

# Postgame Notes & Quotes

**Minnesota Lynx 79, Chicago Sky 76**  
**Allstate Arena, Rosemont, IL**  
**August 12, 2011**

## NOTES

- The Sky set their season attendance record in only the 13<sup>th</sup> home game of the season, drawing 74,900 after 6,289 attended tonight's game. The former mark was set in 2010 at 72,959.
- The Sky fell to 10-14 on the season. The Lynx climbed to 17-5.
- The Sky is now 6-5 against the Lynx in the all-time series with one more game in 2011 to be played at Minnesota on September 8.
- The Sky got off to a great start leading by as many as 10 points in the opening quarter, but Minnesota went on a 15-2 run to end the first and built the lead to 8 at half-time.
- Sylvia Fowles led all scorers with 28 points.
- Fowles who leads the league in field goal percentage was 11-13 on the night.
- Courtney Vandersloot's 8<sup>th</sup> assist set a new Sky season assist rookie record.
- The Sky did a good job handling the ball with only 11 turnovers. The Lynx had 14..
- The Sky led in fast break points 20-15.
- Canty played in her 364<sup>th</sup> career game moving to 11<sup>th</sup> all-time in the WNBA.
- Four Lynx players scored in double figures. Lindsay Whalen - 16 points, Seimone Augustus - 14, Maya Moore - 13, and Candice Wiggins - 12.
- The Lynx shot 7-14 from 3-point range, while the Sky were only 3-10.
- The Lynx outrebounded the Sky 42-32.

## **Sky Head Coach Pokey Chatman**

*(On the game)*

“When you’re playing the best team in the league the margin of error is pretty small. We did a lot on things to give our team a chance to win the basketball game, but when it came down to it, it comes down to a few schemes. As the coach you can go back into the locker room and put that in your mind in terms of the margin of error of Seimone and Maya and it is very very small and they were crucial positions not just the ones late, but the ones early on when we were not in the right defensive schemes and at the end of it they are plus ten on the boards. That is an area we have gotten been better at, but we gave them a lot of second chance opportunities and then we just need to capitalize on things that we need to.”

*(On the last possessions when Courtney tried to get the ball in to Sylvia)*

“We had 38 eight points in transition. Part of our strategy was if we got a rebound we would take a look at something in transition so they don’t call a timeout and sub. They were playing with four perimeter players in there and we thought we could take advantage of some things. I won’t take the fact that she was throwing the ball into Syl for a layup and she got two hands on it and you can always say you want to take that one back...I won’t... it was a nice look. I like the fact that Shay Murphy at the end got a layup at the end the game. We wanted to go into Syl obviously Courtney couldn’t get it there, Syl was not open, and Shay is going to be open. She read it, had time, shot fake and got a layup and a decent look at it. Obviously you remember those things but I’m remembering defensive schemes in the first half. Three consecutive times we did not scheme correctly. Whalen got a two, Whalen got a two and Seimone shot two free throws and that’s 6 points right there.”

*(On playing the best team in the WNBA, not taking a moral victory)*

“That is not an option. They are professional players, they know where we are in the season, and they know a W is what counts. I don’t think I have to worry about that at all. I’m in that locker room I know and see the disappointment and that says enough right there.”

Chicago Sky Interviews vs Lynx -August 12, 2011

## **Sky Center Sylvia Fowles**

*(On offense being more in sync tonight)*

“I think we can continue this, most definitely. I think my teammates do a great job supporting each other on the floor and off the floor, and the bench gets us involved as well. But we’re definitely going in the right direction. We have to be consistent from every game here on out.

*(On competing with the best in the WNBA)*

“I think we need to have to have a sense of urgency, first of all. We’re not that good just yet to relax and take plays off and play as individuals. We have to play as a team like we did against Indiana. I think it showed tonight, everybody was scoring and getting involved.”

## **Sky Forward Tamera Young**

*(On building confidence since becoming starter)*

"I think I was being pretty confident even before I began starting. I am just trying to play my game and do what it takes to help my team win. I try to be aggressive and attack. I don't know about drawing fouls because it seems they didn't call it. But I just try to be aggressive and get to the basket and finish as best I can."

### **Lynx Head Coach Cheryl Reeve**

*(On getting the win down the stretch)*

"Well both of us dug in defensively. We got some decent stops but they wouldn't go away and we couldn't put them away. But a win is a win."

*(On point guard Lindsay Whalen and her role in getting the victory)*

"I am just really glad she is on our basketball team. She comes ready to play every game and she's a tremendous leader. All of us I think feel lucky to have her."

*(On Sylvia Fowles and how the team prepared for her)*

"Whatever the plan was, we aren't going to repeat it the next time. We didn't want her to get opportunities. She's very hard to play against. She played very well and was focused and she's a tremendous challenge for our post players."

### **Lynx Point Guard Lindsay Whalen**

*(On being the point guard and keeping the game under control by limiting turnovers)*

"It's a big thing obviously. But everybody did a good job taking care of the ball. We fought through a lot of plays and Chicago has a great team. We were happy to get the win."

*(On the team's recent success in getting a lot of wins)*

"We wanted to start with a new streak tonight. Winning on the road is big for us. We really need to continue playing hard and getting wins on the road is huge."

### **Lynx Small Forward Maya Moore**

*(On the performance of her team tonight)*

"It wasn't our best. We played against a phenomenal team in Chicago. Sylvia played so well and it was one of those things where you wanted to make things as hard as possible on her. We need to execute better offensively and have a better effort on the defensive end."

*(On playing a team like Chicago)*

"They have big guards in addition to Sylvia. They are really quick and can shoot. There are plenty of weapons on that team and it's tough."

*(On the performance of all the rookies who were in the game)*

"It's fun. It just shows the progress of the talent in the game of basketball. It's always exciting to play on the floor with great players in general but it makes me proud that our class played well."

### **Lynx guard Seimone Augustus**

*(On being a big presence and remaining determined to shoot the ball)*

"I think it was important for me to being aggressive and drive it in especially since my shot wasn't going down. I wanted to get to the free throw line."

*(On playing against Courtney Vandersloot)*

"She's very crafty and I really respect her game. She can do a lot of things for her team. She makes sure her team is effective and puts them in a position to score."

*(On what she wants to do for her game against Tulsa)*

"I need to be consistent. I have to be what the team needs me to whether it's scoring or anything else. I also need to do well on defense and get a lot of rebounds."