

# Raymond's highly scientific predictions for the 2017 NCAA men's basketball tournament

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It's been a few years since the last time, but it's back: Raymond comes up with an absurd, arbitrary criterion for filling out his NCAA bracket.

This year, I base it on the average attendance of the team's basketball games. I worked mostly from the numbers released by the NCAA, but there were a few schools not represented in that report, so I had to do some research to get their attendance numbers.

Now, you might say that attendance doesn't really represent how good the team is. Rather, it reflects the size of the school's basketball arena, the rabidity of the school's fan base, and the strength of the school's schedule. But I say that those things are indicators of the school's strength, and that's what makes this *highly scientific*

Once the field has been narrowed to four teams, the results are determined by a coin flip. (I should have done this when the field reduced to eight teams rather than four, but I messed up when I wrote the script that generates the brackets and now I'm too lazy to fix it. Also: *highly scientific*.)

## Opening Round Games

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Mt. St Mary's	(2,207)	Mt. St Mary's
New Orleans	(631)	(2,207)
Providence	(9,703)	Providence
<u>USC</u>	(6,456)	(9,703)
N.C. Central	(1,588)	UC Davis
UC Davis	(2,111)	(2,111)

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Kansas St.	(11,902)	Kansas St.
Wake Forest	(9,520)	(11,902)

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**Group 1**

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1 Villanova	(8,119)	Villanova	Wisconsin	Wisconsin	Wisconsin
16 Mount St Mary's	(2,207)	(8,119)	(17,287)	(17,287)	(17,287)

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8 Wisconsin	(17,287)	Wisconsin
9 Va. Tech	(6,658)	(17,287)

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5 Virginia	(14,111)	Virginia	Virginia
12 UNC-Wilm.	(4,199)	(14,111)	(14,111)

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4 Florida	(9,686)	Florida
13 ETSU	(3,065)	(9,686)

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6 SMU	(6,907)	Providence	Providence	Marquette
11 Providence	(9,703)	(9,703)	(9,703)	(13,308)

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3 Baylor	(6,410)	Baylor
14 New Mex. St.	(4,767)	(6,410)

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7 S. Carolina	(11,995)	Marquette	Marquette
10 Marquette	(13,308)	(13,308)	(13,308)

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2 Duke	(9,314)	Duke
15 Troy	(1,490)	(9,314)

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**Group 2**

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1	Gonzaga	(6,000)	Gonzaga (6,000)	Northwestern (6,913)	W. Virginia (10,583)	Maryland (17,863)
16	S. Dak. St.	(2,781)				
8	Northwestern	(6,913)	Northwestern (6,913)			
9	Vanderbilt	(2,274)				
5	Notre Dame	(8,517)	Notre Dame (8,517)	W. Virginia (10,583)		
12	Princeton	(2,327)				
4	W. Virginia	(10,583)	W. Virginia (10,583)			
13	Bucknell	(2,770)				
6	Maryland	(17,863)	Maryland (17,863)	Maryland (17,863)	Maryland (17,863)	
11	Xavier	(10,281)				
3	Florida St.	(7,014)	Florida St. (7,014)			
14	FGCU	(3,668)				
7	St. Mary's	(2,611)	VCU (7,637)	Arizona (14,526)		
10	VCU	(7,637)				
2	Arizona	(14,526)	Arizona (14,526)			
15	North Dakota	(1,850)				

### Group 3

1	Kansas	(16,436)	Kansas (16,436)	Kansas (16,436)	Kansas (16,436)	Louisville (20,859)
16	UC Davis	(2,111)				
8	Miami (Fla.)	(7,006)	Michigan St. (14,797)			
9	Michigan St.	(14,797)				

5	Iowa St.	(14,270)	Iowa St. (14,270)	Iowa St. (14,270)		
12	Nevada	(6,554)				
4	Purdue	(13,662)	Purdue (13,662)			
13	Vermont	(2,126)				
6	Creighton	(15,941)	Creighton (15,941)	Creighton (15,941)	Louisville (20,859)	
11	Rhode Island	(4,717)				
3	Oregon	(7,466)	Oregon (7,466)			
14	Iona	(1,826)				
7	Michigan	(11,611)	Michigan (11,611)	Louisville (20,859)		
10	Oklahoma St.	(5,857)				
2	Louisville	(20,859)	Louisville (20,859)			
15	Jax. State	(1,092)				

#### Group 4

1	N. Carolina	(18,326)	N. Carolina (18,326)	N. Carolina (18,326)	N. Carolina (18,326)	Kentucky (23,361)
16	Texas So.	(2,421)				
8	Arkansas	(14,879)	Arkansas (14,879)			
9	Seton Hall	(7,070)				
5	Minnesota	(10,706)	Minnesota (10,706)	Minnesota (10,706)		
12	Middle Tenn.	(5,183)				
4	Butler	(8,164)	Butler (8,164)			
13	Winthrop	(1,454)				

6	Cincinnati	(9,415)	Kansas St. (11,902)	Kansas St. (11,902)	Kentucky (23,361)
11	Kansas St.	(11,902)			
3	UCLA	(8,073)	UCLA (8,073)		
14	Kent St.	(3,587)			
7	Dayton	(12,941)	Dayton (12,941)	Kentucky (23,361)	
10	Wichita St.	(10,805)			
2	Kentucky	(23,361)	Kentucky (23,361)		
15	<u>N. Kentucky</u>	(1,504)			

**Finals**

	Wisconsin	(2)	Wisconsin (2)	Louisville (3)
	Maryland	(0)		
	Louisville	(3)	Louisville (3)	
	Kentucky	(1)		

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