

# CHICAGO SKY vs. SACRAMENTO MONARCHS

## POST-GAME NOTES

JUNE 30, 2009

Team	Score	Record	High Points	High Rebounds	High Assists	Other Notable
SKY	74	6-3	Dupree, 16	Fowles, 14	Perkins, 8	Perkins 17 pts, 3 rbs
MONARCHS	72	1-9	Powell, 21	Powell, 8	Multiple, 2	Lawson, 11 pts

- Attendance at tonight's game: 2721
- The Sky (6-3) earned its sixth consecutive home win to start the season for its best start in franchise history. It also marks the first time the Sky is three games over the .500 mark in team history.
- The win makes the Sky 3-4 all-time against the Monarchs (1-8).
- With Indiana (6-2) off on Tuesday the Sky's win moved them to just .5 games behind the Eastern Conference leaders.
- The Monarchs were led by Nicole Powell's 21 points and 8 rebounds.

### KEY STATS OF THE NIGHT

- In the first four and final four minutes of the game combined, the Sky outscored the Monarchs 21-8.
- The Sky outscored the Monarchs 40-24 in the paint.
- There were 12 lead changes in the game.
- Sylvia Fowles had 13 defensive rebounds.

### KEY RUN OF THE NIGHT

With the Monarchs leading by five and just over four minutes left in the game, Candice Dupree and Jia Perkins fueled a 13-2 run over the next 3:50 to put the Sky ahead, 73-67. After Kara Lawson hit three free throws to pull the Monarchs within three, Perkins iced the game on the line for Chicago hitting one of two foul shots to secure the Sky's 74-72 win.

### SKY-LIGHTS

- Sylvia Fowles secured her fourth double-double of the season after just three quarters and ended up with 14 points and 14 rebounds.
- Brooke Wyckoff scored eight points pushing her past 700 career points. She now has 706 career points.
- Sylvia Fowles blocked three shots to put her over the 50 block plateau for her career. She is at 52.
- The Sky outscored the Monarchs 12-5 over the final four minutes of the game.

### MONARCHS NOTES

- After falling behind by 10 with three minutes left in the first quarter, the Monarchs made a furious comeback and led by as many as eight before falling behind at the end.
- Nicole Powell scored a game-high 21 points to lead Sacramento.
- Sacramento outrebounded the Sky 34-32.
- Kara Lawson scored 11 points coming off the bench. She shot 3-3 from the free throw line and 3-8 from the field.

## **CHICAGO SKY SKY COACH STEVE KEY QUOTES**

*On the message he sent to his team trailing five:*

I told them that we were going to win the game. I told them we were going to grind it out, we needed to get a stop we were going to come down the other end and we ran a perfectly executed play. We ended up getting a foul we made the free throws on it.

*On Candice Dupree stepping up as a vocal leader:*

We came out, Candice huddled them together and she's doing a tremendous job of leading them down the stretch. That is something we haven't had in the past and that is something I know her teammates take pride in.

### **#4 CANDICE DUPREE, FORWARD**

*On the end of the game:*

We had to grind it out, we kept telling each other that we had to pull it out. Steve was telling me that the team was looking for me to score so I had to get it done. Jia hit a big three pointer for us, we set us a play which is usually our shot that we use at the end of games. We knocked it down.

*On being aggressive at the rim:*

Somehow both of us ended up in the bonus early, so he's telling us to attack. But at the same time they were trying to do the same thing to us. But it all worked out in our favor.

*On Chicago's upcoming west coast swing:*

Win 'em all of course. We definitely have to improve on the road. So we need to go out and fight to win.

### **#34 SYLVIA FOWLES CENTER**

*On Chicago's approach at home:*

You've got to gut it out at home. We got this little winning streak going on and you're like 'gut check.' You don't want to get showed up at home. We always get some kind of energy to always come back and we always manage to win and I think that's a good thing.

*On taking the ball to the rim:*

I'm trying, I'm trying. My teammates need me to do certain things besides just post up on the box. I can definitely step out, put the ball on the floor a few times, kick it back out, post up and I'm willing to do it. I'm getting the feel for different things right now.

*On Chicago's halftime adjustments:*

Basically, we just came out and told ourselves that we needed to play better defense because they're a transition team and they're very aggressive. We had to make sure we played good defense. We went up for boards and managed to do that some kind of way and come out with a win.

*On her team's performance late in the game:*

Gut check. You don't want to loose so you just come with adrenaline and you're ready. Whatever goes up, goes up.

## **SACRAMENTO MONARCHS QUOTES MONARCHS COACH JENNY BOUCEK QUOTES**

*On building a team throughout the season:*

We're a work in progress, I'm trying to stay focused on the process that we're in right now, its our third game with all our players back. They're getting in shape, getting in rhythm, getting their chemistry. We're starting to look like the Sacramento Monarchs.

*On the Monarchs' stingy man-to-man defense:*

That's our system. We're starting to look like ourselves

*On losing a lead late:*

We were in position to win the game, but we didn't close it out. For the most part I thought we played better. We're going in the right direction and this is a game we can build on.

### **#14 NICOLE POWELL, FORWARD**

*On falling to Chicago:*

Its hard right now. We're disappointed as a team because you always want a win. We have another game coming up, that's how it is in the WNBA. You can't dwell on any game because there's always another one coming up.

*On what she can take away from the loss:*

Just staying with it. There were some things I could clean up technically, just getting cleaner with different things, using my legs more, trying to get sharper, there's a million things, offense and defense.

*On the Monarchs' approach coming into Chicago:*

We didn't worry about our opponents we just worry about how we're going to play and getting back to what's important to us. Obviously they have some talented players on their team. We just try to focus on the things we work on every single day.

### **#20 KARA LAWSON, GUARD**

*On getting ahead early and losing the lead:*

We felt good where we were. We had a lead down the stretch, then the last two or there minutes of the game we weren't able to score, turned it over, and gave them easy looks in transition.

*On getting aggressive late:*

It was just the way the game went. I'm still battling back from being hurt I missed eight months. Every game I feel like I'm getting more and more aggressive. I'm getting my body under me. Everything's coming back every game a little bit.

*On using tonight as a building block:*

At the end of the day we have to win games. We're last place in the league. I'm not one for moral victories.

