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NCAA announces artists scheduled to perform national anthems

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ATLANTA — Two-time Grammy Award winner and three-time Country Music Awards winner Travis Tritt will perform the national anthem at the championship game of the 2013 NCAA Men's Final Four on Monday, April 8, at the Georgia Dome, as part of the NCAA's 75th Celebration of March Madness. The game tip-off is at 9:23 p.m. EST. Also performing at the Men's Final Four will be country artist Angela Reign, television anchor and country artist Robin Meade and the Ebenezer Baptist Church Choir.

A Georgia-native known for his bluesy Southern rock, Tritt released his debut album and Top Ten single "Country Club" in 1990. The album achieved some success and put Tritt on the map of country singers with an additional three Top Ten singles: "Help Me Hold On," which hit number one; "I'm Gonna Be Somebody," which hit number two; and "Put Some Drive in Your Country," which hit number four.

Tritt's second album "It's All About to Change" reached multi-platinum, and since then he has released an additional eight albums, including a compilation Greatest Hits album, and has won two Grammy awards and three Country Music Awards. Tritt, who performs nationwide at jam-packed venues, will announce additional tour dates soon.

The national anthem will be broadcast nationally to millions of viewers as part of the CBS telecast of the Men's Final Four, CBS and Turner's online coverage via March Madness Live, and around the world through ESPN International.

The Division II championship game national anthem will be performed by Robin Meade, who currently anchors HLN's morning show, "Morning Express with Robin Meade." In June 2011, Meade released her debut country album, "Brand New Day." The album features several original songs, co-written by Meade herself, as well as collaborations with John Rich, Bo Bice and Victoria Shaw (of Lady Antebellum). Meade's second album will be released in June 2013. Tip-off for the Division II championship game will be at 4 p.m. on Sunday, April 7.

Angela Reign, a country music artist from Atlanta, will perform the national anthem at the Division III championship game, which will tip-off at 12:30 p.m. on Sunday, April 7. Reign, who is currently a finalist in Hard Rock's International Battle of the Bands, has had eight songs air on country radio, many of which are available on her current album "Reckless Kind", and has performed at numerous renowned music venues across the U.S. She was nominated for Best Female Country Artist of the Year and Best Music Video of the Year by the Georgia Music Awards and is currently ranked the Number One Female Country/Southern Rock Artist in Georgia by Reverbnation.

The national anthem for the semi-final rounds on Saturday, April 6, will be performed by the Ebenezer Baptist Church Choir & Friends, featuring Avery Sunshine and conducted by Dr. Tony McNeill, director of Worship and Arts. This group consists of an aggregation of singers from Historic Ebenezer Baptist Church as well as singers from other local Atlanta congregations, schools or the surrounding community. The group, made up of singers of all faiths, ages and racial backgrounds (reflective of the mantra and motivation of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s call to civil rights). The Ebenezer Baptist Church Choir was first directed by Mrs. Alberta Christine Williams King, mother of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and has performed all over the world and at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial in Washington, D.C. Tip off for the Final Four semifinals will be 6:09 p.m. and 8:49 p.m.

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