

## LMC Hall of Famer to officiate NCAA Final Four

Written by Whitney Noble  
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Mike Eades, who played basketball at Lees McRae College, has been selected by the NCAA among a pool of 10 officials who will work the Final Four. John Cahill, Tony Greene, Karl Hess, Lee Jones, John Higgins, Randy McCall and Mark Whitehead have all officiated previous Final Fours. Eades, Doug Simmons and Terry Wymer will have the opportunity to work their first semifinal or championship game.

Eades established himself as one of the best floor generals in program history during the 1981-82 and 1982-83 seasons, dishing out 283 assists in 54 career games for the Bobcats. During his career in the Green and Gold, Eades set a school record with an average of 5.2 assists per game while ranking second all-time in program history in career helpers. Eades went on to start at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro for one season, averaging 7.3 points in 26 games.

He has gone on to a successful career as a leading basketball official in the NCAA, regularly officiating games in the Big Ten and Southeastern Conference. He has officiated countless NCAA March Madness games, including this spring's Elite Eight matchup between Cincinnati and Ohio State in Boston, Mass. Eades was inducted into the LMC Hall of Fame in 2012. The officials were recommended by John Adams, the NCAA's director of officiating, and approved Monday by the Division I men's basketball committee. Three-man crews will work each game with a fourth official on standby. The assignments for the semifinals will be made Saturday morning with the championship officials announced Monday.

Louisville plays Wichita State in the first national semifinal Saturday night at the Georgia Dome. Michigan plays Syracuse in the other game.

**Photo Courtesy: Mike Eades, LMC Athletics**