

# Rugby results different for both squads

Men move to 2-0 in the Western Rugby Union Central League after win

**Katie Curry**  
For the Index

After falling behind 26-0 in the first half, Kansas State University pulled within 18 points of the men's rugby team, closing the score to 33-15 in the second half of Sunday's game.

A loss for the Bulls would have pushed them to the bottom of the Western Rugby Football Union Central League standings.

But the Bulls rose to the occasion, and, led by freshman wing Jim Dougherty's first try of his career, the team sailed to a 54-15 victory and improved to 2-0 in the league.

"This is huge for us," head coach Bill Sexton said. "We are going to stand with 10 points in the league. It puts us in a pretty good position."

It was the second consecutive game in which the team has scored four or more tries.

Sexton said the team's preparation of and adherence to a good game plan was one of the major factors contributing to the win. "When we were focused and playing our game plan, we were able to execute cleanly and break their tackle line," he said. "Once we got past their tackle line, we had people swarming in from behind. It was really a very good team approach to breaking down their defense and ensuring we kept the ball alive through the score."

Senior and team captain Sean Foley said he thinks the Bulls worked well together as a team.

"The forwards controlled the ball well,

and we ran through a lot of their open spaces," Foley said. "We beat them pretty handily."

Despite the win, Sexton said there's still room for improvement.

"We got a little complacent in the second half, and they put over three tries and were threatening to make it a game," Sexton said.

The women's rugby team didn't fair as well Saturday, losing 30-12 to Kansas State University.

Sophomore prop Deborah Miller said the Bullets managed to make the game interesting by scoring two tries as the clock ran out.

"We really started to pull it together in the second half and starting working together," Miller said. "[KSU is] a really experienced team, but we did really well."

She said the Red Lyons' experience was a major factor in the loss.

"Some of the girls on that team have been playing rugby longer than I've even known about the game," Miller said.

Senior wing Stephanie Dettmer said transportation issues also contributed to the team's difficulties Saturday. She said one car was lost, and another was stuck in traffic from KSU's homecoming game.

"One car didn't show up five minutes before the game," Dettmer said. "But the best thing was that we had a full team to play with."

Dettmer said it was the first game in which the Bullets had a full side and didn't have to borrow players from other teams.

Like the Bulls, she said the Bullets play much better as a team when everyone is on the same page and anticipating every play.

"We had a lot of wing plays that worked very well," Dettmer said. "Both of our scores were from wings. In general, I think we learned that when we work together, we do better as a team."

"This is huge for us."

**Bill Sexton**  
Bulls Head Coach



Chris Waller/Index

Sophomore Angela Rippe fights to stay up against a Kansas State University player in action last week

## Athlete of the Week

### Mike Patnode

Sport: Football

Year: Sophomore

Position: Running back

Hometown: Princeton, Minn.

Patnode, who was the Bulldogs' leading rusher as a true freshman last fall with 662 yards, hadn't started a game yet this season. He earned a chance Saturday and rushed for 153 yards and a touchdown against Southwest Baptist University. The 100-yard game was his first of the year and the fourth of his career. On the season, Patnode has 347 rushing yards and 142 receiving yards. He has also found the end zone on three occasions.

## Patnode makes most of starting opportunity

Sophomore running back rushes for 156 yards and a touchdown Saturday

**Joseph Barker**  
Staff Reporter

Sophomore running back Mike Patnode prefers to start, and Saturday against Southwest Baptist, he showed why.

After not starting the first nine games of the season, he started at running back against the Bearcats and put up big numbers.

Patnode carried the ball 26 times for 156 yards and a touchdown. He hauled in one pass for 12 yards.

"I knew I was capable of this," Patnode said. "I was just waiting for the opportunity. When I got it, I was just glad I took advantage of it. I had more opportunities in this game than I had in the previous ones, so I think that's what contributes to most of it."

While Patnode put up the individual statistics, he focused more on the team.

The Bulldogs lost the game 38-36 on a later interception. Patnode said he would trade his big numbers for a Bulldogs win any day.

"No matter how well you do individually, you always look at the outcome of the game," he said. "I would've traded negative yards for a win. I am happy that I played well, but I am definitely disappointed that we lost such a close game."

Patnode said he could not have performed as well as he did without a total team effort.

"I'm not sure what to expect. If I do get touches, then I am going to take advantage of it again. If I don't, then I got to take advantage of the carries and touches that I do get."

**Michael Patnode**  
Sophomore Running Back

"I give most of the success that I had on Saturday to the rest of the offense," he said. "We were able to pass the ball and that opened up the run game. The linemen played well and were able to block for me, so it wasn't just me doing it, it was the rest of the team helping me. I had the stats but look at the other part of the game that allowed me to do that."

Even though his injuries limited his playing time and how effective senior Jerard Leverson has been this season, head coach Shannon Currier said he was not surprised by Patnode's play.

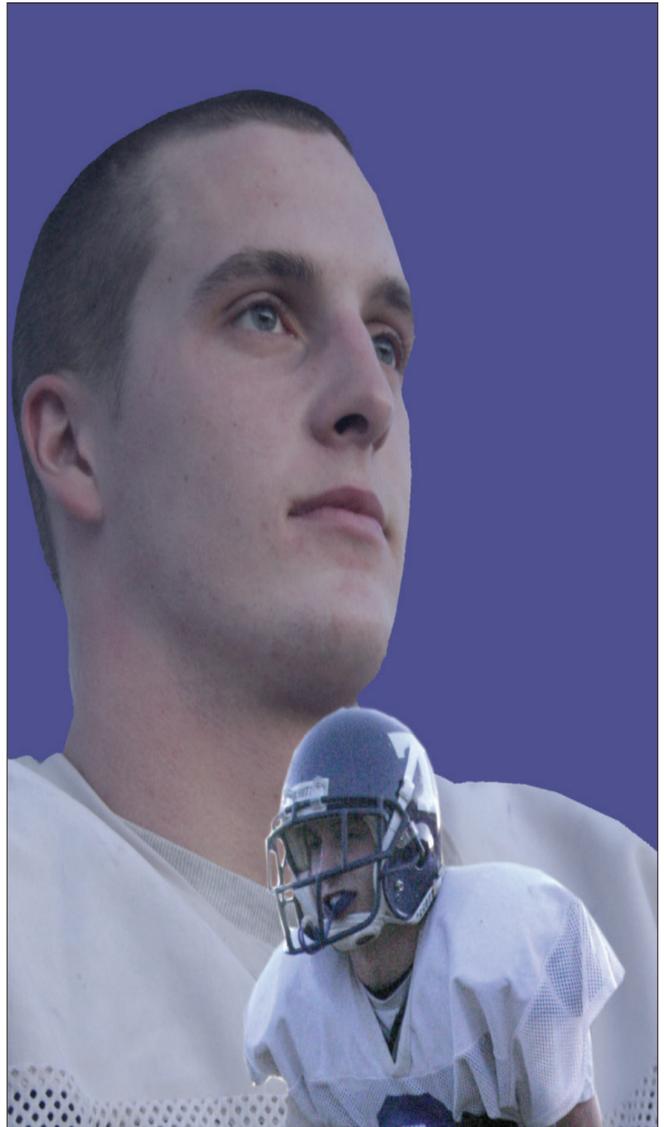
"I think he's been kind of frustrated because he hasn't had as many opportunities as he would like in the last few weeks," Currier said. "I could tell in practice when he was named a starter that he really stepped it up a gear and worked hard. He just ran real hard and was explosive and he did that in practice all week."

The 'Dogs haven't named a starter for next week's game, but Currier said he wouldn't be reluctant to play the hot hand.

"I think we are going to see who has the best week in practice," Currier said. "He had such a good game it is hard not to keep him in there."

Whatever his role will be, Patnode prepares to make the most of his time on the field.

"I'm not sure what to expect," Patnode said. "If I do get [touches] then I am going to take advantage of it again. If I don't, then I got to take advantage of the carries and touches that I do get."



Photos by Chris Tharp, Designed by Chris Waller/Index

## Frisbee finishes 0-4 at tournament in Fayetteville, Ark.

TSUnami battles a couple close games, coach counts game as learning experience

**Billy Drazen**  
Staff Reporter

The TSUnami ultimate frisbee team went through a learning experience this weekend at its tournament in Fayetteville, Ark.

The women faced tough competition and lost all four of their matches in the tournament.

One of the toughest teams the TSUnami played was the University of Texas said sophomore head coach Eric Snyder.

He said Texas consistently has been in the top 20 in the country for the last five years.

"I was very impressed with the way the women played in that game," Snyder said. "Especially to come out during the first game of a big and intense tournament against a team of that caliber and play the way we did, I was very impressed."

The team lost 8-4 to Texas, 10-9 to St. Louis University, 13-2 to a Fayetteville club team and 7-4 to Texas A&M.

Snyder said both Texas and A&M are two of the better teams around, and the club team from Fayetteville consisted of women who already had graduated from college.

The closest game for the team was against SLU. Snyder said the team was

down 9-4 and came back to tie it up at 9-9.

Then a couple plays went SLU's way, and they were able to score near the end of the game. This loss snowballed into two more losses later that day.

"It was a really tough loss," sophomore Laura Halfmann said. "We didn't pick ourselves up right away, and that carried over into the rest of the tournament. But it's something we can learn from. We need to learn to leave the tough losses behind us and move on to the next game."

Senior Katherine Jorgenson said despite the 0-4 record, the team took positive things away from the tournament.

"It helps us see what else is out there," Jorgenson said. "When playing a team like Texas, we see the heart that they play

with, and we see what it can be like when a team plays together for as long as they have."

Along with four losses Sunday, the team was denied two games it thought it was guaranteed to play because of an error by the tournament director.

Snyder said other teams at the tournament noticed TSUnami did not get to play its Sunday games. Jorgenson said she heard other teams saying they were going to e-mail the tournament director to file a complaint on the team's behalf.

The team will request a partial refund for not getting to play the games they were promised.

Snyder said the team must work on the fundamentals of throwing and catching.

He also said the team will do a winter conditioning program three times a week that will consist of plyometrics, weight lifting and running.

Snyder said the team used this tournament as a learning experience. It faced high-caliber competition and can take away from this tournament things to work on in the off-season to prepare for sectionals and regionals in the spring.

"We learn the most from our failures," Snyder said. "We had a lot of failures and a lot of successes this weekend. We had an opportunity to learn a lot. Although our record did not show that we played well, I still think that in the end it was a very beneficial tournament. The girls learned a lot and overall had a lot of fun."