THE GAME: Truman State University Bulldogs (Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association/NCAA Division II) vs. Drury University Panthers (Heartland/NCAA DII)

DATE/TIME: Wednesday, Dec. 18, 2002, 7 p.m.

ARENA (CAP.): Weiser Gym (2,250)

LOCATION: Springfield, Mo.

THE GAME: Truman State University Bulldogs (Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association/NCAA Division II) vs. Quincy University Hawks (Great Lakes Valley/NCAA DII)

DATE/TIME: Saturday, Dec. 21, 2002, 7:30 p.m.

ARENA (CAP.): Pepsi Arena (2,000)

LOCATION: Quincy, Ill.

BROADCAST: KRES 104.7 FM in Moberly, Mo. Sports Director Brad Boyer does play-by-play with commentary from long time Bulldog commentator, Hank Janssen. The pregame show begins approximately 15 minutes before the game.

INTERNET BROADCAST: At regionalradio.com and click on KRES.

TEAMLINE: Live KRES broadcast can be heard by calling 1-800-846-4700. Access Code: 6350 A reasonable fee is charged.

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TRUMAN (3-4): Truman, which has already matched last year’s win total, will play its final two non-conference games of the year when it travels to Drury and Quincy this week. The Bulldogs would like a pair of wins and finish the non-conference season above .500 for the first time since 1999-2000.

Last week, Truman hosted Hannibal-LaGrange and picked up a 80-58 win. The Bulldogs will have had nine days off from competition prior to their contest with Drury.

DRURY (2-6): The Panthers are 2-6 on the year after losing a pair of games to MIAA schools last week in the High Desert Classic in Las Vegas, Nev. Central Missouri knocked off Drury by a 81-79 score while Northwest Missouri barely squeaked by as well by a 90-84 margin.

Drury is led by Chris Mortellaro who is averaging 18.6 points and 7.1 rebounds a game. Maxie Stamps is also in double-figures with 12.3 points a game and is averaging 5.4 rebounds. Anton McKinney leads the team with 30 assists and 15 steals. Chris Ealim and Frank Bennett are the top three-point threats for the Panthers.

Drury is coached by Gary Stanfield who is in his 12th season at the school and has an all-time mark of 205-113.

SERIES WITH DRURY: Truman has won just three of its ten contests it has with Drury on the hardwood, including a 69-66 loss earlier this year in Pershing Arena. The last Bulldog win in the series was last year when Truman won 80-75 in Pershing Arena. Truman has won just once in Springfield against Drury, a 15-14 victory way back in 1923.

QUINCY (3-3): Quincy is currently 3-3 on the year and 1-3 in the Great Lakes Conference. The Hawks take on Culver-Stockton and Olivet Nazarene before facing Truman on Saturday. Quincy has one win over a MIAA school this year, a 77-66 victory over Missouri Southern.

The Hawks have been led offensively by Brian McNeil and Phil Getttering. McNeil is averaging 11.2 points and 7.2 rebounds a game while Getttering is putting up 10.2 points and 6.3 rebounds. Jamal Thompson leads the team with three assists a game and has eight steals on the season.

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Quincy is shooting 44.5% from the field as a team and is out-rebounding opponents by 4.5 boards a game.

The Hawks are coached by Mike Foster who is 20-38 in his third season at Quincy.

SERIES WITH QUINCY: Saturday’s battle will be the 96th meeting between Truman and Quincy. The Bulldogs will be looking to tie the series at 48 wins apiece. Quincy has won three straight in the series including a 79-74 win last year.

LAST WEEK: TRUMAN-80, HANNIBAL-LAGRANGE-58: The Bulldogs used a 15-2 run late in the first-half to grab an 18-point lead and that lead would never get cut into single-digits.

Four players were in double-figure scoring led by Jiri Mikl with 19 and Gavin Welker with 16. Gavin Welker also led the team with seven rebounds and four blocks while Chip Sodemann had a team-high six assists to go along with his 11 points.

Truman shot over 50% from the field in the win including 68% from its bench players.

The Trojans were led by Ezra Rinot who had 17 points, six rebounds and three assists.

EARLIER THIS YEAR: DRURY-69, TRUMAN-66: Earlier this year, Truman dropped a close home game to Drury by a 69-66 margin.

The Bulldogs led by seven with under six minutes to play following a three-pointer by Matt Brock. Truman would, however, go cold from the field and miss its next 10 field goal attempts. Drury took advantage by going on a 13-0 run that helped them seal the victory.

Truman was led in scoring by Jiri Mikl with 15 points and Aaron Mueller with 11. Adam Glosier had eight rebounds and six points but played just 16 minutes due to foul trouble. Matt Beran had six points and five assists in just 20 minutes of play.

Drury was led by Darryl Wilson who had 15 points. Matt Engstrom had a double-double with 12 points and 11 rebounds. Anton McKinney had eight assists to go with his nine points, six rebounds and four steals.

MIAA LEADERS: Through last Sunday’s action, the Bulldogs were third in the conference in scoring defense and ninth in scoring offense. Truman was also among the top of the leaders in field goal percentage defense (2nd), three-point field goal percentage (4th), three-pointer made (t-3rd), assists (3rd), blocked shots (4th) and assist/turnover ratio (4th).

Individually, Matt Beran was tied for 17th in scoring with 12.7 points per game and fifth in rebounding with 7.8 boards. Adam Glosier was 13th in rebounding (6.7) while Gavin Welker was tied for fourth in blocked shots (1.0). Jiri Mikl was tied for seventh in three-point field goal percentage (.414) and Mikl and Aaron Mueller was tied for tenth in three-pointers made (1.71).

FREE THROW SHOOTING: The Bulldogs have been improved at the free throw line the last three games, hitting 79% of their attempts. In the first four games, Truman was only hitting 61% of its charity shots.

On the down side, Truman has only gone to the free throw line an average of eight times a game during the last three contests. In the first four games, the Bulldogs were going to the line almost 19 times a game.

TURNOVERS: The Bulldogs have been doing a better job protecting the ball than their opponents. On the season, Truman has less turnovers than its opponents in four games and is averaging just over 14 turnovers a game, compared to 16.4 for its opponents.

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HEAD COACH JACK SCHRADER: Jack Schrader is in his eighth season as head coach of the Truman men's basketball team after serving as an assistant coach at Truman for four years under Willard Sims.

In seven years under Schrader, the Bulldogs have made five appearances in the MIAA postseason tournament. He is 85-113 (.429) for his career at Truman and, in 1998-99, led the team to one of its best seasons that concluded with an appearance in the 1998-99 NCAA championship semifinals. Truman claimed the MIAA postseason tournament championship that year and Schrader was named the conference's co-coach of the year and the NABC regional coach of the year.

Prior to coaching the Bulldogs, Schrader coached professional and high school teams all over the world. He was a member of the Arizona State Sun Devils for three years and was drafted by the Phoenix Suns in 1975 and played professionally in Europe.

SEASON HIGHLIGHT REEL:

◆ Matt Beran was named to the Milner Classic all-tournament team after averaging 20 points and 14 rebounds a game. In that tournament, he had career-highs with 23 points and 18 rebounds against Florida Tech.

◆ The Bulldogs register their first 100-point victory in more than three years when they defeat Central Christian College of the Bible 111-47.

◆ Truman's bench players score 41 points and shot 68% from the field as the Bulldogs match last year's win total with a 80-58 victory over Hannibal-LaGrange.

UP NEXT: Truman begins MIAA play on Dec. 30 when it travels to Central Missouri for a 7:30 p.m. game. The Bulldogs will begin the new year on Jan. 4 with a road battle at Washburn before finally returning home on Jan. 8 against Northwest Missouri.

TAKE A KID TO THE GAME: Truman will be sponsoring two Take A Kid To The Game days in January, admitting kids under 12 for free with a paid admission to the Jan. 8 and Jan. 25 Bulldog home basketball doubleheaders.

On Jan. 8 the Bulldogs play host to Northwest Missouri in a doubleheader, beginning at 5:30 p.m.

On Jan. 25, the NCAA's mascot J.J. Jumper will also be at the games. Along with free admission to that night's doubleheader vs. Missouri Southern at 1:30, kids can meet J.J. Jumper and get free team posters and pom pons.

SONIC SHOT OF THE CENTURY: On Jan. 18, the traveling Sonic Shot-of-the-Century will be in Kirksville. One person will be chosen at random from those who register at the game, and will have the opportunity to win $10,000 by making a layup, a free-throw, a three-pointer and a half-court shot within 24 seconds. The contestant will win a prize for each shot he or she makes, regardless if they win the grand prize.

In addition, the Truman NCAA Division II runnerup volleyball team will be honored immediately following the 10K shootout.

2003 SONIC MIAA TOURNAMENT: The men's and women's Sonic MIAA Postseason Tournaments will be held at a neutral site this year for the first time. The Sonic MIAA Tournament will take place on March 6-9 at Municipal Auditorium in Kansas City, Mo. For ticket information, call the Truman ticket office at (660) 785-4167.

PLAYER NOTES

#00 Gavin Welker
8.1 ppg, 3.6 rpg, 1.3 apg
Recent Game:
vs. Hannibal-LaGrange- scored 16 points and was perfect from the field, making all six attempts. Also had a team-high seven rebounds and four blocks and added three assists.

Has played in all seven games off the bench... leads the team with a .618 field goal percentage, .917 free throw percentage and seven blocked shots... has made four-of-five three-point attempts... has scored in double-figures in two games and has one double-double on the year.

#3 Chip Sodemann
9.1 ppg, 2.7 rpg, 2.1 apg
Recent Game:
vs. Hannibal-LaGrange- had a team-high six assists to go along with 11 points, three rebounds and one steal.

Has started all seven games... leads the team with six steals... has knocked down 47% of his field goal attempts, 44% of his three-point attempts and 75% of his free throws... had season-highs of 15 points and eight rebounds in the second meeting with Lincoln... has scored in double-figure in five games.

#4 Aaron Mueller
6.6 ppg, 1.3 rpg, 2.6 apg
Recent Games:
vs. Hannibal-LaGrange- scored 13 points and had three rebounds and three assists.

Has started all seven games... leads the team with 18 assists and is tied for the team-high with 12 three-pointers... has scored in double-figures in three games, including the last two.

#5 Cory Long
4.0 ppg, 0.5 rpg, 1.0 apg
Recent Games:
vs. Hannibal-LaGrange- did not play

Has seen time in two games... averaging 2.0 steals a game... has eight points, two assists and one rebound.

#11 Jiri Mikl
10.0 ppg, 1.7 rpg, 0.7 apg
Recent Games:
vs. Hannibal-LaGrange- had a team-high 19 points on seven-of-12 shooting from the field, including three-of-five from three-point range. Also had three rebounds and one assist.

Has played in all seven games, coming off the bench in the last four... averaging 17 points the last two games and is shooting 52% from the field... tied for the team lead with 12 three-pointers... has scored in double-figures in four games.
#14 Matt Brock
2.8 ppg, 1.0 rpg, 0.5 apg
Recent Games:
vs. Hannibal-LaGrange- Scored six points, hitting two-of-four three-point attempts. Also had two rebounds and one assist.

Has played in six games... had a career-high nine points against Drury... is averaging 7.5 points and 2.0 rebounds in the last two games.

#15 Torre Finley
2.8 ppg, 3.2 rpg, 1.2 apg
Recent Games:
vs. Hannibal-LaGrange- Did not play

Seen action in six games... has 19 rebounds, 17 points, seven assists and three steals.

#20 Jeff Nepple
2.8 ppg, 0.8 rpg, 1.5 apg
Recent Games:
vs. Hannibal-LaGrange- Did not play

Played in four games, starting one... had five points and hit both field goal attempts against Drury... had six points and five assists in his start against Central Christian.

#25 Bret Maxwell
2.8 ppg, 3.2 rpg, 1.6 apg
Recent Games:
vs. Hannibal-LaGrange- Did not play

Played in five games... had season-high seven points against Central Christian... has hit 50% of his field goal attempts.

#32 Ryan Welker
7.1 ppg, 2.9 rpg, 2.3 apg
Recent Games:
vs. Hannibal-LaGrange- Had eight points, three rebounds, two assists and one block.

Has played in all seven games and started the last three... has 16 assists and just six turnovers... has hit seven-of-nine free throw attempts... tied for second on the team with five steals... had season-high 12 points in the second meeting against Lincoln.

#35 Derek Lindsey
2.2 ppg, 1.8 rpg, 2.0 apg
Recent Games:
vs. Hannibal-LaGrange- Did not play

Seen action in five games... has hit five-of-ten field goal attempts... has 11 points, nine rebounds, five steals and four assists.

#40 Matt Beran
12.7 ppg, 7.8 rpg, 2.8 apg
Recent Games:
vs. Hannibal-LaGrange- Played just five minutes before leaving due to an injury. Had two points, two rebounds, one assist and one block.

Has played and started in six games... leads the team in points and rebounds and is second with 17 assists, five blocks and five steals... shooting 50% from the field... has scored in double-figures in his first four games... has two double-doubles... recorded career-highs with 23 points and 18 rebounds against Florida Tech.

#42 Garret Grimm
1.1 ppg, 1.7 rpg, 1.3 apg
Recent Games:
vs. Hannibal-LaGrange- Recorded two rebounds and two assists in six minutes.

Has played in all seven games, starting one of them... has recorded nine rebounds and eight assists in the last four games.

#50 Adam Glosier
8.0 ppg, 6.7 rpg, 1.7 apg
Recent Games:
vs. Hannibal-LaGrange- Scored five points and had four rebounds before fouling out.

Started all seven games... second on the team with a 6.7 rebounds a game... shooting 48.1% from the field... has 12 assists and five steals on the year... has scored in double-figures in two games and has double-figures rebounds in another.

2002-03 TRUMAN CUMULATIVE STATISTICS

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Total..........    7  1400  196-435 .451  50-143 .350  65-99  .657  77  182  259  37.0  124  127  99  20  53  507  72.4
Opponents...... 7  1400  159-412 .386  39-123 .317  96-138 .696  87  175  262  37.4  110  88  115  27  453  64.7
South Dakota State-75, Truman-54

The Bulldogs opened up the season with perhaps its toughest 2002-03 opponent, South Dakota State. The third-ranked team in the country shot just 40.6% on the night but Truman was held to just 32.8% shooting as they fell 75-54.

The Bulldogs were down just four with six and a half minutes remaining in the first half but did not hit another field goal as they were outscored 17-2 the rest of the half. The team played even with South Dakota State in the second-half but could never cut the lead under 19.

Matt Beran was one of the bright spots for Truman as he recorded a double-double with 17 points and 10 rebounds. Chip Sodemann was also in double-figures in his first collegiate game with 11 points.

The Jackrabbits were led by Marquise Richardson with 12 points and Jared Gass with 11.

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Truman-84, Florida Tech-72

Truman earned its first win of the season with a 84-72 victory over Florida Tech in its final game of the Milner Classic.

The Bulldogs used a 13-4 run towards the end of the first-half to take a 42-34 advantage into the locker room.

The Panthers chipped away at the lead and briefly went ahead 60-59 with just over seven minutes remaining. Truman was up one when Jiri Mikl sparked an 11-2 run with a three-pointer and two other field goals which put the Bulldogs ahead for good.

Matt Beran had a career game with 23 points and 18 rebounds. Mikl ended the game with 15 points and Chip Sodemann was in double-figures for the second straight game with 14. Adam Glorier grabbed 12 rebounds, helping Truman dominate on the boards 45-26. The Bulldogs shot 54.4% from the field for the game while holding the Panthers to 40.7% shooting.
Lincoln-58, Truman-47

Truman hung around in its non-conference road battle against Lincoln but could not pull out the victory. The Bulldogs cut a double-digit deficit to just four with under five minutes to play in the game. However, the Blue Tigers responded with a field goal and a three-pointer to put the game away.

Both teams were cold from the field on the night as Truman shot 31.7% and Lincoln shot 33.3%. The big difference in the game came on the boards and at the free throw line. Lincoln outrebounded Truman 54-28 and went to the free throw line 16 more times, which it was able to convert into 11 more points from the free throw line than the Bulldogs.

Truman-111, Central Christian-47

The Bulldogs jumped out to a 5-0 start behind a layup by senior guard Jeff Nepple and a three-pointer by freshman guard Chip Sodemann. Junior guard Aaron Mueller hit the next shot, another three-pointer, and Nepple scored two to get the ‘Dogs off to a 10-2 start.

The Bulldogs took their first double-digit lead at the 15-minute mark on a layup by junior center Adam Glosier and expanded their lead to 21 points by the 12-minute mark on a three-pointer by senior forward Jiri Mikl.

Mikl led the ‘Dogs with four three-pointers as the team made 10-of-28 for the game. Freshman Gavin Welker led the team with 18 points off the bench, while Glosier added 17. Mikl had 12 and Sodemann scored 11 to account for Truman’s double-digit scorers. Gavin recorded his first double-double after grabbing a team-high 13 rebounds as well and was 4-for-4 from the line. Long had a team-high four blocks.

A jumper by freshman guard Derek Lindsey in the final minute of the first half gave Truman a 67-25 halftime lead. The Bulldogs outscored the Heralds 44-15 in the second period.
Truman dropped a close home game to Drury by a 69-66 margin.

The Bulldogs led by seven with under six minutes to play following a three-pointer by Matt Brock. Truman would, however, go cold from the field and miss its next 10 field goal attempts. Drury took advantage by going on a 13-0 run that helped them seal the victory.

Truman was led in scoring by Jiri Mikl with 15 points and Aaron Mueller with 11. Adam Glosier had eight rebounds and six points but played just 16 minutes due to foul trouble. Matt Beran had six points and five assists in just 20 minutes of play.

Drury was led by Darryl Wilson who had 15 points. Matt Engstrom had a double-double with 12 points and 11 rebounds. Anton McKinney had eight assists to go with his nine points, six rebounds and four steals.
Truman-80, Hannibal-LaGrange-58

The Bulldogs used a 15-2 run late in the first-half to grab an 18-point lead and that lead would never get cut into single-digits. Four players were in double-figure scoring led by Jiri Mikl with 19 and Gavin Welker with 16. Gavin Welker also led the team with seven rebounds and four blocks while Chip Sodemann had a team-high six assists to go along with his 11 points.

Truman shot over 50% from the field in the win including 68% from its bench players. The Trojans were led by Ezra Rinot who had 17 points, six rebounds and three assists.