

**2011 State Farm Missouri Valley Conference  
Women's Basketball Championship Tournament  
Quarterfinal Round \* Game 5  
#7 Indiana State 80, #2 Illinois State 51  
March 11, 2011 \* Family Arena, St. Charles, Mo.**

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**2011 REGULAR-SEASON MEETINGS** -- The Redbirds and Sycamores split, with the home team winning a blowout each time ... Shannon Thomas had 21 points, 12 rebounds, 4 blocks, 4 assists and 2 steals in a 74-55 Sycamore win on Jan. 8 in Terre Haute. On Feb. 5 in Normal, Katie Broadway scored 17 and Emily Hanley added 16 as the Redbirds outscored the Sycamores 44-20 in the second half for a 75-52 win.

**TOURNAMENT TYPE** -- Indiana State got here with an 83-68 win over Southern Illinois as Taylor Whitley and Shannon Thomas each scored 22 points ... The Redbirds are 18-17 all-time in the Valley Tournament, including 3-2 vs. Indiana State. This was a rematch of Game 3 of the 2010 State Farm Missouri Valley Conference Tournament in which the top-seeded Redbirds drubbed Indiana State 76-39 in the quarterfinals ... Indiana State is 12-17 all-time in the tournament. The Sycamores have not won a Valley Tournament title, but they reached the title game in 2003, 2005 and 2006. Indiana State is 7-10 in quarterfinal tournament games, Illinois State is 7-9 in quarterfinal games.

**HEAD-TO-HEAD** -- Illinois State leads the series with Indiana State 43-36, and had won 7 of the last 9 meetings before this game.

**REDBIRD REPORT** -- The senior-dominated 'Birds have had a four-year class win total of 121—second-best in Redbird history behind last year's class, which had 123 ... Only current Creighton coach Jim Flanery (24-9 in 2002-03) and former Drake coach Lisa Stone (2000-01) have won more games as first-year Valley coaches than Stephanie Glance (currently 20-9) ... The Redbirds have won 20 or more games in each of the past five seasons—Drake has the league record with six straight from 1997-98 to 2002-03 ... Shala Jackson is the 27<sup>th</sup> Redbird player to score 1,000 career points. All five 2008-09 Redbird starters eventually surpassed 1,000 career points.

**SYCAMORE STUFF** -- The Sycamores have neither won nor lost more than two games in a row this season, now on their sixth two-game win streak ... A Sycamore Tourney title would make Teri Moren only the second first-year Valley coach to win the tournament (Evansville's Misty Murphy won as a rookie in 2009) ... Shannon Thomas became the Sycamore career shot-block leader at 15:49 of the first half, breaking a tie with former Sycamore Laura Rudolphi (2004-08). Thomas now has 159 blocks ... the Sycamores are 15-5 when they shoot more free throws than their opponents—1-10 when they don't ... Taylor Whitley leads the Valley in minutes played and has played every minute of nine games this season. It's the fifth time a #7 seed has beaten a #2 seed in the tournament and the fifth different team to do it (Bradley '97, Creighton '99, UNI '04, MSU '06, Indiana State '11). The 29-point winning margin matches the highest by an Indiana State team in a tournament win (83-54 over UNI in 2003 semifinals).

**FIRST HALF RECAP** -- At 18:27, Deja Mattox put the Sycamores on the board with two free throws. She added a 3-pointer on the next possession ... Shala Jackson's second offensive rebound on the same trip got the 'Birds on the board at 17:08 ... Neither team had a turnover in the first four minutes, but each had four in the next four minutes ... Indiana State got eight consecutive points from Taylor Whitley on an 11-2 run to take a 21-8 lead ... The 'Birds scored 5 of the next 7 points to cut the lead to 23-13, but Indiana State stretched it to 28-13 on a bucket-and-one from Whitley and free throws from Thomas and Andrea Rademacher ... The 'Birds got a bucket from Emily Hanley, but then Whitley scored 7 of 10 Sycamore points the rest of the half to give Indiana State a 38-19 lead ... Indiana State is 14-3 when leading at halftime ... Illinois State is 4-8 when trailing at intermission. Illinois State's 19 points were the fewest of the season in a half ... Only three Redbirds scored (Hanley 11, Jackson 6, Marley Hall 2) before halftime.

**SECOND HALF RECAP** -- Hannah Spanich opened the second half by hitting the 'Birds' first 3-pointer of the game, but INS answered and led 43-24 before Shala Jackson hit a bucket-and-one with 17:45 left to start a 9-0 Redbird run to cut the lead to 43-33, but Brittany Schoen hit her third three-pointer of the game to start a 13-0 Sycamore run to build the lead to 56-33 with 11:34 remaining. Illinois State never got closer than 20 after that.