

CHICAGO SKY vs. LOS ANGELES SPARKS

POST-GAME NOTES

JULY 29, 2009

Team	Score	Record	High Points	High Rebounds	High Assists	Other Notable
SKY	75	9-10	Perkins, 18	Fowles, 7	Dupree, 5	Ely, 16 pts, 4 rebs
SPARKS	63	4-10	Milton-Jones, 15	Parker, 10	Thompson, 4	Thompson, 13 pts

- Attendance at tonight's game: 5633
- Shyra Ely sparked an 18-5 second quarter run with 10 points in the second quarter.
- Tonight marks the first time the Sky have defeated the Sparks in Chicago.
- Candace Parker scored nine points and grabbed 10 rebounds.

KEY STATS OF THE NIGHT

- The Sparks shot .338 percent from the field.
- The Sky made 9-of-18 three-point attempts.
- Chicago scored 27 bench points to Los Angeles' 13.
- Los Angeles shot .200 percent from three-point range.

KEY RUN OF THE NIGHT

The Sky went into the second quarter trailing by three and led by 10 with 3:03 left. Shyra Ely scored 10 second-quarter points to fuel the decisive 18-5 run.

SKY-LIGHTS

- Shyra Ely scored 16 points including 3-of-4 three pointers to tie her career best in points.
- Candice Dupree blocked four shots tying her career high.
- The Sky led by as many as 14.
- K.B. Sharp played a season-high 18 minutes.
- Jia Perkins scored 18 points, dished out three assists, and had three rebounds.

SPARKS NOTES

- DeLisha Milton-Jones scored a team-high 15 points and grabbed 5 rebounds.
- Los Angeles built an eight point lead in the first quarter.
- The loss came on the back end of back-to-back road games.
- Betty Lennox scored 11 points.

CHICAGO SKY

SKY COACH STEVE KEY QUOTES

On the Sky's defense:

We did a great job particularly blocking shots. We were focused on defense and on not giving up shots.

On Shyra's play tonight:

I talked to Shyra before the game and I have never really given her the opportunity that I told her I would when we signed her. I gave her the opportunity tonight and she played

aggressive and made plays. She is one of those players that never complains and is always a team player. It is a great thing that she came out there and was a pivotal part of the game and a big reason on why we won tonight.

#34 SYLVIA FOWLES, CENTER

On the win:

It means a lot because this is our second half . We are getting off to a good start. It's a good win because we worked hard for it we prepared for it. We knew that LA was a very good team and that they were going to come out and play. I'm happy that we won and that we had a chance to open up the second half with a win.

On her superstitions:

No rituals. You just have to know who you are going up against. They have very good players. You just have to know what they do very well and try to slow them down.

On the All-Star appearance:

This was my first one. There was nothing like it. It was all totally fans and I just appreciate all that the fans do because its all their fault; they got me to start in the all-star game. I am looking forward to many more.

On focusing for the game:

You have to with LA. For those who know, last year this is the game I got hurt in, playing against LA. You just have to be smart, you have to be focused, and you have to stick with the game plan. You know you have to do what the coach asks you to do.

#43 SHYRA ELY, FORWARD

On her game tonight:

I wanted to focus on whoever I was guarding and just making it really hard for them to get the ball. And make it tougher for them to make any shots.

On tonight's post defense:

We have to play big, they (Sparks) are a big team they have great post players so we had to step up our competition and level of play. Sylvia did great on the inside and played great defense as well as Candice and Brooke. I think it was a collective effort from the entire team and focused on defense.

LOS ANGELES SPARKS QUOTES

SPARKS COACH MICHAEL COOPER QUOTES

About tonight's loss:

I thought we played well after going through a tough win last night. I think fatigue caught up with us. But still, a lot of things we didn't do, the fundamental parts. This team gave us many chances to get back in it but we weren't able to capitalize.

On Candace Parker getting back to 100 percent:

Very close, she looked better tonight. Every game she's getting better and better, still we went to her and she doesn't have that true athleticism she had before the baby, but that's to be expected. But she did a good job especially on the board.

On the difference in tonight's game:

Our ability not to hit shots, I thought we had some open looks, we had some turnovers, not a lot but some crucial turnovers.

#8 DELISHA MILTON-JONES, FORWARD

On the end of the second quarter:

I don't think it was anything that warranted them calling a foul because the contact was made on her behalf. If she sticks her butt out to shoot what am I supposed to do? They called a foul and instead of going into half down four we went in down seven.

#32 TINA THOMPSON, CENTER

On the loss:

Second leg of a back-to-back . We just didn't play well, we weren't as efficient as we should have been.

On coming out of the gate quick:

We started well, but we didn't finish well and that's what counts.

#3 CANDACE PARKER, FORWARD

On getting back into the swing of things:

It's going to be a process coming back. I could have been more aggressive when I had the ball, that's something I'm going to work on and build on next game.

On playing passively:

We kind of let them hit us instead of taking the first punch.

On the Sparks' road trip:

It's really tough but that's what you have to do. We're trying to look to get two out of three on this road trip.

On the possibilities of shutting her season down:

What I think about shutting it down? I'm going to finish the season. I don't think we count ourselves out. Everybody else has but we're still fighting and we know what we're capable of doing.

On matching up with Sylvia Fowles:

It was tough. The game was called tight. We have to adjust the way the refs are calling it. It's great because we played against each other since our freshman year in college.