

CHAMPAIGN SWARM GAME NOTES

Game 17: Champaign Swarm (12-4) vs. Chicago Force (3-13)

7 p.m., Wednesday, March 18, 2015

Kroc Center; Chicago, Ill.

Broadcast: www.theMPBA.com / Alvin Washington (play-by-play) / Scott Beatty (analysis)



OPENING TIP

It's Champaign's final visit of the regular season to Chicago and the start of a four-game road swing. After winning the prior three contests, the Swarm are aiming for a season sweep over the Force. A victory would also put Champaign in a virtual tie for first place with Bloomington. Champaign has already clinched a postseason berth. Chicago is three games behind Gateway for the league's final postseason slot. The Force come off a 129-101 loss to St. Louis on Friday, while Champaign beat Bloomington, 80-79, on Saturday in their final home game.

PROBABLE SWARM STARTERS

Pos.	No.	Player	Ht.	GP/GS	PPG	RPG	Note
G	11	Malcolm Griffin	6-3	4/4	15.8	4.8	Signed on March 3. 20.5 ppg in last two games.
G	4	Avery Smith	6-3	9/5	23.0	3.3	Scored 30+ points in four games this season.
G/F	32	Jordan Walker	6-6	15/2	6.9	3.4	Only player on roster with local ties.
F	20	Silas Mills	6-8	15/11	4.6	4.4	Has made 11 consecutive starts.
C	52	Livan Pyfrom	6-11	10/1	2.2	4.0	NBA D-League experience; leads team with 18 blocks (1.8 bpg).

FROM THE BENCH

Pos.	No.	Player	Ht.	GP/GS	PPG	RPG	Note
F	5	Mark St. Fort	6-7	16/14	10.7	8.1	5 th in RPG and 2 nd in off. rebounds (53)
G	14	Rashard McGill	6-6	15/13	11.7	4.1	Double-digit scoring in 10 of 15 games played.
G	25	Aaron Weaver	6-6	16/4	19.4	4.8	5 th in scoring; 3 rd in FGM (108).
G	34	LaPhonso Ellis Jr.	6-3	5/0	6.2	1.6	Son of former NBA player who was fifth pick overall in 1992 NBA draft.
G	41	Robert Broughton	6-5	15/13	7.4	5.2	Leads team with 26 steals.

Officials:

THE BUZZ...

LAST TIME OUT: As C.J. Hampton's last-second three-point attempt fell short on the rim, the Champaign Swarm survived for a gritty 80-79 win over the Bloomington Flex, beating them for the first time in four tries on Saturday night at Parkland College.

The defensive struggle saw the two teams combine for 18 blocks and 22 steals. Champaign shot just 36 percent from the field, and Bloomington was at just 26 percent. The Swarm held an opponent to its lowest output of the year, including just 12 points in the first quarter, but they also had their own lowest scoring quarter of the season, 12 in the second quarter.

Despite a tight margin for much of the game, Champaign never trailed after LaPhonso Ellis Jr.'s three-pointer broke a 31-31 tie with 1:34 left in the second quarter. A surge to start the second half pushed the lead to 14 points before Bloomington clawed back.

Champaign had an opportunity to put away the game but missed four free throws in the final 10 seconds, allowing for Bloomington's final shot.

Malcolm Griffin and Aaron Weaver each had 17 points to lead the Swarm. Champaign spread around 49 rebounds. Mark St. Fort and Livan Pyfrom each had seven apiece. Pyfrom also had three blocks.

ALUMNI REPORT: Former Champaign Swarm forward Arnold Louis was recently named Player of the Week in the Colombia Professional Basketball League for the week of March 7. He signed with the Bogotá Piratas in February. In his last two games he averaged 32.5 points per game and 20 rebounds. For the season, he's averaged 20.8 points and 11.4 rebounds in nine games, among the league leaders in both categories. Louis started the first nine Swarm games this season and led the squad in scoring and rebounds with 21.4 points per game and 9.4 rebounds per game.

MIX IT UP: Swarm head coach Chris Daleo has used 12 different starting lineups in 16 games. Mark St. Fort has the most starts on the team with 14, all but two of the team's games. LaPhonso Ellis Jr. is the only players who has not started.

POSTSEASON: The Swarm's win on Mar. 5 secured them a playoff spot. They can do no worse than fourth place in the league. The top four teams will play in the postseason. Both the semi-finals and the championship series will be a best two-out-of-three format.

MPBA STANDINGS

TEAM	W-L	GB	Streak
Bloomington-x	12-3	--	L1
SWARM-x	12-4	½	W1
St. Louis-x	10-4	1 ½	L1
Gateway	5-9	6 ½	W4
Windy City	3-12	9	W1
Chicago	3-13	9 ½	L8

x - Clinched playoff spot

SWARM SCHEDULE AND RESULTS

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME/RESULT
1/11	St. Louis	W, 113-100
1/15	Gateway	W, 124-96
1/25	Windy City	W, 115-89
1/29	Bloomington	L, 81-102
1/30	at Windy City	W, 92-84
2/5	at Chicago	W, 130-102
2/8	Windy City	W, 87-80
2/12	at Bloomington	L, 91-96
2/15	Gateway	W, 104-90
2/19	Chicago	W, 115-112
2/22	at St. Louis	L, 89-113
2/26	Chicago	W, 110-107
3/5	at Windy City	W, 129-121
3/7	St. Louis	W, 109-95
3/12	at Bloomington	L, 93-103
3/14	Bloomington	W, 80-79
3/18	at Chicago	7 p.m.
3/25*	at Gateway	7 p.m.
3/28	at Gateway	4 p.m.
3/29	at St. Louis	4 p.m.

*rescheduled from March 1

UPCOMING MPBA GAMES

Wednesday, March 18
SWARM at Chicago, 7 p.m.

Thursday, March 19
Gateway at Bloomington, 7 p.m.

Thursday, March 19
Gateway at Bloomington, 2 p.m.
Windy City at Chicago, 4 p.m.

2015 SWARM vs. Chicago

DATE	PLACE	SCORE	W/L
2/5	at Chicago	130-102	W
2/19	Champaign	115-112	W
2/26	Champaign	110-107	W
3/18	at Chicago		

COMPARISONS

	SWARM	CHICAGO
Points/ Game	103.9	99.3
Pts. Allowed /Game	98.1	109.9
Field Goal Pct.	.443	.419
3-pt. Pct.	.321	.255
Free Throw Pct.	.654	.660
Rebounding Margin	+8.3	-4.1
Fouls Per Game	29.3	27.7
Assists Per Game	11.6	11.4
Turnovers Per Game	17.9	16.8
Steals Per Game	11.5	9.9
Blocks Per Game	5.0	5.3

SWARM LEADERS

Points/ Game	A. Smith, 23.0
Rebounds/Game	M. St Fort, 8.1
3-pt. Pct.	A. Smith, .351
Free Throw Pct.	R. Broughton, .800
Assists Per Game	M. Griffin, 3.2
Steals Per Game	R. Broughton, 1.6
Blocks Per Game	L. Pyfrom, 1.8

Chicago LEADERS

Points/ Game	D. McDonald, 20.9
Rebounds/Game	D. McDonald, 9.9
3-pt. Pct.	T. Adams, .255
Free Throw Pct.	T. Adams, .820
Assists Per Game	D. Smith, 4.1
Steals Per Game	D. Smith, 3.4
Blocks Per Game	R. Carlwell, 2.8

3-BALL: After struggling from 3-point range in the first half of the season, the Swarm are second in the league for three-point percentage (.321). However, they average the fewest attempts per game. Avery Smith is shooting at a team-best .351 clip (26-for-74), Newcomer LaPhonso Ellis Jr. has gone 6-for-13 in five games.

TOUGH SLEDDING: The Swarm have only one game remaining against a team with a winning record. The Swarm are 3-4 against those teams (Bloomington, St. Louis) and 9-0 against teams with sub-.500 records. The Swarm also play their final four games on the road.

BOARD! The Swarm have collected at least 45 rebounds in 11 of their 12 wins, while they have had less than 40 in all four losses. The Swarm are the top rebounding team at 46.0 rebounds per game, just 0.3 ahead of Bloomington.

ROSTER ADDITION: The Swarm signed Malcolm Griffin on Mar. 3. Griffin played professionally in Morocco in 2014-2015 before joining the Swarm. He played his first two collegiate seasons at the University of Toledo and final two at Fresno Pacific University. At Fresno Pacific he led his team in scoring his senior season with 18.5 points per game and posted the second highest career scoring average in school history.

TACOS! The Swarm are 9-0 when scoring 100 or more points. They are 3-4 when scoring fewer than 100.

PACK YOUR BAGS: The Swarm had a home-heavy schedule in the first half of the season, having played seven of their 10 home games, which means seven of their second 10 games are on the road.

PEDIGREE: The Swarm added guard LaPhonso Ellis Jr. on Feb. 26 to their roster. The 27-year-old has played professionally in the Premier Basketball League and international pro showcases. Ellis enjoyed a successful college career at Greenville College, where he was a two-year captain, averaged 20.6 points per game in his senior season and a 15.5 career average. Ellis is the son of a former NBA player LaPhonso Ellis Sr., the fifth overall pick in the 1992 draft by the Denver Nuggets.

TRANSACTIONAL: The Swarm bolstered their roster with the addition of two veteran players on Feb. 6, center Livan Pyfrom and guard Avery Smith. At 36, Pyfrom joins as a player-coach, bringing NBA D-League and CBA experience. He played for head coach Chris Daleo in 2005 with the Rockford Lightning. Smith, 28, is a former standout player at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee with international experience. He led the Panthers in scoring his junior year.

WHO'S ON FIRST? The Swarm played their first game in team history on January 11, and a number of "firsts" were recorded. Arnold Louis grabbed the first Swarm rebound with 11:24 left in the first quarter. Robert Broughton scored the team's first points at 10:42. Rashard McGill drained the first three-pointer at 8:45. Carl Mitchell punched in the first slam dunk at 5:38 left in the second quarter.

NEWBIES: The Swarm are one of five brand new teams in the Midwest Professional Basketball Association, joining the Chicago Force, Gateway Steam St. Louis RiverSharks and Windy City Groove. The Bloomington Flex have played for three seasons, most recently in the Premier Basketball League.

CHAMPAIGN HISTORY: The Swarm are the first professional basketball team in Champaign-Urbana, and one of the only professional sports teams ever in the twin cities. A few minor league baseball teams have called Champaign home in the last century, but none since 1994. Prior to tipoff on Sunday, Champaign mayor Don Gerard issued an official proclamation declaring January 11 "Champaign Swarm Day" in the city.

LOCAL CONNECTION: Jordan Walker played at Champaign Central High School before transferring to Seton Academy in South Holland, Ill.

COACHES CORNER Chris Daleo is the first head coach in team history. Since 2008, Daleo has served as the Director of Operations for the El Salvador Basketball League and as a global consultant for the Korea Basketball League. From 2006-2008, he was the head coach and general manager for the Minot (N. Dak.) Skyrockets of the Continental Basketball Association (CBA), where his .620 winning percentage is the fifth-highest in league history.

Prior to his stint with the Skyrockets, Daleo was the head coach and general manager from 2002-2006 for the Rockford Lightning in the CBA, where he won Coach of the Year honors in 2003. Under his guidance, the Lightning won conference championships in 2003 and 2005, and his .699 winning percentage is the highest in team history.

While with Rockford, Daleo was selected to coach the conference All-Star Team three times, and was the head coach of a U.S. team that toured China in 2004, 2005 and 2006. Following the 2006 season, Daleo was picked to be one of eight coaches in the Treviso (Italy) Summer League.

Daleo's first head coaching position was with Barat College, where he worked from 1999-2002. His 2002 team made the NAIA Division 1 Final Four, earning him NAIA Division 1 Coach of the Year honors.

SWARM WINS AND LOSSES

Overall record.....	12-4
Home.....	9-1
Road.....	3-3
Current Streak.....	W1
Current Home Streak.....	W6
Current Road Streak.....	L1

Longest Win Streak.....	W3, 3x
Longest Losing Streak.....	L1, 4x
High Water Mark.....	12-4
Low Water Mark.....	1-0
Largest margin of victory (avg.)	28 (12.9)
Largest margin of defeat (avg.)	24 (15.0)

	Overall	Home	Road
January.....	4-1	3-1	1-0
February.....	5-2	4-0	1-2
March.....	3-1	2-0	1-1

vs. Bloomington	1-3	1-1	0-2
vs. Chicago.....	3-0	2-0	1-0
vs. Gateway.....	2-0	2-0	0-0
vs. St. Louis.....	2-1	2-0	0-1
vs. Windy City.....	4-0	2-0	2-0

Sunday.....	4-1	4-0	0-1
Wednesday.....	0-0	0-0	0-0
Thursday.....	5-3	3-1	2-2
Friday.....	1-0	0-0	1-0
Saturday.....	2-0	2-0	0-0

Day Games.....	4-1	4-0	0-1
Night Games.....	8-3	5-1	3-2

Leading at half.....	9-0	6-0	3-0
Tied at half.....	1-0	1-0	0-0
Trailing at half.....	2-4	2-1	0-3

Lead after 3 rd Q.....	10-0	7-0	3-0
Tied after 3 rd Q.....	0-0	0-0	0-0
Trail after 3 rd Q.....	2-4	2-1	0-3

Overtime.....	0-0	0-0	0-0
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When scoring...			
70-79 points.....	0-0	0-0	0-0
80-89 points.....	2-2	2-1	0-1
90-99 points.....	1-2	0-0	1-2
100-109 points.....	2-0	2-0	0-0
110+ points.....	7-0	5-0	2-0

< 100 points.....	3-4	2-1	1-3
≥ 100 points.....	9-0	7-0	2-0

GAME-BY-GAME RESULTS

Date	Opponent	Score	W/L	Rec.	Place (GB)	Streak	CHM Score	CHM Reb	OPP Score	OPP Reb
1/11	St. Louis	113-100	W	1-0	T-2 nd (½)	W1	A. Louis, 24	A. Louis, 18	K. DeWitt, 23	K. DeWitt, 10
1/15	Gateway	124-96	W	2-0	1 st	W2	R. McGill, 20	S. Mills, 12	Babbitt, 20	Babbitt, McGill, 7
1/25	Windy City	115-89	W	3-0	1 st	W3	A. Weaver, 24	M. St. Fort, 10	D. Johnson, 36	S. Morgan, 12
1/29	Bloomington	81-102	L	3-1	T-2 nd (1)	L1	A. Weaver, 22	M. St. Fort, 11	J. Bocot, 26	A. Slack, 13
1/30	at Windy City	92-84	W	4-1	2 nd (1/2)	W1	A. Louis, 20	A. Louis, 13	N. Fuqua, 27	N. Fuqua, 10
2/5	at Chicago	130-102	W	5-1	T-1 st	W2	A. Louis, 43	A. Louis, 10	D. McDonald, 29	D. McDonald, 15
2/8	Windy City	87-80	W	6-1	T-1 st	W3	A. Louis, 27	A. Louis, 10	C. Dillard, 22	C. Dillard, 11
2/12	at Bloomington	91-96	L	6-2	2 nd (1)	L1	A. Smith, 30	R. Broughton, 10	J. Bocot, 35	M. Salley, 10
2/15	Gateway	104-90	W	7-2	2 nd (1/2)	W1	A. Smith, 22	M. St. Fort, 18	T. Williams, 18	C. Babbitt, 8
2/19	Chicago	115-112	W	8-2	2 nd (1/2)	W2	A. Weaver, 37	M. St. Fort, 15	E. Pryor, 30	A. Ware, 8
2/22	at St. Louis	89-113	L	8-3	3 rd (1 ½)	L1	A. Smith, 36	M. St. Fort, 8	T. Leake, 27	K. DeWitt, 10
2/26	Chicago	110-107	W	9-3	2 nd (½)	W1	A. Smith, 36	R. McGill, 9	T. Adams, 44	McDonald, Smith, 8
3/5	at Windy City	129-121	W	10-3	T-1 st	W2	A. Smith, 35	Several, 4	N. Fuqua, 27	D. Jenkins, 8
3/7	St. Louis	109-95	W	11-3	T-1 st	W3	A. Weaver, 27	M. St. Fort, 10	M. Goode, 30	M. Goode, 9
3/12	at Bloomington	93-103	L	11-4	2 nd (1 ½)	L1	M. Griffin, 24	M. Griffin, 7	J. Bocot, 28	M. Salley, 10
3/14	Bloomington	80-79	W	12-4	2 nd (½)	W1	Griffin, Weaver, 17	St. Fort, Pyfrom, 7	C.J. Hampton, 18	M. Salley, 10
3/18	at Chicago									
3/25	at Gateway									
3/28	at Gateway									
3/29	at St. Louis									

GAME-BY-GAME STARTING FIVE

Date	Opponent	G	G	G	F	F/C
1/11	St. Louis	Rashard Mc Gill	Robert Broughton	Mark St. Fort	Arnold Louis	Carl Mitchell
1/15	Gateway	Rashard Mc Gill	Robert Broughton	Mark St. Fort	Arnold Louis	Carl Mitchell
1/25	Windy City	Rashard Mc Gill	Robert Broughton	Mark St. Fort	Arnold Louis	Carl Mitchell
1/29	Bloomington	Rashard Mc Gill	Robert Broughton	Mark St. Fort	Arnold Louis	Carl Mitchell
1/30	at Windy City	Rashard Mc Gill	Robert Broughton	Mark St. Fort	Arnold Louis	Carl Mitchell
2/5	at Chicago	Rashard Mc Gill	Robert Broughton	Mark St. Fort	Arnold Louis	Silas Mills
2/8	Windy City	Aaron Weaver	Robert Broughton	Mark St. Fort	Arnold Louis	Silas Mills
2/12	at Bloomington	Avery Smith	Rashard McGill	Mark St. Fort	Arnold Louis	Silas Mills
2/15	Gateway	Avery Smith	Rashard McGill	Robert Broughton	Arnold Louis	Silas Mills
2/19	Chicago	Rashard McGill	Robert Broughton	Jordan Walker	Mark St. Fort	Silas Mills
2/22	at St. Louis	Avery Smith	Rashard McGill	Robert Broughton	Mark St. Fort	Silas Mills
2/26	Chicago	Aaron Weaver	Rashard McGill	Robert Broughton	Mark St. Fort	Silas Mills
3/5	at Windy City	Aaron Weaver	Rashard McGill	Malcolm Griffin	Carl Mitchell	Silas Mills
3/7	St. Louis	Aaron Weaver	Malcolm Griffin	Robert Broughton	Mark St. Fort	Silas Mills
3/12	at Bloomington	Malcolm Griffin	Rashard McGill	Robert Broughton	Mark St. Fort	Silas Mills
3/14	Bloomington	Malcolm Griffin	Avery Smith	Jordan Walker	Silas Mills	Livan Pyfrom
3/18	at Chicago					
3/25	at Gateway					
3/28	at Gateway					
3/29	at St. Louis					

GAME-BY-GAME SWARM STATS

Date	Opponent	FGM-A	PCT	3PM-A	PCT	FTM-A	PCT	PTS	B PTS	OR-DR-TR	AS	TO	ST	BL	PF	TF
1/11	St. Louis	42-85	.494	6-12	.500	23-40	.575	113	40	19-30-49	10	16	12	1	42	0
1/15	Gateway	46-99	.464	5-14	.357	27-42	.642	124	48	19-33-52	24	9	14	5	30	0
1/25	Windy City	43-94	.457	0-8	.000	29-46	.630	115	54	16-29-45	13	24	15	6	19	0
1/29	Bloomington	28-90	.311	4-13	.308	21-33	.636	81	26	12-22-34	12	19	11	3	19	0
1/30	at Windy City	31-73	.425	1-5	.200	29-48	.604	92	37	23-29-52	6	15	10	2	24	2
2/5	at Chicago	49-84	.583	9-14	.643	23-35	.657	130	64	12-37-49	16	16	8	5	32	0
2/8	Windy City	29-81	.358	0-9	.000	29-39	.744	87	9	18-31-49	6	22	14	6	27	1
2/12	at Bloomington	32-72	.444	2-8	.250	25-32	.781	91	31	9-29-38	4	12	3	4	19	2
2/15	Gateway	36-91	.396	4-15	.267	28-37	.757	104	42	20-30-50	12	21	17	13	30	1
2/19	Chicago	37-83	.446	1-7	.143	40-52	.769	115	48	16-37-52	11	20	11	8	28	0
2/22	at St. Louis	30-83	.361	6-19	.315	23-36	.639	89	28	10-24-34	3	19	13	6	26	1
2/26	Chicago	41-79	.518	8-15	.533	20-32	.625	110	58	12-39-51	17	34	13	5	28	0
3/5	at Windy City	47-74	.635	13-26	.500	22-36	.611	129	72	5-16-21	9	10	16	2	38	2
3/7	St. Louis	46-100	.460	5-19	.263	12-19	.632	109	35	26-31-57	22	18	11	3	28	1
3/12	at Bloomington	35-83	.422	3-15	.200	20-29	.690	93	48	15-24-39	5	18	4	4	36	0
3/14	Bloomington	31-85	.365	5-22	.227	13-31	.419	80	40	15-34-49	15	13	12	7	30	0
3/18	at Chicago															
3/25	at Gateway															
3/28	at Gateway															
3/29	at St. Louis															

GAME CAPSULES

<p>Jan. 11 vs. St. Louis (W, 113-100): In the team's debut, the Swarm handed St. Louis its first loss of the season, 113-100...A two-point lead at the end of the first quarter expanded to 17 points at half time and ballooned to 31 points in the third quarter...Six players had double-digit scoring, led by Arnold Louis' double-double (26 pts., 18 reb.)...The Swarm outrebounded St. Louis 49-29 and had 12 steals...73 fouls were called in the game, 42 on the Swarm.</p>	<p>Jan. 15 vs. Gateway (W, 124-96): The Swarm used aggressive defense to beat the Gateway Steam 124-96 and improve to 2-0... The Swarm had 14 steals -- 10 in the first half -- and forced 13 turnovers ... The Swarm held Gateway to just 36 points in the first half ... Rashard McGill led Swarm scorers with 20 points ...The Swarm bench chipped in 48 points ... Mark St. Fort registered the only double-double with 17 points and 10 rebounds.</p>	<p>Jan. 25 vs. Windy City (W, 115-89): Despite 10 days off, the Champaign Swarm rolled to a 115-89 defeat of Windy City. Aaron Weaver came off the bench and scored a team-high 24 points. The Swarm held a seven-point lead after one quarter, which they built to 16 at halftime. Champaign held Windy City to just one field goal in the first six minutes of the third quarter to help put the game out reach, expanding a lead to 36 points at one point. The bench contributed 54 points. Mark St. Fort had his second straight double-double with 15 points and 10 rebounds.</p>	<p>Jan. 29 vs. Bloomington (L, 81-102): The Flex handed the Swarm their first loss of the season. Bloomington's front line was dominant; Terrence Green and Anthony Slack teamed up for 10 of Bloomington's 11 blocks. Anthony Slack poured in 21 points and grabbed 13 rebounds. The Flex defense forced 19 Champaign turnovers and had 14 steals, holding the Swarm to their lowest scoring output in four games. The Swarm pulled to within 15 points early in the fourth quarter but came no closer. For the second straight game, Aaron Weaver came off the Swarm bench to tally his squad's game-high with 22 points. Mark St. Fort posted his third straight double-double with 13 points and 11 rebounds.</p>
<p>Jan. 30 at Windy City (W, 92-84): The Swarm outlasted Groove in their first road contest of the season and beat Windy City for the second time in as many chances. Champaign's biggest lead was 14 points early in the fourth quarter, but Windy City pulled to 79-78 with 4:22 left in the game. The Swarm closed it out by sinking nine free throws from there, including Matt Neaville's 6-for-6 performance in the final minutes. Champaign dominated the glass, outrebounding Windy City 52-26. Arnold Louis tallied a double-double with a team-high 20 points and 13 rebounds while hitting 6 of 8 free throws. Rashard McGill poured in 19 points on 7-of-10 shooting from the field.</p>	<p>Feb. 5 at Chicago (W, 130-102): Arnold Louis scored 43 points as the Swarm rolled to a victory. The mark was a new scoring high for both the Swarm and the league. The Swarm jumped out to a 10-0 lead and never looked back. After Champaign built a 65-43 halftime advantage, Chicago cut the lead to nine points at 72-63 in the third quarter. But the Swarm responded with a barrage of three-pointers. Five other Swarm players scored in double-digits. Neaville scored 17 off the bench, Mitchell dropped 15, and Aaron Weaver and Jordan Walker each had 13. Rashard McGill scored 11 before leaving in the second quarter with a knee injury.</p>	<p>Feb. 8 vs. Windy City (W, 87-80): Facing the Windy City Groove for the third time in five games, the Swarm clawed their way back from a 16-point deficit in the third quarter and nine-point gap in the fourth quarter to win. The Swarm beat the Groove for the third straight time. Windy City extended a 10-point halftime lead to 56-40 in the third quarter, but the Swarm opened the fourth with a 15-2 run. Rob Broughton's three-point play put Champaign ahead of Windy City for good, 71-69. The Swarm were playing short-handed as point guard Rashard McGill sat out with a knee injury. Aaron Weaver filled in with 18 points, including key layups in the fourth quarter, but he also committed eight of the Swarm's 22 turnovers.</p>	<p>Feb. 12 at Bloomington (L, 91-96): Bloomington beat the Champaign Swarm for the second time this season and grabbed sole possession of first place. The Swarm trailed the entire game and fell behind 21 points in the third quarter before mounting a furious comeback that cut the deficit to three in the final minute. But Bloomington guard Justin Bocot made a final layup to seal the victory and cap a 35-point performance. Swarm newcomer Avery Smith made a mark in his first start with 30 points, 21 in the second half on 11-of-24 shooting. Arnold Louis added 21 points and Aaron Weaver came off the bench to add 19. While the Swarm tamed the Bloomington Flex big men who fell into foul trouble, the backcourt tandem of Bocot and Fabyon Harris combined for 57 points.</p>
<p>Feb. 15 vs. Gateway (W, 104-90): The Swarm fell behind by 18 points to the Gateway Steam on Sunday but used a bevy of blocks and steals to earn a victory. Mark St. Fort notched his fourth double-double with 18 points and a team-high 14 rebounds. Champaign's defense blocked 13 shots and had 17 steals. Aaron Weaver's bucket broke an 81-81 tie with 8:04 left in the fourth quarter to give the Swarm the lead for good, and his block with 1:32 left in the game of Terrell Williams' shot helped stymie a final comeback attempt for Gateway. Avery Smith led the Swarm for the second consecutive game with 22 points. Rashard McGill and Arnold Louis each added 16 points.</p>	<p>Feb. 19 vs. Chicago (W, 115-112): Despite playing short-handed and a furious fourth quarter from Chicago, the Swarm grabbed a home victory. They never trailed after Rob Broughton's putback put Champaign ahead 60-58 early in the third quarter. But Chicago battled back from a 12-point deficit at the start of the fourth quarter, led by Tramell Adams' 20 points in the final period. The Force came within two with under three minutes to play, before the Swarm started to pull away, hitting seven of their final 11 free throws. Aaron Weaver came off the Champaign bench to lead all scorers with 37 points, a season-high and the second biggest output of the season for a Swarm player. He did much of his work on 19-of-23 free-throw shooting. Swarm forward Mark St. Fort had the lone double-double with 15 points and 15 rebounds. Champaign controlled the boards, outrebounding Chicago 53-32.</p>	<p>Feb. 22 at St. Louis (L, 89-113): The St. Louis RiverSharks used an explosive first-quarter to jump out ahead of the Champaign Swarm and never looked back on their way to a 113-89 victory. Brandon Hogg and Keith DeWitt combined for 24 of 43 St. Louis' first-quarter points as St. Louis built a 43-16 lead at the end of the period. The Swarm were unable to catch St. Louis, despite a game-high 36 points from guard Avery Smith, who had his second 30-plus point performance in three games. Smith shot 12-for-24 and with five three-pointers while adding 7-of-8 free-throw shooting. The Swarm lost for the first time on a Sunday, during the day, and to a team other than Bloomington.</p>	<p>Feb. 26 vs. Chicago (W, 110-107): Champaign beat Chicago for the third straight time. The Swarm established a 17-point advantage after the first quarter before Chicago fought back to close the gap to a one-point deficit at halftime. Swarm point guard Avery Smith came off the bench with a team-high 36 points, including four three-pointers in the final period. He shot 13-for-21 from the field, and hit the final free throw that gave the Swarm their final margin. Aaron Weaver's layup with 1:30 gave Champaign final lead at 108-107. Weaver pitched in 24 points in his second start for the Swarm. Rashard McGill fell a rebound shy of a double-double with 10 points. Although Champaign committed 34 turnovers compared to 18 for Chicago, the Force had three critical turnovers in the final 71 seconds of the game.</p>

<p>Mar. 5 at Windy City (W, 129-121): The Swarm needed all of their 75 points racked up in the first half. They built a 31-point lead in the fourth quarter, but Windy City stormed back to cut the deficit to six in the final minutes. Swarm guard Avery Smith led all scorers with 35 points and posted his third straight 30-plus point performance. Carl Mitchell, Aaron Weaver and LaPhonso Ellis Jr. also had double-figure scoring.</p>	<p>Mar. 7 vs. St. Louis (W, 109-95):The Swarm became the first team to 11 wins at 11-3 and halted the RiverSharks' six-game winning streak. Champaign also extended a home winning streak to five games. The Swarm had 11 steals and forced 20 turnovers. After not scoring for the first three minutes of the game and falling behind 9-0, Champaign surged back and took a 27-26 lead on Malcolm Griffin's runner late in the first quarter. Moments later Jordan Walker had a slam dunk just prior to quarter's end, and the Swarm never lost the lead, building a 23-point advantage in the third quarter.</p> <p>Every Champaign player scored and outrebounded St. Louis 57-40, a new season-high. Mark St. Fort registered his team-best sixth double-double with 15 points and 10 rebounds, and Rob Broughton, Griffin and Rashard McGill joined in with double-digit scoring.</p> <p>St. Louis made several comeback attempts, shaving the deficit to eight points a handful of times in the fourth quarter.</p>	<p>Mar. 12 at Bloomington (L, 93-103): The Swarm fell to the Flex for the third time this season in as many. The loss snapped a three-game winning streak for Champaign. Bloomington led for almost the entire first half but was up just 44-41 at halftime. The two squads traded the lead several times in the second half. Bloomington grabbed their final lead at 86-85 on Trey Blue's bucket midway through the fourth quarter. The Flex closed out the game on a 21-8 run.</p> <p>Malcolm Griffin was a bright spot for the Swarm, erupting for 24 points -- 18 in the first half -- in his third game with the team. Avery Smith added 21 points, despite being hampered by an injury.</p> <p>The difference in the game may have been at the free throw line. The Swarm were whistled for 36 fouls compared to 25 for Bloomington. Bloomington scored 30 of their points at the stripe despite shooting 58 percent as a team. Champaign was 20-of-29.</p> <p>Bloomington guard Justin Bocot led all scorers with 28 points. Anthony Slack and Matt Salley teamed up for a pair of double-doubles.</p>	<p>Mar. 14 vs. Bloomington (W, 80-79): As C.J. Hampton's last-second three-point attempt fell short on the rim, the Champaign Swarm survived for a gritty win, beating the Bloomington Flex, beating them for the first time in four tries.</p> <p>The two teams combine for 18 blocks and 22 steals. Champaign shot just 36 percent from the field, and Bloomington was worse at just 26 percent. The Swarm held an opponent to its lowest output of the year, including just 12 points in the first quarter, but they also had their own lowest scoring quarter of the season, 12 in the second quarter.</p> <p>Despite a tight margin for much of the game, Champaign never trailed after LaPhonso Ellis Jr.'s three-pointer broke a 31-31 tie with 1:34 left in the second quarter. A surge to start the second half pushed the lead to 14 points before Bloomington clawed back.</p> <p>Malcolm Griffin and Aaron Weaver each had 17 points to lead the Swarm. Champaign spread around 49 rebounds. Mark St. Fort and Livan Pyfrom each had seven apiece. Pyfrom also had three blocks.</p>
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SWARM PLAYER NOTES

#4 Avery Smith	G	6-3	187	8/4/86	University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee			
Last game: 14 pts. 6 reb 2 ast.								
Highlights: Scored 35-plus points in three straight games, 2/22 - 3/5 ... Had season-high 36 in each of back-to-back games, 2/22 and 2/26 ... Scored 88 points in first three games played ... Scored team-high 22 points in win, 2/15 vs. GAT ... Made first start on 2/12 at BLM and scored 30 points on 11-of-24 shooting.			SEASON HIGHS: PTS 36 2x FGM 13 vs. CHI, 2/26 3PT M 6 vs. CHI, 2/26 FTM 8 2x MIN 35 at STL, 2/22			REB 6 vs. BLM, 3/14 OREB 3 vs. STL, 3/7 DREB 6 vs. BLM, 3/14 AST 4 vs. STL, 3/7 STL 4 2x BLK 0		
Misc.: Has played in Colombia, Lebanon, Iran and most recently Canada where he averaged 17.2 points per game in five games with Island Storm of National Basketball League of Canada ... UW-M scoring leaders in 2006-07 (15.5 ppg).								

#5 Mark St. Fort	G	6-7	225	11/5/88	Savannah State University / Warner University			
Last game: 13 pts. 7 reb 0 ast. Team's top rebounder.								
Highlights: Had back-to-back double-doubles, 2/15 and 2/19 ... Recorded fourth double-double with 18 points and team-high 14 rebounds in win, 2/15 vs. GAT ... Had three consecutive double-doubles, 1/15-1/29 ... Recorded first double-double of season with 17 points, 10 rebounds, 1/15 vs. GAT ... Scored 12 points in season debut, 1/11 vs. STL.			SEASON HIGHS: PTS 17 vs. GAT, 1/15 FGM 7 3x 3PT M 1 vs. STL, 1/11 FTM 7 3x MIN 37 2x			REB 15 vs. CHI, 2/19 OREB 8 vs. GAT, 2/15 DREB 10 vs. CHI, 2/19 AST 2 4x STL 3 2x BLK 3 2x		
Misc.: Played last year for the Heartland Prowl of the FBA ... Played three seasons at Warner University following one season at Savannah State University ... First cousin of teammate Arnold Louis ... Born in The Bahamas.								

#11 Malcolm Griffin	G	6-3	210	8/10/91	University of Toledo / Fresno Pacific University			
Last game: 17 pts. 6 reb 4 ast.								
Highlights: Had team-high 24 points and seven rebounds in loss, 3/12 at BLM ... Had nine points and three assists in debut, 3/5 at WC.			SEASON HIGHS: PTS 24 at BLM, 3/12 FGM 11 at BLM, 3/12 3PT M 1 vs. STL, 3/7 FTM 3 vs. BLM, 3/14 MIN 37 at BLM, 3/12			REB 7 at BLM, 3/12 OREB 2 2x DREB 5 2x AST 4 vs. BLM, 3/14 STL 2 3x BLK 0		
Misc.: Played professionally in Morocco.								

#14 Rashard McGill	G	6-5	205	3/15/89	Iona College / Tallahassee Comm. Coll. / Southern Miss			
Last game: 2 pts. 2 reb 3 ast.								
Highlights: Scored 19 points in win, 1/30 at WC ... Led team with 20 points scored and seven assists in win, 1/15 vs. GAT ... Scored 14 points in season debut, 1/11 vs. STL.			SEASON HIGHS: PTS 20 vs. GAT, 1/15 FGM 8 vs. GAT, 1/15 3PT M 1 vs. STL, 1/11 FTM 9 vs. BLM, 1/29 MIN 38 2x			REB 9 vs. CHI, 2/26 OREB 3 at CHI, 2/5 DREB 7 vs. CHI, 2/26 AST 3 2x STL 3 vs. BLM, 3/14 BLK 0		
Misc.: Reached C-USA finals and NIT Elite Eight in 2013 senior year with Southern Miss.								

#20 Silas Mills F 6-8 230 2/18/92 Garden City Community College / University of Montevallo**Last game:** 0 pts. 3 reb 0 ast.

Highlights: Had season-high 14 points along with four blocks in win, 2/19 vs. CHI ... Led team with 12 rebounds in win, 1/15 vs. GAT.

SEASON HIGHS:

PTS	14 vs. CHI, 2/19	REB	12 vs. GAT, 1/15
FGM	6 vs. CHI, 2/19	OREB	4 2x
3PT M	0	DREB	12 vs. GAT, 1/15
FTM	4 vs. WC, 2/8	AST	1 3x
MIN	31 at STL, 2/22	STL	2 at CHI, 2/5
		BLK	3 3x

Misc.: Father is Silas Mills, former CBA Finals MVP and standout international player.

#25 Aaron Weaver G 6-6 200 8/14/89 North Park University**Last game:** 17 pts. 5 reb 2 ast.

Highlights: Had team's second highest scoring output with 37 points off bench in win, 2/19 vs. CHI ... Missed double-double by one rebound and led bench scorers with 19 points in loss, 2/12 at BLM ... Made first start and scored 18 points and played 42 minutes in win, 2/8 vs. WC ... Led team in scoring in back-to-back games off bench, 1/25-1/29 ... Scored team-high 24 points off bench in win, 1/25 vs. WC ... Scored 14 points off bench in win, 1/15 vs. GAT ... Scored 11 points off bench in season debut, 1/11 vs. STL.

SEASON HIGHS:

PTS	37 vs. CHI, 2/19	REB	9 2x
FGM	12 vs. STL, 3/7	OREB	5 at WC, 1/30
3PT M	2 2x	DREB	7 at BLM, 2/12
FTM	19 vs. CHI, 2/19	AST	3 2x
MIN	42 at WC, 1/30	STL	4 vs. CHI, 2/26
		BLK	2 vs. GAT, 1/15

Misc.: Averaged 15.4 ppg and 6.8 rpg in 34 games at North Park University ... Attended Crane Tech High School in Chicago, Ill.

#32 Jordan Walker G/F 6-6 190 10/11/90 Midland College / Southern Methodist Univ. / Walsh Univ.**Last game:** 9 Pts. 6 reb 1 ast.

Highlights: Made first start and scored season-high 19 points in win, 2/19 vs. CHI ... Scored 13 points off bench in win, 2/5 at CHI ... Scored 10 points off bench in win, 1/15 vs. GAT.

SEASON HIGHS:

PTS	19 vs. CHI, 2/19	REB	8 vs. WC, 1/25
FGM	6 vs. CHI, 2/19	OREB	3 2x
3PT M	2 at WC, 3/5	DREB	7 vs. CHI, 2/19
FTM	7 vs. CHI, 2/19	AST	5 vs. GAT, 1/15
MIN	29 vs. CHI, 2/19	STL	3 2x
		BLK	1 3x

Misc.: Played at Champaign Central High School ... transferred to Seton Academy (South Holland, Ill.) and won Class 2A state championship in 2009 ... lives in Chicago.

#34 LaPhonso Ellis G 6-3 205 5/2/87 Greenville College**Last game:** 5 Pts. 2 reb 0 ast.

Highlights: Scored 16 points in 13 minutes, 3/5 at WC ... Made debut and scored seven points in win, 2/26 vs. CHI.

SEASON HIGHS:

PTS	16 at WC, 3/5	REB	4 vs. CHI, 2/26
FGM	6 at WC, 3/5	OREB	2 2x
3PT M	3 at WC, 3/5	DREB	2 vs. CHI, 2/26
FTM	1 at WC, 3/5	AST	2 at WC, 3/5
MIN	13 at WC, 3/5	STL	1 vs. BLM, 3/14
		BLK	0

Misc.: Two-year captain at Greenville College...averaged 20.6 points per game in his senior season and a 15.5 career average ... son of a former NBA player LaPhonso Ellis Sr.

#41 Robert Broughton G 6-5 225 1/28/86 Gannon University / Saint Xavier University**Last game:** 3 Pts. 5 reb 2 ast.

Highlights: Led Swarm in rebounds with 10 in loss, 2/12 at BLM ... Narrowly missed double-double with 14 points and nine rebounds and scored go-ahead basket in fourth quarter in win, 2/8 vs. WC ... Had seven steals and two blocks in win, 1/25 vs. WC.

SEASON HIGHS:

PTS	19	vs. GAT, 1/15	REB	10	at BLM, 2/12
FGM	6	vs. GAT, 1/15	OREB	4	2x
3PT M	2	vs. STL, 3/7	DREB	7	at BLM, 2/12
FTM	7	vs. GAT, 1/15	AST	7	vs. STL, 3/7
MIN	39	vs. STL, 3/7	STL	7	vs. WC, 1/25
			BLK	2	2x

Misc.: Lives in Elizabethtown, Ky....Born in Virginia Beach, Va.

#52 Livan Pyfrom C 6-11 240 5/19/78 Creighton University**Last game:** 0 Pts. 7 reb 1 ast. Leads team with 1.8 blocks per game.

Highlights: Made season debut in win, 2/8 vs. WC.

SEASON HIGHS:

PTS	6	vs. STL, 3/7	REB	7	vs. BLM, 3/14
FGM	3	vs. STL, 3/7	OREB	5	vs. STL, 3/7
3PT M	0	vs. WC, 2/8	DREB	6	at STL, 2/22
FTM	3	vs. GAT, 2/15	AST	1	3x
MIN	33	2x	STL	1	at BLM, 2/12
			BLK	3	3x

Misc.: Played for Swarm coach Daleo in 2005 with Rockford Lightning ... Led Creighton University in blocked shots each of junior and senior years ... Native of The Bahamas.

LEADERS AND SCORING BREAKDOWN

Player	GAME LEADER				POINTS			10+ REB	10+ AST	DOUBLE-DOUBLES	TRIPLE-DOUBLES
	PTS	REB	AST	BENCH PTS	10-19	20-29	30+				
Biggers					1						
Broughton		1	5.0		5						
Ellis					1						
Griffin	1.5	1.5	2		2	1					
Louis - x	4	4	1		4	4	1	4		4	
McGill	1	1.5	2.5		9	1					
Mills		1	0.5		1			1			
Mitchell - x		0.5		1	4						
Neaville - x			1	2	3						
O'Neil - x											
Pyfrom		0.5									
St. Fort		6.5			10			6		6	
Smith	5		2.5	4	2	2	4				
Walker			1.5		3						
Weaver	4.5	0.5	1.0	7.5	11	4	1				

BENCH SCORING

Player	SWARM	OPPONENT
Season Average	39.5 (632)	33.5 (536)
Team High	72, at WC, 3/5	87, at WC, 3/5
Team Low	9, vs. WC, 2/8	18, at CHI, 2/5
Player High	Weaver, 37, vs. CHI, 2/19	T. Adams, 44, 2/26 vs. CHI

HIGHS AND LOWS

SCORE BY QUARTER

	1	2	3	4	Total
Opponents	365	383	374	447	1569
SWARM	385	409	413	455	1662

SCORE BY QUARTER (AVG.)

	1	2	3	4	Total
Opponents	22.8	23.9	23.4	27.9	98.1
SWARM	24.1	25.6	25.8	28.4	103.9

SWARM HIGHS AND LOWS

Most Points.....	130, February 8 at Chicago
Fewest Points.....	80, March 14 vs. Bloomington
Most Points, quarter.....	44, March 5 at Windy City (2 nd)
Fewest Points, quarter.....	12, March 14 vs. Bloomington (2 nd)
Most Points, half.....	75, March 5 at Windy City (1 st)
Fewest Points, half.....	30, January 29 vs. Bloomington (1 st half)
Most FGs Made.....	49, February 5 at Chicago
Fewest FGs Made.....	28, January 29 vs. Bloomington
Most FGs Attempted.....	100, March 7 vs. St. Louis
Fewest FGs Attempted.....	72, February 12 at Bloomington
Most 3P-FG Made.....	13, March 5 at Windy City
Fewest 3P-FG Made.....	0, twice, last February 8 vs. Windy City
Most 3P-FG Attempted.....	26, March 5 at Windy City
Fewest 3P-FG Attempted.....	5, January 30 at Windy City
Most FT Made.....	40, February 20 vs. Chicago
Fewest FT Made.....	13, March 14 vs. Bloomington
Most FT Attempted.....	52, February 20 vs. Chicago
Fewest FT Attempted.....	19, March 7 vs. St. Louis
Most Rebounds.....	57, March 7 vs. St. Louis
Fewest Rebounds.....	21, March 5 at Windy City
Most Offensive Rebounds.....	26, March 7 vs. St. Louis
Fewest Offensive Rebounds.....	9, February 12 at Bloomington
Most Defensive Rebounds.....	39, February 26 vs. Chicago
Fewest Defensive Rebounds.....	22, January 29 vs. Bloomington
Most Assists.....	24, January 15 vs. Gateway
Fewest Assists.....	3, February 22 at St. Louis
Most Steals.....	17, February 15 vs. Gateway
Fewest Steals.....	3, February 12 at Bloomington
Most Blocks.....	13, February 15 vs. Gateway
Fewest Blocks.....	1, January 11 vs. St. Louis
Most Turnovers.....	34, February 26 vs. Chicago
Fewest Turnovers.....	9, January 15 vs. Gateway
Most Opponent Turnovers.....	23, March 5 at Windy City
Fewest Opponent Turnovers.....	7, January 11 vs. St. Louis
Most Personal Fouls.....	42, January 11 vs. St. Louis
Fewest Personal Fouls.....	19, twice, last February 12 at Bloomington

INDIVIDUAL HIGHS

Most Points.....	43, Arnold Louis, February 5 at Chicago
Most FGs Made.....	18, Arnold Louis, February 5 at Chicago
Most FGs Attempted.....	27, Avery Smith, February 15 vs. Gateway
Most 3P-FG Made.....	6, Avery Smith, twice, last March 5 at Windy City
Most 3P-FG Attempted.....	11, Avery Smith, 2x, last Mar. 12 at Bloomington
Most FT Made.....	19, Aaron Weaver, February 20 vs. Chicago
Most FT Attempted.....	23, Aaron Weaver, February 20 vs. Chicago
Most Rebounds.....	18, Arnold Louis, January 11 vs. St. Louis
Most Offensive Rebounds.....	8, 2x, last Mark St. Fort, February 15 vs. Gateway
Most Defensive Rebounds.....	12, Silas Mills, January 15 vs. Gateway
Most Assists.....	7, 2x, last Rob Broughton, March 7 vs. St. Louis
Most Steals.....	7, Robert Broughton, January 25 vs. Windy City
Most Blocks.....	4, Silas Mills, February 20 vs. Chicago
Most Turnovers.....	9, Avery Smith, February 26 vs. Chicago

OPPONENT HIGHS AND LOWS

Most Points.....	121, March 5 at Windy City
Fewest Points.....	79, March 14 vs. Bloomington
Most Points, quarter.....	44, March 5 at Windy City (4 th)
Fewest Points, quarter.....	12, twice, last March 14 vs. Bloomington (1 st)
Most Points, half.....	66, March 5 at Windy City (2 nd)
Fewest Points, half.....	30, February 8 vs. Windy City (2 nd half)
Most FGs Made.....	41, February 20 vs. Chicago
Fewest FGs Made.....	20, March 14 vs. Bloomington
Most 3P-FG Made.....	13, February 20 vs. Chicago
Fewest 3P-FG Made.....	2, twice, last February 15 vs. Gateway
Most FT Made.....	46, January 11 vs. St. Louis
Fewest FT Made.....	8, January 25 vs. Windy City
Most Rebounds.....	45, March 12 at Bloomington
Fewest Rebounds.....	26, January 30 at Windy City
Most Offensive Rebounds.....	18, February 5 at Chicago
Fewest Offensive Rebounds.....	8, February 20 vs. Chicago
Most Defensive Rebounds.....	33, March 14 vs. Bloomington
Fewest Defensive Rebounds.....	17, January 30 at Windy City
Most Assists.....	21, February 20 vs. Chicago
Fewest Assists.....	1, January 11 vs. St. Louis
Most Steals.....	22, February 26 vs. Chicago
Fewest Steals.....	5, January 15 vs. Gateway
Most Blocks.....	13, February 22 at St. Louis
Fewest Blocks.....	1, February 5 at Chicago
Most Turnovers.....	23, March 5 at Windy City
Fewest Turnovers.....	7, January 11 vs. St. Louis
Most Personal Fouls.....	36, February 20 vs. Chicago
Fewest Personal Fouls.....	20, March 7 vs. St. Louis

TRANSACTIONS

Feb. 4	Released G Tiger O'Neil
Feb. 6	Signed C Livan Pyfrom
Feb. 6	Signed G Avery Smith
Feb. 7	Released G Matt Neaville
Feb. 17	Foreign Release F Arnold Louis
Feb. 18	Signed G Charles Robinson
Feb. 21	Released F Keith Biggers
Feb. 24	Released G Charles Robinson
Feb. 25	Signed G LaPhonso Ellis Jr.
Mar. 3	Signed G Malcolm Griffin
Mar. 14	Released F Carl Mitchell