

2007 STATE FARM MVC TOURNAMENT

GAME 1 - Drake 78, Wichita State 63

Thursday, March 9, 2007

Knapp Center, Des Moines, Iowa

MVC TOURNAMENT NOTES: This marks the fourth straight year the host school of the MVC Tournament has won its opening round game.

DRAKE NOTES: The Bulldogs, who snapped a two-game losing streak, improve to 11-18...Drake also earned its sixth straight victory against the Shockers...This also marked the first time Drake has won a game in the four times it has served as host of the entire MVC Tournament...Drake had lost its opening round games as host of the MVC Tournament in 1996, 1999 and 2003.Drake improves its MVC Tournament record to 23-14, including a 4-0 mark against the Shockers in the MVC Tournament...This also was Drake's widest victory margin in the MVC Tournament since beating Southern Illinois, 77-48, in the semifinal round of the 1997 MVC Tournament

PLAYER NOTES: Junior guard **Lindsey Whorton** scored 26 points, including 15 in the first half. Whorton, who had made just two of eight three-point baskets in two previous games against the Shockers, made her first four three-point shots and tied a season high with five three-point baskets. Sophomore forward **Lauren Dybing**, making just her ninth start of the season replacing all-MVC performer Brandy Dahir, scored 15 points surpassing her combined total of 10 points in her previous two games against Wichita State. Sophomore forward **Torri Runner** tied a career high with nine rebounds. Freshman guard **Monque' Jones** collected a career-high four steals.

WICHITA STATE NOTES: The Shockers, who suffered their seventh straight loss, closes out the season with a 9-20 record...Wichita State, which also dropped its sixth straight game to Drake, saw its MVC Tournament record slip to 4-15 including an 0-4 mark against Drake.

PLAYER NOTES: Center **Antionette Wells**, the team's leading scorer (13.0 ppg), who was held to two points in the first half, picked up her fourth foul with 18:14 left in second half. Wells returned to the game with 10:15 remaining in the game and finished with 12 points. Forward **Kiki Stephens** led the Shockers with 17 points, while collecting a career-high five blocked shots. Guard **Lexee McDonnell** had a career-high five steals.

FIRST HALF-RECAP: Freshman guard Kaniesha Agee scored four points to trigger a 6-0 run that turned a 9-9 tie into a 15-9 Drake lead it never relinquished. Clinging to a 26-19 advantage, Lindsay Whorton (five) and Monique Jones (four) fueled a 9-0 run that allowed Drake to push its advantage to 35-19. A basket by Ashleigh Brady with 18 seconds left gave the Bulldogs their biggest lead at 42-23...Whorton led both teams with 15 points, making all three three-point baskets...Drake enjoyed a decisive advantage at the free throw line, making 12 of 15 throws compared to 1 of 2 shooting by the Shockers...Drake also forced Wichita State into 10 turnovers enjoying a 13-0 advantage in points off turnovers.

SECOND HALF RECAP: Drake enjoyed its biggest lead of the game at 52-28 followed a basket by Lauren Dbying with 13:36 left. The Shockers shot a sizzling 64 percent from the floor (16-25) in the second half and got as close as 12 points at 62-50 following a three-point play by Kiki Stephens.