Softball improves record to 17-16 with wins against Mo. West

BY JACOB MCCONNELL
Staff Reporter

Senior Karri Novick continued her dominance on the mound last week as the Truman softball team improved to 19-16 with wins against Missouri Western on Monday and against Mo. West on Tuesday.

Novick pitched a nine-inning shutout against Missouri Western on Monday. The Bulldogs gave up just five hits and stranded nine runners on base against the Bearcats. Missouri Western started with four hits in the first inning, but Truman went on to score once in every inning for the rest of the game.

Truman’s pitching came up short against Mo. West on Tuesday. Despite holding their opponents to just five hits in six innings, Mo. West scored one run in the sixth inning with two outs to tie the game. Truman then had a chance to win it in the bottom of the sixth inning, but Mo. West’s pitcher was able to get the final out before Mo. West scored another run in the seventh inning to win 2-1.

“We played well defensively last week, but it is too difficult to get tremendous offensive production,” head coach Kevin Brown said. “We need to work on hitting and pitching, and we need to learn to play with a deficit.”

Truman stands at 19-16 overall and is 5-7 in the MIAA. The Bulldogs are second in the MIAA in run prevention, first in the MIAA in home runs allowed and first in the MIAA in innings pitched.

Team is 5-14 in games decided by two runs or fewer after Monday loss

BY JACOB MCCONNELL
Staff Reporter

The Truman softball team’s second game against Missouri Western on Monday ended in a 2-1 win for the Bearcats, dropping the Bulldogs to 5-14 in games decided by two runs or fewer.

“Missouri Western had good offensive production today, and they were able to push a run across in the bottom of the sixth inning,” head coach Kevin Brown said. “It is frustrating to lose a game like that because it was a rout for a majority of the game.”

Truman led 1-0 going into the sixth inning, but Missouri Western scored two runs in the bottom of the sixth inning to take the lead. Truman was able to score a run in the bottom of the sixth inning to tie the game, but Missouri Western scored another run in the top of the seventh inning to take the lead for good.

“Missouri Western is a tough team, and they were able to make some key plays,” Brown said. “We need to work on hitting and pitching, and we need to learn to play with a deficit.”

Truman stands at 15-16 overall and is 5-7 in the MIAA. The Bulldogs are second in the MIAA in run prevention, first in the MIAA in home runs allowed and first in the MIAA in innings pitched.

“Truman Athletics
News and Notes

Baseball: Pearl not in uniform Tuesday

BY JACOB MCCONNELL
Staff Reporter

Truman baseball’s starting pitcher in the first two games of this weekend, senior Brandon Pearl, will not be in uniform Tuesday.

“I was told by our medical personnel that he needs a day off,” head coach Kevin Brown said. “He had a little tightness in his arm.”

Pearl is the Bulldogs’ top starting pitcher, and his absence will be felt by the Bulldogs as they face off against Missouri Southern in a doubleheader Tuesday.

“I’m not worried about starting a game without Brandon,” Brown said. “I have confidence in our pitching depth, and I have confidence in our offense.”

Dan Smith will start against Missouri Southern on Tuesday.

Softball keeps struggling to win close games

BY JACOB MCCONNELL
Staff Reporter

The Truman softball team has had trouble winning close games this season, and it was on display last week as the Bulldogs split two games with Missouri Western.

“We struggled to win close games last week,” head coach Kevin Brown said. “We need to work on hitting and pitching, and we need to learn to play with a deficit.”

Truman lost 2-1 to Missouri Western on Monday, but they came back to win 8-2 on Tuesday. Despite the wins, the Bulldogs lost multiple opportunities to win games.

“We need to be more consistent on the offensive side of the ball,” Brown said. “We need to make more contact and take more walks.”

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