

Women run into second

Klimek leads men's squad to a 12th-place finish at Notre Dame

Billy Drazen
Staff Reporter

Normally a second-place finish excites a cross-country team. But this is not your normal cross country team.

In spite of the team's second-place finish and junior Jacquie Faust's first-place individual performance, the women's cross-country team is dissatisfied with their performance at the Jock's Nitch Invitational.

"We as a whole did not run well this meet," head coach John Cochrane said. "Team-wise, we did not do things that we had talked about. There were things that we needed to do to beat Emporia people. We talked about beating particular ones, and we never got out with them in the race and never caught up with them."

Four of the 'Dogs finished in the top 15. Faust finished 24 seconds ahead of the second-place runner for her first individual win this season. Senior Sarah Armstrong, freshman Danna Kelly and sophomore Grace DelNero finished 11th, 12th and 13th in the meet, respectively.

Cochrane said it is good the women behind Faust are running in a pack, but they need to be 30 seconds faster. He said there isn't anything physically they can do to improve, and it's all in the runners' minds.

Sophomore Grace DelNero said the team's performance was all right, but losing to Emporia definitely should give it an incentive to step up its performance.

"I think we could have done better this last meet," DelNero said. "We now have a lot of encouragement and motivation to get out there and run harder this week after losing to Emporia State. We definitely feel we have something to prove in the

upcoming meet and conference."

The men's cross-country team traveled to Indiana for the Notre Dame Invitational. Head coach Ed Schneider said he is encouraged by the team's improvement from its 17th-place finish last year to its 12th-place finish this year.

Schneider said he is pleased that five runners improved on their tournament times from last year.

Senior co-captains Eli Klimek and Aaron Wells led the team with 29th- and 35th-place finishes. Schneider said the two have been the team's leaders all season but notes that they, like the rest of the team, must get stronger as every meet passes.

Even though the team has shown improvement since last year, junior Jason Simpson said they all must get better and knows what he has to do personally to improve.

"For me, I want to race strong for the entire eight kilometers," Simpson said. "Either I'm racing well in the beginning of the race or at the end of it. I want to be able to run strong for the whole eight or 10 kilometer race."

Schneider said he sees improvement in his team as time progresses, and he said they are up to the task.

"I feel we're always a better team after Notre Dame," Schneider said. "I always feel there's something special about Notre Dame and the competition and the course they have. I have felt over the years, no matter how well we do there, whenever we come back we're always a better team, both mentally and physically."

Schneider said he wants the team to keep improving from week to week, and now the runners know what to expect from the rest of the season. The men's next meet is Saturday at the Border States Invitational.

"You always expect and hope for more as the season goes on," Schneider said. "Realistically if we are to have a chance of competing well at conference, we just have to keep working hard."



Chris Tharp/Index

Members of the women's cross-country team practice Tuesday. Both the men's and women's squads next meet will be at the Border State Invitational on Saturday.

SPORTS|In Brief

Faust wins third straight MIAA Runner of Week

Junior Jacquie Faust's first-place finish in Emporia State University's Jock's Nitch Invitational garnered her third MIAA athlete of the week.

Faust's time of 18:30 was 24 seconds ahead of her nearest competitor, Emporia State's Kristen Larson. It was her first cross-country win of her collegiate career.

Klimek captures MIAA Runner of Week

Senior Eli Klimek earned the MIAA Runner of the Week this past week. He finished with a time of 25:49 in the five-mile course to place 29th in the Blue Division and lead Truman to a 12th-place finish out of 26 schools entered.

Shearman grasps MIAA Hitter of the Week honor

Junior Sarah Shearman was named MIAA player of week for the first time this season after the No. 1 Bulldogs' three conference wins during the weekend.

Against Southwest Baptist University on Thursday, Shearman had a team-high 13 kills while hitting .667 in 18 attempts. The next day versus Missouri Southern State University, Shearman hit .429 with ten kills and four digs.

On Saturday, Shearman hit .591 with 15 kills in 22 attempts and had 13 digs in the Bulldogs' 3-0 victory over Pittsburg State University.

Men's basketball team will host charity event

The men's basketball team is sponsoring a "charity stripe" game at each home basketball game this season. Community and school organizations can earn money for their favorite charity by competing in the event.

For details, see the men's basketball page under gobulldogs.truman.edu.



Chris Waller/Index

Senior Sean Cooper volleys a shot during practice earlier in the season. Cooper has won both of his singles matches in the two dual meets this year.

Williams recovers at ITAs

After losing in first round, freshman bounces back with three straight wins

John Scognamiglio
Staff Reporter

To the casual observer, it seemed freshman Devin Williams didn't have a great ITA tournament this past weekend.

The ITA Web site shows that Williams lost in the first round to the fifth seed, but Williams still saw success many people who weren't in attendance at the regional won't know about.

Williams had a tough draw in round one, facing fifth-seed Pablo Acevedo of Northwest Missouri State University. Williams fought hard but dropped the match in straight sets, 6-2, 6-4. That's where the stat sheet and bracket ends, and his story begins.

Williams said he wasn't expecting to get very far.

"Some people got tough draws," he said. "I just went into the regional headfirst."

The ITA regional has a main bracket but ensures all contenders will play at least two matches. Williams moved over to the consolation bracket to take on Kyle Savelkoul of Winona State University. The consolation brackets are set up as one-set matches. Williams easily defeated Savelkoul 8-2 to advance in the bracket.

He then faced Scott Yount of Southwest Baptist University in the quarterfinals of the consolation bracket, winning by a score of 8-3.

Williams won his semifinal round

without a serve of the fuzzy yellow ball. Jorge Ramos of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln withdrew, allowing Williams a spot in the final round.

His luck ran out in the finals. The freshman sensation was paired up against Drew Hanson of Washburn University. Williams failed to win a single game in the match, losing 8-0.

Williams said he intends to use this regional experience as a tool for refining his game.

"I was playing to get experience," he said. "That's all what tennis is: a series of learning experiences."

Head coach Pete Kendall said it was great to see Williams make a deep run in the consolation bracket.

"It's good to get in a bunch of more matches for all of them," he said. "[Junior Ryan] Cope won some consolation matches too."

Williams was not the only Bulldog to make a splash at the ITA regional. Sophomore Cody Pusateri reached the round of 16 in the main bracket. Pusateri defeated Kyle Eads of Colorado State University-Pueblo in straight sets 6-1, 7-5 in his first match.

Pusateri then played 15th-seed sophomore Gage Davidson of Winona State. After dropping the first set 1-6, Pusateri roared back, winning the second set by a score of 7-5 and sending the match into a tiebreaker. Pusateri and Davidson fought for each game, but the Truman Bulldog took down the Winona State Warrior 10-7.

He said the highlight of the tournament was playing against Davidson.

"It was easily the biggest match

Devin Williams' Road to the Finals

vs. Pablo Acevado	L
vs. Kyle Savelkal	W
vs. Scott Yount	W
vs. Jorge Ramos	W
vs. Drew Hanson	L

of my college career," he said. "I was pretty excited. Beating him in the second set was a confidence booster. In the past, I'd get down on myself."

Pusateri's run ended at the beginning of day two when he faced third seed William Jacome of Nebraska-Kearney. The momentum failed to carry over as Pusateri dropped both sets 6-0, 6-2 to knock him out of the tournament.

Kendall said Pusateri had a great regional showing.

"He took down the No. 1 guy from Winona," he said. "Especially after losing the first set 6-1, it was a nice comeback. That was nice to get somebody in there."

The only other singles player to advance beyond the first round was senior Sean Cooper. Cooper defeated Yount 4-6, 6-2, 10-7, but lost his second round match to 11th-ranked Rutger Vliegenberg of Washburn.

The doubles team of senior Tyler Wood and Cope also enjoyed success at the regional. The fourth-seeded doubles duo reached the quarterfinals but fell to Nathan Martin and Brad Johnston of Washburn.

Women's golf pitches third place in Nebraska

Duo of Samojluk and Williams both shoot a 166 to finish tied for ninth, all finish in top 25

David Hatfield
for the Index

The women's golf team returned home Monday after sealing up a third-place finish in their second-to-last tournament of the season.

Nebraska Wesleyan was host to a 10-team tournament at their home in Lincoln, Neb., on Sunday and Monday. Five golfers from Truman represented the school. It was Truman's fifth top-five finish in six tournaments this year.

Sophomore Marta Samojluk and freshman Julie Williams led Truman's team. The duo tied with a total score of 166 and a ninth-place finish. Truman also had two more of the top-20 finishers, sophomore Laura Westensee and junior Sara Lloyd. Sophomore Amanda Senn finished just outside the top 20 in a tie for 21st.

The women's team shot a combined score of 669, finishing behind regional rival University of Nebraska-Omaha's varsity and JV teams. University of Nebraska-Omaha's Amanda Stock won with

an overall score of 155.

Truman's Westensee scored an 84 and 85 to finish in a tie for 14th place but said she could have shot better despite the wind.

"I struggled a bit with the short game in the conditions," she said. "I would have liked to play better."

The wind proved to be a factor for all the competitors but was not the only reason Westensee didn't play as well as she said she can.

"It was just extremely windy the whole time, even more so on the second day because the course was so open," Westensee said. "Some parts of my game just weren't on. We knew we could have done a little bit better."

Senn, who scored a 172 overall, said she thinks she and the team could have done a lot better.

"I could have improved a lot on both rounds," Senn said. "Mostly everyone on the team was not happy with their scores."

Head coach Sam Lesseig said he was

pleased but not ecstatic with the team's performance.

"We could have and should have been a little lower," Lesseig said.

Lesseig said the whole team has some work to do, and there is always room for improvement. He said he thinks his top two finishers, Samojluk and Williams, still played well.

"They're both capable of scoring three to four shots lower than that overall," Lesseig said. "They played very steady and didn't let the wind get to them too bad."

Lesseig said the team has until Oct. 17 at University of Missouri-Kansas City, its last tournament of the year, to fix the shortcomings in its game.

"We're going to work on practicing scoring shots and look at the way we have been practicing and try to change some things up," he said.

"I struggled a bit with the short game in the conditions. I would have liked to play better"

Laura Westensee
Sophomore Golfer

5 for 5

All five Truman golfers finish in the top 25

Name	Score	Place
Marta Samojluk	166	9th
Julie Williams	166	9th
Laura Westensee	169	14th
Sara Lloyd	170	17th
Amanda Senn	172	21st