



## Bearcats' bout with Central captures national spotlight

Two of the most storied men's basketball programs in Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association history

soon will take the stage in front of a nationwide audience. Northwest faces the University of Central Missouri at 11 a.m. Feb. 21 in Warrensburg on CBS College Sports Network. It will be the first nationally televised Northwest basketball game.

Bryan Boettcher, Northwest's sports information director, said the Bearcats and Mules matchup is one of five Division II men's games to be shown on the network during the 2008-09 season.

Northwest and Central Missouri have com-

bined to win 28 MIAA championships and make 30 NCAA tournament appearances. Five of the last seven MIAA tournaments were won by either the Bearcats or the Mules, and each program has four titles in all.

Four-time MIAA Coach of the Year Steve Tappmeyer has led the Bearcats to nine 20-win seasons in the last 11 years and to two Elite Eights in the last seven. Northwest swept Central Missouri last season for the first time since 2003-04. The Bearcats went on to win the MIAA tournament and advanced to the round of 32 in postseason play before finishing with a record of 24-8.

The Feb. 21 date is the second half of the regular season home-and-away dual between Northwest and Central Missouri. The first meeting takes place Jan. 14 at Bearcat Arena in Maryville. ■

## LET'S GO BEARCATS

Even if you can't make it to the game, be a part of the action by visiting

[www.northwestbearcats.com](http://www.northwestbearcats.com)

- ◆ Live stats and webcasts
- ◆ Bearcat birth certificates
- ◆ Cub Club registration forms
- ◆ News releases
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## Athletes welcome locker room upgrades

The days of small, crowded locker rooms with their own "unique" aroma are a thing of the past for two more Northwest sports teams. Renovations of locker room facilities for the women's basketball and volleyball programs were completed this fall.

Dr. Bob Boerigter, Northwest's director of athletics, said the updates followed the 2007 renovation of the football and men's basketball locker rooms.

"Quality facilities – for both men's and women's programs – are of utmost importance in maintaining competitive MIAA and NCAA programs," Boerigter said.

The women's basketball and volleyball locker rooms previously were located on the lower level of Martindale Hall and consisted of small, metal lockers. The new location on the lower level of Lamkin Activity Center, previously a large, public-use locker room, has been converted to a facility capable of housing both programs while still allowing each program to have its own distinct locker areas. The new facility, complete with Bearcat green carpet, features individual wooden

lockers, each with a mirror and ventilation system, as well as a student-athlete lounge area with leather furniture and a flat screen television.

Neil Elliott, development officer for athletics, said there are opportunities for Northwest alumni and friends to support this project.

"We are continuing to solicit support for this much-needed project by seeking individuals and businesses to sponsor lockers in the new facility," Elliott said, "This is a great way to honor a former student athlete, coach or team by having his or her name permanently affixed to one of the lockers in this great new facility." ■

For more information about supporting the women's basketball and volleyball locker room, contact Elliott at [neile@nwmissouri.edu](mailto:neile@nwmissouri.edu) or (660) 562-1248.



Volleyball Coach Anna Tool addresses her team in the new fully equipped locker room in Lamkin Activity Center.