

SPORTS

MISS CONSISTENCY
Senior nears all-time games played mark

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Thursday, November 5, 2009

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Bulldog Breakdown

Men's on campus:

Football: 1 p.m. Saturday vs. Pittsburg St.

Swimming (men and women): 2 p.m. Saturday vs. Missouri St.

Women's on campus:

Volleyball: 6 p.m. Saturday vs. UNO

Regional Rankings: Volleyball

	OVR
1. Central Missouri (4)	29-4
2. West Texas A&M (5)	30-3
3. Emporia State (7)	26-3
4. Washburn (8)	28-4
5. Truman (19)	22-11
6. Nebraska-Omaha (18)	20-10
7. Abilene Christian	25-5
8. Pittsburg State	21-9
9. Missouri Southern	12-17
10. SE Oklahoma	21-13

Wom. Soccer

	OVR
1. West Texas A&M (7)	12-2-2
2. Incarnate Word (14)	14-2-3
3. St. Edward's	14-3-1
4. Nebraska-Omaha (23)	13-4-1
5. Truman	13-3-2
6. Midwestern State	10-4-2
7. Abilene Christian	9-5-2
8. Central Oklahoma	11-6-1

M. Soccer

	OVR
1. West Texas A&M (4)	12-1-2
2. Midwestern St. (9)	12-1-3
3. Truman (17)	11-2-1
4. Incarnate Word	7-7-2

MIAA Standings:

Football

	MIAA	OVR
1. NWMSU (3)	8-0	9-1
T2. UCM (16)	6-2	8-2
T2. MWSU (21)	6-2	8-2
4. WU	5-3	7-3
5. UNO	5-3	6-4
T6. FHSU	3-5	5-5
T6. PSU	3-5	5-5
8. MSSU	3-5	3-6
9. ESU	1-7	2-8
10. Truman	0-8	1-9

Quotable

"I'd love to have four Eric Sternbergs. I'd love to have 11."

-- Football defensive coordinator Ryan Nourse, on the play of Eric Sternberg, who has 10.5 sacks this season.

Truman to receive \$7,500 from Mizzou

Game is most for an exhibition since Illinois State in 2004-05 season

BY JACK NICHOLL
Sports Editor

When the men's basketball team takes the floor tomorrow for an exhibition against the University of Missouri, more than just the outcome is riding on the game.

Truman will receive \$7,500 from Missouri just to play, Director

of Athletics Jerry Wollmering said.

It is not unusual for Truman to receive money from Div. I schools for exhibition games. However, the team usually plays less prominent schools that do not pay as much. Wollmering said Truman usually receives about \$2,000 to \$3,000 for Div. I exhibition games.

The Tigers, who usually play exhibition games against teams from the state of Missouri, have outscored their opponents by more than 40 points in six exhibitions under head coach Mike Anderson.

Mizzou had a record of 31-7 last year, while Truman was 6-21.

"We're going to go there to try to beat them, because otherwise you can really get embarrassed," head basketball coach Jack Schrader said.

Schrader said the money from Mizzou is the most Truman has received since the team received \$10,000 from Illinois State University at the beginning of the 2004-05 season.

Schrader said the money from exhibition games goes to-

ward scholarships and other expenses, depending upon what is needed. Each year, the men's basketball team has to raise money to fulfill scholarships. Last year, a portion of the extra money went toward the new scoreboard in Pershing Arena.

"We try to get all these games, because we have to make sure we have enough money for scholarships," Schrader said. "Turns out, we've had some very generous donations, and so we're playing the games so we have a surplus."



Mayank Dhungana/Index

Senior linebacker Eric Sternberg needs 1.5 sacks Saturday to break the Bulldog single-season sack record of 12, held by Al Fulton and Elijah Lockhart.

Sternberg tries to break sack record

BY BRENT FOSTER
Assistant Sports Editor

When senior linebacker Eric Sternberg steps on the turf at Stokes Stadium for the final time Saturday, it will be more than just a bittersweet goodbye. Sternberg will have his eyes glued to Pittsburg State University quarterback John McCoy in hopes of breaking the Bulldog single-season sack record.

"I think it's something he's really worked on," defensive coordinator Ryan Nourse said.

"He's developed some pass rush moves and techniques as well. As you see most of his sacks don't come off of some first phenomenal move, it's that he's absolutely relentless."

Sternberg leads the MIAA with 10.5 sacks, just two short of the

all-time Truman single season record of 12, set in 1972 by Al Fulton, and matched in 1982 by Elijah Lockhart.

However, the Bulldog defense will be challenged to get to the quarterback this week against a strong Pittsburg State offensive line. The Gorillas have allowed just 14 sacks this season, the third fewest in the MIAA. Coupled with the

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'Dogs lose 37-7 against Washburn

Team outgained 510-136 as losing streak reaches nine

BY BRENT FOSTER
Assistant Sports Editor

The one consistent thing about the football team's defense this season has been its inability to stop the running game. That theme continued Saturday.

Washburn University running back Vershon Moore outgained the entire Bulldog offense and ran for 227 yards, the second-most yards in school history, to help the No. 20 Ichabods defeat Truman 37-7 in Topeka.

Truman sits at 1-10 overall and 0-9 in the MIAA. The Bulldogs have lost 11 straight MIAA games dating back to last season and were outgained 510-136 for the game.

"They established the line of scrimmage and got some push there to create some creases," head coach Aaron Vlcko said. "Their running backs did a nice job of popping through there."

The Bulldogs are last in the MIAA and rank 140 out of 148 teams in Div. II in run defense. The 'Dogs have allowed more than 100 yards on the ground every game this season.

Things went south for Truman in a hurry. Washburn's Pierre Desir returned the opening kickoff to the Truman 46-yard line. Five plays later Washburn found the end zone on a 1-yard touchdown run by Brad Haug.

The Bulldogs caught a break on their opening possession when Washburn kicker Steve Ivanisevic booted the ball out of bounds. Truman ran seven straight running plays to take the ball to the Washburn 40-yard line, but the Bulldogs went for it on 4th-and-1 and junior running back Vanness Emokpae was stuffed for no gain.

Please see FOOTBALL, Page 19

Women aim for national berth

No. 14 cross country team, Dell'Orco have chance to qualify for national meet

BY JACK NICHOLL
Sports Editor

The top results in the MIAA for the women's cross country team have repeated themselves the last two meets: Missouri Southern State University first, Truman second and Pittsburg State University third.

Those three teams each are ranked in the top 20 nationally and are ranked first, second and fourth, respectively, in the region.

But at the NCAA South Central Regional on Saturday in Abilene, Texas, a new team will enter the mix - No. 17 Dallas Baptist University, the No. 3 ranked team in the region. The top

two teams from the regional meet advance to nationals.

Even with the addition of DBU, head coach John Cochrane said No. 14 Truman's race strategy will not differ from the MIAA Conference Championships on Oct. 24.

"You have to try to do the things with Southern that you either did or didn't do last time," Cochrane said.

Southern, which set a conference-record with 18 points at the MIAA meet, is the favorite to win the region for the second straight season. The Bulldogs finished fifth in 2008.

Cochrane wants Truman's Nos. 2 to 4 runners right behind Southern's No. 3. He also wants Truman No. 1 sophomore Dani Dell'Orco to run with Southern No. 2 Ashley Siler. The two were separated by 15 seconds at the MIAA meet.

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The Top 4



No. 3 Missouri Southern

Key Runners
Kimi Shank
Ashley Siler



No. 14 Truman

Key Runners
Dani Dell'Orco
Anne Ratermann



No. 17 Dallas Baptist

Key Runners
Hannah Steffan
Lauro Mucho



No. 20 Pitt State

Key Runners
Jennifer Butler
Melissa Peden