

MSSU Athletics Report

1. Sport Program Reports

- a. **Football** – The Missouri Southern football finished its season with a 2-9 overall record. The team had seven All-MIAA performers, led by a third team performance from punter Stetson Broce.
- b. **Women's Soccer** – The Missouri Southern women's soccer team finished the season 4-11-2 in Chris McNaughton's first year as head coach. Four Lions earned All-MIAA honors as Carly Cecil, Taylor Beck, Ronise Miller and Bailey North all earned All-MIAA honors.
- c. **Cross Country** – The MSSU men's cross country team finished second at this year's NCAA Central Region Championships. Sophomore Vincent Kiprop won the individual title for the second-straight year and was named the Central Region Male Runner of the Year for the second-straight year, as well. The team also won the 2016 MIAA Cross Country Title with Coach Jamie Burnham earning MIAA Coach of the Year honors. Four Lions (Kiprop, Tyler Rush, Chris Renteria and Cody Berry) earned All-Region honors. The Lions had six runners earn All-MIAA honors this season. The men are in Tampa, Fla. this weekend for the 2016 NCAA Division II Cross Country Championships. The team is ranked 10th nationally and Kiprop is the top-ranked individual runner. The women finished ninth at the Central Region Championships and senior Emily Harris earned All-Region honors for the third-straight year. At the MIAA Championships, the team finished fourth with three runners (Harris, Christian Provence and Cynthia Torres) earning All-MIAA honors.
- d. **Volleyball** – The Missouri Southern volleyball team finished the 2016 season with a 6-25 over-all record. Freshman middle hitter Alicia Pickett was named All-MIAA this season after finishing sixth in the league in blocks per set.
- e. **Men's Basketball** – The Missouri Southern men's basketball team is 2-0 on the early season with a pair of wins over St. Cloud State and #17 ranked Minnesota State. Junior transfer CJ Carr was named the MIAA and National Player of the Week this week after he averaged 36 points, six rebounds, seven steals and 7.5 assists on the week. After two games, Carr leads Division II in scoring, steals per game and minutes, as well as total steals. He ranks in the top 20 in 15 different statistical categories. The Lions will be home this Saturday against William Jewell at 3 pm.
Women's Basketball - The Missouri Southern women's basketball team is 1-2 on the early season with a win over Oklahoma Baptist and losses against Southwestern Oklahoma and Harding. Amelia Bramer is leading the team with 13.7 points per game, while Deb Holcomb is pouring in 13.3 points per game and Chelsey Henry is scoring 9.7 points per game. The Lions will be back in action this Saturday as the team travels to Minnesota State – Mankato for a 4 pm tip off.

2. MIAA News:

- a. **New MIAA Commissioner Search:** The new Commissioner Racy will be visiting our campus on November 29th. During his visit Mr. Racy will meet with President Marble, Athletic Senior Administration, Coaches, and Student-Athletes.
- b. **Future Scheduling Study:** The CEO's approved a **Recommendation** from the AAC to study the concept of a basketball schedule utilizing a **Thursday-Saturday-Monday** format. For the **2017-18** season the women would play on Thursday-Saturday and the men would play on Saturday-Monday. The results would be presented for *potential acceptance or rejection* at the December 2016 AAC meeting. The Commissioner was directed to lead this initiative and facilitate this study for AAC review and action.

3. NCAA News:

a. NCAA Reporting:

- i. The EADA report was submitted and is expected to become public shortly.
- ii. Proposed Division II Legislation: The compliance office just completed education with our Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC), as well as the coaches and staff on the proposed legislation in the NCAA. The NCAA Convention will be held in Nashville in January where MSSU along with all NCAA Division II schools will vote on the 18 proposed changes.

b.

4. Athletic Department Information:

a. Ticketing/Event Management

i. MSSU Ticket Info

1. Season ticket cards have been success so far
2. Faculty and staff are taking advantage of the online self-service option for tickets
3. Basketball season tickets were be made first available at our "MOSO Madness" event on October 25th
4. Any tickets not claimed were mailed out the following day
5. Single game basketball tickets went on sale October 26th

ii. Globetrotters

1. We are currently in negotiations with the Harlem Globetrotters to return on Feb 2nd, 2017.

a. This would be their 4th performance here in the past 5 years.

b. NCAA Compliance:

- i. The NCAA Division II Central Region Compliance Seminar will be held in Kansas City in April this year. We will have someone from the Financial Aid, Registrar, and Compliance attending the rules seminar this year.

c. Departmental Searches:

- i. Assistant Athletic Compliance (PT Seasonal) has been offered and accepted by Nelson Robinson. Nelson will graduate from University of Memphis in December and is currently interning in the Athletic Compliance office at Christian Brothers University. He will begin his post in January.

- d. SAAC Trick or Treat So Others Can Eat: Each of our teams collected canned food in neighborhoods all over the area. In total over 5,000 canned food items were collected and then donated to Soul's Harbor here in Joplin.

- e. SAAC All Athlete Talent Show: On November 16th 11 teams performed acts in front of 300 plus spectators in Corely Auditorium. The event raised money for Make A Wish Foundation.

- f. Mobile Application: A new athletics mobile application was launched in partnership with Arvest Bank. The free mobile app features live stats, venue maps, player information, concessions information, and promotions. A contest was held between October 31st and November 12th to see between Pitt State and MSSU who could get the most downloads. MSSU won the contest and \$500 from Arvest bank.

5. Lionbackers & Annual Campaign(s):

- a. Membership Drive: The 2016-2017 Lionbacker Campaign officially kicked off on June 1. Currently we sit with 255 Lionbackers.

- b. Booster Club: The Lionbacker booster club has purchased the below items with the funds so far this year. At the next steering committee meeting, the remaining allocation to all other sports teams will be discussed.

- i. Women's Soccer – Scoreboard
- ii. Men's and Women's Basketball – Shooting gun
- iii. Football – Headsets
- iv. Men's and Women's Track and Field – Hurdles

6. Athletic Facility Updates:

- a. Leggett & Platt: Physical Plant is repainting the exterior of the building; bleachers being serviced week before and after Commencement
- b. Warren Turner Field: Batter's Box and Mound Turf was replaced three weeks ago

7. Upcoming Events:

- a. Show Me Gold Morning PT: Nov. 18, 21, 28, Dec. 2, 5, 7, 9 (Hughes)
- b. Kinesiology Department Couch to 5K: Nov. 18 (Hughes)
- c. Men's Basketball v. William Jewell: Nov. 19 (L&P)
- d. Joplin Crusaders Practices: Nov. 20, Dec. 3, 10, 17, Jan. 7 (Hughes Stadium)
- e. Show Me Gold Fitness Test: Nov. 21 (L&P)
- f. Women's Basketball v. Truman St: Nov. 22 (L&P)
- g. Men's Basketball v Rockhurst: Nov. 22 (L&P)
- h. College Heights Youth Basketball Practice: Nov. 22, 29, Dec. 1, 6, 8, 13, 15, 20, 27, 29
- i. Commissioner Racy Visit: Nov. 29 (NEZ)
- j. Legislative Brunch: Nov. 30 (NEZ)
- k. Basketball v. Fort Hays: Dec. 1 (L&P)
- l. Wells Fargo Client Event: Dec. 1 (NEZ)
- m. Lion Pride Lunch: Dec. 2 (NEZ)
- n. Basketball v UNK: Dec. 3 (L&P)
- o. Teacher Education: Dec. 6 (Young/NEZ)
- p. Band Banquet: Dec. 11 (NEZ)
- q. Biology Advisory Committee: Dec. 12 (NEZ)
- r. Lionbacker Steering Committee: Dec. 13 (NEZ)
- s. Athletics Staff Volleyball: Dec. 14 (Young)
- t. Soccer ID Camp: Dec. 16 (Hughes)
- u. Fall Commencement: Dec. 17 (L&P/Young)
- v. Men's Basketball v Arkansas Tech: Dec. 19 (L&P)
- w. Women's Basketball v Evangel: Dec. 31 (L&P)
- x. Men's Basketball v Oklahoma Wesleyan: Dec. 31 (L&P)
- y. Men's Basketball v Randall University: Jan. 2 (L&P)