



MEDIA RELATIONS

Mid-Continent Conference Media Relations

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Sixth-seeded Chicago State upsets #2 IUPUI to earn first-ever berth into the Mid-Con Men's Basketball Championship game

TULSA, OKLA. - Just hours after the sixth-seeded Oakland women's basketball team secured a spot in the final, #6 Chicago State did the same on the men's side, posting a 57-53 upset win over second-seeded IUPUI, the regular season co-champion, in the second semifinal of the 2006 Toshiba Mid-Continent Conference Men's Basketball Championship at John Q. Hammons Arena at the UMAC in Tulsa, Okla. The Cougars will play in the Championship game for the first time in school history against #1 Oral Roberts at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, March 7 with the league's automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament up for grabs. The Championship contest can be seen on ESPN with **Ron Franklin** and **Fran Fraschilla** calling the action.

Both clubs struggled from the field at the start but IUPUI took an early five point lead after **David Barlow** hit a shot in the lane for a 9-4 lead. Chicago State would run off an 8-2 spurt to take the lead at 12-11 with 12:13 left. After **Brandon Cole** hit a jumper in to give the Jaguars the advantage at the 11:22 mark, both teams struggled to find points as each went on an extended drought. **Royce Parran's** jumper started a 10-3 run for CSU that gave them a 22-16 lead with 4:40 left until halftime. IUPUI would answer with a quick burst to get within two at the break, 25-23.

The squads went back-and-forth in the second stanza but Chicago State was able to extend the lead to eight, 49-41, with 4:06 left. IUPUI would respond with a 9-2 run to get within a point at the 1:36 mark, 51-50. After a pair of **Teran Lee** free throws, Cole buried a three from the corner to knot the game at 53-53. Chicago State came out of a timeout and put the ball into Parran's hands for the final shot. Parran split a double team and passed the ball to a waiting **David Holston** who drilled a triple with 19 seconds remaining. IUPUI's **Matt Burks** missed a desperation three-pointer at the other end, and **Kourtney Calvin** hit the front end of a two-shot foul to clinch the win.

Chicago State was led by Parran who tallied 14 points, including a 10-for-10 effort from the free throw line. He added seven rebounds, four assists and four steals in 39 minutes. Holston and **Michael Henderson** each added 11 points, with Henderson going 7-of-7 from the charity stripe. IUPUI got 17 points apiece from Cole and **George Hill** to lead the scoring column. Hill added 12 rebounds and four assists, while Cole hit three shots from beyond the arc to go along with six rebounds.

The Cougars upped their mark to 11-18 with the win, including an even 8-8 record in Mid-Con action. IUPUI's season comes to a close with a record of 19-10, and a 13-3 mark in league play.

The Mid-Continent Conference is comprised of nine member institutions - Centenary College of Louisiana, Chicago State University, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI), University of Missouri-Kansas City (UMKC), Oakland University, Oral Roberts University, Southern Utah University, Valparaiso University and Western Illinois University. The conference has two associate members in swimming & diving. The league offers championships in 19 sports.

2006 Toshiba Mid-Continent Conference Men's Basketball Tournament

Game #7: #2 IUPUI (19-9) vs. #6 Chicago State (10-18)

Final Score: Chicago State 57, IUPUI 53

IUPUI Quotes & Notes

COACH RON HUNTER:

General Statements:

"We give credit to Chicago State...they did a great job tonight. We played tight, for whatever reason. The kids are devastated...we've had a great year. We ended up 19-10, a lot of teams in the country would love to be 19-10. We kinda hit a wall there at the end of the year, but I'm really, really proud of my kids."

On IUPUI's deficiencies:

"We don't have the size that I would like to have...when you get into the tournament you got to be able to score some baskets inside. Angelo (Smith) has fouled out the last 9 or 10 games, so that's something we got to get better at...so we'll have to continue to recruit. We're a perimeter basketball team, so we don't have the size that other people have."

On Chicago State being dangerous:

"(They are) Dangerous in the sense that they came in on a roll. Oakland did the same thing last year. Chicago State had won three or four in a row. Kevin's got 'em playing well. Those two little guards are really hard to match up. Basketball is so much about confidence...that's what you see with Chicago State, they just have that confidence."

IUPUI NOTES:

- IUPUI is 10-5 in all-time in the Mid-Con tournament
- Brandon Cole is tied for 3rd on the IUPUI career rebound list with 703
- 6th straight year to reach the Mid-Con semifinal round
- George Hill posted his 4th double-double of the year (sixth of his career)

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Chicago State Quotes & Notes

COACH KEVIN JONES:

General Comments:

"It was a great, hard-fought battle. We knew it was going to be tough. I am extremely proud of my guys for playing hard and getting a chance to play in the big dance."

On holding IUPUI 3 for 21 from 3 pt. range:

"I knew they weren't shooting the ball extremely well. I told our guys to stay down, don't go for shot fakes, make them take contested jump shots and our guys went out and did that."

On the play of their big men:

"I challenged them. I told them I think we're the only team in the country that doesn't have a big man averaging six points, and sometimes I feel like we can't get six points between all of them. I stay on them and they get mad me, but I don't care. Our guys are going to meet the challenge."

On preparing for Oral Roberts in the final:

"We know it is going to be tough. I've said all year that Oral Roberts is the best team in the conference. We're going to have our hands full, but it is going to be a fight...I'm looking forward to it."

ROYCE PARRAN:

On the winning three point basket by David Holston:

"In early February we played St. Louis University and the same thing happened and I kicked it out to David and he missed it. Tonight the same thing happened so I kicked it out and I just felt like it was going to go in."

DAVID HOLSTON:

On hitting the big three pointer near the end of the game:

"I was missing the whole game, but I stepped up and had to make the big shot and I did."

CHICAGO STATE NOTES:

- Chicago State advances for their first-ever appearance in the Mid-Con Championship game.
- Royce Parran went 10-10 from the FT line and led Chicago St. w/ 14 pts.