

# 2018 State Farm MVC Tournament – Game Notes

Game 4 ... 2:30 p.m., Friday, March 2 ... St. Louis, Mo. (Scottrade Center) ... #5 Bradley (63), #4 Drake (61)

**Bradley:** Today's win gives BU its first 20-win season since a string of four campaigns of 20 or more in a row from 2006 through 2009. The Braves are 20-12. Bradley is in the semifinals for the first time in eight years. The win came after BU dropped its regular season finale to Indiana State. Third-year head Coach Brian Wardle is 38-59 in his third year at BU and 133-124 overall in his eighth season as a college head coach. It is the Braves' first win this season in three tries against Drake. Wardle is 6-4 vs. Drake overall. Bradley leads its all-time series vs. Drake 87-64 and the Braves are 8-5 vs. Drake in the MVC tourney in the most games played in the tourney between any two MVC schools.

Bradley won the rebound battle 39-28 to move to 17-4 when they outrebound their foe. Darrell Brown scored 24 points, including 17 in the second half, for his fifth 20-point game this season and ninth of his career. Donte Thomas is MVC's second leading active rebounder, entered game with 699 and hauled down 14 to move to 713 for a career, tying his single game career high. He was tied for fourth in the league in double doubles this season with six and got his seventh of the year and 15<sup>th</sup> of his career. Darrell Brown finished third in MVC assists with 4.5 per game. Dwayne Lautier-Ogunleye, after getting just two points in each of BU's game vs. Drake this season, had 10 today for his ninth double-figure point game of the season. He had a total of four in two previous games vs. Drake.

**The Drake Bulldogs** suffered their third straight loss to end their season at 16-16. Drake's MVC tourney mark dropped to 17-39, including 5-8 vs. Bradley and 1-3 as the No. 4 seed.

Drake now has 276 treys this season, up to fourth on the DU single season team list. Reed Timmer has 212 career treys, fifth on the DU all-time list. Timmer had 10 points in the first half, the 96<sup>th</sup> double figure scoring game of his career and 30<sup>th</sup> this season and he finished as Drake's only double-figure scorer in the game with 18. Noah Thomas came off the bench with 8 first-half points, bettering the combined 5 points he had in two previous games vs. BU, and was scoreless his last two games of the regular season. Nick McGlynn had 3 blocks for the fourth game in a row and eighth time this season.

**First Half:** Drake hit 6 of its first 10 shots, including a trio of threes, to build a 15-7 margin by the first media rest stop. Darrell Brown buried a trey with 9:30 left to push BU ahead 18-17. The lead changed hands three more times before Drake broke a 25-25 tie with a 10-2 run over the last 4:44 of the period to end the half ahead, 35-27, as Drake scored on seven of its last eight possessions to end the half. Drake hit 6-of-13 threes the first half to pad its lead, and the Bulldogs committed just two turnovers. Drake is 13-5 when leading at halftime and Bradley is 2-8 when trailing at halftime.

**Second Half:** Bradley opened the second half with a 12-0 run for a 39-35 lead the first five minutes of the period. Drake's first score of the half came on a trey by Graham Woodward with 15:00 to play. BU stretched its advantage to 46-40 with 12 minutes remaining but Drake pulled even at 50-50 with 10 minutes left. It was still tied at 54-54, 56-56 and 61-61 and Bradley got the ball back with 12.8 seconds remaining after a Drake shot clock violation. Donte Thomas hit a follow underneath with 1.5 seconds left for the game winner. Drake missed its last eight shots and was without a FG the last 3:24 of the game.

**Records and Tournament Notes:** Today's afternoon session attendance was 6,410. Only two of the previous 12 meetings in the MVC tourney between BU and DU have been decided by two points or less. The games was tied six times and the lead changed hands seven times.