

NCAA DIVISION II ELITE EIGHT TOURNAMENT CAPSULE: National Championship Game

March 26, 2016 at Dr. Pepper Arena, Frisco, Texas, 2 p.m., Central Time

#1 seed Lincoln Memorial

Head Coach: Josh Schertz (8th season)
Overall Record: 34-2
Conference Record: 22-0 (South Atlantic Conference)
vs. Top 25 Teams: 5-1
vs. NCAA Field: 12-2
NCAA Record: 9-5
NCAA Appearance: 6th (1st Elite Eight)
Last Appearance: 2015

2016 Tournament Results (Southeast Regional):

Reg. Quarterfinals: Def. Lander 98-71
Reg. Semifinals: Def. Queens (N.C.) 95-67
Reg. Championship: Def. Lenoir-Rhyne 103-80
Quarterfinals: Def. Barry 93-75
Semifinals: Def. West Liberty 103-102

Probable Starters:

	Ht.	Yr.	PPG	RPG
#12 Gerel Simmons	6-2	Sr.	20.9	4.1
#15 Dorian Pinson	6-5	So.	10.1	7.1
#20 Luquon Choice	6-3	Jr.	17.0	4.3
#24 Jalen Steele	6-3	Sr.	16.9	4.4
#33 Emanuel Terry	6-9	So.	7.3	5.8

[Season Statistics](#)

[Season Schedule & Results](#)

Game Notes:

Lincoln Memorial, the last of the five teams in this year's Elite Eight to hold the No. 1 ranking in the NABC coaches poll, enters its first national championship game sporting a 24-game winning streak, the longest in both school and South Atlantic Conference history. The Railsplitters are the first team from the SAC to reach the national championship game and first from the Southeast Region since Montevallo played in the 2012 title contest.

Lincoln Memorial enters the title game ranked second in Division II in scoring with an average of 96.7 points per game; the Railsplitters have cleared the 100-point mark 16 times, including Thursday's semifinal win over West Liberty. LMU's margin of victory of 19.6 points per game ranks first nationally.

The Railsplitters also lead the nation in three-point shooting at 44.8 percent, headed by Luquon Choice at 48.1 percent (124 made), Gerel Simmons at 48 percent (83 made) and Jalen Steele at 44.2 percent (123 made); the Railsplitters have made a school record 404 three-point shots this season, 155 more than the previous mark. Choice and Steele rank seventh and 10th in the nation, respectively, in three-pointers per game and own LMU's top two single-season marks in that department.

LMU's only losses were on the road to NCAA Tournament participants King and Bellarmine – and went 27-0 in games against teams from the SAC during the year.

#2 seed Augustana

Head Coach: Tom Billeter (13th season)
Overall Record: 33-2
Conference Record: 21-1 (Northern Sun Inter. Conf.)
vs. Top 25 Teams: 5-0
vs. NCAA Field: 10-1
NCAA Record: 15-15
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
Quarterfinals: Def. Tarleton State 86-79
Semifinals: Def. Western Oregon 74-55

Probable Starters:

	Ht.	Yr.	PPG	RPG
#11 Adam Beyer	6-6	Jr.	9.0	3.3
#23 Jordan Spencer	6-2	So.	9.2	4.0
#31 Alex Richter	6-5	Sr.	14.2	3.5
#32 Casey Schilling	6-6	Sr.	19.5	9.4
#33 Zach Huisken	6-9	Jr.	3.8	2.7

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[Season Schedule & Results](#)

Game Notes:

Augustana won its 14th straight contest Thursday by knocking off third-ranked Western Oregon and is also playing in the national championship game for the first time in school history. The Vikings are the first team from the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference to play for a national title since Winona State made the last of its three straight appearances in 2008.

The last two teams from the Central Region (previously the North Central) to reach the championship game, Winona State (2008) and Central Missouri (2014), won national titles.

The Vikings are also among the top scoring teams in the nation, ranking eighth with an average of 90.3 points per game. Their margin of victory of 18 points per game ranks third in Division II.

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 20.5 points a game and is Augustana's all-time leading scorer with 2,230 points, while Schilling is second with 2,034 and is second among active Division II players (this season) with 979 career rebounds.

Augustana has a 64-5 record over the last two seasons and was among the five Elite Eight teams to hold the nation's top ranking this season. In that two-year span, the Vikings have had two 19-game winning streaks along with their current 14-game run.

#1 vs. #2:

Saturday's game marks the second all-time matchup between the top two teams in the final national rankings. The only previous matchup occurred in 1975, when #1 Old Dominion defeated #2 New Orleans 76-74. ... This will be the 12th time in Division II history that the top two teams have faced one another – and second time this season, as #1 Wheeling Jesuit lost at #2 West Liberty 82-74 on Feb. 27. ... This is the second straight year that the top-ranked team is playing for the national championship; #1 Florida Southern beat Indiana (Pa.) a year ago. Top-ranked teams have an all-time record of 9-5 in national championship tilts.