



2013 Missouri Valley Conference
Women's Basketball Championship Tournament

Quarterfinals - Game 6

No. 3 Illinois State 59, No. 6 Bradley 48

Friday, March 15, 2013 * Family Arena, St. Charles, Mo.

TOURNAMENT TYPE –Stephanie Glance got her first tourney game win for the Redbirds vs. BU ... Illinois State is looking for its 5th tourney title and 7th NCAA bid ... this is the fourth time ILSU has been the No. 3 seed, with a record of 6-2 as No. 3, 19-18 in all-time tourney play ... despite their geographic closeness, ILSU and Bradley have only met twice before in the Valley Tourney, both times in Des Moines (1996 and 2007) and both times won by ISU (85-80 in OT in 1996; 75-60 in 2007) ... ILSU has a 45-18 all-time record against Bradley ... Bradley, 5-22 all-time in Valley Tournament play, is still searching for its first trip to the title match ... this is BU's fifth time as the No. 6 seed and BU is 1-5 as No. 6 seed ... the Braves are 3-6 in St. Charles.

2013 REGULAR-SEASON MEETINGS – Janae Smith had 21 points, 13 rebounds and 6 assists to lead Illinois State to an 81-65 win over Bradley Jan. 6 in Redbird Arena, the Redbirds' 15th straight win over the Braves. Bradley won for the first time since 2006, 71-69 on Michelle Young's layup with 1.3 seconds left March 7 in Renaissance.

BRAVES NOTES – Bradley is leading the Valley in scoring (71.0) for the third time in history and the first time since 1986-87 ... Bradley is No. 7 in the nation shooting 78.0 percent from the free throw line (434-556). BU's 48 points against ILSU were the second-lowest total of the season by the Braves.

REDBIRD REPORT – Candace Sykes had her 5th double-figure rebounding effort of the season by the 12:00 mark of the second half. She finished with a game-high 13 vs. BU and her fifth double-double (10 pts., 13 reb.) ... Illinois State was a league-best 8-1 in the second half, but the only loss was to Bradley ... the Redbirds join WSU and Creighton as the only teams in the Valley to beat every other league opponent in 2013 ... the Redbirds' second-half surge featured a stingy defense allowing just 59. 2 points per game as the 'Birds scored 68.9 per game ... Illinois State has finished in the top three in the Valley in the regular-season standings and won at least 12 games for 7 straight years. That record of consistency has only been surpassed once in Valley history—MSU had 13 straight years of 12+wins and a top 3 finish from 1991-2003. Illinois State went without a made 3-pointer for the first time this season against BU.

FIRST HALF RECAP – Janae Smith scored the first four points for ILSU, then Bradley went on an 8-2 run with 4 different players scoring and 6 of the 8 points coming after ILSU turnovers ... BU didn't have a turnover in the first 4 minutes—Illinois State had 4 miscues ... ISU made 4-8 FG and Bradley 4-13 in the first 18:18 as BU led 10-8 ... the BU lead moved to 15-9 with a 7-1 run during a span when Illinois State missed 12 straight field goals from 15:21 to 6:08. Alexis Jenkins stopped the draught with a 10-foot jumper to close the BU lead to 15-11 ... ILSU extended the run to 17-0 by hitting 7-9 shots and BU going 0-10 with 2 turnovers during the run ... Shrona Butts broke the string with a free throw with 49 seconds left, but Bradley ended the half without a field goal for 7:41 (0-11) ... Illinois State is 19-0 when leading at halftime ... Bradley is 2-13 when trailing at halftime.

SECOND HALF RECAP – BU started the second half 0-4 shooting before Kelsey Budd hit a layup to stop the BU field goal draught at 16 straight misses and cut the ISU lead to 28-18 with 18:13 left. That was the start of a 5-8 FG stretch for the Braves ... with ILSU leading 32-20, Butts hit a left corner 3-pointer with 15:49 left for the first trey of the game by either team. Both teams were 0-6 before Butts' shot ... ILSU got back-to-back buckets from Russell and Smith to take a 44-32 lead with 11:30 left ... back-to-back baskets by Katie Yohn got Bradley within 44-36 with 10:52 left, but neither team scored a field goal until Jenny Smith hit a 3-pointer with 7:43 left, Kelsey Budd added a layup and Yohn buried a 3 to pull Bradley within 46-44 with 5:04 left ... Illinois State went 0-8 from the field from 11:33 to 4:26 until Janae Smith hit a layup, but Budd answered for Bradley and the Braves were within 48-46 ... Catie O'Leary missed the front end of a one-and-bonus and BU got the rebound, but ISU got a stop and Russell hit a jumper with 2:26 left and Brianna Puni hit a layup with 1:54 left to put ILSU up 52-46 and Sykes added 2 free throws to stretch the lead to 54-48.