Quick Facts
Location: Kirksville, Mo. 63501
Founded: 1867  Enrollment: 6,000
President: Dr. Barbara Dixon
Director of Athletics: Jerry Wollmering
Affiliation: NCAA Division II
Conference: Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association
Nickname: Bulldogs  Colors: Purple & White
Head Coach: Mike Cannon (Phone: 660-785-4463)
Facility (Cap.): Truman Soccer Park (250)

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gobuldogs.truman.edu

Aug. 30-31  Truman Classic
  - Aug. 30  vs. South Dakota State, 11:30 a.m.
  - Aug. 31  vs. North Dakota, 2 p.m.
Sept. 6-7  @ Central Missouri Tourn. (Warrensburg)
  - Sept. 6  vs. Nebraska-Omaha, 11 a.m.
  - Sept. 7  vs. Minn. St., Mankato, 11 a.m.
Sept. 12  @ Winona State (Minn.), 3 p.m.
Sept. 14  Washburn (Kan.) *, 1 p.m.
Sept. 20  Northwest Missouri *, 1 p.m.
Sept. 21  Missouri-Rolla *, Noon
Sept. 27  Minnesota-Duluth, Noon
Sept. 28  Emporia State (Kan.) *, 1 p.m.
  @ Missouri Southern (Joplin) *, 3 p.m.
  @ Missouri-Rolla (Rolla) *, 3 p.m.
  @ Southwest Baptist (Bolivar) *, 2 p.m.
  @ Emporia State (Kan.) *, 1 p.m.
  @ Washburn (Topeka, Kan.) *, 1 p.m.
Oct. 6  Southwest Baptist *, 2 p.m.
Oct. 10  Central Missouri *, 2 p.m.
Nov. 1  @ Central Missouri (Warrensburg) *, 1 p.m.
 Nov. 2  @ Northwest Missouri (Maryville) *, 1 p.m.
 Nov. 8  Missouri Southern *, 11 a.m.
 Nov. 15-16  NCAA First-Round
 Nov. 22-23  NCAA Second-Round
 Nov. 29-30  NCAA Quarterfinals
 Dec. 5  NCAA Semifinals (Virginia Beach, Va.)
 Dec. 7  NCAA Finals (Virginia Beach, Va.)

* Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association game.

2003 Travel Plans

SEPT. 6-7, CENTRAL MISSOURI Tourn. IN WARRENSBURG
Depart: Sept. 5, 6 p.m.
Return: Sept. 7, 10 p.m.

OCT. 6, WINONA STATE (MINN.)
Depart: Sept. 11, Noon
Return: Sept. 12, 11 p.m.

OCT. 6, MISSOURI SOUTHERN IN JOPLIN
Depart: Oct. 5, Noon
Return: Oct. 6, 11 p.m

OCT. 10-11 MISSOURI-ROLLA & SOUTHWEST BAPTIST IN BOLIVAR
Leave: Oct. 10, 9 a.m
Return: Oct. 11, 10 p.m

OCT. 18-19, EMPORIA STATE (KAN.) & WASHBURN IN TOPEKA, KAN.
Leave: Oct. 17, 3 p.m.
Return: Oct. 19, 1 a.m.

NOV. 1-2, CENTRAL MISSOURI & NORTHWEST MISSOURI IN MARYVILLE
Leave: Oct. 31, 6 p.m.
Return: Nov. 2, 10 p.m.

2003 Schedule

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Editor: Melissa Ware (‘87)
Production & Copy: John Sauer
Photography: Tim Barcus (‘89)
Cover Design: Jason Baumbach

On The Cover: (left to right) Senior backs Beth Wieman and Angie Schuhler, junior forward Sara Murray, junior midfielder Anna Sonderman and junior forward Ellen Wright.
For the last two years, the Bulldogs have teetered on the edge of greatness, qualifying for two NCAA Division II tournaments. This year, the ‘Dogs hope to not only make it back to postseason, but to take the team into year, the ‘Dogs hope to not only make it for two NCAA Division II tournaments. This

tethered on the edge of greatness, qualifying and

ingering mix of all-MIAA players, along with some crafty sophomores and ready-to-play new-
comers.

Sophomores Lauren Cepicky and Molly Benson were major contributors in nearly every game last season, and Cepicky earned three starts and proved she could score with three goals and a pair of assists in her inaug-
gural campaign. They will start wide for the ‘Dogs, while newcomer Robyn Morton-

son seems to have garnered the starring role in the top midfield.

Anchoring the middle of the field will be

er Jennifer Buscher and first-team all-region goalie Lisa Schmalz. However, look for Wieman, senior Angie Schuhler and Manns to take over leadership of the ‘Dogs’ back-

field. Sophomore Lauren Knoble and newcomer Lauren Davis will vie for the role of keeper, but could split time over the course of the season.

**Backs**

Despite key losses in the back field, there is no lack of experience for the team to draw from. Wieman will move back and take over Buscher’s role as the sweeper, and Schuhler will also take a step back to serve as a marking back. Wieman has started 55 of her 57 career games at Truman and scored her first three goals last year to finish fifth among the team’s scoring leaders with nine points. Schuhler has 46 career games under her belt and will be an asset to the leadership of the back field where both seniors reside.

Veteran all-MIAA performers Stephanie Cepicky and Manns will start out wide, cementing a seasoned group of backs.

“Beth (Wieman) and Lisa (Manns) played a lot last year, as did Angie (Schuhler),” head coach Mike Cannon said. “So I think we’ll have good experience. There will be a few different faces, but Beth and Lisa are solid as ever and Angie had a good year, last year too.”

Newcomer Kera Reilly will help out wide, while transfer Addie Arment will red-shirt the year. Sophomore Asdis Finnsdottir, who got in two games a year ago, will add depth at marking back.

“Our depth is good with Kera and Asdis in the mix,” Cannon indicated. “Both are progressing nicely, so we may be able to move people around. Either could come off the bench to help out more often.”

**Midfielders**

The Bulldogs’ midfield will have an exciting mix of all-MIAA players, along with some crafty sophomores and ready-to-play new-

comers.

Sophomores Lauren Cepicky and Molly Benson were major contributors in nearly every game last season, and Cepicky earned three starts and proved she could score with three goals and a pair of assists in her inaug-
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son seems to have garnered the starting role in the top midfield.

Anchoring the middle of the field will be

Sonderman who has made steady improve-

ment since joining the team. Her size and speed have been an asset on nearly every part of the pitch.

“The midfield should be fun to watch,” Cannon said. “Sonderman was great last year, so there are no worries with her; and she’ll help Robyn get comfortable with our style of play.

“Robyn is creative and smooth in her attack. She brings something to the table that we’ve lacked,” Cannon went on to say.

“Lauren (Cepicky) and Molly (Benson) were both important on the bench for us last year, but will play bigger roles this year.”

Newcomers Katie Buchler, Melissa Rhomberg and Melissa Snodgrass give the ‘Dogs more depth in the midfield.

“We’re a little young and inexperienced after the starters,” Cannon indicated. “It will just depend on who steps up to help some.”

**Forwards**

Murray will certainly be the Bulldogs’ top scoring threat as she has been the last two

2003 Team Captains (left to right): Angie Schuhler and Beth Wieman.

2003 NSCAA Preseason

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>School</th>
<th>W-L-T</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Christian Brothers (Tenn.)</td>
<td>25-1-0</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Nebraska-Omaha</td>
<td>22-1-0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Northern Kentucky</td>
<td>20-1-2</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Franklin Pierce (N.H.)</td>
<td>18-1-2</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Metro State (Colo.)</td>
<td>20-3-2</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>UC-San Diego</td>
<td>15-3-1</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Adelphi (N.Y.)</td>
<td>17-2-2</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Barry (Fla.)</td>
<td>18-1-0</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>North Florida</td>
<td>17-4-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Kennesaw State (Ga.)</td>
<td>18-1-0</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Central Oklahoma</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Merrimack (Mass.)</td>
<td>15-7-1</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Truman</td>
<td>16-3-2</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Cal Poly Pomona</td>
<td>11-6-2</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>West Chester (Pa.)</td>
<td>10-6-1</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>Wheeling Jesuit (W.V.)</td>
<td>16-5-1</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>West Florida</td>
<td>15-4-1</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Sonoma State (Calif.)</td>
<td>12-6-1</td>
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<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Catawba (N.C.)</td>
<td>15-3-1</td>
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<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>West Texas A&amp;M</td>
<td>15-4-0</td>
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<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Bloomburg (Pa.)</td>
<td>12-6-3</td>
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<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>St. Rose (N.Y.)</td>
<td>15-5-0</td>
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<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>UC-Davis</td>
<td>13-7-2</td>
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<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Grand Valley State (Mich.)</td>
<td>13-4-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Lock Haven (Pa.)</td>
<td>16-3-1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Also receiving votes: San Francisco St., Regis (Colo.), Central Missouri, Bridgeport (Conn.), Tusculum (Tenn.), Ashland (Ohio), MSU-Mankato
years. Despite being slowed by an injury last year, Murray was still the team’s high-scorer with nine goals and assists.

Wright will start on the other side up top. She and Sonderman tied for the team lead with three game-winning goals last year, and both got five balls past opposing goalies. Wright has been a part-time starter, but is a two-time all-MIAA performer, contributing heavily off the bench too.

Sophomores Rachel McCarville and Chayil Wiedeman and newcomer Lauren Hawks will help the ‘Dogs’ attack off the bench.

“Sara (Murray) should be healthier this year and Ellen (Wright) looks good,” Cannon said. “Hawks has had a great preseason and could be the first off the bench. Chayil could help also out wide if needed.”

Goalkeepers

Knobler got in front of the net for 15 minutes in two games last year, but will be pushed by the newcomer, Davis. Davis is likely to get the call early in the season while Knobler works her way back after being slowed with a preseason injury.

“There’s been good competition,” Cannon indicated. “Knobler was banged up in preseason but it could go back and forth. Opening day looks like Davis but Knobler will push for time. We really have two solid keepers.”

Schedule

If the ‘Dogs get through their first five games smelling like roses, it could mean another trip to the NCAA tournament.

After starting the 2002 slate with a tough road trip to North Dakota, the Bulldogs are looking forward to getting on the pitch for the first time in 2003 at the friendly confines of the Truman Soccer Park. The ‘Dogs will host one of those same opponents though in game No. 2 of the tourney when Truman and North Dakota square off.

However, the season-opener will be against another Central region opponent and first-time foe, South Dakota State.

The ‘Dogs have perhaps their toughest test of the season at the Central Missouri tournament the following weekend when they take on preseason second-ranked Nebraska-Omaha and Minnesota State, Mankato, a team that received preseason poll votes. UNO knocked Truman out of the NCAA tournament last year in the quarterfinal round and went on to play in the national championship game.

“The first weekend with SDSU and UND will be tough, but UNO and Mankato will be big tests for us,” Cannon said. “All six non-conference games are huge.”

Truman has lost just once and tied once in 34 MIAA games over the last four years, while claiming all four league titles.

However, the conference coaches have Truman, Central Missouri and Southwest Baptist in tight contention for the crown this season.

“CMSU and SBU will be good and Emporia is better,” Cannon indicated. “Every year the MIAA gets a little stronger, but that keeps us working hard. It’s good for us to have that competition in the league because it only makes us a better team.”

Interrupting the MIAA slate is the Bulldogs’ only other non-conference game, a bout with Minnesota-Duluth.
Mike Cannon enters his 11th season at Truman and is the most successful coach to ever lead the Bulldogs during the last 19 years of the program’s existence.

Last year, Cannon’s team reached the NCAA Division II tournament for the third time during his tenure, beating Northern Colorado in the first round before falling to No. 1 seed and eventual national runner-up Nebraska-Omaha. The win over UNC was Cannon’s 125th.

His 2001 team posted the most wins ever (18) and was the No. 1 team in the Central region, earning a first-round bye in the NCAA tourney that year. Cannon was later named Central region coach of the year that season.

His squad of a year ago claimed its fourth-straight Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association crown. Cannon also received MIAA coach of the year honors for the fourth consecutive season.

With a career record of 125-50-15 (.697), Cannon is the winningest coach in Truman women’s soccer history, and is ranked tied for 16th by percentage and 14th by victories among NCAA Division II active coaches with a minimum of five years on the job. He also comes in fourth by percentage on the list of active and inactive coaches with 10 or more years in the DII ranks, and is 15th on that list according to number of victories. Among women’s soccer coaches at any NCAA level, Cannon’s winning percentage ranks 32nd for those with at least 10 years in the profession.

In 1997, he led the Bulldogs to their first playoff appearance and advanced the team to the NCAA Division II quarterfinals. That year, Cannon became Truman’s winningest coach with a 3-0 win over Baker University on Sept. 27. He posted his 100th career victory in 2001 in a 3-0 defeat of MIAA rival Northwest Missouri.

Cannon was named head coach of the Bulldogs in 1993 after serving as an assistant coach for the Truman men’s soccer team in 1992. From 1988-91, Cannon played for Truman as a marking back and midfielder and was named the team’s most valuable player his senior year.

As a junior, he was selected as the Bulldogs’ most improved player for his contribution during a campaign in which the men’s team qualified for the DII playoffs for the first time. During the summers of 1996 and 1997, Cannon spent time on the pitch as a defender for the Des Moines Menace of the United Systems of Independent Soccer Leagues (now called the United Soccer League). He was selected to play in the USISL all-star game in ’96 and served as team captain in ’97. Cannon’s efforts helped lead the Menace to the regional playoffs both years. He graduated in 1992 from Truman with a bachelor’s degree in English.

Cannon’s Milestones

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Record</th>
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<tr>
<td>First Collegiate Victory:</td>
<td>vs. Missouri-Rolla</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(3-0)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sept. 6, 1993</td>
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<tr>
<td>First Home Victory:</td>
<td>vs. U.S. Air Force</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(4-5)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sept. 26, 1993</td>
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<tr>
<td>25th Collegiate Victory:</td>
<td>vs. Central Missouri</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(3-0)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Oct. 25, 1995</td>
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<td>50th Collegiate Victory:</td>
<td>vs. Lewis (2-1)</td>
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<td>Nov. 1, 1997</td>
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<td>75th Collegiate Victory:</td>
<td>vs. Southwest Baptist</td>
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<td>(3-0)</td>
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<td>Nov. 6, 1999</td>
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<tr>
<td>100th Collegiate Victory:</td>
<td>vs. Northwest Missouri</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(3-0)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sept. 6, 2001</td>
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<tr>
<td>125th Collegiate Victory:</td>
<td>vs. Northern Colorado</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>(1-0)</td>
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<td>Nov. 13, 2002</td>
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Student Assistant Coach

Karla Danekas

Danekas completed her career in 2002 by earning her fourth-straight all-MIAA honor as a back for the Bulldogs. A second-team pick her final season, Danekas earned first-team honors as a junior and honorable mention recognition her first two seasons in the ‘Dogs’ back field.

She started all 79 of her career games at Truman, helping on eight goals and putting her only ball in the net as a sophomore.

Danekas helped the Truman defense lead the nation with a 0.38 goals against rating in 2001.

A nursing major at Truman, she is a native of Naperville, Ill., and went to Naperville Central High School.

Student Assistant Coach

Heather Murray

Murray will help coach this season after completing her career as a midfielder for the Bulldogs last season. She was a two-time all-MIAA performer after being named second-team all-league to finish off her career and receiving first-team honors as a junior. Murray tied for second on the squad with five goals in 2002 and scored 14 for her career, along with 11 assists for 39 points in a school-record 80 career games.

She was a five-sport athlete at St. Charles West High School and is a philosophy/religion major at Truman.

Athletics Trainer

Michelle Boyd

Michelle Boyd is in her 10th year as an athletic trainer at Truman, but enters her third as the head athletics trainer after serving as an assistant under Clint Thompson for the seven years prior to taking over.

From 1992-94, she was the head athletics trainer at Quaker Valley High School in Leetsdale, Pa.

Boyd was an athletics trainer for wheelchair athletics at the University of Illinois Rehabilitation Education Center in 1992.

She received a bachelor’s degree in kinesiology in 1992 from the University of Illinois (Champaign) and a master’s degree in exercise physiology from the University of Pittsburgh (Pa.) in 1994.