) UNLV 7 UNLV (18,500) UNLV UNLV (18,500) (18,500) (18,500) (18,500)
11 Winthrop (6,100) (11,418) 3 Oregon (9,087) Miami (Ohio) 14 Miami (Ohio) (9,200) 7 UNLV (18,500) UNLV (18,500) (18,500)
3 Oregon (9,087) Miami (Ohio) 14 Miami (Ohio) (9,200) (9,200) 7 UNLV (18,500) UNLV UNLV 10 Occurrin Tach (0,404) (18,500) (18,500)
3 Oregon (9,087) Miami (Ohio) 14 Miami (Ohio) (9,200) (9,200) 7 UNLV (18,500) UNLV UNLV 10 Occurrin Tach (0,404) (18,500) (18,500)
14 Miami (Ohio) (9,200) 7 UNLV (18,500) 10 Occurric Tach (0,404)
7 UNLV (18,500) UNLV UNLV 10 Operating Task (0,101) (18,500) (18,500)
7 UNLV (18,500) UNLV UNLV 10 Operating Task (0,404) (18,500) (18,500)
10. Oceanic Tech. (0.101)
10 Georgia lech (9,191)
2 Wisconsin (17,142) Wisconsin (17,142)
15 Texas A&M (8,000) CC

West bracket

1	Kansas	(16,300)	Kansas	Kentucky (*)	Kentucky	Kentucky
16	Florida A&M	(3,365)	(10,000)	(20,000)	(20,000)	(20,000)
8	Kentucky	(23,000)	Kentucky			
9	Villanova	(6,500)	(20,000)			
5	Virginia Tech	(10,052)	Illinois (x)	Illinois (16.500)		
12	Illinois	(16,500)	(10,500)	(10,500)		
4	Southern III.	(9,628)	Southern III.			
13	Holy Cross	(3,600)	(3,020)			

6	Duke	(9,314)	Duke (x)	Pittsburgh	Indiana	
11	VCU	(7,500)	(9,314)	(12,304)	(17,430)	
3	Pittsburgh	(12,504)	Pittsburgh			
14	Wright St.	(11,019)	(12,004)			
7	Indiana	(17,456)	Indiana (17,456)	Indiana (*) (17,456)		
10	Gonzaga	(6,000)				
2	UCLA	(12,819)	UCLA (12 819)			
15	Weber St.	(12,000)	(12,010)			
Eas	st bracket					
Eas	t bracket N. Carolina	(21,800)	N. Carolina	N. Carolina	N. Carolina	N. Carolina
Eas 1 16	St bracket N. Carolina Eastern Ky.	(21,800) (6,500)	N. Carolina (21,800)	N. Carolina (21,800)	N. Carolina (21,800)	N. Carolina (x) (21,800)
Eas 1 16	N. Carolina Eastern Ky.	(21,800) (6,500)	N. Carolina (21,800)	N. Carolina (21,800)	N. Carolina (21,800)	N. Carolina (x) (21,800)
Eas	St bracket N. Carolina Eastern Ky. Marquette	(21,800) (6,500) (18,866)	N. Carolina (21,800) Marquette (*) (18,866)	N. Carolina (21,800)	N. Carolina (21,800)	N. Carolina (x) (21,800)
Eas	St bracket N. Carolina Eastern Ky. Marquette Michigan St.	(21,800) (6,500) (18,866) (14,759)	N. Carolina (21,800) Marquette (*) (18,866)	N. Carolina (21,800)	N. Carolina (21,800)	N. Carolina (x) (21,800)
Eas	St bracket N. Carolina Eastern Ky. Marquette Michigan St.	(21,800) (6,500) (18,866) (14,759)	N. Carolina (21,800) Marquette (*) (18,866)	N. Carolina (21,800)	N. Carolina (21,800)	N. Carolina (x) (21,800)
Eas	St bracket N. Carolina Eastern Ky. Marquette Michigan St. Southern Cal	(21,800) (6,500) (18,866) (14,759) (10,258)	N. Carolina (21,800) Marquette (*) (18,866) Arkansas (*) (19,200)	N. Carolina (21,800) Arkansas	N. Carolina (21,800)	N. Carolina (x) (21,800)
Eas 1 16 8 9 5 12	t bracket N. Carolina Eastern Ky. Marquette Michigan St. Southern Cal Arkansas	(21,800) (6,500) (18,866) (14,759) (10,258) (19,200)	N. Carolina (21,800) Marquette (*) (18,866) Arkansas (*) (19,200)	N. Carolina (21,800) Arkansas (19,200)	N. Carolina (21,800)	N. Carolina (x) (21,800)
Eas 1 16 8 9 5 12	St bracket N. Carolina Eastern Ky. Marquette Michigan St. Southern Cal Arkansas	(21,800) (6,500) (18,866) (14,759) (10,258) (19,200)	N. Carolina (21,800) Marquette (*) (18,866) Arkansas (*) (19,200)	N. Carolina (21,800) Arkansas (19,200)	N. Carolina (21,800)	N. Carolina (x) (21,800)
Eas 1 16 8 9 5 12 4	t bracket N. Carolina Eastern Ky. Marquette Michigan St. Southern Cal Arkansas Texas	(21,800) (6,500) (18,866) (14,759) (10,258) (19,200) (16,755)	N. Carolina (21,800) Marquette (*) (18,866) Arkansas (*) (19,200) Texas (16,755)	N. Carolina (21,800) Arkansas (19,200)	N. Carolina (21,800)	N. Carolina (x) (21,800)

					4
	-				
6	Vanderbilt	(14,316)	Vanderbilt	Vanderbilt	Georgetown
11	G. Washington	(5,000)	(14,010)	(14,316)	(20,000)
3	Washington St.	(11,566)	Washington St. (11,566)		

New Mexico St.

13

(13,071)

14	Oral Roberts	(10,575)		
7	Boston College	(8,606)	Texas Tech (*) (15,098)	Georgetown (20,600)
10	Texas Tech	(15,098)		
	-			
2	Georgetown	(20,600)	Georgetown	
15	Belmont	(5,000)	(20,000)	

South bracket

1	Ohio St.	(19,200)	Ohio St.	BYU (22,700)	Tennessee	Tennessee
16	C. Conn. St.	(3,200)	(19,200)	(22,700)	(24,333)	(24,000)
8	BYU	(22,700)	BYU (x)			
9	Xavier	(10,250)	(22,700)			
	-					
5	Tennessee	(24,535)	Tennessee	Tennessee		
12	Long Beach	(5,000)	(24,555)	(1) (24,535)		
	-					
4	Virginia	(16,000)	Virginia			
13	Albany	(5,000)	(10,000)			
6	Louisville	(18,865)	Louisville	Louisville (*)	Louisville	
11	Stanford	(7,391)	(10,003)	(10,005)	(10,005)	
	-					
3	Texas A&M	(12,500)	Texas A&M			
14	Penn	(8,700)	(12,500)			
7	Nevada	(11,200)	Creighton (*)	Memphis		
10	Creighton	(17,272)	(17,272)	(10,400)		
	-					
2	Memphis	(18,400)	Memphis			
			(10,+00)			

15	North Texas	(10,032)		
Fin	als			
	UNLV	(18,500)	Kentucky	Tennessee
	Kentucky	(23,000)	(23,000)	(24,000)
	N. Carolina	(21,800)	Tennessee	
	Tennessee	(24,535)	(24,000)	

The first full round is the crucial one. Not only are half of the games are first-round games, but your choices in the first round heavily influence your choices in subsequent rounds. I don't know if anybody has ever submitted a bracket that was internally inconsistent. For example, having a team that lost in the first round magically reappear in the third round. It's technically legal but highly unorthodox.

Raymond Chen

Follow

