WOMEN’S BASKETBALL TEAM EMBARKS ON SECOND-ROUND OF MIAA AGAINST SOUTHWEST BAPTIST IN KIRKSVILLE ON WEDNESDAY

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

Date: Wednesday, Jan. 30, 2002
Time: 5:30 p.m. (CDT)
Location: Kirksville, Mo.
Arena (Capacity): Pershing Arena (2,600)

BROADCAST: KRES 104.7 FM in Moberly, Mo., Sports Director Brad Boyer will do play-by-play, with commentary from Kevin White, Truman Assistant Director of Athletics, for the home games and Hank Janssen doing commentary on the road. The pregame show begins approximately 15 minutes before the game.

TEAM LINE: Live KRES broadcast by calling 1-800-846-4700. Access Code: 6350
LISTEN FOR FREE on the internet to live KRES broadcasts of Bulldog Basketball games. Go to regionalradio.com and click on KRES.

TRUMAN (11-6, 4-5 IN THE MIAA): The Bulldogs are ready for the return home where they are 8-1 in the friendly confines of Pershing Arena this year. Last Saturday, they suffered an 80-50 setback to Missouri Southern, but split for the week after picking up a 61-23 win over Missouri-Rolla in Kirksville on Wednesday.

A thinning bench due to injuries has not helped the ‘Dogs in the last four games as they have gone 1-3 during that span. Sophomore Ashlea Wood is out for the season with a torn ACL, while freshman center Jaime Huffman is questionable for the next couple of games with a knee problem.

As the ‘Dogs embark on the second round of conference games this week, they will be looking to average their 64-61 edging by Southwest Baptist when the Lady Bearcats travel to Pershing Arena on Wednesday evening.

Truman has matched last year’s total number of league wins and had notched double-digit wins for just the 14th time in the 30-year history of the Truman women’s program. Truman is 3-3 on the road this season, but has just one MIAA road win, that one over Northwest Missouri, 73-64 on Jan. 9.

The Truman women tied the school record for consecutive wins with seven in a 75-62 victory over Quincy (Ill.) to close out the non-conference slate.

The ‘Dogs lead the MIAA in rebounding offense (44.3 rpg), rebounding margin (48.1) and defensive rebounds (32.24 drpg), as well as field goal percentage defense (.339).

TRUMAN PROBABLE STARTERS
22-Wendi Sobaski, Sr., G, 5-7 (12.1 ppg, 2.5 rpg)
13-Robyn Gerber, Sr., G, (3.3 ppg, 1.6 rpg)
4-Keagan Thalin, So., G, 5-8 (4.2 ppg, 2.6 rpg)
10-Jessy Fletcher, Sr., F, 5-11 (5.1 ppg, 5.3 rpg)
3-Jenny Miller, Fr., G, 5-5 (4.8 ppg, 1.2 rpg)
14-Carrie Long, Sr., F, 5-10 (17.4 ppg, 6.4 rpg)
32-Ashley Bland, Fr., G, 5-8 (4.8 ppg, 0.7 rpg)

SOUTHWEST BAPTIST PROBABLE STARTERS
00-Erin Easterly, Sr., F, 5-11 (16.1 ppg, 9.0 rpg)
22-Robyn Gerber (Affton, Mo./Lutheran South)
3-Keagan Thalin, Sr., G, 5-8 (4.2 ppg, 2.6 rpg)
44-Alicia Mercier, Sr., F, 6-1 (7.6 ppg, 5.8 rpg)
32-Ashley Bland, Fr., G, 5-8 (4.8 ppg, 0.7 rpg)

TRUMAN VS. MISSOURI SOUTHERN: Despite shooting 40.4 for the game and falling just two rebounds short of Missouri Southern, the Bulldogs could not overcome 13 more turnovers or 14 Lady Lion thefts, to just three for the ‘Dogs, in the 80-50 loss to MSSC on Saturday.

Senior guard Robyn Gerber (Affton, Mo./Lutheran South) put the ‘Dogs on the board first with a three-pointer just half a minute into the game, but that would be the only lead Truman would enjoy. The score was tied at five each when the Lady Lions went on a 17-0 run that ended mid-way through the first half.

MSSC went ahead by 27 with 2:22 to go, but the Bulldogs managed to hold the Lady Lions scoreless from there while Perkins made two baskets and a free throw and Westhoff hit both free throws to get the deficit down to 20. An MSSC three-pointer with five seconds remaining in the half left the score at 46-23 in favor of Missouri Southern.

In the second half, Truman could not get its deficit below 20 and saw that expand to 31 by the 13-minute mark. The Lady Lions took their biggest lead with 5:33 left in the game when the Lady Lions travel to Pershing Arena on Wednesday evening.

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BULLDOGS AMONG MIAA STATISTICAL LEADERS: Perkins is second in MIAA scoring (18.9 ppg), field goal percentage (.544), defensive rebounds (5.71 drpg) and blocked shots (1.53 bpg), and is second in rebounding (8.7 rpg). She is fifth in offensive rebounds (3.00 pg) and seventh in free throw percentage (.783).

Sobaski is third in the MIAA in three-point field goals made (2.59 pg) and three-point field goal percentage (.411), while ranking 15th among conference scoring leaders (11.8 ppg).
Fisher is tied for ninth among MIAA rebounding leaders (6.4 rpg) and is fourth in defensive rebounds (5.18 pg).

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE ...
BULLDOG BARK ... PAGE 2

SERIES INFO: Truman has lost the last five games against SBU. The Lady Bearcats hold an 18-7 advantage in the all-time series. The Bulldogs last beat SBU on Jan. 15, 2000, 77-70 in Kirksville.

COACHES’ RECORDS: Truman’s John Sloop is in his second season with the Bulldogs and as a head coach. He is no stranger to Truman though, having served as the assistant coach for the men’s team the previous five seasons. Last year, he guided the team to a 9-17 record and is now 20-23 (.465) for his career. Sloop is 0-2 vs. SBU.

Jim Middleton is in his seventh year as a head coach and at SBU, and is 148-69 (.682) during that time.

ABOUT SOUTHWEST BAPTIST (11-5 OVERALL, 4-4- MIAA): The Lady Bearcats have also lost three of their last four games, charting their last win over Northwest Missouri on Jan. 19, 78-70. Since then, SBU has dropped games at Pittsburg 58-49 and in Bolivar to No. 2 Missouri Western on Saturday, 77-69.

SBU opened MIAA play with a 64-61 win over Truman, but followed up with a 70-62 loss to Missouri Southern before defeating Missouri-Rolla 91-94 in overtime. SBU then lost again to Washburn 85-53, and beat Central Missouri 70-58, but suffered another setback in the following game to Emporia, 65-57, before tally their most recent win over Northwest.

Senior forward Annie Westhoff (Webster Groves, Mo.) came up with a steal that senior center Jennifer Perkins (Ft. Dodge, Iowa/St. Edmond) capitalized on to give the ‘Dogs their first lead. Truman finished off the 6-0 run with a jumper by sophomore forward Annie Westhoff (Webster Groves, Mo.).

Following a SBU made free throw, Long came up with another trey, giving SBU back the lead for the next six minutes. Freshman guard Kelli Floyd (Kirksville, Mo.) tied the score at 23 with 7:02 remaining in the game. SBU then made a pair of free throws,扩大着比分, but Long came up with another three-pointer to tie the score at 23. Long was 9-of-10 from the line with a team-high four assists.

Senior forward Erin Easterly leads the league in rebounding (9.0 rpg) and offensive rebounds (3.71 orpg), and is fifth in scoring (16.1 ppg), field goal percentage (.440) and free throw percentage (.829) and third in defensive rebounds (5.29 pg). Sophomore forward Alicia Mercer is third in the conference in assists (9.0 rpg) and offensive rebounds (3.71 orpg), and is fifth in scoring (9.0 rpg) and offensive rebounds (3.71 orpg), and is fifth in assists (3.50 apg), fourth in steals (2.38 spg) and free throw percentage (.836) and 10th in assist/turnover ratio (0.92).

Senior forward Keagan Thalin (Glenview, Ill./Glenbrook South): Thalin missed the first two games of the season with a broken hand ... earned her first career-start in 73-64 win over Northwest Missouri and has started the last six games ... had five rebounds in three games ... had a career-high with two three-pointers in the league opener vs. SBU ... had career highs with 5-of-11 field goals vs. Missouri-Rolla on Jan. 23 ... also made a career-high seven points in back to back games vs. Central Missouri and Northwest Missouri in early January ... had four rebounds vs. Kentucky State and Missouri-Rolla on Jan. 23 ... made her first three-pointer vs. Greenville ... had five assists vs. Park ... had a career-high three steals vs. Missouri-Rolla on Jan. 23 ... had career-highs with a 4-for-4 performance from the line in 73-64 win over Northwest Missouri on Jan. 9 ... made both shots and all three free throws vs. Central Missouri on Jan. 7.

4-KEAGAN THALIN, SO., G (GLENVIEW, ILL./GLENBROOK SOUTH): Thalin missed the first two games of the season with a broken hand ... earned her first career-start in 73-64 win over Northwest Missouri and has started the last six games ... had five rebounds in three games ... had a career-high with two three-pointers in the league opener vs. SBU ... had career highs with 5-of-11 field goals vs. Missouri-Rolla on Jan. 23 ... also made a career-high seven points in back to back games vs. Central Missouri and Northwest Missouri in early January ... had four rebounds vs. Kentucky State and Missouri-Rolla on Jan. 23 ... made her first three-pointer vs. Greenville ... had five assists vs. Park ... had a career-high three steals vs. Missouri-Rolla on Jan. 23 ... had career-highs with a 4-for-4 performance from the line in 73-64 win over Northwest Missouri on Jan. 9 ... made both shots and all three free throws vs. Central Missouri on Jan. 7.

TRUMAN VS. SOUTHWEST BAPTIST
Jan. 2, 2002, 1:30 pm in Bolivar, Mo.

TOTTLE 3-PT

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<td>54-17</td>
<td>31-21</td>
<td>77</td>
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<td>23</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>15</td>
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two threes in first PSU encounter, along with a tying her career-high with five assists in that game ... had her first and second double-figure outings of the year in the first SBU and UMR games with 11 points in both contests.

**Career**

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<tr>
<th>Player</th>
<th>G</th>
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<th>3Pt-A</th>
<th>FT-A</th>
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<td>83</td>
<td>44</td>
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**10-JESSY FLETCHER, SR., F (ATLANTA, MO.):** The only player to start every game last year, Fletcher started this year’s season-opener, as well as five of the last six games, and has been a valuable contributor off the bench in between ... had season-highs with 14 points vs. Kentucky State and 11 rebounds vs. Lincoln ... had career-highs with 8-of-10 free throws vs. Metropolitan State and Kentucky State ... had two blocks vs. Graceland ... had three steals vs. No. 2 MWSC.

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<td>121-246</td>
<td>9-26</td>
<td>102-147</td>
<td>261</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>17</td>
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<td>353</td>
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**13-ROBYN GERBER, SR., G (AFFTON, MO./LUTHERAN SOUTH):** Started all 15 games she has played in, but missed two games with a head injury ... had a personal season-high of seven points vs. Quincy ... had a team season-high with six assists in Washburn win ... also made the game-winning shot at the buzzer in 55-53 win over WU ... made 3-of-6 free throws vs. Metro State.

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<td>188</td>
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**22-WENDI SOBASKI, SR., G (PACKWOOD, IOWA/PEKIN):** Has started every game after missing last season while recovering from knee surgery ... leads the team with 44 three-pointers (now with 241) during her junior season ... has scored in double figures in 12 games and led the team with 19 points vs. Park ... had a career season-high of nine points in 55-53 win over WU ... made 3-of-6 free throws vs. Metro State.

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<td>241-621</td>
<td>227-292</td>
<td>348</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>1,252</td>
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**23-EMILY TURNBULL, SO., G (TOULON, ILL./STARK COUNTY):** Started at point guard in two games ... made a career-high 2-of-2 three-pointers vs. Graceland ... is second on the team with 37 assists ... had five rebounds vs. Lincoln ... was 4-of-4 from the line against Quincy.

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<td>13-57</td>
<td>49-72</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>116</td>
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**24-ANNE WESTHOFF, SO., F (WEBSTER GROVES, MO.):** Earned her first and only start of the season, to date, in 55-53 win over Washburn ... ranks third on the team in scoring (7.6 ppg) ... had career-highs with 8-of-11 free throws against Kentucky State ... has nine rebounds vs. KSU ... has four double-figure scoring efforts, including a season-high of 12 points vs. Park ... has two games with four assists ... had a season-high of 12 points vs. Quincy.

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<td>731-114</td>
<td>203</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>379</td>
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**30-JAMIE HUFFMAN, FR., F (ST. PETERS, MO./FRANCIS HOWELL CENTRAL):** Missed the last two games against a knee injury ... averages 3.3 points off the bench ... is fourth on the team with 22 made free throws ... made 8-of-10 free throws vs. Kentucky State ... had her first double-figure scoring effort vs. KSU with 12 points ... had a career-high seven rebounds vs. Greenville ... had four assists vs. Park ... had the first two blocks of her career in the 73-64 win at Northwest Missouri on Jan. 9.

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<td>22-36</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
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**35-JENNIFER PERKINS, SR., C (FT. DODGE, IOWA/ST. EDMOND):** Perkins was named the MIAA’s fourth woman athlete of the week after averaging 19.0 points...

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and 4.0 rebounds and assists in victories over Lincoln and Park ... also named MIAA player of the week after averaging 23.7 points over a three-game span that included 27- and 25-point efforts in wins over Northwest Missouri and Emporia, respectively ... scored 34 points vs. Metropolitan State, one off of her career high, and had 30 points vs. Park ... has scored in double figures in 15 of 16 games this year ... has eight double-doubles for the season, most recently with 16 points and 10 rebounds vs. Missouri Western on Jan. 16 ... third on the team with 36 assists and added a career-high five assists vs. Park ... led the team in scoring in 12 games and has led or tied for the lead in rebounding 12 times this year ... is now fifth among Truman career points leaders with 1,312 ... fifth all-time in rebounding at Truman with 685, just four boards out of fourth-place ... fourth all-time in rebounding at Truman with 685, just four boards out of fourth-place ... fourth in career field goals made (550) and third in consecutive games played (100) ... continues to add to her school record 92 career blocked shots...