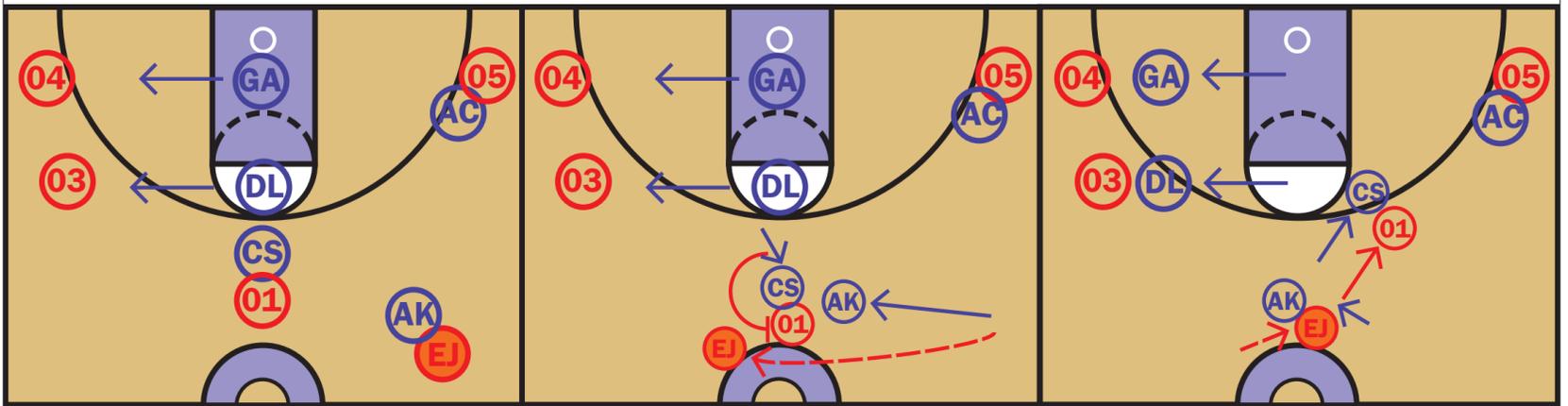


FIGHTING THROUGH SCREENS: THE KEY TO TRUMAN'S TOP-RANKED DEFENSE

Exhibit A: Bulldog guard Austin Kirby guards Pittsburg State University guard Eddie Jackson, who averages 19.9 points a game



Panel No. 1
Truman is operating in a man-to-man defense. Austin Kirby (AK) is on Eddie Jackson (EJ), Pittsburg State University guard (offensive player 2). Chip Sodemann (CS) is on offensive player 1. (01) Derek Lindsey (DL) is on offensive player 3. (03) Grant Agbo (GA) is on offensive player 4. (04) Andy Calmes (AC) is on offensive player 5. (05)

No Truman defender is more than one lane from the ball. Sodemann is playing help-side defense where he is denying the pass to O1 and can help Kirby if Jackson starts to drive left. Calmes is off his man in case Jackson drives to his right. Kirby is playing man-to-man defense on Jackson.

Panel No. 2
Jackson (EJ) will start dribbling to his left. (01) will try and set a pick to screen Kirby (AK), Kirby continues to follow Jackson.

Sodemann (CS) will come briefly off his man to help Kirby until Kirby can get past the screen.

Once Kirby comes off O1's screen, Sodemann and Kirby will NOT switch, and Kirby will stay guarding Jackson.

● Basketball

Panel No. 3
Kirby (AK) has fought through the screen and stayed on his man. Many other teams would switch defenders, and Sodemann would guard Jackson. The switch would sometimes allow Jackson to have an offensive mismatch and an opening to drive and hit an open shot.

Because Kirby fought through the screen, Jackson (EJ) is stopped and either can take a low-percentage shot with Kirby guarding him, or pass to a lesser player.

Jackson finishes with nine points, more than half below his season average.

Design by Lindsay Koski / Index

DEFENSE | The Bulldogs' defense is one of the top-ranked in the country, holding teams to only 62.4 points per game en route to 15-4 mark

Continued from Page 15

Missouri Southern State University Robert Corn said the Bulldogs play tough defense.

"Truman is very deliberate on offense, and they really make you play hard defense," said Robert Corn, head coach of Missouri Southern State University. "As a result, they really make you take care of the basketball because there aren't as many possessions in a game. They

play solid defense and don't allow deep penetration, so you have to score over them, which is tough on teams that might not shoot the ball as well."

"They play solid defense and don't allow deep penetration, so you have to score over them..."

Robert Corn
Missouri Southern
Head Coach

The 'Dogs beat Missouri Southern earlier this season 64-52.

As the squad approaches the second half of the conference season, typically defenses have the upper hand because it has seen a team's offensive scheme before.

With an MIAA title and NCAA berth at stake, the 'Dogs will try to stay one step ahead of the rest of the conference.



Junior forward Grant Agbo prevents Northwest Missouri's Matt Withers from taking an easy shot in the first half of Wednesday night's game. The Bulldogs knocked off the Bearcats 60-56. Heading into the game, the Bearcats were tied for first in the MIAA and were ranked 18th in the country. The win was the 'Dogs' second this season against a ranked team. Chris Tharp / Index

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