MEN'S BASKETBALL CONCLUDES HOMESTAND WITH MISSOURI WESTERN ON WEDNESDAY

TRUMAN (2-11, 0-5 MIAA): The Bulldogs will look to snap a six-game skid on Wednesday when they take on Missouri Western at Pershing Arena. Thus far, the 2001-02 campaign has followed the trend of the old cliche, ‘close but no cigar’. Truman has now dropped four of its five MIAA games by 10 points or less, and two by four or fewer, including a 79-75 loss on Saturday to Emporia State (Kan.).

Still searching for their first MIAA win of the year, the ‘Dogs meet MWSC at Pershing Arena, where Truman has posted both of its wins this season.

The Bulldogs have displayed a knack for the three-pointer this season, as they lead the MIAA and rank fifth in Division II in three-pointers made per game (10.54). The team is on pace to abolish the school mark for threes in a season, and could approach the MIAA record as well.

Four players are currently averaging double figures for Truman, led by junior Jiri Mikl (Ostrava, Czech Republic/Cs. Exil 491, Ostrava) at 13.2 points per game. Mikl leads the MIAA in three-pointers made per game, ranking 18th on the NCAA Division II level. He’s also second in the league with a 48.2 percentage from the arc. Mikl has scored in double figures in nine of the last 10 games.

Senior Nathan Owen (Cape Girardeau, Mo./Central HS, SE Missouri St.) has heated up in MIAA play after missing the first five games due to a broken hand. He’s averaging a team-best 15.8 points a game in MIAA play and has put up double-figure points in six straight outings.

MISSOURI WESTERN (9-4, 4-1 MIAA): The Griffons are one of the hotter teams in the MIAA, having won six of their last seven games, back-to-back conference wins. MWSC is coming off a 76-64 home victory on Saturday over Pittsburg State (Kan.).

The Griffons, the MIAA’s top scoring squad at 91.2 points per game, boast two of the league’s top four scorers in conference leader Lamont Turner (20.9 ppg) and Damon Bailey, who ranks fourth with 17.9 ppg. Turner scored 34 points in two of the Griffons’ first three games. Turner (7.7 rpg) and Bailey (7.6 rpg) also form a solid rebounding combo, as the pair rank sixth and seventh, respectively in the MIAA.

And, as they’ve done over the last few seasons, MWSC is the league’s top field goal shooting squad, with a mark of 48.7 percent. Bailey is third in the conference with 59.0 shooting percentage.

Three other Griffons average double figures in the scoring column, including junior guard Larry Taylor (11.5 ppg), who also averages 4.15 assists and 2.85 steals. Ronnie Powell and Levar Grace round out MWSC’s double-figure scorers with averages of 11.3 and 10.8 points, respectively.

In MWSC’s win on Saturday, Bailey led the way with 24 points, while Turner added 20 points and a game-high nine rebounds. Taylor had six assists and four steals as MWSC, which trailed 32-30 at halftime, shot 57.7 percent in the second half.

COACHES RECORDS: Jack Schrader is in the seventh season of his collegiate head coaching career with each year spent at the helm of the Bulldogs. He has a record of 82-98 (.456) and has led Truman to one NCAA Tournament appearance (1999) and five straight MIAA postseason tournament appearances.

Tom Smith is in his 14th year at MWSC, where he has posted a 283-116 (.709) record. For his career, Smith is 453-300 (.602) in 27 years. Wednesday’s game marks his 400th game at MWSC.
Missouri Western leads 12-7
The Bulldogs took the lead
leads the MIAA in three-pointers made (3.15 pg) and is
Feb. 7, 2001, at St. Joseph
Missouri Western leads 12-10
ESU 40, Truman 37
91 (91-82), Nov. 21, 1987, at Kirksville
.000
I +16 (36-20), Dec. 20, 1929, at St. Joseph
O 101 (101-81), Jan. 24, 1977, at St.
scored 20
W ranks tied for second in three-point field
As a team, the 'Dogs
2-11 .154
points from
points, 14 in the second half, to lead Truman, which also got 12
Glosier, Adam 1-3 0-0 1-2 5 5 3 3 1 0 1 13
Maxwell, Bret 2-5 0-0 0 0 0 5 0 0 0 0 10
Glosier, Adam 1-3 0-0 12 5 5 3 3 1 0 1 13

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( ) – Ranking in latest NABC/Division II Bulletin Top 25

SATURDAY'S RESULTS
ESU 79, @ TSU 75
@ NWMSU 90, MSSC 67
@ MSU 76, PSU 64
@ CMSU 89, SBU 88, OT

WEDNESDAY'S GAMES
CMSU @ UMR
MWSC @ TSU
NWMSU @ WU
PSU @ MSSC
SBU @ ESU

TOTALS 27-64 6-2615-21 43 21 75 14 17 1 5 200

* Indicates starter

HALFTIME: ESU 40, Truman 37

BULLDOGS IN MIAA & NCAA STATISTICS: As a team, the 'Dogs lead the MIAA with 10.54 three-point field goals made per game and they ranked fifth in NCAA Division II in that category through games of Jan. 7. Among all NCAA divisions, the Bulldogs ranked 12th in threes made per game. Truman's average since Jan. 7 has increased from 10.10 to 10.54, so the 'Dogs could be ranked 12th in threes made per game. Truman led throughout the early going in the game, but after the Hornets tied the score at 27 with 6:50 left in the first half, the advantage seesawed before ESU went to the half up 40-37. R'Cell Harris had 17 of his game-high 25 points in the first half. ESU hung on to the advantage for most of the second half, including a nine-point lead with 7:36 to play. However, the 'Dogs used a 17-3 run to race to a 72-67 lead with 2:57 to go. But with Truman in front 75-70, ESU's Ryan Lane sparked the decisive 9-0 rally with a three-pointer.

The 'Dogs had a chance to tie the score or take the lead with under 20 seconds to play but missed their last three attempts from the field.

Sophomore Matt Beran (Victor, Iowa/HLV-Victor) scored 20 points, 14 in the second half, to lead Truman, which also got 12 points from Mikl. T.J. Brown had 17 points, in addition to Harris' 25, for ESU.
INJURY REPORT: Glosier saw action in the Emporia game as he recovers from a sprained thumb ... Owen continues to play through a sore foot ... Beran (sore foot) should also play on Wednesday.

TRUMAN AT MWSC (JAN. 10, 2001): The Bulldogs and Missouri Western waged a tight battle throughout most of the game, but the Griffons ended the contest on a 14-4 run in an 81-66 Truman loss Wednesday night at St. Joseph.

After Missouri Western led 41-38 at halftime and extended the lead to eight points early in the second half, Truman used a 16-9 spurt, keyed by two three-pointers from Mikl, to get to within 59-58 at the 10:10 mark. Five minutes later, the Bulldogs were still well within striking distance, trailing 67-62 on the strength of back-to-back Scott Coykendall (Elmwood, Ill./Farmington HS, Spoon River CC) buckets. That’s when the Griffons kicked off their decisive, game-ending rally that gave them their largest lead of the game at the final horn.

The first half saw Truman hold several leads, the last of which came with 5:49 left with the ‘Dogs up 25-24. Western would manage to lead by eight with 53 seconds to go before the half, but a quick Mike Peterson three and a dunk by Brown cut it to 41-38 at the break.

Brown paced the Bulldog attack with 16 points and nine rebounds, while Mikl and Coykendall both finished with 13. Peterson had 12 points, all in the first half, and was 4-of-8 from three-point land.

BOX SCORE - TRUMAN @ MWSC (JAN. 10, 2001)

TRUMAN FG 3FG FT R F TP A TO B S Min
Owen, Nathan * 4-9 1-5 0-0 1 3 9 2 1 1 1 1 29
Coykendall, S. * 5-9 0-1 4-4 2 13 18 2 3 0 1 8 36
Brown, Brian * 6-13 1-3 9-12 2 16 20 2 1 0 1 1 32
Peterson, Mike * 4-10 4-8 0-0 6 4 12 3 3 0 1 1 38
Aydt, Pete * 0-1 0-0 0-0 1 0 0 0 1 1 0 0 0 5
Mueller, Aaron 2-3 1-1 0-0 2 1 5 0 0 0 0 15
Turner, Lamont * 3-5 0-0 2 0 6 1 0 0 2 1 12
Coykendall, S. * 8-14 3-6 5-8 8 3 21 1 0 1 0 0 34
Brown, Brian * 7-15 0-3 5-9 8 3 18 2 4 1 0 1 35
Peterson, Mike 7-9 1-3 3-7 8 3 13 5 2 0 1 0 34
Alexander, Reg. * 7-14 3-4 4-7 8 4 21 1 2 2 2 34
Orr, Nick * 3-7 0-2 0-0 4 1 6 5 2 0 1 0 1 25
Moss, Ty * 1-6 0-3 8-10 1 2 10 3 0 0 0 2 22
Collins, Albert 2-6 1-3 0-0 1 1 5 0 0 0 0 1 0 23
Callwood, Souv. 6-12 1-1 0-0 3 4 13 2 4 0 3 25
Powell, Ronnie 2-3 0-0 0-0 5 2 4 1 1 0 0 0 1 20
TOTALS 27-58 6-19 17-26 39 16 77 15 11 2 10 200
* Indicates starter
HALFTIME: MWSC 38, Truman 28.

RECORDS BROKEN IN ‘01-02: The 2001-02 Bulldogs have made their mark in several places in the Truman record book.

Individually, Mikl set school and conference records for single-game three-point field goal percentage when he connected on 5-of-6 shots against Culver-Stockton. He also tied MIAA and NCAA Division II records for consecutive three-point field goals so far this season and have the team single-season record of 214 well within their sights. Truman is on pace to make 274 treys this season. The MIAA record is 290. The ‘Dogs are on pace to break the conference single-season three-point attempts mark of 778. At its current rate, Truman will attempt about 875 threes on the year.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE ...
BERAN CRACKS TOP 20 IN BLOCKS:
Beran recorded three blocked shots in Wednesday's game at Northwestern Missouri State, giving him 25 for his career. That moved him into 19th on the Bulldogs' career list. He's just one away from 18th-place Baron Olden and with 11 more he'll join the top 15.

OTHER BULLDOGS ON CAREER LISTS:
With 81 career three-pointers made, Mikl remains in seventh place on that Bulldog career list. It will be some time before Mikl does any additional moving on the chart. Mikl's former teammate Mike Peterson is sitting in sixth with 161 three-pointers made ... With six made free throws on Saturday, Coykendall moved up to 28th place on the all-time list with 135. He needs one more to make 27th place and is 12 back of joining the top 25.

FIVE WITH 20: Beran scored 20 points on Saturday to become the fifth Bulldog to put up 20 points or more in a game this year.

SO FAR IN 2001-02 ...
3-Mark Huppe (Fr., G, Overland Park, Kan./St. Thomas Aquinas): Has scored in double figures in six of the 13 games, including four of the last seven ... tallied a career-high 20 points with six three-pointers in the win over Culver-Stockton ... dished out a career-high four assists in the win over Drury ... ranks fourth on the team in scoring (10.5 ppg) and second with 37 three-pointers ... played in all 13 games with 10 starts ... has hit a three-pointer in 12 straight games.

4-Aaron Mueller (So., G, St. Louis/Lutheran North): Is one of just two players to start all 13 games ... has two double-figure scoring games, including a career-high 13 points vs. SIU-Edwardsville ... connected on 5-of-9 shots in that game, including 3-of-5 from three-point range ... ranks third on the team with 19 three-pointers ... team leader with 27 assists ... tied for second with nine steals.

5-Cory Long (So., G, Moberly, Mo.): Saw three minutes of action vs. Lincoln and two minutes vs. Central Missouri, his only playing time so far ... had his second career steal in the CMSU game.

11-Jiri Miki (Jr., F, Ostrava, Czech Republic/Cs. Exil 491, Ostrava): Leads the team with 13.2 points per game and a 48.2 shooting percentage from beyond the arc (41-of-85) ... set a school mark and tied NCAA Division II and MIAA records by hitting 10 straight threes at one point ... set school and MIAA records for single-game three-point field goal percentage when he went 7-for-7 vs. Culver-Stockton ... matched his career-high of 22 points twice this year ... has scored in double figures in nine of the last 10 games ... had his second career double-double (17 pts., 11 rebs.) vs. Southwest Baptist ... has hit a three-pointer in 15 straight games ... averaging 14 points a game in MIAA action.

15-Torre Finley (So., G, Florissant, Mo./Whitfield): Has seen action in nine games with three starts ... had a career-high-tying 10 points in the opener ... set a career-best with eight rebounds to go with nine points vs. MSU-Mankato ... second on team with 1.89 assists per game ... his 1.31 assist-turnover ratio is second on the team.

20-Nathan Owen (Sr., G, Cape Girardeau, Mo./Central HS, SE Missouri St.): Has played in seven games since returning from a broken hand ... averaging 11.9 points and has had six straight double-figure scoring games ... scored a season-high 20 points vs. Northwest Missouri State ... averaging 15.8 points over his last five games, all in MIAA play ... has been the team's top scorer in three of the last six games ... one of five Bulldogs to put up 20 points in a game this season ... second on the team with a 34.0 three-point field goal percentage in MIAA action.

25-Scott Coykendall (Sr., F, Elmwood, Ill./Farmington HS/Spoon River CC): Ranks third on the team with a scoring average of 11 points and is third with 5.6 rebounds per game ... has started all 13 games this year and all 40 of his Truman career ... has seven double-figure scoring games this season, including a career-high 28 points in the opener ... that game also marked his second career double-double as a Bulldog, as he grabbed 11 rebounds ... has three other games with eight or more rebounds ... scored 20 points vs. Culver-Stockton ... second on team with 24 assists ... leads team with 31.3 minutes per game.

32-Dusty Bruner (Sr., C, Galesburg, Ill.): Saw three minutes of action vs. Lincoln and three minutes against Central Missouri, his only playing time so far ... had two rebounds and an assist in that game.

35-Jeff Nepple (So., G, Carroll, Iowa/Kuemper): Has come off the bench in 11 of the 13 games, averaging 4.0 points ... tallied a career-best 11 points in just 10 minutes in the win over Drury ... notched three steals to go with nine points in the season opener ... among team leaders in free throw shooting (75 percent, 9-of-12).

40-Matt Beran (So., F, Victor, Iowa/LHL-Victor): A starter in 10 of the 13 games this year ... scored a career-high 20 points vs. Emporia State ... tied his career-best with five assists in the win over Drury and at Northwestern Missouri State ... has scored and had an assist in every game and had at least five rebounds in 11 games this year ... second on the team lead with nine steals ... ranks second on the club with 6.2 rebounds per game ... leads team with 39 offensive rebounds ... leads team with 10 blocked shots ... had a season-best three blocks vs. Northwest Missouri State.

42-Bret Maxwell (So., F, Derby, Iowa/Chariton): Has come off the bench in all 13 games this year to score 47 points (3.6 ppg) ... has made all four of his free throw attempts this season ... had career-highest with 11 points and five rebounds vs. UMSL ... connected on three three-pointers in the UMSL game ... his 24 minutes vs. UMSL was his most extensive action of the year ... scored in each of the first six games and in each of the last four.

50-Dan Mailath (Sr., C, Tulsa, Okla./Bishop Kelley): Has come off the bench in 12 games to tally five points and 13 rebounds ... has seven assists ... averaging 4.8 minutes.

52-Adam Glover (So., C, St. Charles, Mo./St. Charles West HS, Army): Played in 10 of the team's 13 games this year ... missed the CMSU & NWMSU games due to a thumb injury ... has three double-doubles, all of which came in a four-game stretch ... snagged a career-high 14 rebounds in the win over Culver-Stockton ... also had a career-best four assists in that game ... had career-highs of three blocks vs. Drury and three steals vs. Lincoln ... also scored a career-best 14 points vs. Lincoln ... leads the team in rebounding (7.2 rpg) and field goal percentage (52.8 percent) ... second on team with eight blocked shots ... a starter in eight of 10 games this year ... averaging 9.8 points and 8.5 rebounds over his last six games.