

2013 Missouri Valley Conference Women's Basketball Championship Tournament

Championship - Game 9

No. 1 Wichita State 69, No. 3 Illinois State 65

Sunday, March 17, 2013 * Family Arena, St. Charles, Mo.

TOURNAMENT TYPE – WSU won its 1st Valley women's hoop title. WSU has now won a title in every other Valley sport in which the Shockers compete ... WSU is now 12-20 all-time in Valley tourney games (8-6 in St. Charles). Coach Jody Adams is 7-4 in her 5 tourneys ... WSU is 2-0 vs. ILSU in tournament play ... Stephanie Glance is now 2-3 in Valley Tournament games ... this is the 4th time ILSU has been the No. 3 seed, with a record of 7-3 as No. 3, 20-19 in all-time tourney play ... WSU is 1-1 in tournament championship games ... ILSU is 4-4 in championship games ... This is only the fifth time in 21 Valley tournaments with at least 8 teams that the top 4 seeds have advanced to the semi-finals ... the No. 1 seed has won 4 times (MSU 1993, DU 1998, ILSU 2008, WSU 2013), the No. 4 seed (MSU in 2003) won once ... the two semifinal games were the 11th and 12th overtime games in Valley Tournament history ... with SIU's 83-74 OT win over UE in the opening round, 2013 is the first year 3 games in the same tournament went to overtime ... it is also the first time two games in the same round of the tournament went to OT.

2013 REGULAR-SEASON MEETINGS – Each team won at home in 2013 ... WSU won 66-54 Feb. 1 in Wichita, as Alex Harden scored 17 points ... Alexis Jenkins' jumper with 1 second left gave the 'Birds a 57-56 win Feb. 28 in Normal. The 'Birds lead the all-time series 42-20, winning 10 of the last 12 meetings.

SHOCKER SHOUTS – Alex Harden scored 19 of her career-high 28 points after halftime vs. UNI in the semifinals ... WSU had 3 turnovers in 45 minutes vs. UNI ... WSU has raised its Valley Tournament seed in each of Jody Adams' coaching seasons (10=6=5=3=1) and have its first No. 1 seed in school history ... WSU has set school records for overall wins (23), Valley regular-season (15) and Valley road (7) wins ... WSU is 35-9 since Feb. 17, 2011, best in the Valley.

REDBIRD REPORT – Jamie Russell's 27 points were the 2nd highest total by a Redbird in a Valley tournament game ... Russell also tied an ILSU record for steals in a Valley tournament game with 5 ... Candace Sykes' 5 3-pointers in the tourney put her in 7th place on the ILSU career 3-pt. FG list with 133 ... Sykes had her 5th & 6th double-doubles of the season in the tourney with 10 pts. and 13 rebounds vs. BU in the guarterfinals and 18 points and 11 rebounds vs. CU in the semis.

FIRST HALF – Michaela Dapprich scored WSU's first 8 points on two 3-pointers and a layup for an 8-6 lead ... 3 of WSU's first 4 field goals were 3-pointers ... Illinois State made its 1st 6 field goal attempts (4 by Jamie Russell) and went 8-11 in the first 9:32 of the game, tied with WSU at 17-17 ... Russell made 10 of 11 attempts, and swatted in her only miss for a basket for 20 points in the first half. She and Janae Smith had 32 of ILSU's 39 points at halftime ... at the under-12 time out, Russell already had 14 points for ILSU and Dapprich had 10 for WSU ... in the first 14 minutes, WSU led 33-22 on 14-22 FG shooting. Of those 8 misses, WSU got the rebound 5 times for 8 second-chance points ... ILSU sliced into the WSU lead with 5 straight points by Janae Smith including a bucket-and-one with 5:10 left to cut the lead to 33-27 with 5:10 left ...WSU stretched the lead back to 38-29 on a 3-pointer by Jessica Diamond with 3:51 left, but Smith, who scored 8 of ILSU's 10 points through a 4-minute stretch, hit 2 free throws and a layup to start ILSU on a 10-2 run to finish the half down just 40-39 ... WSU averages just 3 3-pointers per game, but had 4 in the first half ... ILSU averages 4.5 3-pointers per game, but was 0-1 in the first half ... WSU is 20-2 with a halftime lead ... Illinois State is 3-8 when losing at halftime.

SECOND HALF – ILSU doubled its offensive rebound total (3 to 6) on its first possession, but came up empty ... on the second Redbird possession, Alexis Foley made 2 free throws and when Russell followed with a 3-pointer, ILSU had its first lead since 15-13 ... connecting with a 10-2 run at the end of the first half, ILSU's 8-2 start of the second half gave the 'Birds a 47-42 lead with 17:33 remaining ... WSU answered with 2 Dapprich free throws, a Michelle Price layup, 2 Harden free throws and a Dapprich 3-pointer to retake a 51-49 lead with 13:47 left, leading to an ILSU time out ... after taking that 47-42 lead, ILSU missed 9 straight shots before Smith broke the string to bring ILSU within 52-51 with 11:41 left ... a Jessica Diamond bucket-and-one 3-point play with 9:12 left got WSU's lead back to 61-55 ... the 'Birds got a jumper from Russell (her first bucket after 6 straight misses) and a 3-pointer by Sykes to close the lead to 64-62 .. Dapprich hit a 10-foot bank shot with 5:10 left and WSU led 66-62 and the score stayed that way until Smith converted a 3-point play with 1:10 left to cut the WSU lead to 66-65 ... Harden missed a shot underneath with 45 seconds left, but out-fought 3 Redbirds on the baseline for the rebound, got the ball back and scored with 2 seconds left to put WSU up 68-65 ... an ISU turnover gave WSU the ball back with 20 seconds left ... Jessica Diamond went to the free throw line with 18.9 left and hit 1 of 2 ... Sykes missed a long 3-pointer and WSU got the rebound to end the game ... ILSU was 16-23 (69.6 pct.) in the first half, 9-30 (30 pct.) in the second half ... WSU is now 16-1 when scoring at least 60 points in a game.