

# Bulls lose 4th game in a row

BY BEN YARNELL  
Staff Reporter

The men's rugby team really felt the heat last weekend.

The Bulls took on the University of Iowa last Saturday and lost 31-8. The loss dropped the team to 1-4 on the fall season.

Head coach Bill Sexton said the environment was as much of an opponent last weekend as the Hawkeyes were.

"It turned out to be a pretty hot day for the first weekend in October," Sexton said. "The guys were really hot, and I think it really took its toll."

The Bulls struck first in the match with a penalty kick in the first two minutes. Truman followed up with an extended presence in Iowa's red zone. However, the Bulls failed to convert that time into tries.

"One of the messages I continue to bring is, especially when you are in close to the goal line, there needs to be a sense of urgency about hustling and getting into position to be able to outflank the defense," Sexton said. "We really did not do a very good job of that."

In the 31st minute of the first half, Iowa bounced back with a try of its own. The Hawkeyes failed to convert but marched back down two minutes

later to score another try, which they converted. The Bulls entered halftime trailing 12-3.

After resting, the Bulls were able to hold off the Hawkeyes for another 15 minutes before the Hawkeyes' next try. The Bulls answered back with a try at 19 minutes from junior captain Justin Lacy, bringing the match to 17-8.

Lacy's try, however, would be the last time the Bulls would tack up any points. Meanwhile, the Hawkeyes continued their scoring spree with converted tries at 26 and 33 minutes to win the match 31-8.

Even though it was hot, co-captain sophomore Phil Powell said he doesn't think that is an acceptable reason for the loss.

"[Both teams] were out there, and we were both in the heat," Powell said. "It really should have affected both teams equally."

Along with the exhaustion the team suffered, freshman wing Aaron Loida also dislocated his right pinky finger.

"The ball was bouncing on the ground in the middle ground between me and the other player," Loida said. "I went to dive on it and put my hand out there. He swung his foot out there and just cracked my finger."

Other than Loida, Sexton said there



Senior Jake Uhlenhake dives at a Kansas State University player during the Bulls home opener. After winning their first game of the season against St. Louis University, the Bulls have lost four straight matches.

Adam Kabins/Index

also was one other major injury during the game.

"There was some severe ego bruising all around," Sexton said. "... This one hit particularly hard because in the first 20 to 25 minutes of the game, we were playing pretty well."

Even with the good play, Sexton said reasons for losing are becoming fewer by the day.

"Pretty soon I'm not going to be able to keep making the excuse that half of our starting team started playing in August," Sexton said. "At some point, five or six weeks down the road, you've got

to start performing. I think it is 'put-up-or-shut-up' time for these guys."

With the wounds from the Hawkeyes still fresh, the Bulls look down the road to next weekend for a heated and sensitive match against Benedictine University (Kan.). Last year, the Bulls lost to the Black Monks in a second-half upset 29-22.

That game is sure to be fresh in the team's mind throughout the week.

"They won't have to worry about remembering it because I am going to [be] reminding them about it every day," Sexton said.

One extra advantage Benedictine will have this year over the Bulls is the addition of former Bull vice-captain Mike Fitzgerald, who transferred at the end of last semester. Sexton said he is well aware of the threat Fitzgerald presents to the Bulls.

"When you talk about Mike Fitzgerald, it's about containing him," Sexton said. "You can't stop him from scoring, but you have to try and contain him as much as possible."

Sexton and the Bulls will lock horns with Fitzgerald and the rest of the Black Monks at 2 p.m. Saturday in Kirksville.

# Kelly, England lead teams at Border States

BY JACK NICHOLL  
Staff Reporter

The story of the women's cross country season has been relatively consistent.

Junior Danna Kelly frequently finishes in the top five, senior Grace DelNero finishes close to Kelly and the rest of the team finishes as a pack one to two minutes behind DelNero. The team was able to accomplish this in the first two meets but not in the third.

In the fourth meet, the Border States Invitational last Saturday in Edwardsville, Ill., the team followed Kelly and DelNero's lead and finished close together. Behind Kelly's fourth-place finish and DelNero's 12th-place finish, the team finished eighth out of 25 teams.

Freshmen Kylie Raithel (64th), Morgan Cox (71st) and Amanda Brown (80th) finished within 20 seconds of each other and rounded out the top five for the Bulldogs in the field of more than 200 runners.

But for women's head coach John Cochrane, it still wasn't enough.

"We didn't do enough things better," Cochrane said. "Kylie Raithel ran better. Danna ran OK, but Danna didn't do all the things she could have done — even though she got fourth."

Cochrane also was critical of the women's race strategy.

"We had some people go out a little too hard, and consequently, they paid for it," he said.

Every one of the Bulldog times was slower than those from last week's Jock's Nitch Invitational. Kelly said this was because of the difficulty of the course.

"[At] Edwardsville, the second mile is actually pretty tough," she said. "It has some more hills in it, and you just really have to stay tough mentally to stay in the race and hang with the people that you are with so that you don't drop back."

Despite the slower times, the team was able to finish seven spots ahead of

Emporia State University, which it had been unable to beat the last two races. Truman nearly halved Emporia's cumulative placing while also finishing more than six minutes faster than it cumulatively.

Kelly finished in the top five for the third time this season. She has finished first, 11th, third and fourth in the four meets this year. Kelly said she accomplished her personal goal of finishing in the top five this week.

"I wanted to get out in the top five and just get in my groove and to hold my spot and to run with that first group of girls," Kelly said. "Just make sure I stay focused and run with people. At Emporia, I kind of lost focus, and I dropped back."

The men finished 16th out of 27 teams at the Border States. Junior Bryant England led the way for the 'Dogs with a time of 27:53 in the 8K event. Sophomore Zach Chapman, freshmen Bob Gorman and Josh Mantooth, and senior David Yonce also placed.

Men's head coach Tim Schwegler said he was not pleased with the team's performance.

"The whole team was disappointing, including me," Schwegler said. "We weren't mentally prepared for it. I'll take the blame for that. We're going to make sure that doesn't happen in the conference meet."

The team ran fine for the first mile, but then the course and weather conditions made it hard for the team to stay together, Schwegler said.

"The first mile they did fine," Schwegler said. "They did what they wanted to do. But then the conditions were a little tougher for October. When you have an 80-degree day in October, that's a little tough, but you have to go with the conditions, ... and we didn't do that."

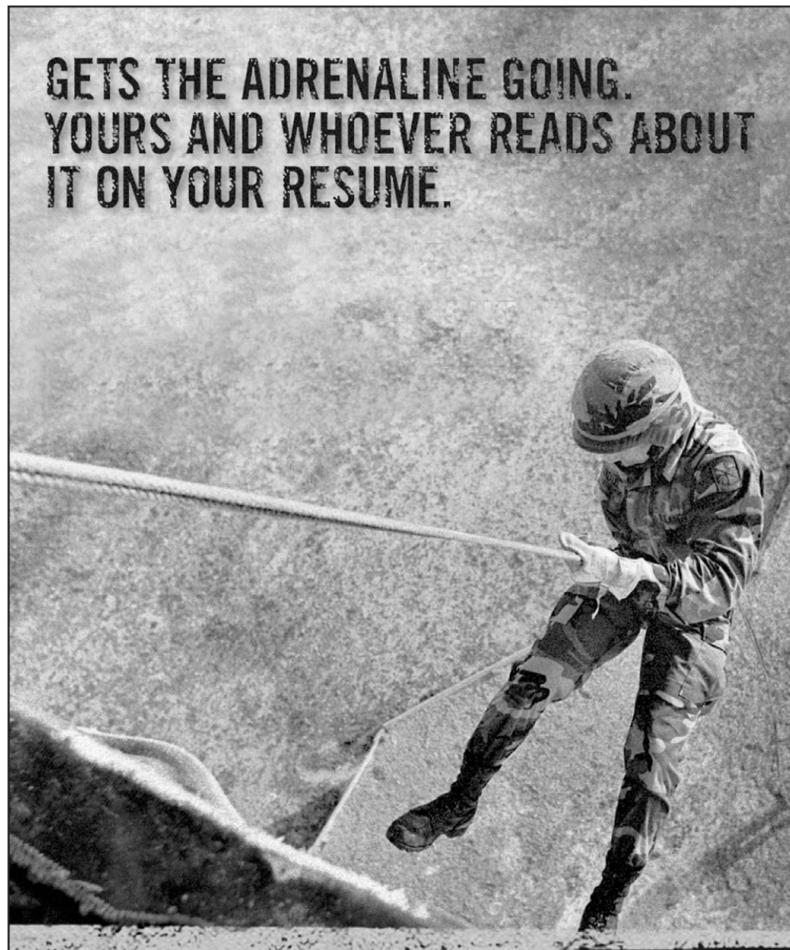
At the Oct. 6 Jock's Nitch, the team started out too fast, and at the Southern Stampede three weeks ago the team started out too slow, but at this race the team started with a good pace, Gorman

said. After the first mile, the course layout broke up the pack.

"Right before the two-mile marker, there's this really long uphill, and me and Josh kind of lost contact with the two of the other guys in the pack," Gorman said. "We were running together for a little while, and then they went ahead. And we tried to catch up after the big uphill, but we lost contact because it's kind of a bigger race. After that we were just trying to fend for ourselves."

The teams have this weekend off before they compete in the biggest race of the season, the MIAA cross country championship, 10:30 a.m. Oct. 20 at Kirksville Country Club. The teams will have to work hard to stay together as the course there is one of the toughest all season, Kelly said.

"Conference is a huge thing for us, and we try to make sure that the freshmen understand that," Kelly said. "Being at home is a huge advantage, and that should be one thing that should prepare you and motivate you in itself."



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