



Tennis: 4 p.m. Friday
Sept. 15 and 9 a.m.
Saturday Sept. 16, Truman
Invitational



No Scheduled Events

SPORTS



Men's soccer shuts out Wash U 2-0

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Women's soccer defeats UNO

Team captures win in home opener against rival, improving record to 3-2

BY RYAN TURNER
Staff Reporter

The women's soccer team did something Saturday afternoon that it had not done in the history of the program. The Bulldogs defeated the University of Nebraska-Omaha for the first time at home and for only the third time ever.

"It always feels good to come back from behind, especially when you beat your rivals," senior fullback Emily Newsham said.

The Bulldogs (3-2) won 2-1 in a come-from-behind fashion in Saturday afternoon's match at Truman Soccer Park. Preparation was a major key to the victory.

"We tried to put [the starters] under a lot of pressure because that's kind of how Omaha plays," head coach Mike Cannon said. "Every time we scrimmaged, we put an extra player or two on the second team."

Omaha's offense is very aggressive and more attack-oriented than any of the Bulldogs' previous opponents this season.

"It's kind of hard to replicate it in practice, but ... we have to play quicker, kind of clogging the middle, which is kind of what they do," Cannon said.

On offense, the 'Dogs had a very specific preparation strategy for Omaha as well.

"They play a really high restraining line, like an offside line, high in their half," Cannon said. "So we tried



Junior defender Kim Wolff looks to clear the ball out of danger in the first half of Saturday's 2-1 win against UNO. The Bulldogs scored two second half goals to defeat the Mavericks for just the third time ever.

to play quickly from the middle. Tried to stay outside and look for diagonal balls across the middle. I think the stuff we worked on during the week showed. I think we were only offside like twice."

Cannon said he knew there wouldn't be a plethora of scoring chances but also that his team would get high per-

centage chances due to Omaha's aggressive style.

"How many of those [opportunities] can you put on goal, and how many are you going to put in," Cannon said. "They're going to give you opportunities. If you make them pay, that's how you're going to win the game."

The first half of the game primar-

ily was controlled by the Bulldogs. Nebraska controlled the ball for about the first five minutes, but then Truman maintained possession until a controversial play.

Omaha had a corner kick to junior goalkeeper Emily Roark's right. As Omaha crossed the ball away from the

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Weekend contests provide rewards

What a weekend. I am often asked why I cover sports. It seems some people don't think it's a worthy pursuit. I admit, sometimes it's tough.

Take last week for example. I found out that my beloved Cardinals' new star was implicated in a performance drug ring. It really made me wonder why I care so much about sports — here was a guy who I thought was doing things right, being labeled as a cheater. It took some fun out of sports for me.

Thankfully, Truman sports reminded me once again why I love sports so much. To paraphrase ESPN analyst Tim Kurkjian, sports offer you a chance to see something you haven't seen before anytime a team takes the field or court.

This weekend was a perfect example.

Just look at women's soccer. On Saturday at the Truman Soccer Park, the team squared off against rival University of Nebraska-Omaha. The women hadn't beaten the Mavericks since 2004.

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Joe Barker

'Dogs shine under lights

BY BLAKE TOPPMEYER
Assistant Sports Editor

A record fell upon the lighted stage of Stokes Stadium last Saturday.

On a day when the first night game was played at Stokes in 12 years, junior quarterback Matt Ticich did something no Bulldog had done in the 100-year history of the University's football program.

Ticich passed for 493 yards in the home opener and — along with his offensive counterparts — propelled the Bulldogs (2-0) to a 55-31 victory against Upper Iowa University. Ticich's 493 yards through the air were the most single-game passing yards not only in Bulldog history, but in the history of the MIAA as well.

"We just have seen a lot of good things from him, and this is what we expected," head coach Shannon Currier said. "And our receivers are stepping up. ... It was a passing frenzy."

The Bulldog offense posted 653 yards and now has scored 93 points through two games after a 38-31 week-one victory against the University of Missouri-Rolla. By comparison, the 'Dogs totaled just 29 points in their first two games in 2006.

Ticich connected with 11 different targets. Sophomore Vanessa Emokpae spearheaded the receiving corps. He collected seven receptions for 170 yards

and a touchdown, all coming in the first half. Sophomore Albert Coker and junior Phillip Henry each caught four passes, and redshirt freshman Kendrick Blue tallied 94 receiving yards.

"My receivers — I was just giving them the ball, and they were making plays for me," Ticich said. "It was crazy. Like every single guy was just breaking tackles and racing to the end zone."

Ticich — who completed 29 of 43 passes, including four touchdown passes — accumulated 353 passing yards in the first half before sitting out much of the third quarter because of the Bulldogs' 38-10 halftime lead.

But after the Peacocks closed the gap to 38-24 during his time on the sidelines, Ticich re-entered the game and connected with junior Tyler Fenton on a fade route for a 25-yard touchdown pass as the third quarter came to a close. The score extended the Bulldog lead to 45-24 and halted the Upper Iowa comeback.

The game marked the second in a row where the Bulldogs struggled to protect an early lead. In the season opener, the purple and white led Rolla 31-10 late in the second quarter, but the Miners stormed back to tie the game at 31 in the fourth quarter.

Opponents have outscored the Bulldogs 35-24 in the second half this season.

"We definitely have to come out of halftime and improve,"



Junior quarterback Matt Ticich throws a pass around a Peacock defender in the Bulldogs 55-31 win on Saturday.

said senior defensive back Jesse Cooper, who led the defense with nine total tackles. "We had a great first half, but our goal is to have a better second half. We're supposed to be a better third- and fourth-quarter team, which is what we strive for."

Two weeks after gaining more than 300 yards rushing against Rolla, Currier elected primarily to use an aerial assault against the Peacocks. Bulldog quarterbacks totaled 536 passing

yards, while the 'Dogs had only 117 yards on the ground.

"We're truly balanced [offensively]," Ticich said. "We can lean on either one of them, whatever is working. Today it was the pass, last week it was the run."

Ticich exploited the Peacock secondary along the sidelines. He set it up with swing passes and out routes and connected on several vertical patterns for touchdowns.

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Defense flat in 55-31 win

Bulldogs allow 31 points for second consecutive game

BY BLAKE TOPPMEYER
Assistant Sports Editor

A 2-0 record doesn't always mean perfection.

Although the Bulldog football team will enter conference play undefeated for the first time since 2002, the team has not been as flawless as the record indicates.

The Bulldog defense surrendered 440 yards and 31 points to Upper Iowa University in last Saturday's 55-31 victory. It was the second game in a row in which the unit allowed 31 points.

The 'Dogs rank ninth in the MIAA in scoring defense and will open the conference season Saturday at the University of Central Missouri, who is averaging 35 points a game this year.

"Our defense still has to do a little work, you know, tighten things up and keep the points down," senior defensive back James Thabuteau said.

After going winless in their two non-conference games last season, the 'Dogs (2-0) reversed their fortune this year. But the defense wasn't fully on board for the turnaround. The Bulldogs have surrendered 62 points and 950 yards through two games. In 2006, the defense allowed 58 points and just 577 yards in two non-conference games.

The Achilles' heel has been third-quarter performance. After carrying large leads into halftime against both the University of Missouri-Rolla and Upper Iowa, the 'Dogs haven't come out of the locker room with the same fire — on either side of the ball — in the second half. Opponents have outscored the Bulldogs 28-7 in the third quarter this season.

In contrast, the Bulldog defense has allowed only 10 first-quarter points.

"When we have a nice lead, you'd like to finish things off and get it done," head coach Shannon Currier said. "We have to — I guess as a [coaching] staff — look to see what can we do different at halftime to help them come out in the second half and build on those leads. We're just not getting it done. It's definitely a concern of ours."

After the Bulldogs allowed 345 passing yards to Rolla in week one, Upper Iowa used its running game to punish the Bulldogs. The Peacocks' T.C. Hicks ran for 140 yards on just 16 carries. Hicks did most of his running between the tackles, right up the heart of the 'Dogs' defense.

Hicks had runs of 25 and 38 yards in the game, and Currier said it was plays like those — and not long, sustained drives — that hurt the defense.

"In reality, we had about six bad plays, and the rest of the

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Cross country provides strong showing in season-opening event

BY JACK NICHOLL
Staff Reporter

The start of the cross country season saw many new faces in the front of the pack for the Bulldogs.

Freshman Bob Gorman, in his first college race, led the way for the men at the Miner Invitational located in Rolla last Saturday, finishing seventh overall. They had five freshmen in the top fifteen.

The Invitational consisted of seven teams from throughout the state. Truman won the women's event, finishing sophomore Danna Kelly and junior Grace DelNero first and second, respec-

tively. Freshmen Kylie Raitchel and Morgan Cox and sophomore Fiona Williams all placed for Truman, with freshmen Amanda Brown and Stephanie Nichols both finishing slightly behind them.

The men's team finished third behind Drury University and the University of Missouri-Rolla. Top finishers for the men were Gorman, sophomore Bryant England, freshman Josh Mantooth, junior David Yonce and freshman Alex Phillips. Out of the 12 runners of the male side six are freshmen, three are sophomores and three are juniors.

Men's head coach Tim Schwegler said the men did a fine job, despite not finishing as high as the women.

"We did a lot of good things in the race," Schwegler said. "I would have liked to have been a little closer to Rolla and Drury. Both of them are pretty good teams. Give them credit for their ability. Overall I thought it was a good day."

Pack running is one of the most important aspects in a race and something the Bulldogs did well this past weekend. The men have two main packs of runners. The lead pack consists of Gorman, England, Mantooth and Yonce whom, Schwegler said, did a good job staying together.

"The front group did a pretty good job," Schwegler said. "We kind of fell

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DOMINATING THE FIELD

The seven members of the women's cross country team dominated the 77-runner field at the Miner Invitational last Saturday.

Runner	Finish	Time
Danna Kelly	1	18:20
Grace DelNero	2	18:31
Kylie Raitchel	6	20:05
Fiona Williams	10	20:20
Morgan Cox	11	20:26
Amanda Brown	12	20:28
Stephanie Nichols	15	20:53