

2010 State Farm MVC Tournament – Game Notes

Game 5, Quarterfinals, 6:05 p.m., Fri., March 5, St. Louis, Mo. (Scottrade Center): #2 Wichita State (73), #7 Missouri State 63

Wichita State: The Shockers' 73-63 win over the Bears moves WSU to 24-8 for and moves the Shockers into Saturday's 4:05 p.m. tourney semifinal matchup vs. the winner of #3 Illinois State and #6 Indiana State. Coach Gregg Marshall is 52-45 in his third year at Wichita State and 246-128 in his 12th year overall as a college head coach. Wichita still trails MSU all-time 28-26 but the Shockers have won their last five meetings vs. MSU, including 3-0 this year. WSU is 22-28 all-time in the MVC tourney and advances to the semifinals for only the sixth time since 1991. WSU is 14-13 all-time in MVC quarterfinal round.

WSU is 22-2 this season when leading at the half. WSU led at the half of both previous meetings with MSU, including 37-18 in Springfield and 32-31 in Wichita. Garrett Stutz had (4) blocks in the game, a career high. He also had nine points, six rebounds and three blocks at halftime. In the two earlier meetings with MSU, he'd totaled nine points and four rebounds. Demetric Williams had seven points in the first half to match his total in two previous games vs. MSU. Clevin Hannah scored 12 WSU points (8/8 FTs) in the last 10 minutes of the game including two baskets that came as the shot clock was expiring plus an assist to Garrett Stutz on a key layup in the final minute. Stutz had a career-high four blocks to go with a season-best 19 points. WSU had a season-best .960 (24/25) FT%, including 19/19 the second half. WSU's 24/25 from the line equals what had been the FT% tourney mark before Bradley broke it vs. Creighton earlier today.

Missouri State: The Bears' loss to WSU drops Missouri State to 20-12 for the year. Coach Cuonzo Martin is now 31-32 in his second season at MSU and overall as a college head coach. The Bears are 24-19 in the MVC tourney, 13-6 in quarterfinals.

Kyle Weems has scored in double figures in all three MVC tourney games he's played. He had 15 first-half points tonight and in his three career MVC tourney games, he's averaging 16.5 points and 7 rebounds. Weems and Jermaine Mallett had 26 of the Bears' 33 points in the first half. Weems was in foul trouble and was scoreless the second half until two FTs at the 3:47 mark. MSU was up in rebounding 18-15 at the half after losing on the boards in the two regular season games vs. WSU. Jermaine Mallett was 4/4 from the field, 2/2 from three and 7/8 from the line for 17 points at the 12-minute media time out of the second half. MSU was 13/38 shooting threes in two tourney games. MSU had a 32-28 rebound edge tonight and has outrebounded 16 of its last 18 foes and 26 of 32 for year.

First Half: The first half was close throughout with eight ties and eight lead changes. WSU got a 6-0 run to go from a 7-7 tie to a 13-7 lead (15:34) that was the biggest first half lead for either team. The Bears' biggest lead was three at 31-28 just before halftime. WSU shot .520 (13-25) in the half while the Bears were at .333 (10/30). Graham Hatch hit a trey with three seconds left to put WSU ahead 34-33 at the half and he scored seven in the half.

Second Half: The close play continued as the second half got under way. MSU's Jermaine Mallett hit a jumper with 12:50 left for a 43-43 deadlock that was the 10th tie of the contest. He added two free throws at the 12:09 mark for a 45-43 Bear lead and then Nafis Ricks got a steal and driving layup to put MSU ahead 47-43 at the 12-minute media time out. After three more lead changes, Will Creekmore's two free throws with 6:25 left pushed MSU back up by four at 56-52. WSU's Clevin Hannah left-handed in a layup with four minutes left to regain the lead at 58-57. Hannah hit two free throws at 2:18 for a 60-59 WSU edge and Mallett hit 1 of 2 with 1:52 left for a 60-60 tie. Hannah hit two more from the line to put WSU up 62-60 with 1:23 left and Creekmore answered with 1 of 2 with 1:09 left. Garrett Stutz converted a layup and a free-throw for a 65-61 WSU margin with 52 seconds left. Leonard's short jumper in the lane was blocked and WSU missed a fast-break layup with 30 seconds left but Kyle Weems drew an intentional foul for MSU. Murry hit both FTs and another MSU intentional foul sent Hannah to the line for two more makes with 28 seconds left to make it 69-61. The game finished with 13 ties and 16 lead changes. WSU outscored MSU 13-3 over the last 1:52, hitting 9/9 FTs in a stretch in which the Bears were whistled for two intentional fouls. WSU's biggest lead was 10 twice in the final minute.

Tournament Notes: The halftime margin through the first five games of this tourney has been either one point or two points.