



**2014 Ohio Valley Conference Women's Basketball Championship  
Game 5 – Semifinal- #1 UT Martin vs. #5 Eastern Kentucky  
March 7, 2014 – Municipal Auditorium (Nashville, Tenn.)**

**Post-Game Quotes**

**UT Martin head coach Kevin McMillan**

"I thought the three games in three days for Eastern Kentucky were huge. You could tell when they missed their first couple of shots that their legs kind of got them. They played two great games – two tough games for them and then to turn around and play against us, who is going to try and make the game go up and down the floor, I think the double-bye for us was huge. But I thought that our bench, Elizabeth (Masengil) and Karisma Tyson were kind of the extra little catalyst that we needed in that first half. I thought both of them play exceptionally well and kind of gave an extra boost to us. Here in the postseason it's going to take stuff like that every night. But like I've been telling these guys, when the regular season ended nothing mattered any more and now that we've won this game it doesn't matter anymore. It's all about tomorrow."

**UT Martin senior Heather Butler**

***On EKU playing three games in three days***

I wouldn't say get over with but at the same time we knew what we had to do coming out to play. We basically said it doesn't matter if they're fresh, it doesn't matter if they've played the past two games but we have to have the same mind set. It's like I've said, anyone is beatable. I keep telling people that anybody is. So we just have to keep coming out here and just keep our focus and go out there and just hit our shots and play as a team and play together."

***On the play of the bench***

"It definitely is a huge help that the bench can come out there and produce so much for the team. It definitely helps us for sure."

**UT Martin senior Jasmine Newsome**

***On moving up the OVC scoring list with Heather Butler***

"It's a great award and all but I don't think either one of us focuses on individual awards right now because we are still playing. I think later on in life we'll probably worry about that. But right now we're now worried about that."

**UT Martin freshman Elizabeth Masengil**

***On the bench playing a large part in the game***

"Just like coach said, when he puts us in we have to go and keep up the intensity that the starters have. We just have to keep the momentum and we can't let up. That's what we did tonight and I think the bench did a good job of that."

**Eastern Kentucky Head Coach Chrissy Roberts**

"Martin's pretty tough, eh? I just want to say this...I'm pleased with how far this team has come – to come in here and put together a run like we put together...faced a very tough EIU opponent and a very tough Tennessee State opponent, and I felt like we competed. They're tough...we ran out of gas, but I'm pleased with our effort, the toughness that we showed and this one game has no meaning on how our season has gone. We've had a really good season...it's been a fun journey and I'm just proud of the growth that we've shown throughout the season."

**Eastern Kentucky Senior Pilar Walker**

"Yeah, I'm pretty happy about the whole thing and how hard my team played this whole season, including this game. It was a struggle for me to watch, with my injury, but I just couldn't go anymore. It was underlying injury that I didn't tell coach about because I didn't want to be selfish – I was thinking of my team the whole time, just trying to fight through it. But I'm really proud of my team and how we played this entire season."

**Eastern Kentucky Freshman Mariah Massengill**

"Honestly, no. I just heard my name...and I went in and tried to do what I could for my team. I had to step up...I felt like everything I did I needed to step up in any way I could. I couldn't give up...I didn't have the heart to give up."

### **Post-Game Notes**

UT Martin improves to 23-7 and will advance to face the winner of the #2 Belmont vs. #6 Jacksonville State game in the OVC Championship on Saturday at 1 p.m.

UT Martin improves to 17-12 in the OVC Tournament. The Skyhawks have also now won eight straight tournament games, including three straight tournament championships.

UT Martin senior Jasmine Newsome scored 21 points on the night, pushing her career total to 2,533 to move her into 2<sup>nd</sup> place all-time on the OVC career scoring list. She moves past Cheryl Taylor's total of 2,526 set from 1983-87 at Tennessee Tech and ranks behind teammate Heather Butler's total of 2,811.

UT Martin is now 23-1 when scoring 71 points or more and 19-0 when scoring 80 or more points.

EKU is now 18-24 all-time in the OVC Tournament.

Heather Butler finished with 23 points in the game, marking the 127<sup>th</sup> time the senior guard has scored in double-figures. Butler moves into a three-way tie for fifth place in NCAA history with 127 straight games in double-figures with Jackie Stiles (1997-01) of Missouri State and Alana Beard (2000-04) of Duke.

Butler's 23 points also pushes her career total to 2,834, which moves her into 19<sup>th</sup> place on the NCAA's career scoring list. She currently trails Andrea Riley's total of 2,835 set at Oklahoma State.

The Skyhawks' 97-45 victory ranks as the largest margin of victory in the OVC Tournament at 52 points, breaking the previous mark held by Tennessee Tech. TTU previously beat Youngstown State by 35 (89-54) in 1986. The 45 points UTM allowed in the game was a season-low while the 21 second half points allowed was also a season-low.

UTM saw four players score in double-figures, marking the fourth time the Skyhawks have had four players reach double-figures this season.