THE GAME: Truman State University Bulldogs (Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association/NCAA Division II) vs. University of Nebraska-Omaha Mavericks (North Central Conference/NCAA DII)

Date: Saturday, Nov. 16, 2002
Time: 1:30 pm (CDT)
Location: Omaha, Neb.
Pitch: Ak-Sar-Ben Soccer Field

NO. 14 TRUMAN (16-2-2 OVERALL, 11-0-1 MIAA): The Bulldogs have advanced to the second round of the NCAA postseason tournament by virtue of a 1-0 victory at No. 2 seed Northern Colorado on Wednesday. Truman now advances to the second round at Nebraska-Omaha, the No. 1 seed on the Central region and the third-ranked team in the country that received a first-round bye. The ‘Dogs earned their second-straight trip to the NCAA Division II postseason tournament as the No. 3 seed in the Central region.

Last year, Truman was the No. 1 seed and knocked out UNC in the second-round game in Kirksville, 1-0. The Bulldogs lost a quarterfinal game in Kirksville to Northern Kentucky the following week, 2-0.

In 1997, the ‘Dogs made their first post-season trip, beating St. Joseph’s (Ind.) 1-0 in the first round in Indiana, before losing at West Virginia Wesleyan in the second round, 1-0.

Truman faced both of the other two Central region qualifiers in the Truman classic this year, falling 3-0 to UNO and battling UNC to a scoreless draw.

Truman dominated the MIAA this season as the Bulldogs claimed their fourth-straight MIAA crown and remained unbeaten in MIAA play for the season. The ‘Dogs are 32-1-1 all-time in conference games over the past four years.

Sophomore striker Sara Murray (Eden Prairie, Minn.) leads Truman with 27 points and nine assists and goals.

Sophomore midfielder Anna Sonderman (Manchester, Mo./Nerinx Hall), tied for second among the ‘Dogs in scoring, tallied two goals in the final two MIAA games over the weekend, including the game-winner in the MIAA and regular season finale over Central Missouri. She has also recorded five assists for a season for a total of 15 points. Sonderman now leads the ‘Dogs in game winning shots with three and was named MIAA athlete of the week for her two goals last week.

Freshman Lisa Schmalz (Chesterfield, Mo./Parkway Central) has a goals against average of 0.63 and has 11 shutouts for the season, tying for the fourth-most in school history in a season.

BULLDOGS LAND 10 ON ALL-CONFERENCE LIST: The ‘dogs placed four members of the team on both the first and second all-MIAA teams this week, in addition to two other honorable mention picks. First-team recognition went to Smalz, senior defender Jennifer Buscher (Oakville, Mo./Notre Dame) and Sara Murray.

Second-team status was earned by senior defender Karla Danekas (Naperville, Ill.), junior defender Beth Wieman (St. Louis/Rosati-Kain), senior midfielder Anna Smith (Jefferson City, Mo.) and senior forward Heather Murray (St. Charles, Mo./West).

Sophomore defender Lisa Manns (Overland Park, Kan./St. Thomas Aquinas) and sophomore forward Ellen Wright (Kirkwood, Mo.) were the honorable mention picks.

TRUMAN MIAA ATHLETES OF THE WEEK: The Bulldogs have had four MIAA athletes of the week this season. In addition to Sonderman this week, Sara Murray...
received the honor on Oct. 28, Lisa Schmalz earned the distinction on Oct. 21 and Heather Murray kicked off the Truman quartet with the honor on Sept. 30.

**TRUMAN VS. NORTHERN COLORADO:**
The ‘Dogs took two shots on goal in the first half to the Bears’ four shots on goal. Schmalz made four of her five saves in the first period. Truman scored the lone goal in the 60th minute when Angie Schuhler sent the ball down the right side to Becky Ojile who got it up to Ellen Wright for the header. Schmalz claimed her 11th shutout of the year in all 90 minutes of work.

**BULLDOGS IN THE MIAA (BEFORE N. COLORADO GAME):** Sara Murray is fourth in shots (2.63 pg), points (1.42 pg) and goals (0.47 pg) and second in assists (0.47 pg).

Heather Murray is ninth in shots (1.95 pg) and points (0.68 pg) and tied for ninth in goals (0.26 pg).

Sonderman is seventh in goals (0.29 pg), fourth in assists (0.29 pg) and tied for fourth in game-winning goals with three.

Schmalz leads the MIAA with an 0.67 goals against average and 0.53 shutouts per game and is seventh in saves (3.52 pg).

**BULLDOGS IN THE NCAA (AS OF NOV. 3):** Schmalz ranked 27th in the nation for goals against average (0.74). Truman was 23rd with a 0.74 goals against average, 27th with a 0.47 shutout percentage and 18th in won-lost-tied percentage (0.824).

**SERIES RECORD:** The Bulldogs have won just one in four meetings with UNO, winning their only game in the series on Sept. 16 last year, 1-0. Sara Murray scored the game-winning goal. The Mavericks beat Truman 3-0 in the Truman Classic back on Sept. 7 this year.

**COACHES’ RECORDS:** Mike Cannon is nearing the end of his first decade as head coach at Truman and is the most successful coach to ever lead the Bulldogs during the last 19 years.

Last year, Cannon’s team reached the NCAA Division II tournament for the second time, earning a first-round bye and the opportunity to host second-round and quarterfinal NCAA games for the first time in school history. The 2001 team also posted the most wins ever (18) and was the No. 1 team in the Central region. Cannon was later named Central region coach of the year.

His squad of year ago led the nation with an outstanding 0.38 goals against average and he was named MIAA coach of the year for the third consecutive season.

This year, Cannon has led the ‘Dogs to their fourth-straight MIAA crown.

Cannon is the winningest coach in Truman women’s soccer history, and was ranked tied for 17th by percentage and 16th by victories among NCAA Division II active coaches heading into the season. He is now 125-49-15 (.701) for his career.

Don Klosterman is in his fourth year at UNO and is 65-15 during that time.

**NEBRASKA-Omaha (19-0-0):**
The Mavericks have so far registered a perfect season at 19-0-0. It is their first NCAA postseason trip after winning their third straight North Central Conference tournament title. Senior forward Stephanie Kruse leads the team with 45 points and five assists. The No. 2 scoring leader, Anne Willrett, with 34 points on 13 goals and eight assists, suffered a season ending injury in the NCC tournament last weekend. Junior midfielder Stephanie Kirby has 23 points on six goals and 11 assists.

Freshman goalkeeper Amy Price has played the most minutes and is 1-0 for the season with a 0.28 goals against average and 11 shutouts.

**SENIORS SPOTLIGHT**

**Molly Adams (Omaha, Neb./Marian-Tulsa):** joined the Bulldogs after lettering twice while at the University of Tulsa as a midfielder and defender. In 2000, she transferred to Truman and earned first-team all-MIAA honors. Adams scored three goals her first season with the ‘Dogs, including the game-winners against Missouri-St. Louis and Northwest Missouri. This year, she scored her only goal to date in game five vs. Winona, the game-winner as well. For her career with the ‘Dogs, Adams has four goals and three assists for 11 points. She is a two-time member of the MIAA commissioner’s academic honor roll. Adams is one of the ‘Dogs four team captains this year. She is a speech pathology major and the daughter of Steve and Darley Adams.

**Jennifer Buscher (St. Louis/Notre Dame),** was a regular among the defenders as a freshman, scoring her first collegiate goal against Minnesota State, Mankato. That year, she was named rookie of the year by her teammates and was a member of two all-tournament teams. In 1999, Buscher earned honorable mention all-MIAA honors as a full-time starter for the ‘Dogs. She scored the game-winning goal that year against Southwest Baptist. Buscher redshirted on 2000, but came back the following year to be named to CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE
Forward Heather Murray (St. Charles, Mo./West) earned MIAA athlete of the week honors following her performance against No. 2 Barry (Fla.) her freshman year when she scored the game-winning goal, which was also voted goal of the year by her teammates. At the Missouri-St. Louis tournament that year, she was selected to the all-tournament team. In 2000, Murray was fourth among Bulldog leaders in scoring (0.53 ppg), tying for 15th among MIAA leaders.

Murray received first-team all-MIAA honors last year, while finishing fifth in team scoring and recording two game-winning shots. This year, Murray received MIAA player of the week after scoring all three goals in a 2-1 win over Rockhurst and a 1-0 victory vs. Northwest Missouri. Over the past four years, Murray has accumulated

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14 goals and 11 assists for 39 points. She is tied for ninth in goals and points among Truman career leaders, and is 11th in assists. She claimed the Bulldog career games played record last weekend and has now appeared in 79 matches. Murray is a philosophy/religion major and the daughter of Michael and Susan Murray.

Midfielder Anna Smith (Jefferson City, Mo.) was a second-team all-MIAA selection as well as the league’s freshman of the year in 1999. That year, Smith was voted rookie of the week by her teammates as well and led the team with five game-winning goals. Last season, Smith was selected to the first NSCAA/adidas all- Central region team and was also a first-team all-MIAA pick. She finished fourth on the team in scoring (12 points) and second in goals (5). Her sophomore year, Smith again earned second-team all-MIAA honors and was fourth in the MIAA in assists per game (0.28), while also scoring two game-winning goals. Last season, Smith was selected to the first NSCAA/adidas all- Central region team and was also a first-team all-MIAA pick. Smith is a three-time member of the MIAA commissioner’s academic honor roll. While with the ‘Dogs, she has scored 39 points on 14 goals and 11 assists to rank tied for ninth on the Truman career goals and points lists and tied for 11th in career assists. Smith is also tied for second in career games played with 78. She was one of the team’s quad-captains this year. Smith is a biology major and the daughter of Tony and Jenny Smith.

Midfielder Becky Ojile (St. Louis/Nerinx Hall) saw limited playing time as a true freshman. The following year, Ojile tallied two more goals, one against Missouri-Rolla and the other against Northwest Missouri. So far this year, Ojile scored her only goal in the season opening 2-1 win over North Dakota State and Minnesota State-Mankato, she was named MIAA athlete of the week. So far in 2002, Smith had game-winning goals against Central Missouri and Northwest Missouri and is tied for fifth in MIAA game-winning goals (0.12 pg). Smith will be a three-time member of the MIAA commissioner’s academic honor roll. While with the ‘Dogs, she has scored 39 goals last year, Sara Murray is again the Bulldogs’ scoring machine with team highs of nine goals and assists and 27 points. She is so far this year tied for eighth on the Truman single season goals list, is sixth in single season assists and seventh in single season points.

Schmalz is currently fourth on the Bulldog single season list of fewest goals allowed (13) and minutes played (1,843:58) and is tied for fourth in shutouts (11).

--- GO BULLDOGS ---