



**For Immediate Release**

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**College Basketball Fans Encouraged to Vote for Naismith Student Section of the Year Award**  
*Nearly 80 Top Colleges Vying for Award Celebrating Love for College Hoops*

**ATLANTA, Ga., (January 12, 2012)** –Who has the best student section in college basketball? Is it Arizona’s “Zona Zoo,” Duke’s “Cameron crazies,” or Gonzaga’s “Kennel Club?” What about Kentucky’s “eRUPPtion Zone?” College basketball fans everywhere will have a say in determining the most deserving school by voting now for the Naismith Student Section of the Year Award

By visiting [www.facebook.com/ILoveCollegeHoops](http://www.facebook.com/ILoveCollegeHoops), fans can vote for one of the nearly 80 Division I basketball schools that submitted a nomination. The Naismith Student Section of the Year Award, which is presented through a partnership of The Collegiate Licensing Company (CLC), a division of IMG College, and the Atlanta Tipoff Club, administrators of the Naismith Awards, is dedicated to celebrating fans that love college hoops and provide support to their college basketball team with devotion and passion.

“We are excited that so many Division I basketball schools are touting their student section as the best in college basketball,” said Eric Oberman, Executive Director of the Atlanta Tipoff Club. “Now it’s time for students, alumni, and fans of these schools across the country to make their votes count to help their school win this award.”

Nearly 80 schools representing 21 conferences are vying for the title. The Big East and Big Ten Conferences have the most schools participating followed closely by the ACC and Big 12. Participation also includes athletic conferences ranging from Conference USA and the Pac-12 to the Big Sky, the MAC, and Southland.

The Naismith Student Section of the Year Award will be determined through two rounds of public votes, combined with a scoring of finalists by the Naismith Awards Board of Selectors, which will review criteria such as the student section’s name and attendance, as well as photos, video, and a write-up submitted by the nominating school. Complete details on the selection process can be found at [facebook.com/ilovecollegehoops](http://facebook.com/ilovecollegehoops).

“College basketball student sections love college hoops and bring the emotion, energy, and spirit that defines the home court advantage, and we want to celebrate that,” added Tim Hawks, Senior Director of Brand & Retail Development for CLC. “We need fans to vote now and vote often to help ensure their school—and not their rival—gets recognized for the spirit they pour into supporting their team.”

The winning student section gets bragging rights, while the winning school will receive \$5,000 for its athletic association.

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Participating schools include:

Arizona State Sun Devils  
Arizona Wildcats  
Arkansas Razorbacks  
Baylor Bears  
Boston College Eagles  
Cal Bears  
Central Florida Knights  
Clemson Tigers  
Colorado Buffaloes  
Drexel Dragons  
Duke Blue Devils  
East Carolina Pirates  
Eastern Michigan Eagles  
Florida Atlantic Owls  
Florida Gators  
Florida State Seminoles  
Fordham Rams  
Fresno State Bulldogs  
George Mason Patriots  
George Washington Colonials  
Georgetown Hoyas  
Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets  
Gonzaga Bulldogs  
Illinois Fighting Illini  
Indiana Hoosiers  
Kansas Jayhawks  
Kentucky Wildcats  
Louisville Cardinals  
LSU Tigers  
Marquette Golden Eagles  
Marshall Thundering Herd  
Memphis Tigers  
Miami Hurricanes  
Michigan Wolverines  
Michigan State Spartans  
Middle Tennessee State Blue Raiders  
Minnesota Golden Gophers

Missouri State Bears  
Montana Grizzlies  
Nebraska Cornhuskers  
Nevada Wolf Pack  
New Mexico Lobos  
North Carolina A&T Aggies  
Northwestern Wildcats  
Oakland Golden Grizzlies  
Oklahoma Sooners  
Oklahoma State Cowboys  
Ole Miss Rebels  
Penn State Nittany Lions  
Pitt Panthers  
Providence Friars  
Purdue Boilermakers  
Rhode Island Rams  
Rice Owls  
Rutgers Scarlet Knights  
Saint Joseph's Hawks  
Sam Houston State Bearkats  
San Diego State Aztecs  
SMU Mustangs  
Saint Louis Billikens  
Syracuse Orange  
Temple Owls  
Tennessee Volunteers  
Texas A&M Aggies  
Texas Longhorns  
Texas Tech Red Raiders  
Tulane Green Wave  
UC Davis Aggies  
UCLA Bruins  
Utah Utes  
Utah State Aggies  
Vanderbilt Commodores  
Villanova Wildcats  
Virginia Cavaliers  
Wake Forest Demon Deacons  
West Virginia Mountaineers  
Western Carolina Catamounts  
Wisconsin Badgers  
Wyoming Cowboys

### ***About The Collegiate Licensing Company***

CLC is a division of global sports and entertainment company IMG. Founded in 1981, CLC is the oldest and largest collegiate licensing agency in the U.S. and currently represents nearly 200 colleges, universities, bowl games, athletic conferences, The Heisman Trophy and the NCAA. The mission of CLC is to be the guiding force in collegiate trademark licensing and one of the top sports licensing firms in the country. CLC is dedicated to being a center of excellence in providing licensing services of the highest quality to its member institutions, licensees, retailers and consumers. Headquartered in Atlanta (Ga.), CLC is a full-service licensing representative, which employs a staff of more than 80 licensing professionals who provide full-service capabilities in brand protection, brand management, and brand development. For more information on CLC, visit: [www.clc.com](http://www.clc.com) or [www.imgworld.com](http://www.imgworld.com).

### ***About The Atlanta Tipoff Club***

The Atlanta Tipoff Club, an Atlanta Sports Council property, is committed to promoting the game of basketball and recognizing the outstanding accomplishments of those who make the game so exciting. The Atlanta Tipoff Club, founded during the 1956-57 season, has presented the Naismith Trophy every year since UCLA's Lew Alcindor first won the award in 1969. Old Dominion's Anne Donovan won the inaugural Women's Naismith Trophy in 1983.

The Naismith Award has become the most prestigious award in all of college basketball, recognizing the Men's and Women's College Basketball Player of the Year, Men's and Women's College Basketball Coach of the Year, as well as awards for outstanding achievement in high school basketball, officiating, and contribution to the game.