

2010 State Farm Missouri Valley Conference Men's Basketball Tournament

Game 4, Quarterfinals, Fri., March 5, 2:35 p.m., St. Louis, Mo. (Scottrade Center): #5 Bradley (81), #4 Creighton (62)

Bradley Notes . . . Fifth-seeded Bradley's 81-62 win over Creighton moves the Braves to Saturday's 1:35 p.m. semifinal game vs. top-seeded UNI. It'll be a repeat of last year's semifinal matchup. Coach Jim Les is 142-119 in his eighth year at BU and overall as a college head coach and he is 4-15 vs. Creighton. Bradley is 16-14 this season and now trails the all-time series to Creighton, 41-40. Bradley is 28-28 in MVC tourney games. It was Bradley's first win in three games vs. Creighton this season. BU is 3-5 vs. CU in the MVC tourney.

Guard Sam Maniscalco played in his 104th BU game to equal the league record (Randal Falker, SIU, 2004-07) for most games played by a three-year player. Maniscalco had 14 first-half points to match his 14.3 MVC tourney career scoring average and finished with a career-high 31 which hiked his MVC scoring to 18.5. Maniscalco's 31 today came after going 1/7 from the field with just three points vs. CU in the regular season finale. Maniscalco is the sixth MVC player with a 30-point game this season. Bradley's Andrew Warren scored 14 points today to become the 44th player in BU history with 1,000 or more career points. His total through today is 1,007. Today was Bradley's first lead at the half in three games vs. CU this year. Maniscalco is 37/38 from the foul line in the MVC tourney in his career, over four games. He has the most FT's made without a miss in tourney history at 25 before he missed. Brad Duncan of Illinois State (82-85) had the most previous FT's made without a miss (20/20) in the tourney. BU is 12-4 this year when leading at the half. Today is the first time in the MVC tourney a player has had 30 or more points since Creighton's Nate Funk did it in 2007 vs. Missouri State. It's also Bradley's most points in MVC tourney play since Hersey Hawkins scored 28 in the 1988 semifinals. Bradley finished 27/28 (.964) from the foul line, including 19/19 in the second half. BU's 27 FGs made with just one miss are the most ever in an MVC tourney game. (The most FT's in an MVC tourney game without a miss is just 12 and the previous most with one miss was CU 24/25 vs. MSU in 1999 semis.)

Creighton Notes . . . CU's loss drops the Bluejays to 16-15 this season and 36-19 in MVC tourney games. Coach Dana Altman is 325-175 in 500 games in 16 seasons at Creighton and 408-242 in his 21st year overall as a college head coach.

Ethan Wragge hit a three in the first half to extend his string of consecutive games with a three made to 18 in a row. CU's top 3-point shooter this season, he finished 3/6 shooting threes. Kenny Lawson led CU's first half scoring with 11 points, including a trey. In his first 93 CU games, he didn't attempt a three, and has now hit 4/7 beyond the arc in his last six games. CU is 2-11 this season when trailing at halftime. Freshman Josh Jones, in only his fourth CU start, hit two treys and scored eight points in the first half. Kenny Lawson had his seventh double-double of the season and his career today with 17 points and 11 boards. All nine of CU's bench points today came from Cavel Witter. Other CU non-starters shot 0/7 for the game. Justin Carter had his first career double-double today with 10 points and 13 rebounds. This is the first time this year two CU players have had 10 or more rebounds. Today was Creighton's worst loss of the year. Previous worst was 18 to UNI and Missouri State. CU's 33 three-point attempts today were a season high.

First Half . . . Creighton ran out to leads of 9-0, 15-8 and 23-14 before Bradley put together a 9-0 run to tie the game at 23-23 with 5:42 left. CU had an 8-1 run to go up 31-24 but two threes by Sam Maniscalco and a two by Andrew Warren pushed BU in front 32-31 with a minute left in the half, and 32-31 was the halftime score with one tie and one first-half lead change.

Second Half . . . CU retook the lead 33-32 on two FTs by Justin Carter 24 seconds into the period. A vicious dunk on a putback by Andrew Warren with 16:05 left put BU back in front 36-35. Creighton missed its first six shots of the second half, including three trey tries before Cavel Witter buried a trey at the 13:00 mark. At that point CU had been without an FG for nearly 10 minutes. CU closed to within four at 55-51 before Bradley scored eight straight points, including 5 FTs by Maniscalco, to take its biggest lead of the game at 63-51 with 6:10 left. Taylor Brown hit a short jumper, Dyrucus Simms-Edwards got two FTs and Will Egolf hit a layup for a 14-0 BU run (including 10/10 FTs) that extended the Braves' margin to 69-51 with 4:40 left. Witter hit a three for CU at the 4:25 mark to end the BU run. The Braves stayed in front with free throw shooting down the stretch, and neither team missed an FT in the second half with BU 19/19 and CU 5/5.

Today's attendance for the afternoon quarterfinal session is 10,830.