



# BULLDOG BARK

TRUMAN STATE UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS MEDIA RELATIONS

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**BULLDOGS ON THE WEB AT GOBULLDOGS.TRUMAN.EDU**

SEPT. 24, 2002

BY DANIEL NEWTON, ATHLETICS MEDIA RELATIONS ASSISTANT

## TRUMAN VOLLEYBALL HOSTS MISSOURI WESTERN BEFORE TOUGH ROAD BATTLE ON SATURDAY



### THIS WEEKEND'S ACTION:

**#18 Truman State University vs. Missouri Western State College**  
Sept. 25, 2002 - 7:00 p.m.  
Kirksville, Mo. (Pershing Arena)

**#18 Truman State University vs. Rockhurst University**  
Sept. 28, 2002 - 2:00 p.m.  
Kansas City, Mo. (Mason-Halpin Fieldhouse)

The Truman State University volleyball team (9-4, 4-0 MIAA) has a challenging week ahead of them, facing two opponents with a combined three losses on the season. Wednesday, the Bulldogs host Missouri Western in a MIAA battle in Pershing Arena. Saturday, Truman travels to Kansas City, Mo. for a non-conference match against Rockhurst.

Truman currently sits atop of the MIAA standings and is one of two conference schools who have not lost a league match. The Bulldogs improved to 4-0 in MIAA play last weekend with 3-1 wins over Washburn and Emporia State.

**BULLDOGS IN AVCA POLL:** Despite a five-match winning streak in which Truman has only dropped two games, the Bulldogs dropped one spot to 18th in the AVCA Coaches Poll this week.

### TRUMAN 2002 SCHEDULE & RESULTS

Date	Opponent (Location)	Time/Result
	University of Nebraska-Omaha Tournament (Omaha, Neb.)	
Aug. 30	vs. Regis (Colo.)	W 3-1
Aug. 30	vs. New Haven (Conn.)	W 3-0
Aug. 31	vs. Southern Colorado	W 3-0
Aug. 31	at Nebraska-Omaha	W 3-0
	University of Tampa Tournament (Tampa, Fla.)	
Sept. 6	vs. CSU-San Bernardino	L 2-3
Sept. 6	vs. Northern Kentucky	L 1-3
Sept. 7	vs. North Florida	L 1-3
Sept. 7	at Tampa	L 1-3
Sept. 13	<b>Missouri Southern *</b>	<b>W 3-0</b>
Sept. 14	<b>Pittsburg State *</b>	<b>W 3-0</b>
Sept. 17	<b>Quincy (Ill.)</b>	<b>W 3-0</b>
Sept. 20	at Washburn (Topeka, Kan.) *	W 3-1
Sept. 21	at Emporia State (Kan.) *	W 3-1
Sept. 25	<b>Missouri Western *</b>	<b>7 p.m.</b>
Sept. 28	at Rockhurst (Kansas City, Mo.)	2 p.m.
Oct. 2	at Northwest Missouri (Maryville)*	7 p.m.
Oct. 4	<b>Central Missouri *</b>	<b>7 p.m.</b>
Oct. 5	<b>Southern Illinois-Edwardsville</b>	<b>1 p.m.</b>
	Henderson State University Tournament (Arkadelphia, Ark.)	
Oct. 11	vs. Montevallo (Ala.)	1 p.m.
Oct. 11	vs. Alabama-Huntsville	7 p.m.
Oct. 12	at Henderson State (Ark.)	11:30 a.m.
Oct. 12	vs. North Alabama	1:30 p.m.
Oct. 18	<b>Washburn (Kan.) *</b>	<b>7 p.m.</b>
Oct. 19	<b>Emporia State (Kan.) *</b>	<b>1 p.m.</b>
Oct. 21	<b>Columbia College</b>	<b>7 p.m.</b>
Oct. 31	at Southwest Baptist (Bolivar, Mo.) *	7 p.m.
Nov. 1	at Missouri Southern (Joplin) *	7 p.m.
Nov. 2	at Pittsburg State (Kan.) *	12 p.m.
Nov. 6	at Missouri Western (St. Joseph) *	7 p.m.
Nov. 13	at Central Missouri *	7 p.m.
Nov. 15	<b>Northwest Missouri *</b>	<b>7 p.m.</b>
Nov. 16	<b>Southwest Baptist *</b>	<b>1 p.m.</b>
Nov. 22-23	NCAA Division II Regionals	TBA
Dec. 5-7	NCAA Division II Elite Eight	TBA

### HOME GAMES IN BOLD CAPS

All times Local

\* Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association match

**SCOUTING THE GRIFFONS:** Missouri Western is 9-2 on the season but both losses have come in conference action where the Griffons are just 1-2. Last week, the Griffons opened MIAA play with losses to Emporia State and Missouri Southern and a win over Pittsburg State.

Missouri Western is the top MIAA school in service aces and hitting percentage and were among the national leaders last week in both categories.

Lindsay Palaia led the nation through Sept. 15 in hitting percentage. She currently has a .490 hitting percentage and is averaging 3.73 kills a game. Katie Hamm is also averaging over three kills a game while Mary Pickert is averaging 2.97 kills and team-highs of 3.49 digs a game and 25 service aces. Therese Hand is averaging 10.0 assists a game while Lindsay Fuller leads the team with 0.90 blocks a game.

The Griffons are coached by Cindy Brauck who is in her sixth season at Missouri Western. She has a 103-61 record at Missouri Western and a 198-229 mark in 13 years overall as a collegiate head coach.

**SERIES HISTORY WITH MISSOURI WESTERN:** Truman has a 25-19 all-time series lead over the Griffons. The Bulldogs have won seven straight matches in the series including a 3-1 victory in the first-round of the 2000 NCAA South Regional Tournament. The last Missouri Western win in the series came during the 1998 season.

**SCOUTING THE LADY HAWKS:** Rockhurst is currently 15-1 on the season with a loss to Southern Colorado being the only blemish on the year. The Lady Hawks are currently receiving votes in the AVCA Top 25 poll.

Through Sept. 15, the Lady Hawks were among national leaders in several categories. They were 16th in assists, 21st in blocks, 29th in hitting percentage and 30th in digs.

Jessica Shepler leads the team with 4.95 kills a game and has a .302 hitting percentage. She also has 3.51 digs and 0.78 blocks a game. Adriana Cruz averages 3.51 kills and 3.33 digs a game. Margot Smith is the leading blocker with 1.36 blocks a game and Amber Tucker has a team-high 4.29 digs a game.

Tracy Rietzke is in his 14th season at the school. He has a 628-75 mark at Rockhurst and recently won his 800th match overall as a head coach.

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**SERIES HISTORY WITH ROCKHURST:** Truman and Rockhurst have met five time before with the Bulldogs coming out ahead in three of those meetings. The two teams have met once in each of the last four years with Rockhurst winning in 1998 and 1999 and the Bulldogs winning in 2000 and 2001.

**LAST WEEK'S ACTION:**

**#17 Truman 3, Quincy 0:** Truman had little trouble in the first two games, but struggled in the third as they picked up a 3-0 non-conference win over visiting Quincy last Tuesday night by scores of 30-13, 30-15 and 30-23.

Truman, with Rachael Shedd setting the majority of the time, hit .476 over the first two games as they built big leads early on. Game three was closer, as Truman's hitting fell to .185 for the game, and the Bulldogs led just 22-21 before going on a 8-2 run to close out the match.

The Bulldogs were led by senior Shelby Ortwerth who had another double-double with team-highs of 11 kills and 11 digs. Kelly Vogel was in double-figures with 10 kills and Jessica Sears and Micaela Walter had nine apiece. Shedd ended the game with 26 assists and Monica Marlowe, playing just briefly at the end of the second game and all of the third game, had 17 assists. Lauren Dickbernd saw playing time at the libero position and had nine digs for Truman. Walter and Ortwerth each had three blocks to lead the Bulldogs.

Quincy, which hit just .034 for the match, was led by Jenny Gramer and Amber Heimann who had nine and eight kills, respectively. Meghan Pieschel had a team-high 18 assists and Heimann led the Lady Hawks with nine digs.

**#17 Truman 3, Washburn 1:** The Bulldogs held the Lady Blues to just .168 hitting last Friday night as they won 30-19, 32-34, 30-22 and 30-21 in their first MIAA road contests of the year.

Shelby Ortwerth led Truman with 19 kills followed by Kelly Vogel with 17 and Jessica Sears with 14. All three of those players had double-doubles with at least 12 digs as well including a team-high 17 for Sears. Rebecca Knefelkamp also had double-digit dig numbers with 13 on the night. Jennifer Hunter had seven blocks and Rachael Shedd paced the Bulldogs with 29 assists.

**#17 Truman 3, Emporia State 1:** Truman had four players with double-digit kill totals as it knocked off Emporia Sate by a 30-28, 25-30, 30-23 and 30-17 score.

Three Bulldogs had double-doubles again. Kelly Vogel had 17 kills and 17 digs, Jessica Sears had 16 kills and 17 digs and Shelby Ortwerth had 16 kills and 16 digs. Monica Marlowe had 50 assists and Megan Remley had seven blocks in the win. Rebecca Knefelkamp was also in double-figures in digs with 16.

**DOUBLE-DOUBLES:** Shelby Ortwerth, Jessica Sears and Kelly Vogel all recorded kill/dig double-doubles this weekend against both Washburn and Emporia State. The Bulldogs have now recorded 16 double-doubles of this type on the season led by Ortwerth who has seven of them, including six in the last seven matches.

Monica Marlowe has seven double-doubles as well on the year with hers coming from digs and assists.

**CAREER LEADERS:** Jessica Sears recently recorded her 1000th hitting attempt making her eligible for the Truman career record books in kills per game and hitting percentage. The sophomore's 2.41 kills per game would place her tenth all-time at Truman while her .221 attack percentage is currently just outside the top 10 list.

**HITTING PERCENTAGE:** Hitting percentage has been the key stat for Truman this season in whether they win or loss a match. The Bulldogs are 9-0 when they have a higher percentage than the opposition and 0-4 when they have a lower percentage.

Truman has hit above .200 in ten of its matches this season and won nine of those. The one loss came when they were just barely over that mark (.206) against Tampa. Truman has been able to hold its opponent

**AVCA DIVISION II TOP 25 POLL (SEPT. 24)**

	Pts.	2002 Record	Last Poll
1. CS-Bernardino (30)	866	12-0	1
2. BYU-Hawaii (4)	839	11-0	2
3. Minnesota-Duluth	775	11-1	3
4. South Dakota State (1)	756	14-1	4
5. Grand Valley State	714	12-1	5
6. Northern Colorado	699	14-1	6
7. West Texas A&M	669	10-2	7
8. North Alabama	644	11-2	8
9. UC-San Diego	576	9-2	9
10. Western Washington	555	8-2	10
11. Nebraska-Kearney	539	12-1	12
12. Central Missouri State	426	11-1	14
13. North Florida	402	7-2	15
14. North Dakota State	366	11-4	11
15. Augustana	350	8-6	19
16. Metro State	341	9-4	16
17. Northwood	320	15-1	18
18. <b>TRUMAN</b>	<b>312</b>	<b>9-4</b>	<b>17</b>
19. University of Tampa	298	5-5	13
20. Barry	183	3-4	20
21. Findlay	174	13-3	22
22. Regis	134	7-5	21
23. CS-Los Angeles	98	6-5	23
24. Hawaii Pacific	89	7-3	24
25. Lewis	58	13-0	NR

**Receiving Votes (Truman's 2002 Opponents):** Rockhurst (14), SIU-Edwardsville (11), Nebraska-Omaha (4)

*Truman's 2002 Opponents in italics.*

under the .200 level in eight matches and the Bulldogs came out victorious in each one of those.

The Bulldogs best hitting match came against Quincy when it had a .345 attack percentage on the night. Their lowest output was a .157 percentage against North Florida.

**IMPROVED BLOCKING:** Truman has been much better defensively at the net the last few weeks. Through the first seven matches of the season, the Bulldogs were only averaging 5.14 blocks a match but have been averaging nearly 10 blocks (9.83) during the last six matches. Included in that recent streak was 14 blocks against Washburn, a season-high for the team.

Megan Remley currently leads the team with 0.85 blocks a game. On the year, she has five solo blocks and 23 block assists. She had seven block assists against Emporia State last Saturday.

Micaela Walter, Jennifer Hunter and Jessica Sears are all averaging near 0.60 blocks a game for Truman.

**THE QUICKER, THE BETTER:** The Bulldogs have had more success this season the quicker a match has been completed. Truman is 6-0 on the year in matches that end in a 3-0 sweep. It is 3-3 in matches that end after the fourth game and 0-1 in matches that conclude in five games.

Truman has been especially dominate in the first and third games of matches. The Bulldogs have won 11 of the 13 games they have played in each of those games. They are just 7-6 in game two of matches, 3-4 in game four and 0-1 in game five.

**MIAA LEADERS:** Several Bulldogs were listed among the top 10 conference leaders this week.

Offensively, Monica Marlowe is second the conference with 11.98 assists a game. Annie Nikolai is third in the MIAA with a .344 hitting percentage and Kelly Vogel is eighth in kills with a 3.41 a game.

Defensively, Rebecca Knefelkamp sixth in the conference with 3.98 digs a game and Megan Remley is tenth in blocks with 0.85 a game.

As a team, Truman leads the league with 17.09 kills, 15.85 assists and 19.43 digs a game. The Bulldogs are fifth in hitting percentage (.242), seventh in blocks (2.08) and eighth in service aces (1.57).

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**BULLDOG BARK ... PAGE 3**

**NATIONAL LEADERS:** Through Sept. 15, Monica Marlowe was 21st in the country in assists with an average of 12.16 per game. After splitting time at the setter position with Rachael Shedd last weekend, her average is now 11.98 assists per game.

As a team, Truman was second in the country in kills (16.83), third in assists (15.75) and 15th in digs (19.19).

**HEAD COACH QI WANG:** Qi Wang is in his second season as head coach of the Bulldogs. Wang had an impressive coaching debut, leading Truman to a 37-2 overall record in 2001 and was named MIAA and South Central Region Coach of the Year.

Wang is in his sixth season at Truman after being assistant coach for four years. Since Wang has been at the school, the Bulldogs have gone 142-49, won their first outright MIAA title, shared another MIAA championship and advanced to two NCAA tournaments.

Assistant coach Becky Pike has also played a huge role in the Bulldogs' success the last six years. Pike was the head coach from 1997-2000 before accepting the assistant's role before the 2001 season. Pike was named the MIAA Coach of the Year in 2000 after Truman earned a share of the MIAA championship for the first time.

**SEASON HIGHLIGHT REEL:**

◆ The Bulldogs were the preseason MIAA favorites according to the coaches' poll and were ranked fifth in the nation in the AVCA preseason poll, Truman's highest-ever preseason ranking.

◆ Truman went 4-0 during the Nebraska-Omaha tournament, including a 3-1 victory over nationally-ranked Regis.

◆ Truman tied a school record with a .333 attack percentage in a four-game match against Regis. Jennifer Hunter had an .846 attack percentage in that match, the second-best for a single match in school history.

◆ The Bulldogs went 3-0 in their first homestand of the year, defeating Missouri Southern, Pittsburg State and Quincy by 3-0 scores.

◆ Monica Marlowe (Setter) and Jessica Sears (Hitter) were named Wilson/MIAA players of the week on Sept. 16.

◆ Shelby Ortwerth, Jessica Sears and Kelly Vogel record double-doubles in back-to-back wins over Washburn and Emporia State.

**UP NEXT:** Truman is on the road on Oct. 2 against Northwest Missouri before an important two-match homestand. On Oct. 4, the Bulldogs host Central Missouri in a key MIAA battle and the following afternoon, Truman hosts SIU-Edwardsville.

**MIAA STANDINGS (THROUGH 9/22)**

	MIAA		ALL MATCHES	
	W-L	Pct.	W-L	Pct.
<b>Truman (17)</b>	<b>4-0</b>	<b>1.000</b>	<b>9-4</b>	<b>.642</b>
Central Missouri (14)	1-0	1.000	11-4	.733
Washburn	3-1	.750	12-2	.857
Emporia State	2-2	.500	11-5	.688
Missouri Southern	2-2	.500	7-7	.500
Pittsburg State	2-3	.400	8-6	.571
Missouri Western	1-2	.333	9-2	.818
Northwest Missouri	1-2	.333	5-9	.357
Southwest Baptist	0-4	.000	6-7	.462

*Number in parenthesis is ranking in latest AVCA Division II poll.*

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*For more information on the Truman volleyball team, check out the Bulldogs official website at: [gobulldogs.truman.edu](http://gobulldogs.truman.edu)*

**2002 TRUMAN STATE UNIVERSITY ROSTER**

No.	Athlete	Pos.	Ht.	Yr.	Exp.	Hometown (High School/Previous School)
1	Rachael Shedd	S	5-10	Jr.	2V	Omaha, Neb. (Westside)
3	Jennifer Hunter	MH/OH	6-0	Fr.	HS	Pleasant Hill, Mo. (Pleasant Hill)
4	Jenna Buckner #	RS/MH/OH	5-11	Jr.	2V	Quincy, Ill. (Quincy)
5	Micaela Walter	MH	6-0	Fr.	HS	Topeka, Kan. (Shawnee Heights)
6	Monica Marlowe	S	5-7	Sr.	3V	Aurora, Ill. (West Aurora)
8	Rebecca Knefelkamp	L/S	5-7	So.	1V	Oakville, Mo. (Nerinx Hall)
9	Jessica Sears	OH/MH/RS	5-10	So.	1V	Colchester, Ill. (Colchester)
10	Annie Nickolai	RS/MH	5-11	So.	SQ	St. Louis, Mo. (Villa Duchesne)
11	Jenna Kearns	MH/OH	5-11	Fr.	HS	Bloomington, Ill. (Bloomington)
12	Tiffany Graham	MH/OH	6-0	Fr.	HS	Holden, Mo. (Holden)
14	Shelby Ortwerth	L/OH	5-6	Sr.	1V	Hannibal, Mo. (Hannibal/Culver-Stockton College)
16	Lauren Dickbernd	L/OH	5-10	So.	1V	St. Charles, Mo. (St. Charles West)
17	Jordanne Foster	MH	6-1	Fr.	HS	Rolla, Mo. (Rolla)
18	Amy Kreimer #	RS/MH	6-0	Fr.	HS	Blue Springs, Mo. (Blue Springs)
19	Megan Remley	RS/OH	6-1	Fr.	HS	Kearney, Mo. (Kearney)
20	Kelly Vogel	OH	5-10	So.	SQ	Strasburg, Ill. (Stewardson-Strasburg)
25	Melanie Jones	OH	5-11	Fr.	HS	Independence, Mo. (Fort Osage)

Head Coach: Qi Wang  
Assistant Coach: Becky Pike

# Redshirting 2002 season