

2008 SUMMER OLYMPICS At left, the banner reads "Beijing Olympic Games" in Mandarin.



Sylvia Fowles goes up for a shot Tuesday as South Korea's Jongae Lee looks on. GETTY IMAGES

Syl the deal

Chicago's Fowles 'dominant' in win, U.S. reaches semis

Associated Press

BEIJING Sylvia Fowles and the U.S. women's basketball team were too big for South Korea to handle.

Fowles scored 26 points and grabbed 14 rebounds to lead the U.S. to a 104-60 rout of South Korea on Tuesday night and advance to the semifinals of women's basketball.

"I just wanted to come out and make a statement that I'm back and let my teammates know," Fowles said. "I haven't played well since the first two games and I've been down on myself not

contributing as much as I'd like."

It's the sixth straight Olympics that the Americans have advanced to the medal round. The only time they didn't qualify for the semis in the history of women's basketball was in 1980 and that's because the U.S. boycotted the Moscow Games.

The Americans will face either Russia or Spain in the semifinals Thursday night. China plays Australia in the other semifinal.

Against South Korea, the 6-foot-5 Fowles was a force on both ends of the

U.S. OLYMPIC WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

U.S. 104,
SOUTH KOREA 60

CHICAGO SPOTLIGHT

Candace Parker, eight points: "They couldn't match up with our size."
Cappie Pondexter, 11 points

floor, giving the Americans second and third attempts with offensive rebounds. On the defensive end she was altering or blocking shots.

"She was dominant tonight," said Kara Lawson, who added 11 points for the U.S. "It's hard to remember that she missed six weeks with that knee injury."

