



State Farm Missouri Valley Conference Tournament Post-Game Notes Championship Creighton 67, Southern Illinois 61 Sunday, March 4, 2007

MVC TOURNAMENT NOTES: This was the first time a No. 1 seed (Southern Illinois) has played a No. 2 seed (Creighton) for the MVC Tournament championship since 2003 when SIU was seeded No. 1 and Creighton seeded No. 2 with the Bluejays prevailing, 80-56...Creighton has won all four MVC Tournament finals against Southern Illinois (1989, 2002, 2003)...Creighton has won the MVC Tournament the last four times it was the No. 2 seed...No. 2 seeds have won the tournament seven times in 17 tries in St. Louis, more than any other seed...Today's attendance of 22,612 matched the MVC and Scottrade Center college basketball record crowd set yesterday's semifinal round...The crowd raised the Tournament All-Session record total to 85,074...The

previous record was last year's 63,739.

CREIGHTON NOTES: Creighton moves to 22-10, winning its record-extending 10th MVC Tournament title in a league-leading 11 final-game appearances, including eight straight...The Bluejays have won more of the last nine MVC tournament titles, six, than any other school has ever won (SIU, five)...CU maintains its leadership in MVC Tournament wins and winning percentage, raising its record to 34-16 (.680)...Creighton has now won nine straight games from Southern Illinois and taken a 43-35 lead in the all-time series...Creighton has won the last 12 MVC Tournament contests in which they have been the tournament's second-seeded team...Head coach Dana Altman, claimed his 19th MVC Tournament game victory, extending the record he broke in Saturday's semifinal round ...Creighton seniors scored 146 of the Bluejays' 201 points in the tournament...The Bluejays outrebounded the Salukis 32-27 today and 85-70 in the season series...CU, which committed 17 turnovers February 10 at Carbondale, surrendered just nine today...Creighton moves to 17-4 when leading at the half.

Player Notes – Senior guard **Nate Funk** led Creighton scored 19 points, stretching his league-leading active streak to 23 consecutive double-digit scoring games, and 30 of the last 32 contests...Funk, who scored 66 points over the three games of the MVC Tournament, raised his career total to 1,731, moving from 41st to 32nd place on the MVC career list...Senior center **Anthony Tolliver** recorded his sixth double-double of year with 15 points (and 39 for the tournament) and 13 rebounds, one off his career high...Senior guard **Nick Porter** scored 15 points, finishing the tournament with 41, and tied his career high with six assists...Sophomore guard **Josh Dotzler** failed to score from the floor during the tournament but was perfect on 10 attempts from the free-throw line, including four today.

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS NOTES: The Salukis' 13-game win streak ended and their record fell to 27-6...SIU sees its MVC Tournament record drop to 31-23, 1-6 against Creighton, and 5-5 in title games...SIU made 23-of-45 three-point shots (.511) against CU in the teams' three games this season...Southern Illinois, which shot 50 percent from the floor in both regular-season meetings - 50 percent (19-38) and 65 percent (26-40) respectively - hit just 42.9 percent (21-49) today...The Salukis made nine treys this afternoon, their second-most of the season...Southern Illinois is now 4-3 when trailing at halftime.

Player Notes – Senior guard **Jamaal Tatum**, 158, surpassed Darren Brooks (146, 2000-05) to become SIU's leading MVC Tournament scorer...Senior forward **Randal Falker**, went 1-5 from the floor each of the last two games after making 17-of-19 the two games before that...Falker, who scored 21 points January 20 in Omaha, scored just four February 10 at Carbondale and just three today before fouling out with 2:19 left...Sophomore guard **Bryan Mullins**, scored all of his 10 points after the 7:28 mark but fouled out for the third time this season with 3:29 to play...Mullins made two three-pointers for the fifth time in his career...Junior forward **Matt Shaw** scored 11 points, recording his 16th double-digit game of the season, and posted a career-high three blocked shots.

Second Half Recap – Randal Falker's free throw opened the scoring but would be SIU's only point over the first 5:05, as CU replied with seven straight points (Nick Porter 4, Dane Watts 3) before Jamaal Tatum hit a three-pointer...CU extended the run to 18-7 and took its largest lead, 50-36, on Josh Dotzler's two free throws at the 8:56 mark... Bryan Mullins scored eight points to lead a 15-7 run for SIU that cut the lead to 57:51 at the 4:04...the margin drifted between five and eight points the rest of the way.

First Half Recap – Both teams came out hot on offense, and it was 7-7 – the game's third tie - after just 2:41...Creighton did not turn the ball over its first nine possessions of the game while Southern Illinois managed to shoot the first 12 times they had the ball...The second time SIU moved to within one point, 11-10, with 15:32 to go in the half, CU responded with a 6-0 run to build their largest lead of the half, 17-10, with 12:07 to play...Creighton was first whistled for a foul with 7:17 left in the half...The Bluejays had assumed their third seven-point edge, to which the Salukis answered by scoring eight straight points over the next three minutes and taking their first lead, 23-22, on Wesley Clemmons' three-pointer at the 6:37 mark...SIU made five of its six three-point attempts...CU outscored the Salukis in the paint 22-6...Creighton took its third halftime lead in three MVC Tournament contests.