

# Women sweep home conference contests

**Team remains undefeated on Truman soccer pitch, improves record to 12-4-1**

BY RYAN TURNER  
Staff Reporter

The women's soccer team finished its home conference season this past weekend, and Truman fans who were around for Midterm Break went home happy.

The Bulldogs (12-4-1) managed to squeeze out a 1-0 victory Friday against Southwest Baptist University and rolled through Saturday with a 3-1 win against Missouri Southern State University.

The 'Dogs ended up going unbeaten at home during MIAA play, finishing 6-0-1 at Truman Soccer Park, with the lone tie against the second-place University of Central Missouri squad.

The Bulldogs will have a chance to avenge the tie this coming Saturday when they visit Warrensburg. Central and Southwest Baptist were the only teams to beat the Bulldogs in the 'Dogs' first matches against either team. The Bulldogs showed Friday that they could respond to a rematch scenario.

The Bulldogs controlled much of the play in the first half against Southwest Baptist just like they did on the road against the Lady Bearcats.

"Defensively as a team, we kind of smothered them," head coach Mike Cannon said. "We controlled the flow of the game more than we did down there."

The biggest difference in this contest was the score at halftime. The first time around, Southwest Baptist managed to sneak one past the Bull-

dogs. In Friday's match, the score was 0-0 after 45 minutes of play, which Cannon said he was very happy with.

"I told the girls either we win the first half, or we tie at worst," Cannon said. "We don't let them score a goal. We get to halftime, and it's 0-0, I like our chances."

The Bulldogs went against the wind in the first half, which gave them the advantage in a game that was tied at the half.

"It was just a matter of if we could keep them from being dangerous and actually score a goal," Cannon said.

The Bulldogs outshot the Bearcats 6-2 in the first half and 21-3 in the game.

"I think the stats were pretty accurate of how the game went," Cannon said.

The Bulldogs continued to control the play in the second half and eventually took the lead on a goal by sophomore forward Isabel Gaeta in the 67th minute. Gaeta received a pass from junior fullback Kim Wolff, beat a couple of Southwest Baptist defenders and fired it over the Southwest Baptist keeper for her sixth goal of the season.

The Bulldogs were able to keep Southwest Baptist off the board all afternoon, not even allowing a shot on goal.

The following contest was preceded by a Senior Day ceremony. Senior fullbacks Emily Newsham and Rachel Ward, midfielders Katie Ruefer and Rachael Schmidt and junior goalkeeper Emily Roark all were honored prior to their last home conference game at Truman. The emotions and momentum from the big win against Southwest Baptist and Senior Day

carried over immediately into Saturday's game.

The Bulldogs struck early to take a 1-0 lead just seven minutes in. Sophomore forward Jessica Wiegert headed the ball to sophomore forward Katie Reuck, who quickly put it away for her fifth goal of the season.

A little more than a minute later, Wiegert would register more points on the stat sheet.

"We had a lot of alumni this weekend," Wiegert said. "I was with the defender, and she kicked it out. Our crowd yelled at her, and she kind of went of the field to stare at them or say something back. And she got out of position, so then [Pohren] threw it in, and I was a step ahead of the girl, and I just held her off until I got into the box and shot it."

The Bulldogs held Missouri Southern off for the rest of the game.

Reuck added her second goal of the game in the 77th minute to put the game out of reach at 3-0.

The Lions got one back with 70 seconds left from their star forward Nikki Llewellyn. The Bulldog defense had focused on her all day and held her off long enough to earn a 3-1 victory. "It was a great finish," Cannon said. "[Llewellyn's] one of the top players in our conference, easily."

The Bulldogs enter the season's final weekend with a three-point lead over the University of Central Missouri for first place in the MIAA, thanks to Washburn beating the Jennis on the road last weekend.

The Bulldogs head to Missouri Western State University this Friday before the conference finale at Central on Saturday in what could serve as a MIAA title game, depending on Friday's results.



Nathan Becker/Index

Sophomore defender Kelsey Richters heads the ball over a Missouri Southern player during last weekend's game. The Bulldog women won 3-1.

## Athlete of the Week

### Grace DelNero

Sport: Cross Country

Year: Junior

Hometown: Leawood, Kan.

Grace DelNero emerged as Truman's top finisher and placed third overall with her time of 23:18.93 in Saturday's MIAA Championship meet. DelNero, who did not compete in cross country last season, has been one of the top Bulldogs in each meet this season, but this was the first team she was the team's top finisher.

## DelNero claims 3rd place at MIAA

BY RYAN TURNER  
Staff Reporter

Junior Grace DelNero ran away from the United States for a while, but when she returned, her love of running was waiting at home to greet her.

After initially taking spring 2005 off from track and field to study abroad in southern Spain, DelNero didn't rejoin to Truman running immediately upon her return.

"I just decided that, when I got back, that I wanted to get involved with other activities on campus too and just run on my own," DelNero said.

She said that after running a marathon in the fall, she felt a little burnt out. But her passion for running quickly resurfaced.

"Then I just realized how much I loved running again," DelNero said. "So I realized how much I missed the team. ... I just fell back in love with running."

DelNero decided to rejoin the team this season and consistently has done well for the Bulldogs. Head coach John Cochrane said he has been impressed since her return.

"[DelNero]s become a lot more focused on what it takes to train, to ... be better, and is a lot more focused on what you have to do race — strategy-wise," Cochrane said. "She's been more coachable this time around."

DelNero finished second for the team to junior Danna Kelly in every race this season until Saturday's conference meet, at which she took first for the team in conference and third overall with a time of 23:18.93 in the six-kilometer race.

"I was pretty excited," DelNero said. "I knew that I had done pretty well and that I had done everything that Coach had asked us to do. I just knew that it was one of the best races that I had ran this season, really, in my life."

Cochrane said that at conference, statistics can be disregarded because the meet has a higher intensity level, which makes it very unpredictable.

In addition to being a kilometer longer than any race run previously this season, Truman's home course was the most difficult with the team had run all year, Cochrane said. He said runners had to start out slow to have a chance at doing well.

"Sometimes, [DelNero's] solution was to go out harder, faster the first mile," Cochrane said. "Especially in this race, on the course Saturday, if you went out that way, you would die."

DelNero's strategy improved this year, and so did her training. DelNero said Kelly has been the primary reason for her success this year.

"[Kelly]s just a huge inspiration," DelNero said. "I don't think we would've done as well as we have without each other."

Cochrane said the two worked well together this season and that it's been a good situation for them both.

DelNero said that on Saturday, she and the team just wanted to make Cochrane proud.

"I think I've grown up a lot in the last four years," DelNero said. "I've just really respected coach and listened to everything he said and done the workouts. And I think it's really helped me improve as a runner and an individual."



Photos and design by Jackson Groves/Index



## QUESTION:

**Should human beings be discriminated against because of their place of residence?**

## ANSWER:

**Consider this true to life scenario:**

"Two women become pregnant on the same day. Six months later Woman A has a premature baby, small but healthy. Woman B is still pregnant. One week later both women decide they don't want their babies anymore. Why should Woman B be allowed to kill her baby and Woman A not be allowed to kill hers? Since there is no difference in the nature of development of the two babies, why would Woman B's action be exercising a legitimate right to choose, while Woman A's action would be a heinous crime subjecting her to prosecution for first-degree murder? It is irrational to recognize the one child as a baby and pretend the other one isn't."<sup>1</sup>



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