BULLDOG BARK
Truman State University Athletics Media Relations
Melissa Ware, Director ♦ mware@truman.edu
100 E. Normal ♦ 215 Kirk Building ♦ Kirksville, MO 63501-4221
Office 660.785.4127/4276 ♦ FAX 660.785.7475 ♦ Home 660.665.3652

BULLDOGS ON THE WEB AT GOBULLDOGS.TRUMAN.EDU

JAN. 3, 2002

TRUMAN WOMEN CAGERS OPEN MIAA HOME SLATE SATURDAY

THE GAME: Truman State University Bulldogs (NCAA Division II/Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association) vs. Washburn University Lady Blues (NCAA Division II/MIAA)
Date: Saturday, Jan. 5, 2002
Time: 1:30 p.m. (CDT)
Location: Kirksville, Mo.
Stadium (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 (7-2, 0-1 IN THE MIAA): The Truman women tied the school record for consecutive wins with their seventh in a 75-62 victory over Quincy (Ill.) to close out the non-conference slate. However, they began conference action with a 64-61 loss to Southwest Baptist on Wednesday in Bolivar, Mo. The Bulldogs will be looking to rebound from their loss as they host the Washburn Lady Blues on Saturday. Truman is currently ranked fifth in the South Central region, one spot above their current MIAA marks.

TRUMAN VS. SOUTHWEST BAPTIST: The Lady Bearcats got on the board first just seconds into the game on a three-pointer by Carrie Long. Senior guard Wendi Sobaski (Packwood, Iowa/Pekin) quickly put up two buckets for Truman, and sophomore forward Ashlea Wood (Kirksville, 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 WU 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 8:21 to go in the first half and the Bulldogs took a brief lead with a three-pointer by sophomore guard Keagan Thalin (Glenview, Ill./Glenbrook) on the next Truman possession. Shortly after that, the Lady Bearcats went on a 13-0 run to take their only double-digit lead of the game at 37-26. In the final three minutes of the first stanza the Bulldogs cut the margin to one, helped by a pair of threes by Thalin and Sobaski, and took a mere 37-36 deficit into the locker room.

After the break, the Bulldogs got down by six in the first four minutes, but mustered a comeback on buckets by Westhoff and junior forward Wendi Sobaski (Fordland, Mo./Marshfield) to tie the score at 46 by the 12-minute mark. SBU battled back and took a five-point lead with 10:47 to go. The 'Dogs then went on a 10-2 run, sparked by a layup and free throw by Thalin, and took a four-point lead on a three by Sobaski. The Lady Bearcats then capitalized on a steal and snatched back the lead at 58-57 with 7:29 left.
The senior guard Robyn Gerber (Affton, Mo./Lutheran South) and Perkins gave Truman a three point lead on a couple of buckets, the later coming with 5:12 remaining in the game. But Perkins' basket would turn out to be the last for the Bulldogs as SBU held the 'Dogs scoreless for the rest of the game, while the Lady 'Cats tallied six more points for the 64-61 win.

ABOUT WASHBURN (7-2 OVERALL, 0-1 MIAA): The Lady Blues also dropped their conference opener on Wednesday night to Missouri Western, 69-67. The two teams were tied at halftime, and both made 27 baskets for the game, but nine of MWSC's were from three-point land. Junior forward Carissa Goeglein and junior guard Kristy Chapman each had 14 points, with Goeglein contributing a team-high nine rebounds. Senior forward Jovane St. Cyr and junior forward Crystal Walker each had 13 points, while Walker also had two blocks.

Walker leads the team in scoring (16.1 ppg) and rebounding.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE...
LADY BLUES RALLY FALLS SHORT AS WASHBURN TAKES SERIES LEAD

The Lady Blues tallied five wins to start the season, beating Southeastern College (Fla.) 97-61, Baker (Kan.) 92-50, Benedictine State (Minn.) 72-55, Nebraska-Kearney 46-45 and Mid-America Nazarene (Kan.) 79-51, before falling to Missouri-St. Louis 63-60 on Dec. 3. The Bulldogs came back in wins over Drury 68-65 and Benedictine (Kan.) 68-61 after suffering their latest setback to Missouri Western.

LAST YEAR: TRUMAN VS. WASHBURN ON JAN. 8: Jennifer Perkins led the team with 26 points and began all scoring with a jumper in the first minute of action. But that was the only lead the Bulldogs had as the Lady Blues responded with an 8-0 run, going ahead for the remainder of the game.

WU closed the first period with a 9-0 run building its lead to 18 with a minute to go. Perkins cut the Lady Blues’ margin to 16 with a two-pointer to end the half and leave the score at 35-19 in Washburn’s favor.

Perkins put the Bulldogs on the board first in the second half and rattled off six straight points, but could not stop the Lady Blues who expanded their lead to 20 by the 17-minute mark. Behind by 18 at 15:14, Perkins sparked an 8-0 run for the ‘Dogs with a jumper, rejecting two WU shots during the run.

Washburn answered again though, scoring eight points to one for Truman and pushing the Lady Blues’ lead back to 17 with 8:29 to go. Jessy Fletcher hit a pair of free throws at 4:48, giving the Bulldogs hope by beginning a 9-2 run that left Truman down by nine with 1:17 left to play. However, the run and all scoring by the ‘Dogs ended with a layup by Annie Westhoff and left the Lady Blues the winners, 63-52.

TRUMAN STATE VS. WASHBURN ON JAN. 8, 2001

TRUMAN STATE VS. WASHBURN LAST YEAR ON FEB. 5, 2001: The Bulldogs went up 6-0 to start the game and built a 12-point lead by the ninth-minute mark, outscoring the Lady Blues 17-5 during that time. Washburn then put together a 12-0 run to tie the score at 17 with 5:23 left in the half. For the remainder of the first half, the Lady Blues outscored the Bulldogs 12-7 to take a 29-24 lead at the break. In the second period, Washburn kept the Bulldogs at bay, but never had a double-digit lead. Truman got within a point of WU four times, the last coming at the seventh-minute mark. However WU quickly expanded its lead to six and seemed to have an answer for every Bulldog bucket. In the last minute of action, the Lady Blues were 4-of-5 from the free throw line, enjoying their greatest lead with 50 ticks left on the clock, 62-53. Truman guard Tessa Thurman hit her third trey of the game with 40 seconds left to put the final score at 62-56 in WU’s favor.

TRUMAN STATE VS. WASHBURN ON FEB. 5, 2001

Wood, Ashlea 0-0 0-0 0-0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 3

Thalin, Keagan 1-5 1-3 0-0 2 0 2 0 1 0 1 11

Moddlemog, Linsey 1-6 0-0 0-0 1 0 1 0 0 0 0 6

Washburn answered again though, scoring eight points to one for Truman and pushing the Lady Blues’ lead back to 17 with 8:29 to go. Jessy Fletcher hit a pair of free throws at 4:48, giving the Bulldogs hope by beginning a 9-2 run that left Truman down by nine with 1:17 left to play. However, the run and all scoring by the ‘Dogs ended with a layup by Annie Westhoff and left the Lady Blues the winners, 63-52.

TOTALS 20-55 3-17 9-25 52 11 63 15 25 5 8 200

TOTALS 27-70 2-8 7-10 39 13 63 15 14 5 10 200

SERIES INFO: Washburn leads the overall series with the Truman women, 20-6. WU has won the last three meetings, including 63-52 and 63-56 wins last season. Prior to the 2000-01 campaign, the two teams had split the three previous seasons with each contingent winning on its home court. The Lady Blues had a nine-game win-streak going in the series before Truman registered a 66-49 win on Feb. 2, 1998, in Kirksville. The ‘Dogs’ most recent overtime game was the 89-85 loss to WU on Jan. 31, 2000.

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 16-19 (.457) for his career.

Ron McHenry took over the reins for the Lady Blues last year and led the team to a 13-14 record in his first year as a head coach. He is now 20-16 for his career. McHenry served as an assistant for the men’s team at Washburn for 10 years prior to

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE...
taking over the women's squad, and played for the WU Ichabods during the 1983-84 season after transferring from Kansas.

**BULLDOGS AMONG MIAA STATISTICAL LEADERS:** Perkins is third in MIAA scoring (18.4 ppg), tied for second in rebounding (8.4 rpg) and is second in field goal percentage (.558) and blocked shots (1.22 bpg). She is also third in defensive rebounds (5.44), tied for fourth in offensive rebounds (3.00 orpg) and eighth in free throw percentage (.800).

Sobaski in second in three-point field goal percentage (.473) and is tied for second in three-point field goals made (2.9 pg). She is 16th among conference scoring leaders (12.6 ppg).

Junior forward Jennifer Fisher (Fordland, Mo./Marshfield) is tied for the lead in the MIAA in defensive rebounds (6.00 drpg) and is tied for sixth among MIAA rebounding leaders (7.7 rpg).

**BULLDOGS SO FAR THIS YEAR....**

3-KELLI FLOYD (FR., G): Floyd had career-highs of four points in the season-opener vs. No. 15 Northern Michigan and four rebounds vs. Kentucky State ... made her first three-pointer vs. Greenville ... had five assists vs. Park ... had a career-high of two steals in the MIAA opener vs. SBU.

4-KEAGAN THALIN (SO., G): Thalín missed the first two games of the season with a broken hand ... had five rebounds vs. Greenville ... scored seven points vs. Park ... had a new career-high with two three-pointers and tied her career-high with four made field goals in the league opener vs. SBU ... also had her double-figure outing of the year in first SBU encounter.

10-JESSY FLETCHER (SR., F): The only player to start every game last year, Fletcher started this year’s season-opener, but has been a valuable contributor off the bench since then ... 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 KSU ... had two blocks vs. Graceland.

13-ROBYN GERBER (SR., G): Started all six games she has played in, but missed two with a back problem ... had a personal season-high of seven points vs. Quincy ... had five assists vs. Northern Michigan ... made 3-of-6 free throws vs. Truman.

22-WENDI SOBASKI (SR., G): Has started every game after missing last season while recovering from knee surgery ... leads the team with 26 three-pointers ... became school career record-holder for three-pointers (now with 223) during her junior season ... has scored in double figures in seven games and led the team with 19 points vs. Kentucky Wesleyan ... was 5-of-9 from long range vs. Greenville ... has made at least two treys in every game this year ... made all six technical free throws vs. Truman State ... ranks ninth among Truman career scoring leaders with 1,164 points ... is third in consecutive games played at Truman with 93.

23-EMILY TURNBULL (SO., G): Started at point guard in two games ... made a career-high 2-of-2 three-pointers vs. Graceland ... leads the team in assists with 23 ... had her first two blocks ... had five rebounds vs. Lincoln ... was 4-of-4 from the line against Quincy.

24-ANNIE WESTHOFF (SO., F): Comes off the bench to rank fourth on the team in scoring (8.2 ppg) ... had career-highs with 8-of-11 free throws against Kentucky State ... had 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 team season-high of four steals vs. Quincy.

30-JAMIE HUFFMAN (FR., F): Averages 4.0 points off the bench ... is third on the team with 20 made free throws ... made 8-of-10 free throws vs. Kentucky

**CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE ...**
33-Ashlea Wood (So., G): Earned a starting role after the season-opener in which she tied her career-high with 10 points ... made a career-high with two three-pointers vs. Northern Michigan ... also had career highs with 4-of-6 free throws vs. Kentucky State ... had her first block vs. Graceland.

35-Jennifer Perkins (Sr., C): Perkins was named the MIAA’s fourth woman athlete of the week after averaging 19.0 points and 4.0 rebounds and assists in victories over Lincoln and Park ... scored 34 points vs. Metropolitan State, one off her career high, and had 30 points vs. Park ... has scored in double figures in eight of nine games this year ... has five double-doubles for the season ... added a career-high five assists vs. Park ... led the team in scoring in five games and has led or tied for the lead in rebounding six times this year ... ranks 11th among Truman career points leaders with 1,157 ... seventh all-time in rebounding ... has led or tied for the lead in rebounding six times this year ... ranks 11th among Bulldog career three-point leaders with 51, seven away from eighth.

40-Jennifer Fisher (Jr., F): Has started every game to date and had her career-high with 10 points ... made a career-high with two three-pointers vs. Northern Michigan ... also had career highs with 4-of-6 free throws vs. Kentucky State ... had her first double-figure scoring effort vs. KSU with 12 points ... had her first block vs. Graceland.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE ...