

# 'Dogs lose fourth straight

Defense scores the only two points of the game for Truman

Josh Sisson  
Staff Reporter

The Bulldogs burned their last two timeouts of the first half in an effort to freeze the Missouri Western State College placekicker.

It worked a little too well. Freshman Robby Walling just managed to coax the football through the uprights, giving the Golden Griffons a 10-2 advantage.

In a cruel twist of fate, however, Walling shanked the kickoff, allowing the 'Dogs to take possession at the Missouri Western 40-yard line with 24 seconds remaining but no timeouts.

Time ran out on the 'Dogs in the first half, and the Griffons went on to score a pair of second-half touchdowns en route to a 24-2 victory against Truman.

Head coach Shannon Currier stood by his decision to use the timeouts when he did.

"I think it worked," Currier said. "They had a bad snap and the field goal was barely made. There was only 24 seconds left, and realistically, you're not going to use your timeouts from that point. I don't know what percentage of the time you're going to have a chance to make a drive in 24 seconds."

Sophomore quarterback Jonathan Duffy completed a first-down pass to sophomore running back Mike Patnode for an eight-yard gain.

Duffy elected to run for it on second down, and he picked up the necessary yardage. Rather than going down to stop the clock, Duffy tried to fight for more, and time expired as a result.

Currier said his offense should have been able to run more than two plays with or without timeouts.

"Our quarterback needs to take control in that situation," Currier said. "First of all, we wanted to run another play, so he needed to throw the ball out of bounds and stop the clock, so we could try for a touchdown or get closer for our kicker."

The 'Dogs needed to make



Some football players watch as the Bulldogs lose for the fourth straight week. The 'Dogs will remember former head coach John Ware Saturday at Missouri Southern State University.

Chris Tharp/Index

something of their final possession of the second quarter because Missouri Western would receive to start the third. The 'Dogs didn't, however, and the Griffons milked more than six minutes off the third quarter clock by driving 82 yards in 13 plays for a touchdown and all the momentum.

The 'Dogs moved the ball with a blend of run and pass in

the first half, but they never took full advantage of scoring opportunities. Truman sustained a productive drive on the game's opening possession only to see it end with a blocked field goal attempt from senior kicker Mark Kamphoefner.

Junior tight end Rich Mayson said the offense needs to find ways to make the most of

scoring chances.

"It's something we're going to continue to work at," Mayson said. "We have to take advantage of opportunities in the future. We need touchdowns, not field goals."

The Truman defense kept the game close with big plays throughout the contest. Sophomore defensive back James Thabuteau and junior defensive

end Darryl Reddick each came up with drive-killing interceptions in the first half. The offense, however, failed to convert the turnovers to points.

Truman's only points of the game came when Western quarterback Michael Burton scrambled into his end zone after a bad snap, and freshman linebacker Kyle Glenn and freshman defensive end Les Hammers chased him down for a safety.

Junior linebacker Larry Giglio said those big defensive plays start on the practice field.

"When you work hard, plays like that will happen when you least expect it," he said.

He no longer sees his younger defensive teammates as being inexperienced, he said.

"After you've played a couple games, I don't think it's a good excuse anymore," Giglio said. "In some regards it is a matter of learning the defense, but at the same time you just have to keep getting better."

In an attempt to ignite the Truman offense, Currier pulled Duffy at halftime in favor of true freshman quarterback Michael Long. Long promptly threw an interception on his first series and continued to struggle throughout the third quarter. Eventually Duffy went back in.

Currier looked to Long for the big plays Duffy failed to make in the first half.

"The quarterback's job is to put the ball in the end zone, and [Duffy] didn't do that," Currier said. "We're trying to find a spark plug to get our offense rolling, and we thought Mike [Long] might be able to give us that ... I know people haven't seen him do much yet, but there's going to be a day when people realize why we're playing this guy."

Currier needs playmakers to take center stage Saturday when the 'Dogs try to keep up with the high-octane Missouri Southern attack.

"Every great player has some coming-out party," Currier said. "From that point on, you hang your hat on that person, and things get better from there. We have to believe that this weekend one of our guys is going to come out and make some big plays."

## SPORTS In Brief

Volleyball remains the No. 1 team in Div. II

The Bulldog volleyball team remained the No. 1 team in the nation for the fourth straight week.

The 'Dogs first gained the top ranking in the Sept. 5 poll and have had it ever since. In the most recent poll, released on Sept. 26, the 16-1 'Dogs held a 867-833 point lead against Cal. St. San Bernardino.

This marked an 11-point increase from last week's 856-834 finish against Bernardino.

They had 31 first-place votes while Bernardino and University of Nebraska-Kearney had two apiece.

Last week, the 'Dogs had 20 first-place votes while Bernardino had seven, North Alabama had six and UNK two.

The 'Dogs also were one of six teams in the country that had only one loss.

Their 16 wins also are tied with MIAA rival Washburn University for the for the national lead. Only two teams in the top 25, No. 18 Cal-St. Pomona (14-0) and No. 22 BYU-Hawaii (12-0) are undefeated.

This is the most first-place votes for the 'Dogs since the Sept. 5 poll, when they had 874 points and 34 first-place votes.

Truman will continue its MIAA campaign with three home matches on Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Thursday is against Southwest Baptist University, Friday versus Missouri Southern State University and Pittsburg State University comes to Kirksville on Saturday.

## Men's soccer moves higher in regional poll

The Bulldogs men's soccer team moved higher in the Great Lakes Regional poll.

They were ninth in the 24-team poll last week and moved up to seventh this week after posting two victories, improving their record to 7-2. The top three teams make the postseason.

Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville kept the No. 1 spot and improved to 7-1-1 after defeating Kentucky Wesleyan 2-0.

Rockhurst University (6-2-1) is ranked second and Wisconsin-Parkside (7-1-1) is third.

# Women's golf team chips into second place

Men finish third at the Maryville Invitational in Eureka, Mo. with a 305

Joseph Barker  
Staff Reporter

Like one of those old cartoons, rain seems to follow the women's golf team no matter where it goes.

A week after fighting the rain in Iowa, the women headed north to Marshall, Minn., for the Mustang Invitational and were again greeted by Mother Nature and her rain. This time, however, the rain had an impact, and the Invitational was cut short by one day. The Bulldogs, in the shortened event, still managed to pull out a second-place finish, their second of the year.

Freshman Julie Williams said the cancellation affected the Bulldogs' prospects.

"We were disappointed we didn't get to play the second day," Williams said. "We would have had a lot of momentum going into the second day. I think we would have

had a good chance to win the tournament."

Sophomore Marta Samojluk again led the way for the 'Dogs. She shot an 80 (+6), which was good enough for a tie for sixth overall. She was three shots behind tournament winner Rachel Schmidt from Upper Iowa University. Samojluk finished in the top 20 in all five tournaments this year.

Head coach Sam Lesseig said Samojluk played well.

"Marta is playing very steady," Lesseig said. "She was low for us this weekend, but she will be the first to tell you that it should've been better."

Even with Samojluk shooting low, the women still needed to have all members contributing to capture second place. And contribute they did. Five golfers finished in the top 30 with a tight scoreboard that had the winner only 12 shots ahead of the 29th-place finisher.

Williams said that when everyone contributes, it helps the other golfers play to their fullest potential.

"We all just played pretty well," Williams said. "I feel like I need to

contribute, too. When everyone is shooting lower scores, it motivates me to shoot low."

Sophomore Amanda Senn was just one shot off the pace of Samojluk with a 7 over par 81. Senn finished in a tie for 11th place. The rest of the squad finished right in the pack with Williams shooting an 82 (+10), junior Sara Lloyd an 83 (+11) and sophomore Laura Westensee an 85 (+13).

In all, the 'Dogs shot a combined 326, two shots more than tournament winner Southwest Minnesota State University.

Williams said she was pleased with her performance but could have done better.

"I had a few hiccups, but for the most part I did pretty well," Williams said. "My short game was pretty good. I made up for a couple of mistakes there. I still think I could've shaved off a few strokes though."

Next up for the women is the Prairie Fire Invite in Lincoln, Neb., Oct. 2 to 3.

Rain also was present with the men's squad. Even though the team

was hundreds of miles from the coast, Hurricane Rita managed to throw a wrench into the Maryville Invitational in Eureka, Mo. The aftereffects of the storm canceled the first round, limiting the tournament to only 18 holes.

In the shortened tournament, the Bulldogs managed a third-place finish, shooting a team score of 305. Missouri Baptist led the way with a score of 290. The 'Dogs barely lost second place to Fontbonne University, which shot a 302.

"The guys expected to win the tournament and were a little disappointed, but once they saw the competition they were up against, they didn't really realize that Missouri Baptist was such a good team," head coach Kevin White said. "They really wanted to have second place but didn't get it and we just have to go on."

This year was the first year the 'Dogs traveled to this event. Lack of experience on the course and the weather were their downfall, White said.

"What hurt us was that we were the only town down there that had

never been to this tournament before, and we didn't get a practice round in," White said. "If it was a 36-hole event, I think we by far we would've been near second, if not competed for the top spot. Just not knowing the course hurt us. That is why we value our practice rounds."

Even with the disadvantages facing them, the 'Dogs certainly didn't play like a team with their backs against the wall. Led by junior Jesse Helms' fifth-place finish (a 2-over 74), the men had four players finish in the top 20.

The three other top-20 finishers were sophomore Mike Spaulding (76, +4), junior Kyle Kahlemberg (77, +5) and sophomore Adam Clatterback (78, +6). Sophomore Kels Lovegreen was the only qualifier not in the top 20, but he wasn't far behind with an 82 (+10).

"We counted four scores in the 70s, which was a positive," White said. "And our team score of 305 was one of our best of the year."

The Bulldogs return to the course Oct. 2 to 3 at the William Woods Invitational in Fulton, Mo.

## Women's Golf

Continued its strong play at the Mustang Invitational

	Score	Finish
Truman	326	2nd
Marta Samojluk	80	Tied-6th
Amanda Senn	81	Tied-11th
Julie Williams	82	Tied-17th

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