

# DRAKE BASKETBALL

## 2001-02



www.drakebulldogs.org

### 2001-02 DRAKE BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Nov. 1	DREAM BUILDERS (EXHB.)	W, 97-88
Nov. 8	LITHUANIA (EXHB.)	W, 103-82
Nov. 16	Sam Houston State*	W, 74-65
Nov. 18	Hawaii*	L, 74-63
Nov. 23	@Oral Roberts	W, 73-68
Nov. 27	@Western Illinois	L, 80-74
Dec. 6	ARKANSAS-PINE BLUFF	W, 93-64
Dec. 9	INDIANA STATE	W, 85-71
Dec. 12	@Iowa	L, 101-59
Dec. 15	IOWA STATE	W, 72-58
Dec. 22	NORTHERN ILLINOIS	L, 79-57
Dec. 27	@Florida Atlantic	L, 79-71
Dec. 30	DENVER	W, 72-68
Jan. 2	@Northern Iowa	L, 71-56
Jan. 5	@Bradley	L, 68-65
Jan. 10	ILLINOIS STATE	7:05 p.m.
Jan. 12	@Wichita State	7:05 p.m.
Jan. 16	@Evansville	7:05 p.m.
Jan. 20	NORTHERN IOWA	1:05 p.m.
Jan. 24	SOUTHERN ILLINOIS	7:05 p.m.
Jan. 26	@Illinois State	7:05 p.m.
Jan. 30	WICHITA STATE	7:05 p.m.
Feb. 2	EVANSVILLE	7:05 p.m.
Feb. 6	@SW Missouri State	7:05 p.m.
Feb. 9	@Southern Illinois	7:05 p.m.
Feb. 13	CREIGHTON	7:05 p.m.
Feb. 16	BRADLEY	7:05 p.m.
Feb. 19	@Indiana State	6:05 p.m.
Feb. 23	SW MISSOURI STATE	7:05 p.m.
Feb. 25	@Creighton	7:05 p.m.
Mar. 1-5	MVC Tournament (St. Louis, Mo.)	
	*Honolulu, Hawaii	

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#### DRAKE BASKETBALL ON RADIO

KXTK Radio (940 AM) is the flagship station of Drake basketball with Mike Newell and Al Lorenzen handling the broadcasting chores. The games also can be heard on the internet at: [www.drakebulldogs.org](http://www.drakebulldogs.org)  
[www.kxtk940.com](http://www.kxtk940.com)

#### WEEKLY RADIO, TV SHOWS

The Kurt Kanaskie Television Show can be seen at 10 a.m. Sundays on WOI-TV, Channel 5, in Des Moines.

The Kurt Kanaskie Radio Show is broadcast Tuesdays from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. on KXTK before an audience at Applebee's Restuarant in Clive.

### DRAKE BULLDOGS (6-7, 1-2 MVC) vs. ILLINOIS STATE REDBIRDS (5-9, 1-2 MVC)

7:05 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 10, 2002

Drake Knapp Center (7,002), Des Moines, Iowa

#### PROBABLE STARTING LINEUP

Drake Bulldogs (Coach: Kurt Kanaskie, sixth year)

Pos.	Player (Ht., Yr., Hometown)	PPG	RPG	FG%	FT%
G-24	David Newman (5-11, Jr., Des Moines, Iowa)	5.0	2.2	.315	.900
G-25	Luke McDonald (6-6, So., Lubbock, Texas)	19.0	3.6	.449	.867
C-40	Greg Danielson (6-9, Jr., Des Moines, Iowa)	9.8	7.1	.547	.620
F-4	J.J. Sola (6-7, Jr., Mission Viejo, Calif.)	12.3	3.8	.557	.574
F-21	Andry Sola (6-8, Jr., Oakville, Ontario, Canada)	12.8	5.2	.415	.711

#### TOP RESERVES

F-3	T.J. Welton (6-6, Jr., Des Moines, Iowa)	0.9	1.0	.286	.000
G-12	Lonnie Randolph (6-1, Fr., East Chicago, Ind.)	3.2	1.5	.268	.700
F-20	Aaron Knight (6-4, 233, Sr., Louisville, Ky.)	5.4	4.5	.317	.658
C-32	Mike O'Neill (6-10, Sr., Lowell, Ind.)	0.7	1.2	.500	.667
F-35	David Bancroft (6-9, Fr., Marshfield, Mo.)	1.9	1.5	.474	.875

#### Illinois State Redbirds (Coach: Tom Richardson, third year)

Pos.	Player (Ht., Yr., Hometown)	PPG	RPG	FG%	FT%
G-15	Randy Rice (6-0, Sr., Springfield, Ill.)	4.1	2.1	.339	.762
G-21	Shawn Jeppson (6-2, Sr., Spring Valley, Ill.)	11.3	1.7	.448	.885
C-23	Baboucarr Bojang (6-9, Jr., Greenville, S.C.)	14.6	7.6	.523	.708
F-2	Gregg Alexander (6-4, Fr., Lincoln, Ill.)	9.7	3.5	.425	.727
F-33	Shedrick Ford (6-5, Sr., Macon, Ga.)	11.1	4.2	.433	.686

#### TOP RESERVES

F-4	Dirk Williams (6-8, So., Pekin, Ill.)	4.1	2.9	.328	1000
C-5	Andy Strandmark (6-11, Jr., Geneseo, Ill.)	2.6	2.1	.484	.583
G-11	Vince Greene (5-9, So., Chicago, Ill.)	5.4	0.7	.290	.867
F-40	Casey Reid (6-7, Jr., Las Vegas, Nev.)	2.3	2.0	.500	.500

**THE SETTING:** Drake hopes a return to the friendly confines of the Knapp Center is the perfect remedy for a road weary team that has lost four of its last five games. This is the Bulldogs' lone home encounter during a five-game stretch which includes upcoming road games at Wichita State Saturday and Evansville Jan. 16.

Drake stands 4-1 at home, winning its only previous league encounter in the Knapp Center, trimming Indiana State, 85-71, in its Dec. 9 MVC opener.

Illinois State, coming off an 81-71 home victory against Wichita State Monday, is 0-5 on the road. The Redbirds lost their only league road game, falling at Southern Illinois, 79-58, last Saturday.

**THE SERIES:** This will be the 52nd meeting in the series which started in 1974 with Illinois State owning a 35-16 lead. But Drake has won three of the last four games, sweeping the 2000-01 season series. The Bulldogs also have won the last two games played in Des Moines.

**LAST YEAR:** Here's a look back at Drake games in 2000-01 with Illinois State:

**Drake 77, Illinois State 68 (Jan. 17, 2001, Des Moines)** — Senior guard **Aaron Thomas** scored a career-high 24 points as Drake, playing with just seven players, beat an Illinois State team which had entered the game with the best overall record of any school in the league at 11-2, while also winning its last two MVC road games.

## GAINING NATIONAL RESPECT

Drake, along with Hawaii, Pittsburgh, Oklahoma State, Oregon, UAB and Virginia Tech, were named by CollegeInsider.com as teams to watch during the 2001-02 season.

*"It's (Drake) a pretty good basketball team on the rise...It has been a while since the Bulldogs were a factor in the Valley. That should change this season."*

COLLEGEINSIDER.COM

## ILLINOIS STATE SERIES NOTES

**Overall**—Illinois State leads, 35-16  
**in Des Moines**—Illinois State leads, 12-10  
**In Normal**—Illinois State leads, 20-5  
**Neutral Site**—Illinois State leads, 3-1

## 2001-02 Statistical Comparison

Drake		Illinois State
70.3	Scoring Avg.	66.7
72.8	Def. Avg.	71.8
.435	FG%	.427
.463	Opp. FG%	.491
.356	3-pt. FG %	.332
.410	Opp. 3-pt. FG%	.336
.699	FT%	.751
34.5	Reb. Avg.	30.4
33.0	Opp. Reb.	34.7
14.1	Assist Avg.	14.1
14.4	TO Avg.	15.9
1.0	Blk. Avg.	1.4
4.8	Steal Avg.	7.0

## Drake Home-Road Breakdown

Home Games		Road Games
75.8	Scoring Avg.	66.8
68.0	Defensive Avg.	75.7
.445	FG Percentage	.428
.376	Opp. FG Percentage	.474
.373	3-PT. FG Percentage	.344
8.2	3-PT. Baskets Made	6.7
35.6	Rebounding Avg.	33.8
11.0	Turnover Avg.	16.5

## ANALYZING DRAKE'S RETURNING VETERANS

	Career Games Played-Started
Greg Danielson	70 38
Luke McDonald	41 35
Andry Sola	40 30
Aaron Knight	38 11
Mike O'Neill	14 2

## 2001-02 HONORS & AWARDS

### Luke McDonald

Preseason All-MVC Team  
 Hawaii Tip Off All-Tournament Team  
 MVC Player of Week Nov. 19  
 MVC Player of Week Dec. 16

### Andry Sola

Hawaii Tip Off All-Tournament Team

Four players rotated at point guard for Drake with the absence of **Lamont Evans**, who was leading the MVC in assists. Thomas started at point guard with **Andry Sola**, **Luke McDonald** and **Aaron Knight** also playing point guard.

Drake went the last eight minutes 13 seconds without a basket but won the game by scoring its last 16 points at the free-throw line. The Bulldogs set both a school and Drake Knapp Center record with 37 free throws in 52 attempts. Drake made just seven baskets in the second half, but connected on 26 free throws.

Thomas had scored a combined 21 points in his previous 12 games before his outburst. He had entered the game with 34 points for the entire season. A three-point basket by Thomas with 8:14 left gave the Bulldogs their biggest lead of the game at 61-41.

Sola collected 18 points and 11 rebounds. Sola tallied 14 points in the second half and scored Drake's last seven points – all at the free-throw line in the final 55.2 seconds.

Senior **Joey Gaw** added 15 points and seven rebounds for Drake. **Greg Danielson** pulled down a then career-high 12 rebounds for the Bulldogs who outrebounded Illinois State, 42-30.

A jumper by Thomas gave Drake a 5-2 lead it would never relinquish. The Bulldogs took advantage of a 7:53 stretch in which Illinois State failed to hit a basket, expanding the lead to 20-7 before Tarise Bryson halted the drought with a layup with 10:03 left.

**Drake 81, Illinois State 78 (Feb. 26, 2001, Normal)**—**Luke McDonald** tied a school freshman record with 31 points as the Bulldogs halted a 43-game Missouri Valley Conference road losing streak.

McDonald hit three free throws after he was fouled attempting a three-point basket with 1:05 left to rally Drake into an 80-78 lead. The Bulldogs then held off Illinois State three times in the final minute. McDonald took a charge when Illinois State guard Tarise Bryson jumped into him attempting a shot from the left wing with 47 seconds left.

After Drake's **Andry Sola** missed a basket, Bryson missed an opportunity to tie the game with a running jumper outside the key with 12 seconds. Drake's **Aaron Knight** grabbed the rebound and Sola was fouled with 6.8 seconds left, making one of two free throws to account for the final margin.

Sola finished with 19 points and nine rebounds, while center **Greg Danielson** added 10 points. McDonald, who made all seven free throw attempts, also hit four three-point baskets. Sola hit seven of 10 free throws.

The Bulldogs owned a 38-34 halftime lead and then shot 53.6 percent in the second half. A basket by **Joey Gaw** with 16:49 left gave Drake its biggest lead of the game at 47-38. There were nine lead changes and five ties in the last 11 minutes of the game.

**THE COACHES:** **Kurt Kanaskie**, the dean of Iowa's Division I coaches, was named Drake's 22nd head coach April 8, 1996. He was runner-up for 2001 Missouri Valley Conference Coach of the Year.

The 43-year-old native of Enola, Pa., is in his 17th year as a collegiate head coach, owning a 251-214 record (.540), including a 44-107 record in six years at Drake. Kanaskie posted a 55-32 record at Lock Haven from 1985-88 and a 152-75 record during eight seasons at Indiana University of Pennsylvania (1988-96).

Kanaskie, a 1980 graduate of LaSalle, was named *Basketball Times* NCAA Division II Co-Coach of the Year in 1993-94 and 1994-95. He was selected as the *National Association of Basketball Coaches* Division II East Region Coach of the Year in 1986-87 and was named the Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference Coach of the Year in 1986-87. He was also the PSAC West Division Coach of the Year four times (1986-87, 1987-88, 1993-94, 1994-95).

**Tom Richardson**, a 1977 graduate of St. Xavier, is in his third year as head coach of Illinois State with a 35-38 record, including a 17-21 Missouri Valley Conference mark. Richardson, 47, was an assistant coach with the Redbirds from 1993-99 before succeeding Kevin Stallings in 1999.

He also served as a head coach at Nazareth Academy (Ill.) High School, posting a 193-46 record from 1980-93.

**WILL THE REAL DRAKE TEAM PLEASE STAND UP:** With only two seniors on the team, inconsistency has plagued Drake throughout the season. The winning margin in Drake's six victories has been 12.5 points, including a 72-58 victory past two-time defending Big 12 Conference champion Iowa State. The losses have been by average of 15.2 points. Drake has averaged 14.6 turnovers in its seven losses, including a season-high 21 at Northern Iowa Jan. 2. In its six victories, the Bulldogs have averaged 14.1 turnovers.

**QUICK NOTES:** When Drake beat Denver Dec. 30, it marked the first time it won a game in which the Bulldogs had been outrebounded. Drake has been outrebounded five times (Western Illinois, Iowa, Northern Illinois, Florida Atlantic, Denver) this season, losing four games...Drake has trailed at the half in seven games this season (Oral Roberts, Iowa, Iowa State, Northern Illinois, Florida Atlantic, Northern Iowa), losing four...Drake is averaging 7.3 three-point field goals made per game as a team...Drake has made more free throws (221) than its opponents have attempted (152-214).

**MCDONALD STILL HAS THE TOUCH:** **Luke McDonald** is considered one of the best pure shooters in the country. He had the highest three-point field goal percentage (.460) of any freshman in the NCAA last year and ranked seventh overall among all classes.

Last season's Missouri Valley Conference Freshman of the Year has picked up where he left off by ranking second in the MVC in scoring (19.0). McDonald set a MVC freshman record with 86 treys last season and is on pace to better that Drake single-season mark this winter.

## 2001-02 MISSOURI VALLEY CONFERENCE STANDINGS

	League		Overall	
	W	L	W	L
Southern Illinois	3	0	13	2
Northern Iowa	3	0	8	4
Southwest Missouri State	2	1	7	8
Creighton	2	1	7	5
Wichita State	1	2	7	7
Drake	1	2	6	7
Bradley	1	2	4	8
Indiana State	1	2	3	9
Illinois State	1	2	5	9
Evansville	0	3	3	9

### Wednesday, Jan. 9 Games

Evansville at Creighton, 7:05 p.m.

### Thursday, Jan. 10 Games

Northern Iowa at Indiana State, 6:05 p.m.

Bradley at Southwest Missouri State, 7:05 p.m.

Illinois State at Drake, 7:05 p.m.

Southern Illinois at Wichita State, 7:05 p.m.

### Saturday, Jan. 12 Games

Indiana State at Illinois State, 4 p.m.

Drake at Wichita State, 7:05 p.m.

Northern Iowa at Southern Illinois, 7:05 p.m.

### Sunday, Jan. 13 Games

Bradley at Evansville, 1:05 p.m.

Creighton at Southwest Missouri State, 2:05 p.m.

## DRAKE CAREER 3PT LEADERS

1. Armand LeVasseur (1996-2000)	178
3. Lynnrick Rogers (1993-97)	151
B.J. Windhorst (1994-96)	151
5. LUKE McDONALD (2000-current)	131

## MCDONALD NAMED

### TO PRESEASON ALL-MVC TEAM

Drake's **Luke McDonald** became the first sophomore in over 12 years to be selected to the Missouri Valley Conference preseason all-league team.

McDonald, the 2001 MVC Freshman of the Year, averaged 14.7 points last year which was the best of any newcomer in the league. He also ranked seventh nationally in three-point percentage at .460.

## DRAKE DOUBLE-DOUBLES

### Andry Sola (3)

#### 2000-01

Illinois State— 18 pts., 11 rebs.

Southern Illinois—19 pts., 12 rebs.

Evansville— 21 pts., 13 rebs.

### Greg Danielson (2)

#### 2001-02

Ark.-Pine Bluff— 16 pts., 17 rebs.

#### 2000-01

Northern Iowa—11 pts., 13 rebs.

## DRAKE IN MVC STATISTICS

### 3PT Field Goals Per Game

1. Luke McDonald 45 (3.46)

### Scoring

2. Luke McDonald 19.0 ppg

### Free Throw Percentage

4. Luke McDonald .867

### Field Goal Percentage

4. J.J. Sola .557

8. Greg Danielson .547

### 3PT Field Goal Percentage

6. Luke McDonald .429

### Rebounding

7. Greg Danielson 7.5

With 15 games still remaining in the season McDonald should surpass last year's scoring average when he led all first-year players in the MVC with a 14.8 avg. (412). He already has scored 247 points this winter.

He has made an MVC high 45 three-point baskets this season, making six treys in games against Hawaii and Arkansas-Pine Bluff. He has moved into fourth place on the school career three-point basket list with 131 treys. McDonald is also on his way to bettering his previous single season school mark of 86 treys.

McDonald has also changed his game from last season. In the first 13 games of his collegiate career last season, McDonald went to the free-throw line just 20 times, making 17 attempts.

He improved his penetration to the basket during the off-season and it has paid dividends as evidenced by making 52-of-60 free throws — an average of 4.6 free throw attempts per game — while hitting at an 86.7 percent clip. McDonald also has been involved in six three-point plays in which he was fouled while making a basket, converting all six free throws.

**SOLID POINT GUARD PLAY:** Junior **David Newman** and freshman **Lonnie Randolph** have combined to provide Drake with solid point guard play, averaging 5.6 assists per game. The duo's combined assist to turnover ratio is 2.2-to-1 (72-33).

Despite coming off the bench, Randolph has an **assist/turnover ratio at 1.9-to-1** based on a team-high 38 assists compared to just 20 turnovers.

Newman, a transfer from Northwestern, has started 11 games. But Randolph and Newman are each averaging 20 minutes of playing time. Randolph is averaging a team-high 2.9 assists, while Newman is averaging 2.6 assists.

Randolph dished out seven assists during an eight-minute span in the first half against Sam Houston State.

**STEPPING UP:** Junior center **Greg Danielson** is shooting 56.5 percent from the floor in his last nine games.

Danielson had 16 points and collected a career-high 17 rebounds against Arkansas-Pine Bluff Dec. 6, while tying a career high with five assists. It marked the sixth time in his career that Danielson has collected 10 or more rebounds in a game.

The 17 rebounds against Arkansas-Pine Bluff also tied the MVC single-game high held and also were the most by a Drake player since William Celestine collected 17 rebounds at Florida A&M, Dec. 29, 1994.

Danielson collected 16 points, hitting both three-point attempts, and matched a career high with five assists in Drake's 85-71 victory past Indiana State Dec. 9. He had 15 points, six rebounds and four assists at Iowa Dec. 12.

Danielson ranks eighth in the Missouri Valley Conference in field goal percentage (.547) and seventh in rebounding with a 7.1 average. He has led Drake in rebounding in nine games this season. He had 13 rebounds in the 2000-01 season finale against Northern Iowa and opened the 2001-02 campaign with 10 against Sam Houston State.

**PLAYER PLAUDITS:** When sophomore guard **Luke McDonald** scored 25 points at Bradley Saturday, it marked the 13th time he has scored 20 or more points in a game. Ironically, eight of those games have been on the road, including a career-high 31 points at Illinois State Feb. 18...Junior guard **David Newman** collected a career-high nine rebounds against Indiana State, surpassing his previous best of five when he played for Northwestern...Senior **Aaron Knight**, making just his third collegiate start, collected career highs of 16 points and seven rebounds in the season opener against Sam Houston State...Junior reserve forward **T.J. Welton** had four steals in just 16 minutes of action against Sam Houston State.

**IT'S IN THE NAME:** No, **Andry Sola** and **J.J. Sola** are not related, but the duo is expected to be major cogs on Drake's frontline this winter.

Andry Sola ranks second on the team in scoring (12.8), rebounding (5.2) and three-point baskets

## 2001-02 Drake Numerical Roster

No.	Name	P	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	Hometown (Previous School)
3	T.J. Welton	G-F	6-6	215	Jr.-Tr.	Des Moines, Iowa/Kirkwood (Iowa) JC
4	J.J. Sola	F	6-7	230	Jr.-Tr.	Mission Viejo, Calif./Fullerton (Calif.) JC
12	Lonnie Randolph	G	6-1	162	Fr.	East Chicago, Ind./Merrillville HS
15	Brian Hogan	G	6-1	171	Fr.	Fort Madison, Iowa/Fort Madison HS
20	Aaron Knight*	G	6-4	233	Sr.-Tr	Louisville, Ky./St. Catharine (Ky.) JC
21	Andry Sola*	F	6-8	216	Jr.-Tr.	Oakville, Ontario, Canada/George Washington
24	David Newman	G	5-11	183	Jr.-Tr.	Des Moines, Iowa/Northwestern University
25	Luke McDonald*	G	6-6	215	So.	Lubbock, Texas/Frenship HS
32	Mike O'Neill	C	6-10	275	Sr.-Tr.	Lowell, Ind./New Mexico Military Institute
35	David Bancroft	F	6-7	209	Fr.	Marshfield, Mo./Marshfield HS
40	Greg Danielson**	F-C	6-9	267	Jr.	Des Moines, Iowa/Hoover HS
44	Eric Regan	F	6-4	222	Fr.	St. Charles, Ill./East HS

\* denotes letters earned

**Head Coach:** Kurt Kanaskie

**Associate Head Coach:** Marty Bell

**Assistant Coaches:** Chris Davis, Kevin Reynolds

**Student Assistant:** Justin Ohl

**Kanaskie's Drake Record:** 44-108/six years **Kanaskie's Overall Record:** 251-215/17 years

## MVC TELECONFERENCES

Teleconferences with the Missouri Valley Conference head coaches are conducted each Tuesday through Feb.26. The conferences begin at 10 a.m. The coaches appear in alphabetical order by school with Coach Kanaskie speaking at 10:15 a.m. To become a part of the MVC teleconference, call 913-981-5509.

## IOWA PREP STANDOUTS SIGN DURING FALL RECRUITING PERIOD

**Josh Powell**, a six-foot, 8-inch forward from Lincoln High School in Des Moines, and **Shawn Wumkes**, a 6-10 center from Garner-Hayfield High School, have signed national letters of intent at Drake during the fall signing period, indicating they will join the Bulldog basketball program.

Wumkes, entering his third year as a starter, is ranked among the top 100-150 national high school prospects by *Bob Gibbons All-Star Report* and among the 200 high school players in the country by *Athlon Sports College Basketball*. He earned all-tournament honors at the Spiece Run N' Slam Classic for the winning Martin Brothers Iowa Select Amateur team.

He averaged 13.0 points, 7.0 rebounds 2.8 steals and 2.3 blocked shots as a junior while earning first-team all-North Iowa Conference honors and honorable mention Iowa Class 2A all-state honors. He shot 59.2 percent from the floor and tied a school single game record with eight steals against Northwood-Kensett. He also blocked a school-record 10 blocked shots as a freshman.

Powell averaged 21.8 points and 11.3 rebounds, while earning second-team Class 4A all-state honors as a junior last year. Entering his third year as a starter, Powell was a unanimous first-team all-conference and all-district choice as both a sophomore and junior.

Powell was named to the elite all-CIML team while also guiding Lincoln to the Central Iowa Metropolitan League Metro Conference title. He shot 52 percent last year, while averaging 2.5 assists, 1.9 blocked shots and 1.5 steals.

### 2001-02 MVC PRESEASON POLL

1. Illinois State	293
2. Creighton	232
3. Indiana State	224
4. Southern Illinois	212
5. Southwest Missouri State	184
6. Bradley	155
7. Evansville	122
8. Drake	117
9. Wichita State	70
10. Northern Iowa	41

(20). J.J. Sola is averaging 12.3 points and ranks second on the team in shooting, hitting 57.4 percent.

**MCDONALD HONORED AGAIN:** For the second time in five weeks, Drake sophomore guard **Luke McDonald** was named the Missouri Valley Conference Player of the Week for the period ending Dec. 16.

The 6-foot 6-inch guard averaged 18 points in games against intrastate rivals Iowa and Iowa State, while making eight three-point baskets. McDonald scored a season-high 27 points, while making five treys to spark the Bulldogs to a 72-58 home victory past Iowa State Dec. 15.

McDonald becomes the first two-time recipient of the MVC Player of the Week honors this season. He also was named the first MVC Player of the Week Nov. 19 for his efforts in the Hawaii Nike Tip-Off Tournament. McDonald averaged 22 points and three rebounds, while being named to the all-tournament team. He tallied 26 points, including six three-point baskets, in the championship game against host Hawaii.

McDonald ranks second in the Missouri Valley Conference in scoring with a 19.1 average, while leading the league with 26 three-point baskets for a 3.3 average per game. He ranks sixth among active career players in the Missouri Valley Conference with 112 three-point baskets.

**COMEBACK KIDS:** It is always difficult to win on the road, but the challenge is even harder when teams have to overcome double-digit deficits. Yet, in each of Drake's two road wins this season Drake erased a 10-0 deficit to whip Sam Houston State, 74-65, and then rallied from a 26-12 deficit to earn a 73-68 triumph at Oral Roberts.

**IN THE DRAKE KNAPP CENTER:** The Bulldogs own a 66-58 home record since the Drake Knapp Center was opened in 1992, including a 30-12 nonconference mark. The Bulldogs have won 19 of their last 23 nonconference home games. Drake has a 3-6 record against Illinois State in the Knapp Center.

**FREE THROWS DOOM 'DOGS:** Reserve Michael Stewart scored seven points in a span of 3 minutes 41 seconds late in the game to spark Bradley to a 68-65 Missouri Valley Conference victory past Drake Saturday night.

Drake held Bradley without a basket for the last 2:17 of the game after Stewart had given Bradley a 61-56 lead following a seven-foot jumper from the left baseline. But the Braves' James Gillingham made six straight free throws in the last 24 seconds to seal the victory.

Sophomore **Luke McDonald** scored a game-high 25 points for Drake including five three-point baskets. Junior **J.J. Sola**, held scoreless in the first half, ignited a second-half comeback by Drake. He scored eight points to fuel a 14-2 run allowing the Bulldogs to turn a 49-38 deficit into a 52-51 lead with 7:06 left.

Sola scored six straight points, including two free throws to give the Bulldogs their first lead since the first half. The Bulldogs also forced Bradley into five turnovers during the rally. J.J. Sola finished with 16 points for Drake. His three-point basket at the top of the key pulled Drake within 64-63 with nine seconds left. Gillingham responded with two free throws with eight seconds left to push the Bradley lead to 66-63.

McDonald was fouled with two seconds left and converted two free throws to pull Drake within 66-65. Gillingham made two more free throws to account for the final margin. A halfcourt shot by Drake's **David Newman** fell short at the buzzer.

**Greg Danielson** added 11 points and nine rebounds for Drake before fouling out with 1:23 left. Drake shot 40 percent from the floor and outrebounded Bradley, 37-31. **Andry Sola** added seven rebounds, while McDonald collected five rebounds.

Drake limited Bradley to just 29.2 percent shooting in the second half. Drake's Aaron Knight had three steals.

Bradley, behind Gillingham's 11 points, shot 52 percent in the first half to build a 34-28 lead. There were seven lead changes in the first half before the Braves took advantage of a 4 minute 14 second drought in which Drake failed to make a basket. That allowed Bradley to score five straight points en route to a 27-21 lead.

McDonald scored 10 of Drake's last 13 points in the first half, including two consecutive three-point baskets to close out the period.

**TURNOVERS PLAGUE DRAKE:** Drake committed a season-high 21 turnovers en route to dropping a 71-56 Missouri Valley Conference verdict to Northern Iowa Jan. 2.

Northern Iowa scored nine points off Drake turnovers in the opening five minutes of the game to race to a 16-7 lead.

The Panthers never cooled off in the first half, shooting 53.8 percent from the floor to erect a 38-26 halftime lead with Robbie Sieverding and Aaron Middendorf scoring 12 and 10 points, respectively. Sieverding finished with 18 points.

Drake made just two baskets in the opening 8 minutes 51 seconds of the second half while Northern Iowa went on a 21-6 outburst to expand its advantage to 59-32 following a basket by Sieverding.

Sophomore **Luke McDonald** led Drake with 20 points, including 17 in the second half. He made seven of eight shots from the floor, while hitting all four three-point attempts. Junior **J.J. Sola** added 13 points for the Bulldogs.

McDonald made his lone field goal attempt - a three-point basket - in the first half but then sat out the final 9 minutes 40 seconds of the period after drawing his second foul on a charge.

**MURPHY, TILLMAN TO REDSHIRT:** Drake junior guard **Armon Tillman**, a transfer from Midland (Texas) Junior College, and freshman forward **Quantel Murphy**, will be redshirted for the 2001-02 season.

Tillman has been hit by an assortment of injuries, including a sprained ankle during the preseason which hampered his progress. He has appeared in just three games, averaging 2.0 points and 1.3 rebounds.

"A redshirt season would be beneficial for Armon because he needs to get healthy," said Kanaskie. "He also has been battling asthma which has slowed his progress."

The Houston, Texas, native was a two-year starter at Midland (Texas) Junior College, earning first team All-Western Junior College honors in 2000-01. He averaged 9.4 points and 2.7 rebounds, while making 40 three-point baskets to lead Midland to a 23-8 record.

Murphy averaged 16.3 points and 7.5 rebounds, while guiding George Washington High School in Denver to runner up in the 2001 Colorado Class 5A state championship game. He earned first-team All-Denver Prep League honors and played in the Colorado Coaches Association All-Star game, scoring 18 points with an array of dunks.

**HOMESTATE TALENT:** Drake's roster includes five players from Iowa headed by juniors **Greg Danielson**, **David Newman** and **T.J. Welton** who led Hoover High School to runner-up in the 1998 Iowa Class 4A state tournament. Danielson is in his second year as a starter, while Newman is the starting point guard after transferring from Northwestern University. Welton was redshirted last season after transferring from Kirkwood Junior College.

Freshman guard **Adam Fenton** was named the 2001 Iowa Basketball Coaches Association Class 2A Player of the Year after averaging 26.7 points and 3.9 rebounds at Eddyville-Blakesburg High School. Freshman guard **Brian Hogan** earned first team All-Southeast Seven Conference honors last year at Fort Madison High School.

**A LOOK BACK:** Drake, with just two seniors on the roster, recently concluded a schedule that no other school in the Missouri Valley Conference will encounter this season by playing three straight games in a seven-day period against teams which competed in the 2001 NCAA Tournament. The Bulldogs opened the stretch Dec. 9 with an 85-71 home victory past Indiana State which advanced to the second round of the 2001 NCAA Tournament. Following a disappointing loss to No. 15 ranked Iowa Dec. 12, Drake rebounded with an impressive 72-58 victory Dec. 15 against two-time defending Big 12 Conference champion Iowa State.

**ROAD WARRIORS:** Drake earned its second victory on the road with a 73-68 triumph at Oral Roberts Nov. 23 to equal its entire output of two road wins last year. Oral Roberts also had won its last three home games against MVC schools (Creighton, Northern Iowa, Southwest Missouri State) in the Mabee Center.

**'DOGS WIN TUNE UP:** Sophomore guard **Luke McDonald** scored 22 points, including 14 in the second half, as Drake won its final nonconference game with a 72-68 victory past Denver Dec. 30.

McDonald scored seven points to ignite a 10-0 run that enabled Drake to turn a 51-48 deficit into a 59-53 advantage. McDonald made a three-point basket to tie the score at 51-51 and then closed out the comeback with a three-point basket with 5:39 left in the game.

The Bulldogs went the last 4 minutes 12 seconds of the game without a basket but sealed the victory by making 10 of 14 free throws down the stretch.

Junior forward **J.J. Sola** added 13 points, including seven in a 3:29 stretch late in the game to help preserve the victory. Junior guard **David Newman** added 10 points for the Bulldogs who shot 47.6 percent from the floor.

Denver shot 51 percent from the field and outrebounded Drake, 30-24. It marked the first time in five outings Drake had won a game in which it had been outrebounded. There were 10 lead changes in the game. A three-point basket by **Lonnie Randolph** gave Drake its biggest lead at 31-23.

**RALLY FALLS SHORT:** Drake held Florida Atlantic to just one basket in the last 6 minutes 48 seconds of the game but the host Owls hit four clutch free throws in the final 42 seconds to hold off the Bulldogs, 79-71, Dec. 27.

Drake dug itself in a hole early falling behind 11-1. Florida Atlantic shot a sizzling 63.6 percent in the second half to extend a 42-29 intermission lead into a 59-42 advantage.

But **Andry Sola**, **J.J. Sola** and **Luke McDonald** fueled a furious comeback by scoring 26 of Drake's last 27 points. Andry Sola and McDonald each netted 10 points during the surge.

Drake pulled within 75-71 following a three-point basket by McDonald with 59.7 seconds left. Following a missed free throw by Florida Atlantic's Daryl Dingle with 58.8 seconds, the Bulldogs had a chance to further chop into the four-point deficit but McDonald's three-point attempt from the right wing was short with 42.4 seconds left.

Six-foot 10-inch Florida Atlantic center Raheim Brown made two free throws to push the lead to 77-71. McDonald then missed another three-point attempt and the Owls sealed the victory with two free throws by guard Earnest Crumbley with 21 seconds left.

Andry Sola finished with 21 points to pace Drake, while McDonald added 18 points including four three-point baskets. **Greg Danielson** added 13 points and six rebounds. **J.J. Sola** scored 12 points, coming off the bench by making five of seven shots.

The Owls, who entered the game shooting just 41.9 percent, finished the game hitting 55.4 percent, while tying a season high with nine three-point baskets.

**'DOGS SUFFER 1ST HOME LOSS:** Leon Rodgers posted his fifth double-double of the season, while triggering a second-half explosion that enabled Northern Illinois to post a 79-57 nonconference victory past Drake Dec. 22, snapping the Bulldogs' three-game home winning streak.

Rodgers scored 16 of his team-high 19 points in the second half, while matching a season high with 13 rebounds. The Huskies finished the game, shooting 53.4 percent from the floor, including 55.6 percent in the second half. Northern Illinois outrebounded Drake, 47-29.

The Huskies took advantage of ice cold shooting by Drake. The Bulldogs shot a season-low 31.7 percent from the floor. Drake went nearly seven minutes without scoring a basket in the second half.

**Andry Sola** broke out of a shooting slump by matching a previous season high with 21 points. Sola, who had made just two of 15 shots from the floor in his last two games, hit eight of 12 shots, including two three-point baskets. **Greg Danielson** added 12 points.

The Huskies outscored Drake, 10-2 in the last 3:46 of the first half to turn a 28-28 tie into a 38-30 intermission lead. Rodgers scored seven points during a 25-10 scoring spree that enabled Northern Illinois to enjoy its biggest lead of the game at 74-49 with 5:23 left. A three-point basket by **Luke McDonald** gave Drake its biggest lead of the game at 24-19.

**MCDONALD KEYS WIN VS. CYCLONES:** **Luke McDonald** scored a season-high 27 points, including 16 in the second half, to pace the Bulldogs to a 72-58 victory past Iowa State Dec. 15.

It marked the Bulldogs' third straight home victory past Iowa State in the series, which is the oldest college basketball rivalry in the state of Iowa. It also was Drake's widest margin of victory against Iowa State since a 72-56 victory in Des Moines Dec. 19, 1981. There were seven ties in this 161<sup>st</sup> meeting between the schools before freshman **Lonnie Randolph** made three straight free throws with 8:45 left to give Drake a 50-47 lead it never relinquished. Drake sealed the victory by making seven of eight free throws in the final 1:25. The Bulldogs shot 59.1 percent in the second half to rally from a 30-28 halftime deficit.

McDonald opened the game by making four of his first five shots from the floor. He finished the game, hitting five three-point baskets, while extending his streak to 36 consecutive games in having made a trey.

**David Newman** added a season-high 11 points, including three three-point baskets. The Bulldogs outrebounded Iowa State, 33-29, while limiting Iowa State forward Tyray Pearson to eight points. Pearson had a string of five straight 20-plus scoring games snapped. **Andry Sola** and **J.J. Sola** each netted nine points for Drake.

**BULLDOGS WIN MVC OPENER:** **Andry Sola**, playing in his first game since Nov. 27, scored a season-high 21 points, including 16 in the second half, to carry Drake past Indiana State, 85-71, in the Missouri Valley Conference opener for both teams Dec. 9.

Drake scored on its first six possessions, including three three-pointers in the opening minutes, to race to a 14-5 lead and never looked back against the Sycamores, who advanced to the second round of the 2001 NCAA Tournament.

**Greg Danielson** scored 13 of his 16 points in the first half to fuel the Bulldogs to a 47-32 intermission lead. The 47 points scored in the first half by the Bulldogs tied their season-high set Thursday against Arkansas-Pine Bluff. Sola, who suffered a sprained ankle in the waning minute of Drake's game at Western Illinois, came off the bench and made four three-point baskets, while collecting three assists.

**J.J. Sola's** free throw at the 3:28 mark gave the Bulldogs their largest lead at 81-63. **J.J. Sola** and **Luke McDonald** added 14 and 13 points, respectively, for Drake. The 85 points were the most scored by a Drake team in its league opener since the Bulldogs beat North Texas State, 85-73, Jan. 7, 1960.

Drake outrebounded Indiana State 41-33. **David Newman** led both teams with a career-high nine rebounds. He also chipped in a season-high eight points. Newman, Danielson and McDonald added two treys apiece for Drake which made a season-high 11 treys.

**COLD SHOOTING DOOMS 'DOGS:** Drake shot a season low 36.2 percent from the floor en route to dropping a 101-59 nonconference decision to No. 15 ranked Iowa Dec. 12. Drake dug itself in a hole early, going 5 minutes 35 seconds without a basket, while Iowa reeled off 19 straight points to turn a 17-14 lead into a 33-14 advantage. Iowa scored the last 10 points of the first half to enjoy a 55-30 intermission lead. **J.J. Sola** led Drake with 19 points, while **Greg Danielson** added 15 points. **Luke McDonald** added nine points, coming on three three-point baskets. Iowa outrebounded Drake, 42-28. Danielson led the Bulldogs with six rebounds. Drake committed 18 turnovers and Iowa scored 32 points off those Drake turnovers.

**BULLDOGS WIN HOME OPENER:** **Luke McDonald** scored 20 points to pace a balanced scoring attack as Drake rolled past Arkansas-Pine Bluff, 93-64, in its home opener Dec. 6.

**Greg Danielson** enjoyed his third career double-double with 16 points and a career-high 17 rebounds. Danielson tied an MVC season high of 17 rebounds held by Southwest Missouri State's Mike Wallace. **J.J. Sola** and **Aaron Knight** scored 16 and 15 points, respectively, for Drake.

The 93 points were the most scored by a Drake team in its home opener since the 1980-81 campaign when the Bulldogs blitzed Augustana (S.D.), 116-83. The Bulldogs showed no effects of a nine-day layoff by shooting a blistering 57.1 percent from the floor in the first half en route to enjoying a 47-31 intermission lead.

McDonald, who also collected a season-high eight rebounds, triggered a 17-0 outburst by hitting two straight three-point baskets as Drake turned a 12-9 lead into a 29-9 advantage. He finished with six three-point baskets, marking the sixth time in his career he has made six treys in a game.

Arkansas-Pine Bluff missed 11 straight shots during a 7 minute 4 second drought. **J.J. Sola** added nine rebounds as Drake outrebounded Arkansas-Pine Bluff, 51-31. The Bulldogs finished the game shooting 53.4 percent.

**MCDONALD NAMED MVC PLAYER OF WEEK:** **Luke McDonald** was named the first recipient of the 2001-02 Missouri Valley Conference Basketball Player of the Week Nov. 19 for his efforts in the Hawaii Nike Tip Off Tournament. It marked the first time a Drake player has been named the MVC Basketball Player of the Week since Nov. 23, 1999, when former Bulldog standout **Dontay Harris** was cited.

The 6-foot 6-inch guard averaged 22.0 points and 3.0 rebounds, while being named to the all-tournament team along with junior teammate **Andry Sola**. McDonald opened the tournament by scoring 18 points in Drake's 74-65 first-round victory past Sam Houston State. He tallied 26 points, including six three-point baskets, in the championship game against host Hawaii. It marked the fifth time in his career that McDonald has made six three-point baskets in a game.

**HOT FREE THROW SHOOTING DOOMS DRAKE:** The Bulldogs held Western Illinois without a basket for the last 5:18 of the game but made their last 10 free throw attempts down the stretch to earn a 80-74 nonconference home victory Nov. 27.

Drake shot 53.3 percent in the second half. Trailing 72-59, Drake scored eight straight points to pull within 70-67 but failed to score on three straight possessions. **Luke McDonald** and **Andry Sola** led Drake with 20 points apiece but Sola injured his right foot late in the game and did not return. McDonald's three-point basket with 48 seconds left pulled Drake to within 72-70, but Brian Williams made eight free throws in the final 45 seconds to seal the victory. **J.J. Sola** added 14 points for the Bulldogs.

**SECOND HALF RALLY STOPS ORAL ROBERTS:** **Luke McDonald** and **J.J. Sola** each scored 20 points while keying a second-half rally to lead Drake to a 73-68 nonconference road victory past Oral Roberts Nov. 23. McDonald and J.J. Sola combined for 23 points in the second half as the Bulldogs overcame a 40-29 halftime deficit.

Drake shot 52.4 percent from the floor but couldn't do anything right in the first half. The Bulldogs committed 12 turnovers in the first half, and made just four of 12 free throws, while missing the front end of two bonus situations. **J.J. Sola**, making his first start of the season for Drake, was the lone bright spot in the first half, tallying 11 points. **Greg Danielson** came off the bench to score all of his 14 points in the second half to help fuel Drake's rally.

Drake scored on 11 straight possessions to open the second half with a layup by Danielson, giving the Bulldogs their first lead of the game at 51-50 with 12:16 remaining. The lead changed hands 11 times before a jumper by McDonald, off a feed from **David Newman**, gave Drake a 67-66 lead, while igniting a string of six unanswered points.

**DRAKE FALLS IN HAWAII CHAMPIONSHIP:** Guard Mike McIntyre came off the bench to score a career-high 22 points, including 20 in the second half, to rally Hawaii to a 74-63 victory past stubborn Drake in the championship of the Hawaii Nike Tip Off Tournament Nov. 18.

Hawaii erased a 26-17 halftime deficit. Teammate Carl English also had 22 points, including 14 in the second half, en route to being named the most valuable player of the tournament.

Drake's **Luke McDonald** scored a game-high 26 points, including 17 in the second half. But the Bulldogs finished the game shooting just 37.7 percent from the floor, while committing 18 turnovers. Hawaii capitalized by scoring 15 points off Drake turnovers.

A stingy defense held Hawaii to just one basket in the last 10 minutes of the first half as Drake mounted a 26-17 halftime lead. A three-point play by Sola with 9:08 left in the first half broke a 15-15 tie, while igniting a string of eight straight points that gave Drake a 23-15 advantage. Hawaii opened the second half by making five of its initial nine shots with a right-wing jumper by Phil Martin tying the score at 27-27 with 17:00 left.

Drake outrebounded Hawaii, 34-29, with **Greg Danielson** grabbing a game-high seven rebounds.

**BULLDOGS RECOVER FROM SLOW START TO WIN OPENER:** Drake recovered from ice cold shooting to start the game and then held off a second-half surge by Sam Houston State to earn a 74-65 victory in the first round of the Hawaii Tip Off Classic Nov. 16.

**Luke McDonald** scored 18 points for Drake, including 10 in the second half. **Aaron Knight** and **Andry Sola** added 16 and 15 points, respectively, for the Bulldogs. Drake missed its first 14 shots of the game before Knight broke the ice with a three-point basket with 11:33 left.

Knight and freshman reserve guard **Lonnie Randolph** triggered the first-half rally as Drake used a 16-5 scoring spurt in the last 4 minutes 16 seconds to grab a 36-25 halftime lead. Knight scored eight of his 12 first-half points to fuel the surge, while Randolph dished out seven assists in just eight minutes.

Drake enjoyed a 65-51 lead following a pair of free throws by McDonald with 4:47 left. Drake closed out the game by making seven free throws in the









