

Raymond's highly scientific predictions for the 2014 NCAA men's basketball tournament

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Once again, it's time for Raymond to come up with an absurd, arbitrary criterion for filling out his NCAA bracket. This year, I look at the number of followers of the basketball team's official Twitter account, or one tenth of the number of followers of the school's athletic department if the school's basketball team does not have its own dedicated Twitter account. The fraction 1/10 is completely arbitrary, but that's what makes this algorithm *highly scientific*. And yes, counting fans also includes people who hatewatch the team. I accept this, because if a lot of people hate a team, it's probably because they're "too good." This works similarly to last year's algorithm based on Facebook *Likes*, but now I'm using Twitter because Facebook is for old people. That may be why last year's predictions were so awful.

Once the field has been narrowed to four teams, the results are determined by a coin flip. (I should be doing this when the field reduced to eight teams rather than four, but I've been doing it wrong for so long, it's now a tradition. Also: *highly scientific*.)

Opening Round Games

<u>NC State</u>	(23,060a)	NC State (2,306)
<u>Xavier</u>	(6,394a)	
<u>Albany</u>	(3,969a)	Mount St Mary's (942)
<u>Mount St Mary's</u>	(942)	
<u>Iowa</u>	(34,643)	Iowa (34,643)
<u>Tennessee</u>	(33,945)	
<u>Cal Poly</u>	(777)	Cal Poly (777)

<u>Texas Southern</u>	(1,551a)
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Group 1

1	<u>Florida</u>	(16,048)	Florida (16,048)	Florida (16,048)	Florida (16,048)	Kansas (71,239)
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16	<u>Mount St Mary's</u>	(942)
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8	<u>Colorado</u>	(9,395)	Colorado (9,395)
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9	<u>Pittsburgh</u>	(5,661)
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5	<u>VCU</u>	(10,966a)	SF Austin (1,387)	UCLA (13,052)
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12	<u>SF Austin</u>	(1,387)
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4	<u>UCLA</u>	(13,052)	UCLA (13,052)
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13	<u>Tulsa</u>	(1,512)
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6	<u>Ohio State</u>	(35,574)	Ohio State (35,574)	Syracuse (41,327)	Kansas (71,239)
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11	<u>Dayton</u>	(7,612)
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3	<u>Syracuse</u>	(41,327)	Syracuse (41,327)
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14	<u>Western Michigan</u>	(351)
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7	<u>New Mexico</u>	(17,182a)	Stanford (4,886)	Kansas (71,239)
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10	<u>Stanford</u>	(4,886)
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2	<u>Kansas</u>	(71,239)	Kansas (71,239)
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15	<u>Eastern Kentucky</u>	(1,741)
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Group 2

1	<u>Arizona</u>	(17,523)	Arizona (17,523)	Arizona (17,523)	Arizona (17,523)	Wisconsin (30,913)
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16	<u>Weber State</u>	(3,365a)
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8	<u>Gonzaga</u>	(9,559)	Oklahoma State			
9	<u>Oklahoma State</u>	(14,271)	(14,271)			
5	<u>Oklahoma</u>	(15,869)	Oklahoma (15,869)	Oklahoma (15,869)		
12	<u>North Dakota State</u>	(1,538)				
4	<u>San Diego State</u>	(13,813a)	San Diego State			
13	<u>New Mexico State</u>	(4,510a)	(1,381)			
6	<u>Baylor</u>	(18,310)	Nebraska (18,484)	Nebraska (18,484)	Wisconsin (30,913)	
11	<u>Nebraska</u>	(18,484)				
3	<u>Creighton</u>	(13,585)	Creighton (13,585)			
14	<u>Louisiana-Lafayette</u>	(909)				
7	<u>Oregon</u>	(15,640)	Oregon (15,640)	Wisconsin (30,913)		
10	<u>BYU</u>	(12,953)				
2	<u>Wisconsin</u>	(30,913)	Wisconsin (30,913)			
15	<u>American</u>	(1,629)				

Group 3

1	<u>Virginia</u>	(8,022)	Virginia (8,022)	Memphis (35,231)	Michigan State (63,034)	North Carolina (153,062)
16	<u>Coastal Carolina</u>	(4,763)				
8	<u>Memphis</u>	(35,231)	Memphis (35,231)			
9	<u>George Washington</u>	(2,811)				
5	<u>Cincinnati</u>	(15,545)	Cincinnati (15,545)	Michigan State		

12	<u>Harvard</u>	(3,059)		(63,034)		
4	<u>Michigan State</u>	(63,034)	Michigan State			
13	<u>Delaware</u>	(9,419)	(63,034)			
6	<u>North Carolina</u>	(153,062)	North Carolina	North Carolina	North Carolina	North Carolina
11	<u>Providence</u>	(9,413a)	(153,062)	(153,062)	(153,062)	(153,062)
3	<u>Iowa State</u>	(26,881)	Iowa State			
14	<u>North Carolina Central</u>	(868)	(26,881)			
7	<u>Connecticut</u>	(10,417)	Connecticut	Connecticut		
10	<u>St Joseph's</u>	(2,608)	(10,417)	(10,417)		
2	<u>Villanova</u>	(3,574)	Villanova			
15	<u>Milwaukee</u>	(3,719a)	(3,574)			
Group 4						
1	<u>Wichita State</u>	(15,957)	Wichita State	Kentucky	Kentucky	Duke
16	<u>Cal Poly</u>	(777)	(15,957)	(62,164)	(62,164)	(102,300)
8	<u>Kentucky</u>	(62,164)	Kentucky			
9	<u>Kansas State</u>	(445)	(62,164)			
5	<u>Saint Louis</u>	(6,604)	Saint Louis	Louisville		
12	<u>NC State</u>	(23,060a)	(6,604)	(14,844)		
4	<u>Louisville</u>	(14,844)	Louisville			
13	<u>Manhattan</u>	(3,290)	(14,844)			
6	<u>Massachusetts</u>	(5,863)	Iowa	Duke	Duke	
			(34,643)	(102,300)	(102,300)	

11	<u>Iowa</u>	(34,643)		
3	<u>Duke</u>	(102,300)	Duke (102,300)	
14	<u>Mercer</u>	(2,749a)		
7	<u>Texas</u>	(14,097)	Texas (14,097)	Michigan (96,095)
10	<u>Arizona State</u>	(4,941)		
2	<u>Michigan</u>	(96,095)	Michigan (96,095)	
15	<u>Wofford</u>	(945)		

Finals

Kansas	(3)	Kansas (3)	Kansas (3)
North Carolina	(2)		
Wisconsin	(1)	Wisconsin (1)	
Duke	(0)		

Oh, and if you need some advice on how to fill out your bracket, you can watch [Slate's Mike Pesca fill out his](#). Okay, maybe he's not giving advice, so the whole *if/then* thing was a bit of a lie. [Chris Wilson has actual advice](#).



[Raymond Chen](#)

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