



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – June 26, 2011  
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## **Candace Parker Injures Right Knee in Sunday's Game vs. New York** *Sparks Post Player Has MRI Scheduled for Monday*

**LOS ANGELES** – Los Angeles Sparks post player Candace Parker will return to Los Angeles and has an MRI scheduled for Monday to determine the severity of a right knee injury suffered during the third quarter of Sunday's game against the New York Liberty.

"Right now we don't know, we're going to get her an MRI and we're just hoping for the best. It's tough but we're hoping everything is alright," Sparks head coach Jennifer Gillom said after the game. "We've played without her before so we just have to focus on getting to the next game and playing hard and having people step up. She just said, 'keep me in your prayers,' and that's all we can do for her right now and just hope for the best. She's in good spirits, which is a good thing."

With 5:56 remaining in the third period, Parker went down after grabbing a defensive rebound and then briefly making contact with the Liberty's Quanitra Hollingsworth. The Naperville, Ill., native did not return to the contest.

Before that point, Parker had amassed 16 points and 11 rebounds for her third consecutive double-double and fourth of the young season. She entered Sunday's game ranked sixth in the WNBA in scoring and third in rebounding.

Parker began the 2011 campaign fully healthy after missing 34 regular season games over the past two seasons due to injury and pregnancy. In 2008 she became the first player in league history to capture both MVP and Rookie of the Year honors.

The Sparks will have an update on Parker's condition when more information becomes available.

Los Angeles continues its current seven-game road trip Tuesday at the Connecticut Sun. The nationally-televised game on ESPN2 is scheduled for a 5 p.m. PT tip-off.

### **About the Los Angeles Sparks**

The Los Angeles Sparks, an original Women's National Basketball Association team, enter their 15<sup>th</sup> season in 2011. The Sparks are one of six WNBA franchises that fall under the league's independent ownership model. Winner of back-to-back WNBA championships in 2001 and 2002, Los Angeles' roster of star athletes includes 2008 WNBA MVP and Rookie of the Year Candace Parker, four-time WNBA champion and all-time leading scorer Tina Thompson, and two-time WNBA champion DeLisha Milton-Jones. The Sparks play their home games at STAPLES Center in the heart of downtown Los Angeles. For ticket information, call 877-44-SPARKS (772757) or visit [LASparks.com](http://LASparks.com).