MEN’S SOCCER BACK ON THE ROAD

Friday Night Game: Truman State University Bulldogs (Independent/NCAA Division II) vs. Christian Brothers University Buccaneers (Gulf South/NCAA Division II)
Date/Time: Sept. 14, 2001/7 p.m.
Location/Field: Memphis, Tenn.

Sunday’s Game: Truman vs. University of Alabama-Huntsville Chargers (Gulf South/NCAA Division II)
Date/Time: Sept. 16, 2001/1 p.m.
Location/Field: Huntsville, Ala.

TRUMAN: The Bulldogs had their home opening weekend spoiled by a pair of top-flight regional opponents, dropping their record to 2-2-2 on the season. The ‘Dogs suffered their first loss of the season on Saturday at the hands of the University of Wisconsin Parkside Rangers by a margin of 2-0. The ‘Dogs were able to muster only four shots on goal as returning All-American netminder Thom Peer notched the shutout for the Rangers. Bill Weidel did the honors on both Parkside tallies, one early in the second stanza and the second with ten minutes left to play.

Truman had the opportunity to bounce back on Sunday, taking on Lewis University (Ill.), the fourth-ranked squad in the nation in Division II. The Bulldogs got off to a strong start with a pair of first half goals, the first coming from Japanese import Yosuka Aikawa (Shizuoka, Japan/Waseda University) and the second from senior Mike Roth (St. Charles, Mo./Desmet Jesuit). Lewis struck back early in the second period as John Thompson found the back of the net twice in a ten minute span, then David Bruno put the Flyers on top a minute later with a third goal. Truman battled back with the equalizer in the 72nd minute as sophomore Jeremy Crenshaw (Des Moines, Iowa/Lincoln) netted his first goal of the season. The ‘Dogs were unable to seal the deal, however, as Carlos Stremi got the game winner for Lewis with under four minutes to play. Senior T.J. Dube (Columbia, Mo./Hickman) suffered both defeats in goal for Truman.

THE DISH ON C.B.: The Buccaneers are off to a strong start at 4-0, including a 4-1 victory last weekend over Southern Illinois Univ.-Edwardsville. They are currently ranked No. 15 in the nation in Division II.

THE DISH ON HUNTSVILLE: The Chargers have stumbled a bit out of the gate, opening at 1-2-1, although the two losses did come at the hands of nationally rated opponents Barry and Lander. The offense has sputtered, scoring only three goals in the four games and no single player netting more than one tally. Freshman goalkeeper Nathan Daniel has played all 390 minutes for the Chargers, allowing seven goals and making 23 saves.

SERIES RECORD AND RECAP: This will be the first meeting ever between Truman and each of the weekend’s opponents.

COACHES RECORDS: Now four games into his fourth season at the helm of the Bulldogs, Alf Bilbao has improved his career record to a stellar 42-14-7. Gareth O’Sullivan is in his fifth year of guiding the Buccaneers. His squads have posted a 41-33-4 mark over that span. Carlos Petersen has embarked on his 12th tour of duty with the Chargers, allowing seven goals and making 23 saves.

NATIONAL RANKINGS: With last weekend’s losses, Truman falls to No. 25 in the National Soccer Coaches Association of America poll, but holds steady at No. 3 in the Central Region poll.

THE DISH ON HUNTSVILLE:

THE DISH ON C.B.: