



Above, senior Taylor Breen throws the ball to senior Justin Corcoran during practice Thursday night. Coach Gregg Nesbitt said a major strength of the offense is the wide receiver's progression. Below: Freshman Rod Jones and junior Shane Belfield, receivers, warm up during practice. The Bulldog offense has been working on timing and learning the playbook during their preseason camp.



FOOTBALL | The Bulldogs prepare for the 2012 season and, despite poor preseason poll ranking, expect a successful season.

Continued from Page 1
 graduated from Northwestern University last spring. Nesbitt said the biggest strength for the team is the defensive back position. Third-team all-American senior Richie Schumacher, who finished third in the country last season with 130 tackles, leads the group of returning defensive backs. Senior Michael Elliot, who was a preseason all-American last season before getting medically redshirted, will be returning to the field for the Bulldogs as well. "It's great to be back and to just

help the team accomplish a common goal," Elliot said. "Everybody in the offseason ... [was] working hard and busting it to get back and compete this year. So it was really an easy transition in, just competing with the team and getting ready for the season." The Bulldogs' defense finished eighth in the conference last season in total yards allowed, averaging 444.6 a game, but that was without Elliot and senior defensive back Tre Millender, who was medically red-shirted three games into the season, following an all-MIAA honorable

mention season during 2010. Truman begin their season against the SBU Bearcats, a team they beat 24-8 during the final game of the 2011 season and Schottel said the 'Dogs are ready. "I think we are very ready [for the SBU game]," Schottel said. "We have a good chance at being successful this year, we know that, we believe in ourselves." The Bulldogs will compete against the Bearcats at 6 p.m. on Aug. 30 in Bolivar, Mo. Their first home game is against the Lincoln Blue Tigers at 7p.m., September 8.

MIAA | Athletes, coaches hope attitudes won't change when TSU switches athletic conferences

Continued from Page 1
 taste in our mouth and we want to leave our imprint on the MIAA." Wollmering said even though the MIAA has a more established history than the GLVC in football, he thinks the move will benefit Truman overall. "I think just in terms of who we are, [the GLVC is] a better overall fit with the type of institutions," Wollmering said. "There's more of a mix of private and public schools in the GLVC. The academic profile of many of the institutions line up more with what we're all about, and really the geographic locations of the institutions provide a great opportunity for us to go and compete in places that our student-athletes will have a good experience."

Wollmering previously has said the respective geographic locations of the MIAA and the GLVC were a major factor when prompted Truman's decision to change conferences. Truman currently is the easternmost school in the MIAA, but is near the center of distribution for schools in the GLVC. Volleyball head coach Ben Briney said his team doesn't plan to get caught up with this being the Bulldogs the final season of MIAA competition. "This MIAA season we're not approaching any differently than we do any other MIAA season or any different than we'll approach the GLVC season next year," Briney said. "This is our conference, these are our opponents — that's what we have to focus on." Where there is a change in the competitive level, the MIAA is not superior to the GLVC in all sports, junior defender Suzanne Pelley said. She said in womens soccer there are more teams approaching Truman's skill in the GLVC than in the MIAA, but added that the team's goals for its final season are unchanged from other years — win. "We're going to try and go out with a bang," Pelley said. Wollmering dismissed the notion that the move might negatively affect Truman recruiting in any sport, including football. "We're still Truman State University, we're still Bulldog football," he said. "The biggest thing [the university has] is the opportunity to come here and get an education at the university and compete for a conference championship. Other than the four letters being different, I think everything else stays the same." The road to the end of Truman's time in the MIAA team will begin Aug.30, when Bulldog football plays at Southwest Baptist University.

CULTURE | Editor breaks down steps to improve the sense of community at TSU

Continued from Page 1
 However, administrators can only do so much. The next step is for the students not involved with athletics. We must actually attend the games. By simply having a fair amount of fans at the stadium we would show the athletes we actually do care and it would give them even more to play for — there is a lot to be said for home field advantage. Not to mention the sheer amount of fun to be had at a packed sporting event. Finally, the last of the responsibility falls on the athletes. They must be equally supportive of the rest of the student body. Actively participate with philanthropic events put on by campus or-

ganizations. Instead of blindly passing by tables on the quad, just giving a dollar or two and have a brief conversation to not only help their cause but also to let the rest of the University see you for what you really are — people. Everything that I have mentioned is simple, yet imperative to forming a true sense of community at Truman. It will allow us to build our network of friends, support each other, or, at the very least, allow us gain a mutual respect for the hard work and accomplishments of peers. Hopefully someday soon we will truly be able to refer to ourselves, not just as Truman students, but as Bulldogs.

THE FLAME MINISTRIES
 A Second Site Ministry of Faith UMC

TRUMAN WEEK 2012
 903 S. Davis St.
 (Behind MO Hall & BNB)

<p>Monday -Aug. 20 5 PM -Ultimate Frisbee and Volleyball, then sub sandwiches</p> <p>Tuesday -Aug. 21 5 PM -Washers 'n' Bean Bags, followed by spaghetti pie and pasta</p> <p>Wed. -Aug. 22 5 PM -Trivia Night with pizza and snack foods</p> <p>Thur. -Aug. 23 6 PM -Walking tacos and chips 7 PM -FOCUS (Contemporary Worship)</p>	<p>Friday -Aug. 24 7 PM -Bonfire with hot dogs and s'mores</p> <p>Sat. -Aug. 25 2 PM -Service to the community</p> <p>Sunday -Aug. 26 8 AM -Walk to First UMC 10:30 AM -Rides to Faith UMC 2 PM -Scavenger hunt around campus 6 PM -Welcome Back BBQ</p>
---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Everything FREE!
 Everyone welcome, bring friends!

JOIN US FOR THESE EVENTS EVERY WEEK

- ◆ FOCUS -Contemporary Worship at 7 PM Thursdays
- ◆ Walking to Worship at First United Methodist Church Meet at the Flame 8 AM Sundays
- ◆ Rides to Worship at Faith United Methodist Church Meet at the Flame 10:30 AM Mornings
- ◆ Sunday Supper -FREE Dinner at 6 PM Sundays when the Dining Halls are Closed!

903 S Davis St. (Behind MO Hall and BNB)
 All food and events free! Meet at the Flame Ministries, come when you can!
 Call Us 660-665-2331
 Check Us Out Online www.theflameministries.com
 Email Us theflameministries.tsu@gmail.com

For an Adventure in Shopping, come to

the
GREEN DOOR

103 W. Washington
 660-627-5711

From Annie Oakley to Zinfandel and everything in between

First United Methodist Church
 Celebrate. Connect. Contribute.

"We want to be YOUR Church Home Away From Home!"

www.firstumckirkville.org

300 East Washington Street
 (Six blocks north of campus on the corner of High and Washington)
 Telephone: 660-665-7712
 E-Mail: firstumckirkville@cableone.net

***Opportunities available in music, worship, and children & youth ministries.**