

Offense sputters as Griffons roll

BY BRETT MCMILLAN
Sports Editor
index.sportseditor@gmail.com

For the fourth time this season the Bulldogs lost a game by more than 24 points Saturday when they lost to Missouri Western 45-7. The 'Dogs are now 2-6 overall and 1-6 in the MIAA, leaving them 9th in the conference standings.

Truman was unable to score any points until nine seconds into the fourth quarter when second string sophomore quarterback Conrad Schottel had an 11 yard touchdown rush.

Saturday's final score is the second largest deficit in any of Truman's six losses this season.

"We've struggled all year," head coach Gregg Nesbitt said. "We really struggled on Saturday. We just did not execute worth a doggone. I didn't think it was possible at this stage for us to throw and catch the ball as poorly as we did. We've really improved. People aren't seeing it yet so hopefully we will [show them] over the last three weeks in that area specifically."

Senior starting quarterback J.B.

Clark was removed from the game after going 7-for-15 with 42 yards and an interception bringing his season total to 13. Schottel was 6-for-21 and threw from 91 yards after taking over.

Nesbitt said there is no quarterback controversy, but the move was intended to get Schottel real in-game experience in a game that was 38-0 at the time.

Griffons sophomore quarterback Travis Partridge went 15-for-24 with 278 yards passing and three touchdowns. He also threw two interceptions, neither of which Truman was able to convert to points in the next offensive possession.

Western had 632 total yards of offense. It was the first time since Sept. 16, 2000 Western has had more than 600 yards of total offense. Saturday the Griffons aver-

aged more than 20 yards per completion through the air and five yards per rush.

Truman had 291 yards of offense. Five Bulldog receivers combined to catch 13 passes for a total of 133 yards. Western's eight receivers who saw time Saturday combined for 361 receiving yards and 18 receptions.

The game's leading receiver was Griffon junior Tarrell Downing, who outreived Truman as a team, catching 5 balls for 171 yards and a touchdown.

"We played pretty solid defense for a little bit," senior cornerback Terrence Byrd said. "Explosive plays, you mess up a couple assign and the next thing you know they hit us with some big plays."

On defense, Western held Truman to its second-lowest point total of the season. Before Saturday, excluding the week one loss 65-3 to Northwest Missouri State University, Truman had not scored fewer than two touchdowns in a game this season.

Truman had 16 first downs compared to the Griffon's 24 and the Bulldogs converted two of 14 third downs. Truman had two redzone scoring chances and converted one of them while the Griffons were 3-for-4 inside the 20-

yard line.

Each team also had three sacks. "I think [redzone offense] is now something we're thinking about a little to much both as coaches and players," Nesbitt said. "I think you just got to relax. One play at a time. Get the play let's execute the play and get it in the endzone."

On Saturday, Truman will finish a stretch of three straight road games with a game at Emporia State. The Hornets enter the game eighth in the conference standings one spot above the Bulldogs.

"We didn't play very well," Nesbitt said. "What we're looking for with any team regardless of where you're at is consistent improvement. I don't know why [we are losing]. The kids don't know why. They're certainly preparing hard."



Jessie Poole/Index

Senior quarterback J.B. Clark works out timing with his receivers in practice Tuesday afternoon. Clark was 7-for-15 for 42 yards with an interception Saturday at Missouri Western. Sophomore Conrad Schottel also saw snaps during the game.

Mens soccer extends losing slide to eight

BY SAM SHERMAN
Assistant Sports Editor
index.sportseditor@gmail.com

After dropping a 1-2 decision to Newman University on Sunday and a 2-3 loss to Fort Hays State on Saturday, the Bulldogs extended their losing streak to eight games. Despite an 0-2 record on the weekend, senior midfielder Jonny Brown said he was not disappointed with the team's play.

"It was frustrating, especially since the last three games we've played a lot better," Brown said. "It was kind of disheartening to put all that effort in and get nothing from it, but we took some positives. We played really well."

Brown was the backbone for the Bulldogs against Fort Hays, assisting sophomore forward Dylan Carter for his first goal of the season during the 48th minute of the game, and scoring on a free kick to pull the Bulldogs within one during the 67th minute.

In the end, his play was not enough as the Tigers, who beat the Bulldogs 4-0 in Kirksville earlier this season, held on to their 3-2 lead to earn their ninth win of the season.

Sophomore midfielder Tony Lu-

edecke said the difference between the Bulldogs play against the Tigers earlier in the season and now was their finishing.

"Jonny had a really nice free kick [against Fort Hays]," Luedecke said. "Sometimes the ball just doesn't go in, but in this game it seemed to go in a little easier."

The Bulldogs lost another close match Sunday when they faced the Newman University [Kan.] Jets.

Sophomore forward Dan Jack said the Bulldogs were hindered by the same problems against the Jets that they have been against the majority of their opponents this season.

"We played well," Jack said. "It's just simple little things that hurt us. We definitely could've won that game."

Junior forward Andy Chapman scored the lone goal for the Bulldogs during their 1-2 loss off a breakaway during the 21st minute of the match, bringing the score to 1-1. Newman

pulled away during the 38th minute of the match, with Newman junior midfielder Nicos Esquivel taking advantage of a pass from sophomore midfielder Robert Butler to put away the game for good.

"They were a good team, they had some good players, but we had a couple of bad mistakes at the back and we didn't really take the chances that came our way," Brown said. "That's really not a team we should be losing to."

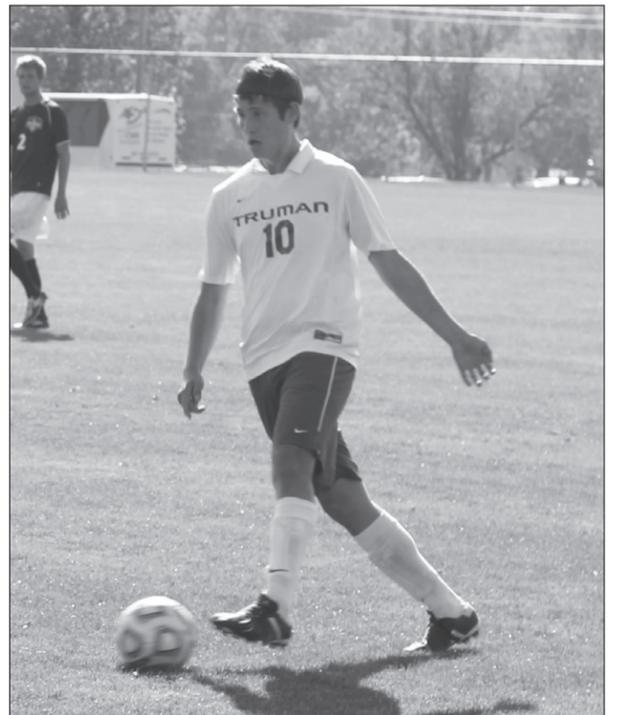
Chapman's goal brought him to three goals on the season, tying for the lead on the team with Brown.

Luedecke said the eight-game skid was tough to handle at first, but now the team's spirits are up.

"When we first started our losing streak, it was pretty tough because we're Truman and we're not used to losing," Luedecke said. "But it seems like, the last few games after our losses, the team has been a little more up, because we know we're playing good."

▮ [Losing] was frustrating especially since the last three games we've played a lot better. ▮

— Jonny Brown
midfielder



Sonny Phan/Index

Freshman defender Ian Abundis dribbles the ball in a game earlier this month. The Bulldogs are 3-11 overall.

The team is heading to the Upper Iowa Invitational next weekend as they face the University of Sioux Falls on Saturday, and the University of Mary on Sunday. Before wrapping up their season next week with a home match against Rockhurst University. The match begins

at 2 p.m. on Nov. 2 at the Truman soccer field and was added to the schedule earlier this week.

Jack said that the Hawks added the game at Truman because they needed an out of conference opponent in their region to make the Div. II tournament.

GOLDEN AUTOMOTIVE

301 N. FRANKLIN ST.
660.665.6879
MONDAY-FRIDAY 8 A.M.-5 P.M.

GOLDEN AUTOMOTIVE is your one stop FULL SERVICE automotive repair shop with more than 40 years of experience.



COME IN TODAY FOR:

Motor Vehicle Inspection
Computer Diagnostics
Brakes
Oil Change
A/C Recharge and Repair
Tune-Ups

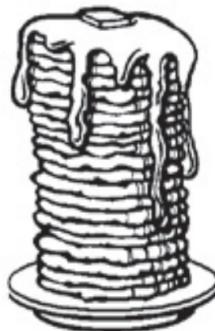
10% discount for Truman, MACC and A.T. Still students

Watch for specials on our website
www.golden-automotive.com

Pancake City

We're breakfast and a whole lot more!

OPEN
Sunday: 12:00am - 9:00pm
Monday: 6:00am - 10:00pm
Tuesday - Saturday: 24 Hours



**Monday Nights 5pm-9pm:
All U Can Eat Spaghetti
\$7.09**

**Tuesday Nights 5pm-9pm:
All U Can Eat Shrimp \$7.89**

pancakecitykirksville.com