

Pitt State Women's Basketball



PITT STATE (2-4) VS. MISSOURI WESTERN (1-3) AT TRUMAN (3-2)

GAME DAY INFORMATION

What: vs. Missouri Western
..... at Truman
When: Wednesday, Dec. 2 - 5:30 p.m.
..... Saturday, Dec. 5 - 1 p.m.
Where: Pittsburg, Kan. • John Lance Arena
..... Kirksville, Mo. • Pershing Arena

HEAD COACHES

Pittsburg State (2-4): Lane Lord (Tabor '93)
Record at PSU/Overall: 31-30 (third season)/same
Missouri Western (1-3): Lynn Plett (Tabor '75)
Record at MWSU/Overall 19-39 (third season)/295-273 (16th season)
Truman (3-2): Michael Smith (Central Methodist '96)
Record at TSU/Overall 11-21 (second season)/113-55 (sixth season)

LAST TIME OUT

Pittsburg State: Nov. 28 vs. Academy of Arts; L, 67-71
Missouri Western: Nov. 28 at Colorado-Colorado Springs; W, 52-43
Truman: Nov. 28 vs. Lincoln ; W, 70-62

WHAT'S NEXT?

Pittsburg State: Dec. 12 at Southwest Baptist - 5:30 p.m.
Missouri Western: Dec. 5 vs. Emporia State - 5:30 p.m.
Truman: Dec. 9 at Illinois-Springfield - 5:30 p.m.

MEDIA RELATIONS CONTACTS

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2009-10 PITT STATE SCHEDULE AND RESULTS

Overall 1-2 (Home 2-0 ... Away 0-2 ... Neutral 0-2)
MIAA 0-0 (Home 0-0 ... Away 0-0)

Date	Opponent	Time/Result
NOVEMBER		
Sun. 15	NO. 12 CENTRAL OKLAHOMA.....	W, 70-69
Fri. 20	vs. Tarleton State [1].....	L, 46-75
Sat. 21	at Texas Woman's [1].....	L, 69-71
Tues. 24	ARKANSAS-FORT SMITH.....	W, 87-76
Fri. 27	at Dixie State [2].....	L, 84-85
Sat. 28	vs. Academy of Arts [2].....	L, 67-71
DECEMBER		
Wed. 2	MISSOURI WESTERN*.....	5:30 p.m.
Sat. 5	at Truman*.....	1 p.m.
Sat. 12	at Southwest Baptist*.....	5:30 p.m.
Sat. 19	at Arkansas-Fort Smith.....	2 p.m.
Mon. 28	CENTRAL MISSOURI*.....	5:30 p.m.
Wed. 30	at Northwest Missouri*.....	5:30 p.m.
JANUARY		
Sat. 2	MISSOURI SOUTHERN*.....	5:30 p.m.
Sat. 9	at Emporia State*.....	5:30 p.m.
Wed. 13	WASHBURN*.....	5:30 p.m.
Sat. 16	FORT HAYS STATE*.....	1:30 p.m.
Wed. 20	at Nebraska-Omaha*.....	5:30 p.m.
Sat. 23	at Missouri Western*.....	5:30 p.m.
Wed. 27	TRUMAN*.....	5:30 p.m.
Sat. 30	at Central Missouri*.....	1:30 p.m.
FEBRUARY		
Wed. 3	SOUTHWEST BAPTIST*.....	5:30 p.m.
Sat. 6	NORTHWEST MISSOURI*.....	1:30 p.m.
Wed. 10	at Missouri Southern*.....	5:30 p.m.
Wed. 17	EMPORIA STATE*.....	5:30 p.m.
Sat. 20	at Washburn*.....	5:30 p.m.
Wed. 24	at Fort Hays State*.....	5:30 p.m.
Sat. 27	NEBRASKA-OMAHA*.....	1:30 p.m.
MARCH		
4-7	MIAA Championships [3].....	TBA

ALL CAPS-Home game; [1] DFW Marriott Champions Circle Pioneer Premier - Denton, Texas; [2] Dixie State Thanksgiving Invitational - St. George, Utah; [3] MIAA Tournament - Kansas City, Mo.

PROBABLE GORILLA STARTING LINEUP

No.	Name	Pronunciation	Pos.	Yr.	Ht.	Hometown (Last School)	PPG	RPG	Notes
11	Maya Onikute	MY-AH o-NIK-uh-tay	G	Sr.	5-6	Queens, N.Y. (Houston)	10.0	7.0	Gorillas' leading rebounder
12	Drew Roberts		G	Fr.	5-6	Blue Springs, Mo. (Blue Springs HS)	11.7	2.7	Hitting 43 percent from three-point range
22	DePrice Taylor	de-PREESE	G	Sr.	5-8	Detroit, Mich. (Barton County CC)	14.8	5.0	Scored 20+ points in two of last three games
42	Laura Glenn		G	Jr.	5-11	Marshfield, Mo. (Marshfield HS)	9.2	6.2	Shooting 47.6 percent from the field
50	Nicole McCombs		C	Sr.	6-1	Richmond, Va. (Drexel)	9.6	6.2	Missed the last game due to injury

GORILLA COACHING STAFF

Head Coach: Lane Lord (Tabor '93) ... **Assistant Coaches:** Amanda Davied (Pitt State '03), Andy Majors (Pitt State '05), Anna Nimz (Pitt State '07) ... **Graduate Assistant:** Brianna Buchanan

Games 7 & 8: vs. Missouri Western & at Truman

Pitt State Women's Basketball



PITT STATE VS. MISSOURI WESTERN

Overall: MWSU leads 46-17

PSU in Pittsburg: 12-18; in St. Joseph: 5-25; at neutral sites: 0-3

Year	Site	Date	W/L	Score	Diff.
1976-77	St. Joseph, Mo.	Jan. 14	L	62-41	-21
1976-77	Pittsburg, Kan.	Feb. 11	L	62-50	-12
1977-78	Pittsburg, Kan.	Jan. 20	L	67-63	-4
1977-78	St. Joseph, Mo.	Feb. 17	L	84-74	-10
1978-79	St. Joseph, Mo.	Feb. 4	L	70-65	-5
1978-79	Pittsburg, Kan.	Feb. 10	W	70-53	+17
1979-80	St. Joseph, Mo.	Feb. 1	L	61-56	-5
1979-80	Pittsburg, Kan.	Feb. 15	L	69-66	-3
1980-81	Pittsburg, Kan.	Jan. 24	L	68-49	-19
1980-81	St. Joseph, Mo.	Feb. 7	L	73-57	-16
1981-82	Pittsburg, Kan.	Jan. 16	W	50-44	+6
1981-82	St. Joseph, Mo.	Feb. 5	L	58-53	-5
1982-83	Pittsburg, Kan.	Jan. 21	L	72-51	-19
1982-83	St. Joseph, Mo.	Feb. 5	L	68-64	-4
1983-84	Pittsburg, Kan.	Jan. 14	W	73-59	+14
1983-84	St. Joseph, Mo.	Feb. 10	L	71-56	-15
1984-85	Pittsburg, Kan.	Feb. 1	W	65-63	+2
1984-85	St. Joseph, Mo.	Feb. 23	L	94-65	-29
1985-86	St. Joseph, Mo.	Jan. 24	L	67-46	-21
1985-86	Pittsburg, Kan.	Feb. 8	L	62-53	-9
1986-87	St. Joseph, Mo.	Jan. 17	L	66-54	-12
1986-87	Pittsburg, Kan.	Feb. 13	L	74-55	-19
1987-88	Pittsburg, Kan.	Jan. 23	L	63-50	-13
1987-88	St. Joseph, Mo.	Feb. 5	W	78-72	+6
1988-89	Pittsburg, Kan.	Feb. 3	L	85-62	-23
1988-89	St. Joseph, Mo.	Feb. 25	L	74-57	-17
1989-90	Pittsburg, Kan.	Feb. 10	L	67-65	-2
1990-91	St. Joseph, Mo.	Feb. 9	W	69-60	+9
1991-92	Pittsburg, Kan.	Feb. 8	W	72-58	+14
1992-93	St. Joseph, Mo.	Feb. 6	W	78-63	+15
1993-94	Pittsburg, Kan.	Jan. 26	L	73-72	-1
1994-95	St. Joseph, Mo.	Jan. 25	L	85-68	-17
1994-95	St. Joseph, Mo.	March 2	L	81-72#	-9
1995-96	Pittsburg, Kan.	Jan. 24	W	101-82	+19
1995-96	Pittsburg, Kan.	Feb. 26	L	72-71#	-1
1996-97	St. Joseph, Mo.	Jan. 2	L	72-70	-2
1996-97	Pittsburg, Kan.	Feb. 8	L	68-61	-7
1997-98	St. Joseph, Mo.	Feb. 7	L	73-69	-4
1998-99	Pittsburg, Kan.	Feb. 6	L	66-60	-6
1999-00	St. Joseph, Mo.	Jan. 5	L	56-55	-1
1999-00	Pittsburg, Kan.	Feb. 2	W	59-56	+3
1999-00	St. Joseph, Mo.	Feb. 28	L	58-51#	-7
2000-01	Pittsburg, Kan.	Jan. 3	W	74-72	+2
2000-01	St. Joseph, Mo.	Jan. 31	L	64-54	-10
2001-02	St. Joseph, Mo.	Jan. 12	L	79-65	-14
2001-02	Pittsburg, Kan.	Feb. 9	L	80-77	-3
2002-03	Pittsburg, Kan.	Jan. 11	W	70-66	+4
2002-03	St. Joseph, Mo.	Feb. 8	L	89-86	-3
2002-03	Kansas City, Mo.	March 6	L	64-61#	-3
2003-04	St. Joseph, Mo.	Jan. 21	L	79-72	-7
2003-04	Pittsburg, Kan.	Feb. 11	L	78-64	-14
2004-05	Pittsburg, Kan.	Jan. 19	W	95-71	+24
2004-05	St. Joseph, Mo.	Feb. 9	W	75-72	+3
2004-05	Kansas City, Mo.	March 3	L	72-70#	-2
2005-06	Pittsburg, Kan.	Dec. 10	L	65-57	-8
2005-06	St. Joseph, Mo.	Feb. 25	L	73-50	-13
2006-07	Pittsburg, Kan.	Jan. 17	L	80-67	-13
2006-07	St. Joseph, Mo.	Feb. 7	L	77-69	-8
2006-07	Kansas City, Mo.	March 2	L	86-66#	-20
2007-08	St. Joseph, Mo.	Jan. 23	L	77-75	-2
2007-08	Pittsburg, Kan.	Feb. 13	W	73-65	+8
2008-09	St. Joseph, Mo.	Dec. 3	W	74-67	+7
2008-09	Pittsburg, Kan.	Jan. 24	W	72-67	+5

+ - overtime # - MIAA Tournament

OPENING TIP

The Gorillas open MIAA play this week as Missouri Western makes a midweek visit to Pittsburg and the Gorillas make the trip east to Kirksville on Saturday.

The Gorillas will need to overcome their recent defensive and rebounding struggles in order to have success in their opening week of league play. Getting to start that portion of the season at home should be a motivating factor for the Gorillas as they have fared better at home then on the road thus far this season.

The Gorillas are 18-20 in the last two seasons under head coach Lane Lord, including a 14-6 record last season.

SCOUTING MISSOURI WESTERN

The Griffons are coming off their first win of the season in a 52-43 win over the Mountain Lions of the University of Colorado-Colorado Springs. Western used 15 points by All-Tournament player Jessica Koch and 11 added by Rachel Luteyn to pick up their first victory of the young season.

The Griffons are beginning to mix experience with the talented newcomers they have. Bench play has come up big for Western through the early games, including 24 points in their first victory of the season.

Griffon Returners Western returns MIAA Freshman of the Year Jessica Koch (12 ppg, 4.8 rpg) to lead the team, as well fellow starters Lauren Nolke (9 ppg, 3.6 rpg), Tierra Ford (11.3 ppg, 6.3 rpg), and Rachel Luteyn (8.4 ppg, 3.6 rpg). The Griffons also return four additional letter winners and two redshirts. Leading the way in the frontcourt are junior post Colleen Schneider (played in 27 games with 5.5 ppg and 3.1 rpg), sophomore forward Kristin Bush (played in 19 games and averaged 2.0 ppg and 1.6 rpg), and redshirt freshman forward Abby Stone. In the backcourt Western returns guard Brittany Casady (sophomore, 2.3 ppg and 1.3 rpg), Brenna Saline (sophomore guard who shot 75.0 % from the charity stripe), and redshirt freshman Kayla Vice.

The Griffons brought in four new players and will see action from two redshirts from last year. Leading the pack and pressuring for a starting position will be guard Kathryn Clouser, a junior transfer from Lamar Community College where she averaged 12.6 ppg and 3.6 rpg. The Griffons also brought in three true freshmen in Kallie Schoonover (5'10 guard), Cassie Bruner (6'0 forward) and Charlonda Bozeman (5'8 guard).

SCOUTING TRUMAN

Truman is 3-2 on the season. They won the first two games of the year against Hannibal-LeGrange and Southwest Minnesota State before falling in the next two to Minnesota State-Moorhead and Quincy. The team bounced back with a 70-62 win over Lincoln in Kirksville on Nov. 28. The Bulldogs open the MIAA portion of their season at Missouri Southern on Dec. 2, before the Gorillas come to Kirksville on Dec. 5.

Senior Laura Joya is the top scorer for Truman as she averages 17.0 points in the team's first five games, including back-to-back 21-point performances. She hit shooting .54 percent from the floor and is the MIAA's leading scorer.

Junior Amy Galey and freshman Becka McHenry control the backcourt and distribute 55 percent of the team's assists. Sarah Deberger and Breanna Daniels lead the team in rebounding with 5.8 and 5.6 rebounds per game, respectively.

SCOUTING PITT STATE

The Gorillas are 2-4 on the season, with both wins coming at home and all four losses coming while on the road.

Pitt State is shooting .400 from the floor and averaging 70.5 points and 42.2 rebounds per game. One troubling spot for the Gorillas is the assist/turnover ratio. The Gorillas have only one assist for every two turnovers and average 22 turnovers a game.

DePrice Taylor leads three Gorillas in double figures with 14.8 points per game. Drew Roberts averages 11.7, while Maya Onikute scores 10.0 points per game. Nicole McCombs and Laura Glenn sit just under double digits at 9.6 and 9.2 points per game, respectively. Maya Onikute leads the

Games 7 & 8: vs. Missouri Western & at Truman

Pitt State Women's Basketball



PITT STATE VS. TRUMAN

Overall: PSU leads 23-9

PSU in Pittsburg: 13-3; in Kirksville: 10-6; at neutral sites: 0-0

Year	Site	Date	W/L	Score	Diff.
1989-90	Kirksville, Mo.	Jan. 14	W	86-85	+1
1990-91	Pittsburg, Kan.	Feb. 4	W	78-77	+1
1991-92	Kirksville, Mo.	Feb. 26	W	67-36	+31
1992-93	Pittsburg, Kan.	Feb. 22	W	97-35	+62
1993-94	Pittsburg, Kan.	Jan. 29	W	93-90	+3
1994-95	Kirksville, Mo.	Jan. 28	W	104-102	+2
1995-96	Pittsburg, Kan.	Jan. 6	W	85-53	+22
1995-96	Kirksville, Mo.	Feb. 10	W	82-73	+9
1996-97	Kirksville, Mo.	Jan. 4	L	74-72	-2
1997-98	Pittsburg, Kan.	Jan. 3	W	82-60	+22
1998-99	Kirksville, Mo.	Feb. 15	L	78-65	-13
1998-99	Pittsburg, Kan.	Feb. 23	L	71-64#	-7
1999-00	Pittsburg, Kan.	Jan. 29	W	77-64	+13
1999-00	Kirksville, Mo.	Feb. 26	L	78-63	-15
2000-01	Kirksville, Mo.	Jan. 27	W	80-73	+7
2000-01	Pittsburg, Kan.	Feb. 24	L	78-66	-12
2001-02	Pittsburg, Kan.	Jan. 19	W	90-78	+12
2001-02	Kirksville, Mo.	Feb. 16	L	83-80	-3
2002-03	Kirksville, Mo.	Jan. 18	W	77-56	+21
2002-03	Pittsburg, Kan.	Feb. 15	W	85-76	+9
2003-04	Kirksville, Mo.	Jan. 3	W	66-41	+25
2003-04	Pittsburg, Kan.	Feb. 28	W	85-70	+15
2004-05	Pittsburg, Kan.	Jan. 2	W	85-55	+30
2004-05	Kirksville, Mo.	Feb. 26	W	70-59	+11
2005-06	Pittsburg, Kan.	Jan. 14	W	74-68	+6
2005-06	Kirksville, Mo.	Feb. 11	L	63-54	-9
2006-07	Pittsburg, Kan.	Dec. 30	W	65-62+	+3
2006-07	Kirksville, Mo.	Feb. 24	W	82-77+	+5
2007-08	Kirksville, Mo.	Jan. 5	L	76-64	-12
2007-08	Pittsburg, Kan.	March 1	L	79-72	-5
2008-09	Pittsburg, Kan.	Dec. 6	W	77-56	+21
2008-09	Kirksville, Mo.	Jan. 28	W	87-62	+25

- MIAA Tournament; + - overtime

team with 7.0 boards per. McCombs and Glenn follow with 6.2 rebounds per game. Onikute and Roberts lead the team in assists with 14 and 13, respectively. Onikute is also the steals leader with 14 steals in the first six games.

PSU VS. MISSOURI WESTERN

Pitt State and Missouri Western have met almost regularly twice a year since the 1976-77 season. Missouri Western leads the overall series 46-17, including a 18-12 record in Pittsburg, a 25-5 mark in St. Joseph and a 3-0 record a neutral sites.

The longest run of wins between the two teams was a seven-win streak by the Griffons from March 3, 2005 to Jan. 23, 2008. Pitt State broke the streak by winning the last meeting between the two teams, a 73-65 decision on Feb. 13 last season. Pitt State's longest streak of wins was three from Feb. 9, 1991 to Feb. 6, 1993.

The largest margin of victory in the series was a 29-point win (94-65) by the Griffons on Feb. 23, 1985 in St. Joseph. Pitt State's biggest win was a 95-71 win in Pittsburg on Jan. 19, 2005.

The most points scored by a team in the series was 101 by the Gorillas in a 101-82 win on Jan. 24, 1996 in Pittsburg.

For complete series information, please see the box on page 2.

PSU VS. TRUMAN

Pitt State leads the all-time series with Truman 23-9. The two teams have met regularly each season since 1990. The two teams started with home-and-home meetings each season in 1999. Pitt State leads 13-3 in Pittsburg and 10-6 in Kirksville. The two teams have never met at a neutral site.

Pitt State has had two long streaks of wins in the series. The Gorillas opened the series with eight straight wins from Jan. 14, 1990 to Feb. 10, 1996. The other long run for the Gorillas was seven wins from Jan. 18, 2003 to Jan. 14, 2006. The Bulldogs have only won back-to-back games twice in the series. The first time was on Feb. 15 and 23, 1999, with one win in each location. The second time was last season as the Bulldogs took the game in Kirksville, 76-64, and in Pittsburg, 79-72.

The biggest win in the series was a 62-point victory (97-35) by the Gorillas in Pittsburg on Feb. 22, 1993. Truman's biggest win was by 15 points in a 78-63 decision in Kirksville on Feb. 26, 2000.

The most points scored in the series was a 104-102 Pitt State win on Jan .28, 1995 in Kirksville.

For complete series information, please see the box on page 3.

LAST TIME OUT

Pitt State suffered two disappointing losses at the Dixie State Thanksgiving Classic on Saturday (Nov. 28) in St. George, Utah.

DePrice Taylor's game-high 22 points were not enough to give the Pitt State women's basketball team a win, as the Gorillas fell, 85-84, to Dixie State on Friday (Nov. 27) evening. Dixie State outscored the Gorillas 6-0 in the last two minutes of the game for the win.

The way we battled back and took the lead, but couldn't take control at the end is very upsetting," head coach Lane Lord said. "They had a lot of second chance points, and I believe that was really the difference in the game. We didn't make the plays we needed to. We missed some wide open layups. Players have to make plays if we are going to win games. We did do some good things offensively. We shot the ball well and limited turnovers."

The Gorillas shot .484 from the field, including .368 from three-point range. They recorded only 14 turnovers in the game, the first time all season they had less than 15 turnovers in a game.

In addition to Taylor's 22 points, Maya Onikute and Laura Glenn each scored 12. Drew Roberts added 10. Onikute and Aubrey Jones led the team with six rebounds a piece.

The first half was back and forth with six ties and seven lead changes in the first eight

Pitt State Women's Basketball



2009-10 STARTING LINE-UPS

Games	Record	Line-Up (F-F/G-G-G-G)
1-2	1-1	McCombs-Taylor-Waugh-Roberts-Onikute
3	0-1	Jones-Glenn-Taylor-Waugh-Roberts
4-6	1-2	Jones-Glenn-Taylor-Onikute-Roberts

CONSECUTIVE STARTS

Taylor	21 games
Roberts*	6 games
Glenn	4 games
Jones	4 games
Onikute	3 games

TOTAL CAREER STARTS

Taylor	57 games
Poppe	25 games
Glenn	21 games
McCombs	18 games
Richards	5 games
Waugh	5 games
Roberts*	6 games
Onikute	5 games
Jones	4 game

* started every game of Pitt State career

2009-10 DOUBLE-DOUBLE PERFORMANCES

11/15/09	Maya Onikute	20 points, 10 rebounds
11/15/09	Nicole McCombs	12 points, 10 rebounds
11/21/09	DePrice Taylor	18 points, 10 rebounds
11/21/09	Maya Onikute	11 points, 10 rebounds
11/24/09	Laura Glenn	12 points, 11 rebounds

minutes of the game before Dixie State took a six point lead at 22-26 with 11:20 to go. Back-to-back buckets by Taylor kept the Gorillas within two. Whitney Conerly drained a jumper with eight minutes to go to give the Gorillas a 29-28 lead. The Gorillas would not lose the lead after that as Roberts scored the last eight points of the half for Pitt State, including back-to-back threes. PSU did not score after the five minute mark in the first half, but was able to maintain its lead, heading into the lockerroom up 37-33.

Pitt State did score its first points of the second half until a Taylor layup with 17:18 to go, allowing Dixie State to take the lead. The Red Storm expanded its lead as the team hit 12 free throws in the first seven minutes of the second half. Onikute hit two free throws with 7:59 to go to give the Gorillas a 65-64 lead. They held on to that lead until the 30 second mark as Dixie State hit a layup to go up 85-84. Both the Gorillas and the Red Storm missed free throws in the last 11 seconds, giving the Gorillas the ball with just over four seconds remaining. Pitt State was not able to get a shot off, ending the game with the 85-84 loss.

Against Academy of Arts on Saturday, DePrice Taylor and Laura Glenn led the Gorillas with 14 points a piece. Taylor scored all of her points in the last 5:14 of the game. Drew Roberts also scored in double figures with 10. Glenn led Pitt State on the glass with seven rebounds.

Pitt State struggled defensively in the first half, allowing Academy of the Arts to build an 11-point lead twice early in the game. The Gorillas brought the game within one at 22-21, as they outscored the Urban Knights 15-4 over a six minute stretch. Pitt State could not get over the hump however, as Academy of the Arts kept a 39-32 lead at the half.

The struggles continued through the second half as the Gorillas could narrow the Urban Knight lead to five, but not any further until late in the half. Taylor, who sat most of the half with four fouls, returned to the game and propelled the Gorillas to a tie game at 64-64 with 11 straight points. Academy of the Arts again took a six point lead in the last two minutes that the Gorillas could not overcome.

PRESEASON POLL

The Pittsburg State University women's basketball team drew the No. 3 pick by both conference coaches and media representatives in the 2009-10 MIAA Preseason Polls, released Tuesday (Oct. 27) at the Downtown Marriott.

The Gorillas received three first-place votes and 86 total points in balloting of the MIAA's 11 coaches. Pitt State earned one first place vote and 236 points in voting among 28 regional media representatives.

Emporia State University earned the preseason No. 1 ranking in both polls, while Washburn University was tabbed second in each poll.

Pitt State posted a breakthrough 20-9 record during the 2008-09 season, advancing to the semi-finals of the MIAA Tournament under second-year head coach Lane Lord. The Gorillas notched their first 20-win season in a decade and narrowly missed qualifying for the NCAA-II National Tournament.

"I think expectations are very high in our third year," said Lord. "With the players we have returning, like Nicole McCombs and DePrice Taylor, I think people are recognizing that we have good quality depth. It is flattering to get three first-place votes from the coaches and have our colleagues recognize that we can compete and the top of the league."

McCombs returns for her senior season after earning first-team All-MIAA honors as a junior last year. She averaged a team-leading 15.7 points and 7.2 rebounds per game last season.

"It is nice to see that Pitt State is gaining respect among the coaches and media in the MIAA," McCombs said. "We appreciate the recognition, but hope to exceed expectations."

PSU IN EXHIBITION GAMES

The Gorillas played three exhibition games against teams from the Big 12 Conference. The Gorillas went 0-3 in those games, but got good experience against tough competition.

Pitt State fell to Kansas, 86-56. Nicole McCombs led the Gorillas with 11 points, while Maya Onikute and Larissa Richards shared the rebounding lead with six a piece.

Against Nebraska, the Gorillas lost 68-54, but played much better basketball. PSU trailed the Huskers by only three points with 11 minutes left in the game. Drew Roberts led the team with 17 points, while Laura Glenn led with seven rebounds.

The Gorillas led Kansas State for most of the first half, before poor shooting and turnovers helped

Pitt State Women's Basketball



USA TODAY/ESPN DIVISION II TOP 25

Preseason

No.	School	Previous	Record	Points
1.	Michigan Tech (12)	8	27-7	563
2.	Franklin Pierce (3)	2	29-6	552
3.	California (Pa.)	4	29-5	486
4.	Delta State (1)	6	30-7	483
5.	Fort Lewis (2)	9	28-3	478
6.	Minnesota State-Mankato (8)	1	32-2	448
7.	Emporia State	17	26-6	409
8.	Alaska-Anchorage	3	31-4	383
9.	Stonehill	22	22-8	370
10.	West Texas A&M	5	28-6	341
11.	Indianapolis	24	24-10	328
12.	Central Oklahoma	12	23-5	297
13.	Clayton State	11	26-7	292
14.	California-San Diego	16	27-5	287
15.	Northern Kentucky	10	29-3	270
16.	Seattle Pacific	7	23-4	216
17.	Holy Family	NR	26-6	189
18.	Washburn	13	27-5	180
19.	Gannon	20	30-4	170
20.	Lenior-Rhyne	23	27-5	148
21.	Indiana (Pa.)	19	26-6	143
22.	Tampa	NR	26-6	141
23.	Hillsdale	15	27-4	139
24.	Quincy	18	27-5	120
25.	Grand Valley State	NR	20-10	111

Others Receiving Votes: Francis Marion 110, Valdosta State 75, Shaw 63, Drury 56, Philadelphia 47, Bentley 41, Tusculum 40, Fort Valley State 37, Lander 36, Ouchita Baptist 32, District of Columbia 32, Millersville (Pa.) 31, Johnson C. Smith 26, Northwood 24, Concordia-St. Paul 22, American International 21, Augustana (Ill.) 21, Columbus State 19, Rollins College 18, West Liberty 18, Incarnate Word 16, Arkansas Tech 16, Georgia College & State 14, Arkansas-Monticello 12, Barton College 10, Carson Newman 7, New Haven 7, South Carolina-Aiken 7, Wisconsin-Parkside 6, Fairmont State 5, Winona State 5, Dowling 4, West Georgia 4, **PITTSBURG STATE 3**, Cal Poly-Pomona 2, Molloy 2, Nova Southeastern 2, Wingate 2, Abilene Christian 1, Bowie State 1, Lewis 1, Minnesota State-Moorhead 1, St. Mary's (Texas) 1.

WHAT'S RETURNING FROM 2008-09 FOR 2009-10

Category	Percent Returning
Games Started	53.5% (100-187)
Minutes Played	54.3% (3201-5900)
Points	58.6% (1294-2209)
Rebounds	53.3% (609-1142)
Field Goals	59.5% (455-765)
FT Made	60.5% (295-488)
FT Attempted	62.6% (452-722)
3-Point Field Goals	46.6% (89-191)
Assists	49.1% (181-369)
Blocks	55.1% (54-98)
Steals	43.6% (124-285)

them to a 89-61 loss to the Wildcats. McCombs again led the team in scoring, this time with 12 points. Onikute was the leading rebounder with nine.

Over the three exhibition games, Roberts led the team with 12.3 ppg and hit eight threes. while shooting .412 from the floor. McCombs was the only other player averaging double figures with 11.7 ppg. Maya Onikute led the team with 5.7 rpg and 2.7 apg.

UP NEXT

The Gorillas begin league play when they take the court again on Dec. 2 against Missouri Western at John Lance Arena in Pittsburg. Tipoff is set for 5 :30 p.m.

GORILLAS SIGN THREE

Pittsburg State University Women's Basketball Coach Lane Lord announced the signing of three student-athletes in the early signing period on Thursday (Nov. 19.). Sara Molz, Katy Cooper and Y'cedria Devers will play for the Gorillas beginning in the 2010-11 season.

Cooper is a 6-2 forward from Stella, Mo. She is a student at East Newton High School. She earned All-Big Eight Conference honors last season as she helped East Newton to a 17-11 record in 2009. Last season she averaged 14 points and 12 rebounds per game. She has been a four-year starter in both basketball and volleyball for the Patriots. Cooper is undecided on a major. She is the daughter of Sara Camerer and Steve Cooper.

"Katy is very athletic," Lord said. "She runs the floor well and blocks shots. She is very good in transition on both offense and defense. She will add a lot of athleticism in the post position."

Y'cedria Devers is a 5-9 guard/forward from Bixby, Oklahoma. She attends Bixby High School. In 2009 she was a Tulsa World honorable mention all-area selection. As a junior she averaged eight points, just over six rebounds and four steals per game. She is the daughter of Y'vette Cornelius and Cedric Devers and plans to major in early childhood education at PSU.

"Y'cedria is a combo guard who likes to get to the basket," Lord said. "She is a tremendous athlete who will work well with our style of play."

Sara Molz is a 5-4 point guard from Kiowa, Kan. She attends South Barber High School. Last season she averaged 13 points, 4.3 rebounds and 5.3 assists for the Cheiftans. She helped her team to a third place finish in the state in 2008 and a sub-state runner-up finish in 2009. She has been named all-state three times. In addition to being a four-year starter in basketball, Molz has also been a four-year starter in volleyball and a two-year letterwinner in track. She is the daughter of Ron and Kristi Molz and plans to major in elementary education at Pittsburg State.

"Sara is also a combo guard who can shoot the three," Lord said. "She is a floor leader and sees the floor very well."

"We fulfilled some needs in this recruiting class," Lord said. "We have signed a guard, forward and center that will replace some of the positions that we will lose after this season. All three are very athletic and talented."