Adam Kabins/Index
Freshman shortstop Jessica Shelman throws to sophomore first baseman Katie Noski between innings of a game this weekend.

Softball rights ship by sweeping UMSL

Joseph Barker
Assistant Sports Editor

Having dropped three of its last four games, the softball team needed to get back to its winning ways.

And win it did. The Bulldogs took both games of a home double header by defeating the University of Missouri-St. Louis.

The two wins bumped the 'Dogs' record to 22-13.

Freshman center fielder Dani Mayer said the team was feeling down after the losing streak, and it was good to get back in the win column.

"It was huge for our confidence," Mayer said.

Game one had the 'Dogs coming out on top 7-0 with all three facets of the game - pitching, hitting and defense - working.

Starting pitcher senior Loni Wedemeier (10-4) went the distance with a complete -game shutout. Sophomore utility player Hallie Blackney provided the offense with a two-run home run in the fourth.

The second game was closer than the first one, but the end result was the same.

After not making an error in the first game the 'Dogs opened up game two with two errors in the first inning that led to two runs by the Riverwomen.

Head coach Lacey Schanz said she was unsure what happened with her team's defense in between the two games.

"I have no idea," she said. "If I knew that, I would be the best coach ever. And it was only the first inning. ... I'm not sure why we made errors in the first inning and then never again."

Riding the arm of junior pitcher Ashley McDougal, the squad came out on top 3-2. McDougal (6-3) pitched all seven innings, allowing only one hit and two unearned runs.

"She pitched great," Schanz said. "If you ask me, she pitched a no-hitter. ... She threw amazing. ... She has very good command of her pitches right now and is putting the ball exactly where she wants it."

While McDougal provided the pitching, Mayer provided the offense. She went 2-for-3 with two RBIs and one run scored. Both of her hits went for extra bases as she knocked a double in the second and a triple in the fourth.

"I saw the ball really well, and I concentrated really hard," Mayer said.

The two wins concluded a stretch of eight games and four days for the team. The 'Dogs went 5-3 in the stretch but lost two conference games to Washburn University on Monday.

Schanz said it was good to see her team turn things around a day later.

"It was good to see us play better than we did against Washburn," Schanz said. "We had better at-bats, we were more aggressive at the plate and showed more intensity against UMSL than we did against Washburn."

April 7 vs. Southwest Baptist

Southwest Baptist	000 101 0 – 2
Truman	133 000 X – 7

W – Wedemeier (TSU); L – Thompson (SBU)
HR – Orchard (SBU)

Southwest Baptist	010 000 0 – 1
Truman	000 002 X – 2

W – McDougal (TSU); L – Martin (SBU)
HR – Wedemeier (TSU)

April 8 vs. Central Missouri State

Central Missouri	000 000 3 – 3
Truman	001 100 0 – 2

W – Muenks (CMSU); L – Wedemeier (TSU)
HR – Hollenbach (CMSU)

Central Missouri	000 000 0 – 0
Truman	000 110 X – 2

W – McDougal (TSU); L – McQueen (CMSU); S – Wedemeier
HR – Wedemeier (TSU), Rock (TSU)

April 10 vs. Washburn

Washburn	000 200 0 – 2
Truman	000 000 0 – 0

W – Swygert (WU); L – Walsma (TSU)
HR – Webb (WU)

Washburn	105 302 1 – 12
Truman	000 130 0 – 4

W – Pierce (WU); L – Wedemeier (TSU)
HR – Gosser (WU), White (WU), Daigh (WU)

April 11 vs. Missouri-St. Louis

Missouri-St. Louis	000 000 0 – 0
Truman	100 402 X – 7

W – Wedemeier (TSU); L – Reinagel (UMSL)
HR – Blackney (TSU)

Missouri-St. Louis	200 000 0 – 2
Truman	010 200 X – 3

W – McDougal (WU); L – Wagoner (UMSL)

Men's and women's golf teams struggle at matches

Women finish sixth and men end up in eighth place at event

Shannan Anderson
Index Staff

The women's golf team defeated four teams to win the Bulldog Invite last week, but wind and rain prevented the team from keeping the streak going last Friday and Saturday at the Ironwood Collegiate Classic.

The team shot 361 in the first round Friday, improving to 347 in the second round and taking sixth place, 50 strokes behind the winner, Minnesota State-Mankato. Freshman Julie Williams finished in a tie for 16th with a two-day total of 173, leading the Bulldogs for the second week in a row.

Sophomore Laura Westensee said the weather changed the second round, enabling her to hit better and decrease her stroke count. But it was too late.

"I did not play very well at all the first day," Westensee said. "So I'm not very happy with that. The second day, I figured some things out."

Westensee said she saved a lot of strokes with her short game on the second day but wishes she would have been able to deal with the wind better.

The troubles plaguing Westensee this year did not affect her last year. She led the Bulldogs at last spring's Ironwood Classic, finishing eighth overall with the team finishing fourth out of six teams. Eight teams competed in this year's tournament in Omaha, Neb.

Head coach Sam Lesseig said that for most players, the short game was the biggest problem.

"We played very poorly the first day," Lesseig said. " ... We bounced back after [that], but we had just dug too deep a hole."

Lesseig said wind always is a factor, but it affects every team. The women needed to take some shots off, which did not happen, he said.

In spite of the team's poor showing this week, Westensee has her eyes on the future.

"[I am] looking forward to playing this weekend at University of Illinois, and hopefully we can get the team score a little higher," she said.

The women will travel to compete in the Illini Classic on April 14 and 15. They did not play there last spring.

The men's golf team also competed this week in its last tournament before the MIAA Conference Championships. The team placed eighth out of 13 teams at the Ironhorse Intercollegiate in Leawood, Kan., with a score of 657.

Junior Jesse Helms led the team for yet another week with 76 in the first round, decreasing to 74 in the second round.

Senior Kyle Kahlemberg said Helms played very well this week while everyone else kind of struggled. But this time, the weather was not to blame. The first day was sunny, but during the second round, the wind was gusting pretty strong, Kahlenberg said.

"I did not play very well at all," he said. " ... I made a lot of bad decisions. But I am beginning to turn the corner in my putting and making better contact with the ball."

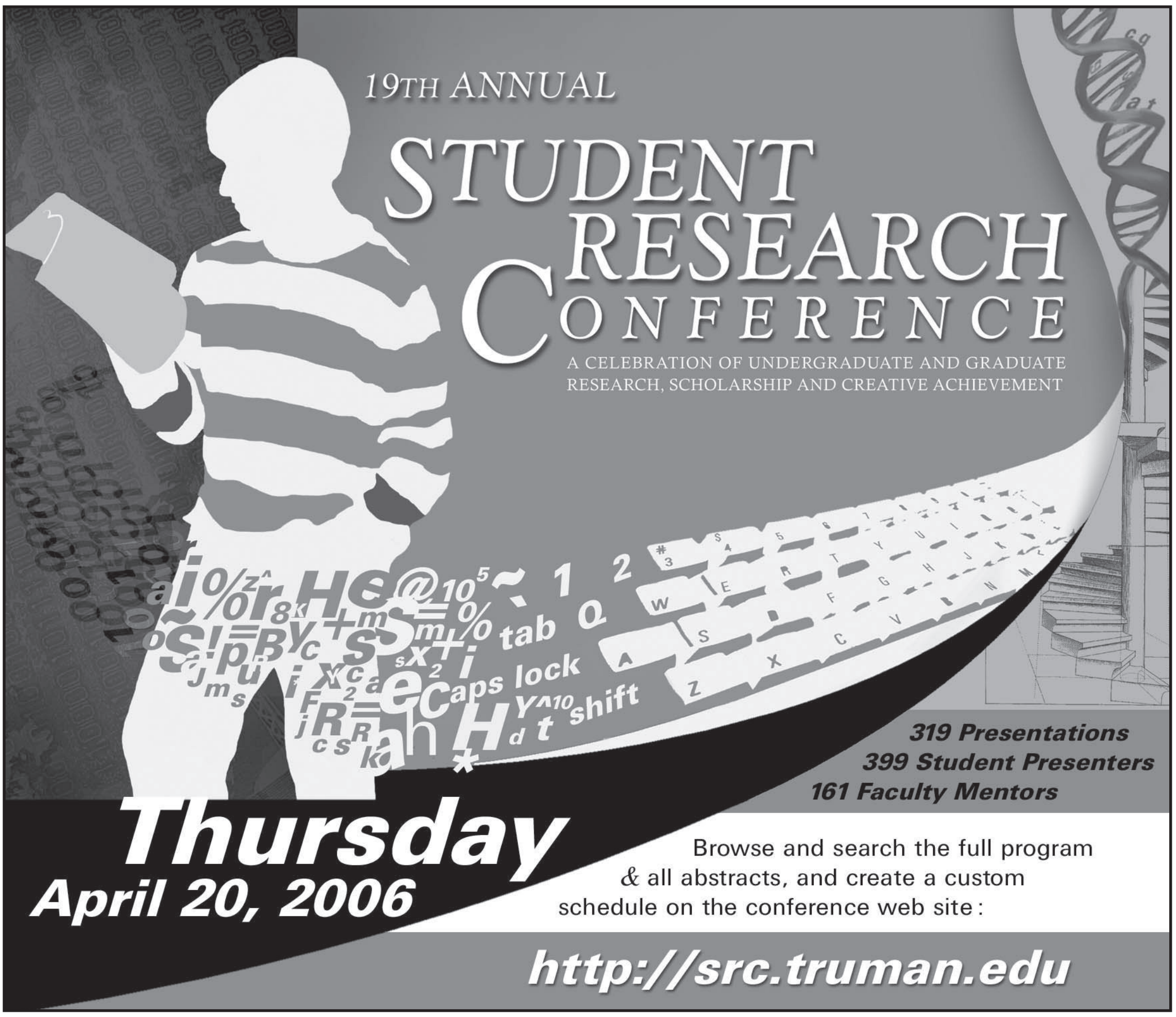
Kahlemberg shot a 91 in the first round, dropping to an 81 in the second round. He said the course was hard to read and difficult for putting because the golf club recently had aerated the green.

Head coach Kevin White said the course was the second-hardest the team has seen this season. He said the course really requires players to be accurate with their shots.

"We played well the second day," White said. "We need to learn to play better the first day and quit digging ourselves into a hole."

Last spring, the team finished seventh out of 12 teams at this tournament, with alumnus Austin George tying for first.

The team will compete in Blue Springs, Mo., at the MIAA Conference Championship on April 17 and 18. It placed fifth out of seven teams last year.

Ironwood Collegiate Classic Results

Name	Place	Score
Julie Williams	T16	173
Sara Lloyd	T20	175
Marta Samojluk	24	176
Laura Westensee	T37	185
Lindsay Dodge	T30	191