



**2014 Ohio Valley Conference Women's Basketball Championship  
Game 4 – Quarterfinal - #6 Jacksonville State 57, #3 Tennessee Tech 56  
March 6, 2014 – Municipal Auditorium (Nashville, Tenn.)**

**Post-Game Quotes**

**Jacksonville State head coach Rick Pietri**

"This was a really good basketball game. I don't care which side you're pulling for – this is a good basketball game. It was competitive throughout. The first half both teams guarded their behinds off; made it difficult for the other team to score. Then in the second half both of us did some adjusting and we were able to get some people free for looks and our perimeter looks started going down. Then (Diamond) Henderson, we held her down in the first half but in the second half, she's special now, and she just started making plays. What makes her so special, and players like her, when you have players that can make good plays against good defense, that helps your team out a lot. And Diamond can make plays against good defense. Then we started having to run people at her - different people. Sometimes it worked and sometimes it didn't. But fortunately it worked, the last two times it did work for us and we were able to get the ball in transition and have a chance to win. Then what happened at then end – we ran something at the end that we had not run to try to catch them off guard. Destiny (McLin) was our safety valve. We figured they would go with her so that would open it up for the other stuff. The stuff we ran did not work. We got it to Destiny. She just drove it and tried to make a play. The balls free and (Briana) Benson just makes a play right before the buzzer. This game could have gone either way. We made the one extra play at the end to make it go our way. We're grateful for the win and we get the privilege of playing again tomorrow"

**Jacksonville State freshman Briana Benson**

"I saw the ball. I saw the court and the basket. I just saw the ball and shot it. I just made a play.

***On if she was open***

"Yeah I was. I knew it was good. I saw the ball go in and then I saw the buzzer go off".

**Tennessee Tech Head Coach Jim Davis**

"I'm really proud of our basketball team...we led the entire game practically – they did take a one-point lead there in the second half and we got it right back, but they led when it counted and my hat's off to Jacksonville State...that is the hottest team in our league right now I guess, but Coach Pietri has done a jam-up job...it's remarkable what he's done with that basketball program, so you have to give them credit – they never quit. The team takes on the personality of the coach...and he fought to the very end and his team fought to the very end. You know, a bounce here...a bounce there – a rebound here...a defensive stop there, and we're going on to play Belmont, but it is what it is. I'm extremely proud of our basketball team and how far we've come...we have had some bad bounces and season-ending injuries, but that's basketball...that's life."

***On the play of TTU Junior Diamond Henderson***

"Diamond Henderson is a scorer...you know she's having to play out of position, so that's what I appreciate about her. Diamond's had to play the point all year long and I feel so sorry for her, but she's handled it with class and dignity...and she means a lot to our basketball team. She's our go-to player."

***On the final play of the game***

"We just didn't claim the rebound...we talk about claiming the rebound, bringing it to a chin position and protecting it...that's all I saw. We have to make a play – players make plays – and we didn't make a play right there in that situation. We did a great job defending – made them miss a shot – they (JSU) just scrambled for the basketball like they did all night long...they play with so much heart."

**Tennessee Tech Senior Molly Heady**

"It's a little surreal right now...it's gone by really fast, but, as I said in the locker room, I wouldn't want to end my career any other way than with this team...they're special. Our chemistry towards the end of the season has just been amazing...these are memories that I'm going to cherish forever and this loss doesn't define us. This team is going to be special and I'm excited to see what they do in the future."

**Tennessee Tech Junior Diamond Henderson**

"I'm always tough on myself during the offseason...always trying to get better at my weaknesses, so I definitely want to get better and will probably be dragging the rest of my team into the gym with me. It hurts that you can't pull it out sometimes, but, to me, it just makes me better, so I'm even more hungry now than I was before."

**Post-Game Notes**

Jacksonville State improves to 14-17 and will advance to play Belmont on Friday at 2 p.m.

Tennessee Tech is now 45-23 all-time in the OVC Tournament and now 3-3 as the #3 seed.

The two teams split the regular season matchups, with Tennessee Tech winning the first matchup 72-67 in Cookeville, Tenn., while the Gamecocks picked up a 74-67 victory at home in Jacksonville, Ala to snap a 12-game losing streak to the Golden Eagles. JSU has now won back-to-back games against TTU for the first time since 2005.

TTU leads the all-time series 18-5.

The 57-56 victory marks the first time the Gamecocks have advanced to the semi-finals of the OVC Tournament.