



Jackson Groves/Index

Senior Jon Strom dives into the pool during practice last week. Strom and the men opened the season last weekend with two losses at a three-team meet against Delta State University (Miss.) and Missouri State University.

## Men fall at season opener

### Team loses to Delta State and Missouri State at first meet

BY JOE BARKER  
Sports Editor

The men's swim team beat Delta State University (Miss.) on Saturday. The scoreboard just didn't show it.

Once again the Bulldogs' lack of a diving team played a role in the outcome at the season's opening meet in Springfield, Mo. The Statesmen of Delta State knocked off the Bulldogs 118-112, in large part because of their 26-point head start in the diving portion of the meet.

"I just really wanted to start off the year with a win against Delta," head coach Mark Gole said. "Technically speaking, we won the swim meet by a significant amount, but diving is part of it, and I can't use that as any reason. We were hoping that we were going to win the swimming portion so big that we were going to overcome the 26-point deficit. We didn't get the job done where we needed to."

The men also lost to Div. I Missouri State University 192-38, although Gole said he was unconcerned with how the team fared against Mis-

souri State because of its Div. I status.

"Basically, Missouri State killed us," Gole said. "Our men are not on that level with Div. I teams."

Despite going 0-2 at the meet and none of the men receive A or B national cuts, Gole was upbeat about his team's performance. He said the men are ahead of the pace they set last year. Just about every member of the team who swam at last season's opener dropped time off his finish from last year in his respective events.

"I have last year's first meet and this year's first meet, and this [year] is a hell of a lot better than [last year]," Gole said. "I'm happy with where the majority of the team is at."

Sophomore Andrew McCall said the team-wide time drop is a direct result of the team's work prior to the season.

"We were a lot better about keeping in shape this summer — either by staying in the water or the weight room," McCall said. "It's definitely showing so far."

Another factor in the fast times for the men was the competition with Delta State. McCall said he and his team fought hard and to the very end because they wanted to overtake the Statesmen so badly.

"When you're at a dual meet

and you are either way behind or way ahead, it's really hard to stay focused until the end of the meet," McCall said. "Your muscles get tight, you get tired — you just want to go to bed. You don't want to swim anymore. You don't want to warm up. You just want to go home. Having that competition keeps you focused."

Gole said the competitive nature of the meet helped his team.

During his first two years as a head coach at Truman and during his career as a swimmer, Gole said he never put much emphasis on dual meets — it was all about the meet at the end of the season. He said that this season he is emphasizing performing well at meets with the hopes that times drop because of it.

"Here it seems like when we go against a bigger team, we almost shut down before it starts, and I don't want that to be the case, ever," Gole said. "And that's why we started the season off this way."

The highlight of the meet for Gole was the performance of the men in the sprint races. Sophomore Peter McCall, junior Jason Stokes and Andrew McCall all improved their times.

"The shorter the race is, the better we are going to do right now," Gole said.

Senior Alex Totura also shined for the Bulldogs. Gole said he was the standout at the meet. Totura took third in the 100-yard freestyle and was the crucial first leg on the 400-yard freestyle relay that finished second.

The meet marked the beginning of the careers of several Bulldog freshmen, including Paul Wanamaker, who made his debut for the Bulldogs and said he liked the setup of college swimming.

"Swimming for a club, team points aren't really a big deal," Wanamaker said. "You're swimming for yourself. ... A big part of collegiate swimming is getting points and helping your team win."

Gole said the freshmen seemed overwhelmed at the first meet and tried to do too much.

"Our freshmen just have a lot to learn as far as race strategy goes," Gole said. "They were diving in the water going right against guys from Missouri State who are light years faster than them and then trying to keep up with them."

Next the freshmen and the rest of the team will hit the pool at the familiar Pershing Natatorium for a two-day home meet against Indianapolis University on Nov. 2 and 3.

## TRUMAN ATHLETICS News and Notes

### Football: Ticich carries the load for Bulldogs

Junior quarterback Matt Ticich continued to be the central part of the Truman football team's offense in the Bulldogs' 71-35 defeat Saturday at Washburn University.

Ticich was the passer or ball carrier in 64 percent of the 'Dogs' offensive plays. He accounted for 342 yards of total offense, which was 70 percent of the team's offensive output.

Ticich's involvement Saturday parallels a year-long trend for the Bulldogs. He has run or passed the ball in 65 percent of Truman's offensive plays this season and compiled 2,254 (73 percent) of the team's 3,079 yards of total offense.

"Matt just dials it in every week," sophomore running back Marvin Bemby said. "We think he's one of the better quarterbacks around."

By comparison, Washburn's senior quarterback Jordan Brill is the ball carrier or passer in only 43 percent of the Ichabods' plays and has compiled 46 percent of the team's offense.

Southwest Baptist University's Steven Gachette is the only quarterback in the MIAA who contributes more to his team's offense than Ticich does. Gachette has been involved in 68 percent of the plays from scrimmage, and his performance has accounted for 77 percent of his team's offense.

Gachette is the only MIAA player with more yards of total offense than Ticich.

### Women's swimming: Freshmen help squad

The 10 freshmen who joined the women's swim team in the offseason proved to be a factor in the first meet against Delta State.

In the 400-yard medley relay, Emily Buss played a role by swimming the second leg, the 100-yard breaststroke.

Julia Jones placed fifth overall and second for Truman in the 1,000-yard freestyle. She also placed fifth in the 500-yard freestyle. In the 50-yard freestyle, Carina Pautz came within a half-second of qualifying for a B cut with her time of 25.27 and also placed in the 100-yard freestyle.

Claire Myers garnered a fifth-place finish in the 200-yard individual medley and 200-yard backstroke, and Anna Grinter was Truman's top finisher and second overall in the 200-yard butterfly.

### Volleyball: Team in line to host MIAA tourney

It looks like Pershing Arena will be the site for this year's MIAA volleyball tournament.

If the Bulldogs continue to win and finish in first place in the Eastern Division, then the semifinals and finals will be held at Pershing. Truman currently has a two-game lead over University of Central Missouri in the division. The Bulldogs have already clinched a first-round home game, which will happen Nov. 6.

The semifinals are scheduled for Nov. 9, with the finals the following day.

### Women's soccer: Reuck provides offense

Sophomore forward Katie Reuck scored two goals this weekend against Missouri Southern State University to give her a season total of six. Reuck is now tied with sophomore forwards Jessica Wiegert and Isabel Gaeta for the team lead.

The goals also brought her point total to 15, trailing only Wiegert for the team lead in this category.

Reuck received recognition from more than just her teammates and coaches. She also earned the MIAA offensive player of the week honors.

Head coach Mike Cannon is trying to keep his team focused for Friday's game against Missouri Western State University.

"We only beat them 1-0 here, so it's not like we crushed them," Cannon said.

If the Bulldogs win Friday and the University of Central Missouri loses or ties its game, the Bulldogs could clinch their eighth MIAA title in nine years, regardless of the result at Central on Saturday. The Bulldogs tied Central at home earlier this season.

## Women's swim team opens season with split

BY JACK NICHOLL  
Staff Reporter

The women's swim team couldn't have asked for much more in its opening meet.

The team opened the season with two A cuts and nine B cuts while narrowly losing to Div. I rival Missouri State University 124-115 and winning handily against Delta State University (Miss.) in the dual meet last Saturday in Springfield, Mo.

The only thing that was missing was a victory against the host school. Because Truman does not have a diving squad, it was behind 32-0 at the beginning of the meet, a deficit it could not overcome against Missouri State.

"We wanted to win it [against Missouri State]," head coach Mark Gole said. "We thought we had enough to overcome the 32-point deficit."

The high point of the meet was in

the 400-yard medley relay, in which Truman achieved both of its A cut times. The relay team consisted of seniors Emily Greenwood, Laura Harp and Emily Pufall and freshman Emily Buss. Greenwood made her A cut in the 100-yard backstroke leading off the race.

"We've never made the A cut this early in the season, and we made it, so I'm really happy with that," Gole said. "A lot of that had to do with Emily Greenwood. ... Her leadoff alone kind of got the relay jump started."

Greenwood also qualified for a B cut in the 200-yard backstroke to add to her two A cuts. She finished second in the 200-yard backstroke behind senior teammate Whitney Wodstrchill and third in the 50-yard freestyle.

Greenwood said it's hard to be happy without first-place finishes and that her 200-yard backstroke and 50-

yard freestyle times will improve.

Other top finishers included senior Molly Polette, who notched B cut times in the 200- and 500-yard freestyle events. Sophomore Kate Aherne claimed B cuts in the 50- and 100-yard freestyle, and Wodstrchill garnered B cuts in the 200-yard backstroke and 1000-yard freestyle.

Two freshmen received B cuts — Buss for participating in the 400-yard medley and Anna Grinter in the 200-yard butterfly. Aherne, one of only three freshmen last year, said all 10 of this year's freshmen are transitioning to college smoothly and that everyone is meshing well. She said that having so many freshmen this year is helping the entire team because it helps everyone to get to know one another.

The women had a solid showing in the 50-yard freestyle even though they didn't win it. Aherne, Greenwood, freshman Carina Pautz and sopho-

more Kendra Brunkow finished second through fifth, respectively, claiming the four places between Missouri State's top two finishers. All of these finishers were close to their B cuts.

"For us to put four finishers between [Missouri State's] first and second, in my opinion, that is just phenomenal," Gole said. "Our slowest girl was six-tenths off the B cut, so for us to be that close at this stage of the game, I'm really happy with that."

One of the highlights for the team was how much better its times were compared with the same meet last season.

"Last year we lost this meet by 30 points, [and] this year we lost by nine," Aherne said. "That's a big improvement right there, and the times [of] some of the girls were just awesome. We're really doing well as a team considering how hard we are training right now."

Polette said the large freshman and senior classes have helped the progress the team has made.

"I think it's safe to say we're a little ahead of where we were last year," Polette said. "We have a big freshman class which is very strong, and our senior class is larger than last year's. And I think that is kind of helping to propel us through the beginning of the season."

The team will have a rematch with Missouri State in January. To win against Missouri State the second time, Polette said Truman must work on finishing races strong.

"I think just in the individual races, swimming them smarter and really getting after those finishes, because people can catch you at the end if you don't finish harder than anybody else," Polette said. "There's always that chance that you're going to get touched out."

## Vista Heights Apartments

### Go Bulldogs!

Now leasing  
one- and two-bedroom units

660-665-9244  
660-626-3914  
2202 S. Marion

- New appliances
- New carpet
- New vinyl
- Central air
- Gas heat
- On-site laundry
- Free shuttle service to and from campus
- On-site manager
- 24-hour maintenance
- Pets welcome

For Spring & Fall 2008!

# top 10 reasons to come to RIDER DRUG

- 1 We're the pharmacy closest to campus
- 2 We have a drive-up window
- 3 Save time and gas with FREE Kirksville delivery, free mailing everywhere!
- 4 Order refills online at [www.riderdrug.com](http://www.riderdrug.com)
- 5 We're the pharmacy closest to campus
- 6 FREE consultation about your prescription
- 7 Most insurance and Medicaid programs honored
- 8 We're the pharmacy closest to campus
- 9 We "keep the assist in pharmacist"
- 10 We're the pharmacy closest to campus

Keeping the "Assist" in Pharmacist • 1207 S. Baltimore • (660) 665-4666