

NCAA DIVISION II ELITE EIGHT QUARTERFINAL CAPSULE



Quarterfinal Game #1

March 25, 2015 at Ford Center, Evansville, Ind., 12 p.m., Central time

#7 Tarleton State (South Central Regional champion) vs. #9 Mount Olive (Southeast Regional champion)

Tarleton State (30-3, 12-2, won Lone Star Conference regular season title)

Head Coach: Lonon Reisman (27th year at TSU, record of 588-232 at school; 609-242 overall)
NCAA Bid: At-Large
NCAA Record: 18-11, 12th appearance (last in 2014, lost to Midwestern State 74-68 in regional semifinals)
Vs. Top 25 Teams: 6-1
2015 NCAA Tournament Results: Beat St. Mary's 71-52, Colorado-Colorado Springs 84-62 & Angelo State 66-64 to win South Central Regional.

Vs. NCAA Field: 10-3

Probable Starters:	PPG	RPG	APG	SPG	Honors
3 EJ Reed, 6-6, Jr.	8.6	3.5	0.6	0.7	
4 Nosa Ebomwonyi, 6-4, Fr.	6.1	3.0	0.9	0.6	
22 Mo Lee, 6-3, Sr.	15.3	5.0	2.7	1.1	First-team All-LSC
24 Michael Hardge, 5-11, Jr.	10.1	2.4	3.6	1.4	Second-team All-LSC
40 Davene Carter, 6-6. Sr.	6.3	4.5	0.2	0.3	

Mount Olive (31-3, 19-1, won Conference Carolinas regular season title)

Head Coach: Joey Higginbotham (7th year at UMO, record of 141-62 at school and overall)
NCAA Bid: At-Large
NCAA Record: 7-6, 7th appearance (last in 2010, lost to Montevallo 84-70 in first round of regional)
Vs. Top 25 Teams: 4-0
2015 NCAA Tournament Results: Beat GRU Augusta 84-75, Lincoln Memorial 75-55 & Montevallo 82-75 to win Southeast Regional.

Vs. NCAA Field: 8-3

Probable Starters:	PPG	RPG	APG	SPG	Honors
1 Dontrell Brite, 5-9, Jr.	14.1	2.5	5.6	2.1	Conf. Carolinas Player of the Year
4 Kendall Hargrove, 6-3, Sr.	10.7	8.7	2.3	1.6	Second-team Conf. Car.; Def. POY
10 JaQuon Blount, 6-2, Jr.	10.9	4.6	3.2	2.0	Third-team Conference Carolinas
33 Jordan McCain, 6-3, Sr.	13.2	4.2	2.7	1.2	Third-team Conference Carolinas
35 Mike Moore, 6-8, Jr.	9.7	4.1	1.0	0.4	

Game Notes:

Tarleton State is playing in its second Elite Eight, winning in the quarterfinal round in 2005 over Cal Poly Pomona and losing a year later to Stonehill.

Mount Olive is in its second Elite Eight; its previous trip in 2005 ended with a loss to Bryant in the quarterfinals. Had Mount Olive won that game, it would have faced Tarleton State in the national semifinals.

This contest is one of two featuring a pair of teams ranked in the top 10 in the final NABC/Division II coaches poll. This is the sixth Elite Eight with a pair of top-10 teams in the quarterfinals, the last coming in 2009.

The Texans, who have been known historically for their play on the defensive end, enter the game ranked third in points allowed per game (60.2) and among the top 15 in both field goal percentage defense and three-point defense.

TSU's Devone Carter is the leading active field goal shooter in NCAA Division II, entering the Elite Eight with a career mark of 69 percent.

The Trojans rank second in the nation in assists per game – Dontrell Brite is eighth on an individual basis with 190 on the year – and third in blocked shots, including 14 in the three games at the Southeast Regional. Dominique Reed is ninth in total blocked shots with 71.

Breaking down the teams (NCAA Division II Ranking)

	TSU	UMO
Scoring Offense:	74.9 (129)	79.0 (55)
Scoring Defense:	60.2 (3)	66.3 (38)
Scoring Margin:	+14.6 (9)	+12.7 (17)
Rebounding Margin:	+5.0 (34)	+1.1 (134)
Assist-to-Turnover Ratio:	0.97 (166)	1.41 (18)
Longest Winning Streak:	14	17

