

# Men end season with 4-1 win

BY BRENDAN O'BRIEN  
Staff Reporter

As has been the story for most of the season, the men's soccer team received goals from multiple players and gave a strong defensive effort in its season finale.

The Bulldogs outshot NAIA Hannibal-LaGrange College 33-12 en route to a 4-1 win Tuesday afternoon at the Truman Soccer Pitch.

Truman finished the season with a record of 12-3-1 and will miss the NCAA Tournament. The Bulldogs are ranked third in the final weekly regional poll that came out Tuesday, but only the top two teams from Truman's region qualify for the tournament.

Before the game, senior defensive midfielder Drew Pauk said he was aware of what a win would mean to Hannibal-LaGrange.

"We beat them on their home field last year," Pauk said. "They're going to be coming in, throwing everything they've got at us."

In a fast-paced, aggressive match, Hannibal did just that, and the match remained scoreless until late in the first half. In the 37th minute, the Hannibal goalkeeper came out to challenge freshman forward Andy Chapman, and Chapman shot the ball by him for the first goal. Sophomore midfielder Jonny Brown earned the assist.

Truman found its rhythm early in the second half with three goals in a 10-minute span. In the



Brian O'Shaughnessy/Index  
Senior back Jack Randazzo sends the ball in the air during Saturday's win against Columbia College. Truman ended the season 12-3-1.

47th minute, Brown got a goal of his own with an assist from junior forward Nick Schlichtman when he found the top left corner of the net. Senior defender Matt Taylor and Pauk connected in their final game for a score when

Pauk headed Taylor's pass just inside the left post.

To cap the scoring for Truman, Brown once again found Chapman across the box for Chapman's fifth goal of the year and Truman's fourth of the match.

The Trojans got a goal off a free kick from 20 yards out in the 72nd minute, but that was all the Bulldog defense allowed.

The victory was a sweet one for the 'Dogs who, in addition to looking to finish the season on a high note, wanted to remove the taste in their mouths from a 1-0 Senior Day defeat against NAIA Columbia College on Sunday.

In the match originally scheduled for Saturday, the 'Dogs controlled the run of play but could not find the back of the net. Columbia recorded the game's only goal in the 25th minute.

"They punished us on the one real good opportunity and we chased the game and never caught it," head coach Duke Cochran said.

The Bulldogs had gone a full 11 days without playing, which Cochran said might have impacted the game.

Cochran said he felt bad for all the seniors.

"The focus really isn't any different, it's just more a little nostalgic that these guys have come through and they're finishing up," Cochran said. "I just, I want them to really take it in, because it's over quick."

Brown said that although he is an underclassman, he understands the significance of these final matches for the seniors.

"They've all had four or five years here so I think even though we lost the game, they can have their heads held high," Brown said.

Pauk thought back on what he

was feeling before the Senior Day match.

"We had our Senior Day Banquet on Saturday as well, and then the game got pushed back to Sunday so we were kind of high on emotions," Pauk said. "You know, you start to thinking that this is the last time you get to play with these guys you came in not knowing and then you kind of grew up with the past four years and they became some of your best friends."

The end of this season is the end of an era for the seniors but also the passing of the torch to the underclassmen. Pauk recognized the importance of getting a win in the final game.

"Coach always talks about, 'What kind of legacy — what kind of mark — are you going to leave on the Truman men's soccer program?'" Pauk said. "It's a very traditional program going back and we just wanted to leave our stamp."

With scores of seniors and underclassmen alike, the team looks to be in good shape for next season. Cochran said he has been most impressed with the resiliency of this year's senior class.

"Those seniors on this squad have done a great deal of just working and fighting and battling," Cochran said. "They've been up and down, they've lost, they've won, but I would put them against anyone in the country."

The Bulldogs will return their top three scorers and seven of their usual starters next season.

## Wrestling starts year with hopes for nationals

**Bulldogs begin season Saturday at Loras College Open**

BY JACK NICHOLL  
Assistant Sports Editor

After becoming the first Div. II team to win the Academic National Championship for three straight years, the Truman wrestling team now has another goal involving the No. 3.

"Going back to 1965, the start of the program, Truman's never had three All-Americans in one season," head coach Dave Schutter said. "And that's our main goal this year."

Last year, the Bulldogs had six athletes on the individual All-Academic team, but for the first time in six years, the team did not qualify anyone for nationals.

Senior Dean Schultz said that it was partly due to injuries and because the team focused on the academic goal.

"That was our No. 1 goal last year, and we accomplished that," Schultz said. "Unfortunately, we didn't have as much success on the mat as we wanted. ... Now our goal this year is to get as many people to nationals [and] have as many All-Americans as we can."

Schultz is one of three fifth-year seniors on the team, along with Lloyd

Braidlow and Bryan Isbell.

While Schultz struggled with a neck injury last season, Braidlow made most of the noise on the team. He was the only Bulldog wrestler to record double-digit wins and come within seconds of a national berth in a four-overtime loss at the regional meet.

"[We] Just have to get a little better on top, a little quicker on top and a little quicker on bottom," Schutter said. "Be able to ride a guy a second or two more than he got ridden at regionals."

Braidlow, who wrestles in the 285-pound division, qualified for nationals as a sophomore

and is the only wrestler for Truman with experience that late in the season.

However, Braidlow is not alone at the top. Sophomore Chad Kurvoski finished sixth as a redshirt freshman last year at the regional meet while sophomore Alex Maus compiled a winning record in the 141-pound division. Schutter said the trio is among

the group that could contend for an All-American bid.

"This year we got more kids that could probably get that done than we've ever had in a while," Schutter said.

Schutter also sophomore Zach Hayes should see some starting competition this year after competing unattached last season.

As far as the dual meets leading up to regionals, the team faces a tough turnaround. The Bulldogs finished 1-10 in duals last year, their worst record since they went 1-11 in the 1994-95 season.

The Bulldogs also suffered their first home shutout

loss in 18 years last spring. But Schultz said the team brought its work ethic to a new level during the offseason. He said team practices have a higher intensity and more structure than in the past and wrestlers also are working out individually.

Schultz said that in the past, wrestlers would ca-

sually lift weights on their own and run distance at their own pace — not this year.

"It's a different look this year," Schultz said. "I've been here — this is my fifth year — and we've never worked as hard as we've been working this year in the preseason."

The team will start three true freshmen at the 125, 133 and 141 weight classes, which Schultz said will give the team a boost in depth, despite the trio not having backups.

"To come in and be a true freshman and to jump in a starting role, and not only be starting but to be the first three weight classes — you're going to be the first three wrestling at the dual meet or a tournament so you kind of set the tempo for the rest of the team," Schultz said.

Whether it is the three fifth-year seniors, the three starting true freshman, or just motivation from three years on top of the academic world, the team will start the path to its new goal at 9 a.m. Saturday at the Loras College Open in Dubuque, Iowa.

"We've got a lot of depth, lot of talent," Schutter said. "And it's a long season — you never know. That's our goal: to break that barrier, do something Truman has never done."

## TRUMAN ATHLETICS News and Notes

**Pershing: Heavy rain causes minor flood**

Pershing Arena survived the heavy rains last Thursday — mostly.

After flooding multiple times last year, including one instance that ruined the arena floor, Pershing only flooded in the laundry room last Thursday.

Director of Athletics Jerry Wollmering said a student doing laundry noticed water leaking in through a hole about the size of a nickel. Physical Plant workers were called and quickly contained the water, Wollmering said.

However, if the leak had not been detected in the day, the problem could have been much worse.

"If it had happened at one o'clock in the morning, who knows how long it would have taken or how much water would have gotten into the gym," Wollmering said.

**Women's Soccer: Grisham injures shoulder**

Sophomore goalie Jayne Grisham was injured last week against the University of Central Missouri. Head coach Mike Cannon said a UCM player collided with Grisham, injuring her shoulder. Freshman goalie Alison Taylor finished the last 15 minutes of the match and started against Missouri Western State University on Tuesday. Cannon said Grisham would probably sit out during the Bulldogs' season finale today.

Grisham has 72 saves and nine shutouts this season. She has given up only 11 goals so far. She currently is in a tie for sixth place all-time in shutouts by a Bulldog goalie.

**Men's soccer: Team likely to miss playoffs**

Despite a 12-3-1 record and a top-25 ranking, it appears the Truman men's soccer team will fall short of the NCAA Tournament. The team knew from the season's outset that they would have to be nearly perfect if they were to make the tournament, and they approached every game with that mindset. As it turns out, three losses will probably be too much.

Midwestern State University (Texas), finished 13-1-3 and West Texas A & M is 13-1-2, with one game left on the schedule, which means these two teams will likely make the playoffs out of the South Central region. Two of Truman's three losses came against top 25 Div. II teams and the other was to the No. 8 ranked NAIA team.

"That's just what it is to be a Truman soccer player here," head coach Duke Cochran said. "You play a hard schedule. You're not in a conference, so the games you play outside of that are hard games."

The Bulldogs remained undefeated on the road this season.

Truman has not made the tournament since 2005.

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