College Basketball Tourney Bubble Watch: 3-11-13

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The regular season is over in one week, and conference tourneys are up around the bend. We are now two weeks away from selection Sunday. Some conference tournaments start this week, while most start next week. Remember, there are 68 spots available, comprised of 31 automatic bids to conference champions and 37 at-large bids. Here is a comprehensive look at the major leagues in Division-I (rankings are current AP poll)...

From the results that follow, we predict that at this point 57 bids are safe, which includes 31 auto-bids and 27 at-large bids. This means that there are TEN remaining bids that will go to the "bubble" teams that we have listed below. Out of the 57 that we have found, 27 come from the "Big-6" conferences and 31 from minor ones. A lot can change over the two weeks...
Conference Champs (5 Teams)
Atlantic Sun: Florida Gulf Coast
Big South: Liberty
Ivy: Harvard
MVC: #23 Creighton
Ohio Valley: #31 Belmont

Projected Conference Champs - Locks (10 Teams)
Atlantic-10: #16 St. Louis

ACC: #2 Duke
Big 12: #7 Kansas

Big East: #4 Louisville

Big Ten: #3 Indiana

Conference USA: #20 Memphis

Mountain West: #15 New Mexico

Pac-12: #21 UCLA

SEC: #13 Florida

West Coast: #1 Gonzaga

Projected Conference Champs - Must Win Conference (11 Teams)
America East: Stony Brook

Big Sky: Montana/Weber State

Big West: Long Beach State

Colonial: Northeastern

Horizon: #36t Valparaiso

MAAC: Iona

MEAC: Norfolk State/North Carolina Central

Northeast: LIU Brooklyn

Patriot: Bucknell

SWAC: Texas Southern/Southern

Summit: Western Illinois/South Dakota State

Projected Conference Champs - On Bubble If Upset (5 Teams)
MAC: Akron

Southern: Davidson

Southland: Stephen F. Austin

Sun Belt: Middle Tennessee

WAC: Louisiana Tech

At-Large - Locks (27 Teams)
Atlantic-10: #27 Butler, #25 VCU

ACC: #9 Miami, #28 UNC, NC State
Big 12: #11 Kansas State, #14 Oklahoma State, Oklahoma

Big East: #5 Georgetown, #12 Marquette, #24 Notre Dame, #17 Pittsburgh, #19 Syracuse

Big Ten: #8 Michigan State, #22 Wisconsin, #10 Ohio State, #6 Michigan, Illinois, Minnesota

Mountain West: #29 Colorado State, #32 UNLV, San Diego State

Pac-12: #35 Oregon, #18 Arizona, California

SEC: Missouri

WCC: #26 St. Mary's
At-Large - On Bubble (19 Teams)
Atlantic-10: La Salle, #30 Temple

ACC: Virginia, Maryland

Big 12: Iowa State, Baylor

Big East: #36t Villanova, Cincinnati

Big Ten: Iowa

Conference USA: Southern Miss

MVC: #33 Wichita State

Mountain West: Boise State

Pac-12: Colorado, Arizona State

SEC: #34 Kentucky, Alabama, Ole Miss, Arkansas, Tennessee
Bubble Recap
To recap, the bubble has TEN spots for 19 teams with realistic chances as of now. The available spots could shrink if some projected conference champs do not win their conference tournaments. If Auto-Bid bubble teams do not win their conference tournaments, they will be added to this list.

Current bubble teams include (in order):

Colorado (20-10, 10-8, RPI: 35, SOS: 16, Pac 12)

Cincinnati (21-10, 8-8, RPI: 46, SOS: 26, Big East)

Villanova (18-12, 9-8, RPI: 51, SOS: 18, Big East)
Wichita State (26-7, 12-6, RPI: 36, SOS: 107, MVC)

Temple (22-8, 9-5, RPI: 43, SOS: 77, Atlantic 10+6)
Iowa State (21-10, 9-7, RPI: 47, SOS: 63, Big XII-2)
Boise State (21-9, 8-6, RPI: 37, SOS: 70, Mountain West)

La Salle (21-8, 10-4, RPI: 38, SOS: 87, Atlantic 10+6)
Tennessee (19-11, 9-7, RPI: 54, SOS: 35, SEC)

Kentucky (21-10, 11-5, RPI: 50, SOS: 66, SEC)

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Virginia (20-10, 10-6, RPI: 71, SOS: 133, ACC)
Southern Miss (23-8, 11-3, RPI: 39, SOS: 80, Conference USA)

Alabama (19-10, 11-5, RPI: 60, SOS: 89, SEC)

Baylor (17-12, 8-8, RPI: 61, SOS: 22, Big XII-2)

Ole Miss (21-8, 10-6, RPI: 56, SOS: 150, SEC)

Iowa (18-11, 7-9, RPI: 72, SOS: 119, Big Ten+2)
Arkansas (18-11, 9-7, RPI: 75, SOS: 82, SEC)

Maryland (20-9, 8-8, RPI: 78, SOS: 123, ACC)

Arizona State (20-10, 9-8, RPI: 90, SOS: 124, Pac 12)