

GLVC Standings

Men's Basketball		
TEAMS	W	L
Drury	15	2
UW-Parkside	14	3
Indianapolis	14	3
Lewis	13	4
Truman State	12	5
Southern Indiana	12	5

Women's Basketball		
TEAMS	W	L
Drury	15	2
Lewis	15	2
Quincy	14	3
UMSL	12	5
Indianapolis	12	5
Truman State	11	6

Baseball	
TEAMS	W-L
Indianapolis	2-1
Lewis	2-1
Maryville	2-1
Missouri S&T	3-2
Saint Joseph's	2-2
Southern Indiana	2-4
Quincy	1-3
Rockhurst	0-1

Softball	
TEAMS	W-L
UMSL	5-1
Southern Indiana	3-1
Truman State	6-3
Quincy	4-2
Bellarmine	4-2
Illinois Springfield	4-2
William Jewell	4-4
Indianapolis	4-4

Wrestling		
TEAMS	W	L
Nebraska-Kearney	6	0
Central Oklahoma	5	1
Lindenwood	4	2
Fort Hays State	3	3
Central Missouri	2	4
Truman State	1	5

Late season woes

Women's team succumbs to injuries, loses two games in a row

BY KIRK SCHLUETER
Staff Reporter

Making the national tournament for any sport is never easy. But after two close late-season losses, a potentially short-handed Truman State women's basketball team has a more difficult road than most teams if they wish to qualify for the NCAA tournament.

The Bulldogs dropped a contest at home against Maryville University 90-84 last Thursday, and at the University of Missouri-St. Louis 80-76 Saturday — a game where they also lost two key starters to injuries. While there is no set formula to determine if the basketball team will make nationals, they will need a strong run during the GLVC conference tournament — which begins this weekend — to qualify. The winner of the GLVC tournament receives an automatic bid to the NCAA tournament.

Against Maryville last Thursday, Truman faced a team that was red-hot from three-point range. The Saints made 18 threes during the game to set a school record. It was the most three-pointers Truman had given up the entire season. Maryville hit their first 11 shots to take a first half lead, which at one time was greater than 20 points.

A Bulldog rally fell short just during the second half, as senior guard Amy Briggs hit a three-pointer to tie the game at 84 with 1:15 remaining, before the Saints pulled away at the end behind a three-pointer and made several free throws. Head coach Amy Eagan said the loss, coming from a Maryville team Truman had beaten by 14 points a month earlier on the road, was hard to stomach.

"We were talking after the game, and their five player, who shoots 19 percent from the three-point line and had made one all year, hit a shot to put them up three," Eagan said. "That's frustrating, but it's that time of the year where big players are going to step up and make big plays, and I think that's what happened for them."



Elle Fitzgibbons/Index
Senior Bianca Szafarowicz dribbles around a Maryville defender during their game Feb. 20. The 'Dogs play Quincy 5:30 p.m. Feb. 27 in Pershing Arena.

One bright spot for the night for the Bulldogs was senior forward Nicole Gloor, who scored 16 points to become the 18th player throughout Truman women's basketball history to score more than 1,000 points during her career.

"I've been contributing to the team for the past four years, and it stinks we didn't get a win to go with it, so that kind of put a damper on the night," Gloor said. "It makes you feel unique, since not many people have done it, and it's kind of a big step in the basketball world."

Truman's woes continued Saturday at UMSL. During the first half, both Gloor and junior point guard Allie Norton were

forced to leave the game with injuries. Despite 24 points from Briggs, and what Eagan said was a great effort by players who don't often see as much floor time as they did Saturday, Truman was unable to emerge with the victory. The Tritons handed the 'Dogs their second straight defeat by a score of 80-76.

"It was really frustrating sitting on the bench and watching the game get that close, especially with me and [Norton] both out," Gloor said. "I know we both really wanted to be able to play at the end of the game. But to watch the team come back and fight after losing both of us was pretty awesome."

Despite the losses, the team still very much controls its own destiny, Eagan said. If Gloor and Norton are unable to play, the Bulldogs will need other players to step up and assume more of a role than they have before.

Norton and Gloor are among the team's top four scorers, and the top four in terms of minutes played during the year. Norton leads the Bulldogs in both categories. Losing either one player certainly would hurt the team at a time when they need to be healthy in order to make a push for the national tournament. Gloor said she thinks she definitely will play again before the season is complete.

The top eight teams in a region advance to the NCAA tournament. In the regional rankings released last Thursday, Truman was ranked No. 8 in the Midwest region. That ranking almost will certainly change in a new poll released today because of the Bulldogs' two losses, both of which were to teams ranked below them. To regain a position in the top eight, Truman will need to finish the season strong and beat several teams ranked above them in the regional rankings.

The Bulldogs will have a chance starting at 5:30 p.m. tonight when they take on No. 16 Quincy in Pershing Arena for senior night. Quincy was ranked No. 2 in last week's poll, but might fall after also losing to Maryville and UMSL.

Truman's biggest shot most likely will come during the GLVC tournament, which starts this weekend. At least five of the teams likely ranked above the Bulldogs are GLVC members, so even if Truman did not win the tournament and receive an automatic bid, a strong showing against some of those teams could propel them into the NCAA tournament.

"We know that anything can happen at any time so we have to be even more prepared," Briggs said. "We're ready for a good game against Quincy and ready to take it into the GLVC tournament. We're ready to show them what we've got because it's our last chance."

Truman's first game at the GLVC tournament will be at 1 p.m. Sunday, March 2, in Pershing Arena. The Bulldogs' opponent has not been determined yet.

TOP 'DOGS



Kindra Henze

Sophomore pitcher Kindra Henze was named GLVC Pitcher of the Week. Henze pitched two complete shutout games against Walsh and Union and averaged more than a strikeout per inning.



Amy Briggs

Senior guard Amy Briggs led Truman with 24 points versus the UMSL Tritons. Briggs also made 5 of 9 three point shots and played 38 minutes, the most during a regulation game this season.

Rec Center Door Count* Averages Per Hour for Spring 2014

according to the Student Recreation Center

	Average Door Count per Hour	Busiest Hour/Day	Average door count during busiest hour
Monday	75.2	4:00 pm	135.7 on average from 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm on Monday
Tuesday	67.1	7:00 pm	116.3 on average from 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm on Tuesday
Wednesday	73.9	4:00 pm	130.3 on average from 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm on Monday
Thursday	62.6	4:00 pm	128.5 on average from 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm on Monday
Friday	51.7	4:00 pm	143.2 on average from 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm on Monday
Saturday	51.3	4:00 pm	61.0 on average from 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm on Monday
Sunday	46.4	3:00 pm	66.3 on average from 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm on Monday

*Door Count reflects anyone who walks through the door to exercise (faculty, staff, students, designated guests, daily guests).

Difficulties finding practice space

BY BLAKE BIXLER
Staff Reporter



COMMENTARY

A few things at Truman State are staying the same — Sodexo still is the main food provider for the dining halls, classes in McClain always are uncomfortably hot and outdoor sports teams are forced to use Pershing Arena for practice during cold weather. While this is not a big problem in the sense of conditioning, it becomes

difficult to simulate actual matches. This is a problem when it comes to club sports, which are composed of students who play during their own time without any compensation from the University.

As a member of the men's Ultimate Frisbee team at Truman, I understand the problems associated with club sports firsthand. At the beginning of the school year, our team reserves hours for the entire year in places like the Blue Room in the Student Recreation Center, Stokes Stadium and Pershing Arena. While we might have the time and space reserved for months, our schedule is dependent on other team conflicts.

Last year, there were several nights where the lights at Stokes Stadium would turn off — even if we had more than an hour of reserved time left. Multiple attempts to contact those who control the light fixtures at Stokes proved to be useless, forcing us to cancel practice. Intramural games took precedent against Frisbee practice, even the week before our most important tournament of the year.

Almost every week, the Ultimate Frisbee team is forced to wait for another sport to finish its activities, even if they conflict with our time. During the fall, when members of the football team would take extra time running drills with their coaches, we had to wait for them. One day we had to wait for the end of a basketball game, and another day we had to wait for the football team to finish their conditioning workout.

Tennis is another great example of the transition to winter conditioning. Tennis is a precision sport in which the athletes spend hours of practice to place the ball in an exact location. Big teams typically practice in indoor facilities during the colder months. Truman, however, does not have the same luxury, only having the two sections of Pershing that can put up tennis nets. Because of this, doubles matches are prioritized. With the priority focused on doubles matches, some players become so accustomed to playing with a teammate that they cannot play singles at the same level they previously did. Players on the varsity and club tennis teams have expressed their concerns about the lack of singles practice.

The floor itself in the Pershing gym is a problem. The areas of the gym where the nets can be placed are relatively slick, which makes it harder to make the fast cuts required for tennis. Additionally, the ball travels at a significantly faster rate than on a traditional court.

While this affects all tennis players, the club tennis team has the most to lose. With their sectional tournament coming up, the team should practice whenever possible. However, because of reservation conflicts, there is little time allotted to them inside the Pershing gym.

Truman prides itself on academic excellence and providing the best to all its students. But it would not be truthful to say the University has provided all the resources it could to accommodate for its student athletes on all levels. While some athletes are provided scholarships for their efforts, many play just for love of the sport. Practice is integral for every sport, but the bureaucratic process of reservation creates the unintended consequence of club sports being pushed to the side in favor of other sports.

Don't get me wrong, I love varsity sports. As a member of the Index sports staff, I understand the good that do for the students and for the University. However, as a member of a club sport team myself, I understand the frustration with the process. In the classroom, we are treated as fairly as varsity athletes. Unfortunately, most club sports are forced to wait on the whims of nature to do what they enjoy.