



NCAA MEN'S FINAL FOUR RETURNS TO ATLANTA IN 2013

ATLANTA (Nov. 19, 2008) – The NCAA® Men's Basketball Committee selected Atlanta to host the 2013 NCAA® Men's Final Four® - the tournament's 75th anniversary year. The Men's Final Four, which will bring more than 80,000 fans to the Georgia Dome and Atlanta from April 6-8, 2013, will have an estimated economic impact of more than \$61 million for the city.

The Atlanta Local Organizing Committee (ALOC), headed by Atlanta Convention & Visitors Bureau (ACVB) president-elect William Pate, developed a strong bid focusing on the city's continued growth and expansion – specifically in the Final Four footprint of downtown Atlanta.

“Our great facilities, new hotels, shopping districts and attractions like the Georgia Aquarium's dolphin exhibit expansion, the National Health Museum, the Center for Civil and Human Rights and the National Museum of Patriotism – all within steps of Centennial Olympic Park – helped to convince the committee to select Atlanta as a Final Four destination,” noted Pate.

The ALOC, which traveled to Indianapolis last week to present the bid in person, consists of members from the ACVB, Georgia World Congress Center, the Georgia Dome, the Atlanta Sports Council and host institution Georgia Tech.

“We felt that the NCAA had an incredible experience when we last hosted the Men's Final Four in 2007, and by illustrating how this city never rests on its laurels, we strongly believed we had an excellent chance to garner one of the five available years,” said Pate. “We are in great company and want to congratulate the other winning cities, including New Orleans, Dallas/Ft. Worth, Indianapolis and Houston,” he added.

Established in 1913, Atlanta Convention & Visitors Bureau is a private, nonprofit organization created to favorably impact the Atlanta economy through conventions and tourism. www.atlanta.net

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