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For the MIAA Championship this is the second weekend in a row that Central Missouri has opened the season. The Bulldogs opened in 2006 opposite the University of Colorado and would come out the door 2-0. Once again the Bulldogs opened their season against the University of Colorado (Minn.) for a three-game set.

"You cannot just hire someone, you cannot just take someone else's program and mold it to your own," said Derek Davis, head coach of the baseball team.

The conditions caused the teams to postpone the games, but Davis said the games likely are still good for the season because the Bulldogs’ remaining schedule doesn’t have many easy dates.

"It's always a tough sport, any sport, no matter what you are doing," said Davis. "Our goal is to have a good team every year and we feel that we have that in 2007."

With the unexpected opening of the teams, the Bulldogs have had to make adjustments. What would normally be practice time has been moved up to 9:30 a.m. for an early morning practice.

The early start to the practice is nothing new for the teams. Davis, and the Bulldogs have been at Parrott Field for early spring practice a few years now.

"We've always had to be at 9:30," said Davis. "Back in the early morning at the practice field."

What would normally be practice at 9:30 and stand in line to simulate a game actually works. "You go through and throw a few pitches at a time, and then you create one practice," said Davis.

"It's not actually a simulated game, but it works really well," said Davis.

In the confines of building the pitching team cannot simulate the same action. "We need to do a little bit at a time," said Davis. "What college kids want to do is up for a little bit at a time."

The Bulldogs also face the problem of weather. "That's why we go to Parrott Field at 9:30," said Davis. "We've been up at 9:30 and then it's just one game being at the building really to practice at 9:30."

"Our coaches throw, so we see a lot of variety of pitches," said Davis. "We see fastballs, we see curveballs, and we see cutters, we see sliders and we see change-ups."

"It's not just about pitch, it's not just about pitch and bat," said Davis. "We are working on the entire package of hitting, throwing and running."

The Bulldogs hope to get out of the slump. "We are looking forward to meeting a couple of teams," said Davis. "The Bulldogs are looking to open the season against the University of Colorado.