

## CARLSON | Despite numerous setbacks, junior forward Mike Carlson has established himself as an offensive leader for the Bulldogs this season

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had promised when I visited, on the junior varsity team, either," he said. "I knew that, because I was from Wisconsin, I was already the outsider fighting for an inside chance but that was still a huge loss for me to deal with. I went from thinking I was a potential varsity starter to playing less than five minutes a game on the JV."

That season, the varsity squad at Hope went 21-8, losing during the first round of the Division III National Tournament while Carlson averaged four points in four minutes on the floor.

After the season, Carlson told his roommate he was done playing at Hope and would pursue college basketball elsewhere. Carlson said he never told his coaching staff of his decision, and transferred during spring 2010.

Back at home, Carlson said his father brought up Truman, where his uncle, Chris Carlson, played collegiate basketball, and told his son to tryout for the Bulldogs. Truman's head coach Jack Schroeder, who was a graduate assistant during Chris' senior year, remembered the Carlson name and agreed to let Mike tryout.

After a successful tryout, Mike said he was enthusiastic about playing for Truman but wanted to redshirt for a year so he would have ample opportunity to start for three years during the pursuit of his Masters in Education. Assured

of a scholarship, Mike began working out to improve his strength and skills on the basketball court. However, after the Bulldogs disappointing season during fall 2010, Carlson faced another challenge as Schroeder announced his departure from Truman, leaving Carlson's scholarship hopes in jeopardy.

"I remember sitting in the locker room when Coach Schroeder told us all he was leaving," he said. "I understood his reasons, but I was still shocked. I had no idea what to expect and no idea if I would earn my scholarship or not."

A few months later, Truman hired Coach Woodley who then sat down with Carlson to tell him he was not yet ready to play for the Bulldogs.

Woodley said he recalled the conversation he had with Mike during 2011 and said he had even offered to personally call other Division II schools, or perhaps Division III, in hopes of securing Mike a chance to play collegiate basketball. Mike said he sat silently for a few minutes before looking his new mentor in the eye and asking Woodley to grant him one last opportunity to play college basketball.

"I'll prove you wrong," he said.

After that, Woodley said he decided to keep Mike and told him to come back during August with a stronger body and the same fierce desire to be great if he wanted to

play for Truman.

Mike said he spent a majority of the offseason at Impact Sports Training, a high-intensity workout facility owned by a family friend who specializes in training hockey players for the NHL. Mike said his trainer worked with him each day during the summer while performing Olympic lifts, high-intensity circuit and core training and demanding explosion drills. At the end of the summer, Mike said he gained more than 10 pounds of muscle and felt ready for the long season ahead of him.

Woodley said he immediately realized Mike's potential when he returned to Truman. He said Mike "wanted to win in the worst way" and brought a chip on his shoulder and the same level of energy and fierceness to practice every day last year, which earned him a scholarship and the opportunity to start for the Bulldogs during 2011.

"Mike is a great example of what it takes to rebuild a program, to create a tradition here," he said. "He has battled adversity throughout his life and just now we are getting the chance to see his true potential. ... He is without a doubt one of the best kids I have ever coached, and he is hungry to win and prove to the world he is good enough."

This season, Mike leads the Bulldogs in scoring with 16 points per contest and pulls down an average of six rebounds per game



Kate Linman/Index

Junior forward Mike Carlson shoots a free throw against William Penn University earlier this season. Carlson is leading the team with 15.8 points a game, putting him tied for ninth in the MIAA.

along with two steals and two assists. Mike said he is reminded every day of the challenges he has overcome to get to this point but acknowledged his journey isn't over yet. Carlson said his dad gives him constant reminders of where

he has come from and what he has left to accomplish by constantly encouraging him to play the game the right way. Mike said, "If you've won something, act like you've done it before" is one of his dad's favorite phrases.

## VOLLEYBALL | Women's volleyball heads to the national tournament for the 13th time in Truman State history

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"We know we can do it, now we just need to go out there Thursday and play our best," Zimmerman said.

Moser said she thinks the 'Dogs have accomplished things this season which not even they thought they were capable of, and that the team has put pressure on itself with its continued success. To be competitive with the Mustangs Truman needs to ignore that pressure and focus on playing its own game, she said.

"For the team, I think just helping each other and staying positive all the time is what's going to take that pressure away," she said.

Briney said the key to Truman's success will be keeping Southwest Minnesota St. off balance with the speed of the Bulldogs' offense. Running the offense quickly requires Truman to have good ball control and pass and dig well. He said these are the same skills the 'Dogs have focused on every game this season and the team isn't approaching this one any differently.

"The whole year our focus has been the game that's in front of us," he said. "So it doesn't change anything from our mindset, because every game has been approached like this is the last game."

Still, there is a different feeling to preparing for a NCAA tournament game, Zimmerman said. But, it's a challenging atmosphere that the Bulldogs are prepared and excited for, she said.

With Thanksgiving Break falling during the middle of Truman's preparation, Briney said he told his players to take their minds off volleyball and rejuvenate their bodies in the hopes that they would come back from the break



Calli Lowry/Index

Senior Allyson Stellmach sets the ball to senior Emily Briseno during a game against Missouri Southern State University Nov. 2. The 'Dogs won 3-0.

hungrier from spending time away. He has the same confidence in his team that they've had in themselves all season, he said.

"They've always had the mentality that they're going to beat whoever's in front of them," he said. "And [that team is] going to have to play their best game if they want to beat us."

## SOCCER | Truman State's soccer programs totaled seven players on the Daktronic's all-central region squads

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play, compared to how she was as a freshman to now, she's progressed as a player in so many different ways," Cannon said.

Ridgway started all 19 games in the back and ended the 2012 season with one goal.

The Bulldog defense kept up a five-game streak of shutouts in early September.

With Ridgway's help, Cannon's defense shutout 10 different teams. Opponents scored 13-186 shots against the Bulldogs and acquired a .68 goals scored per game average.

"If [being named all-region] is something that will help kind of affirm what I've been telling her or what I'm sure her teammates tell her...then that gets her to have even more confidence when she's playing and it's only going to make her a better player," Cannon said.

The Daktronics all-region teams are voted on and organized by sports information directors and administrators from various schools in the central region. A coaches all-region poll has not yet been announced.

## SWIMMING | The Bulldogs' performance at the Phoenix Fall Invitational elevated both squads' Div. II national rankings

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the team's success.

"I have been swimming for a while, but this is all new to me," Guardado said. "It is kind of nice not having much of an experience. I go into it head-first and hope for the best."

Guardado helped the 800-yard freestyle relay team capture first place, while also grabbing the top spot in the women's 500-yard freestyle with a time of 5:04.38. Senior Allison Harding took fourth three seconds behind Guardado.

This competition was not only successful for the Bulldog swimmers, but also a huge success for head coach Ed Pretre. Pretre coaches the men and women's squads with the help of assistant coach Jessica Hessel. Last season Pretre was named the New

South Intercollegiate Coach of the year during his first year coaching at Truman.

Pretre said he sees the 12 freshmen swimmers on the men's team and the 10 freshman on the women's team as a positive addition to the two teams.

"They brought new life into these new teams," Pretre said. "We were definitely a broken down team last year and the upperclassmen are thrilled to have them. Since day one they have been one big family."

Looking ahead at the rest of the season, Pretre said he saw areas of improvement in the front-end speed of relay teams. Following their performance in Chicago, the men's and women's teams will have time to rest and train for the next event Dec. 18 against William Jewell College in Liberty, Mo.

# INDEX Classifieds

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### For Rent

**For Rent:** Wagner Enterprises rental properties are available for 2013-2014 lease. New units with one to four bedrooms are all within two blocks of campus! Complete with washer/dryer in each, all electric, central heat and air, private parking and maintenance staff. For more information, call 660-341-5538 or visit [www.wespaces.net](http://www.wespaces.net)

**For Rent:** Awesome, restored, 3B, 2BA house one block from TSU. Hardwoods and all new appliances including dishwasher, washer and dryer. Pottery barn paint. Very spacious and modern with central air. Available in June 2013. 319-530-7393

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**For Rent:** 3 bedroom house for rent near Truman and A.T. Still. New carpet, laundry, dishwasher, central air, 90+ furnace, plenty of off street parking. Available immediately. \$960.00/month. 970-318-8902 or 815-519-6509

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**For Rent:** Across the street from campus. Great two, three and four bedroom apts. Call now before they're gone. 660-627-2060.

### For Rent

**For Rent:** Northeast Missouri Properties is now renting apartments and houses for the 2013 school year. 1, 2, 3, 4, & 5 bdr places. Very pet friendly. Most within walking distance to campus. Locally owned and maintained. Places are going fast. [Northeastmissouriproperties.com](http://Northeastmissouriproperties.com). Call or text us at 660-216-1794

**For Rent:** 3-BR, 2-Full Bath house, completed 8/2012, walking distance to TSU/KCOM. Available 8/2013. Living Room, Kitchen, Laundry room, All New- Refrigerator, Dishwasher/Disposal, Washer/Dryer, Central Heat A/C. 660.988.5175. [jim@kirksvillereental.com](http://jim@kirksvillereental.com). [www.kirksvillereental.com](http://www.kirksvillereental.com)

**For Rent:** 2-BR, 2-Bath house, Living room, eat-in kitchen, totally remodeled, TSU 2 blocks., refrigerator, dishwasher/disposal, stove, new central heat & a/c, roof, siding, insulation, windows. Available 5/2013. 660.988.5175 [jim@kirksvillereental.com](http://jim@kirksvillereental.com) [www.kirksvillereental.com](http://www.kirksvillereental.com)

**For Rent:** Subleser needed. One bedroom apartment starting in December. Pet friendly and clean place. Call Jerry at 660.216.1794.

**For Rent:** Subleser needed. Two bedroom upstairs apartment. Starts in January. Nice size rooms and near downtown. Call Jerry at 660.216.1794

**For Rent:** Several nice 1-2-3 bedroom apartments in the Water Works, Boardwalk, St. James, States Avenue, and New York Avenue apartments. All within walking distance of Truman. Call Four Horizons Realty, Inc. (660) 665-3400 or e-mail us at [4horizonsrealty@cablone.net](mailto:4horizonsrealty@cablone.net).

### For Rent

**For Rent:** NEW COLLEGE HOUSING! The Landing at Kirksville. 6 different 4 bedrooms for rent. 1/2 mile from Truman! Pricing varies. Contact DVRA Development Group at (660) 988-3885.

**For Rent:** Property Concepts LLC is now leasing for May and August of 2013. Studios, 1 bedroom, and 2 bedroom units available. Apartments starting at \$330 with heat, water, trash, electric, free Wi Fi, cable TV included. 2 blocks from campus. On site laundry. 24 hour maintenance. Pet friendly units available. Close to downtown. 660-627-1400. [www.kirksvilleapartments.com](http://www.kirksvilleapartments.com). Text 660-216-5004.

**For Rent:** Great prices and locations on these 2-3BR houses next to TSU. 909 Sundown, 208 E. Pierce, and 816 S. 6th are very nice and loaded with all appliances including washer, Perfect for 2 or 3 looking to save on nice places. KPM 665-6380.

**For Rent:** Very nice and spacious 4BR 2BA close to campus. 620 S. Osteopathy has a ton of character with hardwoods throughout, large bedrooms, and big front porch. All appliances including laundry room. \$900. KPM 665-6380.

**For Rent:** 3-4 Bedroom 10 yards from campus. 601 E. Patterson is spacious and has great character. Washer and dryer. Won't last long at \$900. KPM 665-6380.

**For Rent:** 4 bedroom, 2 bath apartment for rent, available Spring 2013 semester, central heat/air, washer/dryer, fridge, garbage disposal, large rooms, off-street parking. No smoking, pets or loud parties. \$615/mo. 660-341-7121

**For Rent:** 3-BR Rental House. Available Dec 15, 2012 - Aug 15, 2013 AND Aug 15, 2013-Aug 2014. The house is located 2 blocks west of Pershing Bldg at 608 W. Patterson St. laundry, carpet, AC, new bamboo floors throughout, small pets okay \$650/mo call 988-0646