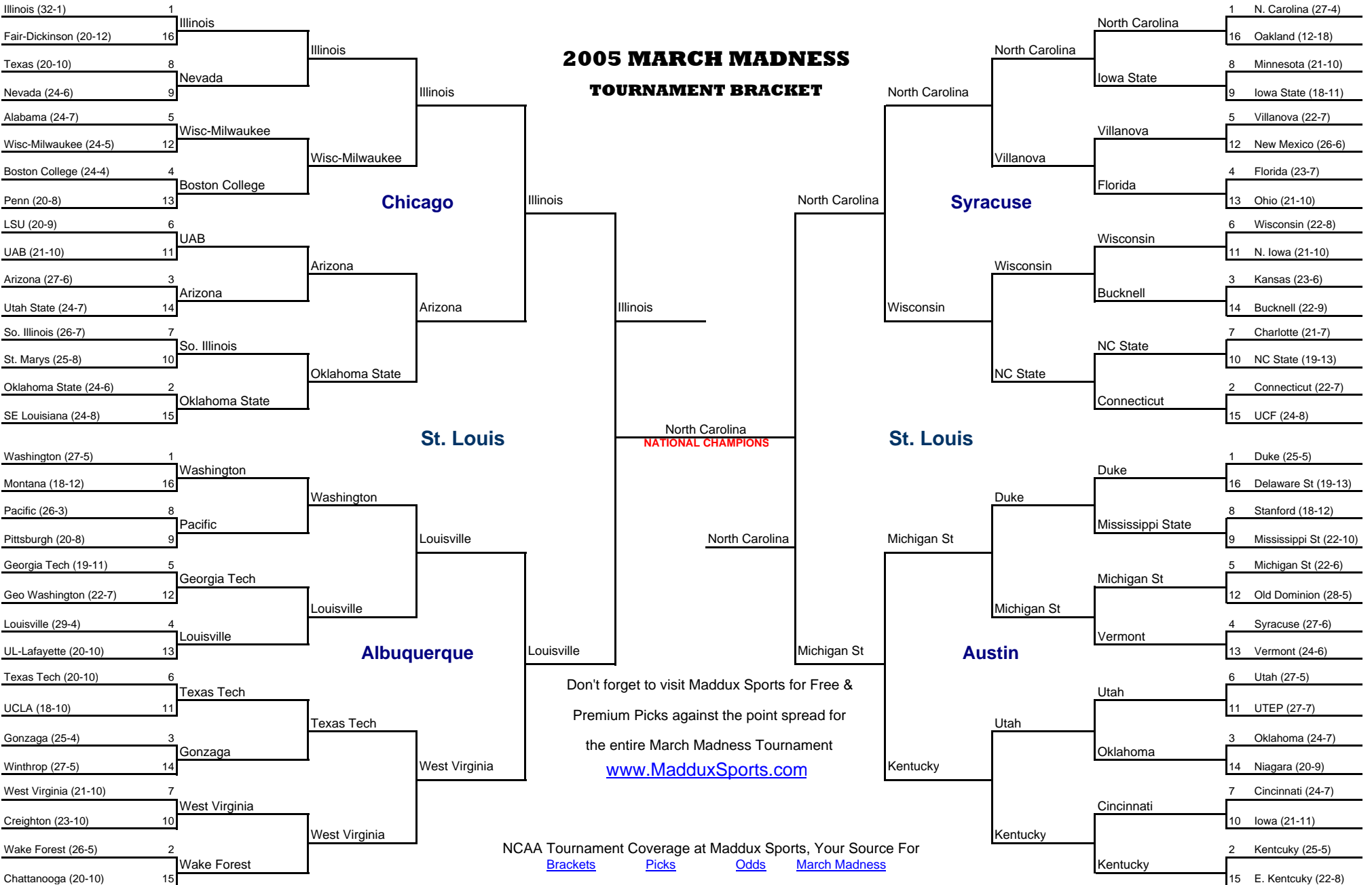




First Round	Second Round	Regionals	Elite 8	Final Four	National Championship	Final Four	Elite 8	Regionals	Second Round	First Round
March 17,18	March 19,20	March 24,25	March 26,27	Apr 2nd	Apr 4th	Apr 2nd	March 26,27	March 24,25	March 19,20	March 17,18



2005 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament

It was the battle of two number one seeds as the Tar Heels of North Carolina beat the Fighting Illini of Illinois by a score of 75- 70 to cover the 2 [ncaa point spread](#) by the bookmakers. Going into the locker room at the half, North Carolina was in command, leading by a score of 40- 27. But Illinois turned up the heat in the second half, scoring 43 points to the Tar Heels' 35 making a run at the [brackets](#) championship, but ultimately came up short on the court with their 2nd half surge.

North Carolina shot 51% from the floor and 56% from the three-point stripe! The Illini hit only 38% from the floor and 30% from downtown. The Tar Heels proved to be disciplined, committing only 13 fouls, while Illinois committed 18. NC shot a total of 19 charity throws, while Illinois only tossed up 6.

Sean May had a double-double for North Carolina, knocking in 26 points and snatching 10 boards. The leading rebound man in the game was Roger Powell who took in 14. Rashad McCants with 14 points off the bench for the Tar Heels was a real difference maker.

In the end, NC hit with accuracy and played more disciplined ball than their opponents. Maddux Sports' [bracket picks](#) were once again a success as we had pegged the Illini and Tar Heels to meet in the 2005 championship game.