



## 2019 Missouri Valley Conference Women's Basketball Tournament

Quarterfinal Round - Game 5

**No. 2 Missouri State 59, No. 7 Loyola 50**

**Friday, March 15, 2019 \*The TaxSlayer Center, Moline, Ill.**

**SERIES STANDINGS** – Missouri State holds a 12-3 edge in the series with Loyola, winning 11 straight since LUC won the first 2 LUC meetings after the Ramblers joined the Valley ... Only 3 of MSU's 11 straight wins have been by single digits.

**HEAD TO HEAD IN 2019** – In both MSU victories, 12 Lady Bears scored. In Springfield, Missouri State pounded Loyola 46-22 in the 2nd half on the way to an 84-49 win Jan. 25. MSU shot 57 percent from the field for the 2nd half while rolling to its 9<sup>th</sup> straight win. In Chicago, **Jasmine Franklin** scored 18 points and the Lady Bears pulled away from a 4-point lead by scoring 50 2<sup>nd</sup>-half points in an 85-58 victory Feb. 24.

**TOURNAMENT TYPE** – Missouri State is in the semifinals for the 2<sup>nd</sup> straight time, 4<sup>th</sup> time in last 5 years and 21<sup>st</sup> time total ... MSU is 44-21 all-time in Valley Tournament games, winning 10 titles and finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> 5 times. MSU is 17-8 in quarterfinal games and 7-3 as a No. 2 seed, winning the 2000 title as a No. 2. In tournament history, No. 2 seeds are 36-28 with 3 total championships ... No. 2 seeds are 17-7 in games with No. 7 seeds ... Loyola is 3-6 in Valley Tournament games, 0-4 in quarterfinal games. This is LUC's first time as a No. 7 seed. No. 7 seeds are 22-25 all-time with 1 title and 4 trips to the championship game.

**LADY BEAR LINES** – MSU is 61-2 under Kellie Harper when holding opponents below 60 points ... **Danielle Gitzen** scored 2 of the 3 last-possession points for MSU in the first 3 quarters. She has made 18 straight free throws twice in her career, and enters the Valley Tournament with 21 of her last 25 FT made ... **Jasmine Franklin** had 3 consecutive double-doubles in early January, the first MSU player to do that since **Whitney Edie** in 2012 ... at least 8 MSU players have scored in all but 3 games this season ... MSU's 5 freshmen have combined for 33% of the team's scoring, 42% of its rebounds, 33% of assists, 58% of blocks and 39% of the team's steals this season.

**RAMBLER RAMBLINGS** – **Maya Dunson**, who had a career-high 13 vs. Evansville on Thursday, came back with XX more vs. MSU ... **LUC's** 90 points Thursday were the most in a Valley Tournament game since Missouri State beat Indiana State 92-63 in a 2001 quarterfinal game ... 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 ... **Tiara Wallace** had blocked 3 shots vs. UE in the past 2 UE-LUC meetings ... **Abby O'Connor** had her 7<sup>th</sup> double-double of the season with 12 points and 14 rebounds vs. MSU.

**FIRST QUARTER RECAP** – Two buckets each by **Alexa Willard** and **Danielle Gitzen** helped MSU jump ahead 8-0 in the first 6 minutes. The Lady Bear defense held LUC to 0-8 with 2 turnovers during that time ... Loyola broke the ice when **Maya Dunson** scored with 3:54 left and the Ramblers scored on their next 3 possessions to gain an 8-8 tie, then a Dunson 3-pointer gave LUC an 11-8 lead ... After starting 0-8, LUC made 6-8 shots ... **Brice Calip** was fouled on a near-half-court shot with 0:01 left, and made all 3 free throws to tie the score at 13-13. MSU is 1-1 when tied with 1 quarter ... LUC is 0-4 when tied after 1 quarter.

**SECOND QUARTER RECAP** – LUC took a 16-13 lead when **Maya Dunson** hit a 3-pointer to open the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter ... **Jasmine Franklin** and **Danielle Gitzen** scored to give MSU a 17-16 edge, but **Abby O'Connor's** layup with 6:32 left put the Ramblers back on top to stay in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter ... the Ramblers shot 50 percent (7-14) in the second quarter, including 4-9 from the arc ... MSU, which averages 14 offensive rebounds per game, had just 3 in the first half. MSU is 2-8 when trailing at halftime ... LUC is 10-1 when leading at halftime.

**THIRD QUARTER RECAP** – **Brice Calip's** layup on MSU's first possession started a 16-0 Lady Bear burst in the first 3:40 of the third quarter to take a 43-31 lead. MSU was 7-12 shooting compared to LUC's 0-7 with 3 turnovers—all leading the MSU points. During the spurt, **Danielle Franklin** and Calip each scored 5 points ... At 5:36, **Maya Dunson** started a 12-0 LUC run with a layup to tie the game at 43-43 with 1:07 left ... But MSU got buckets from **Mya Bhinhar** and **Danielle Gitzen** in the last minute to take a 48-43 lead ... MSU is 20-2 when leading after 3 quarters ... LUC is 3-18 when trailing after 3 quarters.

**FOURTH QUARTER RECAP** – MSU continued its run to 13-0 into the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter to take a 56-43 lead, but **Ellie Rice** hit a 3-pointer and **Abby O'Connor** a 15-foot jumper to get LUC back within 56-48 with 5:46 left ... neither team scored until 1:59 (3:47 of game time) when **Danielle Gitzen** hit a jump shot.