Ozark Ultimate

2012 COLLEGE PRESEASON MAGAZINE

TEAM PREVIEWS

2012 ALL-OZARK TEAM

2012 PRESEASON POLL

HIGH-FLYING
MATT JACKSON
OF ARKANSAS

Please Feel Free To

KEEP PLAYING WHILE EVERYONE ELSE IS PUTTING THEIR GEAR IN A

WATERPROOF TRASH BAG

TELL YOUR TEAMMATE TO GET HIS OWN

SIDELINE SEAT

STOW YOUR CLEATS

TO KEEP FROM STINKING UP YOUR CAR

THROW THE **STRAP** OVER YOUR SHOULDER & HEAD TO THE NEXT FIELD

GRAB YOUR PHONE

OUT OF THE POCKET

UNDER THE LID & TWEET A SCORE

ICE DOWN BEVERAGES

& DRINK ONE WHILE YOU ICE YOUR FEET

How Do You Use Your

ULTIMATE BUCKET?

ORDER ONLINE OR CHECK OUR TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE AT

WWW.ULTIMATEBUCKET.COM

Ozark Ultimate

PRESENTS

THE LINEUP

2 | PRESEASON POLL
Find out how the teams stack up.

3 | THE ALL - OZARK TEAM
The seven best players in the Ozark Conference.

4 | MEET MATT JACKSON
Matt Jackson is a super stud. Plain and simple.

6 | ARKANSAS LUDICROUS SPEED
A more experienced team looks to finish strong.

10 | CENTRAL ARKANSAS ABDUCTION
A young program looks to build some success.

14 | KANSAS HORRORZONTALS
Looking for redemption.

18 | KANSAS STATE HUCKSTABLES
Out to prove last year was not a fluke.

22 | MISSOURI MUTANTS
Missouri looks to capitalize on the fall's successes.

26 | MISSOURI STATE BEARS
Rebuilding towards a goal.

30 | OKLAHOMA APES OF WRATH
Can they peak at just the right time again this year?

34 | OKLAHOMA STATE ULTIMATO
Consistency is going to be essential.

38 | ST. LOUIS ARCH ANGELS
A new name and a new season.

42 | WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY CONTRA
A team full of new faces.

46 | KEEPING TRACK
Why ultimate should keep statistics.

48 | BEHIND THE CAMERA
A look back at the 2011 season.

AFTER THE PULL

Follow the Ozark Conference and the rest of college ultimate with up-to-date news and commentary at ozarkultimate.com

LEGEND

Throughout this guide we have labeled players in the positions they play for a majority of the game. Seeking to expand beyond the regular two of handler and cutter, we have added some new descriptors to how players line up, with offense first and defense second. For example, H-C. Below is a legend of the positions we have used.

OFFENSE
C/Cutter - Non-specialized receiver
D/Deep - Receiver who lines up deep
F/Foward - Receiver/Handler hybrid
H/Handler - Primary thrower
M/Middle - Middle receiver
W/Wing - Sideline receiver

DEFENSE
C/Cup - Defender in the cup
D/Deep - Defends deep
M/Middle - Defends the middle
R/Rover - Defends where he pleases
W/Wing - Defends the sideline

Cover: Photograph and design by Luke Dockery
Other Photos: By Will Dockery or with permission from their respective team captains

Special Thanks: To all those who let us interview them and helped supply the information to make this magazine: Matt Seaton, Matt Jackson, Jarrod Hockett, Joe Adams, Kyle Welch, Cameron Hunter, Matt Francis, Sam Crowe, Kevin Christian, Max Barowski, Michael Manning, Jacon Zax, Luke Ding and others.

© RED ROOK ROYAL. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. REPRODUCTION IN PART OR IN WHOLE WITHOUT PERMISSION IS PROHIBITED. OZARK ULTIMATE IS WHOLY OWNED BY RED ROOK ROYAL. MADE IN THE USA.

PRESEASON POLL

Team	Pts.
1. Arkansas	88
2. Missouri	82
3. Kansas	80
4. Kansas State	72
5. Oklahoma	64
6. St. Louis	48
7. Oklahoma State	42
8. Washington (StL)	32
9. Missouri State	28
10. Central Arkansas	10

The All-Conference Team and Preseason Poll were voted on by the teams. For the All-Conference Team each team was given seven votes and those seven with the highest votes were named to the team. The top vote getter was named Player of the Year. For the Preseason Poll, teams voted on how they thought everyone would finish. Points were awarded inversely i.e first place is worth 10 points, second is 9, ect.

ALL - OZARK TEAM

PLAYER OF THE YEAR

MATT JACKSON

FORWARD | ARKANSAS LUDICROUS SPEED

Jackson is the epitome of an ultimate player. Not only is he spirited, but he is talented on both sides of the disc. From layouts, to skys, to hucks, Jackson is one of the more complete players in the college game today.

KEVIN CHRISTIAN | HANDLER
OKLAHOMA APES OF WRATH

Christian is a solid handler on Oklahoma's O-line. His leadership is a key component to their success.

VINNY CIARAMITARO | HANDLER
KANSAS HORRZONTALS

Ciaramitaro is a solid player all around. Not only does he handle well, he also plays very good defense in the middle.

ABE COFFIN | HANDLER
ARKANSAS LUDICROUS SPEED

Coffin is the reigning South Central Freshmen of the year, has amazing hucks, and likes to layout. Just ask his opponents.

MATT FRANCIS | FORWARD
MISSOURI MUTANTS

Francis may be short in stature, but he can still sky the towering giants. He likes to break marks and layout too.

CAMERON HUNTER | HANDLER
KANSAS ST. HUCKSTABLES

Hunter is an integral part of the Huckstables' handling corps. This fall he has increased his throwing power and accuracy.

RYAN MEINKOTH | HANDLER
MISSOURI MUTANTS

Meinkoth has Club Nationals experience, and has made a name for himself in the college game with his solid defense.

MEET MATT JACKSON

BY WILL DOCKERY: The first time I ever saw Matt Jackson play was at Harvest Moon back in 2008, which was one of the first tournaments I had attended where I was not playing. Jackson quickly made himself known to everyone there that day as he jumped over an opposing player, whom he was not even guarding, to get a sky d. Everyone's jaw dropped. Everyone, but Matt and the guy who thought he was wide open. He was standing there calmly calling a principle of verticality foul.

Some spectators started booing. A captain from the opposing team came over and started to explain to the intended receiver how the play was not a foul. Matt was willing to send it back. That right there is, in a nutshell, Matt Jackson. Extremely skilled and able to complete stupidly amazing athletic feats, and yet, he is still able to keep his wits about him and not lose his cool. Even when the opposing player was clearly in the wrong.

As in previous years, this year the Ozark Conference teams had a chance to vote for the seven best players in the conference. Over twenty players were nominated this year for the All-Conference Awards, but Matt Jackson was on every ballot. I think that speaks volumes about Matt Jackson's skill and spirit, and I think it also shows that the other Ozark Conference teams have a great deal of respect for him.

And it means they are planning on having their hands full when they face Matt Jackson and Arkansas.

THE TEAMS

2011 OZARK CONFERENCE CHAMPION
WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY (STL)

ARKANSAS
LUDICROUS SPEED

Mental pressure and inexperience killed Ludicrous Speed last year. Returning everyone from last year's roster should help.

BY WILL DOCKERY

VITALS

COACH
NONE
ASSISTANT COACHES
NONE
CAPTAINS
MATT JACKSON, ERIC KEARNEY, MATT SEATON
2011 RECORD
10-14
FINAL RANK
NA (NA)
RETURNING STARTERS OFFENSE
7
RETURNING STARTERS DEFENSE
7
WINS LAST FIVE SEASONS
23,34,24,20,10
LOSSES LAST FIVE SEASONS
19,18,14,16,14
POINTS SCORED LAST YEAR
242
POINTS ALLOWED LAST YEAR
198

SCHEDULE

JANUARY
7 OFF
14 OFF
21 OFF
28 T-TOWN THROWDOWN
FEBRUARY
4 OFF
11 OFF
18 MARDI GRAS
25 OFF
MARCH
3 OFF
10 OFF
17 CENTEX
24 OFF
31 OFF
APRIL
7 OFF
14 CONFERENCE
21 CONFERENCE
28 OFF

FALL GRADE

A

POLL FINISH

1st

Arkansas entered 2011 with a young team full of confidence. Despite a lack of veterans, Ludicrous Speed tromped to a second place finish at Big D in Little D and a fourth place finish at Free State Classic, both times being eliminated by conference opponent Kansas State. Despite some setbacks the boys from Fayetteville, Arkansas looked poised for a solid season. Then Mardi Gras happened.

The first day of Mardi Gras was rained out. On Sunday, Arkansas dropped all three games and lost several players to injuries. Their mental toughness was being tested, and Centex would see where the season was headed. And it was headed down the tubes, as the highly skilled but inexperienced team went 1-7, beating only Texas State. Their only chance for redemption was the Ozark Conference Tournament, but that was not to be as Speed did not turn in their roster on time and was ineligible for the post season.

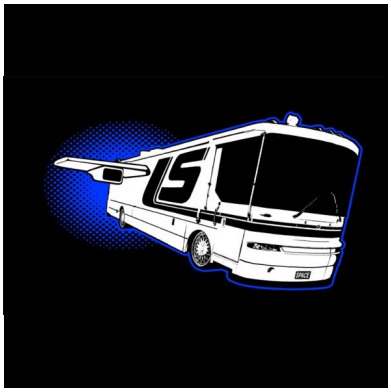
South Central Freshmen of the year Abe Coffin has some of the best throws in the nation. He is also a solid defender who like s to layout. If he can make smart decisions and keep his turnovers down he will be a top tier player.

Now the 2012 season is just around the corner and Ludicrous Speed looks primed for another solid run. Arkansas won Harvest Moon this fall, and is returning everyone, including 2011 South Central Freshmen of the year Abe Coffin and 2012 All-Ozark Conference Preseason Player of the year Matt Jackson. Not only that, they have also been voted by the other teams in the Ozark Conference as preseason #1. Needless to say there is a big bullseye on this team. That means there is a lot of pressure riding on Ludicrous Speed's shoulders, possibly more than last year. However, if they can stay injury-free and win the mental as well as physical aspects of the game, they should be a tough team to beat.

SPEED
SPEED
16

OZARK PREVIEW

LUDICROUS SPEED FAYETTEVILLE, AR



PROJECTED LINEUP

OFFENSE

F MATT JACKSON
H WALKER SMITH
C JAKE WHITE
C DYLAN HOLLAND
C ETHAN DOSS
C TRAVIS JAMES
C JULIAN THOMAS
C ALEX KREPS
C CAMERON UMBARGER
H MATT SEATON
C MATTHEW GENTRY
C BEN MATTHEWS
C TODD KNOBBE
C AUSTIN MULLER

DEFENSE

R DALLAS JOHNSON
C ABE COFFIN
R ERIC KEARNEY
W STUART ALLGOOD
W WES AXTELL
M PAT RANDAL
M ANDREW COX
D JOE BELL
M JOE DELNERO
W CHARLES WRIGHT
M BRIAN TRUSSELL
M LOGAN MILLER
M SEBASTIAN DUFFELL
M NATHAN SCHEPERLE

KEY VETERANS

F-R **Matt Jackson**

A reliable all-around player, Jackson is well known for his layout bids and massive ups. He also has full-field range from all release points.

H-C **Abe Coffin**

Coffin, the reigning FOTY in the SC region, leads Arkansas in hucks and also plays killer handler defense.

M-R **Eric Kearney**

Kearney leads Ludricous Speed with great defense and constantly draws the short straw on guarding the other teams' best player.

BREAKOUT PLAYER

C-W **Wesley Axtell**

Axtell joined the Arkansas as a pure athlete two years ago and has really advanced his throws this year.

TOP NEWCOMER

C-W **Jon Mills**

Mills is playing his first year while pursuing his doctorate. Mills has played ultimate in the Fayetteville community where he is known as a solid cutter with great hands

---

Q&A

Matt Seaton

On team maturity

OZ: What is different about the team this year?

MS: We did not lose anyone from the 2010-2011 team so we all have a chance to continue our work that we put in last season. The team has matured together, progressed in our own roles, and our chemistry continues to grow.

OZ: What about Dom Fischer?

MS: Dom was an exchange student for just the fall semester. Losing Dom will be tough. He was such a force on the field, could run in the cup all day, and continuously beat people in the middle of the field.

OZ: How did winning Harvest Moon affect the team?

MS: Winning Harvest was a huge boost for us. It was the first time LS had won our home tournament and our first tournament win in at least three years. I feel like it finally got us over the hump and we know what it takes to win a tournament and how great it feels to win.

CENTRAL ARKANSAS ABDUCTION

Starting an ultimate program is tough. Developing it and keeping it going is even tougher.

BY WILL DOCKERY

VITALS

COACH
JEFF REHM
ASSISTANT COACHES
NONE
CAPTAINS
JARROD HOCKETT, JEFF REHM
2011 RECORD
10-20
FINAL RANK
269 (10)
RETURNING STARTERS OFFENSE
7
RETURNING STARTERS DEFENSE
7
WINS LAST FIVE SEASONS
X,X,X,0,10
LOSSES LAST FIVE SEASONS
X,X,X,4,20
POINTS SCORED LAST YEAR
122
POINTS ALLOWED LAST YEAR
170

SCHEDULE

JANUARY
7 OFF
14 COWBELL CLASSIC
21 OFF
28 OFF
FEBRUARY
4 OFF
11 BIG D in LITTLE D
18 OFF
25 HUX
MARCH
3 MIDWEST THROWDOWN
10 OFF
17 OFF
24 HUCK FINN
31 OFF
APRIL
7 OFF
14 CONFERENCE
21 CONFERENCE
28 OFF

FALL GRADE

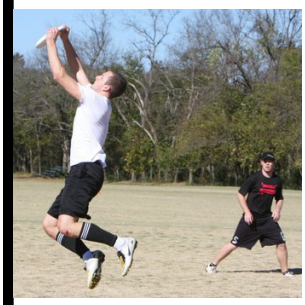
C-

POLL FINISH

10th

Starting a team in any conference would be tough, but starting a team in the Ozark Conference is formidable. Making that team competitive in a short span is nigh impossible. But that is exactly what Central Arkansas is attempting to do.

Back in 2004-2006, UCA had a team called Borderline Delicious. The team, known as Delicious, had a lot of problems on and off the field, and went 7-42 in three seasons. After Borderline Delicious fell apart, several years passed before Abduction was founded. Abduction has succeeded where their predecessor did not, in that they have actually improved year after year. That improvement has not been easy though, and has even come with some rough years in the Ozark Conference basement, including last year's 10-20 mark and 10th place finish at the Ozark Conference Tournament.



Garrett Spencer will have a lot of pressure put on him this year as the lead in Abduction's middle. His success as a cutter will determine where and how UCA attacks opponents. He is also a crucial part of Central Arkansas' cup.

Part of the problem of getting out of the basement is it is usually a gradual process that culminates in a breakout year. The tricky part is the building of the talent, the experience, and the drive that other, better-established teams take for granted.

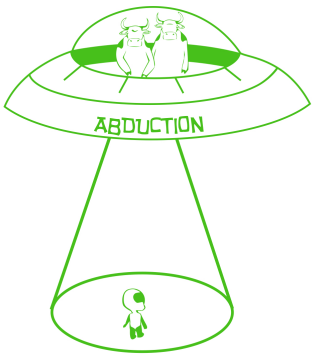
This year, Abduction may have exactly that as it looks to use its veterans -- something UCA has never really had even back in the days of Borderline Delicious -- to help carry them to a record-breaking year. A winning year, if all goes well. Their veterans are guys like three-year starter Jarrod Hockett and player/coach Jeff Rehm. Cutters like Garrett Spencer. These veterans are the very key to Abduction's season. They are the pieces that will get their team to the next level. Them, and a lot of hustle, sweat, blood, and layouts.

ABDUCTION
ABDUCTION

OZARK PREVIEW

ABDUCTION

CONWAY, AR



PROJECTED LINEUP

OFFENSE

H JARROD HOCKETT
H DAVID IRICO
H PATRICK OTTO
C JEFF REHM
C KYLE TAYLOR
C GARRETT SPENCER
C JAY PATEL
H JOSH "GINGER" WALTER
H TAYLOR BOWERS
H ALEX BARNES
C FRANK MACON
C SAM JOHNSON
C STEVEN TREANOR
C JOSH BREGY

DEFENSE

C JOSH "GINGER" WALTER
C JARROD HOCKET
C GARRET SPENCER
M JAY PATEL
M JEFF REHM
M STEVEN TREANOR
D KYLE TAYLOR
C SAM JOHNSON
C DAVID IRICO
C REUBEN BALARD
W JOSH BREGY
W FRANK MACON
W EVAN FRY
D PATRICK OTTO

KEY VETERANS

H-C **JARROD HOCKETT**

The team captain for the last three years and the center handle for Central Arkansas. A lack of depth means he will play a majority of the offensive points.

C-M **JEFF REHM**

Jeff Rehm returns after a year hiatus. His experience as a cutter will help immensely in the middle for Abduction. Has wicked deep cuts.

C-C **GARRETT SPENCER**

An athletic player that relies on speed and determination to get open. Loves catching deep throws.

REHM

BREAKOUT PLAYER

C-M **JAY PATEL**

A speedy Junior who has stepped up his game during the fall and has earned a starting spot on both the offense and defense.

TOP NEWCOMER

C-D **KYLE TAYLOR**

A towering 6'5"Freshmen who attacks the disc, His height allows him a chance to challenge just about any jump disc.

Q&A

Jarrod Hockett
On Challenges

OZ: What separates you from other teams in the coference?

JH: We play hard. There won´t be a single player on the field that isn´t giving 110% at any time. We´re inexperienced and understaffed, but our goal is to out-run the other teams and to play within ourselves.

OZ: Abduction is just three years old. What challenges do you face competing against established teams?

JH: Being a new team is a lot of work. Whereas established programs have a nice influx of freshman that are ultimate players, UCA doesn´t. We have to find our players and mold them into an ultimate player.

OZ: How do you compensate for your lack of bench depth?

JH: Our lack of backups definitely hurts us come Sunday afternoon. The only thing we can do to compensate is to make sure we do our job when we´re on the line.

KANSAS HORRORZONTALS

The Kansas State HorrorZontals start out this season like any other; highly anticipated. But this year they look to turn things around

BY WILL DOCKERY

VITALS

COACHES
JOE NICKELS, VALLEY RENSHAW
ASSISTANT COACHES
NONE
CAPTAINS
JOE YOUNG, VINNY CIARAMITARO, BRUCE TUSCHOOF
2011 RECORD
21-15
FINAL RANK
77 (4)
RETURNING STARTERS OFFENSE
?
RETURNING STARTERS DEFENSE
?
WINS LAST FIVE SEASONS
26,25,25,14,21
LOSSES LAST FIVE SEASONS
19,18,15,16,15
POINTS SCORED LAST YEAR
372
POINTS ALLOWED LAST YEAR
298

SCHEDULE

JANUARY
7 OFF
14 OFF
21 OFF
28 ARIZONA STATE
FEBRUARY
4 OFF
11 OFF
18 OFF
25 FREE STATE CLASSIC
MARCH
3 OFF
10 OFF
17 CENTEX
24 HUCK FINN
31 OFF
APRIL
7 OFF
14 CONFERENCE
21 CONFERENCE
28 OFF

FALL GRADE

A-

POLL FINISH

3rd

Last season, the Zontals appeared to have the pieces to make a deep run. The Zontals began the year headed out to sunny San Diego and President's Day. Kansas struggled there, going 3 and 6. That wasn't a big deal as it is such a tough early tournament. The next weekend Kansas went to Free State Classic and beat Illinois on Saturday. On Sunday Kansas faced arch-rival Arkansas and lost in a barn burner, 14-16. That meant they ended up finishing fifth. A slightly disappointing finish for Kansas.

As Kansas entered Centex they looked to put their season into high gear and prepare for a sixth Nationals appearance in eight years. The first game on Saturday was against in-state-foe Kansas State, who they had beaten earlier at Free State. However, Huckstable star Pat Shriwise had just returned from a collarbone injury

Vinny Ciaramitaro and the . Kansas HorrorZontals look to redeem last year's lackluster season. With new coaches, talented players, and improving team chemistry they will be a tough team to beat.

was a difference maker. The Zontals and their leaders, Joe Adams and Vinny Ciaramitaro, shook off the loss and easily beat the rest of the teams in their pool that day, until they lost a close one to University of British Columbia. The rest of the season from that point on would be a rollercoaster ride of emotions as the Zontals fought for their season and with each other -- the low point being the loss to Missouri State at the Ozark Conference Tournament.

This fall the Horrozontals had a good showing at Missouri Loves Company. In addition, a lot of the talent from last year returns with new coach Valley Renshaw. It appears the Zontals have everything they need to win, except possibly team chemistry. But let's face it: they will work hard for it anyway, because anything but Nationals is a failure for Kansas.

OZARK PREVIEW

HORRORZONTALS

LAWERENCE, KS

PROJECTED LINEUP

OFFENSE

H JOE YOUNG
H VINNY CIARAMITARO
H ASA GOTLIEB
C KYLE KOTZMAN
C BRETT HIDAKA
C BRUCE TUSCHOFF
C OWEN MARTIN
C JP PUEBLA
C COLIN CHILCOAT
F JACK COLLICHO
F SIMON GOTLIEB

DEFENSE

C JOE YOUNG
C VINNY CIARAMITARO
C ASA GOTLIEB
M KYLE KOTZMAN
M BRETT HIDAKA
M BRUCE TUSCHOFF
M OWEN MARTIN
M JP PUEBLA
M COLIN CHILCOAT
R JACK COLLICHO
R SIMON GOTLIEB

KEY VETERANS

H-C **Joe Young**

Squirrely handler who plays both O and D. His speed allows him to get open in small spaces and makes it difficult for defenders to do the same.

H-C **Vinny Ciaramitaro**

Extremely difficult to mark and has the ability to huck it from most places on the field. He is a talented handler with a well rounded-game.

C-M **Brett Hidaka**

A stud d or o line cutter. His combination of speed and athleticism allow him to match up against the toughest O-line cutters.

BREAKOUT PLAYER

C-M **Bruce Tuschoff**

After playing club with Kansas City Prairie Fire over the off-season Bruce has developed into a dominant deep threat. Likes to layout too.

TOP NEWCOMER

F-R **Jack Collicho**

Grad transfer from Dickenson who can fill any hole. He is a quick handler/cutter hybrid with solid deep throws and a good understanding for the game.

Q&A

Joe Young

On Experience

OZ: What separates you from other teams in the conference?

JY: Our experience. The core of our team has been playing together for the past three years.

OZ: How do the HorrorZontals respond to last year´s disapointing season?

JY: More players playing Club ultimate will add depth to our roster.

OZ: What is it like to have new head coaches?

JY: We have yet to work with our coaches much but it will be great for our program to have coaches focused on our teams chemistry and our general practice schedule.

KANSAS STATE HUCKSTABLES

The Huckstables broke out in 2011. Can they keep the momentum going in 2012?

BY WILL DOCKERY

VITALS

COACH
SHAWN KOKENGE
ASSISTANT COACHES
NONE
CAPTAINS
KYLE WELCH, CAMERON HUNTER
2011 RECORD
33-12
FINAL RANK
33 (2)
RETURNING STARTERS OFFENSE
6
RETURNING STARTERS DEFENSE
6
WINS LAST FIVE SEASONS
12,17,12,20,33
LOSSES LAST FIVE SEASONS
15,8,8,11,12
POINTS SCORED LAST YEAR
544
POINTS ALLOWED LAST YEAR
329

SCHEDULE

JANUARY
7 OFF
14 OFF
21 OFF
28 OFF
FEBRUARY
4 OFF
11 BIG D in LITTLE D
18 OFF
25 FREE STATE CLASSIC
MARCH
3 OFF
10 OFF
17 CENTEX
24 OFF
31 CHICAGO INVITE
APRIL
7 OFF
14 CONFERENCE
21 CONFERENCE
28 OFF

FALL GRADE

B+

POLL FINISH

4th

Every year there is one surprise breakout team. Last year, that team was Kansas State in the Ozark Conference. The breakout started early at T-Town Throwdown as the Huckstables gave Florida everything they had, coming up just short, 9-11. They continued their run at Big D in Little D utilizing All-Conference players Pat Shriwise and Chris Youderian to beat all comers, including Arkansas, to win the tournament. At Free State Classic the Huckstables hit something of a wall, losing to both Kansas and Illinois. Yet they still managed to rally on Saturday to take second place against Iowa, despite losing several starters to injuries.

The breakout was in full swing, and so Kansas State got to go to Centex. It was there at Centex that they revenged their loss to Kansas with some mad handling skills by Cameron Hunter and a return from the injured reserve by Pat Shriwise. They also gave the University of British Columbia a close 9-11 game, beat University of Washington, and lost to Texas on ultimate point, 14-15. A fourth place finish at Centex meant the team from the Little Apple would take the number one seed going into the Conference Tournament. There they took second to Washington (St.L).

Cameron Hunter is not only a good handler with big hucks and wicked break marks, he is also a solid defender. Hunter possess a very tight mark and gets quite a few footblocks. He also gets his fair share of layout d's too..

This year the Kansas State roster looks a little different. No longer do the Huckstables have nearly as many dominating big men. However, they do have a bunch of very quick cutters and several handlers who like to break marks and huck freely. The offense and defense may look and flow differently, but expect the Huckstables to try and keep the breakout going.

OZARK PREVIEW

HUCKSTABLES MANHATTAN, KS

PROJECTED LINEUP

OFFENSE

H KYLE WELCH
H ERIC MUETH
C DANNY KURZ
C CONOR FOX
C SEAN REED
C JORDAN SPRATT
C WILL KOBYLINSKI
C JAY TIMMERMAN
C CHRISTIAN KAUFMAN
C TONY BUCCERO
C JEFF CUMMINGS
C LUKE BOHMER
H CAMERON HUNTER
H JOEY LUTZ

DEFENSE

C CAMERON HUNTER
C JOEY LUTZ
M MATT HUDSPITH
M CALEB LINN
M TRAVIS MARROCCO
C AJ LORD
M JOSH WILSON
M JIM WEAVER
C DAMIEN DOWNES
M KENTA TORATANI
M JIM BAILEY
M LUCAS SOARS
M WILL ZUISS
M CAMERON ROBLES

KEY VETERANS

C-M **Danny Kurz**

Kurz is possibly one of the fastest players in college ultimate today. He gets the disc often by out-running his team and the opponent.

H-C **Cameron Hunter**

Hunter is the leader of K-State's handler corps. Well known for his hucks, if he can keep his turnovers down he will be dangerous.

H-M **Joey Lutz**

Lutz is a great shut-down defender who likes to make flashy plays and punishes other teams for making little mistakes. Loves to layout.

BREAKOUT PLAYER

H-C **Kyle Welch**

Constantly injured last year, but still showed flashes. Should be healthy now. Has a deep knowledge base of ultimate strategy and uses it well.

TOP NEWCOMER

C-M **Matt Hudspith**

Shows great potential and is adapting to the college game quickly, having played in high school. Could be a handful on defense with a little more aggressiveness.

Q&A

Cameron Hunter

On New Seasons

OZ: What separates you from other teams in the conference?

CH: We are a close team. We spend time on and off the field together, which builds team camaraderie. This has been one of the great advantages of our team in the past and is continuing that way.

OZ: What challenges do the Huckstables face that they did not last year?

CH: We have a younger team this year. We will not be able to win games by having a better top 10 veteran players like we did last year. This in no way detracts from our team´s overall skill though, just slightly changes the way we have to approach important games and matchups.

OZ: How do you compensate for losing Pat Shriwise and Chris Youderian?

CH: The short answer is that you cannot. Offenses mold around players like that. Our offense will run differently without them.

MISSOURI MUTANTS

The MUtants are hoping they can continue their fall successes into the spring season.

BY WILL DOCKERY

VITALS

COACH
SPENCER HOLLENBACH
ASSISTANT COACHES
JOHN BERGEN
CAPTAINS
MATT FRANCIS, RYAN MEINKOTH
2011 RECORD
18-19
FINAL RANK
132 (7)
RETURNING STARTERS OFFENSE
5
RETURNING STARTERS DEFENSE
6
WINS LAST FIVE SEASONS
14,17,16,21,18
LOSSES LAST FIVE SEASONS
13,19,13,7,19
POINTS SCORED LAST YEAR
365
POINTS ALLOWED LAST YEAR
355

SCHEDULE

JANUARY
7 OFF
14 OFF
21 OFF
28 OFF
FEBRUARY
4 OFF
11 OFF
18 MARDI GRAS
25 OFF
MARCH
3 OFF
10 OFF
17 CENTEX
24 HUCK FINN
31 OFF
APRIL
7 OFF
14 CONFERENCE
21 CONFERENCE
28 OFF

FALL GRADE

A

POLL FINISH

2nd

Missouri had a disappointing 2011 season. It was not a terribly disappointing season in that they lost every game, but they did fail to live up to expectations. The beginning of the year started off well enough with a 13-8 thumping of Ludicrous Speed at Free State Classic. Even though they had a lackluster game against Iowa next, Missouri ended up grabbing the two seed in their pool. The second day was not as rosy as the MUtants dropped back-to-back games to in-conference foes Kansas State and Kansas to finish seventh.

Their next tournament was Midwest Throwdown, where they finished tied for last in their pool, going 1-3. On Sunday though they managed to win when it mattered and finished fifth. Centex was several weeks later, but Missouri brought a small team of just nine players. It is always hard to win with a small squad at a tournament

Matt Francis and company are going to feel the pressure in the spring. With so many returning starters and such a successful fall season a lot is expected this season.

and besides a win against UCLA, plus a six point run against Colorado College, Centex ended as a 1-7 bust for the MUtants. Weeks later Missouri would beat everyone but Indiana at Kentucky Classic to take third. With the wins in Kentucky, Missouri entered the Ozark Conference Championship with confidence, but that proved unhelpful as they fell to every opponent but Washington-B. This fall Missouri returned a large portion of their team, including stars Matt Francis and Ryan Meinkoth. These players decided to come back for one more year and their experience has made a difference this fall with solid performances at Glory Days, Harvest Moon and Missouri Loves Company. Time will tell how well Missouri preforms this year, but the MUtants are looking to keep their momentum going and not have a repeat of 2011.

OZARK PREVIEW

MUTANTS

COLUMBIA, MO

PROJECTED LINEUP

OFFENSE

H RYAN MEINKOTH
H ALEX McNAMARA
H JAKE WEIDMAN
C WALTER CARLSON
H STEVE STALLIS
C BLAKE HILDEBRAND
H CODY BRANNEKY
C TYLER JURH
C AARON SWANEY
C DOUG HADEN
C EVAN SHOEMAKER
H JAY FROUDE
C MATT KEATHLEY
C MICKAEL MAHIEU

DEFENSE

R MATT FRANCIS
M JAKE WEIDMAN
M MICKEY SILGER
M COLLIN McCARTNEY
M BEN GROSS
M KEVIN KOINES
M CHASE JOHNSON
M CHRISTIAN GOEKE
M DAN FRAZIER
M JOHN GILMORE
M PHILLIP NGUYEN
M RICK WOODRUFF
M VINCE JONES

KEY VETERANS

H-M **Ryan Meinkoth**

Played in Club Nationals with One Trick Pony two years ago. Has bolstered that experience by playing for Sentinel. Comes with a wicked break mark.

F-R **Matt Francis**

Recruited outside of a dining hall, Francis has become one of the marquee players in the Ozark Conference. He is well-known for his layouts.

H-M **Cody Branneky**

A walking mouth, Branneky is the team jester, morale cornerstone, and on occasion the team baker. Played with HuSTL this summer.

BREAKOUT PLAYER

H-M **Steve Stallis**

Stallis spent much of last year out with a broken foot. He is back up to speed now and seems to have found his home and heart on the defensive line.

TOP NEWCOMER

H-M **Jay Froude**

The former national collegiate swimmer has adapted well to dry land. Although he still has issues with throwing, his speed and vertical will certainly suffice.

Q&A

Matt Francis
On Motivation

OZ: What separates you from other teams in the conference?

MF: This year we went out of our way to recruit three players, all monsters in the air. These players give our returning starters better match-ups.

OZ: Missouri had a breakout fall preseason. How does that position you for this spring?

MF: We are happy with the way we played in the fall. However, we know that means nothing to our execution in the spring. We still have a lot of work to do if we want to reach our goals for the college season.

OZ: You guys were getting a lot of flak for being in the power pools at Missouri Loves Company. Did that affect the way you guys played?

MF: Not really. We just wanted to come out hot and see what we could do against some of the best programs in the nation.

MISSOURI STATE BEARS

Missouri State has been constantly rebuilding since the 2008 season. This year they do it all over again and have a short bench.

BY WILL DOCKERY

VITALS

COACH
DOUG JACOBS
ASSISTANT COACH
DAVE WOODS
CAPTAIN
ADAM EAST
2011 RECORD
17-21
FINAL RANK
163 (5)
RETURNING STARTERS OFFENSE
4
RETURNING STARTERS DEFENSE
4
WINS LAST FIVE SEASONS
16,16,22,8,17
LOSSES LAST FIVE SEASONS
12,20,11,21,21
POINTS SCORED LAST YEAR
346
POINTS ALLOWED LAST YEAR
317

SCHEDULE

JANUARY
7 OFF
14 OFF
21 OFF
28 OFF
FEBRUARY
4 OFF
11 OFF
18 MARDI GRAS
25 FREE STATE CLASSIC
MARCH
3 MIDWEST THROWDOWN
10 OFF
17 CENTEX
24 HUCK FINN
31 OFF
APRIL
7 OFF
14 CONFERENCE
21 CONFERENCE
28 OFF

FALL GRADE

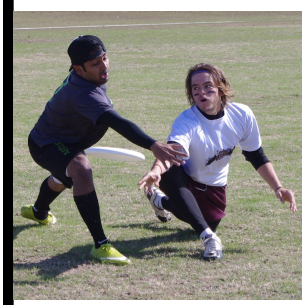
C

POLL FINISH

9th

Missouri State looked like they were off to a stellar start last year when they went to Hendrix Ultimate Experience. Losing only in the finals to Harding in a 16-14 game, the Bears looked like they might have turned a corner. Their next tournament was Mardi Gras, and like a lot of teams at that tournament they struggled because of the truncated schedule. At Chicago Invite the Bears went 3-5, and at Huck Finn they went 2-5, losing to Hendrix 4-11, whom they had beaten earlier at HUX.

These performances meant that the Bears would be a low seed at the Conference Tournament and there they pulled a 12-11 upset of Kansas. The joy was not to last though as Kansas beat them for the final spot on Sunday. All was not lost though as Missouri State was given a gift and got to go to Regionals, when qualifier Drury decided not to attend. It was their first appearance at Regionals since 2006.



Sam Crowe and the Missouri State Bears have a tough road ahead of them. Not only do they have a short bench but they also lost several talented players to graduation.

This year Missouri State looks to earn a bid to Regionals, but All-Conference handler Dave Woods and senior captain Andrew Seaman graduated, leaving Missouri State once again with little experienced talent.

The Bears have some excellent players, including their captain Adam East, and jack-of-all-trades player Sam Crowe, but they are going to have to rapidly develop some talent from the B Team as their small roster of eleven players severely hamstrings them. Missouri State could catch some teams napping, like they did with Kansas last year, but it will take a lot of hard work to return them to the prominence of the 1980's.

33

OZARK PREVIEW

BEARS SPRINGFIELD, MO

PROJECTED LINEUP

OFFENSE

H RAY McINTYRE
H JOHN OLSEN
C ADAM EAST
C JAKE HUEBNER
C BRYAN "FREELOVIN" MARCINIAK
F SAMUEL CROWE
C RYAN O"CONNOR
H DAVID MURPHY
F TOM CANNON
C MICHAEL GOW
C DAVID STOCKWOOD

DEFENSE

M RYAN O"CONNOR
C DAVID MURPHY
R SAMUEL CROWE
R TOM CANNON
M MICHAEL GOW
M ADAM EAST
C RAY McINTYRE
C JOHN OLSEN
M BRYAN "FREELOVIN" MARCINIAK
M JAKE HUEBNER
M DAVID STOCKWOOD

KEY VETERANS

C-M **Adam East**

East is a dynamic player that was injured much of the fall season. He starts on both sides of the disc and is a solid, calm cutter.

C-M **Michael Gow**

Gow is a competitor who never stops running. He roams all over the field on both sides of the disc and his footblocks are especially deadly.

H-C **Ray McIntyre**

One half of the dynamic handler duo of McIntyre and Olsen. The duo is a keystone of Missouri State's success.

GOW

BREAKOUT PLAYER

C-M **Ryan O'Connor**

Broke out this fall after a summer of improvement. He now has the throws and defensive aptitude to hang with the opposition every point.

TOP NEWCOMER

C-M **Bryan Marciniak**

A senior who has never played a full season of ultimate, Marciniak sets the tone for positive team atmosphere and for layouts on the defense and offense.

Q&A

Sam Crowe

On Rebuilding

OZ: How does Missouri State rebuild again?

SC: By sustaining the B team. This is what has killed us in years past; guys graduate and move on, and we don´t have any B team players ready to step up and fill roles. It seems like we´re always starting from scratch.

OZ: What seperates you from other teams in this conference?

SC: Our coaches, both Doug and Dave, have a wealth of knowledge and talent to prepare us for tournaments. They are committed to the program and its players.

OZ: What is it like playing in such a tough conference?

SC: We wouldn´t have it any other way. With so much parity in the competition, we´re forced to keep focused and stay intense, because every game will be a battle. Ultimately, this will make us better players and a better team, no matter what the final scores say.

OKLAHOMA
APES OF WRATH

The Apes of Wrath peaked at the right time last year. Can they do it again this year?

BY WILL DOCKERY

VITALS

COACH
MIKE RICE
ASSISTANT COACHES
BEN HARRIS, NATHAN CRAIN, DANNY HAYNOR
CAPTAINS
TOM DREW, KEVIN CHRISTIAN, NOLAN RANDOLPH
2011 RECORD
26-11
FINAL RANK
49 (3)
RETURNING STARTERS OFFENSE
7
RETURNING STARTERS DEFENSE
8
WINS LAST FIVE SEASONS
33,19,14,21,26
LOSSES LAST FIVE SEASONS
10,9,17,12,11
POINTS SCORED LAST YEAR
444
POINTS ALLOWED LAST YEAR
340

SCHEDULE

JANUARY
7 OFF
14 OFF
21 OFF
28 OFF
FEBRUARY
4 OFF
11 OFF
18 MARDI GRAS
25 OFF
MARCH
3 OFF
10 OFF
17 CENTEX
24 OFF
31 OFF
APRIL
7 OFF
14 CONFERENCE
21 CONFERENCE
28 OFF

FALL GRADE

B

POLL FINISH

5th

Much is made of peaking at the right time in any sport. Despite their setbacks, the 2011 Apes of Wrath were the perfect example of peaking at the right time.

The Apes made their season debut at Big D in Little D and were blessed with a fairly lax schedule until they met Arkansas in the seimfinals. After losing a close game 11-13 to Ludicrous Speed, the Apes lost to hosts North Texas 8-15. Not to be detered, Oklahoma went to Mardi Gras and sqeaked out an 11-10 win against South Florida and a 13-11 win against LSU, before falling to Minnesota 4-13. Compared to most other teams that went to Mardi Gras from the Ozark Conference, Oklahoma fared well.

At Centex Oklahoma continued to improve. There they won several close games against Northeastern and Arkansas, but also lost several close ones to Northwestern and the University of Washington. On the first weekend in April the Apes hit pay dirt, winning Heart of Texas Huckfest going 7-0 on the weekend. At the Ozark Conference Championship the Apes beat everyone they faced except Kansas State, who they lost to twice, each time by smaller margins, to finish third. Finally, Oklahoma peaked at Regionals and came in fourth, just one spot shy of qualifying for Nationals.

Nolan Rabdolph is the defensive line capatin for good reason. He likes to layout and is good at it too. Look for Nick Neal to join him in a race too see who can get the most layout d's for the Apes this year.

This year the Apes return several talented players including Lyle Clark, Kevin Christian, Nick Neal and Nolan Randolph. With former All-Region handler Mike Rice as the new head coach, this year the Apes look to once again peak at the right time. This time they are hoping that's at Nationals.

OZARK PREVIEW

APES OF WRATH

NORMAN, OK

PROJECTED LINEUP

OFFENSE

H KEVIN "FALKOR" CHRISTIAN
H KIT DAPPRICH
H MICHAEL RAY
C GARRETT TAYLOR
C KEVIN KINGSLEY
F PARKER DOOLY
F TOM DREW
C JON HARRIS
R KORY MYERS
F LYLE CLARK
F NICK CROSSLEY
C NICK NEAL
F NOLAN RANDOLPH
F ADAM STACKABLE

DEFENSE

C ZANE WHOBREY
R ADAM STACKABLE
R LYLE CLARK
R NICK CROSSLEY
R NOLAN RANDOLPH
W CHRIS "ROWSDOWER" LARBERG
W NICK NEAL
C KEVIN "FALKOR" CHRISTIAN
R PARKER DOOLY
R TOM DREW
R KORY MYERS
C KIT DAPPRICH
C MICHAEL RAY
W JON HARRIS

KEY VETERANS

F-W **Lyle Clark**

The tallest and most attractive member of the Apes, Clark is constantly matching up against the biggest guy on the other team. Both a deep threat and a skilled handler.

F-W **Chris Larberg**

Better known as "Rowsdower" he has the speed and jumping ability to cover some of the best guys in the region. Likes to get open downfield on a turn.

F-W **Nolan Randolph**

Defensive line captain. One of the most explosive defenders in the region. Count on him to get multiple layout d's a game and then work the disc effectively from all angles.

BREAKOUT PLAYER

H-C **Michael Ray**

Ray went from being a backup handler to role player in a year. Has greatly improved in his throwing ability, decision-making, and field awareness.

TOP NEWCOMER

NOT AVAILABLE

Q&A

Kevin Christian
On Transitions

OZ: You barely missed qualifying for Nationals last year. How do the Apes build on that success?

KC: We have a solid group of returning players along with many up-and-coming freshmen. We continue to condition hard and develop each player's overall skills in order to progress as far as possible in the Series.

OZ: How does Mike Rice transition from player to coach?

KC: Mike Rice's transition from player to coach has gone very well. With him being an alumnus, he understands the team dynamic and players are comfortable and willing to learn from him.

OZ: What is different about the Apes this year from last year?

KC: The 2012 Apes are different in that we are no longer relying on our star players and instead utilize each player's skills and abilities to win games.

OKLAHOMA STATE ULTIMATO

Oklahoma State has the star power to succeed.
But they need their bench to step up.

BY WILL DOCKERY

VITALS

COACH
CHRIS HAYDEN
ASSISTANT COACHES
NONE
CAPTAINS
MAX BAROWSKI, CORY EGAN
2011 RECORD
8-6
FINAL RANK
NA (NA)
RETURNING STARTERS OFFENSE
6
RETURNING STARTERS DEFENSE
7
WINS LAST FIVE SEASONS
11,28,11,13,8
LOSSES LAST FIVE SEASONS
2,15,15,12,6
POINTS SCORED LAST YEAR
145
POINTS ALLOWED LAST YEAR
127

SCHEDULE

JANUARY
7 OFF
14 OFF
21 OFF
28 OFF
FEBRUARY
4 OFF
11 BIG D in LITTLE D
18 OFF
25 OFF
MARCH
3 OFF
10 OFF
17 OFF
24 OFF
31 OFF
APRIL
7 OFF
14 CONFERENCE
21 CONFERENCE
28 OFF

FALL GRADE

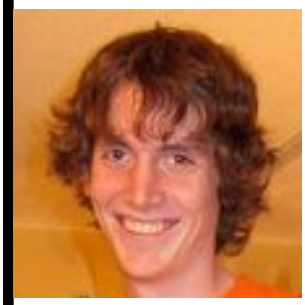
B-

POLL FINISH

7th

Oklahoma State tends to have short playing seasons. This was the also the case in 2011 as they played in just Big D in Little D and Heart of Texas Huckfest. At Big D in Little D Ultimato played sporadically. From one minute to the next it was a crapshoot as to which team was on the field: the good one, which made amazing plays, like Max Barowski's series of layouts and skys in a matter of minutes; or the bad one team that showed up against Rice with 40 turnovers in that one game.

At Heart of Texas Huckfest, Ultimato fared better, going 5-2 and taking Oklahoma -- their rival and eventual fourth place Regional finisher -- to a close 13-15 loss. Oklahoma State looked to grab one of the last spots to Regionals at the Ozark Conference Tournament, which was held near their backyard in Tulsa, Oklahoma. It



Michael Gryzabowski is one of the players that Oklahoma State will have to use extensively to be successful this year. How Gryzabowski and the other stars on Ultimato perform will play a large part in their success.

was not to be though as Ultimato was found ineligible, much like Arkansas, for not getting their roster in on time.

This year Oklahoma State has changed up their offense and it seems to be working. Running an unorthodox set, which appears to have everyone running around where they please, has garnered results. With a 6-1 record at Children of the Corn and a 3-3 record at Missouri Loves Company, Ultimato is looking to redeem itself from last year. Depending on how opposing teams react will be a large part of how well Oklahoma State does this year.

LUDICROUS
SPEED

OZARK PREVIEW
ULTIMATO

STILLWATER, OK

PROJECTED LINEUP

OFFENSE

H CORY EGAN
H ANDY PRIETO
H CURTIS ROARK
F MAX BAROWSKI
F CONNER "SEA BREEZE" BISWELL
C MICHAEL GRYBOWSKI
C BRYAN DOWNEY
C COREY NORTON
F ANDREW BOYD
D ALEX "BIG CAT" KRIZ
F SEAN BECHTELHEIMER
F MANNY ORLICH
F JOSH BERTUS
F JOSHUA HOLLAND

DEFENSE

C CORY EGAN
C ANDY PRIETO
M ANDREW BOYD
M BRYAN DOWNEY
M JOHN STASKAL
D MICHAEL GRYBOWSKI
R JOSH "JUICY" CURTIS
R AUSTIN WERTS
R JOHN DOOSH
R BRANDON HOCKER
R BRIAN CUNNINGHAM
C CURTIS ROARK
M MAX BAROWSKI
M CONNER "SEA BREEZE" BISWELL

KEY VETERANS

C-M **Bryan Downey**

A very fast player who is constantly hustling and does not easily give up. This allows him to make plays others give up on.

C-D **Michael Grzybowski**

Tall, long and lanky. Grzybowski uses his massive wingspan to get many d's. His height is a valuable assest on the offesive side as well.

H-C **Curtis Roark**

Quite possibly the smartest person on Ultimato. Played for Space City this summer and seriously stepped up his game.

BREAKOUT PLAYER

F-M **Conner Biswell**

Better known as "Sea Breeze," Biswell has become a go to guy on Ultimato this fall. If the disc is in the air, he is going to go after it.

TOP NEWCOMER

F-M **Andrew Boyd**

A product of the Dallas ultimate scene. A hard working player, Boyd brings an energy that Oklahoma State was missing last year.

Q&A

Max Barowski
On Offense

OZ: What separates you from other teams in the conference?

MB: We don´t have true handlers and cutters like most traditional offenses. We run our offenses without true positions and it allows everyone to do everything.

OZ: Sounds chaotic.

MB: It can be but that´s how we like it. It allows our playmakers to make plays. Everybody on the field is a threat at any time.

OZ: What did Ultimato learn from last year?

MB: This year we´re more of a team, we know each other much better and that allows us to always be on the same page. We´re just more comfortable as a unit this year.

ST. LOUIS ARCH ANGELS

A name change may be the imputus St. Louis needs to move to the next level.

BY WILL DOCKERY

VITALS

COACH
HENRY SAMPSON
ASSISTANT COACHES
NONE
CAPTAINS
MICHAEL MANNING, PAT PORTER
2011 RECORD
15-15
FINAL RANK
154 (6)
RETURNING STARTERS OFFENSE
5
RETURNING STARTERS DEFENSE
6
WINS LAST FIVE SEASONS
12,11,11,16,15
LOSSES LAST FIVE SEASONS
14,16,13,20,15
POINTS SCORED LAST YEAR
278
POINTS ALLOWED LAST YEAR
312

SCHEDULE

JANUARY
7 OFF
14 OFF
21 OFF
28 OFF
FEBRUARY
4 MUSIC CITY TUNEUP
11 OFF
18 OFF
25 OFF
MARCH
3 HIGH TIDE
10 HIGH TIDE
17 OFF
24 HUCK FINN
31 OFF
APRIL
7 KENTUCKY CLASSIC
14 CONFERENCE
21 CONFERENCE
28 OFF

FALL GRADE

B-

POLL FINISH

6th

Last year St. Louis entered the season with a name that they did not like and several injured players. Despite the rotten beginning to their year Loki was still able have a decent showing at Music City Tune Up, going 5-2 and finishing sixth. After an almost month long layout St. Louis had a little trouble with rust and the competition at the Chicago Invite, as they went 1-7, beating only Western Michigan. Loki plugged along, showing up at Huck Finn and improving their fortunes to 4-3.

The next tournament was the Ozark Conference Tournament, where they went 3-3 and picked up a bid to Regionals.

Now, Loki has changed their name to Arch Angels. Along with a name change St. Louis has picked up some extra talent, including former University of Washington player Doug Richardson.

Michael Manning may be out for the year with a torn ACL, but that does not mean he can ot help his team. His leadership is a large part of why St. Louis performs as well as they do.

This pickup, along with standouts Pat Porter and Max Morgan, has helped the Arch Angels to build a solid fall season.

But misfortune keeps befalling the Arch Angels. Unfortunately for them their captain Michael Manning tore his ACL, and will probably be out for the season. This will probably hurt the Arch Angels on the field, but hopefully Morgan can be a factor coaching on the sideline. Despite this loss these Arch Angels are still one of the more talented teams to come out of St. Louis University in some time.

OZARK PREVIEW

ARCH ANGELS

ST. LOUIS, MO

PROJECTED LINEUP

OFFENSE

H DOUG RICHARDSON
H MAX MORGAN
H JUSTIN VAN SAINT
C PAT PORTER
C CONNOR NOYES
C GARRET BRUCE
C ADAM KAMPEN
H JESSIE KALLIONGIS
H TYLER KLINGELHOEFER
H DANNY COMMES
C ZAC JOHNSON
C DANNY MURPHY
C JACOB SLABY
C STEVE JAMES

DEFENSE

C PAT PORTER
C DANNY MURPHY
C STEVE JAMES
C DOUG RICHARDSON
W GARRET BRUCE
W JESSIE KALLIONGIS
D CONNOR NOYLES
C DREW LADAGE
C ZAC JOHNSON
C MAX MORGAN
W DAVID IACOBELLI
W TIM JANCZEWSKI
D JUSTIN VAN SANT

KEY VETERANS

H-C **Max Morgan**

One of the best players St. Louis has ever seen. The Angels live off his intensity, his break throws, and his ultimate intelligence on and off the field.

C-C **Pat Porter**

The definition of speed. Porter is one versatile player. His quick and agile cuts in addition to his throws make him one deadly threat.

C-W **Garret Bruce**

Just a sophomore, Bruce brings intensity and heart to the field. That focus makes him an excellent mark and middle cutter.

BREAKOUT PLAYER

C-D **Connor Noyes**

A big kid who not only jumps very high, but has impeccable timing. Used to just be a deep threat, but is slowly turning into a complete ultimate player.

TOP NEWCOMER

H-C **Doug Richardson**

Richardson has shown himself to be one of the more dominant players in the Ozark Conference during his undergrad at Wash U. Brings great leadership and athleticism.

Q&A

Michael Manning

On Potential

OZ: What separates you from other teams in the conference?

MM: We play hard intense ultimate with a key on never giving up. We always had the goal of competing against better teams, out run them and play better defense. This year is one of the first years that we have a great overall team filled with depth. By taking our same mentality and combining it with the great skill sets with have, Arch Angels is due for a break-out year.

OZ: What lessons did you learn from last year and how do you translate that to 2012?

MM: We had a hard, but overall successful year going to regionals. Yet at times we played down from our potential. We introduced a new way of thinking this year -- that we expect to win. The talent we have this year is unlike any other this school has had in a very long time. By not letting our potential go to waste, we plan to have a big spring and build off the great fall season.

WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY CONTRA

Washington University won last years' Conference Championship. With a large changeover in talent will Contra be able to do it again?

BY WILL DOCKERY

VITALS

COACH
DOUG PARRISH
ASSISTANT COACH
ROSS WELCH
CAPTAINS
LUKE DING, ZACH LOU, JOSH LEVIN
2011 RECORD
26-10
FINAL RANK
35 (1)
RETURNING STARTERS OFFENSE
1
RETURNING STARTERS DEFENSE
3
WINS LAST FIVE SEASONS
24,25,13,23,26
LOSSES LAST FIVE SEASONS
15,11,18,17,10
POINTS SCORED LAST YEAR
444
POINTS ALLOWED LAST YEAR
320

SCHEDULE

JANUARY
7 OFF
14 OFF
21 OFF
28 OFF
FEBRUARY
4 MUSIC CITY TUNEUP
11 OFF
18 OFF
25 OFF
MARCH
3 OFF
10 MIDWEST THROWDOWN
17 HIGHTIDE
24 HUCK FINN
31 OFF
APRIL
7 OFF
14 CONFERENCE
21 CONFERENCE
28 OFF

FALL GRADE

C

POLL FINISH

8th

For most of Washington University's ultimate history, every year they reload with new talent. Last year was no exception, as Contra picked up Joe McDonald and used talented forward Evan Winograd, along with several other seniors, to win the Ozark Conference.

The season started off like any other for Washington: rusty. At Queen City Tuneup Contra went 3-3, but with the lack of field practice up in St. Louis from one of the coldest winters on record the result was not suprising. Their next tournament was in St. Louis at Midwest Throwdown, where they were able to run the gauntlet and win rather easily with no team coming closer than four points.

As hosts of Huck Finn, Washington took Wisconsin and Illinois to the limit, but could not finish the job and ended up losing close ones to both teams. Nonplussed Contra ended up finishing fifth in their own tournament. Rolling into the Conference Tournament as the three seed, Washington handled everyone with style to win the title.

Washington Head Coach Doug Parrish is one of the best in the college game today. Last year he was able to put the pieces together for a Conference Championship. Will he be able to do it with an almost completely different cast this year?

This year Washington is a totally different team. Evan Winograd, arguably one of the best players in the nation, has decided not to play this year. Along with a lot of talent graduating, Washington has little experince this year. This fall that lack of playing time showed and hurt them. It will be interesting to see how well they respond for the spring season.

CONTRA

PROJECTED LINEUP

OFFENSE

H ZACH LOU
H JACOB ZAX
H HIDEMASA KATO
C JOSH LEVIN
C LUKE DING
C BRYAN BUTLER
C GERALD AGGREY
H SCOTT SCHWARTZ
H KYLE CAMPBELL
H PATRICK BUGGY
C NATE MATHEIU
C JEREMY DAVIS
C JEFF SHIPAN
C ERIC HUNTER

DEFENSE

C VINCE HUANG
C JEFFREY SHIPAN
C KYLE CAMPBELL
M JOSH LEVIN
M ZACH LOU
M LUKE DING
M BRYAN BUTLER
C JACOB ZAX
C NATE MATHEIU
C HIDEMASA KOTO
M JOE MARMERSTEIN
M VICTOR QUERY
M JEREMY DAVIS
M ERIC HUNTER

KEY VETERANS

H-M **Zach Lou**

One of the more complete players in the region. Injured last year at regionals. If Lou returns to full health he should be a big threat.

C-M **Bryan Butler**

A fast cutter who loves taking his man deep. Scored a majority of the teams' points this fall season. Returning from a broken arm.

C-M **Luke Ding**

A big cutter who consistently bodies his defender to get position. Loves to huck coming off a quick cut. His consistency should help his team succeed offensively.

BREAKOUT PLAYER

C-M **Josh Levin**

Did not get much playing time last year with a top heavy team. A captain this year, he plays very aggressivly on offense and defense.

TOP NEWCOMER

C-M **Victor Query**

Veteran freshman who played on the Swiss National Team. Brings a new type of swag to the team as well as tenacious defense and some nasty throws

Q&A

LUKE DING

On Renewal

OZ: What separates you from other teams in the section?

LD: With the loss of so many starters last year, this team is still looking for its identity on offense. However, this is the deepest team in the region, where pretty much everyone on the team will be able to play on either offense or defense. Ready for a chance to prove themselves and to avenge an injury riddled regionals, look for this team to play with a chip on their shoulder.

OZ: Contra has three tournaments in a row. Why did you guys put together such a tough schedule?

LD: If the weather is similar to the weather of the past few years, we dont expect too many outdoor practices before early march. We want to make sure we get as much playing time as possible outside as a unit before [the series]. We have a very mature team that we think will be up to the challenge and a focus on conditioning this winter will prepare us for the grind

KEEPING TRACK

Keeping stats is an important part of any sport. Ultimate should join the party.

BY LUKE DOCKERY

The last few years have witnessed a flourish of new developments in the effort to advance the sport of ultimate. From the rise and fall of CUltimate, to rebranding the UPA as USAU, to the development of the professional AUDL, to the expansion of ultimate journalism through sites such as UltiVillage, The Huddle, Skyd Magazine, and Ozark Ultimate, these developments have sprung from a wide range of sources, but most share in common the desire to legitimize ultimate and bring it more inline with other mainstream sports.

For several years, I have believed that one simple but absolutely necessary step in improving and advancing the sport of ultimate has been consistently overlooked: the compilation and publishing of standardized ultimate statistics.*

For as long as I can remember, I have been a huge baseball fan, and for the majority of that time, I have been obsessed with the examination and comparison of statistics. Even as a young child, I could list off the top home run hitters in baseball history, the all-time winningest pitchers, and I could compare the stats of popular current players with those from various previous eras.

Coming out of this background, when I got to college, began playing ultimate competitively, and eventually became a team captain, keeping statistics to monitor our team's performance was a no-brainer for me. Sure, it took a good deal of work — we either had to have a player on the sideline dedicated to the task of keeping statistics, or we had to have someone with a videocamera to record the games so we could go back and watch the film and compile them.

I soon realized that our team's commitment to statistics was unusual when compared to other teams. That remains true today, roughly five years later, but I still maintain that the keeping of statistics provides great benefits and is an essential part of moving the sport of ultimate forward.

(1) *Statistics allow for the objective evaluation of player and/or team performance.* The most immediate and most important benefit of statistics is that they provide an objective measure of player and team performance. If you find yourself in a leadership position on a team where you are determining playing time or strategy, how do you know what to do?

First, who gets to play? Without statistical information subjective measures often determine playing time, and the most common of these is a player's ability to make incredibly athletic plays. Huge skys and jaw-dropping layout Ds make lasting impressions on the observer's mind, and without numerical data to evaluate performance, players who make big exciting plays will play more, regardless of their overall impact (positive or negative) on the game. To help illustrate the point, consider a couple of well-known NBA players: Vince Carter and Tim Duncan. Without statistical data, Carter would certainly be remembered as the better player, because his game was characterized by an array of entertaining and amazing dunks, while Tim Duncan shot 12-footers off the backboard and blocked out well. But statistics reveal the truth: Vince Carter was a better than average one-dimensional player who no one will talk about in a decade, while Tim Duncan is arguably the greatest power forward of all time. If a player is capable of making exciting plays but is also likely to turn the disc over once out of every three times he touches it, I'd rather give playing time to the steady guy who does everything well without really standing out.

Secondly, statistics are also invaluable when it comes to determining strategy, because they provide the opportunity for a relatively unbiased

evaluation of a team's performance. After a loss, if a team has kept track of turnovers, it helps to determine if the problems are primarily offensive or defensive. If a team loses a game despite turning the disc over only twice, it is a good indication that the offense was performing at a high level, but that the defense was incapable of forcing enough turns to win the game. On the other hand, if a team loses after accumulating 30 turnovers, the captain has a pretty good idea of what area of the game needs to be addressed in practice first. Situational statistics also help team leaders to see how their team responds in man or zone settings, and counting things like number of passes when on defense can help a team to see how effective their own defensive sets are.

(2) *Statistics allow for the identification of trends across the sport.* Ultimate obviously does not share the long history of many other sports, but even in its relatively short life span, trends and new ways of playing have developed, and this is something I have witnessed even in my own career. When I first started playing, everyone ran a vertical stack. Over the next several years, the horizontal stack went from novel to commonplace, and now, many teams are starting to "rediscover" the vert.

Statistical records help to identify such trends, whether they are new ways of playing, or simply differences between levels of play. For example, I am confident that a comprehensive comparison of statistics of competitive college and club teams would show a higher percentage of pass completion, a lower turnover rate, and more passes per possession in the latter division, all indications that club ultimate is played at a higher level than college.

As ultimate continues to develop, and changes to the standard field size or the duration of the stall count are considered, keeping track of the number of passes per turnover or the number of Ds per point help to evaluate such changes and the impact they are making on the balance of the game.

(3) *Statistics allow for the comparison of players from different teams and, to some degree, different eras.* As ultimate continues to develop and elite ultimate continues to improve in quality, rating and comparing players becomes more common and more important.

First, consider how different voting for All-Region teams or the Callahan Award would be if statistical records were available. Rather than basing a vote on a highlight video (see the Vince Carter argument above), or personal testimonials, ("This guy is so sick; no one can guard him!") you could actually make an informed decision. Rather than putting an incredibly talented player on an All-Region team largely because of his big plays or reputation, you could look at his stats and make your choice based on whether or not he completed 75% or 95% of his passes.

Also, now that USAU has a Hall of Fame to honor its all-time greats, statistical input would be helpful here as well. Imagine how much more productive the yearly Ken Dobyns Hall of Fame debate could have been if it had the additional input of statistical data — rather than talk about how big of a jerk he was or wasn't, the talk could have focused on his objective impact on the game.

Finally, looking forward and assuming that the AUDL (or a league like it) is successful, it would not be unreasonable to imagine that certain players could be traded from one team to another — how do you determine if it is a good trade? Or, if AUDL rosters turn out to be largely regional with a few elite players "recruited" to play from far away, how does a team know which player to go after? If you had in-depth statistical records, the decision between Brodie Smith, Dylan Tunnell, or Seth Wiggins wouldn't have to come down to who had the most YouTube views.

Statistics are useful in a variety of ways, but ultimately, they all boil down to one general purpose — statistics provide a relatively objective means of evaluating a sport as opposed to gut feeling, impressive plays, or someone else's exaggerated description of events. The keeping and compilation of statistics takes work, and frankly, it is a task that not all teams will be dedicated enough to do. Nevertheless, there is a reason that all of the "established" team sports keep detailed statistics — statistics make a sport better.

To download a pair of detailed stat sheets, including instructions, go to to ozarkultimate.com a search "stat sheet" or http://wp.me/p21MNo-zn

***It should be noted that in recent years, the UPA/USAU has published player stats from championship events. While these efforts serve as a good start, the UPA/USAU stats are woefully simplistic and are not widespread in use.**

BEHIND THE CAMERA

Being an ultimate cameraman has its challenges. But it is totally worth it.

BY TAD DOCKERY

As far as I know, I'm one of the first professional ultimate videographers, in the sense that I'm one of the few pioneers to have filmed exclusively ultimate as my job. You'll also know, from watching the videos, that I'm still far from the best at it. I have an essential tremor, which means my hands shake, so I use a tripod, which does its own admirable job of sometimes getting in the way. There are great shots missed because of that tripod, though they'd all be missed without it. What I have been able to get is pretty much due to my former life as a back-up handler. All I did was swing the disc, and as a result I can usually predict where the disc is going next. Or at least that's what I'm gonna say.

Being on the sidelines and getting everything is impossible. Sideline players have this knack for stopping exactly in front of the camera. It's pretty funny, really. I've been guilty of that myself, in my past college days, so it must have to do with sideline viewing angles.

I've also been guilty of watching other games than the one I'm supposed to be filming. It's hard to resist, especially when there's a break in the action on your field and a loud cheer erupts next to you because something awesome just happened one field over. By the time I look up, conservation of greatness kicks in, and I miss a play on the field I should be paying attention to.

Besides inattention and clumsiness, there have been other problems, like when the camera batteries died because we forgot to charge them completely before Sectionals. So we made improper use of an inverter, a converter, and charger by running the car without being in it.

Of course there was only one set of keys, so the car sat there unlocked and running. We did manage to film a lot that day anyway, and nobody stole the car.

There were many off-field adventures this past year as well, too many to tell properly in the length of this column. Traveling almost 8000 miles to and from tournaments in a year gives a person many stories.

Still, there were the adventures that every ultimate traveler has had, like that one hotel we stayed in near Denton. It was a dive. The room above us was having a mariachi party and the door to our room bore the marks of being kicked in more than once. Not to mention the air conditioning unit that flooded the room.

There were also the adventures that no ultimate traveler should ever have to deal with, like the car dying in Dallas rush hour traffic. Or the trip back from Centex, which would normally be a six hour drive, that ended up being a twelve hour drive through the back roads of Texas. All because a truck full of processed chicken crashed on Interstate 35 just as South By Southwest was finishing. Not to mention the road block put up as a result of some small town we were attempting to drive through that was on fire.

In other words, I had a lot of fun this past year, and I hope this next year will be even better. It may or may not include multiple cameras from good vantage points. We're working on it, and your support helps us get there. Thank you. But even then cameras are going to be on the sidelines, jostling for views. That's televised sports for you.

But someday, you may just see a live game, filmed from a press box, being broadcast from some stadium built specifically for ultimate and nothing else. And when that day comes, you'll know that I'll be there -- with my tripod. I'll be the guy at the end of the field, filming all the endzone celebrations.

GRAVITY

IT ONLY WORKS ON MORTALS

THIS IS YOUR TIME

LIVE HARD

DISCRAFT

THE DISCRAFT 175 GRAM ULTRA-STAR™ SPORTDISC

Official disc of the USA Ultimate Championship Series
and choice of champions worldwide for casual, league, and tournament play.

Check out our new logo

Check out our new website

ozarkultimate.com

Follow Us