



## 2019 Missouri Valley Conference Women's Basketball Tournament

Opening Round - Game 2

**No. 7 Loyola 90, No. 10 Evansville 80**

**Thursday, March 14, 2019 \*The TaxSlayer Center, Moline, Ill.**

**SERIES STANDINGS** – Loyola leads the all-time series with Evansville 25-12. The Ramblers have won the past 5 in a row and 8 of 13 since the joining the Missouri Valley Conference in 2014 ... LUC won the series 17-7 when the teams were in the Horizon League.

**HEAD TO HEAD IN 2019** – Loyola swept the 2019 series. **Tiara Wallace** had 14 points, 9 rebounds, 4 assists and 3 blocks to lead Loyola to a 61-56 win Jan. 18 in Chicago. **Kerri Gasper's** 3-pointer with 3 seconds left brought UE within 59-56, Feb. 17 in Evansville, but Abby O'Connor's 2 free throws sealed the LUC win. Feb. 17 in Chicago, O'Conner scored 22 points, and every Rambler player scored, in a 71-51 win over Evansville.

**TOURNAMENT TYPE** – The 170 points scored were the second-most between 2 teams in Valley Tournament history. The record is 171, Drake 93, Indiana State 78 in 1994 ... This was the first time the Ramblers and Aces have met in the Valley Tournament. Loyola and Evansville met just once in the Horizon League tournament, with UE capturing a home-court win, 61-56, in the 1991 tournament ... Loyola is 3-5 in Valley Tournament games, 3-2 in opening round games. This is LUC's first time as a No. 7 seed ... Evansville is 17-17 in Valley Tournament games, 3-6 in opening round games and 1-5 as a No. 10 seed. UE has won titles in 1999 and 2009—the latter as a No. 9 seed, lowest seeded team to win the Valley Tournament. After 5 straight losses in the Valley tournament (2010–14), Evansville has won a game in 3 of the past 5 years ... In Valley Tournament history, No. 7 seeds are 22-24 all-time, while No. 10 seeds are 3-14 since the league went to a 10-team format in 2006. No. 7 seeds have reached the title game 4 times, but only Missouri State in 2006 (on its home court) has won the title. No. 10 seeds have never advanced past the quarterfinal round ... No. 7 seeds are 11-3 in games with No. 10 seeds.

**RAMBLER RAMBLINGS** – LUC's 90 points were the most in a Valley Tournament game since Missouri State beat Indiana State 92-63 in a 2001 quarterfinal game ... **Jazmine Covington** had scored just 39 points all season, but had 16 against Evansville tonight ... LUC's 13 wins this season are 4 more than the Ramblers won in the 2 previous seasons combined ... Loyola, which ended a 5-game losing streak, had a season-high 45 bench points as all 10 Ramblers who played, scored ... Sophomore **Abby O'Connor** had her 6<sup>th</sup> career double-double with 22 points and 10 rebounds ... last previous win in the Valley Tournament was a 67-55 decision over Bradley in the opening round in 2015 ... **Tiara Wallace** had blocked 3 shots vs. UE in the past 2 UE-LUC meetings.

**ACES ATOMS** – Evansville's 34 points in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter are conference tournament record for a quarter ... Senior **Kerri Gasper** made 9-9 free throws vs. Loyola. She leads the Valley in free throw shooting with .897 (96-107) which is tied for 12th for a single season in Valley history with former UNI star **Jacqui Kalin** ... Gasper finishes her career No. 13 in career scoring at UE with 1,176 points ... Freshman **Makayla Wallace** is 4th in the league in steals (1.9) with 3 tonight.

**FIRST QUARTER RECAP** – **Marley Miller** hit her first 3 shots to give UE an 11-9 lead with 4:12 left, but LUC answered with a 15-0 run sparked by 2 **Tiara Wallace** steals ... LUC's defense shut-down UE in the final 4 minutes, as the Aces went 0-6 with 2 turnovers. **Abby O'Connor** had 6 points and 6 rebounds in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter as LUC led 24-11. LUC shot 11-19 ... LUC is 8-3 when leading after 1 quarter ... UE is 1-19 when trailing after 1 quarter.

**SECOND QUARTER RECAP** – **Jazmine Covington** scored the last 2 buckets of the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter and the first 3 of the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter to race past her previous career high of 7 points with 12 in a row as Loyola took a 32-12 lead with 7:56 left in the half ... The lead grew to 24 into the final 2 minutes of the half ... LU made 8 of its last 10 shots in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter and led 46-28 at halftime, the Ramblers' largest 1<sup>st</sup> half point total of the season ... LUC is 10-0 when leading at halftime ... UE is 1-22 when trailing at halftime.

**THIRD QUARTER RECAP** – After **Allison Day** opened the 2<sup>nd</sup>-half scoring with a layup for Loyola, UE's **Makayla Wallace** and LUC's **Maya Dunson** traded banked-in 3-pointers ... LUC's **Kat Nolan**, who did not play in an MVC game because of a stress fracture, entered with 4 minutes left in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter and scored 2 baskets in 3 minutes ... LUC is 9-0 when leading after 3 quarters ... UE is 0-24 when trailing after 3 quarters.

**FOURTH QUARTER RECAP** – Evansville converted 9-16 field goals with 5-9 3-pointers and 11-11 free throws in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter and slice a 26-point LUC lead to as close as 7 points in the last minute ... UE's 34 4<sup>th</sup>-quarter points are a Valley Tournament record.