



**2015 Ohio Valley Conference Men's Basketball Championship  
Game 4 – Second Round - #3 Belmont 97, #6 Eastern Illinois 64  
March 5, 2015 – Municipal Auditorium (Nashville, Tenn.)**

**Post-Game Quotes**

**Belmont Head Coach Rick Byrd**

*Opening Statement*

"Not in a million years would I have thought this game would be like this. I thought it was an even game coming in. They handled us pretty good up there... I am totally glad that we played the way we did, but I kind of feel bad for those guys. They had a good year and are getting better. It's tough to lose like that, but I would rather be on our side."

*On facing Eastern Kentucky tomorrow*

"As far as Eastern Kentucky, I don't like to play them. Why would I want to win to play Eastern Kentucky? They are good, they are well-coached and they are hard to play against. But we are glad we are in the game."

**Belmont Junior Craig Bradshaw**

*On the hot start*

"I think we just wanted to come out and stick it to them from the beginning. When you do that it makes everything a lot easier. When you get up 15-0 you just kind of take their heart... We have experienced it before and we don't want to be on the other side of it."

**Eastern Illinois Head Coach Jay Spoonhour**

*Opening Statement*

"We knew, coming into the game that they could shoot the ball well and boy, they sure did. When we got into the locker room at the half it was like a picket fence, the three pointers. Everybody for Belmont had one or two or three. We aren't the first team to go through that, they've done that to a lot of teams."

*On Belmont's Shooting*

"The thing you can't let any shooter do is get a rhythm, and they did, all of their players. They got a lead, got comfortable, and that was that. (Reece) Chamberlain really got going with his shot and that set up everyone else, because now you have to guard his ability to drive and his shot, and that's near impossible to do."

**Eastern Illinois Senior Reggie Smith**

*How He Felt About the Game*

"We knew coming into the game that if they got comfortable shooting then it was going to be tough to win, and they did, from there, not much could be done. We tried to come out and play our game, but it is just a tough loss for me, right now."

**Post-Game Notes**

BU's 97 points and 16 made three-pointers are the most for the team in any conference tournament game.

All 15 Bruins played in the game.

Belmont started the game on a 15-0 run.

The Bruins made their first six shots of the game and their first three three-point attempts.

Belmont closed the first half on a 13-2 run.

Ten Bruins scored in the first half.

Craig Bradshaw had 23 points for his 11<sup>th</sup> 20-plus point game of the season.

Belmont improves to 3-1 in the OVC Tournament.

BU advances to the semi-finals for the third straight year (third year in the league).

Belmont lost the lone regular season meeting at EIU, 84-73, and was 7-of-43 from beyond the arc.

Belmont will play No. 2 seeded Eastern Kentucky on Friday at 8:30 p.m.

The Panthers fell to Belmont for the sixth time in school history.

EIU moves to 6-12 in OVC Tournament play.

Coach Spoonhour suffers his third career loss in the OVC Tournament (1-3).

EIU is now 1-3 at Municipal Auditorium.

EIU has hopes of making a postseason tournament.