

# Postgame Notes & Quotes

**Atlanta Dream 83, Chicago Sky 80**  
**Allstate Arena, Rosemont, IL**  
**August 23, 2011**

## NOTES

- The Sky dropped to 12-15 on the season. The Dream rose to 14-13.
- The Sky loss gave the Dream a 3-1 lead in the season series and the tiebreaker for making the playoffs.
- Sylvia Fowles led the Sky with 20 points and 12 rebounds, her 18<sup>th</sup> double-double of the season.
- Fowles 6<sup>th</sup> defensive rebound was the 694<sup>th</sup> of her career moving to #1 on the Sky's all-time list in that category, passing Candice Dupree.
- Shay Murphy scored 16 points off the bench and grabbed 7 rebounds.
- WNBA steals leader, Epiphanny Prince's 5<sup>th</sup> steal was her 74<sup>th</sup> on the season, setting a Sky single season record previously owned by Jia Perkins in 2009.
- Dominique Canty's 1<sup>st</sup> FG was the 900<sup>th</sup> of her career.
- Michelle Snow played her 205<sup>th</sup> consecutive game passing Tamika Whitmore for the 13<sup>th</sup> longest streak in WNBA history.
- The Dream outshot the Sky 52.4% to 44.4%, but the Sky shot 6 of 11 from 3 point range.
- The Sky led in points in the paint 42 to 34.
- The Sky's 24 turnovers were the most this season.
- The Dream had 13 fast break points compared to 6 by the Sky
- Angel McCoughtry led all scorers with 22 points, getting to the free throw line 13 times and converting 10 times.
- Lindsey Harding added 15 points and 9 assists for the Dream. Sancho Lyttle and Erika DeSouza also scored in double figures with 12 and 13 respectively.

## **Postgame Quotes**

### **Chicago Sky Head Coach Pokey Chatman**

*(Opening statement)*

“It’s almost hard to believe that this was a one-possession game with the amount of turnovers we had. I remember we had 24 turnovers at the end of the game. I don’t want to take anything away from Atlanta but we didn’t give ourselves an opportunity early on for separation. I don’t want to talk a lot of basketball, ‘X’s and O’s’ and all of that. Bottom line is we didn’t take care of the ball.”

*(On the late game fouls)*

“I go back to a timeout call, and we call a zone one time, and three players got into a man-to-man. That’s not a referee, that’s locking in. I mean we had 24 turnovers! The fouls are just part of the game, we need to take advantage of the opportunities given to us.”

*(On how to not let this loss deject the team for remaining games)*

“You go to work. I don’t remember the score from last night, but it was a close game. That right there keeps a focused type of mindset. As a team that is behind you, in a one-possession game that could go to overtime, if that doesn’t keep the pulse alive and the focus, then shame on us.”

### **Sky Forward Cathrine Kraayeveld**

*(On shooting well behind the arc)*

“I have been feeling good and I feel my coaches and teammates have confidence in me that I can knock down shots when I’m open, and if not I am able to make that pass into Syl inside. But I have just been getting open and getting good looks.”

*(On moving forward to New York)*

“We just need to control the things we need to control, like tonight we had way too many turnovers and we have to do a better job on the boards. It is more about things we need to do and not so much the other team. So no matter who we are playing we need to take care of the things we need to take care of and fight and grind it out to the end.”

### **Sky Center Sylvia Fowles**

*(On matching up with Erica DeSouza)*

“It is just like any other matchup I have to guard day in and day out, and it is going to be tough and going to be physical, but you just have to play your game.”

*(On getting motivated for the next couple games)*

“We need to motivate ourselves, where we stand team wise in the standing is motivation. I think we need to lock in and be focused and be ready for the next one, learn from this game, and look at things that we need to do and things we could have done better.”

*(On positives to take away from tonight’s game)*

“We got some good looks in transition and we rebounded the ball, but we could not knock down shots at the end.”

### **Sky Guard Shay Murphy**

*(On the game tonight)*

“It is unfortunate because we played really well, but I think we shot ourselves in the foot. We had 24 turnovers, those are possessions we lost and those take shot attempts away from us. Atlanta is a good team, we had our opportunity to not secure the playoffs, but put us in the right step. It is just unfortunate that it comes down to last possessions, the last second, the last minute. I am not saying that I agree with the last call that was made but you can’t control what the refs see. Turnovers really killed us. We got good points in transition, rebounded and stayed aggressive, but we just gave them the basketball and we can’t do that if we want to win.

*(Looking forward)*

“It is really going to show how much heart we have. Are we going to lay down and die now because we did not get a win over Atlanta or are we going to turn the corner. We are playing these last couple games down to the wire. We are not getting blown out, we are in every single game and it is unfortunate that we don’t sustain that for a long period of time. We just have to go back to square one and work. Now we have our backs against the ropes and we just have to finish, and we are only as good as our last game. We just need to stay consistent.

### **Dream Head Coach Marynell Meadors**

*(Her preliminary thoughts on the game)*

“It was definitely a hard fought battle. It was back and forth the entire game and it came down to who had the ball in the end. We were very fortunate.”

*(On keeping the offense in control)*

“We definitely rushed our offense and had some turnovers. Chicago’s defense was really physical and you got to give them credit for that. I think we handled it pretty well.”

*(On what the team needs to do in getting the final playoff spot)*

“This game was definitely huge. But we know that every single one is important. The opportunity is there we just need to secure our position. And to me, Chicago is nowhere close to being out of it.”

### **Dream Point Guard Lindsey Harding**

*(On her role as point guard and distributing the ball)*

“Chicago does a great job of helping and their defensive rotation is great. I try to attack as much as possible but my team did a great job of moving so I was able to dish it and they were knocking down shots.”

*(On her head to head matchup with Courtney Vandersloot)*

“She is a great player who is learning. I think she gets better each game and she’s doing really well for Chicago.”

*(On the fourth quarter and the team staying confident)*

“We kept saying to ourselves that we were going to win this game. We knew that for the rest of the way it was going to be like the playoffs. We needed to take it one possession at a time and one stop at a time. It was a collective effort.”

### **Dream Small Forward Angel McCoughtry**

*(On how she thought her team played tonight)*

“It was a team effort. Everybody says all of the attention is on me but it’s really about teammates. They get me open and get rebounds and it’s obviously not easy to guard Sylvia Fowles. There are a lot of things that come in to play when we get a win.”

*(On the team’s defense)*

“For us to be successful, we need to make stops and make plays down the stretch. It’s a matter of who can make the biggest play and who can work the hardest and the longest. I think we did a good job of that.”

*(On what she needs to do to help her team get a playoff spot)*

“I need to lead my team and keep my composure. I’m an emotional player but I want to show all of my toughness and help build my team up through adversity. That’s what I really want to do.”

### **Dream Forward Sancho Lyttle**

*(On her performance against Chicago)*

“I needed to come out with a lot of energy and strength. We came out knowing that we needed to win and we were able to do that.”

*(On playing against the forwards of Chicago especially Sylvia Fowles)*

“We knew what Sylvia was capable of and she has been having a lot of big games. We had to play very hard tonight and I think we did.”

*(On the team’s resiliency down the stretch)*

“We want to be relentless. We are a scrappy team and we can change defenses at any given moment. That’s how we play. Not every moment is going to be great but we try to fight through everything.”