THOROUGHbred Racing

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TRUMAN ATHLETICS
News and Notes

Football: Third-down woes open offense

In addition to its three turnovers, the football team’s poor third-down conversion rate could have had the biggest impact in the Bulldogs getting shut out 40-19 against Pittsburg State University on Saturday.

The Bulldogs converted just three of 14 third-down at-tempts, but the Gorillas were successful on 10 of 18 third-down

“Every down is important, though third down is the one that’s going to make or break you,” head coach Shannon Currier said. “We have to make sure we’re not tied at 10. If we’re in first and one and third and two, that’s fine, that’s something manageable. That’s really our goal, is to get four yards on first down, then five on second and two on third.”

The biggest problems for the Dogs on Saturday, according to Currier, stemmed from poor third-down conversions in 13 attempts on first downs. In the first down, the Bulldogs went 15 times and gained 117 yards.

Third-down performance was the major problem. On third-down plays, the team carried the ball three times for four yards, and Ticich completed just four of 13 pass attempts.

In five occurrences, the Bulldogs were stopped with possession of the ball, and they were forced to punt in three instances. The Dogs put their hopes for a first down in all five instances, with Ticich completing just three of 12 passes.

Volleyball: Washburn leads team in rankings

The first regional rankings of the volleyball season came out Oct. 19. The Bulldogs still hold the top spot in the Missouri Valley Conference, and the Gorillas moved to 16th in the nation.

The 64-team field will be divided into four regionals, with the national quarterfinals set for Nov. 22 in Kansas City.

The ‘Dogs are currently the highest-ranked team in Division II. The NCAA Division II Women’s Volleyball Final Four will be held in Kansas City the first three days of December.

Men’s soccer: Questionable goal costs team

In Friday’s game against Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, the University faced the loss of a questionable goal after being down 1-0, but it was a close call. Assistant coach Biff Conte said the team carried the ball past the red line before releasing a shot.

The over-the-red line call was only done for the women’s soccer championship. If the season were to go into overtime, the Bulldogs will be the host team.

The Bulldogs converted just three of 14 third-down attempts, while the Gorillas were successful on 10 of 18 third-down plays. The Bulldogs will be on the road Saturday against Truman State University in the first round of the tournament.

Men’s soccer: Tie UCM for first in MIAA

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The defense has surrendered fewer than 150 yards rushing in five games this year. The Bulldogs will be on the road Saturday against Truman State University in the first round of the tournament.

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