

**2007 STATE FARM MVC TOURNAMENT**  
**Championship – Drake 65, Creighton 64 (Overtime)**  
**Sunday, March 11, 2007**  
**Knapp Center, Des Moines, Iowa**

**NCAA TOURNAMENT NOTES:** Drake will be making its 10<sup>th</sup> appearance in the NCAA Tournament (others: 1982, 1984, 1986, 1995, 1997, 1998, 2000, 2001, 2002).

Drake (14-18) becomes just the fifth team with a losing record ever to advance to the NCAA Women's Basketball Tournament, joining Holy Cross (15-17) this season; Illinois State (13-17, No. 15 seed) in 2005; Missouri (12-17, No. 15 seed) in 1994; and Notre Dame (14-16, No. 12 seed) in 1992.

**MVC TOURNAMENT NOTES:** This marked the second time in the last three years a No. 8 seed has won the championship of the MVC Tournament. Drake joins Illinois State, which won the 2005 MVC Tournament. This also marked the fourth straight year that the host school won the championship of the MVC Tournament.

Creighton has faced Drake one other time in the championship of the MVC Tournament in 2002 with the Bluejays claiming a 77-74 victory against the Bulldogs.

This marked the third time the championship game of the MVC Tournament went into overtime. In 1995, Drake beat Missouri State, 71-68 in Springfield and in 1999 Evansville beat Creighton, 75-72, in Des Moines.

**DRAKE NOTES:** The Bulldogs, who won their fourth straight game, improved to 14-18, while winning their fifth MVC Tournament championship (others: 1995, 1997, 1998, 2000). Drake also improved its MVC Tournament record to 26-14, including 3-3 record against Creighton. Drake had owned a 1-3 record in MVC Tournament games played in the Knapp Center before winning four straight games this week.

The Bulldogs, who trailed 29-23 at half, improved their record to 3-16 this season when coming from behind at half to win.

**DRAKE PLAYER NOTES:** Junior guard **Lindsay Whorton** and freshman guard **Monique' Jones** led Drake with 17 points apiece with Jones tying a career high. Whorton made 15 three-point baskets in the MVC Tournament and moved into sole possession of fourth place in the career three-point basket charts at Drake with 192. Sophomore forward **Lauren Dybing** finished with 16 points, just one shy of career high. Dybing had 60 points in the tournament for a 15.0 average. Junior forward **Tori Runner** grabbed a career-high 14 rebounds, surpassing her previous career best of nine against Wichita State in Thursday's play-in round game. She finished with 32 rebounds in the tournament for an 8.0 average.

**CREIGHTON NOTES:** The Bluejays, who had a two-game winning streak snapped, closed out the season with a 13-19 record. The Bluejays' MVC Tournament record slipped to 14-14 including a 1-3 mark in championship games and a 3-3 mark in tournament games against Drake.

**CREIGHTON PLAYER NOTES:** Junior **Sara Cain** scored a career-high 24 points, bettering her previous high of 19 against Wichita State. Cain had totaled 23 points in her previous two MVC Tournament games (13 vs. Illinois State, 10 vs. Indiana State). Freshman forward **Sam Schuett** tied a career high with 12 rebounds.

**FIRST HALF RECAP** — Creighton continued to rely on its pressure defense to grab a 29-23 halftime lead. The Bluejays, who had forced opponents into 36 turnovers in the first two games of the MVC Tournament, forced Drake into 12 turnovers in the first half, equaling the Bulldogs' entire total of 12 in their semifinal round victory past Evansville. Creighton scored eight points off Drake miscues.

**Sara Cain** led Creighton with 12 to equal her 12-point output in a Feb. 9 game at Drake (64-52 Drake win.). Sophomore forward **Lauren Dybing**, who was averaging 14.7 points in the MVC Tournament, led the Bulldogs with eight points.

Creighton's 46.2 percent shooting in the first half, was the highest one-half shooting it has enjoyed during the 2007 MVC Tournament. The Bluejays were shooting just 36.9 percent from the floor in the MVC Tournament entering today's game – which was the worse of any of the 10 participating teams.

Creighton opened the game making four of its first six shots from the floor to race to an 8-2 lead. The Bulldogs responded with a 10-0 run, capped by consecutive three-point baskets from Lindsay Whorton to grab a 12-8. Creighton answered with a 15-4 run to grab a 23-16 lead it would never relinquish.

**SECOND HALF RECAP:** Trailing 55-48 with 6:08 left, Drake reeled off 12 straight points to grab a 60-55 lead. **Lindsay Whorton** (eight) and freshman **Monique' Jones** (three). Sophomore guard **Chevelle Herring** scored five in 14 seconds to allow Creighton to tie the game at 60-60 with 27 seconds left. The Bluejays had a chance to go ahead but **Ally Thrall**, who was a career 85.3 percent free throw shooter, missed two free throws with 6.2 seconds left in regulation.

**OVERTIME:** Sophomore **Kelsey Keizer** scored all five of Drake's points, including a three-point basket with 55 seconds left which proved to be the difference in the game. Each team made two of six shots in the extra period.