



Rally Club Newsletter

The adventures of Truman Volleyball in October...

Issue 2, October 2009

Greetings from the Truman Volleyball Office! We are getting to that exciting point in the season where all of our hard work to get better individually and as a team has to start paying off. The MIAA is a grueling conference where every night you have to come out and play highly competitive volleyball. As we tell our freshman..."welcome to college volleyball!" It is a long season that you have to remain very focused in to achieve our goals. Currently we are 20-9 overall, 8-5 in the MIAA, ranked #6 in the region, and #18 in the nation.



A big thanks to all of those who contributed at our Dig Pink Match to raise money for breast cancer research. We were able to raise around \$650, a figure that we think is very good for our first year!

We have had a roller coaster of emotions this month. With some very tough losses (Central Missouri, West Texas, and Washburn) have also come some very BIG wins (Nebraska-Omaha and Emporia). We continue to stress to the team that one win or loss does not define our season.

On Oct. 10th our morning began in Omaha with a couple of inches of snow...which leads me into our great speech of the month..."The inches we need are everywhere around us. They are in ever break of the game, every minute, every second. On this team, we fight for that inch. On this team, we tear ourselves, and everyone around us to pieces for that inch. We CLAW with our finger nails for that inch. Cause we know that when we add up all those inches, that's going to make the difference between WINNING and LOSING."

This quote is from the movie *Any Given Sunday* with Al Pacino as the football coach. Ben used a few motivational moments from movies to keep our team focused this month!

As always thank you for your support and we look forward to seeing you all down the stretch of our season!

"BURM'S" BLOG... our blogger for the month Erin Burmester



Erin is a 6'2" RS from DeWitt, Iowa.

This month has been a busy one for Truman Volleyball. With eleven matches in the past three and a half weeks, you could say that our team has been bonding quite well! The first weekend of October we were at the Washburn Lady Blues Fall Classic, where we went 3-1 on the weekend.

The Following Wednesday we hosted Central Missouri for our Dig Pink Match, where we raised money for breast cancer awareness. Congratulations to Casey Bruno, who tallied **40 digs** for the night! She told a friend that she usually gets about 20 digs a match, so he pledged a dollar per dig. Let's just say that he was quite surprised when she had **DOUBLE** what she estimated!

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Upcoming Event...

Senior Night

vs. Nebraska-Omaha
Sat. Nov. 7th at 7pm

Come support Lauren Graybeal (#6), Erin Hattey (#20), and Krysta Tholen (#8) to celebrate their careers here at Truman at their last match on our home floor!

We will be having dinner at Napoli's Italian Restaurant after the match, everyone is welcome to join!

Over the course of October, we have managed to take down two ranked teams on their home courts. The first match was against #15 Nebraska-Omaha. The match went five games, and it was great to rally back in the fifth for a huge win! (I think it was because of the AMAZING home cooked meal the Petak Family prepared for us... Thanks!) The second huge win came for us against #7 Emporia. If you didn't already know, we played them for the Regional Final on their home court last November, so we were gunning for the same result this time. Even against a huge crowd we were able to keep our energy up and win the match in four games! Needless to say, we celebrated the huge win with Braum's Ice Cream!

Overall Individual Statistics

Leaders as of 10/26/09

Kills

Megan Sharpe.....328

Lauren Graybeal282

Allison Barker.....228

Hitting Percentage

Megan Sharpe..... .364

Emily Briseno..... .316

Johanna Ruff..... .297

Digs

Casey Bruno.....431

Allison Barker.....308

Ashley Petak.....289

You could say that we have perfected our singing voices, and hit all the right notes. Obviously we also sing in our nice man voices! Last month we were focused on taking over Showgirls, but this month it's all about making True Men, the men's a cappella group on campus. If there is a vocal coach anywhere out there, we are interested in signing up for team lessons! Well, gotta get back to the homework... I hope you all can make it to our last home match, November 7th at 7 PM, Pershing Arena! Yeah Dogs! -Erin