



2019 Missouri Valley Conference Women's Basketball Tournament

Semifinal Round - Game 7

No. 1 Drake 65, No. 4 Illinois State 54

Saturday, March 16, 2019 *The TaxSlayer Center, Moline, Ill.

SERIES STANDINGS – Drake leads the series with Illinois State 46-35, but the Bulldogs have won the past 12 in a row. ILSU's last win over Drake was 80-71 Jan. 3, 2014 in Des Moines. In conference tournament play, Drake has a 4-2 lead, winning the previous meeting 64-40 in the quarterfinals of the 2017 tournament. The last Redbird win was 70-62 in the 2008 title game.

HEAD TO HEAD IN 2019 – Sara Rhine's 22 points and 11 rebounds led Drake to an 82-64 win over Illinois State Jan. 6 in Normal. Lexi Wallen scored a career-high 16 points for the Redbirds, who saw a 6-game winning streak end. In the rematch March 7 in Des Moines, Drake shot 59 percent from the field for the game led by Becca Hittner's 23 points and 21 more from Rhine to take an 80-61 decision from Illinois State, as Drake extended its winning streak over the Birds to 12 in a row.

TOURNAMENT TYPE – The No. 1 seed has won 16 of 18 games against No. 4 seeds in Valley Tournament history, but both No. 4 winners vs. No. 1 went on to the Valley Tournament title (MSU '03; Creighton '12) ... Drake is 45-23 all-time in Valley Tournament games, with 7 championships and 6 2nd-place finishes. DU is trying to join Missouri State as the only current Valley teams to win 3 or more consecutive titles ... The Bulldogs are 14-9 in semifinal games ... No. 1 seeds are 69-13 in the Valley Tournament, winning 20 championships—5 by Drake ... This is the Redbirds' first time as a No. 4 seed ... Illinois State is 23-24 all-time in Valley Tournament games, with 4 championships—the most-recent in 2008. The Birds are 8-7 in semifinal games. No. 4 seeds are 21-29 in tournament play with 3 championships.

BULLDOG BITES – Drake had assists on 17 of 18 field goals against Illinois State ... Drake is 65-1 in its last 66 games against Valley opponents, including 8 straight tournament wins ... with 18 points against Valparaiso, Drake's Becca Hittner passed Bradley's Judy Burns for 25th place on the Valley's single-season scoring list. Hittner has 636 points this season, tied for No. 20 on the Missouri Valley season scoring list ... Sammie Bachrodt has 277 steals, passing Kay Riek for the Drake career record. She is 14th on the Valley career list ... Ranked 21st in the AP poll, Drake is 1 of 5 teams to rank among the nation's top 10 in scoring, field goal percentage and assists, joining Notre Dame, Connecticut, Baylor and Oregon... Sammie Bachrodt had 7 assists, giving her 382 in her career, No. 10 in Drake history.

REDBIRD FLIGHTS – Simone Goods, with 12 career double-doubles in 2 years, finishes tied for No. 10 on the ILSU career list. Goods and Tete Maggett have combined for 52 percent of ILSU's points (1015 of 1932), Since Feb. 2, Illinois State's 8-2 Valley record was behind only Drake's 10-0 ... Katrina Beck has scored 52 points in her last 6 games—30 percent of her season total of 214 ... Viria Livingston's 10 points vs. Bradley were a season-high ... Simone Goods has 522 points this season, 11th on the ILSU single-season list ... Tete Maggett has 493 points, tied for 17th on the ILSU single-season list.

FIRST QUARTER RECAP – Neither team shot well early as ISU was 2-12 and DU was 2-9, but the Bulldogs made 2 3-pointers and 2 free throws to take an 8-4 lead which grew to 13-5 with 2:53 left. But the Birds got a pair of treys from Tete Maggett and another from Katrina Beck to take a 14-13 lead with 1:06 left. Becca Hittner's 2 free throws gave DU a 15-14 lead at the quarter break. Drake is 24-2 when leading after the 1st quarter. Illinois State is 5-7 when trailing after the 1st quarter.

SECOND QUARTER RECAP – Lexi Wallen came off the bench early in the quarter to kick-start a 7-2 Redbird run with 2 free throws and a layup to give the Birds a 21-16 lead on Lexy Koudelka bucket-and-one with 5:35 left in the quarter ... Sara Rhine's 15-foot jumper with 5:24 left stopped a non-field goal draught of 7:51 for Drake, closing the gap to 21-18 ... A Tete Maggett 3-pointer and 2 free throws gave IS a 26-22 lead with 1:48 left, but Brenni Rose hit a free throw and a 30-foot trey to beat the buzzer and Drake to a 26-26 tie at intermission. This is Drake's lowest 1st half score of the season ... Drake is 1-1 when tied at halftime. Illinois State is 1-2 when tied at halftime.

THIRD QUARTER RECAP – ILSU took a 30-26 lead on buckets by Simone Goods and Katrina Beck, but Goods left with 4 fouls, and Becca Hittner scored the next 5 points to put Drake on top 31-30 ... Two Lexi Wallen layups and a Tete Maggett 3-pointer to take a 37-31 lead with 3:43 left ... But Drake scored the next 14 points to take a 45-37 lead before Viria Livingston's trey brought ISU within 45-40. Sammie Bachrodt hit a runner at the buzzer to make the Drake lead 47-40 ... Drake is 25-1 when leading after the 3rd quarter. Illinois State is 6-10 when trailing after the 3rd quarter.

FOURTH QUARTER RECAP – Illinois State got within 4 points at 51-47 on a Lexi Wallen free throw with 5:37 left, but Drake made 3-pointers on 4-5 straight possessions to open up a 63-49 lead with 2:18 left.