

# Women improve to 6-1 on year

**Bulldogs also gain first road win with a 58-48 victory over Rolla Tuesday night**

**John Scognamiglio**  
Staff Reporter

Last season, the women's basketball team compiled a 7-2 record before the conference season started.

This year's squad is on pace to match that record before the major bulk of the conference schedule opens up.

The Bulldogs are 6-1 on the young season, rebounding from a 71-63 setback at Quincy University (Ill.) to grab a victory against the University of Illinois-Springfield 71-45 last Saturday at Pershing Arena.

They also defeated the University of Missouri-Rolla 58-48 on Tuesday night for their first road victory of the year.

Sophomore guard Candace McGee led the team with 11 points and senior forward Natalie Schupbach added 10 and a team-leading nine rebounds.

The 'Dogs stopped the Miners' outside shooting, limiting them to 2-for-14 from beyond the arc.

In the Quincy matchup, freshman forward Jennifer Franklin came off the bench to lead all scorers in the game with 18 points. Franklin also pulled down 11 boards in the contest, 10 of which were on the defensive end.

Candace McGee said Franklin and freshman Georgia Mueller have stepped up this season.

"We've depended on them a lot," she said. "They have taken a lot of pressure off of [junior guard] Natalie [Schupbach]."

Head coach John Sloop said there still is room for improvement for his team.



**Chris Waller/Index**  
Sophomore guard Katie Fowler and Stephens College (Mo.) guard Josy Sanders battle in the Bulldogs' 81-52 victory over Stephens on Nov. 15. Following a 58-48 road win over University of Missouri-Rolla on Tuesday night, the 'Dogs are 6-1.

"We didn't play our best on Saturday," he said. "I thought we were able to take care of business. We gave up too many offensive rebounds and turnovers."

Sophomore guard Laura Cooper said the team is working on ironing out the problems Sloop has identified.

"We just didn't have enough energy in the first half," she said. "We did not take care of the ball. We stepped up in

the second half. It wasn't our best 40 minutes, but it still was a good win."

For the first time, the Bulldogs will open up the MIAA conference season before the Christmas holiday.

Saturday, the squad will travel to Bolivar, Mo., to take on the 5-2 Southwest Baptist University Bearcats.

Sloop said he doesn't favor the idea of having the conference season start

so early, especially with finals around the corner.

"I'm not a fan of this at all, considering this is the Saturday before finals," he said. "In the past, we've always scheduled a Saturday afternoon home game so that it was here, and the girls had the rest of the weekend to study for finals."

One of the questions heading into this season was the lack of depth in the post,

but Franklin and Mueller have answered the call. The two freshmen have provided a great deal of size inside to take pressure off Schupbach.

Mueller has started all seven games and has made more than half her shots this year. In the post, she has pulled down 41 rebounds, good for second-highest on the team with 5.9 per contest.

She is also one of five players in double figures, averaging 10.1 points per game.

Franklin has performed well, coming off the bench in all the contests and making 58 percent of her shots. Franklin averaged about six rebounds a game this season and is just behind Mueller in points per game with 10.

Sloop said one of the bright spots this season has been the total involvement of all the players.

"I think the biggest thing we've had is the contributions from just about everyone," he said. "We've been able to get our feet wet with several new players. They have taken their responsibilities well and have done a good job adjusting to the changes we've made in personnel."

Cooper said the involvement of everyone has been a key to the early success this year.

"Everybody on the team is so unselfish," she said. "Everyone just wants to step up and contribute their part. We have high hopes for the rest of the season."

The 'Dogs continue their road trip against Southwest Baptist on Saturday, before taking a week off and playing Lincoln University (Mo.) on Dec. 17.

Cooper said the Rolla game and the Southwest Baptist game are very important for the squad.

"We are wanting to make a statement about us," she said.

# Truman Frisbee teams finish second and third at tournament

**Mandi Sagez**  
for the Index

Winning a game or playing a game when the other team has an extra player on the field can be tough, even close to impossible.

Saturday, members of Truman's Ultimate Frisbee community, playing on a mixed team, proved that idea wrong. Several University players joining players from around the Midwest for the Savage December Tournament in Columbia, Mo. this past weekend.

In one match on Saturday, the Midwest team only had six players on the field, while the other team had seven.

The midwest team fell behind 4-1 to

a team from Columbia, but then things changed.

After some changes and a motivating sideline speech, the players turned the game around and came back to win 11-6, building up the momentum that yielded a 5-2 record and a second place finish. An all-Truman also entered the tournament and that squad finished third with a record of 4-2.

The tournament limited team size to nine players, sophomore Amanda Carron said. Only seven players are allowed on the field per game, five men and two women, she said.

"[Savage] basically means if you start the game, you have to finish the game, unless you have an injury," Carron said. "Normally you can sub out after every

point. It's basically a lot more tiring."

Sophomore Eric Snyder said the team usually started its game behind.

"Each game it was hard to start out," Snyder said. "Our team never started out a game ahead."

He said his team was usually down by one or two points at the beginning of the game because the players were cold.

"It was because other teams would warm up and do drills before the game, but we would all stand around and chat and just have a good time being together on the sidelines, trying to stay warm," Snyder said. "Then we'd get out on the field, and it would take us one or two points before we got warmed up and could really play ultimate [Frisbee]."

Snyder said he thought the best thing

that could be learned from the tournament was how much ultimate [Frisbee] is a community sport.

"We all know each other," he said. "We've all spent time together, but we've never played together."

The team had the ability to go to the tournament with teammates who never have played together and play well, Snyder said.

"The best thing that came out of this weekend is that it just built stronger bonds between the different parts of the ultimate [Frisbee] community," he said.

Sophomore Christina Wirkus, one of the mixed-team members, said everyone on her team was a team player.

"They're skilled [players], but at the same time, more importantly than that,

they always know how to find their roles on teams," she said. "I think we honestly just worked really well [together]."

She said the lead scorer changed every game.

"I would honestly say that I think in every game, probably each person was lead scorer," Wirkus said. "I don't feel like anyone was really playmaker."

She said coming from behind in its last game Saturday built up the momentum the team needed to place second. A team member gave another pep talk during their first game Sunday, Wirkus said.

"We were like, 'Yeah, we did do real good that game [on Saturday]," she said. "We should probably just keep rolling."

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