

Monday, March 4, 2002

Women advance to Mid-Con title game

Oakland University's **women's basketball team** defeated Oral Roberts 74-71 to advance to the Mid-Continent Conference Tournament final.

Oakland (16-13), the number two seed, will play top seed Valparaiso (24-5) for the Mid-Con Tournament title and an automatic berth to the NCAA Tournament when they meet for the championship game Tuesday, March 5, at 6 p.m. at the War Memorial Coliseum in Fort Wayne, Ind.

A pre-game reception is planned for OU students, alumni, faculty, staff and friends from 4:30 to 6 p.m. in the Red Room of Fort Wayne's War Memorial Coliseum. Food and beverages will be served and pompons handed out to help cheer on the Golden Grizzlies.

For those unable to travel to the game, it will be broadcast on the OU Athletics Web site.

In the semifinal game, the Golden Grizzlies were led by senior Sarah Judd (Eastpointe/Harper Woods Regina) who scored 30 points. She also had five rebounds, five assists, three blocks and three steals. Katie Wolfe (Cedar Springs/Cedar Springs) scored 21 points, seven rebounds and four assists. Romica Clint (Toledo/Scott) added 18 points and a career-high 10 rebounds for her first double-double of the season.

Valparaiso, this year's Mid-Con regular-season champions, won its semifinal game at the buzzer on an up-and-under jumper by Mid-Con Newcomer of the Year Katie Boone. The Crusaders beat No. 5 Chicago State, 66-64, in overtime and advance to their third Mid-Con Tournament title game. The win was Valpo's tenth in a row, which ties the school record for consecutive wins, established by the team earlier this season.

In the first round of the tournament, OU defeated IUPUI 63-53, marking Oakland's first win over IUPUI this season. Wolfe and Judd, both first-team All-Mid-Con players, combined for 41 points.

This is OU's third appearance in the Mid-Continent Conference Tournament and the second year in a row it will compete in the championship game. Last year, the Golden Grizzlies advanced to the finals by defeating Valparaiso 76-68 and IUPUI 80-73. But Oral Roberts proved too strong in the title game and beat OU 61-46.

For Golden Grizzlies results, statistics and a team roster, visit the **OU women's basketball** Web site. To follow the team's progress at the Mid-Con Tournament or to listen to the live Web casts, see the **OU Athletics** Web site. A complete tournament bracket can be found on the **Mid-Continent Conference** Web site.

The OU men's basketball team ended its season in the first round of the men's Mid-Continent Conference Tournament by losing to IUPUI, 90-84, on Sunday, March 3.

SUMMARY

OU's women's basketball team defeated Oral Roberts 74-71 to advance to the Mid-Continent Conference Tournament final. Oakland will play Valparaiso for the tournament title and an automatic berth to the NCAA Tournament when they meet for the championship game Tuesday, March 5, at 6 p.m.

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