



## 2019 Missouri Valley Conference Women's Basketball Tournament

Quarterfinal Round - Game 6

**No. 3 Northern Iowa 66, vs. No. 6 Southern Illinois 63**

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

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**SERIES STANDINGS** – UNI leads the all-time series 39-34, winning the last 4 straight and 22 of the last 26 meetings. After the 1<sup>st</sup> 37 meetings, SIU had a 30- 7 series lead.

**HEAD TO HEAD IN 2019** – The Panthers swept the Salukis. **Ellie Howell** scored 18 points to lead Northern Iowa to a 65-53 decision over Southern Illinois, Feb. 1 in Cedar Falls. **Makenzie Silvey** led the Salukis with 20 points. Both teams had 20 field goals made, but UNI had 6 3-pointers to SIU's 3 and 19-29 from the free throw line to SIU's 10-15. In the rematch March 3 in Carbondale, **Karli Rucker** scored 18 of her game-high 28 points in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half to lead Northern Iowa to a 76-67 win. **Abby Brockmeyer** had 8 offensive rebounds as SIU had a 38-24 lead on the board, but UNI's 10-2 edge on 3-point field goals made was most of the difference.

**TOURNAMENT TYPE** – The Panthers and Salukis met for the 3<sup>rd</sup> time in a Valley Tournament game. UNI won both previous meetings, 59-50 in the 2015 quarterfinals and 67-43 in the 2016 semifinals ... UNI is 22-21 all-time in Valley Tournament games with 2 titles (2010 & 2011). The Panthers are 6-6 as a No. 3 seed and 13-10 in quarterfinal games. No. 3 seeds are 30-33 in the Valley Tournament with 1 title ... SIU is 18-27 all-time in Valley Tournament games with 2 championships (1987 & 1990). The Salukis are the No. 6 seed for the first time and 7-11 in quarterfinal games. No. 6 seeds are 10-27 in the tournament and have not won a title ... No. 3 seeds are 18-9 vs. No. 6 seeds.

**PANTHER PICKS** – **Abby Gerrits** scored 15 of her 17 points in the 1<sup>st</sup> half, her season high ... The UNI victory gives the MVC four 20-win teams for the first time since 2015-16 and for the 4<sup>th</sup> time in league history ... UNI is the only Valley team to win at least one game in the past 5 Valley Tournaments ... UNI has played in the last 3 Valley Tournament title games, losing to Missouri State in 2016 and to Drake the last two years. That ties with Southern Illinois (1991-92-93) for most consecutive losses in Valley title games ... UNI has been .500 or better in Valley for 11 straight seasons—longest streak in the league. The Panthers had just 7 .500+ seasons in the first 25 years of Valley regular-season play.

**SALUKI STARS** – **Nicole Martin** is the 9<sup>th</sup> current Valley player with 1,000 or more points ... SIU has won the rebounding battle its last 6 games, led by Martin and **Abby Brockmeyer**, who ranks No. 3 in the Valley in rebounding ... SIU is 10-3 when its defense limits an opponent to below .400 field goal percentage.

**FIRST QUARTER RECAP** – UNI made its last 5 shots of the quarter, 4 of them by **Abby Gerrits**, who had 10 points—all in a row from 3:12 to 1:27 left in the quarter ... SIU shot 50 percent for the quarter, including 3-4 by **Makenzie Silvey**, to earn a 20-17 edge at the break ... *UNI is 2-6 when trailing after 1 quarter ... SIU is 10-2 when leading after 1 quarter.*

**SECOND QUARTER RECAP** – **Mikaela Morgan** hit a 3-pointer at the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter, and one to start the 2<sup>nd</sup> to tie the score at 20-20. **Caitlin Link** broke the tie with a 3-pointer for SIU, but UNI scored the next 6 points, taking its first lead 25-23 on a **Taylor Hagen** layup ... UNI pulled away from a 31-31 tie with a 9-4 edge in the final 3 minutes ... Both teams shot well in the quarter, as UNI was 8-15 and SIU 6-12 ... UNI is 18-4 when leading at halftime ... SIU is 1-14 when trailing at halftime.

**THIRD QUARTER RECAP** – UNI went 8:38 without a field goal bridging halftime, but made 10-10 free throws during that period ... The Salukis started the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter with jumper by **Abby Brockmeyer** and trey by **Brittany Patrick**, then a free throw by Brockmeyer to take a 41-39 lead with 7:06 left ... UNI responded by hitting 6-6 free throws (4 by **Taylor Hagen** and 2 by **Karli Rucker**) to jump-start an 11-2 run for a 50-43 lead with 1:55 left ... UNI was 2-13 and SIU 3-14 from the field in the quarter as UNI led 50-44 ... UNI is 20-3 when leading after 3 quarters ... SIU is 1-13 when trailing after 3 quarters.

**FOURTH QUARTER RECAP** – **Makenzie Silvey** scored 7 points, and SIU added 4 free throws during an 11-8 start to the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter for SIU to close the gap to 58-55 with 5:28 left ... **Nicole Martin's** layup with 4:49 left cut the lead to 58-57 ... At 2:40, Martin's 3-point play put SIU ahead 60-58 ... **Karli Rucker** shot the Panthers into the lead with a pair of free throws at 1:49 and a layup at 1:00 ... **Brittney Patrick's** 3-pointer from the top of the key gave SIU a 63-62 lead with 34 seconds left, but **Taylor Hagen** answered with a layup at 0:17. SIU called time out ... **Abby Brockmeyer's** 8-footer in the lane was short, and **Heidi Hillyard** snared the rebound for UNI, and was fouled with 3.6 seconds left. She made both free throws and UNI led 66-63 ... Both Silvey and Patrick had 3-point shots to tie bounce off the rim in the final 3.6 seconds.

