

# Looking For the Best Sushi in the Triangle?

Stephanie Smith, Contributing Writer

Are you a sushi lover who is looking for excellent, high quality sushi around the area? If so, Mura is the spot! Mura is a Japanese fusion restaurant located in North Hills which serves a wide range of food such as steak, seafood, mixed cuisine, and of course the best sushi in the triangle. I have been a sushi lover for quite some time now and have tried almost every sushi restaurant in the Raleigh area, but let me tell you, nothing compares to Mura. Mura is well known for their specialty rolls with over twenty five delicious, unique rolls to choose from, some of my favorites being the Piano Roll, Super Shrimp Crunch Roll, Carolina Roll, and the wonderful Sin City Roll. One of the things I love about Mura is that it offers alternative ways to create a more interesting and tasty roll unlike other sushi restaurants I have dined at. Mura's fresh sushi platters are expertly prepared and presented, with service that is always prompt, friendly, and courteous. Not only is the sushi delicious and wait staff pleasant, but the atmosphere is absolutely miraculous. There are four private rooms inside, a very spacious dining area, tables outside, and a bar area with flat screen TV'S. There is no doubt that Mura is a classy, modern setting for a delightful meal, and is a great spot for families and big parties to dine at, especially for birthdays. Whenever it's someone's birthday at Mura, the birthday boy or girl gets one free roll, which no other sushi restaurant in the area offers. Mura also provides wonderful weekly specials which attracts a crowd of people on a regular basis. Mura has sushi happy hour Monday-Friday from 2:00pm to 5:00pm, where if you buy one sushi roll, you get the second half off. The same deal also applies every Sunday and Tuesday.

Overall, Mura is out to impress, and every sushi lover I know has the same opinion as me. Mura has the widest selection of sushi, and excellent presentation. Although certain rolls may be a little pricy, the cost is worth it since dining at this restaurant is always an enjoyable experience. So for all you sushi lovers out there, if you are looking for tasty, fresh sushi and a fun place to dine, Mura may just be the place for you. For more information on Mura, visit their website at [www.muranorthhills.com](http://www.muranorthhills.com), and check out all they have to offer!



image via nyu.edu

## Final Four Preview

Jillian Curtis, Contributing Writer

It's that time again! The 2011 March Madness NCAA tournament is in full swing! The tournament began on March 15, and there has been nonstop action ever since. Although there were 68 teams who managed to earn their spot in the Big Dance, only 4 final teams remain. This year's Final Four is very unique as there are no No.1 seeds remaining. Here are the final 4:

**Butler Bulldogs:** The Bulldogs entered the tournament as a No.8 seed, despite the fact that they had made it to the finals in the 2010 tournament, only to lose to Duke. After losing their best player to the NBA, Butler fought throughout the season to prove themselves as a serious competitor. So far in the tournament they have managed to pull out four victories against very talented teams, including No.1 seed Pittsburgh and No. 2 seed Florida. The Bulldogs are led by Senior Matt Howard and Junior Shelvin Mack. The team is known for its players' tenacity and perseverance, factors that have allowed the team to emerge as a 2011 Cinderella team. Butler, led by Coach Brad Stevens, is the only team from a smaller conference.

**Virginia-Commonwealth (VCU) Rams:** VCU is the biggest underdog in this year's Final Four. After entering the tournament amidst controversy, the team has managed to win five upset games. To get to the Final Four, the team defeated No.1 Kansas in a 71-61 victory. VCU led by as many as 18 points in the first half, and despite a rally by Kansas, they never lost the lead. This young team is known for the players' perimeter shooting and defensive pressure. Their coach, Shaka Smart, is the youngest coach in the country and is known for his inspirational pre-game speeches that help motivate his underdog squad. Despite the fact that everyone in the

country doubted them, VCU will face off against fellow Cinderella team Butler in the Final Four round.

**Connecticut Huskies:** The Huskies, a No. 3 seed, have reeled off nine straight victories in 19 days after winning the Big East Tournament and the first four games in the NCAA. The team is led by junior guard Kemba Walker, who has been responsible for a majority of their points throughout the tournament. Walker has hit numerous big shots at the end of the games to help lead his team to victories over powerhouses such as San Diego State, Cincinnati and Arizona. Freshman Jeremy Lamb is a major contributor to the team as well. The team is the highest-ranked squad in the Final Four and will fight the Kentucky Wildcats for a place in the championship game.

**Kentucky Wildcats:** The Kentucky Wildcats are a No.4 seed and will appear for the first time in the semi-finals since 1988. They defeated No.2 seed University of North Carolina in order to earn a bid in the Final Four. The team is excellent defensively and has the ability to dominate from the perimeter. The players' tenacity and sheer determination has helped them defeat top-ranked teams so far in the tournament. The Wildcats are led by outside shooter Brandon Knight, who has the ability to make important last-minute shots. Center Josh Harrellson's size poses a great threat to teams looking to make inside drives. Look for the Wildcats to put up a good fight against UConn and Kemba Walker on 4/2.

As you can see, this year's Final Four teams are very well-rounded and talented in all aspects of the game. Almost all of the teams were underdogs at the beginning of the tournament, and it will be interesting to see which two will advance to the championship game. Watch on 4/2 and 4/4 for the Final Four and the championship game of the 2011 NCAA tournament!

## What's Up in Raleigh

March 29-April 12:

Mar 29 – April 8: Hand Prints @ Amplified Art

Mar 29 – April 10: Carolina Ballet presents Carmen @ Memorial Auditorium

Mar 29 – April 12: Dis/order @ Artspace

Mar 30: Canes vs. Canadians @ RBC Center

Mar 31: Indina Menzel @ Memorial Auditorium  
Papercuts @ Kings

April 1: First Friday @ Downtown

Wiz Khalifa @ Raleigh Amphitheater

Lady GaGa vs Madonna vs Rihanna dance party with DJ Lil'e @ Lincoln Theater

Faculty Guitar Recital with Ed Stephenson @ Carswell, 8 pm

April 3: Canes vs. Sabres @ RBC Center

April 4: Warpaint @ Kings

April 5: Jazz pianist Lenore Raphael @ Carswell, 1 pm

April 6: Canes vs. Red Wings @ RBC Center

April 8 -12: The Last Night of Ballyhoo @ Raleigh Little Theater

April 8-9: Meredith Opera Workshop production of Mozart's Magic Flute @ Carswell, 8 pm

April 9: Canes vs. Lightning @ RBC Center

April 15-17: Danceworks @ Jones