



2018 Missouri Valley Conference Women's Basketball Tournament

Quarterfinal Round - Game 3

No. 1 Drake 89, No. 8 Valparaiso 40

Friday, March 9, 2018 * TaxSlayer Center, Moline, Ill.



HEAD TO HEAD – Drake leads the series with Valparaiso 5-0. Drake coach **Jennie Baranczyk** is 3-0 vs. Valpo. VU coach **Tracy Dorow** is 0-3 vs. Drake. (NOTE: Dorow is on medical leave and **Justin Rees** is acting head coach for the Valley Tourney.)

TOURNAMENT TYPE – Drake is 43-24 all-time in the Valley Tournament, with 6 championships and 6 runner-up finishes. Drake is 15-1 as the No. 1 seed, winning as top seed in 1997, 1998, 2000 and 2017—runner-up in 2001 ... Valparaiso is 1-1 in Valley Tournament play with its 63-46 win over Loyola on Thursday.

2017-18 REGULAR-SEASON MEETINGS – **Nicole Miller** scored 18 points as Drake beat Valparaiso 86-50 Dec. 29 in Des Moines in the Valley opener for both teams. **Sara Rhine** scored 25 points in just 19 minutes to lead the Bulldogs past the Crusaders 85-53 March 3 in Valparaiso. This is a “Tournament Turnaround” game because these two teams met in the final weekend of the regular season. Drake is 5-3 in the tournament version of the turnaround. Loyola has not had a “turnaround” since arriving in the Valley, and this is VU’s first Valley Tournament. Current Valley members have now played 42 “turnaround games.” The team that won the regular-season game is 25-17, .595, in the tournament games the following week.

BULLDOG BITES – Drake not only is No. 7 in the nation in scoring (83.3), and is averaging 21.8 points per game in the first quarter and the Bulldog bench averaged 43.5 points per game in Valley games ... DU is 11-1 on Fridays this season ... 7 different Drake players have led the team in scoring for at least one game this season ... With 2,583 points, DU is No. 5 in Valley history for single-season team points, just 44 points out of 4th place held by Drake in 2015-16... With 297 3-point field goals made, DU tied for No. 2 in Valley single season MSU had an NCAA record 305 in 2004-05 ... **Sammie Bachrodt**’s 87 steals are No. 3 in Drake single-season history, one less than **Lizzy Wendell**’s 88 last year for 2nd place ... **Becca Hittner**’s .473 (106-224) career 3-point field goal percentage is No. 1 in Drake history. Hittner’s .856 free throw percentage (185-216) is No. 2 in Drake history ... **Becca Hittner** set a career-high with 11 free throws made, and her 11-for-11 tied for the best in Tourney history ... Drake made 26 free throws, tied for highest number this season ... Drake has 53 rebounds, No. 2 in a game this season by the Bulldogs ...

CRUSADER QUIPS – Valparaiso’s 10 blocked shots eclipsed the Crusaders’ season high, previously set Dec. 8 vs. Purdue. It ties for No. 4 in a Valley Tournament game and ties for No. 6 in VU history. **Ella Ellenson** and **Marlee Profit** each had 3 of those blocks, with a previous career best of 1 ... **Dani Franklin** ranks No. 1 in career free throw percentage at Valpo at .869, ahead of **Launa Hochstetler** at .838. With this game, Franklin became the VU all-time leader with 121 career games played.

FIRST QUARTER RECAP – DU scored on 7 of its first 10 possessions. After **Dani Franklin** hit a 3-pointer with 7:54 left, the Bulldogs reeled-off 19 unanswered points as VU was 0-13 with 4 turnovers during that 7:40 stretch ... **Caitlin Morrison** hit a 3-pointer with 14 seconds left ... **Maddie Dean**’s 3-pointer with 6:03 left gave DU 288 treys for the season, beating the 2013-14 team’s record 287 ... VU’s 6 points were the second-lowest 1st quarter total in an MVC Tournament game ... DU’s 23 points tied for 2nd-highest in the 1st quarter of a tournament game.

SECOND QUARTER RECAP – Drake scored 23 points in the 2nd quarter, a MVC Tournament record for 2nd-quarter points. Drake had 17 rebounds in each of the first 2 quarters—Valpo had 17 in the half ... **Caitlin Morrison** was 4-5 in the first half, scoring 11 of VU’s 18 points. Her teammates were 1-27 from the field ... Drake is 20-2 when leading at halftime ... VU is 2-16 when trailing at halftime.

THIRD QUARTER RECAP – Drake’s 24 3rd-quarter points tie for third-best by a Valley Tournament team in the third quarter, with Drake vs. Evansville, March 11, 2016 and Drake vs. Illinois State, March 10, 2017 ... Valpo’s 6 3rd-quarter points matched the lowest total by a Valley Tournament team in the third quarter (Bradley vs. UNI, March 10, 2017) ...

FOURTH QUARTER RECAP – Drake’s 49-point margin of victory set a Valley Tournament record previously held by Illinois State, 37 vs. Indiana State in 2010 ... Valpo’s 40 points matched the sixth-fewest in a Valley Tournament game. Drake’s 9 turnovers was its second-lowest total this season. **Becca Hittner** has made 20 straight free throws.