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By Chris Parker

Greyhounds Announce 2011-2012 Basketball Schedules

Mid-South Community College has finalized its 2011-2012 men's and women's basketball schedules, and the slate features seven home dates at Lehr Arena in West Memphis and Patriot Arena at Marion Junior High School.

MSCC's men will play a 26-game schedule including three in-season tournaments while the women have a 21-game schedule and two tournaments slated.

Both teams begin their second season of play with four scrimmages, two of which will be in West Memphis and are open to the public. MSCC's men prevailed in their pre-season opener by defeating Southern Institute 98-85 on Oct. 15 at Lehr Arena. The second home contest is Saturday, Oct. 22, at 2 p.m. with the men playing Fort Leonard Wood.

The Greyhounds and Lady Greyhounds will play road scrimmages at Williams Baptist College in Walnut Ridge and Blue Mountain College in Mississippi, and the women will also play at Dyersburg State College in Tennessee and Jefferson College in Missouri to prepare for the regular season.

Both teams open at Southwest Tennessee Community College in Memphis on Tuesday, Nov. 1. The first regular-season home contests are Saturday, Nov. 19, at Patriot Arena in Marion with the men taking on Blessed Hope Baptist College at 2 p.m. and the women hosting Connors State College at 4 p.m.

Other highlights include tournaments at Volunteer State Community College in Tennessee (men and women), North Arkansas College in Harrison (men and women on separate weekends) and Missouri State University-West Plains in Missouri (men only).

In addition, both teams travel to Georgia for three games in the Atlanta area before the Christmas break, and the men travel to Dallas for a three-game swing to kick off 2012.

Other notable home games include Northwest Mississippi on Tuesday, Nov. 29, and three home games in a row at the beginning of February against North Arkansas College (Feb. 4 in West Memphis), Shawnee Community College (Feb. 10 in Marion), and Arkansas Baptist College (Feb. 11 in West Memphis).

Both teams feature new head coaches, although they are familiar faces to Greyhound fans. Chris Parker takes over the men's program after coaching the women last season, and Kim Turner moves over a seat on the bench to take over the women after serving as the Lady Greyhounds' assistant last year.

The teams are looking to qualify for postseason play in their respective district tournaments in which winners advance to the National Junior College Athletic Association national competition. The women's national will be held in Rochester, Minn., while the men's national will be contested in Loch Sheldrake, New York.