

CONNECTICUT SUN QUOTES

HEAD COACH CURT MILLER

Opening statement “Proud of the kids. They were disappointed at halftime with the way they shot the ball. We played a really good second half to get that shooting percentage up. It was a team win. Morgan (Tuck) was terrific off the bench. We got contributions from everyone.”

On the importance of ending a six-game losing streak “We really need that. We’ll go back and realize we made a lot of mistakes, but we needed an ugly win. We needed to grind one out.”

On the performance of Alyssa Thomas “She’s just a warrior. This is a tough matchup for her because (Alysha) Clark is kind of a mirror image. They’re two of the more physical “three” players in the league. She didn’t have a great game at Seattle and I wanted to go to that matchup tonight and get AT started. She didn’t have a great first half, but she’s had a great attitude all the way through the season. She plays her guts out, and finally, the basketball gods had a loose ball go in our direction.”

On the put-back by Thomas to give the Sun the lead in the last second of the game “The one timeout we didn’t do a good job executing the play diagrammed up, we found a way to score when the play didn’t materialize.”

Morgan Tuck

On the reaction of fans to Sue Bird and the fans excitement for first win

“No at the time it did not register, especially in the heat of the

game, but yes people here love Sue (Bird) and they are always going to, but I think they're Connecticut Sun fans and they're ready to see us get a win."

Chiney Ogwumike

Was there extra motivation with the big crowd tonight? "If there was any game to come to, it would be this game. The way we stuck together, people are going to want to watch this team grow. How are they two and seven? We talked about this in the beginning of the season. After the two days off and we came in mentally recharged, came in energized and it showed today. We were not perfect but we had the attitude and the effort."

Adjusting to the current role coming off the bench

"One thing I've realized, I bonded with (the bench players) because they're young. Late in the game, Morgan (Tuck), Rachel (Banham), JJ (Jonquel Jones), Kelly (Faris), it has been different coming off the bench, but until today, when we go out there, we really have a chip on our shoulder and we rely on each other offensively. It has been really energized and when the community sees how hard we fight it's contagious and it has helped us these last two games. We really have pride coming off the bench. I just try to be a leader and unify people. Empower others defensively by trying to mask each other's weaknesses."

Alyssa Thomas

How important was that last put-back to win a close game?

"It's hard. We're one and seven and we haven't had many plays like that and just to have one of those definitely gives us confidence moving forward."

When that ball is coming down do you think, 'This better go in?'

"I spoke about making it. You don't get opportunities like that

often, so you just have to make those. It's about finishing. The play definitely broke down but we got a nice drive to the basket and had the opportunity to rebound."

How badly did you need this win?

"We needed it big time. It's not fun losing and we've been working really hard and we've been in games but we haven't been able to close out. The win tonight gives us confidence. This will give us momentum while being on the road, and hopefully keep playing well."