

Missouri Valley Conference Women's Basketball Tournament

The Family Arena – St. Charles, Mo. Game 8 – Saturday, March 16, 2013

No. 3 Illinois State 64, No. 1 Creighton 61 (OT)

Illinois State Quotes

Head Coach Stephanie Glance

On the game:

"Very proud of our team. Our player stepped up big-time today. When you play against a really good team and they make a run like they did at half and then another run—we were able to sustain that and make a run of our own. Then make a run of our own and own the boards like we did, that was huge. I couldn't be more proud of them."

On team huddles down the stretch:

"I thought it was really important that in every one of our huddles there was at least one player— Candace was one of them for a lot of the time—there was at least one player in every huddle, and sometimes two, three, four and five. That was a mark a of a really good team."

On team's attitude:

"They might be under-sized but we've got big hearts and big courage. So we're playing big."

Jamie Russell

On dominating in the paint despite being a smaller team:

"It's all heart. Going to the boards, it's all about heart. That's all coach ever stresses to us. Candace did a great job and our post battled. Everyone battled, we didn't give up."

On having momentum going into overtime:

"Oh yeah, we grabbed the momentum towards the end of the game. That's what got us tied, and we just needed to focus on our defense—getting the boards. Candace did a great job on the boards towards the end of the game, and that's what won it for us."

Candace Sykes

On regrouping after Creighton went ahead late:

"I really think it just came down to us settling down. We were kind of worked up. Anytime a team goes on a run, you want to go on a run back, and we weren't really doing that, that they just kept running. We really had to settle down and get our focus back on the defensive end. Once we started doing that, it helped our offense."

Creighton Quotes

Head Coach Jim Flanery

On the run to open the second half:

"What we did the first two, three minutes made a lot of difference in terms of just our psyche and our belief. Not that we didn't have belief, but sometimes you've got to hit a couple shots."

On what they did differently in the second half:

"We made some subtle changes offensively to work against their zone. We changed some screening angles and how we wanted to misdirect the zone. We got, maybe, a little better shots, and those shots went in."

On Creighton's NCAA chances:

"We went out and played a great schedule. We have very good wins. We have one loss outside the top 80 RPI. We don't have bad losses, and a lot of good wins. We're a very competitive team. We have 24 wins, an RPI that will still be in the thirties. Last I checked, 84 percent of women's basketball teams with RPIs in the thirties make the NCAA tournament."

Ally Jensen

On the difference in shooting between today and yesterday:

"I think a little bit of it was nerves and being a senior, and not wanting it to end. I was probably just a little tight yesterday. We just relied on our depth all year. I have great teammates and we all believe in each other, and it didn't matter yesterday. Today, it was my turn to step up and make some shots."

McKenzie Fujan

On Illinois State's defense:

"We had trouble with their zone the last time we played them, too. I think we just kind of figured it out in the second half and found open shots."