



**For Immediate Release**

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**St. Louis - Meramec Women's Basketball Earns Post Season #2 Seed**

The second-seeded St. Louis C.C. - Meramec women's basketball team will play in the Region XVI Tournament semi-final game Friday (Feb. 23) at 7:00 at Florissant Valley. The Magic (14-16) will take on the winner of an opening round game - Penn Valley against Cottey College. If Meramec wins, they'll advance to the championship game Saturday at 2:00, also at Flo Valley.

"We've got to play our 'A' game all the way through," said fifth year coach **Steve Jarvis**. "If we come out and play hard and play with intensity, I think we've got a shot."

Meramec won the crown last year, but may have to get by top-seeded North Central, who has beaten the Magic twice this year.

The Magic are led by All-Conference selection guard **Ceara Brown** (University City) on first team and honorable mention picks center **Samantha Turner** (Oakville) and forward **Michelle Senf** (Mehlville.)

"We have to play hard and everyone has to have confidence," said Brown, "because we all can do different little things to help out."

Senf has also been helping out as the offensive leader with 13 ½ points and 8 rebounds per game. Brown has been right behind her as the one-two punch with just over 13 points and 5 rebounds a game. Turner, averaging 10 points per game, will be returning to action following a month off from knee surgery.

"I've been working really hard to get back," said Turner. "I mostly feel the pressure from myself because I want to finish up this year. It's my last year of playing basketball so I just want to finish it for me, really."

Another offensive weapon has been freshman forward **Lizz Tuder** (Northwest.) Tuder recorded 21 points, including 4 three pointers, in a 87-61 win over Fontbonne JV Feb. 16. The squad also has added depth from second semester recruit **Stephanie Godfrey** (Marquette), who played soccer last fall.

"Steph has come along and she's really starting to catch on with what we're doing right now," said coach Jarvis. "She's helping us - against Jefferson, she played 36 minutes. If she continues to contribute, that really helps our depth."

If the Magic can get past Friday night's opponent, their main rival, North Central will likely be awaiting them in the title game Saturday.

"North Central is a good team," said Brown. "But, I think we can beat them if we all do what we have to do - play our roles and control the game."