

MVC WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

MVC NOTEBOOK: FEBRUARY 7, 2023

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2022-23 Standings -- As of Tuesday, Feb. 7

	MISSOURI VALLEY				OVERALL			
	Record	Pct.	PF	PA	Record	Pct.	PF	PA
Illinois State	11-1	.917	71.58	58.50	17-5	.773	68.73	60.27
UNI	10-2	.833	75.92	61.50	15-6	.714	74.90	65.76
Missouri State	9-3	.750	71.33	63.33	14-7	.667	67.10	63.95
Belmont	9-3	.750	68.92	61.33	13-10	.565	68.35	65.52
Drake	8-4	.667	76.17	62.17	13-7	.650	79.05	65.80
UIC	5-7	.417	53.00	60.00	13-10	.565	56.43	58.22
Evansville	5-7	.417	62.42	68.17	10-11	.476	65.33	71.14
Southern Illinois	5-7	.417	69.08	72.83	8-13	.381	71.90	75.29
Murray State	4-8	.333	65.58	66.33	11-10	.524	66.71	62.71
Indiana State	4-8	.333	61.08	67.17	9-12	.429	62.81	65.29
Valparaiso	2-10	.167	55.92	69.75	4-17	.190	59.19	71.67
Bradley	0-12	.000	55.83	75.75	3-20	.130	56.87	73.17

• • MVC Home: 40-32 • • Non-Conference: 58-56 • Home: 33-22 • Away: 17-27 • Neutral: 8-7 • Top-25: 1-9 • •

Recent Results/ Upcoming Schedule

Wednesday, February 1

Evansville at Indiana StateUE, 68-66*
Missouri State at Southern Illinois.....MOST, 70-68*
UIC at ValparaisoUIC, 55-53*
Drake at UNI.....UNI, 49-47*

Thursday, February 2

Bradley at Illinois StateILS, 84-52*
Murray State at BelmontBEL, 64-54*

Saturday, February 4

UIC at Missouri StateMOST, 68-57*
Valparaiso at Southern IllinoisSIU, 77-47*
Evansville at DrakeDU, 87-48*

Sunday, February 5

Indiana State at UNI.....UNI, 91-51*
Murray State at Illinois State.....ILS, 79-73*
Belmont at BradleyBEL, 68-54*

Monday, February 6

UT Martin at EvansvilleL, 80-60

Friday, February 10

Indiana State at Murray State (ESPN3).....6 PM*
Drake at Valparaiso (ESPN3).....6 PM*
Southern Illinois at Illinois State (ESPN3).....6:30 PM*
Evansville at Belmont (ESPN3)6:30 PM*
UNI at UIC (ESPN3)7 PM*
Missouri State at Bradley (ESPN+).....7 PM*

Sunday, February 12

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

ALL TIMES CENTRAL
***MVC Game**



MVC Player of the Week

Madison Bartley, Jr., F, Belmont

Junior forward Madison Bartley was once again a force to be reckoned with last week, leading the Bruins to another pair of dominant victories. She led all scorers in both of Belmont's wins over Murray State and Bradley, averaging 20.5 points, 8.5 rebounds and 1.5 blocks while shooting 51.4 percent (18-of-35) from the field. In the Bruins' 64-54 home triumph over the Racers last Thursday, Bartley scored 19 points on 8-for-15 shooting and grabbed five rebounds. Of Bartley's 19 points, 11 came in the third quarter as she distributed three

assists and came up with a pair of blocks and a steal. In Belmont's dominant 68-54 road victory at Bradley Sunday afternoon, Bartley recorded her second double-double of the season and third of her career with 22 points and a game-high 12 boards. Going 10-for-20 from the floor, Bartley scored 13 of her 22 points in the first half and added a block and an assist. Of Bartley's 17 rebounds on the week, 10 were earned on the offensive glass.

Other Notable Performances: Maggie Bair (DU); Abby Feit (UE); Jaida McCloud (UIC); DeAnna Wilson (ILS); Kennedy Taylor (MOST); Maya McDermott (UNI)



MVC Newcomer of the Week

Kennedy Taylor, So., F, Missouri State

Transfer Kennedy Taylor led the way for Missouri State as the Lady Bears picked up two wins last week against SIU and UIC to extend their win streak to five. Taylor averaged 15.5 points and 9.5 rebounds in the two victories, while dishing out seven total assists and shooting 56 percent (14-for-25) from the field. In Wednesday night's win at SIU, Taylor scored six points, grabbed four rebounds and collected an assist and steal in 18 minutes of

work against the Salukis. On Saturday afternoon against UIC, Taylor exploded for a career-high 25 points, six assists and 12 field goals, while tying her career mark of 15 rebounds. With her performance, she becomes the only player in Division I to reach all three of those marks in a game this season. She took over in the second half as Missouri State mounted a come-from-behind win, scoring 15 points on 7-for-9 shooting from the field and grabbing eight rebounds in the final 20 minutes. With eight offensive boards against the Flames and 10 on the week, Taylor continues to lead the Valley and ranks 18th nationally with 3.9 offensive rebounds per game.

Other Notable Performances: Paige Robinson (ILS); Rachael Heittola (UNI); Promise Taylor (SIU)



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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) - Senior forward Maggie Bair was lights out for Drake in two Missouri Valley Conference games last week. Bair put up back-to-back double-doubles in as many games, reaching seven for the season and 15 for her career. She averaged 17.5 points and 10 rebounds in games at UNI (2/1) and against Evansville (2/4). The Glen Ellyn, Ill. native started the week with a 12-point, 10-rebound performance in the Bulldogs' loss at UNI. She followed that excellent showing with 23 points on 10-of-12 shooting, her second-highest scoring output of the year, and another 10 rebounds in a get-right win over Evansville in the Knapp Center. Bair now leads the Bulldogs in both categories with 16.1 ppg and 8.2 rpg, both in the top five of the MVC. She also leads The Valley and ranks seventh nationally with a .618 field goal percentage.

Abby Feit (UE) - In another split of MVC contests, senior guard/forward Abby Feit turned in a pair of consistent performances to help power the Aces. On the week, Feit averaged 15.5 points and eight boards. The highlight of the week came in Evansville's 68-66 win over Indiana State on Wednesday as Feit notched her fourth double-double of the season with 18 points and 10 boards.

Jaida McCloud (UIC) - As the Flames split their road-trip between a win at Valparaiso (55-53) and in defeat against Missouri State (68-57), McCloud hit her offensive stride. The junior averaged 18 points and six and a half rebounds over the past week. In their game against the Bears, McCloud scored 16 of her 17 points all in the first half.

DeAnna Wilson (ILS) - Wilson averaged 14.5 points per game for Illinois State as the Redbirds went 2-0 with a pair of home wins over rival Bradley on Thursday before taking the lone regular season meeting with MVC newcomer, Murray State, on Sunday ... She made 14-of-27 shots for the week (51.9%), while averaging 10.5 rebounds on the week with two blocks to gather her 6th and 7th double double performances in 2022-23 for the Redbirds... Against the Braves she scored 13 points on 6-of-17 shooting from the field, 1-of-1 from the charity stripe, one block, one steal, and 10 rebounds over 22 minutes on the court ... In the finale of the week against Murray State, Wilson went for 16 points off 8-of-10 shooting from the field, adding a block and 11 rebounds over her 29 minutes of action in ISU's win over the Racers.

Maya McDermott (UNI) - It was another stellar week for McDermott as she made the winning shot against Drake and helped the Panthers in a dominating 91-51 win over Indiana State. It was almost like deja vu for McDermott in Wednesday night's game against the Bulldogs. She put up a long-range teardrop floater from the right side of the lane as time was expiring with the game tied. McDermott's shot was right on target, keeping UNI from going to overtime and sealing the Panthers first series sweep of Drake since 2016. The shot also got national media attention appearing on SportsCenter's Top 10 and Scott Van Pelt's "Best Thing I Saw Today" segment. For the week, McDermott averaged 12 points, 3 assists, 2.5 rebounds, and 0.5 steals.

Paige Robinson (ILS) - Robinson averaged 18.5 points per game for Illinois State as the Redbirds went 2-0 with wins over rival Bradley Thursday before taking their lone regular season meeting with Murray State on Sunday from Normal ... She made 16-of-34 shots for the week (47.1%), and was 4-of-8 (50.0%) from long range ... She averaged six and a half rebounds on the week with six assists and four blocks ... Against the Braves she scored 13 points on 6-of-12 shooting from the field while grabbing eight rebounds, dishing out three assists, and collecting two blocks while playing 25 minutes ... In the finale of the week against Murray State, she scored a game-high 24 points, converting on 10-of-22 shots from the field, 3-of-4 from long range and 1-of-2 from the free throw stripe ... She also had three assists, two blocks, and five rebounds in ISU's win over Murray State.

Rachael Heittola (UNI) - Heittola had her best game in a Panther uniform this past weekend against Indiana State. The junior transfer put up a season-high 14 points against the Sycamores and tied her career-high in three pointers made with 3 treys on the afternoon. Heittola also added five rebounds and one assist in UNI's blowout win of Indiana State. In two games this week Heittola averaged 13 minutes, 7 points, and 2.5 rebounds.

Promise Taylor (SIU) - Mississippi State transfer Promise Taylor had a Valley season-high 19 points versus Valparaiso on Saturday, plus seven rebounds and five blocked shots. For the week, she averaged 12.0 points, 5.5 rebounds and 5.5 blocks in a loss to Missouri State and win over Valpo. She converted 10-of-13 shots from the field.

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		
F20		
F27		
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		
F20		
F27		
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

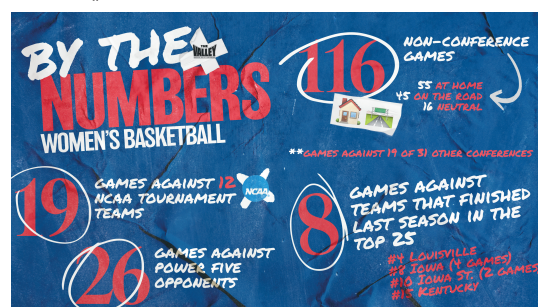
SWAC	1-0 (A: 1-0)
Alabama A&M.....	1-0
Murray State.....	W, 57-36

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 at the Top

The top four teams in The Valley standings entering this week are separated by only two games. Illinois State holds a game lead over UNI entering this week's action, while Belmont and Missouri State sit two games back of the Redbirds.

Streaks-a-Plenty

Illinois State, Belmont and Missouri State each enter the week riding winning streaks of five or better. The first place Redbirds have won 10-straight and is one of 12 teams nationally riding a win streak of 10+ games. Belmont has won six straight games, while Missouri State has won five in a row.

The Redbirds have had six previous instances of winning at least 10 straight games in a season since 1981-82 (1983-84; 1984-85; 1988-89; 2007-08; 2008-09; 2009-10).

The Valley is one of just three leagues nationally to have three teams riding winning streaks of 5+ entering this week, joining the Atlantic 10 (Rhode Island 10, UMass 8, George Washington 5) and Mid-American Conference (Bowling Green 9, Ball State 7, Toledo 5).

Nothing But NET

The NCAA NET Report (Feb. 7) has four Valley teams that rank in the top-100, including six of the 12 sitting in the top 130. Drake leads the way at No. 53 with UNI (62), Illinois State (85) and Belmont (92), rounding out the schools in the Top 100. Missouri State (103) and Murray State (126) rank in the top 130.

Only eight leagues have six or more teams in the Top 130 of the NET (ACC, American, Big 12, Big East, Big Ten, MVC, Pac-12 and SEC).

Sharing the Rock

Drake enters the week currently ranking second in the nation in assists per game, averaging 20.8 per game.

NCAA Assist Leaders

1. Iowa (Big Ten)	20.9
2. Drake (MVC)	20.8
3. Oklahoma (Big 12)	20.7
4. UConn (Big East)	19.9

Warren's Climb to the Top

UNI Head Coach Tanya Warren continues her pursuit to becoming the MVC's all-time leader in games coached. Warren is scheduled to coach her Valley-record 507th game Sunday at Valparaiso.

MOST GAMES COACHED

Name, School	(Years)	Games
Cindy Scott, Southern Illinois	(1983-98)	506
Tanya Warren, UNI	(2008-present)	505

Warren Approaching 300

UNI Head Coach Tanya Warren also continues her pursuit for 300 career wins. Warren would become the third coach in Valley history to join the club along with Cindy Scott of Southern Illinois and Cheryl Burnett of Missouri State.

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)	298

Sharpshooter

Illinois State's Mary Crompton continues her move up The Valley career three-point field goal list. The graduate student moved into a tie for 3rd on The Valley's all-time list Sunday. Crompton passed Indiana State's Brittany Schoen on the list following her two three-point buckets Sunday and will pass Rishonda Napier of SIU on her next connection.

3-Point Field Goals Made (Career)

1. 314 - Gabi Haack, Bradley.....	2017-22
2. 294 - Dayna Finch, Creighton.....	2001-04
3. 277 - Rishonda Napier, Southern Illinois.....	2014-17
277 - Mary Crompton, Illinois State.....	2018-pres.
5. 276 - Brittany Schoen, Indiana State.....	2008-12

BEL: Six Game Streak

Belmont's current six-game winning streak is its longest of the season. The Bruins have held their last six opponents to 35 percent shooting or below and their last five opponents under 60 points. Belmont's average margin of victory over its last six outings is 20.2. Madison Bartley has led Belmont in scoring for six-straight games. She has tallied six 20-point performances this season, four of which have taken place over the last six games.

BU: First Meeting

The Braves and Bruins met for the first time in school history at the Renaissance Coliseum on Sunday. Bradley finished the first quarter up 20-17. The Braves were outscored in the second and third quarters and made a final push in the fourth, but it wasn't enough to get the team its first conference win. Caroline Waite was the top scorer for the Braves with 15 points, two assists and one steal.

DU: Keeping Pace

Drake earned a split last week to stay within striking distance of the MVC's top spot. The Bulldogs started the week with another nail-biting loss to UNI (2/1). Drake fell to UNI by a 49-47 margin in the McLeod Center as a heroic floater by the Panthers' Maya McDermott proved to be the difference. The Bulldogs bounced back in a major way with an 87-48 blowout over Evansville in Des Moines. Drake's win over the Purple Aces included several individual and team landmarks including a 17-rebound performance from sophomore forward Anna Miller, Maggie Bair's second-straight double-double, a season-high 14 team assists, and the team's second-most rebounds in a game with 61. The Bulldogs are 13-7 overall and 8-4 in conference play.

UE: Feit Reaches 1,500 Points

Senior Abby Feit became the fourth player in program history to reach 1,500 points in Evansville's Monday night non-conference contest with UT-Martin. Feit finished tied for the game-high with freshman guard Kynidi Mason Striverson as both recorded 12 points.

UIC: Approaching 1,000

UIC's Josie Filer is on pace for the career milestone of scoring 1,000 total points in her collegiate career. Leading the Flames in both scoring (12.7 PPG) and rebounds (6.6 RPG) in her lone season with the team, Filer is only 70 points away from the milestone.

ILS: Single Digit Quarters

For the 35th time, and 22nd time against an MVC foe under Kristen Gillespie, the Redbirds held an opponent to score single digits in the first quarter. As they held Bradley to four first-quarter points last Thursday, the Redbirds move to 28-7 all-time when allowing single digits in the first 10 minutes. The four points allowed match the lowest first-quarter points allowed under Kristen Gillespie for ISU (Jan. 15 at Belmont; 2022 Hoops in the Heartland Quarterfinals v. Loyola).

INS: Road Warrior

Indiana State forward Chelsea Cain has seen success away from the friendly confines of Hulman Center, posting a double-double in each of the Sycamores' last three road games. Cain had 16 points and 11 rebounds at Illinois State, 11 points and 10 rebounds at Bradley and 14 points and 10 rebounds at Northern Iowa. Over the three-game stretch, she is averaging 13.7 points and 10.3 rebounds per game.

MOST: Fresh Performance

According to HerHoopStats.com, Jade Masogayo is currently the only freshman in NCAA Division I averaging at least 7.0 points per game, 4.5 rebounds per game, 1.5 blocks per game and 1.5 assists per game this season. Masogayo ranks 50th nationally in blocks per game and 54th in the country in total blocks, while also leading the Lady Bears with a .537 field goal percentage on the year.

MUR: 20 Wasn't Enough

Despite scoring 20-plus points in the three of four quarters Sunday at Illinois State, it was the eight-point third quarter that proved to be the difference in the game. Murray State shot just 17.6-percent in the stanza, while Illinois State shot 70.6-percent in addition to outscoring the Racers by 19.

UNI: .500 Once Again

Northern Iowa secured its 15th consecutive year at .500 or better in Missouri Valley Conference action. UNI's current run of 15 seasons in a row is already the league's longest active streak among all women's and men's basketball programs.

SIU: Wide Margin

The Salukis bounced back in a big way on Saturday, putting together a well-rounded effort against the Beacons at home in their 77-47 victory. The 30-point differential was the second largest in a win this season for SIU, only being topped by its 58-point win against Chicago State on Dec. 1. This was the 11th time the Salukis have reached 70 points, and the 47 points were the fewest Southern has given up in a game this season.

VU: Connecting from Deep

Senior Olivia Brown continued to connect from deep last week, going 5-for-11 from 3-point range over Valpo's two games. Brown currently paces all MVC players in Valley-only play with a 3-point percentage of .500. Overall this year, Brown is hitting at a .449 clip from deep - a mark which would rank third in a single season in program history.

HerHoopStatsStat of the Week

Missouri State's Kennedy Taylor had 25 points, 15 rebounds, and 6 assists against UIC on Saturday. She's the only player in Division I to reach all three of those marks in a game this season. This was the first 25/15/6 game by an MVC player since Stephany Neptune of SIU on March 4th, 2010.

Mid-Major Top-25 Poll

Illinois State, UNI and Drake appear in this week's CollegeInsider.com Mid-Major Top 25 (Jan. 31). Illinois State is at No. 9 in the poll, while UNI comes in at No. 12 and Drake at No. 22. Missouri State and Belmont are receiving votes this week.

1,000 Point Club

The Valley has 12 active players in the 1,000 point club.

Current MVC Players in 1,000 Point Club

1,925 - Macey Turley, Murray State
1,505 - Abby Feit, Evansville
1,456 - Katelyn Young, Murray State
1,343 - Sydne Harvey, Belmont
1,343 - Destinee Wells, Belmont
1,272 - Anyia Thomas, Missouri State
1,161 - Grace Berg, Drake
1,160 - Myia Clark, Evansville
1,139 - Mary Crompton, Illinois State
1,120 - Kam Finley, UNI
1,098 - Chelsea Cain, Indiana State
1,060 - Sydney Wilson, Missouri State

Double Trouble

Entering this week, UNI's Grace Boffeli and Murray State's Katelyn Young lead The Valley in double-doubles with eight. Boffeli ranks sixth in The Valley in scoring at 15.9 ppg, while leading the league in rebounds per game (8.6). Young leads the league in scoring (20.5 ppg) and ranks third in rebounds (8.2 rpg).

Number of Double-Double games

8 Young, Katelyn - Murray St.
8 Boffeli, Grace - UNI
7 Bair, Maggie - Drake
7 Taylor, Kennedy - Missouri St.
7 Wilson, DeAnna - Illinois St.
7 Earnest, Leah - Valparaiso
5 Tomancova, Barbora - Evansville
5 Feit, Abby - Evansville
5 Green, Indya - Missouri St.

30 Something

Murray State's Katelyn Young leads The Valley with four 30+ point performances this season. Young has accounted for four of the league's eight 30 point games this season, while also leading the way with 10 20-point outings this season.

Number of 30-Point games

4 Young, Katelyn - Murray St.
1 Harvey, Sydne - Belmont
1 Jones, Ashley - Southern Ill.
1 Robinson, Paige - Illinois St.
1 Saunders, Ali - Valparaiso

Number of 20-Point games

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

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.



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:



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.

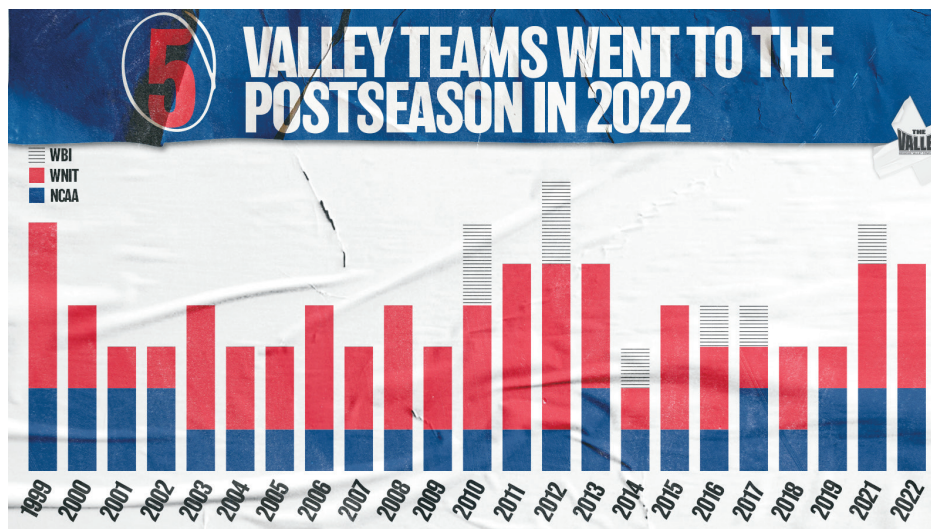
2022-23 MVC WBB Preseason Poll

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+.

