BULLDOG BARK
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BULLDOGS ON THE WEB AT GOBULLDOGS.TRUMAN.EDU

NOV. 13, 2001

BY J.R. BELEW, ATHLETICS MEDIA RELATIONS ASSISTANT

TOP-SEEDDED AND NO. 2-RANKED TRUMAN HOSTING VOLLEYBALL REGIONAL

THE TOURNAMENT: NCAA Division II South Central Regional

Date: Thurs.-Sat., Nov. 15-17
Location: Kirksville, Mo. (Pershing Arena/2,600)

Thursday's Matches
Central Missouri State 3, Albany State (Ga.) 0
(30-10, 30-23, 30-10)
Henderson State (Ark.) 3, Alabama-Huntsville 2
(30-24, 24-30, 25-30, 30-22, 15-13)

Friday's Matches
North Alabama vs. Central Missouri State, 5 p.m.
Truman vs. Henderson State, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday's Match
North Alabama/Central Missouri vs. Truman/Henderson State, 7 p.m.

#1 SEED, TRUMAN (35-1): The Bulldogs' record-breaking season continues this week as the team's 26-0 run through South Central Region opponents landed the regional tournament in Kirksville for the first time in team history. The 'Dogs are the top seed in the regional and drew a first-round bye.

Truman also held on to the No. 2 national ranking in this week's poll (Nov. 13), continuing to rank just behind West Texas A&M and just ahead of regional foe North Alabama.

Last week, the Bulldogs finished off their regular season in terrific fashion, downing then-No. 13 Central Missouri State 3-1 at Pershing Arena, sending the Truman seniors out in style and celebrating senior night with a bang, as the team won its second straight MIAA championship, first outright. Last year, Truman and last year's host, North Alabama, squared off in an epic battle, that was won 3-2 by UNA only after the Bulldogs pushed the Lions to four match-points. Truman's 1994 trip to the tournament was short-lived, that was won 3-2 by UNA only after the Bulldogs pushed the Lions to four match-points. Truman's 1994 trip to the tournament was short-lived.

This week, Truman turns its attention to the regional which will be played on the Bulldogs' home floor. Truman has won 20 straight home matches and 32 of the last 34.

TRUMAN'S NCAA TOURNAMENT HISTORY: Truman's trip to the NCAA Tournament this year marks the third such appearance in school history. Last year, the 'Dogs made a return trip to the postseason for the first time since 1994 and, after wins over Missouri Western and Central Missouri State, advanced to the regional championship match. There, Truman and last year's host, North Alabama, squared off in an epic battle, that was won 3-2 by UNA only after the Bulldogs pushed the Lions to four match-points. Truman's 1994 trip to the tournament was short-lived as Central Missouri State downed the 'Dogs 3-0 in their first match.

BULLDOGS-MIAA CHAMPIONS: The Bulldogs closed the regular season in style and celebrated senior night with a bang, as the team won its second straight MIAA championship, defeating then-No. 13 Central Missouri State 30-28, 30-14, 20-30 and 30-23 on Nov. 7. The match was played before 1,107 fans – the most in the MIAA this season – at Pershing Arena.

Seniors Cassy Felkerson (Salem, Mo.) and Eliza Hoerner (Augusta, Mo./Washington-Univ. of Colorado-Colorado Springs) tallied 16 and 15 kills, respectively, to lead a Truman attack that outhit CMSU .226 to .161. Felkerson added five blocks while hitting a team-best .412. Junior setter Monica Marlowe (Aurora, Ill./West Aurora) finished with 56 assists, five aces and 18 digs. Freshman Jessica Sears (Colchester, Ill.) tallied 12 kills and a team season-high 25 digs and sophomore Jenna Buckner (Quincy, Ill.) rounded out the Bulldog double-figure kills representatives with 11.

The MIAA championship is the second in school history for the Bulldogs, but the team's first outright crown. Last year, Truman and CMSU shared the title as each finished with 15-1 league records.

ABOUT THE NCAA TOURNAMENT: Forty-eight Division II teams from around the nation were selected to compete this week in eight regional sites. Six teams go to each regional, where the top two seeds have a first-round bye. That means five matches decide the regional champion and that region's representative to the NCAA Division II Elite Eight Women's Volleyball Championship, that will be held Nov. 29-Dec. 1 at a site to be announced.

#2 NORTH ALABAMA (31-3): The nationally No. 3-ranked Lions garnered three wins over the weekend en route to the Gulf South Conference Tournament championship. They defeated Christian Brothers (Tenn.) 3-1, Alabama-Huntsville 3-0 and Henderson State (Ark.) 3-0. Nesrin Seckin leads UNA with 5.09 kills per game and has a hitting percentage of .304. Yana Ninova averages 4.67 kills with a .351 hitting percentage. Two other Lion regulars, Angie McLeod and Sandra Alexander, had on to the No. 2 national ranking in this week's poll (Nov. 13), continuing to rank just behind West Texas A&M and just ahead of regional foe North Alabama.

Last week, the Bulldogs finished off their regular season in terrific fashion, downing then-No. 13 Central Missouri State 3-1 at Pershing Arena, sending the Truman seniors out with the school's second consecutive MIAA championship, but the first outright. The win completed a perfect 16-0 conference record for the 'Dogs, who won their 21st consecutive match and extended the school record winning streak to 24 straight.

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MIAA STANDINGS

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x-Truman won its second MIAA championship, first outright. Number in parenthesis is ranking in latest A/CA Division II poll.

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are hitting over .400, at .468 and .426, respectively. The two also lead the team in blocks, averaging 1.01 and 0.97 per game, respectively. Ashley Moffitt is UNA's leader in assists, averaging an even 14.00 per game. Of the Lions three losses this year, two came at the hands of Truman.

#3 CENTRAL MISSOURI STATE (24-6): The 12th-ranked Jennies saw their nine-match winning streak halted last week in a 3-1 loss to Truman that gave the MIAA conference title to the Bulldogs, marking the first time in 19 years that CMSU had not won at least a piece of the crown. Carrie Potthast averages an MIAA leading 4.55 kills per game and also ranks second on the Jennies with 3.22 digs per game. Sophomore Trudy Carter averages 3.13 kills while senior Janell Mohme leads the team with 1.48 blocks and a .296 hitting percentage. Senior Robyn Griffin leads the conference with 12.35 assists per game and is also CMSU’s leader with 0.34 aces per game.

#4 ALABAMA-HUNTSVILLE (28-8): No. 20 Alabama-Huntsville has won 15 of its last 17 matches entering the postseason, with the only losses coming to North Alabama. Truman also has a defeat of UAH this season, a 3-2 decision at Truman in which the ‘Dogs rallied after dropping the first two games. Senior Ellen LaFiore is the Chargers’ leader in kills (4.82 pg), hitting (.402), aces (0.41) and blocks (0.65). Lindsay Dunham is second on the team with 3.05 kills per game, while Jane Baumgartner averages 13.24 assists. Cathryn Sterling is averaging a team-leading 3.39 digs.

#5 HENDERSON STATE (27-10): Henderson State advanced to the championship match of the Gulf South Conference Tournament last weekend before falling to North Alabama. Senior Lucy Arroyo ranks second in Division II in kills, averaging 6.63 per game, and is tied for ninth in blocks, averaging 1.54 per game. Arroyo is the Lady Reddies’ leader in hitting percentage (.324) while Rachel Lee tops the team in assists (11.51 pg). Tammi Hargraves averages 0.38 aces, a team-leading statistic, while Terri Shurtleff is the Lady Reddies’ leader with 3.31 digs. Henderson State is just 10-6 over its last 16 matches, following a 17-4 start this season to its first-round opponent, Alabama-Huntsville.

#6 ALBANY STATE (23-9): Albany State earned a berth in the tournament thanks to its Southern Intercollegiate Athletics Conference championship. It’s not only the first volleyball postseason appearance for ASU, but the first for the entire league. The Lady Rams are riding an 11-match winning streak entering the postseason. Eshivo Amune is ASU’s leader in kills, hitting and blocking, averaging 3.12 kills and 1.66 blocks to go with a .302 hitting percentage. Setter Essence Satterfield averages 8.83 assists and a team-high 0.66 aces per game. Christian Blackburn leads the team in digs (2.64) and is second with 2.90 kills per game.

SERIES RECORDS: Truman holds a 7-3 series advantage over Henderson State, with four straight wins and victories in six of the last seven. The series is tied 3-3 between Alabama-Huntsville and the Bulldogs. The ‘Dogs trail 3-7 in the all-time series with North Alabama, but have won the last two matches, halting a seven-match win streak in the series by UNA. Central Missouri State lead 50-11-3 in the series over Truman, but the ‘Dogs have won five of the last six, including 15 of the last 20 games... Truman has never faced Albany State on the volleyball court.

ATHLETES OF THE WEEK: Three different Bulldogs were named MIAA Athletes of the Week this season, including four wins each for Hoerner and Marlowe. Hoerner won the MIAA Hitter of the Week honor this year on Sept. 4, Sept. 25, Oct. 16 and Nov. 6. Marlowe won the MIAA Setter of the Week award on Sept. 18, Oct. 2, Oct. 30 and Nov. 6.

Feldkerson is the only other Truman player to win the award this year, earning the MIAA Hitter of the Week honor on Oct. 30, the same week she earned AVCA/Soap Imports Division II Player of the Week accolades. Her national award came on the heels of a week in which she hit .536 and averaged 5.56 kills and 1.11 blocks. She became the first Truman player since Neely Forbes in 1993 to earn the national honor.

ALL-TOURNAMENT HONORS: Hoerner is the lone Bulldog to receive all-tournament accolades at all three tournaments that produced an all-star team, North Alabama, Truman and Henderson State. Marlowe was on the all-tourney team at UNA, while Feldkerson was part of the all-Truman Bulldogs/Days Inn Classic team.

ALL-MIAA TEAM: The Bulldogs swept the major conference awards announced earlier this week, as Qi Wang was named MIAA Coach of the Year, while Feldkerson collected conference MVP honors and Sears was picked as the league’s freshman of the year.

The ‘Dogs placed three athletes on the first team, including Feldkerson. Marlowe was tabbed a first-teamer for the third time in three years, while Hoerner earned first-team recognition for the second straight time.

Glenn was the Bulldogs’ lone representative on the second team after earning honorable mention honors the previous two years. Buckner, Sears and junior Shelby Oertwirth (Hannibal, Mo./Culver-Stockton College) were honorable mention all-league picks.

VERIZON ACADEMIC ALL-DISTRICT: Feldkerson and Glenn will move on to the Verizon Academic All-America ballot after each was picked for first-team academic all-distRICT honors earlier this week. It marked the third straight year for Feldkerson to achieve first-team honors, but it was a first for Glenn, who last year was a second-team all-district pick. Feldkerson maintains a 3.94 GPA in chemistry/pre-medicine, while Glenn has a 4.0 in exercise science/pre-education.

BULLDOGS IN MIAA STATISTICS (Nov. 12 Report): The Bulldogs continue to lead the MIAA in four of the six team statistical categories, including hitting percentage (.298) kills (16.80 per game), assists (14.56 pg) and aces (2.33 pg). They are also fourth in digs (17.76 pg).

Individually, three of the top four in hitting percentage hail from Truman, including the two leaders. Feldkerson continues to rank No. 1 in the MIAA in hitting with a mark of .326, while Hoerner is second at .309. Buckner is fourth (296) and Glenn makes it fourth in Bulldogs in the top seven with a tally of .266.

Feldkerson is sixth in kills (3.59 pg) and Hoerner ranks ninth in the same category (3.45 pg). Feldkerson is also sixth in the league in blocks (1.05 pg), while Hoerner is second in...
Marilyn ranks second in the conference in assists (11.38) and seventh in digs (3.38).

Sears remains the MIAA leader in assists (0.50) and is followed by Hoerner in third and junior Orther in sixth (0.36).

BULLDOGS IN NCAA STATISTICS: The Bulldogs were ranked No. 1 in Division II in winning percentage as of the last NCAA Division II statistics report, which was through matches of Oct. 27. The team was also rated No. 7 in the nation in kills, tied for 14th in hitting percentage and 16th in assists.

HEAD COACH QI WANG: In his first year as Bulldog head coach, Qi Wang has a career record of 35-1. Wang took over in the offseason for 2000 MIAA Coach of the Year Becky Pike, who remains on board as an assistant in 2001. Under guidance from Pike and Wang, the Bulldogs are 131-44 (.749) dating back to the start of the 1997 campaign.

SEEING DOUBLE: Thus far on the season, the Bulldogs have had 23 double-doubles in kills and digs, including 12 from senior Jenny Glenn. Here are the Bulldogs' double-double performers for 2001 in kills and digs: Jenny Glenn (12), Eliza Hoerner (4), Jessica Sears (4), Jenna Buckner (3).

If you count assists and digs double-doubles, Marlowe has charted 19 of that variety.

Felker son has a team-leading 29 matches with double-figure kills, while Hoerner is a close second with 26. Both have had two matches with 20 or more kills.

IT’S ACADEMIC: Led by Verizon Academic All-District selections Cassy Felker son and Jenny Glenn, the 2000 Bulldog volleyball team captured the Truman Team Academic Award for posting the best GPA among all Truman athletic teams. The Dogs had a GPA of 3.45 in 2000-01.

BULLDOG CAREER LEADERS

Kills

2039 Christie Hackmann 1992-95
2033 Neely Forbes 1991-94
1674 Jennifer Sigman 1994-97
1671 Janelle Zehr 1997-00
1228 Cassy Felkerson 1998-
1184 Satoko Miyamae 1990-93
1026 Brenda Ippensen 1998-
950 Tracy Moore 1986-89
921 Gretchen Boulton 1994-97
912 Jenny Glenn 1998-

Hitting Percentage (Min. 100 atb.)

.308 Eliza Hoerner 2000-
.279 Cassy Felkerson 1998-
.274 Felicia Sutton 1990-91
.253 Jenna Buckner 2000-
.253 Satoko Miyamae 1990-93
.246 Jackie Knight 1999-
.238 Jenny Glenn 1998-
.234 Christie Hackmann 1992-95
.225 Janelle Zehr 1997-00
.223 Jennifer Sigman 1994-97

Assists

6077 Kirsten Bernthal 1993-96
3968 Monica Marlowe 1999-
2828 Kelly Mangels 1996-98
2470 Nancy Hoerner 1987-90
1218 Theresa Huff 1992
1062 Dawn Ricketts 1991
675 Stefanie Deere 1986
501 Rachael Shedd 2000-
313 Jenny Glenn 1998-
212 Leah Himmelberg 1992-93

Digs

2121 Neely Forbes 1991-94
1585 Satoko Miyamae 1990-93
1410 Kirsten Bernthal 1993-96
1304 Janelle Zehr 1997-00
1267 Brenda Ippensen 1998-
1082 Jamie Shear 1995-97
1060 Shelley Picha 1989-91
1045 Monica Marlowe 1999-
1041 Jennifer Sigman 1994-97
984 Kris Carpenter 1994-95

Total Blocks (Since 1992)

665 Christie Hackmann 1992-95
515 Gretchen Boulton 1994-97
470 Jennifer Sigman 1994-97
421 Cassy Felkerson 1998-
317 Janelle Zehr 1997-00
230 Kirsten Bernthal 1993-96
199 Eliza Hoerner 2000-
180 Neely Forbes 1991-94
175 Sara Johnson 1991-93
165 Jenny Glenn 1998-

TRUMAN 2001 SCHEDULE & RESULTS

Date Opponent (Location), Time/Result

Sept. 1 vs. University of Montevallo (Ala.), W 3-0
Sept. 2 vs. South Dakota State University, W 3-1
Sept. 2 vs. University of North Alabama, W 3-1

Missouri-St. Louis Tournament

Aug. 24 vs. Southern Illinois Univ.-Edwardsville, W 3-2
Aug. 24 vs. University of Southern Indiana, W 3-0
Aug. 25 @ University of Missouri-St. Louis, W 3-0
Aug. 25 vs. Texas Woman's University, W 3-0

North Alabama Tournament (Florence, Ala.)

Sept. 3 vs. University of North Alabama, W 3-0
Sept. 3 vs. Missouri Southern State College, W 3-0

Oct. 5 vs. Central Missouri State College (St. Joseph) *, W 3-1
Oct. 6 vs. Missouri Western State University (Warrensburg) *, W 3-0

Rockhurst University, W 3-0

Oct. 12 vs. Quincy University (Ill.), W 3-2
Oct. 13 vs. Central Missouri State University (Warrensburg), W 3-0
Oct. 13 vs. Southwest Baptist University (Bolivar) *, W 3-0

Henderson State Tournament (Arkadelphia, Ark.)

Oct. 12 vs. College of the Southwest (N.M.), W 3-0
Oct. 12 vs. Southern Arkansas University, W 3-0
Oct. 13 vs. Arkansas Tech University, W 3-0
Oct. 13 vs. University of Montevallo (Ala.), W 3-0

Southern Illinois Univ.-Edwardsville, W 3-0

Oct. 24 vs. North Missouri State University (Maryville), W 3-0
Oct. 26 vs. Emporia State University (Kan.), W 3-0
Oct. 27 vs. Washburn University (Kan.), W 3-0

Missouri Western State College, W 3-0

Nov. 2 vs. Pittsburg State University (Kan.), W 3-0
Nov. 3 vs. Missouri Southern State University, W 3-1
Nov. 7 vs. University of North Alabama, W 3-0

Central Missouri State University, W 3-1

NOV. 15-17 NCAA Div. II South Central Regional

Nov. 29-Dec. 1 NCAA Division II Elite Eight (TBA)

HOME GAMES IN BOLD CAPS All times Central

* Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association match