

# Men's Basketball

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## 2005-06 Standings (thru March 19)

	Missouri Valley				Overall Records			
	W-L	Pct.	PF	PA	W-L	Pct.	PF	PA
Wichita State	14--4	.778	67.2	62.0	26--8	.765	69.6	61.8
Missouri State	12--6	.667	71.3	66.5	21--8	.724	75.3	66.4
Creighton	12--6	.667	65.6	61.6	20--9	.690	66.6	61.1
Southern Illinois	12--6	.667	60.6	56.6	22-11	.667	60.4	56.5
UNI	11--7	.611	64.8	59.5	23-10	.697	65.6	57.8
Bradley	11--7	.611	74.4	67.0	22-10	.688	71.7	64.6
Drake	5-13	.278	64.1	69.1	12-19	.387	69.0	68.8
Evansville	5-13	.278	61.4	70.1	10-19	.345	65.3	71.0
Indiana State	4-14	.222	61.9	71.3	13-16	.448	64.3	68.5
Illinois State	4-14	.222	53.7	61.3	9-19	.321	55.5	59.1

Home Record in MVC Games: 58-32 Non-MVC: 79-30 • Home: 52-7 • Away: 17-17 • Neut: 10-6

## Recent Results & Upcoming Schedule

### 2006 State Farm MVC Tournament March 2-5 • Savvis Center • St. Louis, Mo.

**Thurs., March 2 (No television) [Attendance: 5,683]**

G1 -- No. 9 Indiana State 72, #8 Drake 63  
G2 -- No. 7 Evansville 52, No. 10 Illinois State 45

**Fri., March 3 (FSN Midwest) [Attendance: 11,782]**

G3 -- No. 1 Wichita State 83, Indiana State 61  
G4 -- No. 5 Bradley 54, #4 Creighton 47  
G5 -- No. 2 Southern Illinois 71, Evansville 55  
G6 -- No. 6 UNI 57, #3 Missouri State 42

**Sat., March 4 (FSN, Comcast) [Attendance: 17,772]**

Game 7 -- Bradley 60, Wichita State 52  
Game 8 -- Southern Illinois 55, UNI 46 (ot)

**Sun., March 5 (CBS Sports) [Attendance: 13,969]**

Game 9 -- Southern Illinois 59, Bradley 46

The 2006 State Farm MVC Tournament established an all-time record for attendance -- and the 63,739 total turnstile figure was more than 10,000 than last year's total. Notably the 2006 championship was the first on CBS Sports, following 20-straight years on the ESPN family of networks.

### MVC Tournament -- all-time crowds

63,739 (2006) -- 5 sessions  
62,007 (2003) -- 5 sessions  
53,342 (2005) -- 5 sessions  
50,033 (2004) -- 5 sessions  
49,428 (1997) -- 5 sessions



[www.mvc.org](http://www.mvc.org)

### 2006 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament



**Thurs., March 23 (Oakland Regional)**

#13 Bradley vs. #1 Memphis, 6:27 p.m. CST  
#2 UCLA vs. #3 Gonzaga, 30 minutes following  
Winners play Saturday, March 25 (Time TBD)

**Fri., March 24 (Washington, D.C., Regional)**

#7 Wichita State vs. #11 George Mason, 6:27 p.m. CST  
#1 UConn vs. #5 Washington, 30 minutes following  
Winners play Sunday, March 26 (Time TBD)

**Greensboro, N.C. (Washington, D.C. Regional)**

Thurs., March 16 -- #7 Wichita State 86, #10 Seton Hall 66  
Sat., March 18 -- #7 Wichita State 80, #2 Tennessee 73

**Auburn Hills, Mich. (Atlanta Regional)**

Fri., March 17 -- #6 West Virginia 64, #11 S. Illinois 46

**Auburn Hills, Mich. (Oakland Regional)**

Fri., March 17 -- #13 Bradley 77, #4 Kansas 73  
Sun., March 19 -- #13 Bradley 72, #5 Pittsburgh 66

**Dayton, Ohio (Minneapolis Regional)**

Fri., March 17 -- #7 Georgetown 54, #10 UNI 49

### 2006 NIT Men's Basketball Championship



**Mon., March 20 (at campus sites)**

#3 Houston at #2 Missouri State, 7:05 p.m. (Springfield, Mo.)  
#3 Miami (Fla.) at #2 Creighton, 7:07 p.m. (Omaha, Neb.)

Thurs., March 16 -- #2 Creighton 71, #8 Akron 60 (Omaha)  
Fri., March 17 -- #2 Missouri St. 76, #7 Stanford 67 (Springfield)

# 6 in '06

In 2006, for the first time in league history, The Valley has six of its 10 members in post-season play. The league set the standard in 2005, when it had five teams (3 NCAA, 2 NIT) reach post-season play. The league had sent four teams to postseason 10 times previously -- including four times since 1999.

Year	NCAA	NIT
1981	Creighton, WSU	Tulsa, Drake
1984	Illinois State, Tulsa	Creighton, WSU
1985	ILS, Tulsa, WSU	Bradley
1990	Illinois State	CU, Tulsa, S. Illinois
1991	Creighton	SIU, MSU, Tulsa
1995	SIU, Tulsa	BU, Illinois State
1999	CU, UE, MSU	BU
2000	CU, Indiana State	SIU, Missouri State
2001	CU, Indiana State	BU, Illinois State
2004	UNI, S. Illinois	CU, Wichita State
2005	UNI, Creighton, SIU	MSU, Wichita State
2006	BU, UNI, SIU, WSU	CU, Missouri State

## How Sweet it Is

Four Valley schools are in a "Sweet 16" this season. Bradley and Wichita State are in the NCAA Tournament, while Creighton and Missouri State have reached the second round of the NIT.

Sweet 16, by league	NCAA	NIT	TOTAL
Big East	4	3	7
ACC	2	3	5
<b>MISSOURI VALLEY</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>
SEC	2	1	3
Colonial	1	2	3
Pac-10	2	0	2
Conference USA	1	1	2
Big Ten	0	2	2
Big 12	1	0	1
West Coast	1	0	1
Metro Atlantic	0	1	1
Atlantic-10	0	1	1

## How Sweet it Is, Part II

For the first time in Missouri Valley Conference history, two league teams are in the NCAA Tournament Sweet 16 in the same season. Six Valley schools, including Bradley and Wichita State this year, have reached the Sweet 16 since 1994, and the league has had two or more NCAA tournament teams in 11 of the past 13 seasons, including the last eight years in a row.

# MISSOURI VALLEY CONFERENCE 2005-06 Men's Basketball

## Tough Seeds; Valley Rarely Seeded in Top 7

Since 1994, the Missouri Valley Conference has recorded a 17-26 record in the NCAA Tournament, despite being seeded No. 7 or better only four times in 28 appearances. Here is a comparison of records of BCS conferences and the Missouri Valley Conference, from 1994-2005.

	ACC	Big 10	Big 8/12	Big East	Pac-10	SEC	MVC
ALL (1994- )	117-56	101-70	88-64	107-62	84-53	104-65	17-26
Seeds 1-5	99-36	69-31	62-30	78-34	65-28	87-40	0-0
Seeds 6-9	12-16	30-35	18-23	16-16	15-19	13-17	6-6
Seeds 10+	6-4	2-4	8-11	13-12	4-6	4-8	11-20
Seeds 12+	0-0	0-0	6-3	0-0	0-0	0-0	8-6

## Valley's Records When Seeded 6-7-8-9?

Comparing the six BCS conferences and the Missouri Valley, no conference has a winning record (since 1994) when their teams are seeded 6-7-8-9. The Valley's .500 winning percentage matches the Big East (16-16) for the best.

Since 1994	ACC	Big 10	Big 8/12	Big East	Pac-10	SEC	MVC
Seeds 6-9	.429	.462	.439	.500	.441	.433	.500

## Party Crashers

Since 1999, there have been 44 first-round victories by teams seeded 10 or worse (including eight this year). Here are the leagues who have posted those-such wins.

- 6 – Missouri Valley (Bradley as a No. 13 this year); Mid-American
- 3 – Big 12, Horizon, West Coast, WAC
- 2 – ACC, Big East, Big Sky, Colonial, Mountain West, SEC
- 1 – America East, Atlantic-10, Big 10, Big West, C-USA, MAAC, Pac-10, Southland

## MVC's NCAA Ledger

The Valley has had two NCAA teams eight-straight years (11 of 13). Since 1994, The Valley is 17-26 in the NAAs with six Sweet 16 trips (1994, 1995, 1999, 2002 and two Sweet 16's in 2006).

Year	Teams	Record
1994	Southern Illinois Tulsa	2-2
1995	Southern Illinois, Tulsa	2-2
1996	Bradley, Tulsa	0-2
1997	Illinois State	0-1
1998	Illinois State	1-1
1999	Creighton, Evansville, MSU	3-3
2000	Creighton, Indiana State	0-2
2001	Creighton, Indiana State	1-2
2002	Creighton, Southern Illinois	3-2
2003	Creighton, Southern Illinois	0-2
2004	Southern Illinois, UNI	0-2
2005	Creighton, UNI, Southern Illinois	1-3
2006	Bradley, UNI, S. Illinois, Wichita State	4-2
Totals		17-26

## NCAA "Giant" Killers

Since 1994, The Valley has compiled a solid record against BCS leagues.

vs. Conference (Valley Record)

ACC.....0-3	Big 10.....2-4	Big 12.....3-5
Big East...2-5	Pac-10.....1-2	SEC.....5-3

## Higher Ground?

The NCAA began seeding teams for the NCAA Tournament in 1978, and the field expanded to 64 teams in 1985. Since then (1985), no Valley team has been seeded higher than a No. 6. Only seven Valley teams (including WSU in 2006) have been seeded No. 8 or better. Since 1985, the league is 5-3 in games in which it is the higher-seeded team. [As a No. 6 seed in 1995, Tulsa won a first- and second-round game as a better seed.]

## More of the Same in '07

Only 11 of the league's 50 starters are seniors. No league team had more than two seniors in its 2005-06 starting five.

## 3 Teams in NAAs Was Previous Valley Best

In 2005, for the third time in league history, three Valley schools played in the NCAA Tournament. Creighton, UNI, and Southern Illinois represented the Valley in the 2005 field. The league also sent three teams to the NCAA Tournament in 1985 and in 1999.

## Do As I Say, And Did

Bradley's Jim Les became the ninth member of an exclusive club of coaches who directed their alma mater to an NCAA Tournament victory after leading the school in scoring in at least one NCAA playoff win.

## As 10 Seeds, or Worse

In first-round NCAA tourney games since 1999, BCS leagues are a combined 11-11 when seeded 10 or worse. Only Missouri (No. 12 in 2002) and Oklahoma (13 in 1999) and Texas A&M (12 in 2006) were seeded worse than a No. 11. Meanwhile, The Valley has combined for a 6-9 first-round record in that same time frame while seeded 10 or worse.

## "Upset" Victories

All-time, The Valley has eight wins in the tournament as a No. 12 seed (or worse). Of the BCS leagues, only the Big 12 has had teams seeded that low, and Missouri (as a No. 12 and in the Elite 8 in 2002), Oklahoma (No. 13 and in the Sweet 16 in 1999) and Texas A&M (No. 12 and a first-round victory this year) account for that league's six victories.

## "Upset" Special

- Since 1994, The Valley has posted five first-round NCAA Tournament victories as a No. 12 seed, or worse. The Valley's five 12th-seeded teams to win first-round games include Tulsa (12 - 1994), Missouri State (12 - 1999), Indiana State (13 - 2001), Creighton (12 - 2002), and Bradley (13 - 2006).
- Since 1979, the league has had teams seeded No. 9 or worse 35 times. Those teams have combined for 14 tourney victories, and four Sweet 16's (Tulsa, 1994) (Missouri State, 1999) (Southern Illinois, 2002) (Bradley, 2006).
- Since 1994, The Valley has posted eight NCAA tourney first-round wins as a lower-seeded (aka worse-seeded) team.

## Bird, Stiles Honored

In 2006, The Missouri Valley Conference has named its Player of the Year awards for two of its most famous alums - Larry Bird of Indiana State and Jackie Stiles of Missouri State.

# MISSOURI VALLEY CONFERENCE 2005-06 Men's Basketball

## Title Town

Here's a look at titles by current Valley members (most recent in parentheses):

	Regular-Season*	Tourney
Bradley	6 (1996)	2 (1988)
Creighton	13 (2002)	9 (2005)
Drake	5 (1971)	none
Evansville	1 (1999)	none
Illinois State	5 (1998)	4 (1998)
Indiana State	2 (2000)	2 (2001)
Missouri State	none	1 (1992)
UNI	none	1 (2004)
Southern Illinois	7 (2005)	5 (2006)
Wichita State	6 (2006)	2 (1987)

\*includes outright and shared championships

## 6 Post-Season Wins in '06

The league already has six post-season wins in 2005-06 (thru games of Sunday, March 19). The six post-season wins are the most for the Valley since 1981 when Tulsa (5 wins and an NIT title) and Wichita State (3 NCAA wins) combined for eight victories for the league. The league had four post-season victories last season (1 - NCAA, 3 - NIT).

## 4 NCAA Wins Ties Mark

The league's four NCAA Tournament wins (two by Bradley and two by Wichita State) match an all-time record by the league. The Valley had four wins four times previously in the NCAA Tournament: 1961 (Cincinnati won national championship), 1962 (Cincinnati won national championship), 1975 (Louisville finished third), and 1979 (Indiana State lost in the title game).

## NCAA Tourney Hit List

Since 1994, a Missouri Valley Conference member has beaten the following teams from power conferences in the NCAA Tournament: Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Kansas, Louisville, Oklahoma, Oklahoma State, Pittsburgh, Seton Hall, Tennessee (three times), Texas Tech, UCLA, and Wisconsin.

## 3 on USBWA Teams

Three Valley players have been selected to the USBWA all-district squad. Blake Ahearn of Missouri State, Ben Jacobson of UNI, and Paul Miller of Wichita State represent the conference on the District VI team. There are nine districts nationally, and District VI had 11 players.

## It's Academic

Three Valley players have earned selection to ESPN The Magazine's CoSIDA Academic All-District First Team. Anthony Tolliver of Creighton is on the District VII squad; while Illinois State's Neil Plank and Southern Illinois' Jamaal Tatum earned selection to the District V unit. Plank also earned Academic All-America honors for the second-straight year.

## Jacobson All-District

Ben Jacobson of UNI has earned selection to the 2006 NABC (National Association of Basketball Coaches) All-District 12 First Team. He is the lone Valley representative.

## Great Mark in 2005-06

The Valley's 79-30 non-conference mark (through games of Sun., March 19) is No. 6 all-time in league history and the best record in 43 years:

Season	Non-Conf.	+/-	Post-Season
1920-21	25-5 (.833)	+20	no postseason
1916-17	35-9 (.795)	+26	no postseason
1962-63	74-25 (.7474)	+49	1 NCAA, 2 NIT
1949-50	78-27 (.743)	+51	1 NCAA, 1 NIT
1911-12	14-5 (.737)	+9	no postseason
<b>2005-06</b>	<b>79-30 (.725)</b>	<b>+49</b>	<b>4 NCAA, 2 NIT</b>
1960-61	74-29 (.718)	+45	1 NCAA, 1 NIT
1954-55	70-28 (.714)	+42	1 NCAA, 1 NIT

## Hello, Big Boys

The Valley is 12-11 against the nation's top (BCS) leagues. That includes two top-25 regular-season wins vs. the Big Ten, a one-point loss to nationally ranked Illinois (*Wichita State*) and a three-point loss to nationally ranked Boston College (*Drake*). Through Sunday, March 19, The Valley has a 5-2 record in post-season play vs. BCS-league teams.

vs. Conference (Valley Wins, thru March 19)

vs. ACC.....	0-1
vs. Big East.....	4-4 (DePaul, Pitt, Providence, Seton Hall)
vs. Big 10.....	3-3 (Purdue, Iowa, Indiana)
vs. Big 12.....	2-2 (Kansas, Nebraska)
vs. Pac-10.....	1-0 (Stanford)
vs. SEC.....	2-1 (at LSU, Tennessee)

TOTALS ..... 12-11

## We Are the Champions

The Valley recorded a 21-11 regular-season mark vs. teams that finished first or second in their regular-season races (which includes records against teams in 1st/2nd-place positions in divisions, in conferences that have divisions).

## 2006 Players of the Week

	Player	Newcomer
N21	Tony Bennett, Bradley	Jason Holsinger, Evansville
N28	Nate Funk, Creighton	Ajay Calvin, Drake
D5	Blake Ahearn, MSU	Jason Holsinger, Evansville
D12	Eric Coleman, UNI	Trent Wurtz, Indiana State
D19	Anthony Tolliver, CU	Zach Andrews, Bradley
D27	David Moss, INS	Al Stewart, Drake
J3	Patrick O'Bryant, BU	Bryan Mullins, S. Illinois
J9	Ben Jacobson, UNI	Nick Porter, Creighton
J16	Johnny Mathies, CU	Karon Bradley, Wichita State
J23	Grant Stout, UNI	Josh Dotzler, Creighton
J30	Marcellus Sommerville, BU	Shane Laurie, Missouri State
F6	Paul Miller, Wichita State	Josh Dotzler, Creighton
F13	Bryan Mullins, S. Illinois	Bryan Mullins, S. Illinois
F20	Patrick O'Bryant, BU	Roberto Fortes, Illinois State
F27	Bradley Strickland, UE	Nick Porter, Creighton
	Marcellus Sommerville, BU	

## Top 25, Four-Straight

When UNI cracked the top-25 polls of Jan. 30, it gave The Valley a ranked team for the fourth-straight season. Although not in the AP poll last year, SIU was No. 25 in the USA Today/ESPN coaches poll (Feb. 28). SIU (six weeks) and Creighton (one) were both in the AP poll in 2003-04, while the Jays spent 15 weeks in the AP poll in 2003.

## Alum Coaches in the MVC

Jim Les (Bradley), Greg McDermott (UNI) and Chris Lowery (SIU) also played at their schools.

## Incredible Defense

Southern Illinois led the league last year by allowing 60.7 points per game. This year during the regular season, three Valley teams were ahead of that, led by SIU's scoring defense of 56.2 points per game. In 90 league games and nine tournament games, 26 teams were held to 50 points or less. That only happened four times all of last season.

## Multi-Bid Leagues

The Valley has had two or more teams reach the NCAA Tournament in eight-straight years. Here are the leagues with multiple NCAA men's basketball bids every year since the 1998-99 season (eight straight years). Quick math -- it's the six BCS leagues, plus Conference USA and The Valley:

ACC; Big East; Big Ten; Big 12; C-USA; Missouri Valley; Pacific 10; SEC

# MISSOURI VALLEY CONFERENCE 2005-06 Men's Basketball

## Our Shining Moment

The Valley completed the first of a multi-year deal to have its championship game aired live on CBS Sports. The 2006 State Farm MVC Tournament on CBS Sports was the first MVC game on network television (other than NCAA tourney games) since BYU beat Wichita State, 93-92, on Jan. 28, 1989. The Southern Illinois-Bradley final is believed to be the first game between two Valley schools on network television since Indiana State beat Wichita State on national TV in February of 1979.



## Must See TV

A league-record 39 men's basketball telecasts were part of the league's regular-season telecast package this year, which included games on FSN Midwest, Comcast SportsNet, the ESPN family of networks and CBS.

## Shocking Development

In 2005-06, Wichita State won its first Valley regular-season crown since the 1983 season. The Shockers are making their fourth-straight post-season trip and first in the NCAA tourney since 1988.

## Turgeon is MVC Best

Wichita State's Mark Turgeon was selected the Missouri Valley Conference's Rawlings Coach of the Year. In his sixth year with the Shockers, he becomes the first Wichita State head coach to earn the league's top honor since Eddie Fogler shared the award with Tulsa's J.D. Barnett in 1987.

## MVC Champs = NCAA

Thirteen-straight MVC regular-season champions have reached the NCAA tournament. Illinois State (1992-93) was the last to win the league's regular-season crown and not make it.

## 20-Game Winners

Including this season, The Valley has had a minimum of two 20-game winners in each of the past eight seasons. This year, the league has six 20-game winners for the first time in its 99-year history. The previous mark (4) had been reached four times (1994-95, 1999-00, 2003-04, 2004-05).

## 20 Wins Important?

Since the NCAA Tournament field was expanded to 64 teams (1984-85), 55 Valley teams (including this year's five teams) have posted 20 wins prior to "Selection Sunday." Forty have reached the NAAs, and another 14 were in the NIT (*Creighton was 20-12 in 1985 and did not reach the post-season*).

## New Attendance Mark

Creighton has drawn 226,295 spectators this season and is the first school in the 99-year history of the Missouri Valley Conference to surpass 200,000 in home attendance for a single season.

## Crowd Pleasers

Fueled by Creighton (14,143) and Wichita State (10,436) the league is averaging 7,545 fans per game in home games. According to numbers supplied by the NCAA, this year's total attendance and per-game averages (including the conference tournament's five sessions) easily surpasses the previous marks:

Top all-time average: 7,309 (1982-83) -- includes tourney  
 Top all-time gate: 1,137,677 (2004-05) -- includes tourney  
**2005-06 numbers:** 1,187,920 (154 games: 7,714 avg.)

## Steady RPI Climb

The Valley's No. 5 RPI ranking is an all-time best. Listed below is the first year the RPI was conducted by Collegiate Basketball News (1992) and the last three-plus seasons:

Year	RPI	Post-Season Teams
1991-92	21	2 (Southern Illinois, Missouri State)
2002-03	14	3 (Creighton, SIU, Wichita State)
2003-04	11	4 (Creighton, UNI, SIU, Wichita St.)
2004-05	8	5 (CU, MSU, UNI, SIU, WSU)
2005-06	*5	*6 (BU, CU, MSU, UNI, SIU, WSU)

\*all-time season-ending highs for The Valley

## Six Teams in Top 40

Six Valley teams rank in the Top 40 of the Collegiate Basketball News RPI (through games of March 19). Since 1991-92 and including this year, 24 of 28 Valley teams ranked 50 or better have played in the NAAs. Notably, only the Big East Conference has more schools in the Top 40 than The Valley this year.

Teams Ranked in the Top 40 of the RPI (thru March 19)

- 7 -- Big East Conference
- 6 -- Missouri Valley Conference; Big Ten
- 4 -- Southeastern Conference
- 3 -- ACC; Big 12; Colonial; Pac-10

## 2005-06 Preseason Poll

(selected by coaches, SIDs and media)

School (First-Place Votes)	Total
1. UNI (23) .....	379
2. Creighton (15).....	372
3. Southern Illinois (1).....	311
4. Missouri State.....	252
5. Wichita State.....	244
6. Bradley.....	226
7. Drake.....	141
8. Indiana State (1).....	118
9. Evansville.....	90
10. Illinois State .....	67

**Preseason Team:** Nate Funk (CU); Ben Jacobson (UNI); David Moss (INS); Marcellus Sommerville (BU); Jamaal Tatum (SIU)  
**Preseason MVP:** Ben Jacobson (UNI)

## 40+ RPI, and Make It?

From 1990-91 through 2004-05, the NCAA selection committee has taken (on average) 6.9 at-large teams per year that have been worse than 40 in the RPI. This year, nine-such teams -- including No. 58 Seton Hall -- made the NCAA field. Notably, since 1991 four Valley schools ranked worse than 40 in the RPI have been selected for the field, with encouraging results:

Year	RPI	Post-Season Result
1994	Tulsa-54	2 wins, Sweet 16 appearance
1999	Evansville-44	lost to Kansas, first round
2000	Indiana St.-47	lost to Texas, first round
2002	SIU-52	2 wins, Sweet 16 appearance

## 40, and Make NAAs

Since 1990-91, 610 out of a total 633 eligible teams between No. 1 through No. 40 have made the NCAA Tournament. Only eight eligible teams ranked 40 and better in the past seven years have *not* made the NCAA tournament, including four teams this year. Missouri State (at No. 21 this year) is the first team 29 or better not selected [*information from Collegiate Basketball News*].

## Non-Champs in NAAs

New Mexico State (1979), Illinois State (1985), Wichita State (1988), Missouri State (1999), UNI (2005), Bradley (2006) and UNI (2006) or at-large qualifiers from The Valley who failed to win the league regular-season or tournament title in the year they qualified.