The Truman Bulldogs volleyball team has now won four of the last five meetings over Central Missouri State, but Friday night’s 3-0 win over the Jennies accomplished another first for the Bulldogs. It marked the first time since Sept. 16, 1983 that Truman has picked up a road win versus CMSU. The 32-30, 30-21, 30-26 Truman victory also snapped the Jennies’ 35-match MIAA home winning streak.

Additionally, the victory gave fourth-ranked Truman sole possession of first place in the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association race. Last year, the ‘Dogs and CMSU shared the conference title, marking the first time in history that someone other that Central had at least a piece of the league crown. This year, Truman could win the title outright provided the team’s winning ways continue -- the ‘Dogs improved to 22-1 overall and 9-0 in the MIAA with a pair of weekend wins, including the triumph at CMSU.

Truman has now stopped five nationally-ranked foes, the most of anybody in Division II, according to the American Volleyball Coaches Association. The ‘Dogs have wins over North Alabama, South Dakota State, Central Missouri State, Rockhurst and Alabama-Huntsville, all of which have been mainstays in the national rankings this year. The Bulldogs were ranked fourth in last week’s AVCA Top 25 and No. 1 in the South Central Region.

Truman, the top female academic team on campus last year, has surpassed its record-setting start of last year by winning 22 of its first 23 matches. Last year’s team was 21-2 at the same point in the season.

This year’s team was also the fastest Bulldog squad in history to garner 20 wins, at least in terms of the calendar. Truman collected it’s 20th win this year on Oct. 2, outshining the 1990 team that achieved the feat on Oct. 5 of that year. Twice in team history has a team gotten to 20 victories by winning 20 of its first 21; the 2000 team did it as well as this year’s squad.

Truman currently has its 12th consecutive season with 20 or more wins. However, the ‘Dogs appear to be well on their way to a win total in the 30s, and that’s something that’s happened only twice in team history, including last year.

The Bulldogs have now won 11 consecutive matches on the year. Overall, Truman is riding a 14-match home winning streak, and has won 26 of its last 28 home matches. The team has also won 17 consecutive MIAA home matches. The ‘Dogs have won 35 of their last 36 MIAA matches overall.