
SBC Tournament

Posted by Evan - 2008/03/02 18:47

I mentioned it on the other board, but I am satisfied with how the bracket is situated for us. We know that we have to win the tournament to get to the NCAAs, so I am looking at each round and how it plays out for us to get to the championship game. First point is that we are on the opposite side of the bracket as USA. This is important because they are clearly the best team in the tournament and we want to put off playing them for as long as possible. Second, we know we are going to have to play WKU, so why not play them in the quarters? That seems to me to give us a possible advantage of catching them when they haven't played a game in over a week and could possibly be rusty. Third, I'm not scared of UALR at all. We played them at their own place and lost by 2 and won 5 of the next 6 following that.

In my opinion, the bracket is set up to give us our best chance of reaching the championship game. Once you get there, anything can happen. Hopefully JJ will pull something else out of his sleeve the way he did after the UALR loss, after which the team played very well for 3 straight games.

Re:SBC Tournament

Posted by scrappy - 2008/03/02 20:10

I agree with this, but I do fear UALR a bit just because of the home court advantage thing. We play poorly on the road (as we all already know) I think a neutral court is a bit better.

Regardless, WKU was clearly the better team on 2/7. Lets hope we can handle their pressure and shut down Lee. I will be glad to see that guy (and UNO's McCaleb) go.

Re:SBC Tournament

Posted by CMJ - 2008/03/02 23:47

At this point I'm not even worried about WKU. We are in for a battle on Wednesday I think.

Re:SBC Tournament

Posted by Evan - 2008/03/03 08:18

CMJ wrote:

At this point I'm not even worried about WKU. We are in for a battle on Wednesday I think.

I think it could be a tough game too. But it's all the same if we lose at any point in the tournament, so I was just looking at the path it would take to win it all.

Re:SBC Tournament

Posted by CMJ - 2008/03/03 22:03

My pre-tournament pick is WKU. Even though USA has Home Court advantage, I have to go with the Toppers using the "hard to defeat a good team 3 times" principle.

If we can get by ASU and then pull and upset over WKU - watch out.

Re:SBC Tournament

Posted by scrappy - 2008/03/04 22:24

I think WKU is the best team from the Belt this year. I think if they meet USA again, they will win by a good margin.

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Re:SBC Tournament

Posted by censored by laurie - 2008/03/05 08:49

I'm sorry but I don't understand how people can continue to think WKU is better than USA. The Jags played one of their worst...at least sloppiest games last time against WKU and it was still good enough to beat the Tops in Diddle. I don't think they can come out and turn the ball over like they did last time and expect to beat Western again...but give me the USA roster and coach over WKU anyday

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Re:SBC Tournament

Posted by scrappy - 2008/03/05 17:24

Granted, it is hard to argue with beating WKU at home. My impression of both team stems from each game I saw them play against us at the pit. WKU played more pressure defense. USA is a more complete team, but never gave me the "wow, these guys are good" feeling that the Toppers did.

That being said, my two points of reference are a game that WKU won and a game that USA lost - so not a real complete sample size.

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Re:SBC Tournament

Posted by CMJ - 2008/03/12 00:41

Well WKU did win the conference title. Good luck to'em in the NCAA's.

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Re:SBC Tournament

Posted by scrappy - 2008/03/12 07:48

As I figured they would win it all. But lets all face it, we were robbed of the matchup we all wanted to see.

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Re:SBC Tournament

Posted by SUMG - 2008/03/12 09:33

Another example of the low Basketball IQ from some on the other board: The number of people who were pulling for MTSU to beat USA....and then WKU.

Gee...that makes sense. Let's send our 4th-5th best team to the NCAA tournament....one with a lousy record, that would have gotten a 15 seed, and been pummeled in the first round.

Once we're out of it....I want the best teams to win. Because, the more teams we have in the Dance...the more money we all get. And, if you can have a team win a game or two....your conference money goes up dramatically.

So here's hoping that USA and WKU are both in, as they should be.

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Re:SBC Tournament

Posted by CMJ - 2008/03/12 11:05

I sorta was pulling for MTSU over USA because I figured it would assure us of two in the NCAA's. I was definitely rooting for the Hilltoppers last night though.

I have to say MTSU might be the morning line favorite to win the SBC next year. No seniors, and they got astronomically better as the season wore on.

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Re:SBC Tournament

Posted by censored by laurie - 2008/03/12 12:15

Without a doubt...my only complaint of my trip (save the luggage...which I know have)was not getting to see a USA/WKU matchup...that building would've been packed and probably provided the best atmosphere for a college hoops game I've seen...outside of the ncaa's.

MTSU should be a beast next season. With Lee and Bo gone, Yates is definently the best NBA prospect in the league and everyone else should be back.

And CMJ...thanks for the props on gmg...it was a blast and hope you can make it to hot springs next season.

Mine and Ioannis's championship and weekend wrap-ups should be up soon.

off to sxsw

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Re:SBC Tournament

Posted by CMJ - 2008/03/12 12:26

I may make some of the Pac-10 tourney here in the next few days. Tickets are ridiculously over priced for the first couple of days(except for the UCLA/USC sessions), so the Staples Center may be pretty empty. Might be able to score a deal with scalpers trying to unload tickets no one will buy.

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