



## CONNECTICUT SUN POST-GAME NOTES AND QUOTES

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**Sun vs. Chicago Sky  
Aug. 9, 2011  
Mohegan Sun Arena  
Final Score: Connecticut 69, Chicago 58**

- Tina Charles recorded her seventh consecutive double-double tonight. That tied a WNBA single-season record, also held by Lauren Jackson of the Seattle Storm, originally set in 2003. Charles now has 15 double-doubles in 2011, and 37 in her 55 games as a member of the Sun. That means she has recorded a double-double in 67.3 percent of the games she has played in the WNBA.
- Kara Lawson scored her 2,500<sup>th</sup> career point tonight in the third quarter with a 3-pointer.
- Chicago shot 9 of 20 (45 percent) in the first quarter, scoring 21 points. The Sky shot 10 of 49 (20.4 percent) over the last three quarters, scoring 37 points.
- With its third win of the season over Chicago, the Sun clinched the tiebreaker between the two clubs, 3-2. The Sun remain one game behind Eastern Conference front-runner Indiana, which defeated San Antonio earlier tonight.
- Chicago's Tamera Young pulled down 15 rebounds tonight, a career-high. Her previous career high was 13 versus San Antonio on June 18, 2008.
- The Sky led 21-15 toward the end of the first quarter, but the Sun then outscored the Sky, 17-2, to take a 32-23 lead midway through the second quarter. The run started with an Asjha Jones jumper with 7:15 left in the half to give the Sun a 22-21 lead. Connecticut never trailed again.
- Connecticut held Chicago to 7 points in the second quarter. That ties a season low for an opponent. The Sun also held New York to seven points on July 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Connecticut held Chicago to 58 points, the fewest points it has allowed this season. The previous season-low for the Sun was 59 at New York (7/15).
- The Sun improved to 9-1 at home tonight.
- The Sun are 11-0 when leading at halftime this season.
- Connecticut is 8-2 versus Chicago at home all-time.
- The Sun's Tan White tied a career high in steals with 5.
- The Sun's Kelsey Griffin has 14 rebounds in her last two games.

## CONNECTICUT SUN QUOTES

### Head Coach Mike Thibault

*On pulling out a victory despite shooting 36.2% from the field:*

"I told Bernadette (Mattox) about midway through the first half this is just going to be one of those games that you just have to grind out somehow. I thought we had tired legs to shoot the ball. We ran up and down the court fine but I just thought we looked like we didn't have any bounce to shoot the ball except for our bench. I thought Tan, Kara, and Kelsey in particular jumpstarted the offense. We said you're going to have to win with defense tonight and we hung on to do it."

*On his team's defensive intensity highlight by converting 17 Sky turnovers into 21 points:*

"We've done a good job at that in probably the last two and a half weeks. We're generally not holding teams to a great percentage but we force turnovers and we've gotten to the free throw line. But I thought that was the only way we were going to stay in the game tonight."

*On Tan White's contributions coming off the bench with 9 points, 5 steals, 4 assists, and 4 rebounds:*

"She was really good at both ends of the floor, particularly deflecting the ball, striping the ball, starting the fast break, and then making really good decisions on the break as to who to give the ball to. Kara (Lawson) was the recipient on a couple and I thought the two of them got us going in transition."

### Connecticut Sun Guard Kara Lawson

*On the bench play:*

"I really thought Tan was the player off the bench that turned things around for us, especially defensively. She came in right away and got those two steals and was really active. She passed the ball really well. She attacked. She drove the ball to the basket. I thought it was her energy and her aggressiveness, particularly on the defensive end that turned it around for us. Kelsey was big for us too. She had some big rebounds and some good outlet passes. She had a couple of drives to the basket that didn't fall but bounced around, but she was really aggressive as well."

*On responding to Chicago's defensive pressure with the second quarter run:*

"Teams in this league are really good, so we're not going to come out all the time and start with a 20-0 run. It was a challenge for us to get a hold of Sylvia and try to contain her and figure out how we could help better in the lane. Once we got the game into more of an up-and-down flow, and that really happened in the second quarter and for a stretch in the third, that was great for us. Everybody contributed. We had four, almost five, players in double figures. That was really good balance for us."

### Connecticut Sun Guard Renee Montgomery

*How important was this victory?*

"It was a really important win for us. In the Eastern Conference, it is going to come down to a game or two games, so it was really important for us to get this win tonight, especially since it was at home. In this league, you have to win your games at home because it is so tough to win on the road."

*On responding to Chicago's defensive pressure with the second quarter run:*

"I think Chicago played really well throughout the game. Like I said, in the Eastern Conference, you are always going to have to grind out wins. Tonight, we had to grind through that first quarter. Once we adjusted and found ways to get out on our running game, that's when we were able to get going. When you play against Western Conference teams, you're going to get high-scoring games where the two teams go back and forth on scoring runs. In the East, you have low-scoring games because you have to grind out those games because neither team is going to back down."

*With the next four games at home, how important was it to start off the homestand with a victory?*

"It was really good to get the win, but we're not looking forward. I always take things one game at a time. I'm not even sure who we have next, but that's what you have to do in this league. You have to focus only on what is right in front of you and worry about the next team when you are getting ready to prepare for them. You can't really look ahead. Today we played Chicago and we start thinking about whoever is next tomorrow."

### Connecticut Sun Center Tina Charles

*How important was this victory?*

"It's just important for us to win games. We're not worried about any other team, just the Connecticut Sun. And like I have said before, we are going to take it one game at a time because it has been working for us. We are not looking ahead. We had Chicago tonight. We are just going to worry about San Antonio for the next 48 hours."

*How tough is it coming off of the West Coast trip and have to play against Sylvia Fowles right away?*

"It's going to be tough every night because we have great post players in this league. I have respect for every post player in this league, so I don't think about it or think that in the next game that Ruth Riley isn't going to bring it. I just go out and have respect for every post player in this league and I am just bring my game as well."

## Chicago Sky Quotes

### Head Coach Pokey Chatman

#### On Tonight's Game

"It was ugly. You're playing a team for a fifth time and they are familiar, it's a chess match. Tina and Sylvia established themselves early. We got to make shots and make stops. In the second half we got out rebounded and didn't stay in attack mode."

#### On Second Quarter

"I'm the first to give credit to the opposition because that's what you do out of respect. I liked the shots we were getting. It's not like we were jacking up threes and fadeaways. They were all in the paint and in rhythm."

#### On Connecticut after West Coast Swing

"No, not at all [being tired]. They understand what's at stake. They are at home with a feeling they should have won every game. We're at the point of the season when everything matters."

### Sylvia Fowles

#### On Second Quarter

"We never quite put our foot on the gas. We never got any good stops. It's something we have to work on. Go back and the coaches are going to work on and do what they have to do."

#### On match-up vs. Tina Charles

"It's always fun playing against her. She's another big body. She's very strong and her game has advanced. At the same time, shes a hard worker and makes me work hard and its vice-versa."

### Tamera Young

#### On Career High in Rebounds (15)

"I made a conscious effort. We always talk about rebounding as a team. I just made an effort when teammates shoot, to crash the boards."

#### On Playoff Run

"We need to keep playing hard and get some wins heading into the playoffs."