MEN’S BASKETBALL AT HOME FOR TWO OF FINAL THREE, INCLUDING SATURDAY VS. PITT STATE

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

Date: Sat., Feb. 16
Time: 3:30 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.

LISTEN FOR FREE on the internet to live KRES broadcasts of Bulldog Basketball. Go to regionalradio.com and click on KRES.

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 (3-20, 1-14 MIAA): The Bulldogs return home for two of their final three games of the season and will take on Pittsburg State (Kan.) on Saturday afternoon. The ‘Dogs have dropped three in a row and seek their fourth win of the year.

Truman has had some tough luck in league play, dropping eight games by 10 points or less, including three by four or fewer. Injuries have played a role, as sophomores Jeff Nepple and Adam Glosier have been hurt. Glosier may return for Saturday’s game, while Nepple is likely gone for remainder of the season.

The ‘Dogs have fielded a solid three-point shooting attack, as they lead the MIAA and started the week third in NCAA Division II in three-pointers made per game. Truman began play this week eighth in all NCAA divisions in threes made per game. The ‘Dogs have broken nearly all team records relating to threes, including treys in a season with 224.

PITTSBURG STATE (14-9, 8-7 MIAA): Pittsburg State is 5-6 over its last 11 games, but has won two in a row, including an 83-81 home thriller on Wednesday over Missouri Southern. The Gorillas, 2-5 on the road in MIAA games, have swept Central Missouri State and Emporia State (Kan.), while splitting with Missouri-Rolla and MSSC. They've suffered season sweeps at the hands of Northwest Missouri and Missouri Western and have also taken a loss against Washburn (Kan.). Other PSU conference wins came against Southwest Baptist and Truman.

The Gorillas rank second in the MIAA with a 48.6 field goal percentage and they boast the league's second-leading scorer, in junior guard Cedric Brooks, who averages 19.5 points per game. PSU also has two of the conference's top six in rebounding, as seniors Max Ruark (8.2 rpg) and Jai Pradia (7.7 rpg) rank fourth and tied for fifth, respectively. Pradia is also the MIAA's top shot blocker, with 1.83 per game.

Two other Gorillas average double figures in scoring, including Pradia at 13.6 points and senior Dan Stanley at 13.1. Stanley leads PSU with 3.74 assists per game.

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Against MSSC on Wednesday, the Gorillas squandered a 47-33 halftime lead, but held on to upset the 18th-ranked Lions. Brooks led the way with 23 points, while Stanley tallied 19 points and eight assists. Pradia finished with 16 points and 10 rebounds.

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 83-107 (.437) and has led Truman to one NCAA Tournament appearance (1999) and five straight MIAA postseason tournament appearances.

Gene Iba is in his seventh year at Pittsburg State and holds a record of 83-107 (.437) and has led Truman to one NCAA Tournament appearance (1999) and five straight MIAA postseason tournament appearances.

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The Bulldogs were within six, 57-51, with 8:31 to play, but Missouri Western pulled away by outscoring Truman 26-9 down the stretch in a 83-60 loss on Wednesday.

The Bulldogs stayed close early behind four quick points from senior Scott Coykendall (Elmwood, Ill./Farmington HS/Spoon River CC). After the 20th-ranked Griffons tied the score 8-8 early, they began to pull away and extended the margin to as wide as 13 in the first half. However, the 'Dogs used a 7-2 spurt at the end of the period to get within 33-25 at the break.

TRUMAN VS. MISSOURI WESTERN (FEB. 13): The Bulldogs

HALFTIME: The MWSC advantage stayed between eight and 10 points throughout much of the second half before the 'Dogs climbed within six on a conventional three-point play from senior Nathan Owen (Cape Girardeau, Mo./Central HS, SE Missouri St.) and a three-pointer by freshman Mark Huppe (Overland Park, Kan./St. Thomas Aquinas). That's when the Griffons began their game-closing rally by connecting on 12 of their final 15 shots.

Huppe and Coykendall combined for 22 second-half points, and the two finished with 17 and 16 points, respectively to lead Truman. Sophomore Matt Beran (Victor, Iowa/HLV-Victor) added 12 points and a career-high 13 rebounds for his fourth straight double-double.

The MWSC was led by 22 points each from Damon Bailey and Adam Glosier (St. Charles, Mo./St. Charles West HS, Army)

OUTSTANDING STATISTICS: Truman

Mo./St. Charles West HS, Army) (ankle) won't play at Missouri Western and by may return Saturday against Pittsburg State.

Sophomore Jeff Nepple (Carol, Iowa/Kuemper) is likely out for the season with a torn ACL. Owen will play in the MWSC game despite tendinitis and swelling in his knee.

BULLDOGS IN MIAA & NCAA STATISTICS: As a team, the 'Dogs continue to lead the MIAA with 9.74 threes made per game and they started the week third in NCAA Division II in that category. The team ranks sixth among all NCAA divisions in threes made.

Huppe leads the conference with 3.52 three-pointers made per game, a category in which he began the week eighth in Division II. He's also fifth in the MIAA in three-point field goal percentage (.380). Huppe is 20th in scoring (12.1 ppg) as well.

Junior Jiri Mikl (Ostrava, Czech Republic/Cs. Exil 491, Ostrava) is second in the MIAA in three-point field goal percentage (.434) and ranks second in three-pointers made (2.81 pg). He was ranked 21st in Division II in three-point field goal percentage when the week began.

Beran has moved into the top 10 in rebounding (7.3 rpg) and is sixth in blocked shots (0.91 pg).

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HEATING UP AT THE STRIPE: The Bulldogs are shooting 71.8 percent (51-of-71) at the foul line over their last five games, compared to 56.8 percent over their previous 18.

TRUMAN VS. PITTSBURG STATE (JAN. 19): After leading throughout the first half, the Bulldogs saw Pittsburg State (Kan.) roar out of the gates in the second half, en route to a 93-68 Truman loss on Saturday.

Truman led by as many as 15 in the first half and took a 41-40 lead into the half. The ‘Dogs shot 51.6 percent in the first half, including 50 percent from three-point territory (7-of-14).

But the second half brought a complete turn of events, as Pittsburg State hit 56.2 percent in the second half, including 44.4 percent at the three-point line. The Gorillas also connected on 13 of their 14 second-half free throws. Cedric Brooks, who notched 15 first-half points, didn’t slow down in the second, netting 16 to finish with a game-high 31.

Truman stayed close early in the second half, knotting the score at 54 with 13:10 to play. But from there, PSU outscored the ‘Dogs 39-14 the rest of the way.

To open the game, the Bulldogs hit on 10 of their first 14 shots from the field and built a 26-11 lead with 12:09 to play before halftime. However, PSU gradually whittled the lead down to the one-point halftime margin. Coykendall had 13 first-half points and Huppe 12.

For Truman, Coykendall and Huppe finished with 18 points each while Beran added 11 and a team-leading eight rebounds.

BOX SCORE - TRUMAN @ PITTSBURG STATE (JAN. 19, 2002)

TRUMAN

Coykendall, S. * 6-13 2-4 48 3 0 18 1 2 0 0 33
Beran, Matt + 5-10 0-0 12 8 2 11 3 1 2 1 30
Gloster, Adam * 2-3 0-0 0 0 5 4 4 1 0 2 17
Huppe, Mark * 6-9 6-9 0 0 2 0 18 3 1 1 10 31
Owen, Nathan * 1-13 1-7 0 0 2 3 3 3 3 0 1 29
Mueller, Aaron 0-0 0-0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 6
Long, Cory 1-2 0-0 0 0 1 0 2 0 1 0 4
Finley, Torre 2-3 0-0 1 1 10 5 0 0 0 30
Brunner, Dusty 0-1 0-0 0 0 2 0 4 0 0 0 5
Neppl, Jeff 0-2 0-2 0 0 1 0 0 0 1 0 11
Maxwell, Bret 3-7 1-5 0 0 3 3 7 0 0 0 17
Mailath, Dan 0-0 0-0 0 0 2 0 3 0 0 0 7
TOTALS 26-63 10-28 68 11 12 5 3 200

PITT STATE

Stanley, Dan * 3-7 2-4 3 4 2 11 5 0 1 1 12
Ruark, Max + 4-4 0-0 0 0 8 4 8 5 2 1 27
Pradia, Jal * 4-6 0-0 3 3 9 1 11 1 0 2 25
Howey, Kurtis * 5-7 2-3 0 0 1 12 3 1 0 0 22
Brooks, Cedric 11-18 4-9 5-6 2 1 31 2 2 1 13
Wills, Jeff 0-0 0-0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 6
Odfayer, Ryan 2-7 2-4 0 0 2 2 6 4 1 0 17
Vosseller, Tommy 0-3 0-1 0-1 0 0 1 0 0 0 8
McAnally, Josh 1-1 0-0 0 0 0 2 0 0 0 2
Vogt, Oliver 2-6 0-2 2 5 2 6 1 1 0 1 14
Carlson, Mitch 0-1 0-0 0 0 2 0 0 0 0 1 4
Thorton, Wes 1-4 0-0 0 0 4 4 1 6 0 0 0 16
TOTALS 33-66 10-2417-20 42 15 93 22 7 6 7 200

* Indicates starter
HALFTIME: Truman 41, PSU 40

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.

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.

On Feb. 6, Truman broke the team single season record for three-point field goals attempted. The previous mark of 591 was set in 1998-99. The ‘Dogs have now attempted 665 in 2001-02.

Truman broke the school single season record for three-point field goals made on Feb. 9 at Emporia State. The ‘Dogs have now made 224 for the season, beating the previous mark of 214 set in 1998-99.

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

BULLDOGS ON CAREER & SINGLE SEASON LISTS: With 36 career blocks, Beran remains in a 14th-place tie on the all-time list. Though just a freshman, Huppe has moved up to eighth on the school’s career three-pointers list with 81. He currently ranks tied for fourth 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 91 triples this year, which would rank behind only Steve Schiepette’s 101 treys in 1990-91.

With 99 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...

SO FAR IN 2001-02...

3-Mark Huppe (Fr., G, Overland Park, Kan./St. Thomas Aquinas): Has scored in double figures in 14 of the 23 games, including 12 of the last 17 ... 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 ... leads the team in scoring (12.1 ppg) and with 81 three-pointers ... averaging a team best 13.5 points in MIAA games and shooting 38.7 percent from three-point range ... set a school mark and tied NCAA Division II and MIAA records by hitting 10 straight threes at one point ...

4-Aaron Mueller (So., G, St. Louis/Lutheran North): Played in 22 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 three-point range ... ranked fourth on the team with 21 three-pointers and 35 assists ... fifth on the team with 11 steals.

5-Cory Long (So., G, Moberly, Mo.): Has played 20 minutes over seven games ... has hit one of his seven field goal attempts this year ... had four points in 10 minutes of play vs. Northwest Missouri State ... has scored six points on the year ... has one steal and one rebound.

11-Jiri Mikl (Jr., F, Ostrava, Czech Republic/Cs. Exil 491, Ostrava): Third on the team with 11.8 points per game and leads the squad with a 43.4 shooting percentage from beyond the arc (59-of-136) ... set a school mark and tied NCAA Division II and MIAA records by hitting 10 straight threes at one point ...

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Has seen action in 15 games this season and has grabbed eight rebounds in 12 games, all of which have come consecutively. Shot 42 percent during a five-game span of his double-digit scoring streak. Scored season-high 20 points vs. Northwest Missouri State on Jan. 9. Led the team in scoring four times this season. One of five Bulldogs to put up 20 points in a game this season. Third on the team with 24 three-pointers made. Has hit on 10 of his last 11 free throw attempts. Fourth on team with 13 steals.

25-Scott Coykendall (Sr., F, Elmwood, Ill./Farmington HS/Spoon River CC): Ranks second on the team with a scoring average of 11.9 points and is third with 6.0 rebounds per game. The only Bulldog to start all 23 games this year. Has been in the starting lineup for all 50 games of his Truman career. Has 14 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 reached double digits in scoring in seven of the last 10 games. Scored 20 points vs. Culver-Stockton and Missouri Southern. Second on team with 48 assists. Leads team with 32.7 minutes per game. One of five Bulldogs to score 20 points in a game this season. Has scored in double figures in 32 career games and has scored 20-plus in eight of those.

32-Dusty Bruner (Sr., C, Galesburg, Ill.): Has played 25 minutes this season over a span of five games. Has grabbed eight rebounds (1.6 rpg) and scored a point. Recorded his only two blocks of the season in a 13-minute stint against Northwest Missouri. Also has one assist.

35-Jeff Nepple (So., G, Carroll, Iowa/Kuemer): Likely out for the remainder of the season with a torn ACL. Came off the bench in 15 of the 21 games and started two other games 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 played. Had a career high six rebounds vs. Emporia State. Connected on 18 three-pointers. Had 16 assists against only eight turnovers.

42-Bret Maxwell (So., F, Derby, Iowa/HLV-Victor): A starter in 17 of the 23 games this year. Scored a career-high 20 points vs. Emporia State on Jan. 12. Has four straight double-doubles and six for his career. Has been in double figures in rebounding for five consecutive games. Has hit on 38 of his last 69 field goal attempts (55.1 percent). Shooting 52.2 percent in MIAA play. Leads team in rebounding (7.3 rpg) and averaging a team-best 8.2 boards in MIAA games. Has hit on 16 of his last 21 free throw attempts (76.2 percent). Had career-best seven assists vs. Emporia State on Feb. 9. Also had five assists in the win over Drury and at Northwest Missouri State. Leads team with 49 assists, 15 steals, 68 offensive rebounds and 21 blocked shots. Had a season-best three blocks vs. Northwest Missouri on Jan. 9. One of five Bulldogs to score 20 points in a game this season.

50-Dan Mailath (Sr., C, Tulsa, Okla./Bishop Kelley): Has come off the bench in 17 games to tally 13 points and 22 rebounds (nine offensive). Has 10 assists and one steal. Averaging 5.4 minutes, connected on five of 12 shots from the field and three of four at the foul line. Had a career-best three assists on Feb. 9 vs. Emporia State, despite playing just seven minutes.

52-Adam Glossier (So., C, St. Charles, Mo./St. Charles West HS, Army): Missed most of the year due to an ankle injury. Played in 17 of the team’s 21 games this year. Also missed time 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. Second on the team in rebounding (7.1 rpg) and leads the team in field goal percentage (53.9 percent). Second on team with 12 blocked shots. Started in 13 of 17 games.