Student-Athletes Win National Championships

Student-athletes from swimming, wrestling and track and field recently received national recognition for their efforts.

The women’s swimming team, under the direction of head coach Colleen Murphy, brought home the 2004 Division II title for the fourth consecutive year. The team competed at the NCAA Swimming and Diving Championships held March 10-13 in Buffalo, N.Y., and outscored Drury to win the title 641-561.

Krista Pray, senior psychology major from Naperville, Ill.; Michaela Osborn, junior communication major from Tipton, Iowa; and Christina Blose, junior psychology major from Cape Girardeau, Mo.; were members of last year’s national championship 200-yard medley relay team and took the title again this season, along with Whitney Jensen, sophomore exercise science major from Grinnell, Iowa.

Osborn also repeated as a national champion in the 400-yard medley relay, but was teamed up with Diana Betsworth, junior exercise science major from East Moline, Ill., Pray and Meredith Rocha, sophomore nursing major from Whitehouse, Texas, this year, as the group won and broke Truman’s own NCAA record in the process.

The 800-yard freestyle relay team of Betsworth, Rocha, Sarah Dance, senior exercise science major from Lincoln, Neb., and Katie May, senior communication major from Westmont, Ill., also won a national title.

Lija Kaleps-Clark, freshman history major from Westerville, Ohio, brought home the only individual national crown, winning the 200-yard backstroke.

Merrick Meyer, junior business administration major from St. Peters, Mo., became the second ever Truman national champion wrestler, and the school’s first in 36 years, when he took the NCAA Division II title at 141 pounds. The championships were held March 12-13 in Mankato, Minn. He was the national runner-up at 141 pounds a year ago.

David Schutter is the head wrestling coach.

Christina Winkler, senior biology major from High Ridge, Mo., was the lone Bulldog competing in the NCAA Division II Indoor Track and Field Championships. She finished with a second-place finish in the 60-meter hurdles. The championships were held March 12-13 in Boston. John Cochrane is the head women’s cross country and track and field coach.

Samuel and Tenny Place Fifth in Nation at National Parliamentary Tournament of Excellence

Ian Samuel, junior computer science major from Pueblo, Colo., and Marie Tenny, junior psychology major from Villa Ridge, Mo., placed fifth March 13-14, in the first of three national championship tournaments attended by the Forensic Union, the National Parliamentary Tournament of Excellence. This is the fourth year Truman has had teams eligible to compete at the tournament, but the first year Truman has reached elimination rounds of the prestigious competition. In addition, Samuel was ranked fourth best speaker and Tenny sixth. The tournament was held at the University of California-Berkeley.

The NPTE is one of two national championship tournaments in parliamentary debate, the second being the National Parliamentary Debate Association (NPDA) national tournament.

Truman has ranked in the top-ten in various national debate rankings since its first national championship in 2000.
Truman Offers Online Courses During 2004 Summer Session

The University is experimenting with online education this summer by offering seven online courses (five of them offered for the first time in the online mode) as part of the 2004 Summer Session. These courses provide students the convenience of completing coursework from off-campus locations, while at the same time maintaining student status at Truman for financial aid consideration, enrollment verification and applicability of credit (these courses are the equivalent of regularly offered Truman courses in terms of applicability to degree requirements).

Accreditation Self-Study Subcommittee to Focus on Mission and Integrity

As reported last semester, Truman State University will host a team of evaluators from The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (HLC) from Jan. 31-Feb. 2, 2005. By December 2004, the University must submit an evaluative written report to the HLC to support the visit. In addition to a steering committee, five subcommittees consisting of faculty, staff and students currently are engaged in a comprehensive self-study process. Each subcommittee has been charged to analyze and evaluate the University’s documents, policies and practices against one of five criteria.

This article is the first of several articles describing the subcommittees. The first criterion is Mission and Integrity.

The portion of the self-study focused on Mission and Integrity studies how Truman’s mission as a public liberal arts and sciences university is communicated to stakeholders both within and outside of the institution, how well and how pervasively the mission is understood by the various constituencies, and how awareness of mission affects procedural and policy decisions at all levels.

Integrity refers to the coherence of all that we do, and the consistency of each portion of our operations with the mission. It also has an ethical meaning of transparency, fairness and accountability in all dealings, whether communicating with the public, responding to grievances, or stewardship of public resources and the high responsibility of educating the young. The committee studies the degree to which communication structures are kept open, and decision-making is collaborative to whatever degree is possible and appropriate.

The subcommittee is chaired by Adam Brooke Davis, associate professor of English, and includes Dale Blesz, assistant professor of special education; Mark Campbell, associate professor of agricultural science; Debra Cartwright, associate professor of business administration; Jennifer Eldridge Houser, assistant professor of health; Sally Detweiler, EEO/Gender Equity Officer; Warren Gooch, professor of music; Tony Vazzana, associate professor of mathematics; Melanee Crist, international student adviser; John Quinn, associate professor of political science; and a student representative, Ruth Sabei, sophomore biology major from Tanzania. Teresa Heckert, associate professor of psychology, is an ex officio member of this committee.

Global Issues Colloquium

7-9 p.m. • April 1 • SUB Alumni Room • Paul Wallace will present
For more information, contact Hena Ahmad at 785.6017 or at hahmad@truman.edu.
Scholarship Opportunities Available

Several new scholarship opportunities are currently available for students.

Applications for the J.R. Popalisky Scholarship Fund of the Missouri Section of the American Water Works Association are available in the Truman Financial Aid Office. This $500 scholarship opportunity is available to civil or environmental engineering or environmental science students who have an emphasis in career fields associated with water supply. The submission deadline for this application is March 31. Contact Mark Wolff at 816.822.3446 for more information.

The Beta Zeta Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma International is offering a recruitment grant in the amount of approximately $120 to a woman meeting the following requirements: she must have graduated from a high school in Atchinson, Holt or Nodaway County in Missouri, must have a declared major in education, must have a grade point average of 2.5 or higher and must apply in the spring of her sophomore or junior year. Postmark deadline for application is April 1. For more information, contact the Financial Aid Office at 785.4130.

The John L. Carey Scholarship, which provides financial assistance to liberal arts degree holders pursuing graduate studies in accounting, is currently available in the amount of $5,000. To obtain an application go to http://www.aicpa.org/download/career/mini/JCareyScholarshipApplication.pdf. Deadline for submission is April 1.

Women and Food: A Truman Conference in honor of Women’s History Month
March 25-27
Sponsored by the Women’s and Gender Studies Committee

March 25 – VH 1000
10:30-11:45 a.m.
Women and agriculture
1:30-2:45 p.m.
Women and food in popular culture
3:45-4:55 p.m.
Women, food, and art
March 26 – VH 1000
1:30-2:20 p.m.
Eating disorders
2:30-3:20 p.m.
Women, food, and warrior mentalities
3:30-4:20 p.m.
Personal testimony, part 1
4:30-5:45 p.m.
Communities and cookbooks
March 27 – VH 1000
1:30-1:50 p.m.
Breastfeeding
2-2:50 p.m.
Cross-cultural food and gender
3:30-5:30 p.m.
Personal testimony, part 2
4:45-5:30 p.m.
Original drama
Dana Smith, “Let Them Eat Cake: A Play About Women and Food and Compassion”
March 27 – 828 E. Harrison St. 7 p.m.
Party
All conference participants, attendees, Women’s and Gender Studies students and faculty, friends of WGS, and members of FMLA and NOW are invited.

Non-conference events
March 25
7 p.m. – NOW Drama-and-dessert fund-raiser
“Stepping from the Shadows: Lesser Known Stories from the Reproductive Rights Movement”
Directed by Becky Becker

March 27 (TCRC Center)
9 a.m.-noon
Alliance for the Status of Missouri Women Assembly Discussion of issues affecting Missouri women.
For more information, contact Kelli McBee at missouriasw@yahoo.com

Educator of the Year Committee Selects 12 Semi-Finalists

Truman State University’s Educator of the Year committee has announced 12 semi-finalists from its field of nominated professors.

Seventeen professors were nominated by their students. They were then asked to submit an essay, given a prompt, and a sample syllabus. The 12 semi-finalists were selected based on the nomination form submitted by the student, the essay and sample syllabus. They include Jon Beck, assistant professor of computer science; Joseph Benevento, professor of English; Steven Chappell, assistant professor of communication; Sally Cook, assistant professor of linguistics; José Herrera, associate professor of biology; John Ishiyama, professor of political science; Jennifer Jesse, assistant professor of philosophy and religion; Matthew Killmeier, assistant professor of communication; Wendy Miner, assistant professor of education; Russell Nelson, associate professor of art; Jeffrey Vittengl, assistant professor of psychology; and Sally West, associate professor of history.

The committee will distribute questionnaires in the semi-finalists’ classes March 16-26. This information will be used to help select six finalists March 28. The committee will then observe the finalists’ classes and interview the finalists before selecting the Educator of the Year.

The 2004 Educator of the Year will be announced at the banquet at 6 p.m., April 14, in the Student Union Building Georgian Room.

The committee is comprised of representatives from the sponsoring organizations: Student Senate, Pershing Society, Phi Eta Sigma and Phi Kappa Phi.

Notables

Adam Brooke Davis, associate professor of English, has written an invited chapter for a forthcoming volume in the Modern Languages Association’s “Approaches to Teaching” series, Chaucer: Troilus & Criseide and the Minor Poems; the essay is “Diverse Folk Diversely They Seyde: Teaching Chaucer to Non-majors.”

Taner Edis, assistant professor of physics, will visit the University of Tulsa, Okla., on March 23, to give a talk based on his book, “The Ghost in the Universe.”

Karon Speckman, associate professor of communication-journalism, has been named a fellow of the American Society of Newspaper Editors Institute for Journalism Excellence. She will attend an American Press Institute seminar in Reston, Va., and then have a summer newspaper residency with the Lawrence, Mass., Eagle-Tribune, winner of the 2003 Pulitzer Prize for breaking news.

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The Weekly Lunch Series for Truman faculty, teaching staff and GTRAs continues with “Academic Integrity: An Update on TurnItIn Usage and our Plagiarism Referral Policy,” from 12:30-1:15 p.m., March 24, in the SUB Spanish Room. For more information, contact the Center for Teaching and Learning at 785.4477.

There are several upcoming fitness/wellness activities at the Student Recreation Center. A workshop on “Designing an Effective Workout Plan” will take place at 4:30 p.m., March 24, in the Rec Center conference room. Body Composition assessments will be from 10:30 a.m.-noon and 3:30-5 p.m. March 29. Sign up for both of these events in the Campus Rec Office. The Get Fit and Stay Fit program will continue until May 5. For more information about any of these programs, go to http://recreation.truman.edu.

The Take 5 Game Room is sponsoring Open Mic Night from 8-10 p.m., March 25, in the SUB Down Under. This event will be an open platform for people to speak their mind, read poetry or stories, tell jokes or sing. There will be a free coffee bar and snacks provided. Contact Amanda or Danny at 785.7615 for more information.

Weather permitting, the University Observatory will be open to the public from 8:30-10:30 p.m. March 25. Contact the Division of Science Office at 785.4597, Michael Adams at 785.4088 or go to http://observatory.truman.edu for more information.

The American Association of University Professors will meet at 4:30 p.m., March 26, at the University Club house (516 E. Patterson). For more information, contact Marc Becker at 785.6036.

Beta Alpha Psi, an accounting, finance and information systems organization, will be conducting Volunteer Income Tax Assistance sessions from 8 a.m.-4 p.m., March 27, in Violette Hall. For more information, contact Ayanna Bradley at 627.3869 or Lori Turner at 785.4369.

Truman will host two track and field meets this spring, The Truman Open, March 27, and the MIAA Heptathlon/Decathlon Championships, May 2-3. Anyone interested in helping with these meets should contact John Cochrane at 785.4341.

The Truman Football Alumni and Friends Golf Tournament will be held at 1 p.m., April 16, at the Kirksville Country Club. Proceeds benefit the Truman State University Football Program and the Kirksville Alumni Chapter Scholarship Fund. Please register by March 29. This will be an annual event. For more information, contact Denise Smith at 785.4133.

An open invitation to the RCP Fall Planning Session is offered to any Truman faculty member who is interested in helping to plan items/events associated with Truman Week or the Residential College Program. Two sessions have been planned for convenience purposes: 1:30-2:30 p.m., March 29, in the SUB Conference Room and 4-5 p.m., April 1, in the SUB Room 309. For more information, contact the Residential College Program Office at 785.4409.

Nominations are currently being accepted for full-time academic advisers for the William O’Donnell Lee Advising Award. Nomination forms are available in division offices, in the Vice President for Academic Affairs Office, or by calling Kathy Powell at 785.4105. Completed forms are due by March 31. The form also can be obtained online at http://vpa.truman.edu.

The movie “The Road Home” will be shown in conjunction with a diversity program as a part of Movies Around the World Part 3. The event will be from 7-9:30 p.m., April 1, in the Ryle Hall Classroom. Movies Around the World is sponsored by Ryle Hall. For more information, contact Nick Harbison at 785.5973.

The Child Development Center 2004 Seminar Series continues with “Intergenerational Approaches to Early Childhood Education” at 4:30 p.m., April 1, in VH 1320. Sherri Addis Palmer, will be presenting. The program is co-sponsored by the CDC and the Division of Education. Childcare can be arranged by calling the Education Division Office at 785.4383 by March 30.

Truman will host more than 200 athletes from 17 counties in the 2004 Special Olympics Missouri, Northeast Area. The event will kick off with Opening Ceremonies at 12:30 p.m., April 2, at Stokes Stadium. The games will continue until 5:30 p.m. The public is encouraged to attend. Truman's opera class will be performing “Gallantry” and “The Impressario” at the Kirksville Arts Association’s “A Taste of Opera.” The show begins at 8 p.m., April 3, at Arnie’s Place, 316 North Franklin. Doors will open at 7:30 p.m. Advance tickets are available for $10 at the Washington Street Java Company and Edna Campbell’s Bookstore. Desserts and refreshments will be available. Call Judy at 665.0500 for more information.

The 14th Annual National Art Competition is on display at the University Art Gallery until April 9. The show includes work from a wide range of artists and is diverse in interest and medium. Admission is free and the gallery is open 8:30 a.m.-7 p.m., Monday-Thursday; 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m., Friday; and noon-4:30 p.m., Saturday. The Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society invites all Truman students who have been accepted into study abroad programs for the Fall 2004 semester to apply for a Phi Kappa Phi Study Abroad Grant in the amount of $1,000. Completed applications are due April 15. For more information on the grant or to obtain an application, go to http://www.phikappaphi.org. Arnold Preussner may also be contacted at 785.5681 to answer questions about the program.

On Campus

23 TUESDAY
11 a.m.-Baseball vs. Emporia State, Baseball Field
2 p.m.-Softball vs. Central Missouri State University, Softball Field

24 WEDNESDAY
12:30-1:15 p.m.-Weekly Lunch Series, SUB Spanish Room; see Notes

25 THURSDAY
2 p.m.-Softball vs. Lincoln, Softball Field
8-10 p.m.-Open Mic Night, SUB Down Under; see Notes
8:30-10:30 p.m.-Open House, University Observatory; see Notes

26 FRIDAY
4:30 p.m.-American Association of University Professors meeting, University Club; see Notes
7 p.m.-Chamber Choir Concert, OP Performance Hall; see Page 1

27 SATURDAY
8 a.m.-4 p.m.-Beta Alpha Psi income tax assistance, Violette Hall; see Notes
10:30 a.m.-Truman Track Open, Stokes Stadium
1 p.m.-Men’s and women’s tennis vs. Southwest Baptist, Truman Tennis Courts

28 SUNDAY
1 p.m.-Tennis vs. Southwest Baptist, Truman Tennis Courts
1 p.m.-Baseball vs. Northwest Missouri, Baseball Field
3 p.m.-Maia Quartet, OP Performance Hall; see Page 2

29 MONDAY
1 p.m.-Baseball vs. Northwest Missouri State University, Baseball Field
1:30-2:30 p.m.-RCP Fall Planning Session, SUB Conference Room; see Notes

Retirement Reception for Beverly Blodgett
2-4 p.m. March 31
SUB Alumni Room

She has served the University for 34 years.