

MVC WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

MVC NOTEBOOK: FEBRUARY 28, 2023

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2022-23 Standings -- As of Tuesday, Feb. 28

	MISSOURI VALLEY				OVERALL			
	Record	Pct.	PF	PA	Record	Pct.	PF	PA
Illinois State	15-3	.833	71.17	61.11	21-7	.750	69.07	61.57
Belmont	15-3	.833	73.00	63.33	19-10	.655	71.00	65.90
Missouri State	14-4	.778	71.72	64.50	19-8	.704	68.30	64.59
UNI	14-4	.778	74.89	60.94	19-8	.704	74.44	64.44
Drake	12-6	.667	76.39	63.00	17-9	.654	78.54	65.54
UIC	8-10	.444	54.83	58.28	16-13	.552	56.86	57.52
Southern Illinois	8-10	.444	72.50	71.78	11-16	.407	73.56	74.04
Murray State	6-12	.333	68.11	70.67	13-14	.481	68.15	66.41
Evansville	6-12	.333	61.56	72.11	11-16	.407	64.11	73.11
Indiana State	5-13	.278	61.72	68.00	10-17	.370	62.85	66.26
Valparaiso	5-13	.278	57.67	69.78	7-20	.259	59.63	71.26
Bradley	0-18	.000	55.67	75.72	3-26	.103	56.55	73.69

• MVC Home: 58-50 • Non-Conference: 58-55 • Home: 33-21 • Away: 17-27 • Neutral: 8-7 • Top-25: 1-9 • •

Recent Results/ Upcoming Schedule

Thursday, February 23

Indiana State at Southern IllinoisSIU, 79-64*
Evansville at Missouri StateMOST, 63-51*
Drake at Murray StateDU, 97-71*
UIC at Illinois StateILS, 66-55*
UNI at BelmontBEL, 82-77*
Valparaiso at BradleyVU, 76-72*

Saturday, February 25

Indiana State at Missouri StateMOST, 77-66*
UNI at Murray StateUNI, 76-48*
Evansville at Southern IllinoisSIU, 105-59*
UIC at BradleyUIC, 64-38*
Valparaiso at Illinois StateILS, 78-49*
Drake at BelmontBEL, 83-77*

Thursday, March 2

Bradley at Indiana State (ESPN+)5 PM*
Southern Illinois at UNI (ESPN+)6 PM*
Murray State at Valparaiso (ESPN+)6 PM*
Illinois State at Evansville (ESPN+)6 PM*
Missouri State at Drake (ESPN+)6 PM*
Belmont at UIC (ESPN+)7 PM*

Saturday, March 4

Illinois State at Indiana State (ESPN3)12 PM*
Bradley at Evansville (ESPN3)1 PM*
Belmont at Valparaiso (ESPN3)1 PM*
Missouri State at UNI (ESPN3)2 PM*
Murray State at UIC (ESPN3)2 PM*
Southern Illinois at Drake (ESPN3)2 PM*

END OF REGULAR SEASON
ALL TIMES CENTRAL
***MVC Game**



MVC Player of the Week

Destinee Wells, Jr., G, Belmont

Junior guard Destinee Wells continued her spectacular junior campaign with two standout performances this past week. Willing the Bruins to a pair of victories to close out the home portion of the regular season, Wells averaged 21.5 points, 7.5 assists and 1.5 steals while shooting 50 percent (3-of-6) from beyond the arc and 85.7 percent (12-of-14) at the free-throw line. In a matchup of league leaders Thursday night against UNI, Wells delivered 16 points, a game-high eight assists and three steals. She made winning plays in the final minute, tying up a Panther defensive rebound for a steal on a jump ball and hitting a floater

to put Belmont up six with under 30 seconds to go. Wells followed up Thursday's outing with a game-high 27 points on 9-for-18 shooting and a game-best seven assists in the Bruins' thrilling win over visiting Drake Saturday. After scoring 11 of her 16 points in the second half in Thursday's victory, Wells scored 18 of her 27 points in the second half against the Bulldogs. A perfect 7-for-7 at the foul line in the fourth quarter, Wells scored 11 points in the final stanza and knocked down five clutch free throws in the last minute.

Other Notable Performances: Maggie Bair (DU); Katie Dinnebie (DU); Jaida McCloud (UIC); DeAnna Wilson (ILS); Kennedy Taylor (MOST); Grace Boffeli (UNI); Promise Taylor (SIU)



MVC Newcomer of the Week

Kennedy Taylor, So., F, Missouri State

Sophomore Kennedy Taylor helped lead the way for Missouri State last week as the Lady Bears earned two victories against Evansville and Indiana State. Taylor averaged a double-double with 17.0 points and a team-leading 12.0 rebounds per game, while shooting .684 (13-19) from the field and .727 (8-11) from the charity stripe in just under 52 total minutes on the floor. Of her 24 total rebounds, 15 came on the offensive glass, in addition to collecting two assists, two steals and a block on the week. In Thursday night's win against Evansville, Taylor scored 11 points and pulled down a

game-high 13 rebounds, nine of which were offensive boards. She also went 4-for-8 from the field and 3-for-4 at the free throw line, and tallied two steals against the Purple Aces. On Saturday in MSU's victory against Indiana State, Taylor went off for 23 points and 11 rebounds in just 23 minutes on the court. She was 9-for-11 from the field, 5-for-7 at the line, dished out two assists and committed no turnovers against the Sycamores. Taylor's performance against ISU marked her 10th double-double of the season, her fourth 20-point outing on the year and her team-leading 13th game with double figure rebounds. Taylor ranks 14th nationally and leads The Valley with 4.0 offensive rebounds per game to help lead a squad that ranks sixth in the country in the category.

Other Notable Performances: Kendal Cheesman (BEL); Kynidi Mason Striverson (UE); Josie Filer (UIC); Paige Robinson (ILS); Bella Finnegan (INS); Ryley Goebel (UNI)



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NOTEWORTHY

In addition to the league's Player and Newcomer of the Week selections, several conference players had notable performances, including:

Maggie Bair (DU) - Bulldog senior Maggie Bair led the Bulldogs on their final road swing of the 2022-23 season with an average of 21.5 points on 75% field goal shooting and six rebounds in Drake's two-game split. Bair began the weekend with 28 points, a new career high, with five boards, two assists, and two blocks in Drake's blowout win over Murray State (2/23). Her career night against the Racers included a career-high four made three-pointers. Bair continued her stellar senior season with another 15-point, seven rebound effort in Drake's final road game of the year at Belmont (2/25).

Katie Dinnebier (DU) - Point guard Katie Dinnebier had a solid finish in Drake's final road trip of the regular season, averaging 18 points, 6.5 assists, five rebounds, and four steals in the Bulldogs' 1-1 weekend. The sophomore sparkplug started the road swing with 12 points, five rebounds, and a remarkable nine assists in Drake's 97-71 win over Murray State (2/23). Dinnebier then put together an impressive outing in an 83-77 defeat at Belmont (2/25). She scored 24 points against the Bruins to match her career high while nearly single-handedly leading the Bulldogs' back from a 17-point deficit.

Jaida McCloud (UIC) - McCloud has been vital to the recent success of the Flames due to her late offensive surge. Since the start of February, McCloud has scored in double figures in nine out of ten games, including tying her season-high this past week against Illinois State with 23 points in UIC's defeat, 66-55. She scored nine points in the win over Bradley on Saturday, 64-38. McCloud is currently the second leading scorer for UIC, averaging 12.1 points per game.

DeAnna Wilson (ILS) - Wilson averaged 17.0 points per game for Illinois State as the Redbirds held a perfect 2-0 home weekend over UIC and Valparaiso ... She made 12-of-25 shots for the week (48.0%), and was 10-of-15 (66.7%) from the free-throw line ... She averaged six and a half rebounds on the week with four steals and two assists ... Against the Flames, she would go for 14 points on 5-of-12 shooting from the field while grabbing four rebounds and gathering two steals along with going 4-of-6 from the free-throw line over 24 minutes on the court ... In the finale of the week against Valparaiso, Wilson was almost unstoppable as she finished with a game-high 20 points (including ILS' first 10 points of the game) off 7-of-13 shooting from the field and 6-of-9 from the charity stripe ... Against the Beacons, Wilson also gathered two assists and two steals.

Grace Boffeli (UNI) - While the Panthers may have split the week, Grace Boffeli showed out setting a career-high in double-doubles with her 11th and 12th against Belmont and Murray State. Boffeli is now ranked 32nd in the nation in double-doubles and leads the MVC after helping the Panthers out-rebound one of the best rebounding teams in the MVC against Murray State. Along with excelling on the glass, Boffeli led UNI in most statistical categories in the penultimate week of conference play, including points, rebounds, and steals. For the week, Boffeli averaged 18.5 points, 11 rebounds, and 1.5 steals in two high scoring games for the Panthers. Boffeli was the leading scorer and rebounder in both contests, helping propel UNI to its fifth straight season with a .500 or better road record.

Promise Taylor (SIU) - Senior center Promise Taylor led the Salukis to wins over Indiana State and Evansville. Against the Purple Aces, she recorded a rare, triple-double of 20 points, 11 rebounds and 10 blocked shots. The 10 blocks were both a school and conference record. For the week, Taylor made 12-of-18 shots (.667) from the field and 5-of-8 from the free throw line. She averaged 14.5 points and 6.5 blocks.

Kendal Cheesman (BEL) - Sophomore forward Kendal Cheesman was just what the Bruins needed from their bench this past week as she created instant offense in the early going in both Belmont home wins. Across the two games, Cheesman averaged 10 points as she shot 57.1 percent (8-of-14) from the field and went 4-for-9 (.444) from long range. All but three of Cheesman's 20 points for the week came in the first quarter. Cheesman scored seven in the win over Northern Iowa Thursday evening before pouring in 13 points on 5-for-9 shooting against Drake Saturday. She had 10 points on 2-for-3 three-point shooting in the opening quarter versus the Bulldogs and gave the Bruins a 15-point lead early in the second quarter with her third triple.

Kynidi Mason Striverson (UE) - Stepping up for a short-handed Aces squad, freshman guard Kynidi Mason Striverson continued to show her growth in just her first year. On the weekend, Mason Striverson averaged 10.5 points for the Aces, including a best of 13 points against SIU on Saturday.

Josie Filer (UIC) - A model of consistency for UIC, Filer once again had a productive week for the Flames. In their loss to Illinois State on Thursday, scoring nine points in the game. In their win over Bradley on Saturday, Filer scored 14 points and grabbed 10 rebounds for her team-leading fifth double-double of the season. Filer is currently the leading scorer for the Flames, averaging 12.2 PPG.

Paige Robinson (ILS) - Robinson averaged 15.0 points per game for Illinois State as the Redbirds went 2-0 at home with a pair of wins over UIC and Valparaiso ... She made 8-of-19 shots for the week (42.1%), and was 13-of-19 (68.4%) from the free-throw line ... She averaged four and a half rebounds on the week with four assists, one block, and two steals ... Against the Flames, the Bethany native went for a team-high 21 points on 6-of-12 shooting from the field, while grabbing three rebounds, dishing out two assists and chipping in one block. She would also go 9-of-13 from the free-throw line over her 37 minutes of action ... In the finale of the week against Valparaiso, she would finish with nine points off 2-of-7 shooting from the field, 1-of-4 from three-point range, and 4-of-6 from the charity stripe... Against the Beacons, she gathered six rebounds, one block, and one steal.

Bella Finnegan (INS) - Finnegan averaged 20.0 points, 2.5 rebounds, 2.0 assists, 1.0 blocks and 0.5 steals per game while shooting 47 percent from the field and 44 percent from 3-point range across a pair of contests last week for Indiana State, leading the Sycamores in scoring in both games. She led all scorers with 21 points against Southern Illinois, knocking down eight of her 16 attempts from the field and three of her five 3-point attempts. Finnegan followed that with 19 points at Missouri State, hitting six of 14 attempts from the field. She also added three rebounds, two assists, two blocks and one steal against Southern Illinois, while adding two rebounds and two assists against Missouri State

Ryley Goebel (UNI) - Following an injury to center Cynthia Wolf against Murray State, freshman Ryley Goebel stepped up to fill the void in the post. Over two games this week, Goebel played major minutes and set a new career high in blocks. In particular, Goebel was a force in the paint in UNI's 76-48 win over Murray State. The freshman forward made nine points including four layups and had a career-high four blocks. Goebel is now in the Top 6 in the MVC in blocks and is one of only two freshmen in the Top 10 of the category. For the week, Goebel averaged 5.5 points, 2 rebounds, and 2.5 blocks.

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

DATE	PLAYER	SCHOOL
N14	Destinee Wells	Belmont
N21	Paige Robinson	Illinois State
N28	Megan Meyer	Drake
D5	Katelyn Young	Murray State
D12	Maggie Bair	Drake
D19	Katelyn Young	Murray State
D27	Sydni Harvey	Belmont
J2	Grace Boffeli	UNI
J9	Katelyn Young	Murray State
J16	Maya McDermott	UNI
J23	Madison Bartley	Belmont
J30	Sydney Wilson	Missouri State
F6	Madison Bartley	Belmont
F13	Destinee Wells	Belmont
F20	Katelyn Young	Murray State
F27	Destinee Wells	Belmont
M6		

NEWCOMERS OF THE WEEK

DATE	PLAYER	SCHOOL
N14	Josie Filer	UIC
N21	Paige Robinson	Illinois State
N28	Paige Robinson	Illinois State
D5	Ashley Jones	Southern Illinois
D12	Indya Green	Missouri State
D19	Kennedy Taylor	Missouri State
D27	Sydni Harvey	Belmont
J2	Aniya Thomas	Missouri State
J9	Kennedy Taylor	Missouri State
J16	Josie Filer	UIC
J23	Aniya Thomas	Missouri State
J30	Ashley Jones	Southern Illinois
F6	Kennedy Taylor	Missouri State
F13	Paige Robinson	Illinois State
F20	Jade Masogayo	Missouri State
F27	Kennedy Taylor	Missouri State
M6		

MVC Players and Newcomers of the Week are selected each week during the women's basketball season. The players are announced on Monday afternoon and appear in a weekly press release. Nominees are provided by each school's sports information contact and voted on by a panel appointed by the league office.

Missouri Valley Conference vs. Non-Conference Opponents (58-56, .509)

Overall: 58-56 (.509)
Home: 33-22 • Away: 17-27 • Neut: 8-7 • Top-25: 1-9

American Athletic	2-1 (H: 0-1; A: 1-0; N: 1-0)
Cincinnati.....	1-0
UIC.....	W, 66-58
Memphis.....	0-1
at Southern Illinois.....	L, 89-76
Tulane.....	1-0
vs. UNI.....	W, 82-60

ACC	0-3 (H: 0-2; N: 0-1)
Louisville.....	0-1
at Belmont.....	L, 75-70
Georgia Tech.....	0-2
vs. Belmont.....	L, 58-52
at Belmont.....	L, 59-55

Atlantic Sun	3-1 (A: 3-1)
Bellarmine.....	1-1
Evansville.....	L, 60-40
Murray State.....	W, 74-59
Eastern Kentucky.....	1-0
Evansville.....	W, 89-81
Lipscomb.....	1-0
Belmont.....	W, 77-68

Atlantic-10	7-4 (H: 4-0; A: 1-3; N: 2-1)
Davidson.....	1-0
vs. UIC.....	W, 63-55
Dayton.....	1-0
Illinois State.....	W, 74-70
Loyola Chicago.....	1-1
Bradley.....	L, 57-54
at UIC.....	W, 45-36
UMass.....	0-1
vs. Drake.....	L, 100-83
Saint Louis.....	4-2
vs. Belmont.....	W, 78-68
Illinois State.....	L, 75-65
at Indiana State.....	W, 64-62
at Missouri State.....	W, 71-55
at UNI.....	W, 84-64
Southern Illinois.....	L, 82-54

Big 12	1-2 (H: 0-2; A: 1-0)
Iowa State.....	0-1
at UNI.....	L, 88-85
Oklahoma State.....	0-1
at Missouri State.....	L, 73-54
TCU.....	1-0
Missouri State.....	W, 63-59

Big East	0-3 (H: 0-1; A: 0-1; N: 0-1)
Creighton.....	0-2
Drake.....	L, 75-71
at UNI.....	L, 85-66
Villanova.....	0-1
vs. Belmont.....	L, 83-80

Big Ten	2-13 (H: 2-2; A: 0-11)
Illinois.....	0-1
Evansville.....	L, 93-54
Iowa.....	0-4
Belmont.....	L, 73-62
at Drake.....	L, 92-86
Evansville.....	L, 115-62
UNI.....	L, 88-74
Nebraska.....	1-0
at Drake.....	W, 80-62
Northwestern.....	0-3
at UIC.....	L, 66-62
Southern Illinois.....	L, 84-69
Valparaiso.....	L, 81-47
Purdue.....	0-3
Illinois State.....	L, 64-51
Indiana State.....	L, 77-54
Murray State.....	L, 90-61
Wisconsin.....	1-2
Bradley.....	L, 103-49
at Illinois State.....	W, 62-57
Valparaiso.....	L, 59-44

Big West	1-0 (N: 1-0)
UC San Diego.....	1-0
vs. Illinois State.....	W, 79-62

Conference USA	2-6 (H: 0-3; A: 0-2; N: 2-1)
UAB.....	0-1
at Valparaiso.....	L, 83-81
Florida International.....	0-1
Bradley.....	L, 65-57
Louisiana Tech.....	1-0
vs. Illinois State.....	W, 70-53
Middle Tennessee.....	0-3
Belmont.....	L, 80-62
vs. Missouri State.....	L, 79-54
at Southern Illinois.....	L, 90-38
UTSA.....	1-0
vs. Missouri State.....	W, 74-51
Western Kentucky.....	0-1
at Indiana State.....	L, 58-51

Horizon	5-2 (H: 4-2; A: 1-0)
Detroit Mercy.....	1-0
at Indiana State.....	W, 72-47
Green Bay.....	1-1
at Drake.....	W, 80-67
at Illinois State.....	L, 63-49
IUPUI.....	1-1
UIC.....	W, 52-50
at Southern Illinois.....	L, 80-76

Milwaukee.....	1-0
at UIC.....	W, 44-43
Purdue Fort Wayne.....	1-0
at Indiana State.....	W, 64-56

Independent	4-0 (H: 3-0; A: 1-0)
Chicago State.....	4-0
at Evansville.....	W, 82-57
UIC.....	W, 87-62
at Indiana State.....	W, 68-43
at Southern Illinois.....	W, 115-57

MEAC	1-0 (N: 1-0)
Howard.....	1-0
vs. Drake.....	W, 97-60

Mid-American	3-7 (H: 2-3; A: 1-3; N: 0-1)
Bowling Green.....	0-1
at Valparaiso.....	L, 92-61
Central Michigan.....	2-0
at Indiana State.....	W, 84-71
Valparaiso.....	W, 71-64
Kent State.....	0-1
vs. Southern Illinois.....	L, 72-66
Miami (OH).....	1-1
Bradley.....	L, 82-56
at Evansville.....	W, 97-72
Ohio.....	0-1
at Indiana State.....	L, 74-62
Toledo.....	0-1
Missouri State.....	L, 91-63
Western Michigan.....	0-2
Indiana State.....	L, 77-67
at Valparaiso.....	L, 68-62

Mountain West	0-1 (A: 0-1)
UNLV.....	0-1
Illinois State.....	L, 73-66

NEC	0-1 (N: 0-1)
Fairleigh Dickinson.....	0-1
vs. UIC.....	L, 63-51

Ohio Valley	9-4 (H: 5-3; A: 4-1)
Austin Peay.....	1-1
vs. UIC.....	W, 62-59
at Murray State.....	L, 71-67
Eastern Illinois.....	1-1
Bradley.....	W, 72-61
at Valparaiso.....	L, 73-67
Lindenwood.....	1-0
at Drake.....	W, 87-60
Morehead State.....	1-0
Evansville.....	W, 75-65
SEMO.....	1-1
at Evansville.....	W, 64-53
UIC.....	L, 56-55
Southern Indiana.....	1-0
at Murray State.....	W, 77-59
Tennessee State.....	1-0
at Southern Illinois.....	W, 100-72
UT-Martin.....	2-1
at Missouri State.....	W, 68-59
Murray State.....	W, 71-52
at Evansville.....	L, 80-60

Patriot	1-0 (A: 1-0)
Lehigh.....	1-0
Southern Illinois.....	W, 87-81

SoCon	2-0 (H: 2-0)
Chattanooga.....	2-0
at Belmont.....	W, 56-54
at Murray State.....	W, 59-56

Southland	1-0 (H: 1-0)
McNeese.....	1-0
at Bradley.....	W, 77-58

SEC	2-3 (H: 0-1; A: 1-2; N: 1-0)
Georgia.....	0-1
Belmont.....	L, 66-55
Kentucky.....	1-0
Murray State.....	W, 51-44
Missouri.....	0-2
Bradley.....	L, 83-38
at Missouri State.....	L, 68-51
Vanderbilt.....	1-0
vs. UNI.....	W, 65-62

Summit	5-4 (H: 4-2; A: 1-2)
Kansas City.....	0-1
at Bradley.....	L, 71-68
North Dakota State.....	1-0
at UNI.....	W, 79-70
South Dakota.....	1-1
at Bradley.....	L, 71-53
Drake.....	W, 83-54
South Dakota State.....	0-1
UNI.....	L, 80-69
Saint Thomas (MN).....	3-0
at UIC.....	W, 75-71
at Illinois State.....	W, 71-56
at UNI.....	W, 58-46
Western Illinois.....	0-1
Valparaiso.....	L, 83-67

Sun Belt	3-0 (H: 3-0)
Little Rock.....	1-0
at Missouri State.....	W, 55-48
Southern Miss.....	1-0
at Valparaiso.....	W, 72-65
Troy.....	1-0
at Belmont.....	W, 98-87

SWAC	1-0 (A: 1-0)
Alabama A&M.....	1-0
Murray State.....	W, 57-36

WAC	0-1 (N: 0-1)
Stephen F. Austin.....	0-1
vs. Bradley.....	L, 77-48

Non-Division I	3-0 (H: 3-0)
Christian Brothers.....	1-0
at Murray State.....	W, 97-54
Missouri Baptist.....	1-0
at Bradley.....	W, 66-46
UMSL.....	1-0
at Illinois State.....	W, 66-51

AP Top 25	1-9 (H: 1-4; A: 0-4; N: 0-1)
#7 Louisville.....	0-1
at Belmont.....	L, 75-70
#4/12 Iowa.....	0-4
Belmont.....	L, 73-62
at Drake.....	L, 92-86
Evansville.....	L, 115-62
UNI.....	L, 88-74
#7 Iowa State.....	0-1
at UNI.....	L, 88-85
#18/20 Creighton.....	0-2
Drake.....	L, 75-71
at UNI.....	L, 85-66
#22 Nebraska.....	1-0
at Drake.....	W, 80-62
#23 Villanova.....	0-1
vs. Belmont.....	L, 83-80

2022 NCAA Teams	5-14 (H: 1-7; A: 4-5; N: 0-2)
Creighton.....	0-2
Drake.....	L, 75-71
at UNI.....	L, 85-66
Dayton.....	1-0
Illinois State.....	W, 74-70
Georgia.....	0-1
Belmont.....	L, 66-55
Georgia Tech.....	0-2
vs. Belmont.....	L, 58-52
at Belmont.....	L, 59-55
IUPUI.....	1-1
UIC.....	W, 52-50
at Southern Illinois.....	L, 80-76
Iowa.....	0-4
Belmont.....	L, 73-62
at Drake.....	L, 92-86
Evansville.....	L, 115-62
UNI.....	L, 88-74
Iowa State.....	0-1
at UNI.....	L, 88-85
Kentucky.....	1-0
Murray State.....	W, 51-44
Louisville.....	0-1
at Belmont.....	L, 75-70
Nebraska.....	1-0
at Drake.....	W, 80-62
South Dakota.....	1-1
at Bradley.....	L, 71-53
Drake.....	W, 83-54
Villanova.....	0-1
vs. Belmont.....	L, 83-80



Tight Race to the Finish

With two games to go in the regular season, The Valley race has a two-way tie at the top of the standings with Belmont and Illinois State sitting at 15-3 in league play. Missouri State and UNI sit one game back at 14-4. The Bruins have won 12-straight games after starting the league season 3-3.

The 2022-23 regular season wraps up with games this Thursday and Saturday. The full bracket for Hoops in the Heartland will be released Saturday following the conclusion of the games. The tournament will be held at Vibrant Arena at The MARK in Moline, Illinois on March 9-12.

Multi-Champs

This is the 40th season of Valley women's basketball with only seven of those seasons having a co-champion. There have been four seasons with co-champs and three seasons with tri-champs.

MVC Seasons With Multi-Champions

2013-14 Wichita State/Indiana State (14-4)
2012-13 Creighton/Wichita State (15-3)
2002-03 Creighton/Indiana State (13-5)
2000-01 Missouri State/Drake (16-2)

MVC Seasons With Tri-Champions

1987-88 Eastern Ill./Illinois St./Indiana St. (14-4)
1989-90 Southern Ill./Illinois St./Missouri St. (14-4)
2007-08 Illinois St./Evansville/Drake (13-5)

Homecourt Advantage

While the league's overall homecourt record is a pedestrian 58-50 (53.7 percent), notably the five teams with winning records in league play have combined for a 38-8 record at home (82.6 percent). Belmont finished 9-1 at home in league play, while Illinois State and Missouri State each went 8-2. UNI (6-2) and Drake (7-1) close out their home schedule this weekend.

Nothing But NET

The NCAA NET Report (Feb. 26) has four Valley teams that rank in the top-100, including six of the 12 sitting in the top 150. Drake leads the way at No. 56 with UNI (62), Belmont (82) and Illinois State (85), rounding out the schools in the Top 100. Missouri State (105) and Murray State (141) rank in the top 150.

20 Wins

Since the start of the 1992-93 season only three 20-win MVC teams have been left out of the post-season. Last season, Southern Illinois, Missouri State, UNI and Drake all reached 20 wins, with all four teams reaching the NCAA or WNIT field. Illinois State has won 20+ games in a season for the first time under Kristen Gillespie, and first time as a program since the 2012-13 season which saw ILS finish 24-11. Belmont, Missouri State and UNI are all one win away from 20 on the season.

20-Win Seasons (since 1982-83)

21 - Missouri State
19 - Drake
13 - Illinois State
10 - Southern Illinois
6 - UNI
5 - Indiana State
3 - Evansville
3 - Bradley

Sharpshooter

Illinois State's Mary Crompton continues her move up The Valley career three-point field goal list. The graduate student sits 3rd on The Valley's all-time list. Crompton is four triples shy of second place.

3-Point Field Goals Made (Career)

1. 314 - Gabi Haack, Bradley.....2017-22
2. 294 - Dayna Finch, Creighton.....2001-04
3. 290 - Mary Crompton, Illinois State2018-pres.

BEL: Keep on Rollin'

With its 83-77 victory over Drake Saturday, Belmont avenged its Jan. 6 94-63 road loss to the Bulldogs. The Bruins' 31-point defeat in Des Moines, Iowa, was their worst conference loss in well over a decade. Belmont has won an MVC-best 12 consecutive games dating back to Jan. 15. After a 3-7 start, the Bruins have won 16 of their last 19 games. Belmont's average margin of victory during its 12-game winning streak is 17 points.

BRAD: Senior Day

The Braves and Flames met for the second time this season at the Renaissance Coliseum in Peoria on Saturday afternoon. Veronika Roberts was celebrated for Senior Day, and it was the inaugural Be Bold, Go Gold! game for pediatric cancer awareness. Roberts had seven points and three rebounds on her Senior Day.

DU: Road Swing Split

The Drake Bulldogs went on the road for the penultimate weekend of the 2022-23 regular season schedule. Drake split a pair of games away from Des Moines to finish the year 6-6 in true road games. They began the weekend with a 97-71 victory over Murray State (2/23) in which Maggie Bair logged a career-high 28 points and the Bulldogs equaled their season high in points scored. Drake concluded their road schedule with an 83-77 loss at Belmont. The Bruins held on to down Drake after the Bulldogs put together a ferocious second-half comeback, nearly erasing a 17-point deficit. Drake will finish the regular season with a pair of home contests against Missouri State and Southern Illinois.

UE: Short Handed Aces

Opening the season in good health, the Aces have battled through a string of injuries down the stretch of the season. Of Evansville's five starters, the Aces played just one game without one of those starters through the first 19 games of the season. Since those first 19 games, Evansville has played four straight contests missing at least one starter. Despite having to play short-handed, Evansville has reached double-digit wins for just the fourth time since 2008-09 and the first time since the 2016-17 campaign.

UIC: Nearing 1K

As the Flames return this upcoming week, two members of their program have the opportunity to reach new milestones in their last two home conference games of the season. Josie Filer is now 9 points away from 1,000 career points. She has scored in double figures in 19 games this season. Jaida McCloud is 17 points away from the milestone. The junior is in her third year with UIC and has been the lead scorer for the Flames in 12 different games this season.

ILS: 15 League Wins

The Redbirds also have 15 conference wins heading into the final regular season week against Evansville and Indiana State. The last time ILS held 14 or more conference wins in a season came during the 2009-10 campaign, as ILS finished 16-2 in MVC play that year.

INS: Heating Up

Indiana State freshman guard Bella Finnegan has stepped up on the offensive end for the Sycamores in the month of February. Finnegan posted six double-figure scoring games in the month, including a pair of 20-point performances on the road. In eight games in the month of February, Finnegan averaged a team-leading 15.3 points per game while also chipping in 4.5 rebounds and 1.8 assists per game, both increases from her season averages.

MOST: Dominating the Glass

The Lady Bears continue to dominate on the glass this season. As a team, MSU ranks sixth nationally and first in the MVC with 16.7 offensive rebounds per game, while four individual Lady Bears rank inside the top 10 in the MVC in the category (Kennedy Taylor, Indya Green, Sydney Wilson and Jade Masogayo). MSU also ranks 7th nationally in rebound margin at plus-10.4 and 14th in the nation in total rebounds per game at 42.8.

MUR: Can't Miss!

Macey Turley broke her own record for consecutive made free throws of 45 Saturday and has now made 46 consecutive free throws, not missing one since Dec. 3. On Thursday, Turley eclipsed the 2,000 point mark to become just the fourth Racer in program history to do so.

UNI: Road Warriors

For the fifth straight season, UNI will end the regular season with a road record of .500 or better. The Panthers won two-thirds of their road games this season and only fell twice in MVC action. With eight wins and only four losses on the road this season, UNI has its best away winning percentage since 2010-2011 when the Panthers went 11-4 away from the McLeod Center.

SIU: Dominant Home Wins

In their final two games at home, the Salukis earned a pair of dominant victories over Indiana State and Evansville. In Saturday's 109-59 win over the Purple Aces, Southern Illinois crossed the century mark in points for the third time this season and first time since Dec. 7 vs. Tennessee State. The 12 blocks against Evansville are a new season-high, while the team's 33 assists are tied for the most in a game in 2022-23.

VU: Hitting From Inside

Valpo's win at Bradley on Thursday, which was its third road victory in the span of seven days, was highlighted by the Beacons' prolificacy inside the arc. Valpo was 17-of-23 from 2-point range against the Braves, its 73.9% clip the program's best on 2-pointers since February 1997.

HerHoopStatsStat of the Week

Promise Taylor of Southern Illinois had a triple-double on February 25th with 20 points, 11 rebounds, and 10 blocks. She's the first MVC player to ever record an official triple-double with blocks, setting a conference record with 10 blocks in the game. It was the first triple-double in SIU history and the first in the MVC since 1/30/2015 when Caitlin Ingle did it for Drake.

Mid-Major Top-25 Poll

UNI, Illinois State and Belmont appear in this week's CollegeInsider.com Mid-Major Top 25 (Feb. 21). UNI is at No. 13 in the poll, while Illinois State comes in at No. 15 and Belmont No. 25. Drake and Missouri State are receiving votes this week.

1,000 Point Club

The Valley has 16 active players in the 1,000 point club.

Current MVC Players in 1,000 Point Club

2,012 - Macey Turley, Murray State
1,607 - Katelyn Young, Murray State
1,566 - Abby Felt, Evansville
1,470 - Destinee Wells, Belmont
1,383 - Aniya Thomas, Missouri State
1,381 - Sydney Harvey, Belmont
1,228 - Grace Berg, Drake
1,207 - Myia Clark, Evansville
1,196 - Mary Crompton, Illinois State
1,161 - Chelsea Cain, Indiana State
1,156 - Kam Finley, UNI
1,119 - Sydney Wilson, Missouri State
1,078 - Maggie Bair, Drake
1,072 - Ashley Jones, Southern Illinois
1,039 - Del'Janee Williams, Indiana State
1,011 - Alexis Burpo, Murray State

Double Trouble

Entering this week, UNI's Grace Boffeli leads The Valley in double-doubles with 12, while Murray State's Katelyn Young has 11. Young leads The Valley in scoring at 21.6 ppg, while ranking fourth in rebounds (7.9 rpg). Boffeli sits fifth in scoring (16.2 ppg) and leads the league in rebounds (8.9 rpg).

Number of Double-Double games

12 Boffeli, Grace - UNI
11 Young, Katelyn - Murray St.
10 Taylor, Kennedy - Missouri St.
9 Bair, Maggie - Drake
8 Earnest, Leah - Valparaiso
7 Wilson, DeAnna - Illinois St.
6 Felt, Abby - Evansville
6 Green, Indya - Missouri St.
5 Tomancova, Barbora - Evansville
5 Filer, Josie - UIC

30 Something

Murray State's Katelyn Young leads The Valley with six 30+ point performances this season. Young has accounted for six of the league's 12 30 point games this season, while also leading the way with 14 20-point outings this season.

Number of 30-Point games

6 Young, Katelyn - Murray St.
2 Robinson, Paige - Illinois St.
1 Harvey, Sydney - Belmont
1 Jones, Ashley - Southern Ill.
1 Saunders, Ali - Valparaiso
1 Wells, Destinee - Belmont

Number of 20-Point games

14 Young, Katelyn - Murray St.
14 Robinson, Paige - Illinois St.
12 Jones, Ashley - Southern Ill.
10 Wells, Destinee - Belmont
8 Felt, Abby - Evansville
7 Bartley, Madison - Belmont
6 Boffeli, Grace - UNI
6 Thomas, Aniya - Missouri St.
5 Bair, Maggie - Drake
4 Taylor, Kennedy - Missouri St.
4 McDermott, Maya - UNI
4 Clark, Myia - Evansville
4 Filer, Josie - UIC
4 Crompton, Mary - Illinois St.



Valley X United Ticket Drive

Debbie Antonelli, alongside the Missouri Valley Conference and United Way, has issued a challenge for the 2023 MVC Women's Basketball Tournament – Hoops In The Heartland! The goal of the ticket drive is to underwrite the cost of 500 single session tickets to the tournament that will be donated to Quad Cities students, families and volunteers who have participated in United Way Quad Cities' Read United program.

Scan to Pledge:



Title Town

The league has had nine different regular-season champions in the past 16 seasons (SIU-2007; DU/UE/ILS-2008; ILS-2009; ILS-2010; UNI-2011; MSU-2012; WSU/CU-2013; INS/WSU-2014; WSU-2015; UNI-2016; DU-2017; DU-2018; DU-2019; MSU-2020; MSU-2021; SIU-2022). Bradley and Valparaiso, along with new members Belmont, UIC and Murray State, are the only league teams not to have won a regular-season MVC championship.

Non-Con Recap

The Valley finished the non-conference portion of the schedule 58-55 (.513) this season.

The MVC secured five wins over Power Five programs during the non-conference schedule. The Valley registered a 5-21 record vs. Power Five teams. The Valley went 2-3 vs. the SEC, 2-13 vs. the Big Ten, 1-2 vs. the Big 12 and 0-3 vs. the ACC. Five different Valley teams registered a Power Five win as Drake beat Nebraska, Illinois State beat Wisconsin, Missouri State won at TCU, UNI beat Vanderbilt and Murray State won at Kentucky.

Warren's Climb to the Top

UNI Head Coach Tanya Warren became the MVC's all-time leader in games coached this season. Warren passed SIU's Cindy Scott when she coached her 507th game vs. Valpo.

Warren also became the third coach in Valley history to join the 300-win club along with Cindy Scott of Southern Illinois and Cheryl Burnett of Missouri State.

MOST GAMES COACHED

Name, School	(Years)	Games
Tanya Warren, UNI	(2008-present)	511
Cindy Scott, Southern Illinois	(1983-98)	506

MOST COACHING WINS (ALL GAMES)

(Since 1982-83)

Name, School (Years)	No.
Cindy Scott, Southern Illinois (1983-98)	353
Cheryl Burnett, Missouri State (1988-02)	319
Tanya Warren, UNI (2008- present)	302

Record Turnaround

UIC head coach Ashleen Bracey's current 16-13 overall record represents a 14-win improvement from UIC's previous season (2-25). Bracey now holds The Valley record for the best win-based turnaround by a first year coach in MVC Women's Basketball history.

Rise of The Valley

The 2021-22 season saw The Valley record a Top 10 NET conference ranking for the third-straight season. The league also saw four teams in the NET Top 100 for the third-straight season. Just five seasons ago, the league posted its worst conference RPI, sitting 24th nationally.

Year	MVC RPI	Top 100 RPI Teams
2021-22	10 (NET)	4 (NET)
2020-21	7 (NET)	5 (NET)
2019-20	8	5
2018-19	14	3
2017-18	24	2

Bruins Favored

Belmont was tabbed as the preseason favorite in the MVC Women's Basketball race in the annual survey of the league's coaches, SIDs and media.

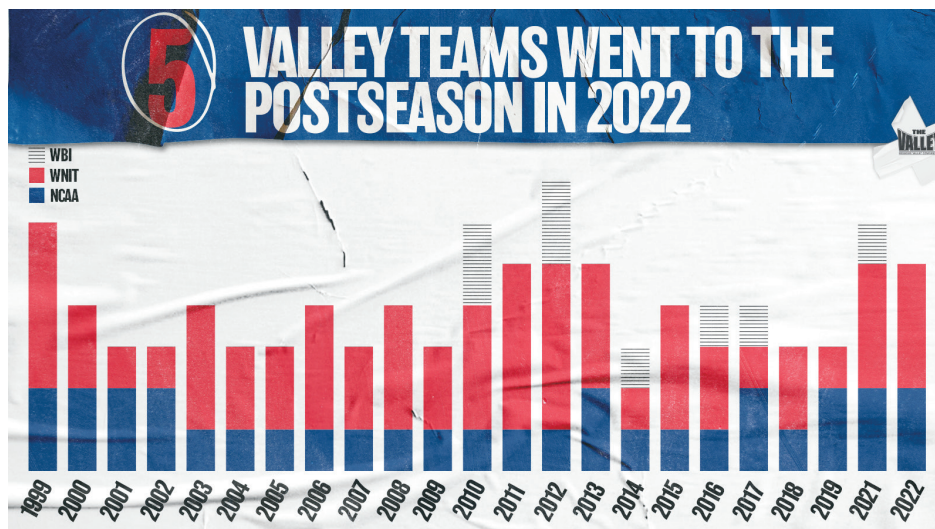
2022-23 MVC WBB Preseason Poll

Rank	Team (1st-place votes)	Points
1.	Belmont (32)	508
2.	Illinois State (7)	444
3.	Drake (6)	438
4.	Murray State (2)	397
5.	UNI	393
6.	Missouri State (1)	388
7.	Southern Illinois	270
8.	Indiana State	257
9.	Evansville	207
10.	Valparaiso	197
11.	Bradley	133
12.	UIC	112

MVC WBB Preseason All-Conference

PLAYER, TEAM	POS.	CL.
Grace Berg, Drake	F	RSr.
Abby Feit, Evansville	G/F	Sr.
Megan Meyer, Drake	G	Sr.
*Destinee Wells, Belmont	G	Jr.
DeAnna Wilson, Illinois State	F	Sr.
Katelyn Young, Murray State	F	Jr.

*Preseason Player of the Year



Postseason League

Valley women's basketball sent a total of five teams to the postseason in 2022 as Drake, UNI and Southern Illinois participated in the WNIT, joining Illinois State and Missouri State who earned bids to the NCAA tourney. The MVC has seen an average of four league teams participate in postseason play in the last 23 seasons. The Valley has earned multiple NCAA Tournament bids in 14 different seasons, including four out of the last five seasons.

Valley newcomers Belmont and Murray State also appeared in the postseason last year. Belmont narrowly missed a trip to the Sweet 16, falling to Tennessee in the round of 32, while Murray State made an appearance in the WNIT.

50 Years of Title IX

The Missouri Valley Conference will be celebrating the 50th anniversary of the passage of Title IX legislation (June 1972) throughout the 2022-23 season as it honors pioneers from league institutions who paved the way for current and future women's student-athletes.



Hoops In the Heartland

The 2023 Missouri Valley Conference Women's Basketball Tournament will return to Vibrant Arena in Moline, Ill., for the eighth-straight year. The Valley becomes the only Division I stand-alone women's basketball event to be held in the same city eight or more consecutive years.

In fact, Hoops in the Heartland 2023 will match the ACC, SEC, Big Ten and Big 12 Conference Tournaments, as the only Division I stand-alone women's basketball championships to be held at a neutral site for more than 15 consecutive years.

Affectionately coined "Hoops in the Heartland," the four-day event (Mar. 9-12) will showcase all 12 Missouri Valley Conference schools as they compete for the Valley's automatic berth into the NCAA Tournament.

The 2023 MVC Women's Basketball Tournament title game on Sunday, March 12, will be aired on ESPNU at 1PM CT for the second consecutive season. The first 10 tournament contests will be shown exclusively on ESPN+.

