



MVC MEN'S BASKETBALL

MISSOURI VALLEY CONFERENCE UPDATE

JANUARY 19, 2021

MVC Contact: Mike Kern, Associate Commissioner

Office: 314.444.4326 • Cell: 314.435.4779 • Email: kern@mvc.org

1818 Chouteau Ave. • St. Louis, MO 63103

WWW.MVC-SPORTS.COM



2020-21 Standings (thru 1/18/2021)

Non-Conf: 42-24

	Missouri Valley					Overall Records					Jan. 19						
	W	L	Pct.	PF	PA	W	L	Pct.	PF	PA	H	A	N	L10	t25	Stk.	NET
Drake	4	0	1.000	78.2	59.8	13	0	1.000	83.9	59.9	8-0	4-0	1-0	10-0	0-0	W 13	11
Missouri State	5	1	.833	77.8	70.0	9	1	.900	81.3	67.7	6-0	3-1	0-0	9-1	0-0	W 5	74
Loyola	5	1	.833	77.5	57.0	10	3	.769	76.2	58.7	8-0	2-2	0-1	7-3	0-2	W 3	41
Bradley	3	1	.750	75.5	66.5	9	4	.692	75.1	61.5	6-1	1-3	2-0	7-3	0-1	W 3	113
Evansville	4	4	.500	64.5	67.0	6	8	.429	64.6	69.4	5-2	1-5	0-1	5-5	0-0	L 3	265
Indiana State	3	5	.375	67.5	71.2	6	7	.462	68.2	70.5	4-3	2-4	0-0	5-5	0-0	W 2	128
Southern Illinois	1	3	.250	61.2	75.0	7	3	.700	72.7	69.3	5-1	2-2	0-0	7-3	0-0	L 3	179
Northern Iowa	2	6	.250	65.4	74.5	3	10	.231	70.1	74.5	3-2	0-5	0-3	3-7	0-1	L 3	208
Illinois State	1	5	.167	61.5	74.7	4	8	.333	76.4	78.5	2-2	1-6	1-0	3-7	0-1	L 2	269
Valparaiso	0	2	.000	68.0	79.5	3	8	.273	69.6	70.5	3-2	0-6	0-0	3-7	0-0	L 4	267

MVC Home Games: 17-11

Non-Conf.: 42-24 (H: 33-2; A: 5-17; N: 4-5) vs. Top-25: 0-5 (Non-Conf.)

MVC Player of the Week



Tate Hall
Loyola
6-6, 220, R-Sr., G/F
Greenfield (Ind.)
Greenfield-Central
Univ. of Indianapolis

Hall came off the bench for the first time in his Loyola career to average 18.5 points, 3.0 rebounds, 4.5 assists and 1.0 steals, shooting 72.2 percent (13-for-18) from the field and 62.5 percent (5-for-8) from three-point range as the Ramblers ran their home court win streak to 17 games with a two-game sweep of MVC preseason favorite, Northern Iowa.

The lefthander produced a season-high 24 points, adding three boards, three assists, and a pair of steals, while hitting 8 of 12 shots from the field, in a 72-57 victory over the Panthers on Jan. 16.

MVC Players of the Week

N30	Elijah Childs, Bradley
D7	Marcus Domask, Southern Illinois
D14	Cameron Krutwig, Loyola
D23	Gaige Prim, Missouri State
D23	Marcus Domask, Southern Illinois
J5	Isiah Mosley, Missouri State
J12	Isiah Mosley, Missouri State
J19	Tate Hall, Loyola

MVC Newcomer of the Week



Terry Nolan Jr.
Bradley
6-4, 190, Jr., G
Baltimore (Md.)
George Washington

Nolan Jr. keyed a pair of Bradley victories during the weekend, averaging 14.5 points, while shooting 47.1 percent from the field. The junior tallied 16 points in Saturday's win before adding 13 as Bradley completed the sweep on Sunday. Nolan also added seven rebounds, four assists and three steals during the two victories.

MVC Newcomers of the Week

N30	Josiah Strong, Illinois State
D7	Ben Harvey, Southern Illinois
D14	Shanquan Hemphill, Drake
D23	Shanquan Hemphill, Drake
J5	Samari Curtis, Evansville
J12	Rienk Mast, Bradley
J19	Terry Nolan Jr., Bradley

Schedule/Results

TIMES ARE CENTRAL (*denotes MVC game)

Saturday, Jan. 16

*Evansville at Bradley	BU, 69-60
*Indiana State at Illinois State	INS, 73-65
*UNI at Loyola	LUC, 72-57
Valparaiso at DePaul	DePaul, 77-58

Sunday, Jan. 17

*Evansville at Bradley	BU, 86-55
*Indiana State at Illinois State	INS, 74-68
*UNI at Loyola	LUC, 88-46
Missouri S&T at Missouri State	MSU, 94-49

Wednesday, Jan. 20

*Loyola at Valparaiso (ESPN+)	6:00 p.m.
*Bradley at Illinois State (Marquee/E3)	8:00 p.m.
*Evansville at Indiana State	postponed

Thursday, Jan. 21

Cornell College at UNI (ESPN+)	6:00 p.m.
--------------------------------	-----------

Saturday, Jan. 23

*Valparaiso at Illinois St. (Marquee/E3)	5:00 p.m.
--	-----------

Sunday, Jan. 24

*Loyola at Bradley (MVC TV Network/E+)	3:00 p.m.
*Valparaiso at Illinois St. (Marquee/E3)	5:00 p.m.

Monday, Jan. 25

*Loyola at Bradley (CBS Sports Network)	6:00 p.m.
*S Illinois at Indiana St. (ESPN+)	6:00 p.m.
Coe College at UNI (ESPN+)	6:00 p.m.

Top-25 Polls

Drake is receiving mention in both the Associated Press Top-25 poll and Ferris Mowers Top-25 men's basketball coaches poll again this week. The Bulldogs received 42 points (33rd) in the AP poll, and they received 20 points in the coaches poll (33rd).

Clean Slate After 13 Games

A total of 19 MVC men's basketball teams, including Drake this year, have started a season with 13-straight wins in the league's 114-year history. Drake's previous best start to a season was 8-0 in 1970-71. Of the 12 previous 13-0 MVC starts since World War II – eight teams reached the NCAA Tournament, and four played in the NCAA Final Four.

Wins to Start Season - MVC (since WWII)

35 Wichita State (2013-14)*	35-1
33 Indiana State (1978-79)*#	33-1
19 Cincinnati (1962-63)*#	26-2
16 Oklahoma State (1950-51)*#	29-6
15 Bradley (1950-51)	32-6
15 Tulsa (1983-84)*	27-4
14 Illinois State (2008-09)	24-10
13 Drake (2020-21)	TBD
13 Indiana State (1977-78)	23-9
13 Cincinnati (1959-60)*#	28-2
13 Louisville (1966-67)*	23-5
13 Louisville (1974-75)*#	28-3

*denotes NCAA Tournament team; #Final Four

DU: Still Perfect

Drake is one of just six unbeaten DI teams (through games of Jan. 18).

14-0: Gonzaga
13-0: Baylor, Drake, Winthrop
6-0: Siena
3-0: Alabama A&M

Pause in the Action

Since Nov. 11 (two weeks prior to the start of the basketball season) and through today (Jan. 19), MVC schools have had 24 total non-conference games canceled/postponed due to COVID. All 24 of the lost games were replaced by another opponent. Not counting the yet-to-be rescheduled Indiana State-Evansville postponement, the MVC has had 29 game-date shifts in league play since Christmas.

Non-Conference Games Permitted: 90
Non-Conference Games Scheduled: 68
Games Cancelled/Added: 24/24
Conference Games Scheduled: 90
MVC Games Played: 28
MVC Games Postponed/Rescheduled: 17/16
Total Games Moved: 29

For the Ages

Evansville is the 'oldest' team in the Missouri Valley Conference, as its roster has an average of 21.49 (through 1/18/2021). Drake, however, leads the league in average age by its "Top 7," as defined by the most total minutes played. That Top 7 for Drake has an average age of 22.55.

	Avg. Age	Avg. Top 7*
Drake	21.46	22.55
Loyola	21.33	22.09
Evansville	21.49	21.99
Bradley	20.61	21.46
Indiana State	20.85	21.35
Missouri State	20.91	21.17
Valparaiso	21.04	21.03
Illinois State	20.41	21.01
UNI	20.47	20.64
Southern Illinois	20.94	20.62

*Top 7 defined by total minutes played

Back-to-Back

Here's a statistical snapshot for the second game played as part of the league's back-to-back series (cumulative averages, through Jan. 18):

Home Teams – 10-4 (G1); 7-7 (G2)
Points (Home) – +3.71 (Visitors) – +0.14
FTA (Home) – +0.14 (Visitors) – +2.29
Pts./Possession (Home) – +0.069
Pts./Possession (Visitors) – +0.031

Home Sweet Home

This year, Valley men's teams are 33-2 (94.3 pct.) at home against non-league teams – the best in the MVC since at least 1975-76:

2020-21	33-2	.943
2019-20	55-6	.902
2006-07	55-6	.902
1980-81	55-7	.887
2017-18	54-7	.885

Three in MVC in Top 10

Three MVC players, including two from Missouri State, are in the Top 10 of KenPom's player ratings for offensive efficiency. MSU's Isiah Mosley is the only underclassman in the Top 5. The Valley is the only league with more than two players on the list.

KenPom Player Ratings (Offensive Efficiency)

1. Luka Garza, Iowa (Sr.)
2. Isiah Mosley, Missouri State (So.)
3. Ryan Davis, Vermont (Jr.)
4. Gaige Prim, Missouri State (Sr.)
5. Justin Turner, Bowling Green (Sr.)
6. Cameron Thomas, LSU (Fr.)
7. Ayo Dosunmu, Illinois (Jr.)
8. Cameron Krutwig, Loyola Chicago (Sr.)
9. Michael Flowers, South Alabama (Sr.)
10. Danny Pippen, Kent State (Sr.)

Line Item

Indiana State, which leads the MVC in total free throws made, total free throws attempted and free throw percentage, ranks eighth nationally as 24.7 percent of all its points come from the foul line.

Evansville, which leads the MVC in total 3FG made (149, 10.6 3PG), ranks second nationally as 49.4 percent of all its points comes from behind the arc. The Aces trail only Mississippi Valley State (52.7 pct of all points are treys).

MSU: Hot Bears

Missouri State has eclipsed the 50-percent mark in FG shooting eight times in the first 10 games and start the week ranked 16th nationally (3rd in the MVC) in field goal percentage (.507). The Bears also rank No. 2 nationally in two-point field goal percentage (.636), trailing only Gonzaga in that metric.

NCAA Leaders, 2-Point FG Pct. (thru Jan. 18)

1. Gonzaga (WCC)	64.6
2. Missouri State (MVC)	63.6
3. Furman (Southern)	62.9
4. Alabama A&M (SWAC)	61.9
5. Belmont (OVC)	60.6

Mosley Ranks No. 2 in NCAA

Missouri State's Isiah Mosley is one of just three MVC players in the past 10 seasons to score 20 or more points in 8-straight games. The sophomore ranks second nationally in scoring (23.5 ppg) behind Iowa's Luka Garza (26.9 ppg).

MVC Players, Consecutive Games w/20+ Pts.

(last 10 seasons)

10 - Doug McDermott, Creighton (2011-12)
8 - Isiah Mosley, Missouri State (2020-21)
8 - D.J. Balentine, Evansville (2014-15)
7 - Doug McDermott, Creighton (2012-13)

Long-Range Bombers

Led by Drake's 43.0 percent figure from three-point range, the MVC has five teams in the Top 50 in the NCAA this season in three-point field goal percentage. Drake ranks third nationally.

3FG Pct. - NCAA Leaders (All Games)

1. Purdue Fort Wayne (Horizon)	43.9
2. The Citadel (SoCon)	43.1
3. Drake (MVC)	43.0
4. Colgate (Patriot)	42.9
5. Baylor (Big 12)	42.3
-	-
11. Southern Illinois (MVC)	40.2
18. Loyola Chicago (MVC)	39.6
29. Illinois State (MVC)	38.7
46. Evansville (MVC)	37.6

Tough D

Three MVC teams are among the national leaders for fewest points allowed. Bradley, Drake and Loyola all surrender fewer than 62.0 points per game.

Scoring Defense - NCAA Leaders (All Games)

1. UAB (C-USA)	56.4
2. Houston (AAC)	56.5
3. Sacramento State (Big Sky)	57.2
4. Tennessee (SEC)	57.2
5. Abilene Christian (Southland)	57.3
6. Loyola Chicago (MVC)	58.7
-	
10. Drake (MVC)	59.9
22. Bradley (MVC)	61.5

BU .. Defending the Shot

Since 2010, every team but one that has led the MVC in FG percentage defense has earned a spot in the NCAA Tournament. (Loyola was third in the MVC in that statistic in 2018 and represented the league in the NAAs.) Bradley's current 36.8 percent figure leads the MVC, ranks second in the NCAA (to Quinnipiac's 35.8 percent).

The Braves' mark of holding teams to just 36.8 percent shooting is nearly one percent better than the current MVC record – 37.7 percent by Wichita State in 2016-17 – while the Braves are aiming to become the first team in Valley history to lead the league in field goal percentage defense in four-straight seasons (Valley records go back to 1980).

.368 Bradley, 2020-21

- .377 Wichita State (754-2000), 2016-17
- .379 Illinois State (733-1935), 2016-17
- .383 Bradley (617-1613), 1997-98
- .387 Wichita State (659-1704), 2015-16
- .387 Bradley (627-1621), 1996-97

.388 Drake, 2020-21

SIU: Honoring a Legend

SIU will wear RH patches for the remainder of the season, in honor of the late Rich Herrin, who guided the Salukis to three-straight NCAA Tournament appearances from 1993-95. Coach Herrin, who passed away on Christmas night, is in the MVC and SIU Halls of Fame. He won 225 games at SIU and, in addition to his three NCAA Tournaments, guided SIU to four NIT appearances.

UNI: Panthers Add Two

The UNI men's basketball team has added two additional games to its schedule, now playing Cornell College on Thursday, January 21, and Coe College on Monday, January 25. Both games tip at 6 pm CT and will air on ESPN+. The McLeod Center will continue to operate at 15% capacity.

Sharp Shooters

Drake (3rd) and Loyola (8th) are both ranked in the Top 10 nationally in field goal percentage. Loyola has led the league in FG percentage for four-straight years. Three league schools are shooting 50.0 or better from the floor this year, and they each rank in the Top 16 in the NCAA this season.

FG Pct. - NCAA Leaders (All Games)

1. Gonzaga (WCC)	55.3
2. SFA (Southland)	53.5
3. Drake (MVC)	53.5
4. Murray State (OVC)	53.0
-	
8. Loyola Chicago (MVC)	51.6
16. Missouri State (MVC)	50.7
27. Illinois State (MVC)	49.2

ILS: Rare 5-Game Homestand

Illinois State is currently in the middle of a stretch of five consecutive home games (all played within nine days). The last time a Redbird squad has played in five consecutive home games was during the 2009-10 season when ISU hosted Norfolk State, SEMO, St. Bonaventure, Central Michigan, and Niagara between November 27 and December 13.

LUC: Rare 5-Game Road Trip

Loyola opens a stretch of five consecutive road games in Valley play this week when it visits Valparaiso Wednesday night. The Ramblers, who have to play Bradley, Missouri State and Drake all on the road this season, have 15 MVC road wins since the start of the 2017-18 season, the most of any Valley team in that stretch.

INS: How Sweep It Is

The Sycamores' back-to-back wins over the Redbirds on the road is the Sycamores' first back-to-back wins in Normal since Jan. 12, 2000 and Jan. 6, 2001.

UE: Using His Time Wisely

When the opportunity arose for Evansville's Iyen Enaruna to see extended playing time over the weekend, the junior took full advantage. In Sunday's contest at Bradley, Enaruna scored a career-best 17 points, knocking down five of his six attempts. Enaruna added seven rebounds and an assist in 28 minutes of action.

VALPO: Gordon Surging

Valpo's Eron Gordon has led the team (outright or tied) in rebounding in three straight games and four total this season after not doing so at all a year ago. He has upped his rebounding average from 2.3 per game in 2019-20 to 4.2 per game this season and is second on the team behind only Donovan Clay. Gordon has paced the squad in scoring in each of the last two games after not doing so in any of his first 44 career contests at Valpo. The senior also led the team in rebounding for the fourth time this season (and third straight game) after not doing so at all during the 2019-20 campaign.

DU: Margin Call

Drake's 24.0 scoring margin is second in the nation to Baylor (24.8). The last MVC team to have a scoring margin of +20.0 for an entire season was Cincinnati's 1960 Final Four team. Only six league teams on record have had a full-season figure about 15.0 points per game. Loyola has a 17.5 scoring margin this season, which ranks 12th nationally.

MVC Single-Season Scoring Margin (Since 1950)

24.0 Drake, 2020-21
22.0 Cincinnati, 1959-60
20.6 Cincinnati, 1957-58
18.6 Wichita State, 2016-17
17.5 Loyola, 2020-21
16.9 Cincinnati, 1961-62
16.4 Cincinnati, 1962-63
15.7 Wichita State, 2013-14

LUC: Rambling On

Loyola is off to a 5-1 start in Valley play for a third consecutive season and during its current three-game win streak, is holding the opposition to 50.3 points per game on 37.2 percent (57-for-153) accuracy from the field and 31.9 percent (15-for-47) from three-point territory.

