



**2013 Ohio Valley Conference Men's Basketball Championship
Game 2 – First Round - #5 Southeast Missouri 78, #7 Eastern Illinois 68
March 6, 2013 – Municipal Auditorium (Nashville, Tenn.)**

Post-Game Quotes

Southeast Missouri head coach Dickey Nutt

"I thought we played fairly well in the first 20 minutes, defensively did a good job, rebounded the ball pretty good, shot the ball fairly well. In the second half their offense kind of kicked in and we didn't have any answers, but we had enough of a lead to hold out and get a good win for us. I thought that Tyler Stone and Lucas Nutt tonight absolutely were just not going to let us lose.

"Tyler did exceptionally well, 11-out-of-12 from the field and not one jump shot, everything off the glass and you know I've been on him so much about shot selection. I just love his attitude and how he's been able to take that constructive criticism and take that to another level and tonight he was just not going to let us lose.

"I thought Lucas handled our basketball team with perfection, 12 assists. You can look at somewhere between 24 and 30 points for our basketball team that came from him. It was a good win for us. We beat a good team. You know on any given night in the OVC, anybody in the league can win and I think that our guys prepared well and I'm very proud of our win tonight."

Southeast Missouri junior Tyler Stone

"We've been here before and we know that feeling when you lose that game and have to end your season and we just didn't want to go through that. We just came out here and fought and played. Even though it probably looked good, we still didn't do a lot of things like we were supposed to and we just want to work on that and play one game at a time. I was just playing hard, keep our team afloat, be one of the leaders, try to talk. Most of [the points] were just on offensive rebounds. I'm just trying to do everything that Coach Nutt asks from me."

On coming off the bench

"Coming off the bench is just like starting. I get to see how the other team comes out and try to bring the energy to the team. Since I haven't been starting I think we've been playing a lot better, me coming off the bench trying to bring energy, bring more bench points and try to lead the guys.":

Southeast Missouri junior Lucas Nutt

"It's big to get that first win out of the way. You come out nervous always in the first game. In the second game we'll be more comfortable tomorrow and we'll have to come ready to play."

Eastern Illinois head Coach Jay Spoonhour

"They're awfully good. They've been playing well for a while. I thought we did a nice job and did about as well as we could do. Anytime the game gets going very fast, it gets tough for us. You could sense times during the game that they had very good rhythm. They didn't shoot it like they have been, they've had some guys where they have really been making them, but they were still really solid. They're a good team. I think if they're playing the way that they've been playing then they have a chance to mess this tournament up. They've got a little bit of everything you need to have to win tournament games."

"It was as fun of an 11-game season as a guy can have. It really was. We've got guys that really pull for each other. I've coached a while and you talk to these guys everyday and they look you in the eye and they try to do what you're asking them to do."

Eastern Illinois freshman Josh Piper

"They're two really good bigs. They're strong and athletic. You see one go out and the next one comes in full of energy and it's tough sometimes. You just have to keep battling and try to stay behind them and not give them any angles. I just try to do my best guarding them."

"I'm really excited. I think that we have a bright future. We have some guys coming in next year and some guys that couldn't play this year that have a lot of talent. I think that we're going to be really good in the future."

Post-Game Notes

Southeast Missouri improved to 9-10 all-time in the OVC Tournament and won a game in the conference tourney for the third straight year, a first in program history.

Southeast Missouri entered game averaging 74.2 points per game, second best in the OVC. The Redhawks netted 70-plus for the 11th time in their last 12 contests. SEMO was 8-of-20 from 3-point range in the game, just below their season shooting average of .407 from behind the arc, which ranks fifth nationally.

SEMO junior Lucas Nutt handed out 12 assists in the contest, tying his career-high previously set on December 12, 2009, against Williams Baptist. It marked the seventh double-digit assist game of his career and fourth this season. He also became the third player in program history to hand out 400 career assists along with Dwayne Rutherford (541, 1986-90) and Michael Morris (478, 1984-88).

Southeast Missouri junior Tyler Stone posted a game-high 24 points, making 11-of-12 shots in the contest. It was his 30th double-figure scoring game of the season and seventh 20-plus point outing of the year.

Eastern Illinois dropped to 5-10 all-time in the OVC Tournament, including 3-3 in games played in Nashville (all at Bridgestone Arena) and 0-2 against Southeast Missouri. It was EIU's first appearance in the OVC Tournament since 2010.

Eastern Illinois junior Morris Woods finished the game with 13 points, his fifth double-figure scoring game in the last six contests.

EIU freshman Alex Austin netted 17 points in the contest, the 12th double-digit scoring effort of the year. He leads all OVC freshmen in scoring this season.