

# SPORTS

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2016

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### VOLLEYBALL

9/30:  
7 p.m. vs. Rockhurst University  
Kirksville, Mo.

10/1:  
1 p.m. vs. William Jewell College  
Kirksville, Mo.

### MEN'S SOCCER

9/30:  
7:30 p.m. vs. William Jewell College  
Liberty, Mo.

10/2:  
2:30 p.m. vs. Rockhurst University  
Kansas City, Mo.

### WOMEN'S SOCCER

9/30:  
5 p.m. vs. William Jewell College  
Liberty, Mo.

10/2:  
Noon vs. Rockhurst University  
Kansas City, Mo.

### MEN'S AND WOMEN'S TENNIS

9/29:  
2 p.m. vs. University of Illinois-Springfield  
Kirksville, Mo.

### GOLF

10/1-10/2:  
TBA at UMSL Fall Invitational  
Pana, Ill.

### FOOTBALL

10/1:  
7 p.m. vs. University of Indianapolis  
Kirksville, Mo.

For updated event times, visit [trumanbulldogs.com](http://trumanbulldogs.com).

## 'Dogs shut out Lincoln



Photo by Rachel Steinhoff/TMN

Truman football fans get up on their feet and cheer for the first of five Bulldog touchdowns in Saturday's home game against Lincoln University. The Truman offense put up 389 total yards, while the defense posted its first shutout.

BY CAROLINE KISER  
Staff Writer

The Truman State University Bulldogs took a win Saturday, defeating the Lincoln University Blue Tigers 37-0. This is Truman's first shut-out win since 2013.

Redshirt freshman quarterback Jaden Barr completed 16-of-24 passes for 148 yards. Freshman running back Jordan Salima also contributed to the offense, earning his first 100-yard rushing game with 125 yards on 20 carries, and he caught eight passes for 53 yards. Salima was named GLVC Special Teams Player of the Week last week and repeated conference awards this week as GLVC Offensive Player of the Week.

The Bulldogs had 241 yards of rushing after being held to -11 yards in the first quarter. Junior defensive back Richard Neboh had the longest play of the night with a 73-yard touchdown in the fourth quarter.

Special teams also played a part in the success against the Blue Tigers, and once again, a Bulldog received recognition for the performance. Sophomore punter Brock Rohler earned the title of GLVC Special Teams Player of the Week, with all five of his punts downed inside the 20-yard line, including four inside the 10. One of those punts led to a safety for Bulldog defense.

Bulldog defense held the Blue Tigers to 197 total yards on offense. Senior Austin Zoda, junior Isaiah Hinton and sophomore Kade Young led the 'Dogs with six tackles each. Saturday's game

moved Zoda into the Truman career top 20 in tackles with 266 tackles.

The Bulldogs improved their record to 3-1, with one of the most anticipated matches of the season right around the corner. The Bulldogs will face four-time defending league champions University of Indianapolis Saturday for Family Day. UIndy was picked to win the conference in pre-season polls, but after a 0-3 start, the Greyhounds picked up their first win of the season Saturday against Kentucky Wesleyan. Truman, however, is 0-3 all-time against Indianapolis.

"Uncharacteristically [UIndy] hasn't started off as well," head coach Gregg Nesbitt said. "In terms of conference, Indy is still the team to beat. They can't afford another conference loss. They're actually chasing us and SBU early in the conference race."

Currently, Truman is standing in second place in the GLVC with a 3-1 record and 2-0 in conference. Southwest Baptist is holding first with a 4-0 record and 2-0 in conference.

With the early struggles of the University of Indianapolis, a window of opportunity is appearing for Truman and other GLVC schools in the race for the conference crown.

As a senior captain, the strategy is simple for Zoda.

"At the end of the day we control our own destiny, and if we keep winning it doesn't matter who else wins or loses," Zoda said.

The 'Dogs now head into a crucial and tough stretch of schedule. Following the University of Indianapolis, Tru-

man will go on the road to play current conference leader Southwest Baptist University. The week after that, the 'Dogs get a shot at nationally-ranked Grand Valley State.

Zoda said his team recognizes the importance of this stretch and he said he thinks his team has prepared for a challenge like this.

"The next couple of weeks are going to be critical games with [the University of Indianapolis] and No. 3 ranked Grand Valley State," Zoda said. "Everyone on our team knows this stretch is important to get us where we want to go, but if you ask anyone they will just say we need to take it one game at a time and not overlook anyone."

Just in time for some crucial matches, the 'Dogs welcome the return of a piece of the offensive receiving corp. Sophomore Brass Woods III returns to practice this week after suffering a broken wrist earlier in the season. Woods was third on the team in catches last year with 14 for 131 yards. It is unclear whether or not Woods will play this weekend.

The Bulldogs are not focused on uncontrollable elements like injuries, however. Sophomore running back Malique Robbins said the team is taking it day by day and the players are trying not to worry about anyone but themselves.

"With the season rankings and the way our conference is playing right now, everything is up for grabs," Robbins said. "At this point you never know what to expect week to week, so for us as a team we must play one week at a time and continue to improve collectively."

## Swimming hosts alumni meet

BY STEPHANIE HULETT  
Staff Writer

Truman State University's swimming teams hosted their annual alumni meet Sept. 23 and their intrasquad meet the following day, marking the end of a week long stretch of athletic challenges to prepare the team for the season.

Alumnus Ben DeVilbiss returned after graduating last spring. DeVilbiss said he still swims a few times a week, but was in shock after having to sprint and race again.

"It's great to come back and to see the team," DeVilbiss said. "It's fun. It's a good opportunity to just come back and see where the team is going, see what they are doing and see if it's still in good hands."

Assistant Coach Jerod Simek said this year had nearly 100 percent attendance from the previous graduating class and a total of 14 returning alumni, compared to last year's attendance of four alumni. Simek said this has become a tradition, and the alumni are making an effort to make it as successful as it used to be.

"It started just to kind of get our alumni a little more involved, and it's been going for probably around the last 15-20 years," Simek said. "It's a nice little tradition and more of like a fun meet for alumni to come back and see the team and see what they are all about and what to expect for the year."

The Bulldogs now look ahead to Oct. 7, when they will travel to the University of Missouri to race in the Show-Me Showdown. There will be about eight teams on both the men's and women's side, providing a good gauge to see where the team is and what needs to be improved or what is working well before conference meets start.

"With it being our first official meet, we want to just see where everyone is at and what are the things they do well and what are the things that may need a little more work on so that way [Head Coach] Ed [Pretre] and I are able to tailor our workouts towards those needs as we get into the next four or five meets," Simek said.

A few returning swimmers — juniors Nikki Sisson and Will Shanel and senior

Eryn Spencer — earned Pre-season All-American honors. Simek said these individuals will be high-impact athletes for Truman this year, along with junior Jamie Fitzpatrick and seniors Hannah Nicks and Alison Strickler.

The women were GLVC Champions last season and ranked 12th in the nation. Simek said the goal is to crack the top 5 this year and, if not, secure the top 10. On the men's side, Simek said he sees great potential for this season.

"There were a lot of men who were very close to nationals, but we are hoping to get a few more individual men to go this year, if not some relays," Simek said. "The 800 free relay has a shot with some of the people we have brought in and what we feel they can step up with, so we are hoping we have more of a presence at nationals on the men's side this year."

Until now, Simek said the swimmers have been conditioning their bodies into swim shape, and now they are able to work on speed. Workouts consist of dry land and pool workouts.

The alumni meet was part of a week of season preparation for the Bulldogs called the "Mafia Wars." Simek said the week is

full of physical competitions like a two-mile run, pull-up competition and more. The swim teams split into two halves, purple and white, and they could either win all the physical competitions to win the entire week or win a combination of the physical tests and intrasquad meet in order to win. He said the meet is worth 45 percent of the total points and the other events are worth a total of 55 percent.

The purple team pulled off the victory from the week and managed to win the intrasquad meet to count toward its total score. Freshman Kaylee Sisson said she enjoyed the week and said each team is still very supportive of one another.

"It's really fun," Sisson said. "I've never done anything like Mafia Wars before, and it's fun to be one team, but also split into two and have friendly competition. Even if we are doing a set where we are racing each other, purple team will still cheer for white team and vice versa because we are all still one team and we all have one goal in mind."

The 'Dogs have just over two weeks to shape up for season. The Show-Me Showdown will take place 1 p.m. Oct. 7 at the Mizzou Aquatic Center.



### Brock Rohler

Sophomore punter Brock Rohler received recognition as the GLVC Special Teams Player of the Week. All five of Rohler's punts were downed inside the 20-yard line during Saturday's game against Lincoln University. One punt was downed at the one-yard line, leading to a defensive safety for Truman.

# ATHLETE of the WEEK