

# SPORTS

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VOLLEYBALL: 'Dogs win on Senior Night



Senior running back Donald Harvey celebrates in the endzone after scoring a touchdown as senior offensive lineman Dan Tweeton and freshman tight end Chico Orlando. Harvey rushed for two touchdowns and 143 yards.

Ryan Kersten/Index

## Football shuts out Lincoln on senior day

BY TYLER SIGRIST  
Staff Reporter

From the time they won the opening coin toss until the time the clock hit zero, just about everything seemed to go the Bulldogs' way as Truman [3-7 overall and 2-7 MIAA] beat the Blue Tigers of Lincoln University 53-0 during their final home game of the 2011 season. Truman State put up 615 yards of total offense.

The 'Dogs first play from scrim-

mage was a handoff to senior running back Donald Harvey that he took right through the heart of the Blue Tiger defense for a 25-yard gain. Harvey finished the game leading the Bulldogs with 176 total yards and two touchdowns.

Three plays later, sophomore quarterback Conrad Schottel, filling in for senior quarterback J.B. Clark who was out with a deep thigh bruise, rolled out to his left and fired a bullet 29 yards downfield that found senior wide receiver Anthony

Brown for the first score of the day and the first passing touchdown of his Truman career. Schottel finished the day 9-12 with 182 yards through the air and three touchdowns.

"I was grateful that God opened up such an opportunity to give me a bit of confidence early," Schottel said. "The week of preparation went well. Our coaches did a great job of putting together a game plan that didn't put a lot

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## Runners fail to advance to nationals

BY KIRK SCHLUETER  
Staff Reporter

More than a day after the final race of his collegiate cross country career, senior Joey Walls' seventh-place regional medal still was hanging around his neck.

"This weekend was definitely my best race ever," Walls said.

His seventh-place finish, in addition to earning him all-regional honors, was the best in the regional meet by any Truman male since 2003.

"Early in the year, I didn't think I'd be able to break five minutes in the mile at this point in the season, and I ran the whole race at that pace," he said. "I couldn't imagine a better way to end my career."

Walls' success notwithstanding, an uneven 2011 season ended Saturday for both the mens and womens teams, as neither was able to advance any runners to the national meet.

The men finished 13th with senior Mike Dial, the highest finisher behind Walls, crossing the line in 67th place. For mens head coach Tim Schwegler, it was a familiar script.

"The younger guys just haven't gotten into it," Schwegler said. "They haven't learned their lessons yet, and that's what happens with young teams. They're just going to have to get better and grow from there."

But the real story of the day was Walls, who was two spots away from qualifying for nationals after being unable to train for most of the offseason because of injury.

"Even though I didn't make it to nationals, I'm really happy about [the race]," Walls said. "When I got on the bus afterward, my muscles just started shutting down. I couldn't control any of my movement. I just left everything out on the course."

Schwegler said Walls' race was better than his fourth-place finish two weeks ago at the MIAA conference meet, calling it a textbook race.

"I don't think he could have run any better," Schwegler said. "I'll spend most of my time [in the offseason] thinking about how well Joey finished the season. That's the way you finish a senior year right there."

The women ended their year with a fourth-place finish, concluding a season that saw them compete with only five runners because of injuries. The Bulldogs' efforts in the regional meet were hampered by juniors Karen and Cindy Grauel's inability to run in practice leading up to the race, also because of injuries.

"We were kind of beat up showing up at the course," Karen Grauel said. "But we did what we could and pushed where we could. I know the seniors worked really hard to finish the season and [sophomore] Katie [Hirsch] ran one of her best races. We felt really positive about how we finished."

Karen Grauel led the women with an 11th place finish, good enough for all-regional accolades, along with her sister Cindy, who finished 19th. However, Karen Grauel was unable to repeat her performance from last year, when she qualified for the national meet.

"[Going back to nationals] was a hope of mine, but I'm not too disappointed," Grauel said. "I know I ran the race I could run at this time. It's disappointing that injuries got in the way, but I'm excited for moving on to the track season and trying to qualify next year. The competition has gotten a lot stiffer than last year, so I think we're going to have to work harder if our team wants to move up next year."

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## Mens soccer will enter MIAA

BY BRETT MCMILLAN  
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The MIAA will offer mens soccer next season for the first time since the sport was removed from the conference lineup in 1998, according to a MIAA press release issued Tuesday afternoon.

"I am pleased that our membership has endorsed and approved mens soccer as a championship sport," MIAA Commissioner Bob Boerigter, said in a conference press release Tuesday.

Four member schools will sponsor mens soccer teams that will compete in a round robin conference schedule during which each team will play 10 games. The season will culminate in a four-team conference tournament.

Southwest Baptist, Fort Hays State, Lindenwood and Truman State are the four MIAA member schools that will participate. Invitations to join the conference in only mens soccer have been offered to Harding University [Ark.], Southern Nazarene University [Okla.] and Upper Iowa University. The MIAA will compete in the NCAA Div. II Central Region.

"We believe the inclusion of these three schools, will not only add competitive opportunities for our schools but also quality Division II in-region competition," Boerigter said.

The MIAA has offered mens soccer as a conference sport twice before, first from 1981 to 1988 and then from 1994 to 1997. Truman won a combined six MIAA mens soccer championships during those two periods.

"It's just exciting to be a member of the MIAA again," Bulldog junior keeper Tyler Knierim said. "We were so strong for so long in the MIAA as a squad up until the early 2000s when it was disbanded for mens soccer. It's just exciting to be able to play for a trophy again."

## OT goal ends season for womens soccer

BY MEREDITH KUSKY  
Staff Reporter

The womens soccer team's season ended Friday after falling to Missouri Southern State University 2-1 during the second round of the MIAA tournament.

The 'Dogs beat the Lions during overtime twice earlier this season.

"I think we overlooked them a little bit and kind of thought we had it," sophomore forward Trisha Shoemaker said.

Truman was the first to score with senior midfielder Megan Buri's unassisted goal during the 23rd minute.

"We didn't put them away and they kept working and kept working, and later in the game they just started knocking everything forward," head coach Mike Cannon said.

The Bulldogs' defense held off the Lions until there were 36 seconds left. The Lions tied up the game, pushing it into overtime.

"Even in overtime we



Lindsey Borgna/Index

Sophomore defender Kelsey Ridgway settles a ball Oct. 22 against Southwest Baptist. The Bulldogs season ended Friday at the MIAA tournament.

dominated the first few minutes and had tons of opportunities," Shoemaker

said. "We just didn't counter our opportunities."

Five minutes into overtime, Missouri Southern scored again, ending the game.

"We did enough to win the game, we just didn't pose it out," Cannon said. "I think we played pretty well. Statistically, we did pretty well."

The Bulldogs outshot the Lions 18-7, nine of which were on goal.

"[After the game] I thanked them and told them great season," Cannon said. "They were pretty disheartened, so nothing's ever going to make it feel better."

The final game against Missouri Southern finalizes the Bulldogs' season record at 11-6-2. The team finished 7-1 in the conference.

"We fought through the whole season, and that's really what's important," Shoemaker said. "And we learned a lot from the season."

Altogether, the soccer squad racked up 26 goals. The team collected shot the ball 331 times, putting

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