

**2011 State Farm Missouri Valley Conference
Women's Basketball Championship Tournament
Championship * Game 9
#1 Northern Iowa ### vs. #3 Missouri State ###
March 13, 2010 * Family Arena, St. Charles, Mo.**

2011 REGULAR-SEASON MEETINGS -- UNI swept MSU, 80-69 Jan. 6 in Cedar Falls and 67-59 Feb. 16 in Springfield ... Lizzie Boeck scored 19 points to lead the Panthers in the first game, then, recorded a 15-point, 12-rebound double-double in the second ... Jacqui Kalin tallied 16 and 29 points in the two games, respectively, for UNI ... Casey Garrison paced MSU with 19- and 20-point outings, and Christiana Shorter posted a 16-11 double-double at home.

TOURNAMENT TYPE -- xxx

IF MSU WINS: Missouri State wins its 10th championship—five more than any other Valley team—and qualifies for the NCAA Tournament for the 14th time (1991-96, 1998-2001, 2003, 2004, 2006) ... MSU was the No. 3 seed for the second straight year and the sixth time overall, but had not won the tournament as the No. 3 ... Missouri State is 36-14 all-time in the tourney, 10-3 in the final ... with this, their Valley-record 13th championship game appearance, MSU has played in half of the 26 MVC title games ... MSU's last tourney win, prior to this year's run to the final, came at the Hammons Center, March 12, 2006, 64-55 over Indiana State, to win title no. 9. ... the Panthers are 12-15 all-time in the tourney ... UNI's only previous title game was a year ago, a 54-53 win over Creighton ... UNI had its highest seed in tourney history—last year, the Panthers won the tournament as the No. 5 seed.

IF UNI WINS: UNI, which qualifies for the NCAA Tournament for the second time, becomes the third different Valley school to win back-to-back titles—only Missouri State and Drake have done it previously ... UNI's only previous title-game appearance was a year ago, a 54-53 win over Creighton ... the Panthers are 13-14 all-time in the tourney ... UNI had its highest seed in tourney history—last year, when the Panthers won the tournament as the No. 5 seed ... MSU was the No. 3 seed for the second straight year and the sixth time overall, but has not won the tournament as the No. 3 ... Missouri State is 35-15 all-time in the tourney, 9-4 in the final ... with this, their Valley-record 13th championship game appearance, MSU have played in half of the 26 MVC title games ... MSU's last tourney win, prior to this year's run to the final, came at the Hammons Center, March 12, 2006, 64-55 over Indiana State, to win title no. 9.

HEAD-TO-HEAD -- xx

IF MSU WINS: Missouri State leads the series 46-17, though Northern Iowa had won four of the teams' last six meetings ... the Panthers had been on their fifth two-game winning streak against the MSU, but, have yet to win three straight.

IF UNI WINS: Missouri State leads the series 45-18 but Northern Iowa has now won five of the last seven meetings ... the Panthers have won three straight from MSU for the first time after four previous two-game winning streaks against MSU.

HOW THEY GOT HERE -- The Panthers hammered No. 8 seed Bradley 87-57 on Friday, with K.K. Armstrong scoring 26 points and UNI shooting 63 percent in the second half ... Saturday, Jacqui Kalin scored 21 points, and Lizzie Boeck grabbed 10 rebounds to go with her 18, as UNI again pulled away after halftime and, despite Haleigh Lankster's 20 points, topped Wichita State 61-44 ... MSU downed No. 6 seed Drake 86-77 in the quarterfinals as Casey Garrison led MSU with 16 points, overcoming 26 by the Bulldogs' Rachel Hackbarth and 25 (20 after halftime) by Kristin Turk ... Garrison followed that up with a 22-point semifinal to lead five MSU scoring in double figures and help MSU, who had to weather a second-half comeback by No. 7 Indiana State, to an 84-79 win.

PANTHER PRIDE -- xx

The Panthers recorded a school record 18th straight win and school record 26th season win on Saturday ...

IF UNI LOSES: The Panthers have serious at-large credentials, including a #40 RPI (*ED: NOTE: ???IS IT BETTER???CHECK WITH KELLI???*) and the fact that just six teams in the nation have MORE true road wins than UNI's 11 (UCLA & Duquesne have 13; Stanford, Houston, Marist & Wright State have 12 each) ...

UNI's 225 3-point field goals and 448 assists are both school season records ... Jacqui Kalin, No. 3 in the nation in free-throw percentage, saw her free throws made streak end Saturday at 40—third longest in UNI history and tied for fourth longest in Valley history. She is also fourth in the nation in assist/turnover ratio ... The 2011 Jackie Stiles MVC Player of the Year, Kalin leads the Valley with a 91.5 FT pct. (118-129) and 2.6 assists per turnover ... The Panthers rank among the nation's Top 20 in six team stat areas ; fewest turnovers (7th); 3-Point FG pct. Defense (10th); free-throw shooting (12th) , turnover margin (15th); scoring margin (18th), and assist/turnover ratio (18th) ... UNI is the Valley's best with 13.7 turnovers per game, 26.2 opps. 3-pt FG pct., +5.03 pg turnover margin, and a 15-ppg scoring margin ... The Panthers also top the MVC at the line (76.2) and behind the arc (7.3 per game AND 34.9 pct.), and with 14.5 assists per game (and the only Valley squad with more assists than turnovers), and all while allowing a league-low 54.8 ppg (and collecting league-high 71.5 percent of their opponents misses) ... Katelin Oney, with a 43.3 pctg. (58-134) shooting treys, leads the MVC ... Boeck and Kalin, with 1385 points each, are tied for No. 5 in UNI career scoring. In career rebounding, Boeck is No. 5 with 736 and Erin Brocka is No. 6 with 728 ... Boeck is No. 5 in career blocks at UNI with 90 ... Boeck has eight double-doubles this season ... UNI is 25-2 when leading at halftime.

MSU NOTES -- xx

During their current six-game winning streak, MSU has averaged 80.8 points per game ... MSU is No. 9 in the nation in shot blocking and 12th in shooting defense ... Missouri State's 180 blocks is the fourth-highest total in MVC history, and the MSU have held their opposition to 35.4-pct. shooting from the field, lowest in the league (and better than the school-record 36.5 clip of 2004) ... At the other end, MSU has rebounded 38 percent of its own misses, best in the MVC, en route to leading the league in scoring at 70.3 ppg ... Casey Garrison is No. 4 in the nation in free throw percentage; she is now at 91.3 (147-161), second in the Valley, and ahead of the MSU single-season record (Tina Robbins 90.3 in 1993) ... Tia Mays is No. 8 in the nation with 3.2 blocked shots per game ... Mays is No. 2 on the MSU career list with 103, and is the second player in Valley history to block 100 shots in a season, joining Northern Iowa's Cassie Hager, who did it twice (135 in 2005, 128 in 2006) ... MSU is 2-7 when trailing at halftime.

FIRST HALF RECAP -- UNI led at the under 16 minute break 5-4...Both teams got off to cold shooting starts with the MSU going 2-6 and UNI hitting only 2 of their first 7 shots...UNI's Jacqui Katlin hit a trey at the 18:17 mark to give The Panthers their first lead of the night at 5-4...Jaleshia Roberson was whistled for her 2nd foul at the 14:24 mark of the half...After being tied at 5-5 at the 15:10 mark, UNI went on a 17 -0 run to take a 22-5 lead. Kalin hit 3 treys in that span to pace UNI...UNI led at the under 12 break 18-5.....After making their first 2 shots, MSU then missed their next 13 shots and committed 6 turnovers. Garrison jumper at the 8:25 mark to end the drought that started at the 18:34 mark...UNI continued to lead at the under 8 break 27-9...MSU committed 8 turnovers in the first 11 plus minutes that UNI converted into 10 points...UNI remained out in front at the under 4 minute break 33-13...At the half, UNI led 35-15. MSU's 15 point production is a season low. This is the third time that the Lady Bears have been held under 20 points in a half. The other two times came on Dec. 5th vs. Arkansas State and Jan. 2nd against Evansville...UNI did most of their damage with their two starting post players on the bench with foul issues. Lizzie Boeck went to the bench at the 8:55 mark with her second foul and Erin Brocka picked up her third foul at the 4:10 mark at the half.

SECOND HALF RECAP - MSU