



Men's Soccer: Noon, Sat. against Lewis

3 p.m., Wed. vs. Iowa Wesleyan



Tennis: Truman Invite Fri.-Sat.

No events scheduled

SPORTS



Tale of Two Games

Men's soccer falls 4-0 to rival SIUE on Friday night; defeats Newman 2-1 on Sunday afternoon at home



Thursday, September 15, 2005

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Weekend could lead women to more wins

Conor Nicholl
Sports Editor

At face value, Saturday and Sunday yielded a blowout victory against a winless opponent and another loss to archrival University of Nebraska-Omaha.

It also drove women's soccer's record to 2-4 - more losses than the 37-3-3 mark they compiled the past two falls.

Commentary



Conor Nicholl

But last weekend could ultimately mark a watershed moment in the 2005 campaign.

The 'Dogs unloaded a high-powered offensive attack against University of then-0-6 Minnesota State-Mankato, winning 4-1.

"It was probably the most consistent 90 minutes we have played the entire season," head coach Mike Cannon said. "We played with the lead and controlled the game throughout."

The next day, they nearly pulled off an upset over nationally-ranked UNO.

They led 1-0 at the half but couldn't sustain the lead as the Mavericks scored two second-half goals and won 2-1. Still, the purple and white left an undeniable mark.

"We're just happy to walk out of here with a win," UNO head coach Don Klosterman said. "The last 45 minutes of the game were the best 45 we played the entire season. Truman's a pretty dangerous team."

Klosterman's right. The 'Dogs, even without All-American Sara Murray, Ellen Wright and Co., is still a quality team. Once the offense gels - the process seemed to start Saturday - goals will come in mass quantities. They also have the defense, depth and confidence to play with the best teams in the conference and country.

And, in Klosterman's eyes, they have a secret weapon no other team enjoys.

"They have Mike Cannon," Klosterman said. "This guy is good. I'm not at all surprised they played as well as they did. He knows what he's doing. They're going to get a lot better. I wouldn't be surprised at all to see them in the playoffs come November."

The road to November play isn't going to be easy, but it's definitely possible.

It can start this weekend as MIAA play begins. This is the same MIAA the 'Dogs have dominated since its inception in 1999, winning six straight conference titles and compiling a 58-1-3 record.

And like all six years, the 'Dogs have the best talent in the conference. Central Missouri State University entered this past weekend with a perfect 4-0 record but lost both games against Mankato and UNO in Kirksville last weekend.

Southwest Baptist University, the only team to seriously challenge the purple and white for the conference, has lost its top two players, including Pip Meo, last year's MIAA MVP.

Probably the only team that could stand in their way is Emporia State University, the current pacesetter in the conference. The 'Dogs will play the Hornets on Sunday in a game that could have major implications down the road.

"If we can win all of our conference games, we'll start to move up in the region," Cannon said. "Other teams will start to play each other, and they'll cancel each other out. We have a small margin of error, but I think we can win the conference. It's not going to be a cakewalk, though."

Cannon said there is little this team needs to change.

"All that's left is the intangibles," he said. "We just need to settle on a starting lineup and see who is the best fit. We're starting three freshmen, a transfer and some players who weren't starters last season. Everyone needed some time to find their role."

And that seemingly started this past weekend.

Hurricane hits home for athletes

Conor Nicholl
Sports Editor

For Brad Kieffer, the worst part of Hurricane Katrina wasn't the destruction of the city. It wasn't the thousands of gallons of water that had flooded New Orleans. It wasn't that two of his best friends lost their homes and much of their belongings.

"The worst is hard to say," Kieffer, a former All-American

Bulldog wrestler, said in a phone interview last week.

He paused for a few seconds, gathering his thoughts.

"The hardest part was being a doctor and trying to rescue thousands of people," he said. "A lot of them had diseases that were going to be life-threatening even if we had hospitals. You would try to save a person's life, but you knew that whatever you did, you weren't going to save them."

Instead, Kieffer had to focus on citizens who weren't as badly injured or ill.

"We just had to let those who were violently sick just pass away on their own," he said. "I know it always happens with mass casualties, but it's tough. It was really hard to watch, but there was nothing to do. We could transfer out those people who had minor cuts and bruises. The situation wasn't good, but

we did the best we could."

Kieffer worked for New Orleans Charity Hospital as part of an EMT crew. He, along with junior tennis player Brad Martin, Brad's mother, Dorean Martin, and brother, Reid Martin, were among the Truman athletes and families of past and present who were involved in the events of Hurricane Katrina.

As of press time, Kieffer's house still stood, but he didn't



have any power. Reid Martin's belongings, including four guitars and musical equipment, were unharmed at Loyola University.

Kieffer was in Baton Rouge the day Katrina hit New Orleans. He, along with the Martin family and many other New Orleans citizens, thought Katrina would pass by without causing significant damage. See **KATRINA**, Page 19

Big man on campus

Defensive end dominates after position switch

Josh Sisson
Staff Reporter

Steven Holman's mother wouldn't let him play tackle football until the seventh grade.

Now Holman, a junior, is one of the fiercest pass rushers on the Bulldog football team.

Holman said his mother's reservations have begun to fade now that he is a junior in college.

"After a while she became more of a fan of football," Holman said. "She still worries some, but she's more supportive than anything."

Mrs. Holman might be able to relax a little bit now, but opposing quarterbacks cannot. Truman's big defensive end has recorded a sack in each of his first three games this season.

Although Holman's job is to defeat offensive linemen at the point of attack, there was a time when he saw action from the other side of the ball. Throughout most of high school Holman played offensive line.

At times, being an offensive lineman is a thankless and unglamorous job, but Holman's high school football experience was anything but dull. Holman grew up in Texas, where high school football is considered an event no different from college or pro.

Holman said the atmosphere surrounding football in Copperas Cove, Texas was amazing.

"Our team was 9-1 when I was a sophomore, and

See **HOLMAN**, Page 19



Photo by Chris Waller, Designed by Lindsay Koski/Index
Junior defensive end Steven Holman is a stalwart on the Bulldogs defense. A native of Texas, Holman is a converted tight end and has three sacks in 2005.

Bearcats, conditions blow over Truman in win

Josh Sisson
Staff Reporter

With the final seconds ticking away, quarterback Eric Howe scrambled four yards into the end zone to give the Bulldogs a 24-23 win in the Old Hickory Stick game.

That was in 2001, and the 'Dogs haven't scored a point against the Bearcats in Maryville since.

Both offenses struggled on Saturday, but Northwest Missouri

State mustered enough points to blank the 'Dogs 17-0 and retain possession of the coveted Hickory Stick.

Head coach Shannon Currier said the offense missed opportunities to take control of the game.

"It was there for the taking, but we just couldn't move the ball enough to win," Currier said. "That's frustrating."

The last time Truman paid the Bearcats a visit in Maryville, the 'Dogs couldn't move the ball, ei-

ther. The Bearcats pitched a 37-0 shutout in that 2003 contest.

A tenacious Northwest defense and winds of up to 30 mph wreaked havoc on the Truman attack all afternoon.

The 'Dogs gained only 26 yards on the ground while Bearcat pass rushers sacked sophomore quarterback Jonathan Duffy five times.

Junior offensive lineman Tyrone McCormick said the prob-

lems in pass protection and run blocking resulted from a lack of mental focus.

"Every play someone messed up, and when one person messes up the whole play goes awry," McCormick said. "We were undisciplined. [Someone was hurting] us the whole game."

Currier said he hopes to send a message to his team during this week of practice.

"We are going to challenge the offense a lot more this week,

and if people aren't playing better, we're going to make some changes," Currier said. "The last thing we want to do is just accept being mediocre."

Poor field position plagued the Truman offense all day.

One reason for this was that six of Truman's eight punts sailed directly into the teeth of the howling wind, giving Northwest excellent field position on multiple possessions throughout the afternoon.

See **HICKORY STICK**, Page 19

Lions serve up first 'Dog loss

John Scognamiglio
Staff Reporter

After losing to the University of North Alabama on Saturday, the women's volleyball team reassessed themselves as the team to beat in the MIAA.

Wednesday night, the Bulldogs hosted Central Missouri State University in the MIAA opener for both teams. The first game saw the team run out to a 10-1 lead before the Jennies matched the squad point-for-point. The 'Dogs held off the Jennies for a 30-21 win.

Games two and three of the match were back-and-forth affairs. The Jennies captured game two by a score of 30-27 and seemingly had the momentum.

With the score tied 25-25 in game three, junior middle hitter Kelsey Wackerman got two quick kills and the momentum shifted. Wackerman



Mike Snodderly/Index

Head coach Jason Skoch talks to his players during their 3-1 win over Central Missouri Wednesday night at Pershing Arena.

ended up serving game point, and the 'Dogs escaped with a 30-26 win.

Truman ran out to a 7-1 lead in game four and Wackerman helped stop a late Jennies rally as the Purple-and-White rattled off five straight points to gain the match victory.

Central Missouri State University head coach Peggy Martin said Wackerman played a great game for

the 'Dogs. "She killed us," she said. "She had a great night. She was an All-American tonight."

Bulldog helmsman Jason Skoch said the team played a terrific against the 10th-ranked Jennies.

"It feels good [winning] against a team like that," he said. "We'll see

See **VOLLEYBALL**, Page 19

One-Sided RIVALRY

The **Bulldogs** have dominated conference archrival **Central Missouri** in recent years, **winning their past 13 Matches.**

| | | | |
|------|----------|-----|---|
| 2005 | Sept. 14 | 3-1 | W |
| 2004 | Sept. 15 | 3-2 | W |
| | Oct. 6 | 3-2 | W |
| | Nov. 13 | 3-0 | W |
| 2003 | Nov. 20 | 3-1 | W |
| | Sept. 17 | 3-0 | W |
| 2002 | Oct. 15 | 3-1 | W |
| | Oct. 4 | 3-1 | W |
| 2001 | Nov. 13 | 3-0 | W |
| | Nov. 23 | 3-0 | W |
| 2000 | Oct. 5 | 3-0 | W |
| | Nov. 7 | 3-1 | W |

Designed by Lindsay Koski/Index