

# Swimming falls to Div. I foes

Women beat Missouri State University but fall to Iowa, men falter in both duals

Joseph Barker  
Staff Reporter

Swim season is definitely under way.

For the second straight weekend, the Truman swim teams hosted opposing schools in the Pershing Natatorium. The Bulldogs had two dual meets this weekend, both against Div. I squads. While the women split the meets, the men dropped both.

The first meet was Friday against the University of Iowa Hawkeyes. Both squads lost in the dual with the women falling 142.5-119.5 and the men losing 176.5-82.5.

"We knew that they would be tough," sophomore Emily Greenwood said. "We knew if we swam well, we could give them good competition. We were just excited to have people push us other than our own teammates, which they definitely did."

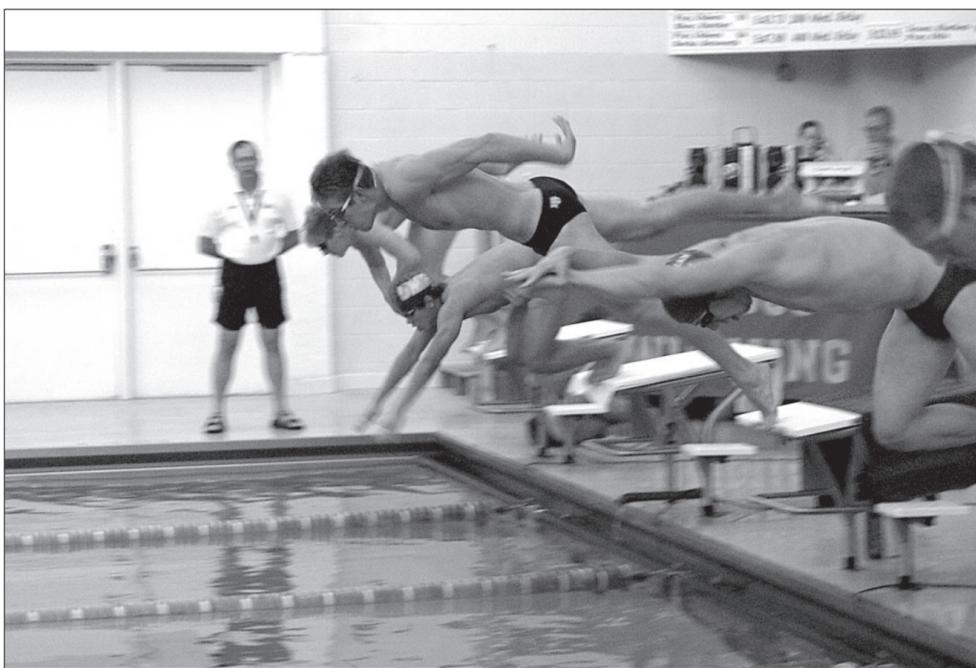
Although they lost the dual, the women managed to win several races. Senior Whitney Jensen continued her run of victories in the 50-yard freestyle stroke event. She took first with a time of 24.36. It was her third win in three tries in the event.

Other winners for the women were junior Lija Kaleps-Clark, who won the 200-yard individual medley, and the 400-yard freestyle stroke relay team of Jensen, Kaleps-Clark, and sophomores Emily Pufall and Molly Polette.

On the men's side, only freshman Jason Stokes managed a victory against the Hawkeyes. Stokes tied Iowa sophomore Nate Keeling in the 50-yard freestyle stroke with a time of 22.36.

Neither squad had to wait long to get back in the pool. The Missouri State University Bears took to the water for another dual-meet. This time the women came out on top, beating the Bears 57-38. The men, however, lost 57-38.

"Div. I schools come into the meet thinking 'Oh they're D-2,' but the thing with us is a lot of D-1 schools



Roger Meissen/Index

Members of the men's swim team dive off the blocks Nov. 5 against Washington University and the University of Missouri-Rolla. The men and women both dropped last weekend's dual to the University of Iowa.

don't want to swim with us because they know that we are good," Greenwood said. "It just feels good to beat D-1 schools because they are supposed to be better than D-2 schools, but we have enough talent that we can pretty much compete with anyone."

This time, the women had more than a few race wins. The 'Dogs won 9 out of 11 races. Jensen led the way with two race victories, winning the 100-yard and 50-yard freestyle. Junior Lindsay McReynolds, sophomores Laura Harp and Greenwood, freshman Erica Anderson, Polette and Kaleps-Clark were the other race winners. The 200-yard medley relay of Greenwood, Harp, Pufall and junior Brigit Brunsman also won.

"I think they came ready to race all weekend," head coach Mark Gole said. "Against Iowa, four races came down to just tenths of seconds. If four of them would have gone our way instead

of their way, we probably would have come out on top. And, against Missouri State they got off to a great start and just kept the pressure on."

The women also had both relay teams and the 200- and 400-yard medley relay teams qualify for nationals along with Jensen in the 100-yard freestyle. With the new qualifiers, that brings the totals on the year to seven. The team still has five races left on the year.

"It was kind of a relief to qualify," Greenwood said. "Last year it kind of took me a while before I finally qualified. Now I just concentrate on just getting in better physical shape so I can do my best in March."

The men also fared better against Missouri State. Senior Josh Otis won the 200-yard freestyle stroke race and sophomore Tony Wolff the 100-yard freestyle stroke. Also winning was the A relay team of Wolff, Otis and sopho-

mores Alex Totura and Ryan Ferrell in the 400-yard medley event.

Gole said the swim teams are showing improvement.

"In my opinion they are really starting to come around in learning their events," Gole said. "I know in my coaching style the racing strategy is a little different. We try to model the very top athletes in the country, how they swim, and we try to teach these swimmers how to do that. And, it takes time and experience and it's showing that they are definitely learning."

Although the teams only recorded one victory in the two meets, Gole said he was happy with the way things went against the Div. I schools.

"I was very pleased with how both meets went," Gole said. "The teams swam extremely well both nights. I couldn't have asked for anything more from them."

# Wrestlers clash in close bouts at Central Missouri State Open

Just two wrestlers place for the Bulldogs, Schutter looks for improvement in next meet

Josh Sisson  
Staff Reporter

Only a few points separated the Bulldogs from coming home with five places instead of two.

Senior 184-pounder Gregg Nurrenbern finished fourth at Sunday's Central Missouri State University Open, while sophomore 197-pounder Matt Craig came in sixth.

A few other Bulldog wrestlers came within striking distance of the top six, but a number of heartbreaking defeats undermined their efforts.

Head coach Dave Schutter said his wrestlers caught several tough breaks.

"We just didn't win the close matches, the tight matches," Schutter said. "It's nothing we can't fix. We just need to improve in a few areas. A lot of the reason we lost those close matches has nothing to do with the desire of [seniors] Dustin Teeman, Allen Stokes or [freshman] Blake Peterson. It has to do with stuff that's beyond our control."

Senior 125-pounder Stokes was one Bulldog wrestler bitten by the close-match bug. He went 3-2 on the day, with his pair of losses coming by a total of six points.

Sophomore 133-pounder Dan Keller's day got off to a solid start when he pinned his first two opponents in less than two minutes.

He followed up the pair of falls with a pair of difficult defeats, however, as he lost 5-4 to Earl Jones of the University of Central Oklahoma and 5-3 to Jason Moreno of Lindenwood University (Mo.).

Jones, whose left leg is amputated from the knee down, presented Keller with a particularly interesting challenge.

"It's hard to wrestle him because you don't really practice against that," Keller said. "His upper body is just ridiculously strong, so once he got ahold of my leg, it was like wrestling Nurrenbern."

Keller said he still was demoralized when he took the mat for his fourth bout.

"That loss to Jones kind of took it out of me," Keller said. "I didn't wrestle very well. I wasn't very aggressive. I just didn't go after it."

Senior 157-pound wrestler Teeman appeared destined for the finals after winning his first three matches. Unlike so many other Bulldogs, Teeman came out on top in a couple of 3-2 decisions.

He dropped his last two matches by a combined four points, however, falling 3-1 to James Williamson of the University of Missouri-Columbia and 7-5 to Chris DeVilbiss of the Univer-

sity of Oklahoma.

Nurrenbern, an All-American at 184 pounds, went 4-2 on his way to a fourth-place finish. He picked up three of his victories by pin.

His first loss came to Pete Friedl of the University of Illinois, who eventually won the tournament.

Nurrenbern said Friedl was a difficult matchup.

"He was a really quick guy, and that's not really my style, so I just tried to stay in tight with him," Nurrenbern said. "He was able to take me down twice in the second period, and I took him down once. I let him go in the third period to make it 6-4, hoping I could take him down to tie it up, but I couldn't take him down after that."

Schutter said he is looking for significant improvement in the coming weeks for his team.

"We're nowhere near where we need to be," Schutter said. "You look at Central Oklahoma where they bring 30-some guys and place one or two at every weight. Of course, they have nine scholarships, which makes a huge difference. And they have a larger coaching staff, but we can't take any of those things into consideration. We've got to work with what we have, and we didn't get the job done. I didn't get the job done. Plain and simple, I'm disappointed, and we have a long way to go."



Chris Waller/Index

Wrestlers grapple during practice two weeks ago at Pershing Arena. The Bulldogs placed only two wrestlers at the CMSU Open.

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## SPORTS In Brief

Shearman and Boehler earn weekly volleyball awards

Junior outside hitter Sarah Shearman and freshman libero Whitney Boehler won the weekly MIAA Volleyball awards last week. Shearman hit .290 with 5.93 digs and 5.14 kills during the MIAA Postseason Conference Tournament. Boehler recently earned the starting libero position and averaged 5.86 digs per game.

Bulldogs earn No. 2 seed for South Central Regional

The NCAA set the Div. II volleyball postseason playoff bracket Monday night. Like past years, 64 teams are divided into eight regions. Seven of the regions have eight teams while one, the North Central region, has only seven teams.

The Bulldogs earned the No. 2 seed in the South Central Regional after obtaining the No. 1 seed the past three falls. The University of North Alabama, the 2003 Div. II champions, garnered the No. 1 seed in the South Central after winning the Gulf South Conference championship and finishing the season with a 35-1 record. They will host the tournament in Flowers Hall at Florence, Ala.

Six other teams, including three from the MIAA, round out the South Central region. Washburn University, winner of the MIAA regular season title, received the No. 3 seed after falling to the Bulldogs in the final of the MIAA Conference Tournament. Central Missouri State University earned the No. 4 seed and Emporia State University, guided by first-year coach Bing Xu, reached their first ever postseason as the No. 5 seed.

Harding University (Ark.) of the Gulf South Conference is the No. 6 seed in the region for the second straight year. Also for the second straight year, it will face Washburn in the first round. Alabama-Huntsville earned the No. 7 seed and Albany State (Ga.) University, winners of the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference, will be the No. 8 seed. The South Central Region figures to be one of the toughest regions in the country, as four teams are nationally ranked.

Overall, the Pacific region is the toughest in the country, as the top six teams all hold a spot in the Top 25.



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