The National Soccer Coaches Association of America announced its all-region teams today and three Bulldogs earned first-team status and the right to advance to the all-America ballot.

Senior defender Jennifer Buscher (St. Louis/Notre Dame), sophomore midfielder Anna Sonderman (Manchester, Mo./Nerinx Hall) and sophomore striker Sara Murray (Eden Prairie, Minn.) were the three ‘Dogs to garner first-team status, while freshman goalkeeper Lisa Schmalz (Chesterfield, Mo./Parkway Central) was named to the second team.

In addition to first-team all-region honors this year, Buscher was also a first-team all-Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association pick in 2002. She was a regular among the defenders as a freshman, scoring her first collegiate goal against Minnesota State, Mankato. That year, she was named rookie of the year by her teammates and was a member of two all-tournament teams. In 1999, Buscher earned honorable mention all-MIAA honors as a full-time starter for the ‘Dogs. She scored the game-winning goal that year against Southwest Baptist. Buscher redshirted in 2000, but came back the following year to be named to the third NSCAA/adidas all-America team, the first NSCAA/adidas all-Central region team, as well as earned second-team all-MIAA honors. She helped the ‘Dogs lead the nation with a 0.38 goals against average and shared save of the year honors in 2001 for the NCAA second-round game against Northern Colorado. Buscher will be a three-time academic all-MIAA honoree and member of the MIAA commissioner’s academic honor roll. She has a career total of two goals and seven assists for 11 points, and is tied for second in career games played at Truman with 79. Buscher served as a captain this past year and is pursuing a degree in communications.

Murray, also a first-team all-MIAA and now all-region pick, has led the team in goals the last two seasons, finishing the 2002 campaign with a team-high nine goals and assists and 27 points. She completed the season ranked fifth among Bulldog career leaders with 26 goals, and is ninth in assists (14) and fifth in points (66). Her 16 goals in 2001 was a school record, while her nine this past year ranks tied for ninth on the Truman single season goals chart.

Sonderman, another first-team all-conference and now all-region choice, tied for the team lead with three game-winning goals and was second in scoring with 15 points on five goals and assists. She tallied two goals in the final two MIAA games, including the game-winner in the MIAA and regular season finale over Central Missouri and was named MIAA athlete of the week for her efforts. She also scored the game-winning goal in the 2001 second-round NCAA tournament game vs. Northern Colorado.

Schmalz tied for the fourth-most shutouts in school history in a season with her 11 in 2002. She played nearly every minute, less 36 seconds, in goal this past season, recording a 0.74 goals against average.

2002 NSCAA ALL-CENTRAL REGION TEAMS
FIRST TEAM
GK Amy Price Nebraska-Omaha Fr. Omaha, NE
D Jennifer Buscher Truman Sr. St. Louis, MO
D Meghan Pile Nebraska-Omaha Fr. Columbus, NE
D Anna Sonderman Truman So. Manchester, MO
MF Stephanie Kirby Nebraska-Omaha Jr. Elkhorn, NE
MF Kaylin Sprehe Northern Colorado Sr. Colorado Springs, CO
MF Nicole Fietz Minn.-Duluth Jr. Green Bay, WI
F Stephanie Kruse Nebraska-Omaha Sr. Columbus, NE
F Sara Murray Truman So. Eden Prairie, MN
F Amber Dusosky Minn. St., Mankato Jr. Champlin, MN
F Stephanie Pfeiffer North Dakota So. Ramsey, MN

SECOND TEAM
GK Lisa Schmalz Truman State Fr. Chesterfield, MO
D Kari Hamilton Northern Colorado Jr. Aurora, CO
D Alicia Givens Mo. Southern St. So. Owasso, OK
D Kelly Gilbertson NDSU Sr. Bloomington, MN
D Melissa Layton Central Missouri St. Sr. Peters, MO
MF Katie Smith Central Missouri St. Sr. Ferguson, MO
MF Kristen Ruhman Winona State Jr. Appleton, WI
MF Carly Christensen NDSU So. New Brighton, MN
MF Kersten Coulter Northern State Sr. Sioux Falls, SD
F Ashley Munelly Mo. Southern St. So. Springfield, MO
F Anne Willrett Nebraska-Omaha So. Council Bluffs, IA
F Kiha Thomas Northern Colorado Sr. Aurora, CO