

Great Eight Basketball Festival to match top NCAA finalists. (National Collegiate Athletic Association)

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The Great Eight, a two-day men's college basketball festival, is set for Nov. 29-30 at The Palace of Auburn Hills, Mich. (AB, Feb. 14). The arena signed a three-year contract with Raycom and ESPN, creators of the event.

The event will bring together the final eight teams (regional finalists) from this year's National Collegiate Athletic Assn. (NCAA) Tournament. If a team is unable to participate, the highest remaining ranked team from the media and coaches polls will be invited.

Each team will play a single game. Two nightly doubleheaders, scheduled for 7 and 9 p.m. (EST), will be televised on ESPN.

"We're only asking teams to play one game," said Chuck Steedman, Raycom director of program development. "All great college basketball programs schedule big games in the early season. This ...