Men lose 73-65 at Southwest Baptist

Bulldogs can’t overcome slow offensive start in road loss

BY LOGAN JACKSON

The men’s basketball team struggled early and lost Saturday at Southwest Baptist University, 73-65.

It was the fourth straight game in which the Bulldogs scored more than 28 points from the field in the first half. The Bulldogs were just 10-24 from the field against the Blues and put just one point in the first half.

In each of the past four losses, the Bulldogs have struggled with movement in the first few minutes.

“I thought our game was really good ball movement and really good player movement,” Schrader said. “We got open shots in rhythm, and that’s what we can’t have is supposed to do. We just didn’t connect.

“Through the first six minutes, we scored on our only two possessions. We were 1-of-2 inside the paint, 1-of-2 outside the paint, and 0-of-4 on the bench. The Bulldogs had three points on the board in the first five minutes before Southwest Baptist took the lead with less than 15 minutes left and never lost it. Truman turned the ball over nine times in the first five minutes, and Schrader said the team has started to take care of the ball much better.

“Gradually, our percentage of turnovers is going down,” Schrader said.

“|I think we are getting each possession more. (Southwest Baptist) is a high risk, high reward team. I think we did a lot of good stuff, but we didn’t execute on that stuff and the coaches focused on them, and they got into two big leads.”

Truman went into halftime down by 10 points, but came out on fire in the second half. The team made five out of its first seven shots and pulled within four points with 15 minutes to go. A 6-0 run to make the score 40-37, but Truman never got closer than six.

Freshman guard Tim Harris said the team needed more energy in the first half.

“The difference in the game was really ball movement and really good player movement,” Schrader said. “We seem to get into a groove in the first half after, and the man-to-man defense but switched to a zone midway through the second half after, and the free-throw line or turning it over,” Schrader said.

“I think we could have used more possessions. We didn’t get into our flow of the game. We made sure to try and motivate the team,” Norton said. “We came out a little hard, we just need to keep things happening. We have tried to make playing more important than winning.

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“The Bulldogs are outscored 22-22 and gave up 18 offensive rebounds to the Blues. Those offensive rebounds turned into 15 points for the Bulldogs. It was the best straight game the Bulldogs have ever overcome. Schrader said the Bulldogs have allowed opposing guards to put too big of a load on the team.

“We can only fix that by having that, getting a trip to the free-throw line or turning it over.”

Schrader said. “If we have more possessions than us, they are getting more effective rebounds. We haven’t been doing a very good job defensively rebounding.”

“In the Iron, Truman got some really good production from some of the guys in the Iron. Sophomore forward Mark Heady made three threes and grabbed nine rebounds and five assists.

“I thought the MIAA, the pace of the game is extremely fast. Sometimes it’s hard to adjust. Mark and Andrew cane is extremely focused and they know what we wanted. I thought the entire bench did a great job controlling the game.”

Schrader said.

Junior forward Daniel Foresewence attempts a layup in the second half. Foresewence scored eight points and grabbed four rebounds in Saturday’s loss at SBU.

Women endure six-minute scoreless stretch to start off

BY BRENT FOSTER

Assistant sports editor

The women’s basketball team had to work for Saturday’s 67-51 loss at Southwest Baptist University.

The Bulldogs dropped 15 of 29 points in the first half after, and the turn over nine times in the first five minutes, and Schrader said the team has started to take care of the ball much better.

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