

NCAA DIVISION II ELITE EIGHT NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP GAME CAPSULE



National Championship Game

March 28, 2015 at Ford Center, Evansville, Ind., 2 p.m., Central time

#1 Florida Southern (South Regional champion) vs. #25 Indiana, Pa. (Atlantic Regional champion)

Florida Southern (35-1, 15-1, won Sunshine State Conference regular season and tournament titles)

Head Coach: Linc Darner (9th year at FSC, record of 217-72 at school; 291-117 overall)
NCAA Bid: Automatic (Sunshine State Conference champion)
NCAA Record: 43-30, 29th appearance (last in 2014, lost to Tuskegee 98-95 in first round of regional)
Vs. Top 25 Teams: 7-1
2015 NCAA Tournament Results: Beat Benedict 89-68, West Georgia 84-81 & Lynn 88-80 to win South Regional; beat Southern New Hampshire 81-70 in quarterfinals & Bellarmine 79-76 in semifinals.

Vs. NCAA Field: 13-1

| Probable Starters: | PPG | RPG | APG | SPG | Honors |
|-----------------------------|------|-----|-----|-----|-------------------------------------|
| 00 Kevin Capers, 6-2, Sr. | 21.1 | 4.3 | 3.9 | 2.3 | Sunshine State Conf. Player of Year |
| 1 Tyler Logan, 6-3, Sr. | 6.1 | 3.1 | 2.2 | 0.9 | |
| 4 Bubby Johnson, 6-8, Sr. | 6.1 | 6.4 | 0.7 | 0.8 | |
| 14 Tyler Kelly, 6-2, Sr. | 9.9 | 4.2 | 3.6 | 1.0 | Second team All-SSC |
| 30 Stephen Battle, 6-5, Sr. | 12.9 | 4.9 | 0.9 | 0.8 | Second team All-SSC |

Indiana, Pa. (31-6, 17-5, finished second in Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference West Division in regular season)

Head Coach: Joe Lombardi (9th year at IUP, record of 204-76 at school and overall)
NCAA Bid: At-Large
NCAA Record: 29-13, 14th appearance (last in 2014, lost to West Liberty 86-83, 3OT, in regional semifinals)
Vs. Top 25 Teams: 3-0
2015 NCAA Tournament Results: Beat Glenville State 73-52, Slippery Rock 73-65 & West Liberty 77-74 to win Atlantic Regional; beat Azusa Pacific 69-65 in quarterfinals & Tarleton State 72-68 in semifinals.

Vs. NCAA Field: 9-5

| Probable Starters: | PPG | RPG | APG | SPG | Honors |
|-------------------------------|------|-----|-----|-----|------------------------------|
| 3 Devante Chance, 5-11, Sr. | 16.5 | 3.9 | 5.7 | 1.8 | PSAC West Player of the Year |
| 11 Jeremy Jeffers, 6-6, Sr. | 8.3 | 2.9 | 1.8 | 0.6 | |
| 21 Devon Cottrell, 6-7, Jr. | 3.7 | 4.5 | 0.3 | 0.3 | |
| 22 Shawn Dyer, 6-0, Gr. | 14.1 | 5.4 | 2.0 | 1.3 | Second team All-PSAC West |
| 23 Brandon Norfleet, 6-5, Jr. | 11.6 | 4.4 | 3.1 | 1.2 | |

Game Notes:

Florida Southern and Indiana (Pa.) are meeting for the first time ever in this year's national championship game. It is the third title game appearance for FSC, who won the 1981 national championship and lost a year later to District of Columbia. IUP is making its second title game appearance; it lost its prior one in 2010 to Cal Poly Pomona.

This marks the 14th time and first since 2009 that the top-ranked team in the final national poll is in the championship game. The No. 1 team is 8-5 all-time in title tilts, including Findlay's overtime win over Cal Poly Pomona in 2009.

The 66 combined wins are the most ever for two teams facing off in a national championship game. The previous high was 65 in the 2007 game between Winona State (35) and Barton (30).

Florida Southern is the first team from the South Region to play in the NCAA Division II championship game since Troy in 1993 – ending the longest drought of any region of a national finalist. The South's last champion was North Alabama in 1991. Meanwhile, Indiana is the second straight team from the Atlantic region to play for a national champion – West Liberty, whom IUP downed in the regional final to reach the Elite Eight, was the 2013 representative – but no Atlantic team has won the title since Barton did so in its thrilling win over Winona State in 2007.

Breaking down the teams (NCAA Division II Ranking)

| | FSC | IUP |
|----------------------------------|--------------|------------|
| Scoring Offense: | 88.3 (5) | 74.9 (128) |
| Scoring Defense: | 74.4 (184) | 62.4 (9) |
| Scoring Margin: | +13.9 (10) | +12.5 (17) |
| Rebounding Margin: | -1.9 (218) | +4.4 (47) |
| Assist-to-Turnover Ratio: | 1.44 (14) | 1.16 (71) |
| Longest Winning Streak: | 24 (current) | 8 |

