

March 21, 2009

## On the road...live from East Lansing

Part one of a series documenting Middle Tennessee's NCAA Tournament run

Brandi Brown

### 7:30 AM

When I woke up this morning, I was so excited!! There aren't many days when I wake up that I can actually say I'm ready to get up and get going...but, today was definitely one of those days. I haven't packed everything so I better get that done!!

### 10:00 AM

We have to be on campus before 10:45, today they are having TSSAA State tournament for the boys and I know parking will be bad (as it always is) so my sister, Kristen, is going to drop me off!! Playing for Coach Insell I have learned that 10:45 actually means 10:30. Being part of this program has definitely taught me the importance of being responsible and ON TIME!! I have to say my goodbyes to our dog Mattie before I leave, and everyone else...Coach Insell doesn't allow us to have our cell phones on road trips so I have lots of calls to make before I leave for the gym.

### 11:00 AM

Richie, our very dependable and loyal bus driver, is taking us to the Smyrna Airport for our flight to Michigan with the help of a police escort. Everyone that lives in Murfreesboro knows how long it can take to get across town, so we really appreciate their assistance. The airplane that we are flying in is a little bit small compared to most of the planes that we fly in. We have a few girls that aren't very excited about this!! I'll never forget my freshman year how nervous Jackie was to fly...she had never flown before and the night before we left to go Minnesota we went to the movies and watched "We are Marshall." Needless to say, she was terrified when we got on the plane that next day. There are lots of stories that I'll never forget about this team...we definitely have a lot of fun! Well we're almost ready to take off, I'll check in later!



Brandi Brown writes part one of a series of team journals from the NCAA Tournament. (Bradley Lambert)

### 3:30 PM

We just got to our hotel; we are staying at the Sheraton. The flight was good, it only took us an hour and fifteen minutes...so it was short and sweet. Practice is in a little bit, so we don't have time to do much except get changed into our practice clothes. It's not as cold here as what I expected, thank goodness!

### 10:00 PM

We practiced at a high school for a couple of hours this afternoon, and then we left to eat supper!! We all love to eat!! They took us to the Olive Garden...everyone liked that. We even got dessert this time!!! Most of the time we don't get to eat dessert because our games are the next day, but this time they didn't have a good enough reason to deprive us :-). To our surprise we went onto Michigan State's campus after dinner, we went in the gym and looked around...we are really excited! Hopefully we will have a lot of fans to help fill up their big gym. We met a little girl at dinner that never misses a Michigan State girl's basketball game; she was precious. It's always nice to meet kids who really have a passion and love for this game, because I know how much it's meant to me over the years. Well I'm ready for bed...it's getting late, and we have curfew so I better go! Hopefully my next journal entry will be from California! Night night!! [Brandi Brown](#)

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