

This python program writes to an output csv file the date each team in the NBA got eliminated from playoff contention. If the team made the playoffs, it's date was labeled 'playoffs'.

To structure this program, we used a series of arrays as our primary data structures. These arrays contained information such as Western Conference team names, Eastern Conference team names, Western conference seeds, Eastern Conference seeds, etc. We also had an array for each conference that had what we defined as each team's "perfect wins". This value indicated the number of wins a team would finish the season with if it won all its remaining games. To check if a team is eliminated, we looked at a conference's 9th-15th seeds and checked if any of those teams' perfect wins is less than the 8th seed's current wins. In that case, the team would be eliminated on that day. This is equivalent to check how many games behind a team is. We would then update the conference's elimination date array with that date for the eliminated team.

We also had a series of helper methods to aid with each step of the process such as determining a game's winner, converting between wins and win percentage, and determining elimination.

We then created and formatted final arrays that would be used for writing to the output csv file.

To run this program, please use a python 2.7 environment (needed for the use of certain libraries). The outputted teams and their eliminations are written to an output csv file called `elimination_dates.py.` that is specified at the bottom of `elimination_algorithm.py.`