

# Finding opportunity on the field

BY HANNAH KACEROVSKIS  
Staff Reporter

Student managers provide a support system for coaches and the sports teams across Truman State's campus. Many of the varsity sports teams invite students to sign up to help throughout the season.

Junior Greg Scheetz became the manager of Truman's volleyball team last year, and said he returned this season because he enjoys working with the team.

"The best part [about being a student manager] is seeing the team do well," Scheetz said. "The volleyball team is doing really well this season. They're at the top of their division. It's awesome to go to all the games and to see them continue winning, to feel the intensity and to feel like part of the team."

Scheetz said working for the team has taught him a lot about what it takes to be a coach. He said his duties include data scouting, video scouting of others teams and what happens when a team is recruiting a new player. In addition, Scheetz said he goes to as many of the team's practices as he can, where he shags balls and helps the coach make practice run smoothly.

Scheetz said his most memorable experience as a student manager occurred when he traveled to the 2013 Mizuno Cross-over Volleyball Tournament in Aurora, Ill., with the team.

"I helped out keeping stats on the other teams when [Truman] was playing them and helped with warm ups,"

Scheetz said. "I was just giving extra help to the team because they didn't have an athletic trainer there, so I was the third person helping out."

Scheetz said though he doesn't necessarily plan to be a coach, working as a student manager has helped him prepare for the future. Scheetz said he works for the team 12 hours per week and is able to use this job as scholarship and work study hours. Working that many hours a week plus going to school is like having a real job, Scheetz said.

"[Being a student manager] required responsibilities and duties from me that will prepare me for having a job later in life," Scheetz said. "Having a job now, I have to manage my responsibilities as a student and working as well and keep on top of things. I learned from the coaches how to influence a player to learn a new technique or habit."

Senior Jason Baker said he has been a student manager for the football team for the past two years and played on the team the two years prior. Baker said he had to stop playing after he injured his ankle multiple times and head football coach Gregg Nesbitt offered to keep Baker on as a staff member, which Baker said he was incredibly grateful for.

Baker said the best part of being a football manager is traveling with the team and spending time with players.

"After playing with the guys for two years I've gotten to

know everyone on the field, and now that I can't get on the field anymore it's still awesome to be here and hang out with all the guys who I've become friends with," Baker said.

Junior Dan Mattheiss is a manager for the football team and said he began managing a team even before he came to Truman.

"I was recruited right out of high school by coach Nesbitt," Mattheiss said. "I played [football] in high school until I got a bad knee injury that I never came back from. I was the manager for my high school team and coach Nesbitt called up my coach at the time, and my coach said I have this great manager and here I am."

Mattheiss said he has seen himself grow from his time during high school, when Nesbitt was not yet his boss.

"Over the last four years, I've seen hard work pays off," Mattheiss said. "Jason and I are both been working hard and the team has been working really hard, now we're starting to see a lot of victories."

Mattheiss said as football managers they have to do the team's laundry, fix equipment and ensure practices run according to plan. Mattheiss said he continues to be a manager because he loves football and the guys on the team are great to work with.

"I like traveling with the team and going on long road trips to away games," Mattheiss said. "Jason and I have gained a lot of friendship and a lot of brotherhood because we're just as much of the team as everyone else."

## Club basketball starts season with a win

BY ANGIE DANIELSEN  
Staff Reporter

After their second place award at Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville's Annual Fall Classic Tournament last weekend, the Truman State Boy's Club Basketball Team is moving forward toward the goal of winning regionals.

Senior team captain Drew Kimminau said at SIUE's Annual Fall Classic tournament last weekend, the team easily beat SIUE 65-55, Indiana 67-53 and Lewis University 58-44.

Although the team has won most of their games, University of Missouri-Columbia overtook them, winning by two points during the first game and by five during the last game Sunday evening. This was the Truman's only loss.

"We played well, but we definitely could have done better and beaten them. Great game though, both fun to be in and watch," sophomore forward Casey Kuchem said.

Although the tournaments are not directly related to regionals, Kimminau said winning second place shows they are a good team and have a chance to win regionals next semester.

"For us it shows that there are teams out there that are better than us still, so we need

to work harder in practice to get better and win," Kimminau said.

At the next tournament, the 3rd Annual Hoosier Invitational in Bloomington, Ind., the team will show their new skills. With hopes of beating Mizzou at the next tournament, the team said they continue to work at practices.

With the team's growth, Kuchem said they hope to win regionals. From there, Kimminau said it comes down to being the best.

Their second place win at the SIUE tournament set the team's foot in the door. At the Hoosier Invitational, the team once again will be able to show their worth to the opposing teams. Kimminau said next semester the team will travel to Lincoln, Neb., for regionals with hopes of placing higher than their fourth place last year.

Kimminau said he has played for the club at Truman for three years and has been the president and captain for two and a half years. Through his leadership, he said the team has gained more fundamental skills and experienced players. Kimminau said the team now is more structured and has added

**2013 Men's Club Basketball**

- Defeated SIUE 65 - 55
- Defeated Indiana 67 - 53
- Defeated Lewis 58 - 44

in a basic element, wanting to win.

Kuchem said he believes they have grown as both a team and as a family.

"I really enjoy playing with the group of guys," Kuchem said. "They're my boys."

Kimminau said the team's practices consist of constant scrimmages. Kimminau said from there he looks at what needs work and coordinates new plays accordingly. When tournaments are around the corner, he said they put the new defense and offense strategies into practice until they are perfect.

Although the team's skills have grown from last year, Kimminau said he hopes it continues and they still will improve. The ultimate goal is to be offered a bid to nationals with their new defense.

Senior Josh Kneff, vice-president of the team Josh Kneff said the team will be better conditioned going into the next tournament, which will help them keep up better defensive intensity throughout games.

"We played very well and only lost to one team," Kneff said. "We were excited about our potential in upcoming tournaments."

Kimminau said he's preparing to work on the team's three-pointer skills. He said the team is known for those skills, but could not manage to shoot well from beyond the arc when facing Mizzou.

Kimminau said he knows his team needs work, but overall he thinks the team will continue to succeed, leaving them with great results.

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