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Men's Basketball Team Heads Back to NCAA Tournament

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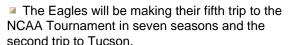
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Men's **Basketball** Team Heads **Back to NCAA** Tournament



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Winthrop was also a 14th seed in 2000 when it met Oklahoma in the McKale Center on the campus of the University of Arizona.

ROCK HILL, S.C. - The Winthrop men's basketball team was awarded a No. 14 seed for the second time in its history and will face No. 3 seed Gonzaga on Thursday, March 17, at 7:25 p.m. EST in the NCAA Tournament first round in Tucson, Ariz.

The Eagles will be making their fifth trip to the NCAA Tournament in seven seasons and the second trip to Tucson. Winthrop was also a 14th seed in 2000 when it met Oklahoma in the McKale Center on the campus of the University of Arizona.

Winthrop and 11th ranked Gonzaga have never met. Winthrop is 27-5 overall and the Big South Conference champion while Gonzaga is 25-4 and the champion of the West Coast Conference.

Winthrop received an automatic bid to the Big Dance after winning the Big South Tournament with a 68-46 victory March 5 over the Charleston Southern Buccaneers. Before a crowd of 4,468 at the Winthrop Coliseum, the Eagles pulled away in the second half to win the nationally televised game on ESPN2.

The Eagles have won their last 18 games and finished the season with a perfect 16-0 mark at home. This will be Head Coach Gregg Marshall's fifth trip to the NCAA tournament after four straight trips from 1999 to 2002.

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