



State Farm Missouri Valley Conference Tournament

Post-Game Notes

First Round

Indiana State 68, Illinois State 65

Thursday, March 1, 2007

The Crowd

Tonight's attendance of 8,013 is the largest opening-session crowd in MVC Tournament history...the old mark of 7,343 was set February 27, 1998, by a gathering that saw Southern Illinois down Northern Iowa 91-72 and Bradley defeat Drake 69-62.

The Teams

Indiana State improves to 13-17, while Illinois State falls to 15-16...The Sycamores went 2-1 against the Redbirds this season and reduced Illinois State's lead in the all-time series to 54-43...Indiana State moves to 16-24 in MVC Tournament play and 4-2 in the play-in round...Illinois State falls to 30-22 in the MVC Tournament, 3-4 in play-in games...Illinois State is now 2-3 in MVC Tournament play as the seventh seed splitting games each in 1989 and 1999...Indiana State moves to 4-14 when trailing at half and Illinois State fell to 11-2 when leading at half...Indiana State outrebounded Illinois State 34-31 after being outrebounded 40-35 and 33-22 in the regular-season meetings...Illinois State, which led the Valley with 3.2 blocked shots per games (96 in 30 games), rejected five Indiana State attempts...Illinois State recorded a three-point field goal for the 231st consecutive game.

Game Highlights

Indiana State led 9-7 as the lead changed hands seven times in the game's first five minutes...Illinois State replied with seven consecutive points to assume a 14-9 lead with 11:52 left in the first half...The Redbirds' largest lead of the opening 20 minutes was seven points, 32-25, with 3:44 left...Illinois State held a 20-3 bench-scoring advantage in the first half...A three-pointer by Levi Dyer capped a 7-0 run and gave the Redbirds a 41-33 advantage with 17:29 left in the game...After Indiana State went on an 8-2 run to trim the lead to 43-41, Illinois State scored nine straight points, capped by Boo Richardson's three-pointer with 12:43 left, to open up a 52-41 lead...The Sycamores used a 14-3 run, capped by a Todd McCoy runner, to take a 64-61 lead with 3:13 left...Bobby Hill scored four straight points to give the Redbirds a 65-64 lead with 2:16 left...Marico Stinson made a three-pointer with 14.4 seconds left to give Indiana State a 67-65 lead...While Illinois State finished with a 25-9 scoring edge off turnovers, Indiana State's bench held a second-half advantage of 19-6.

Illinois State Player Plaudits

Greg Dilligard made his 109th career start, tying Richard Thomas (1989-93) for fifth on the school career list...Dilligard scored in double-digits for the 14th time this season, finishing with 11 points...Osiris Eldridge, the MVC Freshman of the Year, scored in double-digits for the 12th time this season, finishing with 18 points and coming off the bench to be the game's leading scorer.

Indiana State Player Plaudits

Jay Tunnell scored 11 points in the first half and finished with 16, scoring in double-figures in consecutive games after going seven consecutive contests without tallying double-figure points...Tunnell made a career-high eight free throws surpassing his best of six...Gabe Moore had three steals and moved into sixth place on the school career list with 136, passing David Moss (2002-05)...Moore, who led the Valley in playing time this season, played a game-high 38 minutes but had a season-high six turnovers...Adam Arnold had his second double-figure scoring contest in 19 games, as he posted 10 points, before fouling out for the fourth time this season with 4:47 left...Cole Holmstrom posted his ninth career double-digit scoring game, with 12 points, all in the second half...Marco Stinson's game-winning three-pointer, his second basket of the night – both treys, came 35 minutes after his first...Todd McCoy equaled a career-high by pulling down six rebounds.