

NCAA DIVISION II ELITE EIGHT TOURNAMENT CAPSULE: Quarterfinal Game #3

March 23, 2016 at Dr. Pepper Arena, Frisco, Texas, 6 p.m., Central Time

#2 seed Augustana

Head Coach: Tom Billeter (13th season)
Overall Record: 31-2
Conference Record: 21-1 (Northern Sun Inter. Conf.)
vs. Top 25 Teams: 4-0
vs. NCAA Field: 8-1
NCAA Record: 13-15
NCAA Appearance: 13th (1st Elite Eight)
Last Appearance: 2015

2016 Tournament Results (Central Regional):

Reg. Quarterfinals: Def. Harding 100-85
Reg. Semifinals: Def. Nebraska-Kearney 77-67
Reg. Championship: Def. Northwest Mo. St. 80-78

Probable Starters:

	Ht.	Yr.	PPG	RPG
#11 Adam Beyer	6-6	Jr.	8.7	3.0
#23 Jordan Spencer	6-2	So.	9.4	4.0
#31 Alex Richter	6-5	Sr.	13.6	3.2
#32 Casey Schilling	6-6	Sr.	19.7	9.4
#34 Daniel Jansen	6-9	Sr.	20.7	7.4

[Season Statistics](#)

[Season Schedule & Results](#)

Game Notes:

Augustana earned its first trip to the Elite Eight by winning the Central Regional championship game over the team that eliminated it from the tournament a year ago, taking an 80-78 decision over Northwest Missouri State as Jordan Spencer hit two free throws with four seconds remaining. The Vikings, one of the five Elite Eight teams that have been ranked No. 1 this season, have gone 62-5 over the last two seasons.

Northern Sun player of the year Daniel Jansen and Casey Schilling are among the 25 players on the Bevo Francis Watch list and are the Vikings' top two scorers. Jansen is averaging 20.7 points a game and is Augustana's all-time leading scorer with 2,217 points, while Schilling also reached the 2,000-point mark in his career when he tallied 24 in the win over Northwest. Schilling is second among active Division II player (this season) with 960 career rebounds.

Paced by Spencer, who has dished out 226 assists, the Vikings possess the nation's best assist-to-turnover ratio of 1.92-to-1. Augustana has led that category for much of the season as it ranks second in fewest turnovers with just 10.1 a game. Spencer's mark of 3.53-to-1 is the second-best assist-to-turnover mark in Division II.

The Vikings – who recorded an exhibition win in early November over Iowa – have had two double-digit winning streaks this year. After losing their season opener to Washburn, Augustana won 19 straight before losing at Northern State on Feb. 5. Since that loss, the Vikings have rattled off 12 straight wins.

#7 seed Tarleton State

Head Coach: Lonn Reisman (28th season)
Overall Record: 24-8
Conference Record: 9-5 (Lone Star Conference)
vs. Top 25 Teams: 3-3
vs. NCAA Field: 7-3
NCAA Record: 22-12
NCAA Appearance: 13th (4th Elite Eight)
Last Appearance: 2015

2016 Tournament Results (South Central Regional):

Reg. Quarterfinals: Def. Colo. School of Mines 83-61
Reg. Semifinals: Def. Lubbock Christian 69-63
Reg. Championship: Def. Angelo State 77-72

Probable Starters:

	Ht.	Yr.	PPG	RPG
#1 Malcolm Hamilton	6-4	Sr.	10.3	5.6
#2 Chantz Chambers	5-11	Jr.	5.4	2.1
#3 EJ Reed	6-6	Sr.	17.3	6.7
#24 Michael Hardge	5-11	Sr.	12.2	2.9
#32 Romond Jenkins	6-7	Jr.	7.2	7.8

[Season Statistics](#)

[Season Schedule & Results](#)

Game Notes:

The only return entry to the Elite Eight, Tarleton State won eight of its last nine contests and captured the South Central Regional title by winning a rematch over Angelo State in the championship game. This is the fourth Elite Eight appearance for the Texans, who have never advanced past the semifinal round – where they were eliminated last year by Indiana (Pa.).

Known for their stingy defense, the Texans rank sixth in the nation in field goal percentage defense as they have held their foes to 39.5 percent from the field this year and 33.5 percent from three-point range, parlaying the two into an average of 66 points a game scored by their opponents (11th-best in Division II).

Michael Hardge has 48 steals to pace TSU, while Xavier Smith, who has come off the bench in all but one game this year, has a team-high 68 blocked shots. The Texans have blocked 146 shots as a team this year after swatting away 151 last season.

EJ Reed leads four Tarleton State players in double figures with an average of 17.3 points per game while shooting 54.2 percent from the field. Hardge is scoring 12.2 a game and Charles Hill, who has made 25 starts for TSU, has made a team-high 42 three-point baskets while averaging better than 11 points per game.

Like Augustana, Tarleton State held the No. 1 ranking in Division II this season in the first regular season poll after the Vikings were No. 1 in the pre-season.