

'Dogs earn fourth home win

BY BRETT MCMILLAN
Assistant Sports Editor

The Bulldogs lost the middle game of their current three game homestand to Missouri Western State University 78-63 last night at Pershing Arena. The 'Dogs started the game off slow falling behind 7-2 until freshman guard Isaac Gardner hit a three to pull Truman within two a little more than five minutes into the game.

The Bulldogs (4-9, 2-7 MIAA) fell behind again trailing by as many as five, but eventually narrowed the Griffins' lead to just one, 25-26, after freshman guard Pat Sodemann made a free throw with just less than two minutes to play in the first half.

Missouri Western (7-7, 5-4 MIAA) then widened the gap to six with just four seconds left, but on the final Truman possession of the half, sophomore guard Matt Patterson hit a wide open three from the corner as time expired, sending the game to half with Truman trailing 32-29.

"We executed the offense," head coach Jack Schrader said. "That is how it happens. When you execute the offense, shots happen, and you take the shots when you're open."

Freshman guard Isaac Gardner led the 'Dogs in scoring with 21 points shooting 4-for-6 from beyond the arc. Truman managed to go 10-for-16 from the charity stripe and had seven steals, compared to three by Missouri Western.

The game was dominated by fouls the two teams combined for a total of 33. Schrader said the Griffons' ability to create one-on-one matchups lends itself to fouls on drives to the basket.

The Bulldogs kept the score within 10 points for the majority of the second half, but the Griffons managed to open up a double-digit

lead with 4:17 remaining in the game and never looked back.

"We tried to hit home runs instead of just staying with singles," Schrader said. "We tried to do things offensively we weren't capable of doing. Make the extra good pass, make the big drive or something like that. They stretched it out to seven or nine. They became very patient, stretched us out and then they just hit big shots."

Northwest Missouri State fell to Truman 75-58 last Saturday at Pershing Arena. The win against the Bearcats was the 'Dogs' largest margin of victory in a conference game so far this season. The first game of a three game homestand saw several Truman players post season and career highs. Senior forward Ethan Freeman had a career-high 10 assists while freshman guard Pat Sodemann scored a career-high 12.

Sodemann hit two threes and went 4-for-4 from the charity stripe in 24 minutes, also a career-high. The freshman has the second most minutes of any bench player with 199 trailing fellow freshman guard Isaac Gardner by 49.

"Anytime you can come in off the bench in a league as good as this as a freshman and be a part of something it is obviously really special," Sodemann said. "It is an honor and a privilege to come into one of the best Div. II conferences in the country and contribute like I am."

Saturday was the 190th meeting between the Bearcats and Bulldogs and Truman's win brought the series score to 98-92 in favor of Northwest. This is one of the longest running basketball rivalries in the MIAA and Truman's oldest.

"It is nice to win anytime in the MIAA," senior guard Alex Henderson said. "They're so hard to come by. Those guys kind of have a reputation of being a little bit dirty so it

is definitely nice to beat them."

The 'Dogs trailed Northwest 20-14 with just more than seven minutes remaining in the first half, but ended the half on a 15-2 run to take a 31-22 lead into halftime. Truman widened the lead to 16 after adding 12 points in the first four minutes of the second half.

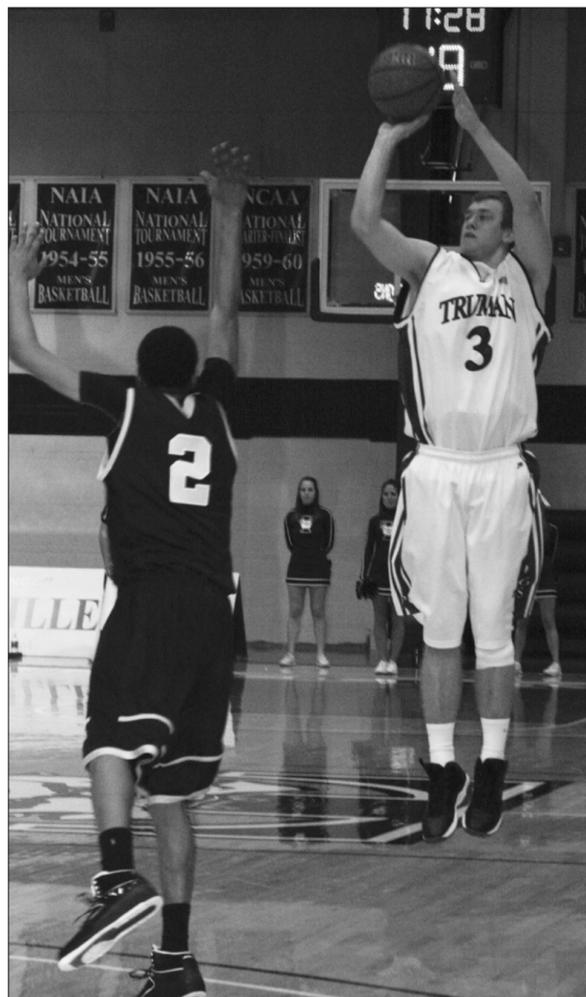
"I think we kind of took control of the game midway through the first half," Henderson said. "We went on a little bit of a run. We really did a good job of continuing to play well in the second half, something we have struggled with in other games this year."

Truman was 23-for-28 from the free throw line. The Bulldogs took advantage of easy points late going 13-for-15 from the line in the final five minutes of regulation. Shooting 82 percent from the line earned Truman their best free throw percentage of the conference season since shooting 77 percent in a 91-77 loss to Missouri Southern at Pershing Arena in the conference opener Dec. 1.

"It definitely always helps when you knock down your free throws at the end of the game," Sodemann said. "That always hurts the opposition and gives you a little more momentum. It kind of puts the dagger in their back. That is always a big key to finishing off games in my opinion."

Five Northwest shots were blocked by the Bulldogs and Truman also benefited from 14 Bearcat turnovers. Northwest only shot 35 percent from the floor which worked in the favor of a Truman squad that recorded 30 defensive rebounds.

"Their guards were really good at getting inside and out — big guys helped us out and made them take tough shots," Henderson said. "They blocked a couple shots also. That was great."



Caroline Stamp/Index
Freshman guard Isaac Gardner goes up for three against the Griffons last night in Pershing Arena. Gardner boasted a career-high 21 points.

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Ethan Freeman

Sport	Position	Year	Hometown
Basketball	Forward	Senior	Urbandale, IA



Caroline Stamp/Index
Senior forward Ethan Freeman lobs a pass into junior center Vesko Filchev last night against Missouri Western. Freeman had a career high 10 assists Saturday.

Senior leads MIAA in rebounding

BY BRETT MCMILLAN
Assistant Sports Editor

Bulldog senior forward Ethan Freeman ended Saturday's 75-58 win against Northwest Missouri State only three points short of recording the first triple-double by a Truman player in 16 years. Freeman had seven points, 15 rebounds, and a career-high 10 assists. Truman's leading rebounder did not know he was on pace for a career night until after the final buzzer.

"After the game, one of the announcers said, 'Just three more points,'" Freeman said. "I didn't even know what he meant until I was with my dad and he told me. When we're out there and the game is clicking like that and things are going the right direction, things really just set in place and it comes to me more than anything. It's not something I'm trying to do."

Freeman leads the team in rebounds through 13 games with 115.

Junior center Vesko Filchev is second in rebounds behind Freeman with 70. Freeman has averaged 8.8 per game and has pulled down 28 more defensive rebounds than offensive ones.

"I think the best way to gain momentum is to get stops," head coach Jack Schrader said. "Clean stops is what I call them, where they get one shot and you get a clean rebound. That sort of snuffs out their confidence offensively and that is where he has been excelling in is getting clean rebounds at the end of a defensive possession."

Schrader said Freeman helps the team effort by making opponents think they must make the first shot of each possession. He also facilitates fast break opportunities and specific plays on the offensive end of the floor.

"For the assist side, Vesko really helped me out on the pick and roll," Freeman said. "We really had a pretty good two man game going on. Then the rebounds, and that is something we've been trying to focus on this year. Definitely getting all the defensive rebounds possible and contributing on the offensive rebounds and trying to get second chances too." Freeman followed his

performance against the Bearcats last Saturday with three rebounds, three steals and six points in a 78-63 loss last night against Missouri Western.

While the senior is listed at the forward position he fulfills multiple duties on the court. He not only records rebounds and assists, but also brings the ball up the floor. Schrader said Freeman's most valuable quality is he provides leadership and a mature approach, which is especially appreciated during a season where several new freshmen are being exposed to college basketball.

"I think leading by example is pretty crucial," Freeman said. "Whether it is middle school, high school or college basketball, I can't get on someone if I'm not doing what I'm saying or asking what I'm saying. And I think it starts at the top. With our coaches into it we are able to feed off that, and when we feed off that the younger guys will feed off that."

"I think leading by example is pretty crucial."

Ethan Freeman
Senior Forward

WWW.TRUMANRENTALS.COM

Providing affordable student housing for more than 24 years.

Boardwalk • Waterworks • Park Place • States Avenue • St. James Place • New York Avenue

Four Horizons Realty
703 N. Marion St.
Kirksville, MO 63501
660-665-RENT
www.4horizonsrealty.com

MAE Admissions Update

Congratulations to the students who were accepted for admission into the Master of Arts in Education program in the summer and fall of 2010!

Elementary Education: Kimberly Bauer, McKayla Beattie, Ashley Brooks, Ava Cichock, Katherine Cooper, Margaret Donnelly, Maggie Fisbeck, Trina Goodson, Jessica Hill, Heather Kemper, Nicole Kottmann, Heather Lillard, Robert Madison, Kaitlyn McGraw, Bridget Milford, Megan O'Brien, Alexandria Otis, Samantha Patterson, Sara Perrachione, Staci Sagaser, Grace Schneider, Rebecca Simington, Amy Streufert, Kody Stricklin, Riley Taylor, Kristen Wagner, Kara Winckel. **English:** Abby MacConnell.

Exercise Science: Shaina Dochterman, Kathryn Martin.
French: Josef Sallen. **History:** Logan Anderson, Stephanie Bruce, Emily Noonan, Kelsie Pfeifer, Joseph Rogers, Bradley Speak, Brooke Voss. **Mathematics:** Seth Atkins, Katie Boevers, Halleh Peterman, Cody Schwent, Emily Temple, David Tichacek.

Music: Michael Kosiek. **Science:** Abigail Middleton, April Murdock. **Spanish:** Glessie Reese. **Special Education:** Jennifer Zoeller. **Visual Arts:** Ashley May.