



**2014 Ohio Valley Conference Women's Basketball Championship
Game 1 – First Round - #5 Eastern Kentucky 75, #8 Eastern Illinois 52
March 5, 2014 – Municipal Auditorium (Nashville, Tenn.)**

Post-Game Quotes

Eastern Kentucky Head Coach Chrissy Roberts

"I'm proud of the way we played today. Defensively, I felt like we were just clicking on all cylinders and our defense led to a lot of great things on the offensive end. Our goal is to continue to stay strong defensively and continue to play team ball. But I'm proud of the effort from top to bottom and I thought it was a great team win for us today."

Eastern Kentucky senior Marie Carpenter

On playing in her hometown of Nashville, Tenn.

"I kind of have got used to it. My freshman year, it was great to know that I have friends and family. I had high school teammates and friends come see me play. They have supported me every year at home games or Nashville games against Belmont and Tennessee State. I've gotten used to it."

Eastern Kentucky senior Pilar Walker

On the difference between the first meeting between the two teams in the regular season.

"I think it's our defense. Our defense was way better this game. We were more intense. In the first game, we were just out of it mentally on defense and offense. I mean, we found a way to pull it back but this time we stuck with defense. We pumped each other up. We helped each other throughout. It's just basically defense, which led into good offense."

Eastern Kentucky freshman Michaela Hunter

On a long pass that led to a basket for Carpenter

"To know that one of my seniors is running down the floor, busting her butt, and to be able to throw a ball and actually get it to her where she needed it to be and for her to finish for me, I mean she's got my back. She's my teammate. They're my family. I have trust in them."

Eastern Illinois Head Coach Debbie Black

"You've got to credit Eastern Kentucky...they came out strong and they had a lot of weapons today...they had a number of players hurt and a number of role players stepped up. We just had a tough time putting the ball in the basket and executing our offense."

On how difficult it was to guard Marie Carpenter of EKU

"Carpenter is one of the best guards in the league...she can elevate over just about anyone in this league and plus she can make shots."

On how the seniors helped Black as a first-year coach

"They had to come in this year and play large minutes for us. All three started - something they weren't used to. So, we wouldn't be here without the seniors."

On what she envisioned this first year to be like

"It's a tough question...you're never really sure what you envision. I would like to think we can go a little further, but we went through our ups and downs. I expected to go further and I expect to go further in the future. That's who I am, where I come from, and what I believe in. We hope to make strides to do that."

Eastern Illinois Senior Jordyne Crunk

"There is a lot of emotions right now...obviously coming into the OVC Tournament and we made it, emotions were running high for all these games. We're not used to playing in a big stadium like this, but you always have to play like it's your last game, so there is a lot of emotions that I can't really put into words."

On trying to contain Marie Carpenter of ECU

"Carpenter's a tough guard...she always has been. It seems like she's been here forever...she's one of those players. She can jump out of the gym and she's super fast. She can shoot the three and she's an all-around good player, so trying to contain her is a job within itself."

Eastern Illinois Junior Sabina Oroszova

"Obviously, they faced me the whole time and my defender was looking at me the whole time, trying to not let me get the ball. (They) did a good job because I really didn't get good touches and, when I did, they weren't in a good position to score, so I have to give them credit for that."

Post-Game Notes

Eastern Kentucky improves to 16-12 this season and advances to face Tennessee State on Thursday at noon.

ECU improves to 17-23 all-time in the OVC Tournament and 18-15 all-time against Eastern Illinois.

EIU drops to 6-13 all-time in the OVC Tournament and 1-5 all-time in games played at Nashville Municipal Auditorium. The Panthers are now 0-3 all-time as the #8 seed in the tournament.

ECU senior Marie Carpenter scored 24 points to push her career total to 1,596 points scored, which moves her into the school's top-five list.

ECU freshman Micheala Hunter set a new career-high with seven assists, breaking her previous career mark of six assists which she last did against SEMO in the regular season.

ECU's bench finished with 38 points, outscoring EIU's bench 38-8. Micheala Hunter led the bench with 17 points while fellow freshman Cierra Drake added 12 points.

EIU junior Sabina Oroszova recorded her 16th double-double of the season with 15 points and 12 rebounds.

Senior Jordyne Crunk scored 14 points in the game for EIU, her seventh straight game to score in double figures.