FEB. 6, 2002

FRESH OFF A WIN, TRUMAN MEETS NO. 3-RANKED NORTHWEST MISSOURI STATE

THE GAME: Truman State University Bulldogs (Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association/NCAA Division II) vs. Northwest Missouri State University Bearcats (MIAA/NCAA Division II)

Date: Wed., Feb. 6
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Location: Kirksville, Mo.

Arena (Capacity): Pershing Arena (2,600)

BROADCAST: KRES 104.7 FM in Moberly, Mo. Brad Boyer, play-by-play and Hank Janssen, commentary. The pregame show begins about 15 minutes before the game.

TEAM LINE: Live KRES broadcast by calling 1-800-846-4700.
Bulldog Access Code: 6350
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MIAA FOOD DRIVE: On Feb. 16 and Feb. 23, admission to the Truman men’s and women’s home basketball games will be free with a donated can of food. The food drive is sponsored by the MIAA student-athletic advisory committee with members of the Truman captains round table organizing the drive in Kirksville. Food will be donated to local charities.

TRUMAN (3-17, 1-11 MIAA): Just after picking up their third win of the year and first conference victory, the Bulldogs take on one of their oldest MIAA rivals, Northwest Missouri State.

For Truman, Monday’s win was much-needed, as the ‘Dogs finally were able to hold on for a win after seeing several potential victories turn into late losses this season. The Bulldogs have seven MIAA losses by 10 points or less, and three of those were by four or fewer.

Much like last season, Truman and MIAA frontrunner NWMSU meet in Pershing Arena. At last year’s game in Kirksville between the two, the Bearcats came in undefeated and ranked No. 5 in the nation, before the ‘Dogs pulled off a 68-58 win. This year, Northwest is coming off its lone loss and is rated No. 3.

Truman fields a balanced offensive attack with three players hovering around the 12 points per game mark, led by three-point marksmen Jiri Mikl (Ostrava, Czech Republic/Cs. Exil 491) and Mark Huppe (Overland Park, Kan./St. Thomas Aquinas). Senior Scott Coykendall (Elmwood, Ill./Farmington, Spoon River CC) is averaging 11.7 points.

Mikl and Huppe are the primary reasons that Truman leads the MIAA and NCAA Division II in three-pointers made per game.

Truman enters the game just seven three-pointers away from the school record of 214, set in 1998-99. The ‘Dogs are also three attempts away from the three-point field goal attempts mark, also set in ’98-99.

The Bulldogs’ depth has taken somewhat of a hit lately, as sophomores Adam Glosier (St. Charles, Mo./West HS, Army) and Jeff Nepple (Carroll, Iowa/Kuemper) went down with injuries in the win over CMSU. Both are doubtful for tonight.

FOR THREE!: The Bulldogs torrid three-point shooting pace ranks among the best in the nation. In Division II, Truman leads in three-pointers made per game through games of Feb. 3. Among all NCAA Divisions, the ‘Dogs rank fourth in the category.

Here’s a look at the top five for all divisions (as of Feb. 3): 1. Grinnell (Iowa), 20.26; 2. Muskingum (Ohio), 11.33; 3. St. Bonaventure (N.Y.), 10.95; 4. Truman, 10.47; 5. Southern Maine, 10.05 & Fort Lewis, 10.05.

NORTHWEST MISSOURI STATE PROBABLE STARTERS

24-Jerry Hudson, Sr., G/F, 6-4, 208 (11.1 ppg, 6.5 rpg)
42-Matt Rowan, Sr., F/C, 6-7, 215 (13.0 ppg, 5.8 rpg)
11-Scott Fleming, Jr., G, 6-3, 170 (16.6 ppg, 4.0 rpg)
34-Chris Borchers, Sr., C, 6-7, 233 (3.0 pg, 2.6 rpg)
3-Mark Huppe, Fr., G, 6-1, 165 (12.0 ppg, 1.7 rpg)
20-Nathan Owen, Sr., G, 6-2, 200 (8.9 ppg, 3.7 rpg)
11-Jiri Mikl, Jr., F, 6-7, 193 (12.7 ppg, 3.9 rpg)
5-Kelvin Parker, So., G, 5-11, 167 (11.5 ppg, 2.0 rpg)
25-Scott Coykendall, Sr., F, 6-5, 235 (11.7 ppg, 5.9 rpg)
40-Matt Beran, So., F, 6-6, 215 (6.1 ppg, 6.7 rpg)

NORTHWEST MISSOURI STATE PROBABLE STARTERS

4. Truman, 10.47; 5. Southern Maine, 10.05 & Fort Lewis, 10.05.

NORTHWEST MISSOURI (19-1, 11-1 MIAA): The Bearcats began the week up one spot to third in the NABC/Division II Bulletin top 25. However, Missouri Western halted NWMSU’s 19-game winning streak, then the longest in Division II, and the Bearcats’ string of 16 consecutive home wins with a 64-59 win on Monday night. It marked NWMSU’s first MIAA loss of the year.

The Bearcats lead the MIAA in scoring defense (62.0 ppg) and scoring margin (+17.3 ppg), as well as steals (11.60 pg), turnover margin (+6.30) and rebounding defense (32.6 rpg). Their marks in scoring margin and scoring defense rank third and eighth, respectively, in NCAA Division II.

Four NWMSU players average double figures in scoring, led by junior guard Scott Fleming (16.6 ppg), who ranks ninth in the conference in scoring and is 16th in NCAA DII in steals (2.70 pg).

Senior center Matt Rowan is second on the team with 13.0 points a game and he leads the conference in field goal percentage (60.7 percent), a figure that’s 16th in Division II.

Sophomore guard Kelvin Parker and senior forward Jerry Hudson average 11.5 and 11.1 points, respectively. Hudson also leads NWMSU in rebounding (6.5 rpg) and Parker is its best free...
throw shooter (82.6 percent). Fleming leads the way with 4.20 assists per game and is also a 40 percent three-point shooter and a 79.7 percent free throw shooter.

On Monday night, MWSC jumped out to a 34-21 halftime lead over the Bearcats and never looked back, as Lamont Turner and Ronnie Powell tallied 15 points apiece for the Griffons. NWMSU shot only 33.3 percent in the first half and bounced back in the second to shoot 46.9 percent, but couldn’t overcome their halftime deficit. Rowan had 12 points and 11 rebounds and Fleming and Parker added 11 points each.

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 83-104 (.444) and has led Truman to one NCAA Tournament appearance (1999) and five straight MIAA postseason tournament appearances.

Steve Tappmeyer is in his 14th year at Northwest Missouri State, where he has posted a career record of 246-141 (.636).

TRUMAN VS. CENTRAL MISSOURI STATE (FEB. 4): The Bulldogs stormed out to an early lead and never trailed on Monday, en route to their first conference win of the season, a 79-65 victory over Central Missouri State, where they have posted a career record of 246-141 (.636).

ON Monday night, MWSC jumped out to a 34-21 halftime lead over the Bearcats and never looked back, as Lamont Turner and Ronnie Powell tallied 15 points apiece for the Griffons. NWMSU shot only 33.3 percent in the first half and bounced back in the second to shoot 46.9 percent, but couldn’t overcome their halftime deficit. Rowan had 12 points and 11 rebounds and Fleming and Parker added 11 points each.

BULLDOGS IN MIAA & NCAA STATISTICS: As a team, the “Dogs lead the MIAA and NCAA Division II with 10.35 three-point field goals made per game. They rank fourth among all divisions.

Huppe leads the conference with 3.45 three-pointers made.
BULLDOG BARK ... PAGE 3

per game, a category in which he ranked eighth in Division II as of Feb. 4. He's also sixth in the MIAA in three-point field goal percentage (.385).

Mikl leads the MIAA in three-point field goal percentage (.475) and ranks second in three-pointers made (3.11 pg). He was ranked ninth in Division II in three-point field goal percentage and 24th in threes made, as of Feb. 4. Mikl also ranks 20th in the MIAA in scoring (12.7 pg).

Glosier is 12th in the MIAA in rebounding (7.1 rpg) and Beran is 14th in rebounding (6.7 rpg) and sixth in blocked shots (1.05 pg).

TRUMAN VS. NORTHWEST MISSOURI (JAN. 9): The Bulldogs cut a 15-point deficit to five points on three occasions in the second half, and just missed upsetting the No. 5-ranked team in NCAA Division II, falling 74-65 on the road to Northwest Missouri State earlier this year.

After the Bearcats built an early four-point lead to start the game, Truman wiped the lead with 13:40 left in the first half when Nathan Owen (Cape Girardeau, Mo./Central HS, SE Missouri St.) canned the first of his six three-pointers on the night for an 11-10 Bulldog lead. Truman pushed the advantage to as many as nine points in the first half, including 33-24 with 5:26 to go. However, that's when NWMSU kicked off a run of 13 unanswered points to close the half with a 37-33 edge.

The 'Cats came out from halftime and ran the lead to 53-38 with 12:53 to play. But in a matter of three minutes, the 'Dogs cut their deficit to five points, 53-48. NWMSU went back up by 12, and again the 'Dogs kept battling, chipping the lead down to five twice more, once at the 2:36 mark and again with 49 seconds left. However, NWMSU hit its last four free throw attempts and hung on for the victory.

Owen scored a season-high 20 points to lead Truman for the second straight game and third time in five games. Huppe added 15 points for the 'Dogs, who hit 14-of-34 three pointers, but were outscored 22-5 at the foul line.

Scott Fleming's 21 points paced the Bearcats, who won their 13th consecutive home game. Jerry Hudson added 14 points and a game-high 11 rebounds as NWMSU won on the glass, 45-29.

BOX SCORE - TRUMAN @ NW MISSOURI ST. (JAN. 7, 2002)

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* Indicates starter
HALFTIME: NWMSU 37, Truman 33

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

Individually, Mikl broke the school and conference records for single-game three-point field goal percentage when he connected on 7-of-7 from long range in the win over Culver-Stockton. He also tied MIAA and NCAA Division II records for consecutive threes by making 10 straight over a span of three games.

As a team, the 'Dogs set school and conference records with 41 three-point field goal attempts in the loss to Southwest Baptist. They later tied the mark on Jan. 7 at Central Missouri. This year's version of the 'Dogs has twice broken the team record for threes attempted, having attempted 36 on Nov. 17 and the 41 vs. SBU and CMSU.

In the Jan. 7 loss at CMSU, the 'Dogs set a new school record when they made 16 three-point goals, surpassing the 15 that was set in 1999 against Southwest Baptist and tied this year against Culver-Stockton.

The Bulldogs also tied the school record, set in 1986-87 and also in 1989-90, with 12 consecutive losses.

A RECORD PACE: The Bulldogs have connected on 207 three-point field goals so far this season and are on pace to shatter the school single-season records for three-pointers made (214) and attempted (591). Truman is on pace to make 269 threes this season, which isn't far off of the MIAA record (290). The 'Dogs also might break the conference single-season three-point attempts mark of 778. At its current rate, Truman will attempt about 764 threes this year.

BULLDOGS ON CAREER & SINGLE SEASON LISTS: With two more blocks on Monday (Feb. 4), Beran passed Cory Parker and moved into a 14th-place tie on the career blocked shots list with 36 ... Though just a freshman, Huppe has moved up to a tie for 10th on the school's career three-pointers list with 69. He currently ranks seventh on the school single-season list and is on pace for the second best single season in team history in terms of threes made. Huppe is on track to make 89 triples this year, which would rank behind only Steve Schieppe's 101 treys in 1990-91 ... With 96 career three-pointers made, Mikl remains in seventh place on that Bulldog career list. Mikl's former teammate Mike Peterson is sitting in sixth with 161 three-pointers made ... Coykendall is up to 23rd in career free throws made. He now has 158 for his career and is just one behind Jason Ramthun in 22nd ... Owen is threatening to move onto the school's career three-pointers list. Right now, he has 52 treys in his career, which is 11 back of 13th-place Scott Matthews.

SO FAR IN 2001-02 ...

3-Mark Huppe (Fr., G, Overland Park, Kan./St. Thomas Aquinas): Has scored in double figures in 12 of the 20 games, including 10 of the last 14 ... tallied career-highs with 23 points and seven three-pointers vs. Missouri-Rolla ... also hit six threes against Southwest Baptist, Pitt State and Culver-Stockton ... dished out a career-high four assists in the win over Drury and matched the total on Jan. 16 vs. Missouri Western ... ranks second on the team in scoring (12.0 ppg) and leads the squad with 69 three-pointers ... averaging a team best 13.5 points in MIAA games and shooting 39.7 percent from three-point range in conference contests ... played in all 20 games with 17 starts ... has hit a three-pointer in 19 straight games ... shooting 43.7 percent (31-of-71) from three-point range since a 1-for-5 first half on Jan. 16 against Missouri Western.

4-Aaron Mueller (So., G, St. Louis/Lutheran North): Played in 19 games with 15 starts ... 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

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE ...
three-point range ... ranks fourth on the team with 21 three-pointers and 33 assists ... tied for third on team with 11 steals.

5-Cory Long (So., G, Moberly, Mo.): Has played in five games and connected on his first career field goal against Pittsburg State ... also has one steal and one rebound ... played 10 minutes this year.

11-jiri Mikl (Jr., F, Ostrava, Czech Republic/Cs. Exil 491, Ostrava): Leads the team with 12.7 points per game and a 47.5 shooting percentage from beyond the arc (56-of-118) ... averaging 14.4 points over his last 14 games ... shooting 50 percent (53-of-106) from three-point range over that span ... 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 11 of his last 15 games ... had his second career double-double (17 pts., 11 rebs.) vs. Southwest Baptist ... has hit a three-pointer in 20 straight games.

20-Nathan Owen (Sr., G, Cape Girardeau, Mo./Central HS, SE Missouri St.): Has played in 14 games with three starts since returning from a broken hand ... averaging 8.9 points and has had seven double-figure scoring games in his last 12 outings ... scored a season-high 20 points vs. Northwest Missouri State ... has been the team’s top scorer in four of the last 12 games and three of the last nine ... one of five Bulldogs to put up 20 points in a game this season ... third on the team with 23 three-pointers made.

25-Scott Coykendall (Sr., F, Elmwood, Ill./Farmington HS/Spoon River CC): Ranks third on the team with a scoring average of 11.7 points and is third with 5.9 rebounds per game ... the only Bulldog to start all 20 games this year ... has been in the starting lineup for all 47 games of his Truman career ... has 12 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 ... scored 20 points vs. Culver-Stockton ... leads team with 43 assists ... leads team with 32.6 minutes per game ... one of five Bulldogs to score 20 points in a game this season ... has scored in double figures in 30 career games and has scored 20-plus in eight of those.

32-Dusty Bruner (Sr., C, Galesburg, Ill.): Has grabbed four rebounds in three games this season ... also has one assist in 11 minutes of play.

35-Jeff Nepple (So., G, Carroll/Iowa/Kuemper): Has come off the bench in 15 of the 20 games and started two others to score 80 points (4.7 ppg) ... had a career-high 14 points in 27 minutes of action vs. Missouri Southern on Jan. 26 ... scored 11 points in just 10 minutes in the win over Drury ... notched three steals to go with nine points in the season opener ... one of the top free throw shooters on the team (82.4 percent, 14-of-17) ... had double-figure minutes in 14 of the 17 games in which he has played ... had a career high six rebounds vs. Emporia State.

40-Matt Beran (So., F, Victor/Iowa/HLV-Victor): A starter in 16 of the 20 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 Northwest Missouri State ... has had an assist in every game and had at least five rebounds in 16 games this year ... second on team with 12 steals ... ranks second on the club with 6.7 rebounds per game ... leads team with 57 offensive rebounds ... leads team with 21 blocked shots ... had a season-best three blocks vs. Northwest Missouri State ... one of five Bulldogs to score 20 points in a game this season ... has on 24 of his last 44 field goal attempts (54.6 percent) ... shooting 50.7 percent in MIAA play ... averaging a team-best 7.4 boards in MIAA play.

42-Bret Maxwell (So., F, Derby/Iowa/Chariton): Has come off the bench in 18 games and started another ... has scored 62 points (3.3 ppg) ... made all six of his free throw attempts this season ... had career-highs 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 seven of the last 10 in which he has played ... double-figure minutes in eight games.

50-Dan Mailath (Sr., C, Tulsa, Okla./Bishop Kelley): Has come off the bench in 14 games to tally seven points and 16 rebounds ... has seven assists ... averaging 4.7 minutes.

52-Adam Glosier (So., C, St. Charles, Mo./St. Charles West HS, Army): Played in 17 of the team’s 20 games this year ... missed the CMSU & NWMSU games due to a thumb injury ... has four double-doubles, including two career-high 14-rebound performances ... has five double-digit rebound performances ... has had four assists in a game twice this year, vs. Culver-Stockton and Missouri Western ... had career-highs of three blocks vs. Drury and three steals vs. Lincoln ... also scored a career-best 14 points vs. Lincoln ... leads team in rebounding (7.1 rpg) and field goal percentage (53.9 percent) ... second on team with 12 blocked shots ... a starter in 13 of 17 games this year.