



The Serving Tray

Rotary Club of Kirksville - - Charter 371 - - District 6040

www.kvrotary.org



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JEFF HORNER, TRUMAN MENS BASKETBALL HEAD COACH: Jeff Horner has been Truman's head basketball coach since 2018. This former standout point guard at the University of Iowa (2002-06) came to Kirksville after a successful four-year run at Division I University of North Dakota of the Big Sky Conference. There he served as the director of operations for one season (2014-15) then three years as an assistant coach (2015-18). Horner played his high school basketball at Mason City (IA) High School for his father, Bob Horner, a star player. Jeff graduated from the University of Iowa in 2006 after starting all four years as a member of the Hawkeyes. He capped those four seasons by being named the Big Ten Tournament's Most Outstanding Player as a senior when Iowa defeated Ohio State in the title game. He was also a two-time Third-Team All-Big Ten honoree, a two-time team MVP and two-year team captain. After college he had professional positions including Bree, Belgium (2006-07), Paris France (fall 2007), the Iowa Energy of the NBA G League (2007-08), and Antibes, France (2008-09). That would

mark the end of his playing career and beginning of his coaching experience. His first coaching experience was in Des Moines, Iowa at Grand View University of the NAIA for a one-year stint as an assistant coach in 2009-10. He then became head varsity boys coach at West Des Moines Valley High School for three seasons (2011-14). Most recently, Horner spent four years in Grand Forks, North Dakota for the Fighting Hawks. In 2016-17, his third season with the program and second as an assistant coach. The Fighting Hawks made the NCAA Tournament, won the Big Sky Conference Tournament and were Big Sky Conference regular season champions, all of which had never before happened in program history. During his first campaign as head coach, the Bulldogs finished 14-15. But during his second year, the Bulldogs found their stride and went 23-8 en route to a GLVC Tournament Title and a share of the Regular Season Championship. At 14-4 in GLVC play the Bulldogs tied with Missouri-St. Louis, whom they defeated in the regular season and in the GLVC Championship Game. After a slow start to the 2019-20 campaign at 1-3, the Bulldogs reeled off ten wins in twelve games to jump to the top of the GLVC standings. It began with a thrilling 71-68 win over #7 Missouri Southern as Brodrick Thomas hit one of the most famous shots in Truman history as he drained a 30 footer at the final buzzer to elevate Truman to victory. Under Horner's guidance, Thomas would collect numerous awards--including GLVC Player of the Year, GLVC Tournament MVP, D2 All-Region by the D2CCA and was named to the D2 All-District team by the NABC. Horner said the Covid pandemic has impacted his team with disappointment over cancelled games. Horner said he is extremely excited to be a part of the Truman State University family. He said it has always been his dream to be a head coach at the collegiate level and Truman State gave him that chance. He and his wife have two children and they are happy to be raising them in Kirksville.

NEW CHARITABLE FUNDS INVESTMENT: \$5,000 has been donated with the donor specifically requesting that it be invested at better than CD rates. Charitable Funds Treasurer Jeff Romine said the sum will be invested in S&P 500 Index, ETF funds. Profits earned will be divided between the two Kirksville Rotary clubs for "Do Good" projects.

FLAG SPONSORS SOUGHT: Bill Lovegreen said a \$300 sponsorship includes a flag placement for two years.

50-50 Drawing: Wade Coorts did not pull the ace of spades; pot now up to \$219.

Guests:

None

Announcement: A signup sheet was circulated for Soup Social, Tuesday, January 25 (see flyer attached to cover email).

Upcoming Programs:

Jan. 19: Amy Teten/Communications Disorders

Jan. 26: Truman physics professor, Dr. Vayujeet Gokhale
On Light Pollution

Feb. 2: Hollister Update/Joe Graves, Plant Manager

Feb. 9: Western's Partners Update/Matt Bormann, CEO

Feb. 12: Liberty Utilities/JR Derksen. Business and
Community Development Manager