

BASKETBALL | The 'Dogs win their first home game versus Hannibal-LaGrange

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Redshirt freshman forward Ashley Hartwig said the team has a lot of potential. The team defended successfully and was able to slow down to figure out where exactly the ball needed to go, Hartwig said.

With the team shooting rate of 56 percent, she said the team was looking to make the extra pass. Hartwig said the team was successful when it came to drives, which helped the ball's rotation and the players' skills.

Hartwig said the team proved it will be difficult to beat this year. Hartwig said the team is fortunate it can play everyone and come out on top.

She attributes the team's success to the team's coaches. "[The coaches] are there for us every step of the way," Hartwig said. "If we mess up, they let us know and if we do something good, they make sure to give us credit."

Junior guard Courtney Strait said the five starters set the tone for the game and helped the team get a head start, but every player helped contribute to the win in some form. Strait added 13 points to the scoreboard during the game.

Strait said the tempo of the game was good and the team's speed was impressive as they ran a high-paced offense with lots of ball movement.

Strait said they work well as a team. "We are all more focused on winning as a team than scoring all the points individually," Strait said. "We just aim to get the ball to open players."

This Friday, the team will travel to Nashville, Tennessee, to play in the Pops Duncan Classic. Norton said she hopes her teammates will build on their first real success of the season and continue to play their best in Nashville and for the rest of the season. She said it was a privilege to win their first game on the home court.



Trevor Stark/Index

Redshirt freshman guard McKenzie Russell guards a Hannibal-LaGrange player. The 'Dogs next game is 5:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 21 in Nashville, Tennessee.

VOLLEYBALL | 'Dogs take top spot in the midwest regional NCAA bracket and compete along with five other GLVC teams, a conference record

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The Bulldogs' final match was against McKendree University the following afternoon. McKendree entered the conference tournament as the No. 3 seed in the East Division. The Bearcats took down Rockhurst University and University of Indianapolis before facing the 'Dogs in the championship match.

Truman went into intermission trailing two sets to zero.

Truman lost both sets with a score of 25-21 in favor of the Bearcats. Following the break, the Bulldogs won the third set 25-17. Twelve Bearcat attack errors during the fourth set helped the 'Dogs achieve a 25-20 victory and send the match to a title-winning fifth set. Truman went on a 10-2 run after giving up the first point during the final set and kept the lead for the remainder of the match. A kill by Patterson when the score was 14-8 made the Bulldogs champions with a 3-2 final score.

"It would have been easy to roll over and give up, but we knew what we were capable of and stepped up our game in sets three through five," junior opposite hitter Abby Heise said.

Heise also said that having more experience and being an older team re-

ally helped the Bulldogs to turn things around and perform in such a high stress situation.

"After we were down 2-0 we just went back to the locker room and re-focused," Brown said.

Heise led the offense with 14 kills while Moser led the defense with 20 digs. Brak finished with 10 kills and 18 digs.

The victory gave the team their first conference championship since 2007 and the University's second GLVC title since joining the league one year ago. Truman will enter the national tournament for the 15th time throughout school history and is the No. 1 seed in the Midwest region. Five other GLVC teams have qualified for the tournament along with two teams from the GLIAC conference.

The Bulldogs will head to Allendale, Michigan, to the campus of No. 3 seed Grand Valley State University this Thursday for a conference championship rematch with conference opponent McKendree during the first round of the NCAA Div. II tournament. The winner will face a qualifying GLVC member school — either Rockhurst or Indianapolis — Friday. Match times have yet to be announced.

BEST OF THE GLVC



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of the Year



ABBY MOSER
GLVC Libero
of the Year



ALLIE BRAK
GLVC Player
of the Year

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