



# NCAA Division II Elite Eight Capsule

## Semifinal Game #1

Thurs., March 28, 2019 • Ford Center • Evansville, Ind. • 6:08 p.m.  
Broadcast on CBS Sports Network

### Northwest Missouri State Bearcats (#1 seed)



**Head Coach:** Ben McCollum (10th year at Northwest Missouri State)  
**Overall Record:** 36-0  
**Conference Record:** 19-0 (won Mid-American Intercollegiate Ath. Assoc. regular season and tournament)  
**vs. Top 25 Teams:** 2-0  
**vs. 2018-19 NCAA Field:** 9-0  
**All-Time NCAA Tournament Record:** 27-20  
**NCAA Appearance:** 19th (5th Elite Eight, first appearance since 2017)  
**Longest Winning Streak:** 36 (current; began on Nov. 3 and is longest active streak in NCAA Division II)

#### Northwest Missouri State Probable Starters:

| No. | Name           | Ht. | Year  | PPG  | RPG | AST | STL | Hometown       |
|-----|----------------|-----|-------|------|-----|-----|-----|----------------|
| 1   | Diego Bernard  | 6-0 | Fr.   | 11.8 | 4.9 | 72  | 35  | St. Joseph, MO |
| 12  | Trevor Hudgins | 6-0 | R-Fr. | 18.7 | 2.4 | 193 | 45  | Manhattan, KS  |
| 30  | Joey Witthus   | 6-7 | Sr.   | 21.2 | 4.1 | 86  | 31  | Chanhassen, MN |
| 33  | Ryan Hawkins   | 6-7 | So.   | 14.0 | 8.7 | 36  | 76  | Atlantic, IA   |
| 44  | Ryan Welty     | 6-8 | Jr.   | 8.1  | 4.9 | 28  | 18  | Parkville, MO  |

#### 2019 NCAA Tournament Results (Central Regional)

**Quarterfinals:**  
def. Minnesota State 91-62  
**Semifinals:**  
def. Southern Nazarene 70-59  
**Championship Game:**  
def. Missouri Southern 82-70  
**Elite Eight Quarterfinal:**  
def. Mercyhurst 55-51

#### Notes:

Northwest Missouri State is in the Elite Eight for the second time in three years -- its last trip ended with the school's first national title. ... Northwest is seeking to become the first team since 2009 (Findlay) to complete a perfect season; if it succeeds, it would tie the Division II record for wins in a season. ... The Bearcats lead the nation in scoring margin at plus 21 points per game and have committed just 7.8 turnovers per game, the fewest of any team in the country. ... Trevor Hudgins is scoring 18.7 points per game -- second to Joey Witthus' 21.2 -- and owns Division II's eighth-best assist-to-turnover ratio of 3.11. ... Northwest is shooting 41.2 percent from three-point range, fifth-best in the nation, led by a 47.8 percent mark by Ryan Welty. ... The Bearcats were ranked either first or second in both polls (NABC and D2SIDA) in every weekly ranking during the 2018-19 season.

### Saint Anselm Hawks (#5 seed)



**Head Coach:** Keith Dickson (33rd year at Saint Anselm)  
**Overall Record:** 26-5  
**Conference Record:** 18-3 (won Northeast-10 Conference Northeast Division regular season title)  
**vs. Top 25 Teams:** 2-9  
**vs. 2018-19 NCAA Field:** 8-3  
**All-Time NCAA Tournament Record:** 18-24  
**NCAA Appearance:** 22nd (2nd Elite Eight; first appearance since 2000)  
**Longest Winning Streak:** 10 (Nov. 10-Dec. 30)

#### Saint Anselm Probable Starters:

| No. | Name               | Ht. | Year | PPG  | RPG | AST | STL | Hometown           |
|-----|--------------------|-----|------|------|-----|-----|-----|--------------------|
| 3   | Cody Ball          | 6-3 | Sr.  | 13.7 | 5.1 | 95  | 31  | Londonderry, NH    |
| 4   | Danny Evans        | 6-4 | Jr.  | 8.9  | 4.4 | 69  | 26  | Leeds, UK          |
| 5   | Tim Guers          | 6-3 | Sr.  | 21.8 | 7.5 | 168 | 30  | Langhorne, PA      |
| 15  | Chris Paul         | 6-6 | So.  | 14.5 | 6.2 | 50  | 20  | Highland Mills, NY |
| 24  | Gustav Suhr-Jessen | 6-7 | So.  | 12.1 | 7.1 | 55  | 17  | Virum, Denmark     |

#### 2019 NCAA Tournament Results (East Regional)

**Quarterfinals:**  
def. Molloy 81-71  
**Semifinals:**  
def. New Haven 70-69  
**Championship Game:**  
def. St. Thomas Aquinas 74-49  
**Elite Eight Quarterfinal:**  
def. Nova Southeastern 91-81

#### Notes:

Saint Anselm reached the Elite Eight for the first time since 2000 by capturing the title in the East Regional; head coach Keith Dickson also coached the Hawks in that last trip to the national quarterfinal round. ... Dickson's 643 coaching wins are the 14th-most of any coach in Division II history. ... Senior guard Tim Guers is the top active scorer in this year's Elite Eight with 2,301 points; his total is third among players who played during the 2018-19 season. ... As a team, Saint Anselm is shooting 49.2 percent from the field -- the 16th-best mark in Division II -- and its three-point mark of 40.1 percent is 21st in the nation with three individuals shooting at least 40 percent from beyond the arc. ... The Hawks' 16 three-pointers in Wednesday's win -- the first in an Elite Eight by an East Region team since 2012 -- matched the second-most in a game in Elite Eight history.