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**2019 WOMEN'S
WEEKEND GUIDE**



Current Standings

- First Place**..... Belmont Bruins (15-1)
- Second Place**.....Tennessee Tech (11-5)
- Third Place**.....UT Martin (11-5)
- Fourth Place**..... Morehead State (11-5)
- Fifth Place**.....APSU (9-7)
- Sixth Place**..... Jacksonville State (8-8)
- Seventh Place**..... Mu**ay State (8-8)
- Eighth Place**.....SIU Edwardsville (7-9)
- Ninth Place**.....Southeast Missouri (7-9)
- Tenth Place**.....Tennessee State (5-11)
- Eleventh Place**.....Eastern Illinois (4-12)
- Twelfth Place**.....Eastern Kentucky (0-16)



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Belmont Bruins

1st Place, 15-1, HC: Bart Brooks

Whats Left:
Thursday, Feb. 28
at UT Martin
5:30 p.m., ESPN+

Saturday, March 2
at Southeast Missouri
4:30 p.m., ESPN+

2018:
Champions
(W, vs. UT Martin 63-56)

Current Position:
1st Place

Best Potential Position:
1st Place

Worst Potential Position:
1st Place

Rest easy Bart Brooks's squad. A 15-1 conference record ensures the Bruins can not fall down in any capacity, even if they falter at UT Martin and Southeast Missouri.

The Bruins will finish the regular season as the OVC Champions for the third straight season. The early January loss to Tennessee Tech is Belmont's first conference defeat since the 2015-16 season.

Led by leading scoer Darby Maggard, the Bruins have outscored their weekend oppostion by 24 points a game heading into the bouts. Maggard was the MVP of the 2018 OVC Championship Tournament.

The three seniors of Belmont's program will look to not only give the Bruins their fourth OVC championship, but their fourth consecutive as well.



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Tennessee Tech

2nd Place, 11-5, HC: Kim Rosamond

Whats Left:

Thursday, Feb. 28
at SIU Edwardsville
5:30 p.m., ESPN+

Saturday, March 2
at Eastern Illinois
1 p.m., ESPN+

2018:

Did not qualify

Current Position:

2nd Place

Best Potential Position:

2nd Place

Worst Potential**Position:**

5th Place

The Golden Eagles support themselves at the moment. Two wins would keep them in the second position. Splitting the weekend could force a three-way tie depending on how UT Martin and Morehead State perform.

The farthest fall in that scenario would be to fourth place though. However, the Golden Eagles could drop down to the fifth position if they, the Skyhawks and Morehead State, go a collective 0-6 while the Govs grab two wins.

A four-way tie does not favor the women in purple and gold. The lowest record amongst the four potential tied teams (1 win over UT Martin and 3 losses) shuns the team from Cookeville to fifth place.



UT Martin Skyhawks

3rd Place, 11-5, HC: Kevin McMillan

Whats Left:

Thursday, Feb. 28
vs. Belmont
5:30 p.m., ESPN+

Saturday, March 2
vs. Tennessee State
1 p.m., ESPN+

2018:

Runner-Ups
(L, 63-56 vs. Belmont)

Current Position:

3rd Place

Best Potential Position:

2nd Place

Worst Potential**Position:**

5th Place

If the Skyhawks want to rise in the ranks, they need to topple both Belmont and Tennessee State on their home court and hope that Tennessee Tech slips up in the final weekend. In the event of a head-to-head with Morehead State, the Skyhawks January loss favors the Eagles.

However, UT Martin holds two wins over APSU, which favors the Skyhawks in that scenario. In a five-way stalemate, the 2-2 record among the four programs (Tennessee Tech, UT Martin, Morehead State, APSU) is the second lowest of the lot. That could lock Kevin McMillan's team to the fourth.

If Tennessee Tech is removed from the tie, but APSU and Morehead are still there, the Skyhawks and Eagles are on the wrong end of the three-way tie (both at 1-2). The head-to-head however favors Morehead State, pushing the Skyhawks down to five.



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Morehead St. Eagles

4th Place, 11-5, HC: Greg Todd

Whats Left:

Thursday, Feb. 28
vs. Mu**ay State
5:05 p.m., ESPN+

Saturday, March 2
vs. Eastern Kentucky
4:30 p.m., ESPN+

2018:

Quarterfinals
(L, 69-56 vs. Jax State)

Current Position:

4th Place

Best Potential Position:

2nd Place

Worst Potential

Position:

5th Place

Morehead State has the chance to rise to the second spot. For that to happen, they will need to sweep Mu**ay State and Eastern Kentucky. Additionally, both UT Martin and Tennessee Tech would need to lose at least once respectively.

If the Eagles go 0-2, their seeding is dictated by other results. A four-way tie favors the Eagles and Govs (3-2 among all four teams). However, the head-to-head support APSU, which puts Morehead State at third.

Those two losses for the Eagles, are both to APSU. If the Govs falter and the draw is only between the other three, the Eagles hold a 3-0 record against all competition, putting Morehead State in second place.



Austin Peay Governors

5th Place, 9-7, HC: Dave Midlick

Whats Left:

Thursday, Feb. 28
at Eastern Kentucky
4 p.m., ESPN+

Saturday, March 2
at Mu**ay State
5 p.m., ESPN+

2018:

Quarterfinals
(L, 76-43 vs. SIU
Edwardsville)

Current Position:

5th Place

Best Potential Position:

2nd Place

Worst Potential

Position:

9th Place

There is not much clarity for the Govs. Two wins, mixed with Tennessee Tech, UT Martin and Morehead State winless weekends could see APSU rise to the second spot.

A 3-2 record ties the Govs and Eagles atop that four-way break. APSU, holds the head-to-head with Morehead State, advantage Govs. Two losses could send Dave Midlick's team out early. Four teams behind the Govs, Jacksonville State, Mu**ay State, SIU Edwardsville and Southeast Missouri could jump the Govs.

Southeast Missouri and SIU Edwardsville need to win both games to force that scenario though. Despite the unlikely hood, APSU could see them fall four spots and out of the postseason if the right games go the wrong way.



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Jacksonville St. Gamecocks

6th Place, 8-8, HC: Rick Pietri

Whats Left:

Thursday, Feb. 28
at Eastern Illinois
Noon, ESPN+

Saturday, March 2
at SIU Edwardsville
2 p.m., ESPN+

2018:
Semifinals
(L, 63-53 vs. Belmont)

Current Position:
6th Place

Best Potential Position:
5th Place

Worst Potential Position:
9th Place

With Tennessee Tech, UT Martin and Morehead State all having 11 wins, Jacksonville State would only be able to leap past APSU. A 2-0 finish coupled with a 1-1 or 0-2 finish by APSU would push the Gamecocks to the fifth seed as the team from Alabama won the lone meeting between the two squads.

With games against Eastern Illinois and SIU Edwardsville, an 0-2 mark followed by Mu**ay winning at least one, the Cougars and the Redhawks posting 2-0 records would drop Jacksonville State out of the OVC Tournament picture.

Gamecock success depends on the talents of Destiney Elliot. The redshirt senior leads Jacksonville State with 11 points per game. Rick Pietris' team holds a 7-5 record on the road, something that favors the hopeful Alabama-based team.



Mu**ay St. Racers

7th Place, 8-8, HC: Rechelle Turner

Whats Left:

Thursday, Feb. 28
at Morehead State
4:05 p.m., ESPN+

Saturday, March 2
vs. APSU
5 p.m., ESPN+

2018:
Quarterfinals
(L, 88-64 vs. Belmont)

Current Position:
7th Place

Best Potential Position:
5th Place

Worst Potential Position:
9th Place

This situation is similar to that of Jacksonville State. Two wins coupled with two losses from APSU and the Gamecocks would propel the team we resent to the fifth spot.

However, they could find themselves completely out of the race with two losses and two wins coming from SIU Edwardsville and Southeast Missouri.

Mu**ay plays Morehead on Thursday and concludes the regular season at home against APSU, a potential determining battle in who gets left out of the tournament.

The Racers are 0-2 against their opponents for the weekend, a trend that needs to be corrected for Mu**ay to stay alive in the postseason. The blue and gold team from the Bluegrass state were outscored by 14.5 points in the previous meetings.



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SIU Edwardsville Cougars

8th Place, 7-9, HC: Paula Buscher

Whats Left:

Thursday, Feb. 28
vs. Tennessee Tech
5:30 p.m., ESPN+

Saturday, March 2
vs. Jacksonville State
2 p.m., ESPN+

2018:
Semifinals
(L, 68-67 vs. UT Martin)

Current Position:
8th Place

Best Potential Position:
5th Place

Worst Potential Position:
9th Place

SIU Edwardsville could potentially hop Mu**ay, Jacksonville State and APSU if all three teams went winless in the closing week and SIU Edwardsville wins out.

Like the other teams in front of them though, two losses in this last week of regular season play would be detrimental to their tournament march.

One win by Southeast Missouri and two losses for the Cougars would result in an early exit for Paula Buscher's team.

The Cougars split their games with this weekend's opposition in January by besting Jacksonville State by four and falling at Tennessee Tech by 24.

Two head-to-head wins over the Gamecocks could be vital for SIU Edwardsville to jump up in the rankings.



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SE Missouri Redhawks

9th Place, 7-9, HC: Rekha Patterson

Whats Left:

Thursday, Feb. 28
vs. Tennessee State
5:15 p.m., ESPN+

Saturday, March 2
vs. Belmont
4:30 p.m., ESPN+

2018:
Quarterfinals
(L, 63-60 vs. UT Martin)

Current Position:
9th Place

Best Potential Position:
5th Place

Worst Potential Position:
10th Place

In a rare scenario like the ones preceding Southeast Missouri, two wins with two losses from everyone in front of them could push them forward to the fifth spot in the standings.

With games against Tennessee State and Belmont however, Southeast Missouri could drop to tenth with two losses.

Tennessee State took the first meeting between these two squads so a loss on Thursday would sting.

The Redhawks went 0-2 when facing their next two opponets in less than a month ago. Rekha Patterson's team was outscored 34-3 in that three-day spell.

Southeast Missouri has lost only one conference game at the ShowMe Center this season, that being by five points to Mu**ay State.



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Tennessee State Tigers

10th Place, 5-11, HC: Jessica Kern

Whats Left:

Thursday, Feb. 28
at Southeast Missouri
5:15 p.m., ESPN +

Saturday, March 2
at UT Martin
1 p.m., ESPN+

2018:

Did not qualify

Current Position:

10th Place

Best Potential Position:

10th Place

Worst Potential Position:

11th Place

Tennessee State could force a three-way tie for eight with SIU Edwardsville and Southeast Missouri, but will not be able to find a way into the dance.

The Tigers best finish is tenth, as the tie would favor Southeast Missouri and their 3-1 record amongst involved teams.

Tennessee State did not get their third win of the season until they topped Southeast Missouri by three at the Gentry Center in Nashville, Tennessee.

The Bruins blasted the Tigers 80-46 when Jessica Kern played the role of the guest in an all-Nashville matchup in mid January.

The Tigers hold the head-to-head over Eastern Illinois, but could drop down to 11th if they go winless and the Panthers snag two wins in their own right.



Eastern Illinois Panthers

11th Place, 4-12, HC: Matt Bollant

Whats Left:

Thursday, Feb. 28
vs. Jacksonville State
Noon, ESPN +

Saturday, March 2
vs. Tennessee Tech
1 p.m., ESPN+

2018:

Did not qualify

Current Position:

11th Place

Best Potential Position:

10th Place

Worst Potential Position:

11th Place

Eastern Illinois can only move past Tennessee State so an OVC Tournament appearance is out of the question this season.

Matt Bollant's squad, however, cannot fall past where they currently sit with Eastern Kentucky being 0-16 in the conference.

Due to their current standings, the Panthers are going to make it four straight seasons. Their last appearance was an opening round 68-35 drubbing courtesy of UT Martin in the 2015 edition.

Eastern Illinois fell two both of their upcoming opponets earlier this season by double digits. The team from Charleston was outscored an average 20 points in those two matchups.

Eastern Illinois could jump Tennessee State if the Tigers lose both and the Panthers win twice to close the season.



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Eastern Kentucky Colonels

12th Place, 0-16, HC: Chrissy Roberts

Whats Left:

Thursday, Feb. 28

vs. APSU

4 p.m., ESPN+

Saturday, March 2

vs. Morehead State

3:30 p.m., ESPN+

2018:

Did not qualify

Current Position:

12th Place

Best Potential Position:

12th Place

Worst Potential

Position:

12th Place

It is about pride. The Colonels are winless in the conference.

As wonderful as two wins would mean to the program and the group of girls, it cannot pull them out of the last place.

If the Colonels grabbed two wins this weekend, they would still not reach the conference wins they had in the 2017-18 season.

However, Eastern Kentucky was playing for an OVC Championship just two years ago, although they were routed by 30 courtesy by Belmont.

The four seniors on the Colonel roster will want to see the denouement of their playing career in Richmond end on a good note.

Eastern Kentucky holds a 2-7 record at the Alumni Center. Those wins came against Kentucky Christian University and Brescia University (Kentucky).



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