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# MARQUETTE CHALLENGE

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## ***Marquette Challenge Schedule Announced***

*Marquette will face Stony Brook, George Mason, and Central Michigan*

### **For Immediate Release**

June 24, 2024

### **Princeton, N.J. –**

Marquette will play host to Stony Brook, George Mason, and Central Michigan in the Marquette Challenge, a three-game round robin.

Marquette will host two games, Stony Brook (Nov 4<sup>th</sup>) and Central Michigan (Nov 11<sup>th</sup>) at Fiserv Forum. The Golden Eagles will face George Mason (Nov 8<sup>th</sup>) at the Al McGuire Center. Tickets to the George Mason game will only be available to Marquette students.

In addition to playing at Marquette, George Mason will host Stony Brook (Nov 11<sup>th</sup>) and Central Michigan (Nov 13<sup>th</sup>). Central Michigan will host Stony Brook (Nov 7<sup>th</sup>)

[Marquette](#): The Golden Eagles won an impressive 27 games in the 2023-24 season and reached their first Sweet 16 since 2012-13. Shaka Smart leads Marquette in his 4<sup>th</sup> season in charge returning 6 of the top 8 scorers from last season's team.

[George Mason](#): Tony Skinn begins his 2<sup>nd</sup> year with George Mason as Head Coach. Skinn led George Mason to 20 regular season wins for the first time since 2011-12 and a top-100 ranking for the first time since 2010-11. Those 20 wins ranked fifth-most nationally amongst first-time head coach-led programs and were tied for the second-most in school history by a first-year Mason head coach. Heading into next season, the Patriots' 2024-25 transfer class is ranked 57th nationally, according to EvanMiya.com.

[Central Michigan](#): Tony Barbee begins his 4<sup>th</sup> season in charge of the Chippewas. Central Michigan's 12 Mid-American Conference victories were the most since the 2014-15 season. The Chippewas finished fourth in the league standings after being picked to finish in 12th place out of 12 teams. The Chippewas concluded their season by winning 10 of its last 15 games, including a five-game win streak.

[Stony Brook](#): Geno Ford enters his 6<sup>th</sup> season as the Head Coach of Stony Brook, following a 20 win season in 2023-24. Ford led the Seawolves to the CAA Tournament Final in last season, taking down the No. 2 and 3 seeds before ultimately falling to top-seeded College of Charleston in overtime.

Below is the full schedule for the event:

Monday Nov 4<sup>th</sup>:

Stony Brook at Marquette

Thursday Nov 7<sup>th</sup>:

Stony Brook at Central Michigan

Friday Nov 8<sup>th</sup>:

George Mason at Marquette (at Al McGuire Center)

Monday Nov 11<sup>th</sup>:

Central Michigan at Marquette

Stony Brook at George Mason

Wednesday Nov 13<sup>th</sup>:

Central Michigan at George Mason

### **About the Gazelle Group**

The Gazelle Group is a sports marketing firm, specializing in event production and management, client representation, and sponsorship consulting. Gazelle produces numerous nationally-recognized college sports events, such as the Empire Classic, Legends Classic, the Gotham Classic, the Sunshine Slam, the College Basketball Invitational, the Kwik Trip Holiday Face-Off, the Barstool Sports Invitational, the Boardwalk Battle, and the Jersey Jam as well as on-campus events at Duke, Kentucky, Ohio State, Marquette and other institutions across the country. For more information on the Gazelle Group, please visit [www.gazellegroup.com](http://www.gazellegroup.com).

### **About the Northeast Conference**

*The Northeast Conference (NEC) is the sponsoring conference of the Sunshine Slam. Now in its 43rd season, the NEC is a NCAA Division I collegiate athletic association consisting of 9 institutions of higher learning located throughout five states. For more information on the NEC, visit the official website at [www.northeastconference.org](http://www.northeastconference.org) or follow on Twitter [@NECsports](https://twitter.com/NECsports).*