

## **CHICAGO SKY 82, ATLANTA DREAM 80** **POSTGAME NOTES- AUGUST 8, 2009**

	<b>Score</b>	<b>Record</b>	<b>High Points</b>	<b>High Rebounds</b>	<b>High Assists</b>
Atlanta Latta/Miller, 3	82	11-11	Latta, 18	de Souza, 15	
Chicago 5	80	11-11	Thorn, 20	Dupree, 11	Perkins, 5

### **DREAM NOTES**

- Erika de Souza and Sancho Lyttle both finished with double-doubles. Lyttle finished with 10 points and 11 rebounds and de Souza added 11 points and 15 rebounds.
- Ivory Latta finished with a team-high 18 points in 21 minutes. Latta was 5-9 from the field, including 3-5 from three. She also finished with three assists and was named the Comcast Player of the Game.
- The Dream used a strong fourth quarter to get back in the game after trailing by as many as 16 in the third. The lineup of Ivory Latta, Angel McCoughtry, Tamera Young, Sancho Lyttle and Erika de Souza was the main lineup during the second half run.
- Chamique Holdsclaw, the Dream's leading scorer at 15.3 ppg, was held to four points. Her season-low was two points against Indiana on July 5.
- The Dream bench (49 points) accounted for 61.3% of the team's offense
- The Dream went on a 8-2 run to start the second quarter but were outscored 26-20 in the second quarter.
- Trailing by as many as 16 in the third quarter, the Dream went on a run to cut the lead to six (62-54) at the end of the third.

### **SKY NOTES**

- With tonight's win, the Sky swept the season series against the Dream (3-0) and moved to .500 (11-11) for the season, matching the Dream's record.
- The Sky had 23 turnovers, which the Dream converted into 24 points.
- Candice Dupree finished with a double-double, recording 17 points and 11 rebounds.
- Erin Thorn scored 15 of her season-high 20 points in the first half. Thorn was 8-12 from the field and 3-3 from three.
- Jia Perkins finished with 14 points and five assists and Dominique Canty added 10 points for the Sky.
- The Sky used an 8-0 run in the second quarter to take the lead 27-26 midway through the second quarter.
- Chicago went on a 14-4 run to start the second half, extending the lead to 16 (56-40, largest lead of game) with 4:44 remaining in the third quarter.

### **END OF GAME NOTES**

- Angel McCoughtry scored on a fast break layup off a steal (assist: Young), to tie the game at 73 with 2:52 remaining.
- A field goal by Sylvia Fowles with 2:07 remaining broke a 73-73 tie. The Dream came up empty on the next possession and a Jia Perkins jumper extended the Sky lead to four (77-73).
- Tamera Young got the Dream back within two (75-73) with a jumper with 47.9 remaining.
- Erin Thorn hit 1-2 free throws with 35.4 seconds remaining to extend the lead to three (78-75).
- Angel McCoughtry scored off an inbounds play with 26.1 seconds to go to cut the Sky lead to one (78-77).
- McCoughtry was called for a foul with 25.5 seconds remaining going for the steal on the inbounds. Jia Perkins hit 1-2 free throws to give the Sky a 79-77 lead.

- The Dream turned the ball over on the next possession (Latta) with 14.9 seconds remaining and Jia Perkins converted two free throws with 11.3 seconds remaining to extend the Sky lead to 81-77.
- Latta hit a three-pointer with 3.7 seconds remaining to cut the Sky lead to 81-80.
- Candice Dupree missed two free throws with three seconds remaining but the Sky got the offensive rebound and Jia Perkins went 1-2 from the line for the final score of 82-80.

**Next Opponent:** The Dream continue a six-game home stand with a Thursday night (August 13) matchup against the defending champion Detroit Shock. The Dream are 2-0 against Detroit this season.

**\*\* PLEASE CONTACT THE DREAM MEDIA RELATIONS DEPARTMENT FOR PRACTICE TIMES \*\***

## **DREAM QUOTES**

### **Head Coach Marynell Meadors**

*On tonight's loss and the team's resilience*

"I think from the beginning, we didn't have a great deal of energy and it showed in the first and second quarters. I don't fault any one person for this loss. I think we have to take it as a team loss. I thought we had some really good play out of a lot of players on our team. Three players especially came off the bench and did a great job for us—Coco Miller, Ivory Latta and Tamera Young. They fought and fought and helped us come back. This team has an identity that we are never out of the game and I think that was true tonight. It was not our best effort but we were finding a way to get back into it and try to win the game."

*On the Dream's 11-0 run in the fourth quarter with Holdsclaw on the bench*

"I think the energy that we had on the floor was good. Chamique was probably the biggest cheerleader on the sideline, encouraging her teammates to play. It's not all about Chamique with this team and she knows that and she never wants to take credit for anything. She wants to make sure that she's a good leader and she's got the players playing well even when she's on the bench."

### **Ivory Latta**

*On coming back from a 16 point deficit*

"We fought hard. We fought back, definitely in the second half. We just have to fight hard from the beginning to the end. We didn't start off well but we tried to end it well. And it just didn't come out our way. We could have gotten more loose balls and more rebounds and cut back on the turnovers. My turnover at the end was definitely big, but we just have to move on. We have a game against Detroit on Thursday and hopefully we can get a win."

*On what the team can learn from the loss*

"Like Coach said, Tamera Young and Coco Miller came in and did a great job. We just need to keep bringing the energy. We need to keep fighting hard, get the loose balls and the rebounds and just go out there with some enthusiasm and energy. This six game home stretch is definitely going to help us. We are definitely looking forward to it and I know our fans are going to come out and support us. That's the great thing about our fans is they definitely love us."

## **SKY QUOTES**

### **Head Coach Steve Key**

*General comments on tonight's game*

“Our team showed some guts tonight. It’s a very hard thing to do, go out there and play very good basketball. To be up by 16 and then turn around and have a meltdown, but still gut it out, that just shows that shows we have a resiliency as a team.”

*On closing out the game after letting the lead slip away*

“It was hard. We had to fight for it and it came in an unusual way tonight. Normally somebody knocks down a big shot or two. Tonight it came off of offensive rebounds off of our missed free throws. That could have put the game away so we got those extra chances tonight. Unfortunately we didn’t put the game away with free throws but we got a couple of key steals in the last minute and 45 seconds.”

*On the importance of tonight’s win*

“All games are important but anytime we play an Eastern Conference team, we want to win them because we want to make sure we win all the head to heads. You want to make sure you take care of your head to heads because if it does come down to 50/50, you’ll get them out.”

### **Candice Dupree**

*On tonight’s game plan*

“We knew Atlanta was on a four-game winning streak and they scored a lot of points on the paint-- not just their post players but also by their guards penetrating. Our main goal was to keep them out of there and make them shoot long jumpers.”

*On matching up with the Dream’s post players*

“De Souza is a great player as is Sancho Lyttle. De Souza rebounds early in the game were something we knew we were going to have to control the rest of the game. They’re both great players so it’s not easy.”