TRUMAN INDUCTS FIVE FORMER BULLDOG PERFORMERS IN ATHLETICS HALL OF FAME

Five former Bulldog standouts will be inducted in the 2003 Truman Athletics Hall of Fame. The inductees will be recognized during homecoming festivities Oct. 17-18.

They will be formally inducted at the Alumni and Friends Celebration Banquet on Friday evening and will take part in the Homecoming parade on Saturday morning. They will also be recognized during halftime of the football game on Saturday.

Reservations may be made by calling the Truman Advancement office at 800-452-6678 or on the internet at store.truman.edu/alumni.

Since 1983, the year the Truman Athletics Hall of Fame began, 187 persons have been enshrined. This year, the following former student-athletes will be inducted:

DON ALLBRITTON competed on the track squad from 1969-72 and received eight NCAA Division II all-America honors, the most by any Truman track athlete. All of his all-America honors were at the outdoor championships since the NCAA did not hold indoor meets for DII at that time.

The Rock Island, Ill., native’s career began as a freshman when he finished second in the pole vault and fourth in the high jump at the indoor Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association meet. At the conference outdoor meet, he finished second in the high jump and third in the pole vault. Allbritton advanced to nationals where he set a national record of 15-8 in the pole vault, helping Truman to an eighth-place NCAA finish. That accomplishment earned him a place in the Division I competition where he finished tied for seventh, becoming the first Truman athlete to place at the NCAA highest level. Division II athletes can no longer qualify for Division I meets.

As a sophomore, he won MIAA titles in the indoor and outdoor high jump, and indoor and outdoor pole vault, helping the Bulldogs claim the 1970 MIAA indoor championship. At the national level, he finished second in the decathlon and was fourth in the pole vault. He once again advanced to the NCAA University Division championship, finishing 12th in the decathlon.

In 1971, he again claimed MIAA indoor pole vault and high jump titles, and the conference outdoor pole vault crown. Allbritton then captured two more all-America honors by finishing fifth in the pole vault and sixth in the high jump at nationals. Truman had another top 10 national finish, tying for seven at the ’71 event. Allbritton competed at the University meet again but did not place in the finals of the pole vault.

As a senior in 1972, Allbritton was a key member on the best Truman track team in school history. The squad swept both MIAA indoor and outdoor titles and finished third in the nation at the national meet. Allbritton was first in the MIAA indoor high jump and pole vault contests, as well as the outdoor pole vault. At the Division II meet, he won the decathlon, finished second in the high jump and was third in the pole vault. At his final Division I national meet, he captured third-place in the decathlon event.

Allbritton still holds Truman records in the indoor pole vault (16-0.75), outdoor pole vault (16-4.5) and decathlon (7,328 points).

He died in 2002 in Los Angeles and is survived by nine siblings.

BOB ATHERTON (Tampa, Fla.) was a sweeper on the Bulldog soccer team from 1985-88 and is the only member of the men’s soccer team to be named first-team all-MIAA four consecutive years. Atherton was also a member of the National Soccer Coaches Association of America all-region teams in 1985, 1987 and 1988. He also served as captain for a season.

Hailing from Federal Way, Wash., and Decatur High School, he was the team’s defensive player of the year in 1985, 1986 and 1987, and team co-MVP in 1987. As a

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freshman, Atherton was named the team’s rookie of the year, helping the ‘Dogs shut out four opponents as they posted a 4-10-4 record in a rebuilding year.

In his sophomore year, he anchored the defense and helped the team make a marked improvement with five shutouts and a 12-6-2 overall record. It was the most wins by a Truman squad in the seven years of the program.

The following season, the team again achieved two Bulldog firsts. With a 14-6-1 overall mark, the team posted the most wins in school history, and a solid defensive unit led shut out a school record 10 opponents. The 1987 campaign is still one of just three double-digit shutout seasons at Truman.

During his final season, the Bulldogs went 11-6-3 and held foes to the fewest goals of his four-year tenure, allowing just 23 on the year, along with recording seven shutouts.

For his career, Atherton played in 77 games, missing just two contests. He scored three goals and assisted on four others, taking 33 shots over his four years on the Bulldogs’ defense.

Atherton excelled in the classroom as a two-time academic all-America selection. In 1987, he became the first Bulldog to receive academic all-America honors when he was an honorable mention Intercollegiate Soccer Association of America/adidas scholar-athlete selection. He was a first-team ISAA/adidas pick in 1988. Atherton was also a second-team Verizon all-district pick his final year, and a three-time MIAA scholar-athlete.

A 1990 Truman graduate, Atherton earned a bachelor of science degree in computer science. He is currently director of sales and marketing for Image One Corporation, an information systems software developer.

He has two sons, Robert “Bo”, eight years old, and Drennan, who is six years old. Atherton resides in Tampa, Fla.

BILL BOWLES (Veradale, Wash.) was a three-time letterwinner as a tackle on the football squad from 1952-54. Bowles attended the University of Missouri in 1951 and lettered in football as a tackle before transferring to Truman.

He earned second-team all-MIAA honors in 1952 and 1953 and was a first-team selection in 1954. Bowles served as a team captain for the Bulldogs during the 1954 campaign.

While playing for Truman, he helped the team to a 20-4 overall record as the Bulldogs won three MIAA championships. During those three years, Truman outscored the opposition by 13 points a game with the offense averaging 21.5 points and the defense allowing just 8.5 a game.

After completing his college career, Bowles coached at Kirksville High School, his alma mater, taking over as head track coach in 1955-56, and assisted with football and basketball under John Spainhower that year. He spent the next three years as head football coach at St. Charles High School. In 1959, Bowles was named the head football coach at Centralia High School, leading the team to conference titles in 1959 and 1960.

He moved to the Spokane, Wash., area in 1961, coaching and teaching at two high schools before retiring in 1988 from West Valley High School where he was vice principal.

Bowles earned a bachelor of science education degree in physical education from Truman in 1955, and a master’s degree in physical education from the University in 1961. He received administrative credentials from Gonzaga University (Wash.) in 1974.

Bowles was a standout as a football, basketball and track athlete in high school, lettering four years in football for the Tigers.

He married Gerrie Orwiler, also a Kirksville native, and they celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary just before his death from a coronary thrombosis in 1991 at the age of 58. They had two daughters together, Terri Bowles and Tracie Schillinger, and have four grandchildren.

ERIC HOLM (Liberty, Mo.) spent 17 years in the Bulldog football program, starting out as a player and finally becoming the head coach from 1990-94.

As a student-athlete, Holm was a first-team all-MIAA receiver his senior year, and was an honorable mention pick as a junior. In his final season in 1980, he was named second-team Associated Press Little-America and was a unanimous choice for first-team all-MIAA honors. He also culminated his career by being named team MVP and captain.

He still holds the school record with four touchdown receptions in a game, completing the feat against Lincoln University in 1980. Holm set a Truman and MIAA record of 74 catches in his final season, for 900 yards and eight touchdowns. He also holds Bulldogs career records for punt returns (109) and punt return yardage (665), as well as punt returns for a touchdown (2).

He finished second among the team’s receivers with 32 receptions for 346 yards as a junior.

Holm came to Truman as a defensive back but was moved his first day of practice to quarterback, and then to the wide receiver position as a sophomore. His first two seasons, he served primarily as a return specialist.

In Holm’s freshman campaign, he averaged 9.4 yards on punt returns and would lead the team in punt returns all four years of his career. His 109 punt returns also still stands as an MIAA record.

In addition, he had 43 kickoff returns for 724 yards and 14 carries for 88 yards and two touchdowns over his

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tenure as a player for the ‘Dogs.

He still ranks 11th among Bulldog career receptions leaders (106) and is 17th in receiving yards (1,246), despite not making a single catch his first two seasons.

Making Holm’s accomplishments on the playing field even more impressive is the fact that as a freshman he suffered a detached retina in a game and became blind in his left eye.

After his playing days, he became a graduate assistant and later a part-time coach for the team from 1981-84, also working in the admissions office at Truman in 1981.

Holm became a full-time assistant for the Bulldogs in 1984, and served as the team’s receiver and quarterback coach in 1985 when the ‘Dogs led NCAA Division II in total offense and passing offense. That year, the team also broke or tied 24 school and MIAA records and set nine DII marks.

He was Truman’s offensive coordinator from 1986-88 and helped the ‘Dogs win their most recent MIAA title in 1988, before being named to the same position at Eastern Illinois in 1989. During his only season at EIU, Holm helped guide the team to the second round of the NCAA Division I-AA playoffs.

In 1990, he returned to Kirksville as the Bulldogs’ 18th head coach. Over the next five years, Holm led Truman to a 37-19 record, tying with Jack Ball for the fifth-most wins by a Bulldog football head coach.

In his first year, Truman went 9-1 in the regular season and advanced to the NCAA playoffs before being knocked out by MIAA foe and eventual DII semi-finalist, Pittsburg State.

His 1992 team also won nine contests (9-3) and the 1994 contingent was 8-3. Both of those squads earned NCAA bids as well. All total, Holm’s teams made three of the school’s five postseason appearances.

He left Truman in 1995 to take the head coaching job at Northern Michigan University where he spent seven years and posted an overall record of 43-31.

Holm coached three quarterbacks at Truman that were named the league MVP, and another while at Northern Michigan. One of those QBs, Chris Hegg, became a national player of the year after setting numerous NCAA Division II records as a Bulldog.

Holm and his wife, Penny, have three children, Erin, who is 15 years old, a son Evan, who is 12, and another daughter, Lauren, who is nine years old. Holm and his family reside in Liberty, Mo., and he is currently the director of the Paul Henson Family YMCA in Prairie Village, Kan. Holm also has a step son, Jeremiah Jackson, who is 26 years old.

Holm graduated from Truman in 1981 with a bachelor of science education degree in physical education, and earned a master’s degree in physical education/sports administration from the University in 1987. An Independence, Mo., native, he was an all-district football player at Truman High School, where he also participated in baseball and basketball.

STACY (ROBERTS) SCHROEDER (pronounced Shray-dur) (Columbia, Mo.), a native of Columbia, Mo., was a two-time all-America while performing on some of the top track teams in school history from 1988-91.

As a freshman, she won her first all-conference award when she finished second in the high jump (5-6.25) at the MIAA outdoor championship.

In 1989, she also had a runner-up finish at an MIAA meet, this time in the indoor high jump (5-6). Holm’s team won the indoor conference championships that year for the first time. Schroeder qualified for the NCAA Division II Indoor Championships that season and finished seventh in the high jump (5-7). During her sophomore outdoor season, she once again was runner-up at the conference championships (5-6.25).

Schroeder’s junior year was her best as a Bulldog. She started by helping the team to a second-straight MIAA indoor title by claiming the crown in the high jump (5-9). She advanced to the NCAA meet for the second time and earned all-America honors with a third-place finish (5-9). The Bulldog track team placed eighth in the nation at that meet, still the best performance for a women’s indoor or outdoor track team at Truman. In the spring, she completed a season sweep by winning the MIAA outdoor high jump (5-7), and became an all-America again with a seventh-place (5-6) finish at nationals. The team finished 10th at the NCAA outdoor meet, it’s best-ever outdoor showing.

As a senior, Schroeder finished second (5-2.5) at the MIAA indoor championships and ninth at the DII meet in the high jump (5-7). She completed her career with a fourth-place (5-2.5) showing in the high jump at the MIAA outdoor meet.

After graduation Schroeder received a prestigious NCAA postgraduate scholarship, presented to 10 NCAA student-athletes from all NCAA divisions. She was also Truman’s first Missouri finalist for the 1991 NCAA Woman of the Year award.

Schroeder still holds the school indoor record in the high jump of 5-8.

She graduated from Truman in 1991 with a bachelor of arts degree in business administration/management, and earned a master’s degree in sports administration from the University of Missouri in 1993.

During the 1993-94 academic year, Schroeder did an internship at the NCAA national office for the championships department. She currently serves as the Assistant Executive Director for the Missouri State High School Athletics Association.

Schroeder resides in Columbia, Mo., with her husband, Kevin, and they have a daughter Avery who is four years old and a son Ethan who is three months old.

-- GO BULLDOGS --