

Triangle March Craziness Sports News

Triangle Wins in NCAA Bracket Participation

Even though we have only made it through the first week of the NCAA Men's and Women's Basketball Tournaments, North Carolina's Triangle area has already proven to be the big winner. The Triangle is the only metro area in the entire U.S. to place 6 teams into the combined Men's and Women's Championship brackets: Duke University Men and Women, NC Central University Men, NC State University Men and Women, and the University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill Men. The Triangle is also ranked number one in the country for placing 4 teams in the Men's Tournament alone! Congratulations to Coaches Mike Krzyzewski (Duke Men), Joanne McCallie (Duke Women), LeVelle Moton (NCCU Men), Kevin Keatts (NCSU Men), Wes Moore (NCSU Women), Roy Williams (UNC Men), and our respective major universities' athletes for making the Triangle the top U.S. market for collegiate basketball!

North Carolina also did well as a state, tying with Texas for the most teams total in the Men's and Women's brackets with 10. In addition to the Triangle teams, both Davidson and UNC-Greensboro made it into the Men's Championships, and NC A&T and Elon made it into the Women's. Here are the top rankings:

2018 NCAA Men's & Women's Basketball Championships Teams Participation

Men's Teams – Metros	Women's Teams – Metros	Combined M/W – Metros	States M/W
1. Triangle – 4	1. Los Angeles - 3	1. Triangle – 6	1. NC – 10 (tie)
2. New York City – 2 (tie)	2. Triangle – 2 (tie)	2. Los Angeles – 4	1. Texas – 10 (tie)
2. Houston – 2 (tie)	2. Triad – 2 (tie)		3. Florida – 7 (tie)
2. Cincinnati – 2 (tie)	2. Washington, DC– 2 (tie)		3. California – 7 (tie)



Duke players celebrating going to the Sweet Sixteen

NCSU Hosts NCAA Championships First &

Second Rounds

NC State was the host of the NCAA Women's NCAA Championships First and Second Rounds at Reynolds Coliseum on Friday, March 16 and Sunday, March 18. In First Round Games, NC State topped Elon 62-35 and Maryland stopped Princeton 77-57. In the Second Round game, NC State took on Maryland, perennially one of the top-ranked women's teams in the country. Home court was good to the Wolfpack as they prevailed 74 to 60. NC State will now travel to Kansas City to contend for the regional championship.



NC State topples Maryland for its first Sweet Sixteen berth under Coach Wes Moore

Figure Skating Story Has New L'eggs

With all the buzz around the award-winning film "I, Tonya," the 1994 figure skating incident involving Tonya Harding and Nancy Kerrigan is back in the news 28 years after it took place! The Cary Theater had a showing on the evening of March 15 where they asked Triangle Sports Commission CEO, Hill Carrow, to do an introduction of the film based on his personal connections to the incident.

Hill was at the national championships at the time of the incident in his capacity representing the title sponsor of the 1994 L'eggs U.S. Figure Skating Championships and Olympic Trials." Hill showed the audience at "I, Tonya" his official poster from the event and spoke about his meeting Tonya there and subsequently connecting with both Tonya and Nancy at an athletes party at the 1994 Winter Olympic Games in Lillehammer, Norway, shortly after. Hill has gotten to know Nancy Kerrigan over the years as she helped promote the 2011 and 2015 U.S. Figure Skating Championships in North Carolina which Hill directed. The amazing circumstances that led to one of the most bizarre and most-followed sports stories ever (the 1994 Winter Olympics Figure Skating broadcast is the most-watched Olympic broadcast of all time and the third most-watched sports event in history!) clearly still resonates today, as the large crowd attending "I, Tonya" reflects.



Hill Carrow, CEO of the TSC, speaking at the Cary Theater

Olympic Sports News

PyeonChang Participation: We missed one North Carolina 2018 Winter Olympic Games connection in our February Newsletter: **Derrick Speas**, a Winston-Salem native, and previous assistant coach for the 2014 U.S. Olympic Short Track Speedskating Team, served in a similar capacity in 2018 for the Chinese short track team.

NC State's Men's Swimming 400-Yard Freestyle Relay set a new American Record of 2:45.69 at the ACC Men's Swimming & Diving Championships. In addition to the American Record, the relay consisting of Ryan Held, Justin Ress, Jacob Molacek, and Coleman Stewart also established new ACC, pool, meet and school records.

On the last weekend in February **Triangle Table Tennis** hosted its largest-ever February Open Tournament with 70 players competing on 32 tables in five events, including the entertaining and competitive Brazilian three-person teams event. Next up at Triangle Table Tennis is the annual Butterfly Cary Cup Open starting on March 29.



NCSU Men's Swimming wins their fourth consecutive ACC Championship

Upcoming Events

- NC Courage home opener vs. Portland Thorns, Saturday, March 24 at 3:30pm
- U.S. Men's National Soccer Team vs. Paraguay at WakeMed Soccer Park, Tuesday, March 27 at 7pm.
- Durham Bulls home opener vs. Chattanooga, Thursday, April 5 at 6:05pm
- Carolina Mudcats home opener vs. Winston-Salem Dash, Thursday, April 5 at 7pm
- NCFC next home game vs. Indy Eleven, Saturday, April 11 at 7pm

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