



Adam Antor/Index

The men's basketball team huddles up moments before the Bulldogs' Jan. 26 loss to the Fort Hays State University Tigers. Following the loss Saturday, the 'Dogs are now 7-12 for the season and 4-7 in the MIAA, putting them at 10th in the conference. To reach the MIAA tournament, the team must finish in the top 12.

MEN | The Bulldogs can't take advantage of a second-half surge, and earn their seventh MIAA conference loss of the season

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just didn't play with much execution," Woodley said. "My biggest thing is I just want to play quality basketball. [Sophomore forward] Tyler Anderson's out, [senior guard] Matt Patterson's out. We only have eight healthy guys right now so ... my biggest concern now is trying to get some guys healthy."

The Bulldogs are now in the midst of a long road stretch, approaching two conference games on the road this weekend. Truman faces Pittsburg State University in Pittsburg, Kan. on Thursday before heading to Tahlequah, Okla. to take on the Northeastern Oklahoma State Riverhawks on Saturday.

Despite the loss Saturday, the Bulldogs moved up a spot in the conference standings, sitting at tenth in the MIAA. The 'Dogs' conference tournament hopes remain alive as they hold the tiebreaker against Missouri Western State University, Lincoln University and the University of Nebraska-Kearney.

Jackson said February is an important time for the Bulldogs as they approach

the postseason.

"We're in a spot where, as of right now, we would be in the conference tournament," Jackson said. "But if we can get rolling right now, we can very well move up some spots and make it a little more competitive. ... It's a very critical month right now, so I just hope that everyone comes ready to play and ready to perform."

Woodley said his team is in a good spot as they approach the postseason, even though the 'Dogs lost two key players during the weekend.

"Northeastern [Oklahoma] is playing as good as anybody in our league," Woodley said. "Pitt State has had some guys with injuries and they're piecing things together. But it's on their home floor and they've played well there all year. They're really athletic, and it's a tough matchup for us."

The Bulldogs' next home game is at 7:30 p.m., Feb. 14 as they look to get revenge against the Southwest Baptist Bearcats in Pershing Arena.



Anna Grace/Index

Junior forward Mike Carlson dunks a ball during practice last Thursday. Carlson is the Bulldogs' leading scorer and rebounder this season, averaging 17 points and seven rebounds a game for the 'Dogs.

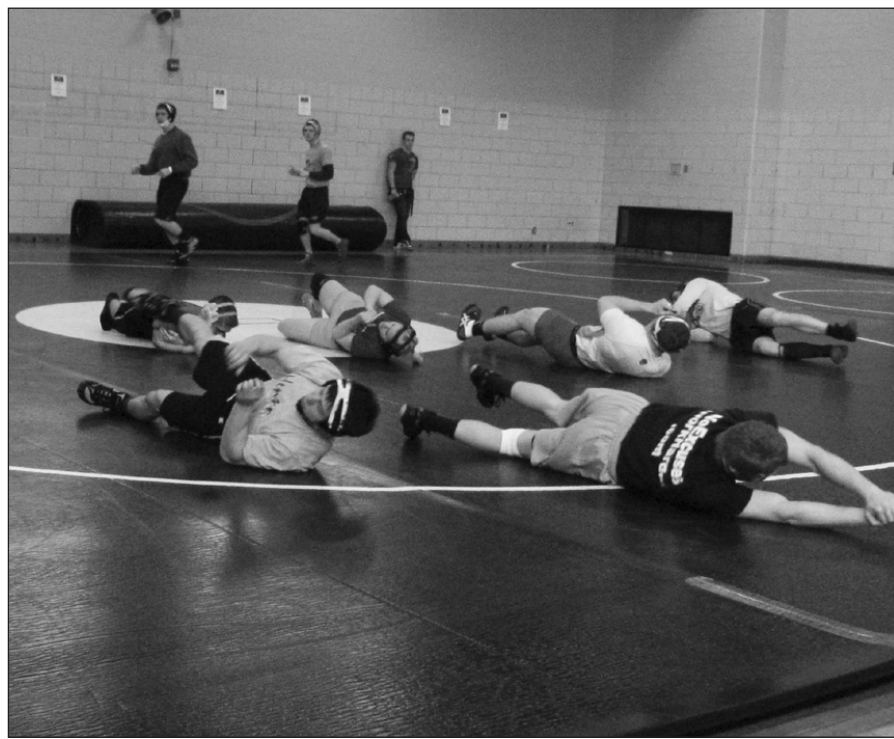
WRESTLING | Men bounce back from losses to defeat No. 17 Fort Hays State University

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salvage the week in a dual against No.17 Fort Hays State who also had a three-game winning streak.

The Bulldogs fell behind 7-0 early in the day after a couple of tough losses before senior Alex Maus earned the Bulldogs' first points with a key victory by pinfall for the 141-pound weight class. Following Maus' example, the Bulldogs went on to win four straight matches with Maus' brother Ryan and Schmitz both picking up wins. Wins from sophomore Nate Seiler and junior Helmut Rentschler sealed the victory for Truman, earning the team their first conference dual win of the season, making them 6-4 overall with a 1-4 conference dual record.

Despite a losing conference record, Alex Maus said he feels the team is in a great place headed into Truman's final regular season dual before the conference championships against Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville.

"We surely had a really tough week of duals," Maus said. "Still though, the heightened level of competition is going to be important for us going forward. It's only making us better and sharpening our abilities."



Sam Gorden/Index

The men's wrestling team stretches at practice earlier this season. The 'Dogs picked up their first conference dual win of the season against Fort Hays.

WOMEN | 'Dogs extend winning streak to four games against Southwest Baptist

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while McHenry finished with 14 points and a team-high six rebounds. Norton and McHenry lead the team in scoring this season, averaging 11 points and 14 points a game, respectively, while McHenry also leads the team with an average of four assists per game.

Smith said the players have been playing more confidently now that they're starting to pick up steam as the season comes to an end.

The Bulldogs will be heading to Pittsburg State University (Kan.) today for the first time this season to match up against the 12-7 Gorillas. The 'Dogs will be facing the Gorillas in the middle of a three-game losing streak, as Pitt State fights to keep its conference record above .500.

Knowing there are never any guaranteed wins, McHenry said the Bulldogs plan to emphasize their talents and strengthen their weaknesses as they continue to travel Saturday to Northeastern State (Okla.).

The women's next home game is next Thursday in the team's "Think Pink" game benefiting cancer awareness charities.

RUDD | Freshman sprinter Adrian Rudd is already making a splash for the Bulldogs as they approach the conference meet

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legiate swimming. A large part of this has to do with her willingness to do whatever it takes to improve, Pretre said.

"If that's working on her stroke at 5:30 in the morning two days a week, that's what she does," he said. "The difference between Adrian and many athletes I think is she's always looking to make her weakness her strength. That's what you have to do to be a high-caliber swimmer."

Pretre noted that Rudd is one of the most versatile swimmers on the squad, which allows him to place her wherever he feels the team might not be as experienced.

Rudd is currently seeded first in the NSIC in the 200-yard Butterfly, a place she said she hopes to keep during the conference meet.

"Hopefully I can hold that spot," Rudd said. "I really just want a best time, and hopefully make it to nationals. Hopefully if I just get a best time, I'll make it in."

Determining whether you qualify for nationals can be tricky, Jepsen said, noting that most swimmers don't fully understand the system themselves. Certain times are "A" cut times, which means the swimmer automatically qualifies for the national meet. If a swimmer doesn't get an "A" cut time, however, they can still reach nationals because a certain percentage of the next best times, known as "B" cut times, are also selected.

Pretre said he thinks Rudd could have a high ceiling in terms of her collegiate career. In addition to her work ethic, she also already has developed good race strategy. She had multiple coaches during her high school career, he said, and he thinks consistent coaching at Truman will help her reach her full potential.

"You constantly have little goals that she's working on, and those little things add up to get you to that next level," he said. "She'll run through a brick wall if you ask her to, and it's hard to find people like that."

Adrian Rudd: Notable Statistics

women's swimming

<p>2:09.42 Team 200-yard IM record for season</p> <p>2:06.91 200-yard Butterfly time</p> <p>0:25.41 50-yard Freestyle</p>	<p>1st place events in meet against Drury:</p> <p>0:59.9 100-yard Butterfly</p> <p>1:42.27 200-yard Freestyle relay</p>
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